Judgments

John Smoot intermarried, that he knows Joseph Smoot the other Libellant, and that the said Joseph was reputed to be the Offspring of the said John and Elizabeth, and that the said John never owned, and always alledge to this Deponent that they were his Children, or that the said Elizabeth was his Wife that the said Robert, and Joseph were reputed by the neighbours to be the Children of the said John & Elizabeth, and that the said Elizabeth was also reputed to be the Wife of the said John, ~~[illegible]~~

Joseph Douglass Certified pr

Jno Goldsborough Regr. W.D.

The Deposition of Charles Adams of Dorchester County, of the age of thirty eight years and more taken before me the Subscriber Register of Wills in and for the County aforesaid by vertue of the aforegoing Order of the Orphans Court, this second day of March anno Domini 1795 the said Charles Adams, being first solemnly sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God, concerning his Knowledge of the several Matters, and things contained, in the Libel and Answer exhibited in the above Cause, and in Controversy between the respective Parties thereto Deposeth, and saith, that he knew John Smoot (late) about eighteen years before his death and that he was intimate with him the last six or seven years before his Death, that in a conversation between Joseph Douglass, and John Smoot he heard the said John Smoot say that he meant to give all his fork lands to his Son John except what he had given, to Mrs Cropper on which Mr Douglass observed that it was too much to give to one Child, he the said John Smoot Replied, that he had considerable other property, which would be some thing Recompence to avoid among his other Children, that this conversation happened about sixteen Months before the Death of the said John Smoot, and that he has frequently heard him repeat the same, that he knows Robert Smoot one of the Libellants that he was commonly reputed to be the Child of the said John Smoot and the present Elizabeth Smoot and that the said John Smoot, treated him in his Family as a Child, and that he never heard him acknowledge express a Doubt, or disavow him the said Robert as his Child, and that the said Robert is said and reputed to be the Offspring of the said Elizabeth with whom the said John intermarried, that he knows Joseph Smoot the other Libellant, and that the said Joseph was born of the said Elizabeth after it was reputed that the said John had intermarried with the said Elizabeth, and that he was called the Child of the said John & Elizabeth by those who frequented the Family

Charles Adams Certified pr

Jno Goldsborough Regr. W.D.

April Term

The Deposition of Henry Smoot of Dorchester County, of the age of thirty five years, and more taken before me the Subscriber Register of Wills in and for the County aforesaid by vertue of the aforegoing Order of the Orphans Court of the said County, this second day of March anno Domini 1795 the said Henry Smoot being first solemnly sworn, on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God, concerning his Knowledge of the several Matters, and things contained in the Libel and Answer exhibited, in the above Cause, and in Controversy between the respective Parties thereto, deposeth and saith that he knew John Smoot the father of the Libellants since he was twelve years old that he was intimate with him about five years before his death that some time in the Winter before the death of the said John he heard the said John say that he intended to leave his fork lands to his Son John except that which he had given to Mrs Cropper, and that his reason for so doing, was that he would not be able to support himself in that House, unless he gave him the lands aforesaid and that he had sufficient property besides to give his other Children, that would afford them a Comfortable living, and that if he lived he had not a Doubt that if he should have more Children he should have it in his power to provide for them that he heard the said John say that he had a Will, that he expressed an Intention of altering said Will, but that his Business was too much deranged and that he intimated his reason for wanting to alter his Will was to make a provision for his Younger Children, and that after the death of the said John Smoot he was present with Joseph Douglass and others when an Instrument of Writing was found purporting to be the last Will and Testament of the said John, and that the same was found in a private Desk of the said John under cover which appeared to have been sealed, but was open, that he was taken sick on Wednesday and died on Saturday following, and that during his illness he did not hear him express a desire to alter his Will, that he knows Robert Smoot, one of the Libellants, and that he was commonly reputed to be the Child of the said John Smoot, and the present Elizabeth Smoot, and that he heard the said John acknowledge him the said Robert to be his Child and kept and supported him in his family, and treated him as one of his Children, and that he knows Joseph Smoot the other Libellant, and that he believes the said Joseph was born since the Intermarriage of the said John with the said Elizabeth, and that he was owned, and acknowledged by the said John to be his Child

Henry Smoot

Certified pr Jno Goldsborough Regr. W.D. County

The Deposition of Alexander Douglass of Dorchester County of the age of forty three years and more taken before me the Subscriber Register of Wills in and for the County aforesaid