the one made March 17th. 1886 - when the widow's dower was assigned - at $22150.00 and the other made 7th. February 1883, when the remaining lands (including the widow's dower and after the sales hereinbefore mentioned had been made and brought the before mentioned aggregate sum of $7218.07) were valued at $23006.49 - and was heard to say that, it was the most remarkable management of a decedent's estate he had ever known. Your Petitioner begs leave to say that at the time of his brother's death June 1874 and also at the time of the death of his father Paschal Buford in July 1875 he was the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Bedford County; that his official duties to the public were never neglected, but that most all of his own private business connected with said office, his fees arising thereunder, were necessarily allowed to go to waste- having become barred by Act of Limitations before he could charge them up and copy them for collection- they were lost from January 1874 to 1st. July 1881: the latter the date when he went out of the Clerkship, so that he had but very little time to give his attention to his private business until after February 1883: the real estate of John Buford decd. not having been divided until July 1882 and the real estate of Paschal Buford decd. not having been divided until February 1883 . Your Petitioner would never have undertaken as a matter of choice the administration of either estate. His experience in long public life warned him against it. He had been requested to do so by each of the decedents in his lifetime. One was a Brother who had been terribly and hopelessly afflicted and died, leaving surviving him as before stated a wife in very delicate health and four young children, and the other an aged Father in his 75th. year, who, by reason of harsh and cruel personal treatment in June 1864 by soldiers of the Federal Army when it raided his home and in addition to ill-treatment to him drove off and carried away a large number of his stock, horses, cattle, sheep &c. was never thereafter, in the opinion, of your Petitioner, the same man mentally and physically. In 1866, about a year after the termination of the War between the States your Petitioer visited his Father at the latter's home when he, your Petitioner, was a single man & then Clerk of the Circuit Court, and said to him that he had come to talk with him about his business affairs - that he, your Petitioner, wanted nothing for