

20<sup>th</sup> Int: - You say the parties in possession of the lands in Frederick claim said lands as devised under the Will of Col. Hammond. Will you state who claim the homestead farm of said Col. Hammond?

Answer: - Louisa Griffith and her children

21<sup>st</sup> Int: - What are the names & ages of Louisa Griffith's children?

Answer: - Mollie K Griffith an adult, & Thomas Griffith Rezin Griffith Lyde Griffith Jr, Harry Griffith Jennie Griffith & Johnson Griffith, all infants under the age of twenty-one years, all residing in Frederick County, Maryland.

To cross Interrogatories filed with the Commissioner by the defendants and herewith returned, the said Dawson V. Hammond deposes and says to the

1<sup>st</sup> Int: - You state in answer to the 11<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory in chief that the claims proved against the estate of Col. Thomas Hammond amount to about forty thousand dollars. State whether or not you as Executor have refused to pay the dividends allowed upon any part of said claims proved in the Orphan's Court of Frederick County and whether or not you dispute the same?

Answer: - I have refused to pay said dividends and I dispute the same.

2<sup>d</sup> Int: - State whether or not a large part of the claims proved against said Estate are or not old and of long standing and liable to be barred by the Statutes of limitations if the same were pleaded against them.

Answer: - I am not prepared to answer that question I have never seen most of said claims they have never been handed in to me - some of them are old.

Whereupon there being no other Witnesses present to be examined and further time being required for the production of evidence in the said Commission adjourned to the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April A. D. 1877 at which time and at the place of aforesaid in the presence of the Solicitors for the Complainants J. Shaw & there proceeded to take the following Testimony to Wit.

William J. Ross a Witness of lawful age produced on the part of the Complainants being duly sworn & examined to Interrogatories filed with the Commissioner by the Complainants and herewith returned deposes and says to the

1<sup>st</sup> Int: - Look at "Exhibit J M L" to petition of James H. Cain now here shown (you and state in whose hand writing the signature "Thos Hammond" appended to said Exhibit is?

Answer: - I look at "Exhibit J M L" to petition of James H. Cain now here shown me - The signature "Thos Hammond" thereto, attached is in the proper handwriting of Thomas Hammond deposed. - I am well acquainted with the handwriting of said