Martin E. S. and wife to Gordon DuBose et al.

— Option —

State of Alabama, }
Shelby County, } Know all men by these Presents, that for and in consideration of Five Thousand Dollars, One Hundred Dollars of which is to us in hand paid the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the balance to be paid at the option of the grantees hereinafter named on or before the 1st day of November, 1895, we the undersigned grantors, E. S. Martin & S. D. Martin, wife of the said E. S. Martin, who joins for the purpose of conveying all of my dower and other rights, do hereby grant, bargain, sell and convey to Gordon DuBose, S. D. Mason, J. R. White, John A Edwards, Henry Milner, William R. A. Milner, D. R. McMillan, E. B. Nelson, A. P. Longshore and Clarence C. DuBose, their heirs & assigns, the following described real estate, to wit: The North West 1/4 of Sec 4 Township 20, Range 1 West, & Nine (9) acres off of the West side of the N W 1/4 of N E 1/4 of Sec. 4, T. 20 R 1 W 169 acres more or less, with all and singular the privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining — all mineral, water and timber rights are especially conveyed by these presents, - nothing is reserved to the grantors. To have and to hold to the said grantees, their heirs and assigns forever; and we hereby covenant with the said grantees that the said lands are free from any and all encumbrances, and we have clear and good titles to the same and a clear right to sell and convey them, and that we will forever warrant and defend the titles to the same against the lawful claims and demands of all persons.

But this deed and conveyance is intended as an "Option" — to be operative at the option of the grantees their heirs or assigns, to be expressed on or before the said 1st day of November, 1895, and by their paying to the undersigned their heirs or legal representatives the sum of Four Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars, the balance of the purchase money hereinbefore named on or before the said 1st day of November, 1895, — failing so to do this deed to be null and void, and the One Hundred Dollars each paid to the grantors by the grantees shall be retained by the said grantors in consideration of the option privilege granted to the said grantees.

We the undersigned grantors hereby further give to the said grantees the right to the possession of said above described lands until said November 1st 1895 so far as may be necessary in order to test thoroughly the extent and quality of

coal and mineral on and under said lands, and bind ourselves not to interfere in any way with the said grantees in the exercise of this right —
We further agree that we will make and execute to the said grantees an absolute and unconditional deed in in fee simple to said lands at any time on or before the said 1st day of November, 1895, should they, the said grantees, request us to so to do, provided they the said grantees have exercised their option in favor of taking such lands and have paid the full amount of said purchase money.
Given under our hands and seals this the 8th day of April, 1895.

E. S. Martin (L. S.)
S. I. Martin (L. S.)

State of Alabama, } I Pinkney N Gilbert a Justice of
Shelby County } the Peace in and for said County hereby certify that E. S. Martin and S. I. Martin, his wife, whose names are signed to the foregoing conveyance, 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. Given under my hand on this the 8 day of April 1895.

P. N. Gilbert J. P.

State of Alabama, } I Pinkney N. Gilbert a Justice
Shelby County, } of the Peace personally came S. I. Martin, known to me to be the wife of the within named E. S. Martin, and who being by me examined separate and apart from her said husband touching her signature to the same, acknowledged that she signed the same of her own free will and accord and without fear, constraint or threats on the part of her said husband. Given under my hand this the 8th day of April 1895

P. N. Gilbert J. P.

Filed for record May 23rd 1895 recorded,

Jno. T. Leeper
Judge of Probate