

COPY OF LETTER

GALLATIN, TENN

NOV. 15, 1849

Mr. J. W. Saunders

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 19th February 1849 is at hand and after my compliments, I wish if you are not employed by the opposite party to procure your aid as an attorney, for the purpose of recovering possession of the land belonging to the heirs of Mrs. Thurmond and about which your letter speaks. There will be no difficulty in proving the kinship of the children and judge their will be less in designating the land.

As respects the money the children should have received, there is no question that they have never received a solitary cent as can be easily proven, were it necessary. And as the money was retained by the Administrator for the purpose of being paid out to those intitled according to the distribution as report of the commissioners and if they have improperly paid the same to persons not intitled? I imagine if the Administrators or their securities are solvent there will be no difficulty in obtaining the same. Though was that may be you are the better judge.

I expect if you will examine the record about the year 1780 you will find a receipt executed by John Thurmond to the Adms. for a Negro woman named Judy - if not on the records or file perhaps the Adms. have the possession of it. - If found any where - I wish you to transmit me a copy of the same at your earliest convenience as I have use for it here.

If you wish any information as respect my standing or conditions I refer you to Mrs. Brown Cots of our County and her son who are at this time residents of your County - her son I think is in the College of your place.

Let me hear from you at soon as convenient.

Yours respectfully,

James Key

(NOTE - I HAVE COPY OF LETTER IN FILE - SOME OF THE WORDS ARE HARD TO MAKE OUT SO HAVE GUESSED AT SOME OF THEM.)