Ellard Merritt
To
W. F. Howard,

The State of Alabama }
Shelby County } This Indenture made and entered into this 16th day of May 1873 between William Howard and Merritt Ellard debtor of the first part, and W. Howard creditor of the second part, Witnesseth: That whereas the said party of the first part is justly indebted to the party of the 2d part ~~receipt thereof is hereby acknowledged~~; in the sum of Forty Dollars due in forty days, also 45 due at the end of 80 days, dollars due by promissory note and payable on or before the 26th day of June and of August 1873, and the said party of the 1st part being desirous to secure the payment of said indebtedness, for and in consideration thereof, and for the further consideration of the sum of one dollar to the said party of the first part receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the said party of the first part has sold and hereby sells and conveys to the said party of the 2d part the following described property to wit:
One black Mare mule about six years old, one pear of Oxen known as the William Howard, Oxen, to have and to hold in trust as follows: It is hereby agreed, that the said party of the 1st part is to have and to retain possession of the said property until the 6th day of August 1873: and if the said party of the first part shall fully pay said debt with interest thereon, and the reasonable expenses hereof, by said 6th first day of August 1873 then this indenture is to be void, But upon default of such payment the said party of the 2d part is hereby authorized to take into possession and sell said propirty to the highest bidder for cash after giving ten days notice of the time and place of said sale by publication in a newspaper if one is published in the County, or by posting at three public places and out of the proceeds of said sale retain the sum of (85)
Dollars and interest thereon, and the rea

sonable costs hereof, and the balance if any pay to the said party of the first part,

Merritt Ellard (Seal)
W. F. Howard (Seal)

The State of Alabama
Shelby County

I G. C. Bain Justice of the Peace for said County hereby certify that Merritt Ellard whose name and signed to the foregoing conveyance, and who are known to me acknowledged before me on this day that being informed of the contents of the conveyance, they executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date,

Witness my hand this 16th day of May 1873

G. C. Bain
Justice of the Peace,

Filed for Record in Office July 15th 1873
& Recorded August 19th 1873.

J. T. Leper
Judge of Probate,