Mr Lambs mind

Int. to Henry Suter. Do or do you not think Mr Lamb was during Feby 1844 in a Condition of mind to take a survey of his affairs and execute a deed or writing disposing of property-

At the Execution of the annexed Commission issued out of Baltimore County Court on the Equity side thereof and directed to John Carrey and John R Kenly Esqs and empowering either of us to examine witnesses in the Cause depending in said Court between George Gelback Admr of John Lamb deceased Complainant and Joseph Stansbury, Emanuel Stansbury and Jane Stansbury his wife defendants, I John R Kenly one of the Commissioners therein named having met on the 9th day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & forty four at the hour of 4 O'Clock P.M. at the office of James M Buchanan Esqr in the City of Baltimore pursuant to previous notice thereof given to the said parties and taken the oath annexed to the said Commission, did proceed then and there in the presence of the Solicitors of the respective parties to take the following depositions to wit, subject to Exceptions.

Thomas Whitaker a witness of lawful age produced on the part of the Complainant being duly sworn and examined to Interrogatories filed with the Commissioner on the Complainant & herewith returned, deposes & says

To the 1st Inty I know the parties-

To the 2d Inty I knew John Lamb decd- I consider that on the 14th of February 1844 Mr Lamb was not able to decide upon matters of business, nor to dispose of his Estate in a manner consistent with his relations to life.

To the 3d Inty We consider him at our house as not being in his right mind particularly after he had that spell of bleeding, which occurred about two months before he left our house, which was probably four or five months before he died and further I say he was not certainly in his right mind, and at times he (Lamb) did not know morning from evening or when the Sabbath came-

To the 4th Inty I know nothing

To the 5th Inty I do not know that I can say more from my own knowledge.

Deponent Cross Examined by Wm H Frick Esq solicitor for the Defendant

1st How long have you known John Lamb decd

Deponent answers, I suppose I knew him 50 years at least

2d How long did he Lamb live in your house

deponent answers, he lived about two years in my house

3d Could he talk all the while he lived with you

deponent answers, In common he could talk very little he would answer "yes" or "no" when asked a question

4th Do you recollect any instance when he was asked a question in which he did answer intelligibly?

deponent answers, I cant recollect any in particular but generally he wandered-

5th Did you ever see him after he had left your house?

deponent answers I saw him oftener than once at Mr Stansburys he did not talk much but seemed anxious to come home again to Whittakers

6th Who was present at those interviews with Mr Lamb?

deponent answers- Mrs Stansbury, and at times a woman whom I heard called Mrs Keys-

7th did you ever offer to buy the house deeded by Lamb from him?

deponent answers, he (Lamb) was talking about selling his property one day and I asked him if he would take a thousand Dollars for it, he answered that he would consider on it, the truth is from the time he came to my (deponents) house untill he left I do not consider that he was in his right mind, the proposition to buy was a sort of talk

Elizabeth Stansbury a witness of lawful age produced on the part of the Complainant being duly sworn and examined to Interrogatories filed with the Commissioner by the Complainant & herewith returned deposes & answers

To the 1st Inty I know all the parties except Joseph Stansbury

To the 2d Inty To the best of my recollection it was about May or June 1842 that Mr Lamb came to live at my fathers house, the next April or May 1843 Mr Lamb was taken with a bleeding at the nose it was on that morning I think that I first discovered that he was not in his right mind, I think so because being always particular about his health he went out in the yard without his shoes or jacket on it was a very damp day and I went out and asked him why it was that he went out without his shoes and hat, he made no answer, but I could discover from his eyes that he was not in his right mind from that time untill the January following when Mrs Stansbury took him from their house I could discover that he was scarcely ever in his right mind he was a religious man and my Class Leader, in the morning he generally read a Chapter in the Bible and I could not understand but a verse or two in the whole Chapter, I believe it was owing to the fact that his tongue was paralysed, he would also read a hymn and would read the same verse over several times and in his prayer it would be all confusion saying the same sentence over several times. I could see that he could not tell the hours of the day, he would insist upon the family coming into prayers after the morning hours were passed, say in the afternoon, When I would come into the room I would say to him Mr Lamb I dont think you understand the hours of the day, sometimes he would not answer but when insisted upon for an answer he would say it was breakfast time, when it was 3 or 4 O'Clock in the afternoon I could see that he did not know the days of the week, on Saturday a little before night it was his custom to go to get shaved for the sabbath, at times I and my mother on Saturday would insist upon him to go and get shaved, because as the next day was the sabbath, we wanted him to be ready shaved he would answer that it was not Saturday and then at times he would yield and get shaved and at others he would not, he did not appear to know that it was Saturday-no not at all, on Sunday Mr Stansbury the son in law (and one of the defendants) came to get Mr Lamb to go and see Mrs Joyce a daughter of Mr Lambs who was so sick that the Doctors had given her up and who shortly after this died Mr Lamb had not been shaved on the preceeding Saturday, Mr Stansbury was told that the reason he (Lamb) was not shaved was because he would not go not, suffer the barber to be sent for. Mr Stansbury took him to see his daughter, when he got home he had been shaved and he broke out into