him, if at all.

Respondents do not therefore admit but leave the complainants to prove any and all the averments of their bills as to the various deaths, births, marriages and descents therein alleged in respect to any and all of them.

Respondents admit that Kennedy Long formerly of Baltimore County was claimed in the original bill, which was then country property, used and valuable only for agricultural purposes. They admit that he left a will as alleged and they respectfully refer the Court to the same as it may be adduced in evidence for greater certainty as to its contents and effect. They believe that he left a widow surviving him together with the six children mentioned in the original bill, and they charge that after his death and on or about the 1st day of March 1833. certain proceedings were instituted in Baltimore County Court in Equity in the name of and by Andrew R. Long Eliza Balfour, Mary J. Long. Thomas J. Long and James H. Long against Amelia J. Long and Henry Long praying a sale of the dwelling and adjacent lands here in controversy of which said Kennedy died seized and possessed as aforesaid. These respondents respectfully refer your Honor to a certified copy of the record of said proceedings heretofore filed in this cause with the answer of William A. Hanway and others and marked Exhibit J. S. which respondents pray to be taken as part of this their answer. It will appear to your Honor by inspection of the same that a decree for the sale of the said premises was accordingly passed by the said Court on the 8th day of April 1833 and that the same were duly sold in conformity therewith on the 17th day of June 1833 by the Trustee therefor appointed to

Charles F. Mayer and William J. Cole, which sale was duly and finally ratified and confirmed by the Court on the 9th day of August 1833. And respondents further charge that the purchase money of the said property having been duly paid by or on behalf of the purchasers thereof aforementioned due conveyance thereof was afterwards made by the Trustee and the said property and premises having been subsequently purchased by the late Philip Keiss the testator of these Respondents the same were duly and lawfully conveyed to him by John J. McCullough trustee and Mary L. Mayer by deed of December 22d 1848 for valuable consideration which deed was recorded on the 23d day of December 1848 among the Land Records of Baltimore County in conformity with law.

And these Respondents charge and will maintain that the Country Court of Baltimore County by which the decree aforementioned was rendered was a Court of competent jurisdiction both as to the subject matter and the parties; that all necessary and proper parties were before it; that all the proceedings taken were regular and in conformity with law and that by the sale aforementioned made under its decree, and by it ratified, all the estate and interest which were of the said Kennedy Long in said property at his death, passed absolutely to the purchasers at said sale and were transmitted and did pass to Philip Keiss the testator of respondents under and by the deed to him aforementioned and are vested in these Respondents and the other parties to these proceedings deriving title under the said Philip as may appear, altogether free from any and all lawful demand or interest of the complainants or any of them.

And these respondents further charge that the purchasers