

# Ex-Convict Wants \$25,000 Damages for Alleged Abuse

ALBANY, Ga., Sept. 11.—A sensational suit has been filed in the City Court of Albany by a negro ex-convict against a number of prominent citizens of Dougherty and Worth Counties.

The suit is one for \$25,000, and is brought by Dan Long, a minor, by his next friend, Susan Long, against I. H. Moree & Co., a firm composed of I. H. Moree, C. L. Hall and T. J. Pinson, of Worth County, and Morris Westosky and J. A. Johnson, of Dougherty County. The suit was filed by J. E. Mozley, an attorney of Marietta.

The petitioner says in his petition that he was confined in a chain-gang at the turpentine camp of the defendants in Worth County during the month of March, 1907, and until February 12, 1908, and alleges that the confinement was illegal and contrary to law.

The petitioner further says that while he was confined in said chain-gang he was unlawfully, unmercifully and inhumanly whipped and beaten by one, Wesley Matthews, an agent of the defendants, whom they had placed in charge of said chain-gang as whipping boss, or who acted as whipping boss for the defendants.

The petitioner also alleges that he suffered untold pain and misery from the effects of the whippings and beatings administered by the whipping boss, and has had a partial stroke of paralysis, which paralysis and whippings and beatings have reduced his capacity to work and earn a living at least three-fourths; that his injuries are serious and permanent, and that he will never recover from same during his natural life; that the scars on his hands, feet, legs, back and the back of his head made by the whipping boss will remain as long as he lives.

The petitioner says he was about 16 years of age when he entered the chain-gang, and was then sound and able-bodied and able to earn \$25 a month.

The defendants in the case are cited to appear at the next civil term of the City Court of Albany, which convenes next Monday, and make answer to the petition.

The petition does not state in what respect the confinement of the petitioner in the Worth County camp was illegal and contrary to law.