1692:

Jan.y 28: Pr.n rec.d into y.e Office this Gold Lett.r (viz.t)

Decem.r 12.th 1692

Hon.d Sr.

The bearer Mr. Nicholas Bowen has married one of the daughters Leg.t Jos. Biles dec.d: Anne the Relic of the s.d Biles are willing to deliver them all the s.d Negroes belonging to his wife, Negroes, Cattle and hogs, provided we may doe the same w.th safety, w.ch we are apprehend unsafe to be by way of an ord.r from y.r Hon.r to appoint some one discreet person to do the same: as for other Utensills belonging to them it is impossible to make any division thereof their sad will expose them to sale and give an acc.t thereof, your Hon.r pleasure pleas to signifie to

Y.r humble Serv.t

Wm. Neale

Thos. Turner

We think Mr. Philip Briscoe Mr. Thomas Clark fitting men if y.r Hon.r does likewise so

Request y.r Hon.r to send us a Copy of the will by the bearer

whereupon issued the Gold ord.r (viz.t)

By the Commiss.r Gen.ll or Chiefe Judge for probate of Wills &c.

Maryland ss.

Ordered that Mr. Joshua Guibert and Mr. Wm. Langworth of St. Maries County having first taken their oathes before Mr. John Bracroft and Mr. Philip Briscoe or either of them (who are hereby authorised & impowered to administer such oath) do equally and impartially divide y.e personall Estate of Mr. Joseph Biles late of St. Maries County aforesd dec.d into five equall pt.s and proportions according to the best of their judgment skill & knowledge, the the same so divided to be distributed and disposed off according to the will of the s.d dec.d, as y.e direction of the Leg.s therein nominated and appointed. Given under my hand and seale this 28.th day of Jann.y Anno Dni 1692: in y.e fourth year of y.e reign of our Soveraigne Lord & Lady King William & Queen Mary &c.

N Blakiston (Seale)

Jan.y 30: Laur. Daniel May Serv.t & Legatee of Rich. May dec.d by George Plater his Procurator and filed his libell agt. Robert Carvile Exec.r of Elizabeth May the widow & Leg.e of the s.d Richard w.ch was ordered to be recorded

At a Commiss.ys Court appointed to be held at y.e City of St. Maries the Bull day offixed in the fourth year of the Reign of our Soveraigne Lord and Lady King William and Queen Mary &c. Annoq Dni 1692: but by reason of the great rain & violent falling downe thereby preventing the passage to y.e s.d place the same was deferred and put off to the 13.th day of the s.d month, and then at y.e same place held before

The hon.ble Nehemiah Blakiston Esq.r Commiss.r Gen.ll

and from thence adjourned for an hour to meete at St. Johns

At St. Johns the Court Sate as aforesd adjourned

To the hon.ble Nehemiah Blakiston Esq.r Chiefe Judge for probate of Wills &c.

The humble petition of Thomas Blackwell who married the widow & relict of of Mr. Joshua Dorsey late of Anne Arundell County dec.d

Humbly Sheweth

That your pet.r's pr.d.ecessor Mr. Joshua Dorsey did by his last will & testam.t in writeing, as the first bequeath, have and bequeath unto his s.d wife the one third pt. of his personall Estate, and one third pt. of his Lands during her naturall life, and afterwards made severall other bequests as in the s.d will is mentioned, which s.d Legacys, the Leg.s of the s.d Joshua have p.d (as they alledge) to the severall Legatees in the s.d Will named without ever bringing the same to app.r Court and intend to make good unto y.e s.d pet.r in right of his wife the third pt. of the remaining personall Estate w.ch y.r pet.r humbly conceiveth is not according to y.e intent & meaning of the Testator, for that before he made mention of any other Legacys or bequests by him to be made he firstly & chiefly gives unto his wife the third pt. of his entire personall Estate without any reservation or

Your pet.r humbly prays y.e Hon.r consideration & judgment in y.e premiss & as accordingle law & Justice to y.e Hon.r shall seem meet &c.

And shall pray &c.

The petition considered and the allegations & proofs of the pet.r as of the Leg.s the other party concerned being heard and understood, and it also appearing to y.e Judge thereby by confession and acknowledgment of the pet.r himself that he hath received the third pt. of y.e Estate consisting of two houses, Legacys & specialties by the Testator, and he also receiving the one house, it is by the Judge thought fitt that the pet.r by the will satisfied and ordered that the Leg.s be thereof wholly acquitted and discharged.

At the same time Edward and Jos. Dorsey Exec.rs of the last will & testam.t of the s.d Joshua Dorsey exhibited their acco.t of y.e same w.ch was audited & examined and forasmuch as severall Articles therein charged were not by the s.d Ex.rs sufficiently made appear to the Judge for want of the specialties thereof and their probate wills receipts, time is given them till next Court to prove y.e same and produce y.e receipts to be annexed downe to y.e Office w.th Articles are as followeth viz.t

Comissys