

State of Missouri 53  
Callaway county 3

I George Bartley Clerk of the  
Circuit Court within and for the county and  
State aforesaid, and ex officio recorder state to  
all whom it may concern, that I have this day  
examined my office, and find no liens or incum-  
brances against the farm of W<sup>m</sup> Rufess  
called Bluffton, and bought by him of W<sup>m</sup>  
Broadwater or any other of his real estate in  
said county of Callaway, save a debt to the school  
fund of said county of Callaway for the sum  
of \$500 with interest only from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September  
1845. I know of no other incumbrances and  
believe there is none on said farm other than  
a debt that he owes to W<sup>m</sup> Broadwater for about  
the sum of \$2150. or prior to a deed of trust that  
he the said Rufess executed to her John H. Ford  
voluntarily for the payment of his debt to -

I further state that said farm is a  
very valuable one combining unusual advantages  
Sine mine my hand official seal this  
23<sup>rd</sup> of March 1846 at Office

Geo. Bartley Recorder  
Callaway County

My Dear Colo

Bluffton 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1846

I reached home this morning, and  
found my family all well, and as we have  
only a few weeks more, I thought I would  
at once obtain the certificates touching  
the difficulty that you suggested about  
lien, incumbrances, which I think you  
will admit is satisfactory

I obtained in addition to the clerk's the  
affidavit also of W<sup>m</sup> Broadwater from  
whom I purchased the land, and whom  
you can have on inquiry is a worthy  
reliable merchant of Fulton

If any thing further is required  
you can have it, by suggesting it to  
me in letter, or if personally you wish  
a good and competent man can  
be sent up (at my expense) to  
make such enquiries as you deem safe, but

The land is worth \$10,000, but if sold  
and not bought up by a price, I doubt if  
it would bring \$1000, and I do not wish  
those blood suckers to buy it; - The debt  
over the liens is payable in 14 years without  
interest, or 10 per cent per annum will be  
discounted if paid down

I do sincerely hope you will find it  
convenient to make the arrangements sug-  
gested in my note by Mr. Freeland, and I  
try if you to write me at your earliest  
convenience

Make my best regards to W<sup>m</sup>  
B, and to my good friend Mitchell, and in  
haste accept assurances of the high regard of  
Yours friend  
W<sup>m</sup> Rufess  
Colo J. B. Brant