(at the of the division so as aft made) upon the land, but after this division by the complainants without the approbation or content of this defendant, the said Jacob continued upon the land and claimed it as his property that when this defendant found the complainants were caving and dividing this defendants land among themselves he found it necessary by due process of law to dispossess the said Jacob Flegle of that part of the land which he lived on.

This defendant states that the other three complainants did not take possession of the said land under the unlicensed division made by them and that this defendant never did give them or either of the aforesaid complainants in the bill possession under the division aforesaid by them made.

This defendant in answer to the consideration of love and affection begs leave to state, that the complainants have ever since the death of his first wife, have been in the habit of treating this defendant ill; That neglect abuse and ill treatment has almost constantly and uniformly marked the conduct and behaviour of the complainants to this defendant that even threats have been throwed out by the complainant Jacob Flegle against the personal security of this defendant his father.

That the other complainants have done every thing to irritate fret and render this defendant in his old age uneasy and unhappy That this defendant tis true have married a second wife but he believes she is not of bad character.

This defendant further states that he has eight children by his first wife, the four complainants in the bill and four daughters all of whom are married and were married at the death of his first wife and lived away from this defendant: That this defendant had no person to take care of his house or as a companion for himself being lonesome and without a house keeper he hired Mary Hydorn his present wife to work for him and she had not been in this defendants employ but a very short time before she was driven from this defendants employ and this defendant believes at the instance and advisement of the said complainants thus he was again left alone; she being very much beaten refused to live with me. This defendant after much persuasion prevailed upon her to live with him again and from the attention to this defendant this defendant found it necessary for his own safety and welfare to marry

and did prevail on her to marry him this defendant and ever since the said marriage the said complainants have treated this defendant with increased disrespect and ill nature; and that the complainant Jacob Flegle has made it necessary for my present wife to take refuge in this defendants spring house for personal safety. This defendant is surprised at this suit brought against him by the said complainants whereby the defendant is wrongfully vexed and sued without any just cause. This defendant denies all fraud herein he stands charged without that that there is any other matter or thing material for this defendant to answer and not herein sufficiently answered or denied confessed and avoided is true all which is ready to prove at this honourable Court shall award and prays hence to be dismissed with his reasonable costs and charges

John Johnson for defendant.

July 25th 1799 This day came Valentine Flegle before the subscriber one of the Justices of the peace for Frederick County and made oath on the Holy evangels of almighty God that what is contained in the foregoing answer is true as stated to the best of his knowledge.

Sworn before John Schley.

whereupon the complainants by their Solicitor aforesaid entered replication generally to the answer of the said defendant: and the said cause so standing continued until october Term 1805 when the complainants suggested the death of the defendant and filed in Court the following bill of revivor.

To The Honorable Alexander Contee Hanson Chancellor of Maryland. Humbly show unto your honor Charles, Valentine, Jacob and John Flegle.

That your orators heretofore filed a bill in this court against Valentine Flegle for relief in equity touching the matters charged in the bill - that the said Valentine Flegle the said defendant afterwards died and devised all his interest in the said land to his wife Mary who afterwards married a certain Lawrence Burkhart - by reason of all which premises the said suit became abated.

Your orators therefore pray that the said suit may be and stand revived, and that your orators may have such relief in the premises as is equitable. May it please your honor that a subpoena may issue commanding the said Lawrence Burkhart and Mary his wife to appear in this Court and there answer the premises - and abide by such order therein as is proper and that the said suit may be revived &c.

Arthur Shaaff