In Open Court personally appears Edwin D. Withers one of the above exceptants & made oath on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God that the facts therein stated are true to the best of his knowledge & belief, Sworn to in open Court this 2nd December 1861.

Geo. H. Carman Clk.

And afterwards to wit on the first day of January in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty two, comes into Court here the said Adam Denmead Trustee by William B. Hill, his Solicitor aforesaid, and also by Richard T. Cottings and Arthur W. Machen Esquires who appear for him, and file in Court here his answer to the said exceptions in manner and form following to wit; In the matter of the Trust Estate of Charlotte Withers & others. In the Circuit Court for Baltimore County in Equity. The Answer of Adam Denmead Trustee to the Exceptions filed by Charlotte Withers, Edwin D. Withers, Susannah Withers & Charlotte Le Withers to the sales lately made and reported by said Trustee. This Respondent not admitting any right of the said Exceptants to make objections in the premises, but respectfully insisting that your Honor has no jurisdiction to entertain or grant their prayer for answer to the matters by them alleged, says, That the sales in question were made at as favorable a time & under as good circumstances as could be expected; this Respondent having availed of a demand which had sprung up for this kind of property in the midst of a general depression. And it seems almost certain that no better opportunity can be hoped for within any reasonable or definite period, while the consequences of delay, by reason of accruing interest of Mortgage & Judgment debts, might be ruinous. The property was thoroughly advertised, proper plats (copies whereof were filed with this Respondents Report) Exhibited & distributed; and the course of the Trustee was indicated & the success of Efforts made manifest by the presence at the sale of an unusually large Company of earnest and substantial bidders, and in the prices in fact obtained. These, so far from being inadequate as alleged by the exceptants, were such as might well have been deemed fair and sufficient in the best times. The share of these exceptants in the sum obtained by this Respondent for something over one half of the Estate — 673 1/2 Acres out of 1205 1/2 a. is considerably greater that their Interest in the Entire Property was sold for by Mr. Blackburn Trustee, at the sale, which was set aside for irregularity. In the evidence taken on the occasion of the report of that sale, the fee simple of the entire Estate was estimated by the witnesses produced by the purchasers at 16,000 by a majority of the witnesses of the Exceptants at $33,490. the average of the two Estimates being therefor $24,750. This Respondent has obtained $14,083, for 673 1/2 Acres. The Act of Assembly which the Exceptants make the ground of their Second objection, has no

application as this Respondent respectfully insists, to the present case. It is not true, as alleged by the exceptants, that this Respondent bought up Judgments & other Liens for his own benefit & the purposes of a speculation.

The said purchases were made by him for the benefit of the trust estate, & especially to save the Interests of these exceptants, which were in danger of being sacrificed under executions. This Respondent advanced the money for his own resources, but derives and never expected to derive any private advantage from the transaction. He succeeded in effecting a large reduction of the Mortgage claim of William Wand and thereby saved about $2000. to the Exceptants.

This Respondent further answering says that in said sales & in all his other doings in the trust he acted in perfect good faith & exercised the best judgment he was capable of all that he has done meets the approval of the parties interested in the trust, whose shares only were unembarrassed by Judgments & other Liens, & who therefore would have the best right as well as the strongest motive to complain, if a trust manly was necessary for the preservation of the shares of these Exceptants had led to any real sacrifice of the common property. Your Respondent suggests that it does not well become these exceptants under the circumstances, to throw obstacles in the way of the execution of a trust, by which they are so largely benefited. Nor did they in fact offer objection previously to the sale; but on the contrary, although they were informed of each step in the proceedings of the Trustee, no opposition on their part was then interposed. Edwin D. Withers one of the exceptants was present at the sale and witnessed it without making any objection, and subsequently thereto, the exceptants, as this Respondent has been credibly informed & only believes, delivered actual possession of Lots 7 & 8 to Francis A. Crook the purchaser thereof, and rented the dwelling house for a limited period from said Crook, who thereupon proceeded to expend considerable sums of money in the improvement of the property. And for further answer to said exceptions this Respondent respectfully refers to his Report & the Exhibits therewith filed, and as see

Adam Denmead.

State of Maryland Baltimore County Set:

On this thirty first day of December A.D. 1861, before the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for Baltimore County aforesaid personally appeared Adam Denmead, and made oath on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God, that the matters and things stated in the foregoing answer are true as therein set forth to the best of his knowledge & belief.