To the Hon: Theodorick Bland Chancellor of Maryland.

The bill of complaint of Thomas Layton of Dorchester County respectfully represents, that on the twelfth day of April eighteen hundred and thirty he was the rightful owner and was in possession of a certain negro boy about fourteen years of age, which boy, called Daniel Coleman, your complainant pledged or mortgaged ~~the same negro boy~~ to a certain Elizabeth Ayres to secure to her the repayment of twenty eight dollars and forty seven cents with the interest - all which matters and things will appear from the exhibit herewith filed marked A. which your complainant states is a true copy of the original and a mortgage made in the possession of a certain William Collison hereinafter mentioned as the defendant in this action -

Your complainant further states that on or about the twenty third day of September eighteen hundred and thirty the said Elizabeth Ayres assigned and set over all her interest in the said instrument to a certain James Layton who immediately received possession of the said boy and held possession of the said boy till the death of him, the said James Layton which occurred about the month

of December eighteen hundred and thirty seven. your complainant further states that before the death of the said James Dayton he was fully paid and satisfied the said sum of money and interest -

Your complainant further states that he left the state of Maryland soon after he executed the aforesaid mortgage and and continued absent till the commencement of the year eighteen hundred and thirty seven.

Your complainant further states, that after the death of the said James Dayton the said negro boy Israel was assumed in the estate of the said James Dayton as his own property, and was in the course of the administration assigned to a certain William Colleson, who intermarried with Mary a daughter of the said James Dayton, as a part of the distributive share to which he was entitled in right of his wife -

To the end therefore that the said mortgaged property may be so assigned to your complainant and the said negro boy delivered up as the property of your complainant free clear and discharged from all liability growing out of the said mortgage may it please your Honor to grant to your complainant the states writ of subpoena against the said William Colleson commanding him to be and appear in this court to answer the premises and stand ready to abide such order as the court should not pass as prayed. and the your Honor may give such other and further relief as the nature of the case shall require and as in duty bound your complainant will ever pray &c

Henry Perry Solr
for complainant

Thomas Dayton
vs
William Colleson } In Chancery
December term 1838

This cause standing ready for hearing and having been submitted without argument the proceedings were read and considered -

Whereupon it is on this thirteenth day of February in the year eighteen hundred and thirty eight by Theodorick Bland Chancellor and by the authority of this court adjudged ordered and decreed, that the said defendant William Colleson forthwith transfer and deliver up to the said plaintiff Thomas Dayton the said negro boy slave named Israel Coleman free clear and discharged from all claim from or under the said Mortgage in the proceedings mentioned -

And it is further adjudged ordered and decreed, that the said defendant pay unto the said plaintiff his costs of this suit to be taxed by the Register -

Theodorick Bland Ch