first day of August seventeen hundred and ninety two, and that such allowance be made by the first day of January next.

Test. John Gwinn Clk.

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Allen Duvall admor. de bonis non of ... Thomas Rutland Senior against Thomas Staines and Elizabeth his wife ...

Be it remembered that heretofore, to wit, on the fifteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty five, come Thomas Rutland into the General Court for the Western Shore of the State of Maryland by Gabriel Duvall his Sollicitor and filed his Bill of complaint against Thomas Staines and Elizabeth his wife in the words following, to wit,

(To the honourable The Judges of the General Court in Equity.

Humbly complaining shewing unto your Honours your orator Thomas Rutland of Anne Arundel County, heir at Law, executor and Residuary Legatee of Thomas Rutland late of Anne Arundel County deceased, that a certain Francis Spong and Elizabeth his wife, being seised and possessed of a Lot of Ground in the City of Annapolis marked and described on the plot of the said City by the Letter A. being a corner Lot fronting north west on North East Street, and south west on Prince George's Street, sold and conveyed the said Lot to a certain Nathan Hammond of the County aforesaid his heirs and assigns forever, by Deed of bargain and sale bearing date on or about the 13th day of July one thousand seven hundred and fifty nine, for a valuable consideration as by reference to said Deed duly acknowledged and recorded and which your Orator prays may be taken as part of this his bill of complaint may more fully appear: That the aforesaid, Francis Spong some time in the year seventeen hundred and seventy two departed this life, and the aforesaid Elizabeth soon afterwards, to wit, sometime in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy three intermarried with a certain Thomas Staines then of Charles County but now a resident of the State of Pennsylvania: that the aforesaid Nathan Hammond, for a valuable consideration sold and conveyed the aforesaid Lot to Thomas Rutland your Orators grand father, by Deed of bargain and sale bearing date on or about the fourteenth day of March one thousand seven hundred and sixty as by reference to the said Deed, duly acknowledged and recorded, and which



which your Orator prays may be taken as part of this his bill of complaint, may more fully appear.- Your Orator further sheweth that the aforesaid Thomas Rutland his grand father, entered upon the premises and confessed the same for eleven years or thereabouts, and made very considerable improvements on the same, at a great expense, among which are a large brick dwelling house, kitchen, Stables and other out houses which he erected after the purchase of the aforesaid Nathan Hammond and apprehending his title to the same to be good and valid in Law, and the several conveyances aforesaid to be legal and binding upon the Parties, he sold and conveyed the same by Deed of bargain and sale bearing Date on or about the eighteenth day of December one thousand seven hundred and seventy one to a certain Bennett Chew then of the City of Annapolis, for and in consideration of the sum of six hundred and twenty five pounds sterling money and the said Thomas Rutland by the said Deed did, for himself his heirs executors and administrators covenant and agree, to and with the said Bennett Chew his Executors administrators and assigns that if the said Lot or parcel of Ground should be evicted recovered or taken away by due Course of Law from the said Bennett Chew or his heirs or assigns by reason of any prior right, title or claim paramount that then and in such case the said Thomas Rutland his heirs executors and administrators would well and truly refund and pay to the said Bennett Chew his executors and administrators the said sum of six hundred and twenty five pounds sterling money. Your Orator further sheweth that the aforesaid Thomas Rutland the elder departed this life sometime in the month of November seventeen hundred and seventy three having first duly made his Will in writing, and thereby devised all the rest and residue of his estate, after the disposition of a few legacies, to your Orator, and constituted your Orator Executor of the same; which said Will was afterwards, to wit, on the thirteenth day of December in the year last aforesaid, in due form of Law proved; and letters testamentary thereon granted, by Thomas Gassaway Esquire, Register of Wills in Ann Arundel County, to your Orator on the day of one thousand seven hundred and Eighty : to which said Will a copy whereof is hereunto annexed, and which