Maryland Set.—

At a Court of Appeals of the State of Maryland, one of the United States of America begun and held for the Western Shore of the said State at the City of Annapolis on the second Monday of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty six being the eighth day of the same month and in the seventieth year of the Independence of the United States of America.—

Present.—

The Honorable, Stevenson Archer, Chief Judge.—
Thomas Beale Dorsey,
Ezekiel F. Chambers,
Asa Spence
Alexander C. Magruder,
Robert N. Martin.— } Judges.

Richard W. Gill, Clerk.—

In the record of proceedings of the same Court among others is the following to wit,—

John J. C. Grandison Watkins and Eliza his wife.—
vs
Charity Sears, Elizabeth E. Sears, Julia M. Sears, Mary A. Sears, Charles C. Sears and James S. Sears.

Be it remembered, That now here on the second Monday in June being the ninth day of the said month, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty five the Chancellor of Maryland in pursuance of the directions of the act of Assembly in such case made and provided transmit to the Court of Appeals here the record of proceedings of a certain cause which was lately depending before him in the Court of Chancery between John J. C. Grandison Watkins and Eliza his wife Complainants and Charity Sears, Elizabeth E. Sears, Julia M. Sears, Mary A. Sears, Charles C. Sears and James S. Sears defendants, and wherein the said Court of Chancery passed a Decree for the said Charity Sears and others against the said John J. C. Grandison Watkins and Eliza his wife and from which said Decree the said John J. C. Grandison Watkins and Eliza his wife appealed to the Court of Appeals here, the tenor of which said record of proceedings is in form following, to wit,—

Maryland Set.—

At a Court of Chancery for the State of Maryland begun and held at the City of Annapolis on the second Tuesday of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty five.—

Present.—

The Honorable Theodorick Bland, Chancellor.—
Louis Gassaway, Register.—

Were had (among other) the following proceedings.—

John J. C. Grandison Watkins and Eliza his wife.— vs

Be it remembered that heretofore to wit, on the seventeenth day of December in the year of

Charity Sears, Elizabeth E. Sears, Julia M. Sears, Mary A. Sears, Charles C. Sears, and James S. Sears, } our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty four came John J. C. Grandison Watkins, and Eliza his wife by Cornelius McLean Esquire their solicitor into the Court of Chancery of the State of Maryland and exhibited in said Court their Bill of Complaint against Charity Sears, Elizabeth E. Sears, Julia M. Sears, Mary A. Sears, Charles C. Sears, and James S. Sears in the words following to wit,—

To the Honorable Theodorick Bland, Chancellor of Maryland.—

Humbly complaining shew unto your Honour, your orator John J. C. Grandison Watkins and your oratrix Eliza his wife that on or about the thirtieth of October in the year eighteen hundred and twenty nine one Caleb Sears being seized and possessed of a tract of land in Anne Arundel County called the "plains" near the City of Annapolis it being the tract of land on which he lived by his last will and testament duly executed so as to pass real estate devised the same to his wife Charity Sears for her life and after her death the southern half thereof the whole to be divided in equal parts according to the number of acres by a due east and west line to his son Charles C. Sears and his heirs and assigns forever, and the northern half to his son Dennis D. Sears, and his heirs and assigns forever provided he should attain the age of twenty one years and die having issue but if he should die before he arrived at the age of twenty one years or die without issue then he devised the said half to his daughters Lucretia and Eliza so long as they should remain unmarried but if either of them should marry or die then her portion was to go to the said Charles and his heirs and assigns forever all which will, more particularly and at large appear by reference to an authenticated copy of said will herewith filed, marked Exhibit A, and which your orator and oratrix pray may be taken and treated as a part of this their bill of complaint and that shortly afterwards the said Caleb Sears departed this life without having revoked or altered the said will which was duly admitted to probate as will appear by the said copy. That after the death of the said Caleb, your oratrix intermarried with your orator and the said Dennis departed this life intestate and without issue leaving your oratrix Eliza the said Lucretia and the said Charles his brother and sisters his heirs at law, That the said Dennis on the day of his death had attained to the age of nearly twenty three years and was over the age of twenty one and your orator and oratrix are advised that having attained that age he became absolutely entitled to the said half in fee simple subject to the life estate of the said Charity and that on his death as aforesaid intestate and without issue the same descended to his brother and sisters as his heirs at law, the limitation over in case of his dying without issue being void in law, That after the death of the said Dennis the said Lucretia also died without issue and intestate leaving your oratrix Eliza and the said Charles her heirs at law so that your oratrix now claims and your orator in her right claims to be entitled by descent to one half of the share or half of the said Dennis or one fourth of the whole of