Examd 18th Sept.

and disposing mind & memory and Understanding and that they Subscribed their Respective Names as Witnesses to the Said Codicil in the presence of the said Testator and at his Request ---------- Sworn before S. Ridout Commissary General.

The Executor refuses the Execution of the aforegoing Will ----------

---

**In the Name of God Amen** I Samuel Acworth of Somerset County and Province of Maryland and in Pennoy Parish, being Sick & Weak in Body of Perfect mind and memory thanks be to God therefore calling to mind the Mortality of my Body knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make publish and declare this my last Will and Testament Revoking and disannulling all others made by me, whereby Word or Writing shall be found to the hard of God that gave them my Body to the Earth to be decently Buried ---- Item I give and bequeath to my Daughter Esther Acworth One Negro Girl Named Jinah, one Negro Girl Named Alice

Item I give and bequeath to my Welbeloved Son Ephraim Acworth One Negro girl Named Rose and her Increase one Negro Boy Named Johnson. Item I give & bequeath to my Daughter Esther Acworth one Feather Bed and furniture. Item I give & bequeath to my well beloved Son Ephraim Acworth one Feather Bed and furniture

Item I give to my two Granddaughters Sarah Bounds and Mary Watkinson one Negro Girl named Eunice & their Increase, to be paid to them when they shall arrive to the Age of Sixteen. Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved Son Ephraim Acworth all my Land lying on the North Side of Pocomoke Creek, Containing three Hundred and twenty five Acres held by the Name of the Addition Penny Island & Acworths Purchase on which my Dwelling House is on to be made disposed of hereafter. It is my Will and Desire that after my well beloved Wife Patience Acworth doth get her third out of my Estate and all my just debts and funeral Charges paid that the Residue of my Estate over the Quantity above given, to be equally divided between my well beloved Wife Patience Acworth & Daughter Esther Acworth & Son Ephraim Acworth & further it is my Will & Desire that my well beloved Wife Patience Acworth and Daughter Esther Acworth should be my whole & Sole Administrator of this my last Will and Testament. In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seal this tenth day of June in the Year of Our Lord God One thousand Seven Hundred & Sixty one

Witness ---------- Samuel Acworth (Seal)

Day given

Mathew Dorman
Geo. Tarrington

George Tarrington Aged Twenty three Years or thereabouts being Sworn on the Holy Evangells of Almighty God Deposeth & saith that on or about the tenth day of June last he did at the request of a certain Samuel Acworth late of Somerset County the said Samuel Acworth Will agreeable to the Instructions which the said Acworth gave him that on or about the day aforesaid The Testator Samuel Acworth having read the Will by the Deponent Written as is above mentioned did in the presence of him the Deponent and in the presence of a certain day given and a certain Mathew Dorman Subscribe his the Testators Name to the said Will and did Also in their presence publish & declare it to be his last Will & Testament that at the time of this so doing the Testator was to the best of



best of the Deponents Apprehension of sound & disposing mind and memory and that the Deponent the day given and Mathew Dorman did then in the presence of the Testator and of each other and at the Testators Request Subscribe their respective Names as Witnesses to the said Will and the Deponent further saith that on or about Six or Eight days after the Death of the said Testator Samuel Acworth who died on the said tenth day of June last the Deponent being called upon by Patience Acworth the Widow of the Testator to transcribe or Write a Copy of the aforesaid Will to the Widow whereupon Will two Copys thereof one of which together with the Original Will he sent and has at the other Copy in his own Possession which last mentioned Copy the Deponent says is the Copy now Produced or Exhibited and to which this Deposition is Annexed and that the same to the best of the Knowledge and Exact & true Copy of the Original Will the Deponent further saith that a few Days after the Death of the Testator Samuel Acworth a Certain John Watkins Son in Law to the deceased Came to him the Deponent and asked if the aforesaid Testator Will was in his the Deponents keeping and said that if it was and he would let him the said Watkins have Possession of it he would give him the Deponent Twenty pounds adding that if the Will was destroyed it would make an equal Distribution of the Estate the Deponent further saith that upon his telling Watkins that the Will was not in his Possession but that he supposed it in the Possession of the Widow Watkins replied that if he had known that he could easily have got it the Night before and the Deponent saith that he hath been informed that the Night after Watkins had applied to him for the Will as is above mentioned the said Original Will was stolen out of the House where the Widow of the Testator then lived and further the Deponent saith not Sworn to the 11th day of September 1761 before

S. Ridout Com. Gen.

---

Mathew Dorman being of the Age of thirty odd years or thereabouts having been Sworn on the Holy Evangells of Almighty God deposeth and saith that on or about the tenth day of June last being at the House of a Certain Samuel Acworth lately of Somerset County he saw the said Acworth Subscribe his Name to a Writing which he therein & in the presence of the Deponent and of a certain day given (who is now Sick and Unable to attend) of George Tarrington published & declared to be his the said Samuel Acworths last Will and Testament that at the time of his so doing he the Testator was to the best of the Deponents Apprehension of sound and disposing mind and memory and that he the Deponent the aforesaid day given & George Tarrington did in the presence of the Testator and of each other and at the Testators Request Subscribe their Respective Names as Witnesses to the said Will that the Testator then delivered the said Will to them the Deponent & desiring them to keep it that he did accordingly then and there keep the said Will after the death of the Testator when he delivered it to the Testators Widow that while the said Will was in his Possession he perused it Several times and that he doth believe that the Writing now Exhibited as a Copy thereof to which this Deposition is Annexed is a true Copy the Deponent further saith that a few days after the Death of Samuel Acworth the Testator a Certain John Watkins the said

(Testator)