

Several days, that he had to put him straight, and that it was all right. This was on the 5th of June 1874, and I left on Saturday.

Basil Wood, a witness of lawful age produced upon the part of Burgess Hammond one of the Defendants, being duly sworn and examined into Interrogatories filed with the Commissioner by the said Defendant, and he with returned deposes and says (Objected to as incompetent.)

1<sup>st</sup> Q<sup>ty</sup>: - Were you, at any time present when a conversation was had (Excepted to) between yourself, Dawson V. Hammond and G. Thomas Hammond, when anything was said as to G. Hammond's competency to do business? If you state when and where it was and what was said?  
 Answer: - Yes Sir - on the night of the 4th day of June eighteen hundred & seventy four I put up with G. Hammond on the morning of the 5th day of June 1874, after uncle Tom woke from his sleep I said to him "You seem to be refreshed I have a message for you from William Hammond in regard to the land you want, to sell to Sam Wood I told him that William Hammond said Wood buy it - that Wood said he would look at the land and fix on a price and he would pay, in part cash and the balance in a short time - that I named it to Sam B. Mills & he told me to name it to uncle Tom - that he would like to have a portion of the land the Wood wanted to buy - uncle Dawson came over during the day - Uncle Tom said Dawson I got a letter from the Barrister and he could not tell from whom and did not. I stepped up to the side of the bed (uncle Dawson and my wife were standing by the side of the bed), and said "I brought the message from William Hammond; uncle Tom then went on to tell about this land, that it would bring a good price out up in Wood lots and Uncle Tom told Dawson that Mills wanted a lot, and Wood wanted a lot, and he ought to have a lot, and that that would help to pay a judgment, that would be soon due and went on to tell when the judgment was due, but could not tell - he became entangled and could not get it right Uncle Dawson did correct the time and set him right and he seemed to be satisfied Then Uncle Dawson spoke and said I will object to all deeds, sales of lands, contracts and all business capacity, for G. Hammond was not competent to contract any business that was because, said he, I find he is failing rapidly & very fast.

2<sup>d</sup> Q<sup>ty</sup>: - Do you know the real property now in the possession (Excepted to) of Burgess Hammond? If you how long have you known it?  
 Answer: - Yes I have known it upwards of forty five

(Excepted to) years.  
 3<sup>d</sup> Q<sup>ty</sup>: - Do you recollect when Burgess Hammond got possession of said land? If you described the condition, fencing and improvements at that time?  
 Answer: - I do In a very bad condition indeed Very poor and (Excepted to) the biggest share two of the largest fields out on the