Dorchester County Sct. On the 24th day of November Anno Domini 1795. Anthony Manning who offered the within Will for probate made oath on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God that the within Instrument of writing is the true and whole Will & Testament of Joseph Griffith late of Dorchester County deceased that hath come to his hands or possession, and that he doth not know of any other. Certified per Wm. Goldsborough Regr.

Dorchester County, to wit. On the 24th day of November Anno Dominii 1795. Anthony Manning and Thomas Manning and William Ryan, the subscribing Witnesses to the within last Will and Testament of Joseph Griffith late of Dorchester County deceased severally made oath on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God that they did see the Testator therein named sign and seal this Will, and that they heard him publish pronounce and declare the same to be his last Will and Testament, that at the time of his so doing he was to the best of their apprehension of sound and disposing mind memory & understanding, and that they respectively subscribed their names as Witnesses to this Will in the presence and at the request of the testator and in the presence of each other.

Certified per Wm. Goldsborough Regr.

Dorchester County to wit. On the 24th day of November Anno Domini 1795 came Mary Griffith the Widow of the Testator Joseph Griffith deceased, and claimed one third of the deceased's estate both real and personal according to law.

Certified per Wm. Goldsborough Regr.

A true copy. Hereto set my name and the public Seal of my office after this 16 day of May Anno Domini 1814.

Wm. Cropper Regr.

And thereupon day is further given as well to the said John Newton Clement Stanford and Charles LeCompte and Devereux Spencer as to the said John Griffith & Sophia his wife, John Seward and Sarah his Wife, and John Vincent & Nancy his Wife by the Court here until the fourth Monday in October then next following. And now here at this day, to wit, the said fourth Monday in October come again as well the said John Newton, Clement Stanford and Charles LeCompte and Devereux Spencer, as the said John Griffith and Sophia his Wife, John Seward and Sarah his wife and John Vincent and Nancy his wife by their Solicitors aforesaid - whereupon all and singular the premises being seen and by the Court fully considered - the said Court made and filed the following Decree to wit.

John Newton and others vs. John Griffith and others

Dorchester County Court in Chancery sitting - October Term 1822 - This said cause standing ready for hearing and being submitted on bill and answer - the bill answers exhibits and all other proceedings were by the Court read & considered. The defendants admit that one fourth part of the Lands which descended from the Mother to Joseph Griffith the intestate is liable for the payment of the debts due by him, but deny that the Lands devised to him by his father Joseph Griffith mentioned in the Will set forth in the defendants answer are in any manner liable for the payment of his debts - That these defendants claim title to the same under the Will and not by descent from Joseph Griffith the Devisee: on the contrary the Complainants contend that the lands devised by Joseph Griffith the father to Joseph Griffith the intestate son, are liable for the payment of his debts, and claim a decree for the sales of the same as prayed for in the bill, alleging that the part admitted by the defendants to be liable for the payment of his debts is altogether insufficient for that purpose

That the said defendants hold their title by descent from Joseph Griffith the intestate and not from the Will of Joseph Griffith the Testator - With respect to the devised lands mentioned in the said Will and in controversy, the Court consider that a question of some importance and difficulty is involved in the decision, and as the parties have submitted the case without argument and have expressed a wish that such decree pro forma may be passed as will enable them to obtain a decision by the Court of Appeals. It is thereupon this eighth day of November eighteen hundred & twenty two by Dorchester County Court and by the authority thereof adjudged and decreed that the Lands mentioned in the said Will and thereby devised to Joseph Griffith the father to his son Joseph the intestate in the proceedings mentioned are not liable for the payment of the debts due by him notwithstanding the insufficiency of the real estate admitted by the defts. that the defendants hold their title to the said devised lands by virtue of the Will of Joseph Griffith the father and not by descent as heirs at law of Joseph Griffith the intestate, and this Court doth therefore refuse to order or decree a sale of the said devised lands or any part thereof, as prayed by the bill of the Complainants. It is also ordered adjudged and decreed by Dorchester County Court that the real estate which descended to Joseph Griffith the intestate from his deceased mother be sold for the payment of the debts due by him, and that James Chaplain be and he is hereby appointed Trustee for making the said sale, and that the course and manner of his proceedings be as follows. He shall first file a bond with the Clerk of this Court to the State of Maryland executed by himself and a surety or sureties approved by the Court or some one of the Judges thereof in the penalty of five hundred dollars current money, conditioned for the faithful performance of the trust reposed in him by this decree, or to be reposed in him by any future order or decree in the premises. He shall then proceed to sell the said land after having given at least three weeks notice in some one of the Easton News papers of the time, place, manner and terms of sale, which shall be that the purchaser or purchasers shall give bond with approved security to the Trustee as such for the payment of the purchase money within twelve months with interest from the day of sale, and he shall also make a particular return of all his proceedings and of the proceeds of the said sale to this Court subject to their order. And he shall also at the time of advertising give notice to the creditors to exhibit their claims with the Vouchers thereof in the Clerks Office within six months from the day of sale. Wm. B. Martin

And the said John Newton, Clement Stanford and Charles LeCompte and Devereux Spencer by their Solicitor aforesaid pray that they may appeal from the Decree aff. of the Court here to the Court of Appeals to be held for the Eastern Shore of the State of Maryland, and to them the same is granted by the Court here - It is therefore ordered by the Court here that the record and proceedings aforesaid, and all things relating to the same be transmitted to the said Court of Appeals which is transmitted accordingly.

E. Richardson Clk.

Maryland Dorchester County to wit. I hereby Certify that the record and proceedings within described and truly & faithfully copied from the records and proceedings of Dorchester County Court remaining in my Office of record.

Seal In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the public seal of my Office this 10. day of November 1822.

E. Richardson, Clk.

And now come into the Court of Appeals here as well the said John Griffith & Sophia his wife, John Seward and Sarah his wife, and John Vincent and Nancy his wife by