

the complainant or defendant, and that you examine them on their corporate oaths, to be by you administered upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God touching their knowledge or remembrance of anything that may relate to the cause aforesaid, and that you cause notice to be given to the parties or their attorneys of the execution of the commission, before you execute the same, and having reduced the depositions of the witnesses, so taken by you, into writing, you send the same, with this commission, closed under your hand and seal, into this Court as a Court of Equity, with all convenient speed. Witness the Honorable Richard J. Bourne, Chief Judge of our said Court 15th day of September Anno Domini 1873. Issued the 20th day of October 1873.

Charles Manly, Clerk

Commissioner's Oath

You shall according to the best of your skill and knowledge, truly, faithfully and without partiality to any or either of the parties, take the examinations and depositions of all and every witnesses and witnesses produced and examined by virtue of the commission herewith annexed, upon the interrogatories now, or which may hereafter, before the said Commission is closed, be produced to and left with you, by either of said parties So help you God

Testimony

At the execution of the annexed Commission issued out of the Circuit Court for Frederick County & to me directed & empowering me to examine evidences in the cause therein depending between G. Keeper Thomas & others, as complainants and Edmund J. Stone & others as defendants, I, William B. Nelson, Commissioner therein named, did, on the thirtieth day of October, Eighteen hundred and seventy three at my office, in Frederick City, Md. then and there proceed to take the following testimony to wit The Complainants filed with the Commissioner as evidence "Exhibits A, B, C, D & E," which are herewith returned, and there being no witnesses present to be examined & further time being required for the production of evidences, the said Commission was adjourned to the fifth day of November, Eighteen hundred and seventy three at which time & at the place aforesaid, I, then & there proceeded to take the following depositions, to wit - Bruce Thomas, a witness of lawful age, produced upon the part of the complainants, being duly sworn and examined to Interrogatories filed with the Commissioner by the complainants and herewith returned, deposes and says to the

1st Int

I know Edmund J. Stone, Cecelia J. Stone, Samuel Stone & John F. Hill Lewis H. Hill & George F. Hill I don't know the rest Those of whom I am acquainted I have known for some years

2d Int

I knew Samuel Thomas - he was my father - he is dead - he died thirty eight years ago. He left a widow named Juliet C. & the following children namely G. Keeper Thomas, Ann C. married to James S. Simmons, Volley H. Thomas, Bruce Thomas, & Adelaide L. married to Edmund J. Stone, all adults - Adelaide J. Stone is deceased, leaving children, Albert, Cecelia J. & Samuel Stone, all infants and all residing in Missouri - all the rest reside in Frederick County, Md.

3d Int

He died testate

4th Int

He died in Frederick County, Md. I look at Exhibits A & B "now herewith shown me, they describe a part of the real estate of which said Samuel Thomas died seized and possessed. The dower right of said Juliet C. who took possession