to him, he being the party thereto entitled and having bonded and qualified in accordance with the various acts of Assembly enacted in that behalf: Your petitioner would further state to your Honors that a certain Rebecca Edmunds of Baltimore City, a sister of the said intestate hath concealed and doth now conceal the following negroes, to Wit: Louisa aged about ten years, Maria, aged about four or five years, years and Emmeline aged about eight years, as also a sealed note signed & executed by one Washington T. Beall in favor of said intestate, for the sum of one thousand dollars or thereabouts the date whereof is unknown to your petitioner, whereon the said sum of one thousand dollars, principal and about two years interest is due & owing, and all of which said negroes and chose in action belonged to said intestate at the time of her death and now rightfully belongs to your petitioner to be disposed of under the sanction of this Honorable Court. Your petitioner would further state to your Honors that he has been informed that there are various persons in said Prince Georges County, creditors of said deceased some of whom are pressing for a settlement of their just demands and all of whom would no doubt prefer to have their claims at once adjusted: that your petitioner is entirely unable to accede to this their just request unless the aforesaid property of his intestate is delivered to him and sold & collected for the payment of her debts and the residue if any to be distributed among the next of Kin of said intestate all of whom are needy & destitute. That your petitioner has through his attorney D. C. Digges called on said Rebecca Edmunds to deliver and hand over said property to him to be disposed of according to the order of this Honorable Court, but this reasonable request the said Rebecca has entirely failed to comply with and now keeps the said property concealed in some place unknown to your petitioner and positively refuses to deliver the same or any part thereof to your petitioner.

In tender consideration whereof and inasmuch as your petitioner is remediless without the action of this Court and great injustice will be done to the said creditors and distributees of said intestate unless the said three negroes & said chose in action are handed over and delivered to your petitioner for the purpose aforesaid, may it please your Honors to grant that the register of this Court shall issue a summons directed to the said Rebecca Edmunds of Baltimore City commanding her to be and appear in this Honorable Court at some certain day to be therein named, to answer this petition upon her corporal Oath and abide by & perform such decree as may be passed in the premises and for such other and further relief as the nature of his case may require and as in duty bound he will ever pray &c. Daniel C. Digges

Atty for Pet.

Upon the filing of the aforesaid petition, it was laid before the Orphans Court aforesaid in session at the date of said filing who after considering its contents passed an order which is in the following words, to Wit: In the matter of the above petition, it is ordered by the Court that the Register issue a summons directing and commanding the said Rebecca Edmunds of Baltimore City to be and appear in this Court on the 3rd Tuesday in August next to answer the above petition of Thomas Waring admor. of Deborah Waring. Whereupon, in obedience to said order the Register of Wills for Prince Georges County issued a subpoena in the usual form, to the Sheriff of Baltimore City, who failed to make return thereof to this Court and said summons was renewed with similar result. The respondent by her counsel Samuel H. Berry, appeared in Court on the 18th of November 1856 and filed her answer to said before written petition, which is in the following words, to Wit:

To the Honorable the Judges of the Orphans Court of Prince Georges County

The answer of Rebecca Edmonds of Baltimore City to a petition heretofore filed in this Court against her by Thomas Waring Admor of Deborah Waring dec.d

This respondent saving and reserving to herself all and all manner of benefit and exceptions to the many enormous inconsistencies and mistatements in said petition contained for answer to so much thereof as she is advised it is material and necessary for her to answer unto, says: That she admits that letters of administration on the personal of her late sister (Deborah Waring) was committed by this Court to the said Thomas Waring, and that he has since filed his bond and entered upon the discharge of his duties as administrator. Your respondent will further admit that the said Deborah Waring was just before her death, seized and possessed in fee simple, of the property mentioned and specified in the said petition, ~~but she positively denies that~~ she does now or ever has concealed any property or chose in action belonging to the said Deborah Waring, at the time of her death: on the contrary, your respondent claims title to the whole of the property and chose in action mentioned and specified in the said petition as a bona fide gift from her said sister, made under the following circumstances: A few days before the death of her said Sister (Deborah Waring) and during the time she was confined to her bed of the illness of which she died, her said Sister being aware of her situation and in contemplation of her approaching dissolution gave to your respondent, the whole of the property and chose in action mentioned and specified in the said petition in fee simple: At the time of said gift one of said negro girls, Louisa was present at the Bedside of the said (Deborah Waring) who then and