Whereupon it was Ordered, and Citation Issued Accordingly against the said Normand Bruce, to Answer unto the Libellants Complaint aforesaid, returnable next Court

At which said next Court to Wit the Second Tuesday of May being the 12th Day of the same Month Anno Dominij 1732 Came again the said Libellants by their Procurator Aforesaid, and the said Normand Bruce also Comes by Tho.s Jennings his Procurator, and files in Court here his Answer to the Libel Aforesaid, as follows to Wit

The Answer of Normand Bruce to the Libel of Geo: Watts and Rebecca his Wife Daniel Chas Heath and Mary his Wife and Susanna Hey

This Defendant saving and reserving to himself now and at all times hereafter all and all Manner of Benefit and Advantage of Exception to the Manyfoliencies Uncertainties and other Imperfections and Defects in the said Libel for Answer thereunto or unto so much thereof as this Defendant is advised is any Ways Material or necessary for him this Defendant to make Answer unto he Answereth, and saith that he Admits it to be true that the said Theodosia Hey in the Libel Mentioned did sometime in the Year Seventeen Hundred and Sixty four Request her son in law Edmund Hey Esq.r late Attorney General to Draw her Will & Testament, and Believes and Admits it to be true that the said Edmund Hey Did at her Desire and Agreeable to her Instructions write the Last Will & Testament of the said Theodosia Hey who Received & Kept the said Will and Testament by her to the time of her Death, and also admits that the same was found after her Decease amongst her Papers safely locked up. The said Defendant likewise Believes and admits it to be true that the said Theodosia Hey at sundry times Declared that she Produced the said Will & Testam.t in the Libel mentioned but how often she so Produced the same this Defendant cannot Ascertain. This Defendant further Answering saith

Revoked by the said Theodosia Hey

saith that he Believes and admits to be true that the said Theodosia Hey has Related in what manner and to whom she had Given her Estate and Particularly the Legacies to the Libellants Rebecca Mary and Susanna who the Defendant Admits are the Grand Children of Philip Hey Esq.r Husband of the said Theodosia Hey

This Defendant further Answering admits it to be true that the said Theodosia Hey Disposed of her Estate as Set forth in the said Libel and the Will & Testament thereunto Annexed, and also admits that he Applied to the Prerogative Office for and Obtained Letters of Administration on the Estate of the said Theodosia Hey without the Knowledge of the Libellants And this Defendant Hereby Apprehends that if the said Letters of Administration shall be Revoked he is entitled to Obtain Letters of Administration with the said Will Annexed Without that that there is any other Matter or thing Essential or Necessary for this Defendant to make Answer unto and not herein & Hereby well & sufficiently answered unto Confessed or avoided, traversed or Denied is true

Tho.s Jennings for Def.t

On the Ninth Day of May in the Year of our Lord God one Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy two came Norman Bruce before me one of his Lord.ships Justices of the Peace for Ann Arundel County and made Oath on the Holy Evangils of Almighty God that what is Contained in this his Answer so far as Concerns his own Act & Deed is true of his own Knowledge and that what Relates to the Act & Deed of any other Person or Persons he Believes to be true

Sworn to before
Robt Lowden

To which said Answer the Libellants Aforesaid by their Procurator Aforesaid Reply Generally; and Pray Leave to file in Court here the following Petition which being Admitted follows in these Words to Wit

To the Honourable Walter Dulany Esq.r Commissary General and Chief Judge for Probate of Wills

The Humble Petition of Geo: Watts & Rebecca his