

under which he had promised to settle this amount on his wife Mary, Mrs. Perry's daughter, when they should be married. She asserts that the estate is so encumbered with the claims of creditors that there will be nothing for the widow unless the court now sets aside the two thousand pounds. At the December session, the bond, dated 1649 and attested by Sir Anthony Bateman, Knight, Lord Mayor of London, was filed in court, as evidence, and an execution for this amount issued against the estate (pages 291-294, 319-321). An inventory of Bateman's estate, filed a short time later, presents interesting details as to the property owned by a prosperous planter of the period. The reversionary interest in Resurrection Manor, Bateman's plantation, is given as valued at 65,000 pounds of tobacco. The total value of the estate, including land, is given as 139,971 pounds of tobacco (pages 363-366).

Philip Holleger on behalf of his wife, Mary, the only surviving child of Jeremiah Hasling of South River, Anne Arundel County, deceased, petitioned the court to set aside a reputed will of Hasling made in favor of a certain James Southward, which Holleger denied was signed by Hasling. Evidence was produced which showed that Hasling was very ill at the time that the will was supposed to have been made by him, and that there was something very dubious about the circumstances surrounding the making and the signing of the will; and that furthermore the only witness to the will itself was a certain Anthony Dimondidier, a beneficiary under it. The court at its October, 1665, session declared the will to be invalid, put Mrs. Holleger in possession of the land, and ordered Southward to file an account promptly of his acts as administrator. Holleger, who appears to have settled in Maryland in 1663, was a resident of that part of Baltimore County which is now Cecil County (pages 441-443, 493-494, 564).

At the October, 1665, session of the court Thomas Clarke of Resurrection Manor, Calvert County, was indicted for shooting a horse which belonged to Cuthbert Fenwick of St. Clement's Manor in the same County. Clarke had been annoyed by Fenwick's horses jumping the fences into his fields, and emptied the contents of a gun loaded with swan shot into a mare, which died a few hours later. Fenwick was awarded damages by the court and Clarke was required to give bond for his good behavior in the future (pages 503-507).

The status of the property rights of aliens was brought out in a case before the court at its January, 1666, session. The Attorney-General filed an information that Francis Martin, an unnaturalized alien, had recently died, leaving a freehold of 200 acres which under the law reverted to the Lord Proprietary. The record breaks off before the decision was rendered (page 563). The ownership of the land involved had come before the court in another form, January 21, 1663, when Elinor, the widow of Francis Martin, had brought suit against her daughter-in-law Patience Martin, claiming her dower rights, but the question of alien ownership had not been mentioned at this time (page 30).

The duties of a plantation overseer were brought out in detail in an employment contract exhibited before the court at its December, 1664, session, when John Abington sued his overseer John Salisbury for neglect of his duties as