the quality of the soil of Lot No 7 is thick wood and not acquainted with, have never been over the woodland

Examination in chief Have been on the cleared part only of No 7

William Kerr, Sworn, I reside at Parkton Station N. C. R. Road less than 2 miles from the Withers property, I have resided in the neighborhood of the property for the last 4 years attending bar at Parkton at present, had been farming part of the time, I have an opportunity of knowing the value of property in the neighborhood, was not at the sale of the Withers property, by Hammond & Trustee, shown the plat of the Withers property Exhibit A looking at said plat he recognizes the property as divided into Lots on the plat. I know the Lot No 8. of said Plat having passed over it repeatedly. Consider this property worth $60 per acre in ordinary times, dont know what it is worth now, but if it was his would not take less than $60, now for it. it is well improved by house, barn, smoke house & cant say what the costs of the building was, dont know about manure being put on said Lot No 8 – was was attending Bar 2 years, did not have an opportunity to notice much of the farming operations in the neighborhood, raised very good grain out. Know the quality of Lot No 7 it – a very fine property, Land is very easily improved, good quality of soil, thin now, worn down, a very fine wheat property if it was improved, portion of it fine for a meadow, more room for improvement, and more easily improved than any property in the neighborhood lying so well to the South

Cross Examined by Mr. Machen

I dons know of any sales of tracts of 100 acres or over for – in the neighborhood some years never bought or sold any Land in that vicinity

Edmund Walsh. Sworn. Have lived in the neighborhood of the Withers property have been farming a little short of 5 miles from said property have made hay on the premises, upon looking at the plat of said Land per Exhibit A I can recognize the ground upon some of the Lots worked upon said Plat and some by said Lots I cannot. I can particularly recognize Lots No 6. 7. and 8. I farmed Lot No 8 made hay from it, thinks he knows the value of Land in the vicinity, bought Land (110 acres) about 3 1/2 years ago in the neighborhood, consider Lot No 8 worth $60 per acre, and would have given that for it. if I owned have had the money on the day of sale, have seen only the cleared part of Lot No 7 have not seen the timbered part of said tract, thinks the tract No 7 worth from $35 to $40 per acre. have only seen the wood land at a distance have never been through it, have pastured cattle on Lot No 7. the Barn on No 8 considers would cost $1000 or $1200 to build it. cannot tell as to the value of the dwelling on No 8. dont know what material it is constructed of but thinks a dwelling of the kind would cost $800 if constructed of brick, would cost more, if of wood the

amount mentioned there are on No 8. also a log house like quarters for negroes, spring house and meat house, the rest of Lot No 6. the part which is cleared is good, and the part of said tract in wood he has repeatedly passed through, the woods oak, and hickory is pretty heavy timber, and very straight has pastured horses on Lot No 6. considers he could get no Land in the neighborhood of the same kind for less than from $40 to $50 per acre, not less than $50 was present at the sale of the Withers property by Hammond Trustee, Auctioneer read from a book an advertisement of the sale of said property. Auctioneer at the offering of each Lot, gave notice to the best of his recollection that if any bid was made upon the tract it would be sold, there were not many bidders present at the sale, there did not appear to be much competition in the bidding, I made no bid myself, not being prepared to meet the demands of it, was not prepared to meet the payments.

Cross Examined by Mr. Machen

My farm lies on left side of Rail Road above Freelands Tank bought from N. J. Gillings trustee, the property of Samuel Bone, a little short of five miles from the Withers property I paid $18 per acre for my property, my farm is tolerable now. have improved it, it is a pretty place made so by improvements it had a log dwelling upon it, when I purchased it, it was tolerably fenced when I got it some of it had been abused and some of it tolerably fair have lived in Ballo-leo, a little less than 3 years, had lived in Maryland more than fifteen years, lived in Baltimore city previous to moving into Ballo-leo have not bought or sold any land in Ballo-leo except the place he now owns but he has priced several, dont know what the Withers property bought, when sold by Mr. Blackburn Trustee, dont know what the Heirs Hess & Heise paid for said property except by hearsay, in the neighborhood Mr. Bennett was the auctioneer at the sale made by Hammond trustee, dont consider there were over twenty when at said sale, Edwd. Withers did not say anything to prevent me from bidding at said sale. The terms when I purchased my property were 1/2 Cash balance in six and twelve, with interest.

Examination in Chief resumed by Mr McGlaughlin

My farm is pretty good soil, considers there is a great difference between it and that of the Withers property. I have improved my farm, by putting 2000 Bushels Lime on it, ditching, and have built new barn on it, the whole improvements, which I have put on my farm cost nearly as much as the Land did. my land with all the improvements, I do not consider Equal in value to the Lots No 6. 7 and 8 of the Withers property would consider in estimating my