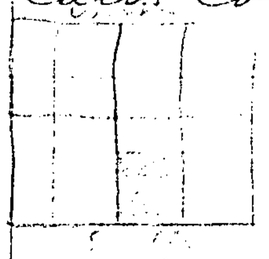
Swan & Billups
Trustees
To.
Josiah Champion

Know all men by these presents: That whereas, By virtue of the Acts of Congress of the United States and of the General Assembly of Alabama, referred to in the act of the General Assembly of Alabama, approved February 10th 1876 entitled "An Act to execute the power of disposal of the lands granted by an act of Congress entitled "An Act granting public lands, in alternate sections, to the State of Alabama, to aid in the construction of certain railroads in said State, approved June 3d 1856. which power of disposal is conferred upon the Legislature of Alabama by said act of Congress" and by virtue of what was done prior to February 10th 1876 by or under, or in pursuance of the legislation of Congress and the legislation of the State of Alabama, the said State had become completely vested with the title to the lands embraced by said acts of Congress, for the uses and purposes shown in said acts of Congress; And whereas, the said State, prior to February 10 1876 and more than six months prior to the duly decreed Bankruptcy of the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad Company, had acquired a valid lien in good faith, upon all of said lands to which the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad Company ever had any right or title, either legal or equitable, by a conveyance executed by that Company to the State of Alabama to secure an indebtedness of that Company to said State greater than the value of the interest of that Company in or to said lands, no part of which indebtedness has ever been paid to said State; And whereas; by a deed, executed and bearing date the 8th day of February 1877, the said lands were conveyed by the Governor of said State of Alabama, in pursuance of an act of the General Assembly of Alabama, approved February 23d 1876 entitled "An act to ratify and confirm the settlement of the existing indebtedness of this State, as proposed in the report of the Commissioners appointed under the act approved 17th December 1874 and which was communicated to the General Assembly by the message of the Governor of 24th of January 1876 and to carry said settlement into effect by the issuance of new bonds of this State at a reduced rate of interest in adjustment of a portion of said indebtedness and the surrender of certain securities held by the State in discharge of another portion of said indebtedness" to John A Billups and John Swann as Trustees for the purposes in the said deed specified; And whereas, the said John A Billups and John Swann have became invested with power and authority to dispose of, sell and convey the said lands in accordance with the provisions of said deed and of said last mentioned act of February 23d 1876 and whereas Josiah Champion in his name in the County of Shelby and State of Alabama on became the purchaser from the said Billups and Swann Trustees as aforesaid of a part of said lands as hereinafter described, laying in the County of Shelby and State of Alabama and containing, according to the original survey of said lands (40) Forty Acres more or less (Minerals reserved) at and for the price of Seventy dollars but no conveyance of said land was made to the said Josiah Champion; And whereas. the said Josiah Champion has paid to the said John A Billups and John

Swan as such trustees aforesaid the sum of Seventeen 50/100 dollars in cash, and executed three notes for the sum of Seventeen 50/100 dollars each and due respectively in 12. 24 & 36. months and each bearing interest from date the balance due and unpaid on said purchase of said land hereinafter described But it is distinctly understood and agreed that the said Trustees reserve to themselves, either for their own benefit or for sale to others, the exclusive right to the iron, coal and other minerals contained in or upon said lands, with all necessary privileges for mining on said lands, and also the right of way for rail and tramways for mining purposes, through any portion of said lands herein conveyed Now, therefore in consideration of the premises we the said John A Billups and John Swann as such Trustees, and by virtue of the power vested in us as such Trustees as aforesaid, by the said deed of Conveyance of the 8th February 1877 and by said Act of February 23d 1876 have granted, bargained and sold, and do by these presents, grant bargain sell and convey unto the said Josiah Champion all the estate, right title and interest of the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad Company as well as of the State of Alabama vested in us as such Trustees, or which we can convey in and unto the said lands above described to wit



The South West quarter of the South East quarter (S W¼ of S E¼)

in Section Twenty One Township twenty one Range four west and lying in the County of Shelby State of Alabama and containing according to the original Survey of said lands Forty Acres more or less. (Minerals reserved) To have and to hold the said lands hereinbefore particularly mentioned and described unto the said Josiah Champion his heirs and assigns forever Witness our hands and seals this 13th day of December 1881.

John Swann (Seal)
John A Billups (Seal)

State of New York } I Edwin F. Corey Jr. Commissioner for Alabama
City & County of New York } Hereby Certify that John Swann whose names are signed to the foregoing Conveyance and who are personally known to me severally each for himself, acknowledged before me on this day that being informed of the contents of the foregoing Conveyance they executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date.

Given under my hand this Thirteenth day of December 1881.

(Seal) Edwin F. Corey Jr

State of Alabama } I J A Billups Register for said County hereby Cer-
County of Pickens } tify that John A Billups whose name is signed to the foregoing Conveyance and who is personally known to me acknowledged before me on this day, that being informed of the contents of the foregoing Conveyance he executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date.

Given under my hand this 20th day of December 1881.

J A Billups Register in Chancery

Filed for record August 24th 1886 & recorded

J. T. Lehr Judge of Probate