

borhood of the said complainants or some of them, and on the premises." That he, this defendant, has paid the paving taxes amounting to about \$480; and "this defendant saith, that the said purchase of the said lands, by this defendant, from the administrator aforesaid, was *bona fide*, and without notice of any claim or claims on the said land by the said complainants or any of them."

The defendant Cator also styles his response his separate answer "to the bill of complaint of James Neale and others, representatives of Anthony Hook, deceased;" and says, that he purchased at a public auction some time in the month of April, or May, 1818, of the defendant McMechen, a lease of ninety-nine years renewable * forever of a part of the premises mentioned in the **557** bill; that "the complainants or some of them, long before and since the auction aforesaid, lived near the premises mentioned in their bill;" that he with others applied and had the street paved on which the lot leased to him fronted; and that at the time he accepted the lease from the defendant McMechen, as also at the time he applied for the paving of the street, he had no knowledge that the complainants claimed title to the premises.

The defendants Moore and Hughes also say, that theirs is their joint and separate answer "to the bill of complaint of James Neale and others, representatives of Anthony Hook, deceased;" and that at a public sale in the month of April, or May, 1818, they severally purchased leases of the defendant McMechen, of part of the land mentioned in the bill, that they have ever since paid rent; "and defendants swear positively, that they nor either of them had any knowledge of any claim or claims of the said complainants upon, in, and unto the said lands at the time of the purchase and lease aforesaid."

The defendants Hagthrop and wife, on the 11th of December, 1821, put in their joint and separate answer, in which they say, that on the 8th of May, 1797, Anthony Hook, for a valuable consideration by indenture, conveyed the lot of ground on Alice Anna street to John Hook; that the said Anthony Hook being much involved in debt, and advanced in years, and deriving his support principally from his son John Hook, executed to him the deed of the 17th of August, 1797, whereby he conveyed to John the property therein mentioned, who accordingly paid the debts particularly mentioned therein as these defendants believe and charge; and that the said John Hook paid the said sums of money set out in the said assignment, so far as the creditors applied for payment of the same; that Anthony Hook died intestate some time in June, 1798, and that John Hook obtained letters of administration on his estate; that John Hook died intestate in September, 1800, leaving this defendant Barbara his widow, and one child, James Hook; that this defendant Barbara, obtained letters of administration on