

Smiths law firm }
Fairfield District } In the Court of Ordinary

To O.R. Thompson Esq. Clerk, Ex. officio Ordinary of Fairfield
Dist., per tunc

The Petition of James R. Ashford, Admin. of R. J.
Ashford respectfully sheweth:

That Robert J. Ashford died intestate on or about
the tenth day of March last past; - that admin-
istration of his estate was duly committed to your
Petitioner by this Court - That the heirs at law
of the intestate are his widow and one child of
tender years, being now about three years of age;
that the widow proposes, as soon as the same
can be legally effected, to have the real estate
partitioned, or sold as the case may be; that
the personal assets besides the slaves are not
sufficient for the payment of the debts of the
deceased; that negro property being now at an
unusually high price, the widow desires that
the same may be sold under the order and au-
thority of this Court, which besides furnishing
a fund for the payment of debts, would, as your
Petitioner believes be greatly for the benefit of
both distributees under the circumstances
stated -

Wherefore your Petitioner prays that an order
for the sale of the slaves of the intestate,
may be granted, upon such terms, as to this
Court in its discretion may seem advisable -

And your Petitioner prays to -
14th Nov 1853 James R. Ashford

I have read the prayer of the above Petition and granted
the same