

Thomas Wynne of St. Mary's County sued our old acquaintance, William Hollingsworth of Salem, New England, at the April 5, 1664, session, and obtained a judgment against him for twenty-five hundred pounds of tobacco and costs. Alleging error, Hollingsworth at the December 22, 1664, session asked the court to set aside the judgment. The case was then reheard at the March 2, 1665, session, sitting as a court of chancery. The court divided two to two, and "being equal vote and the Chancellor as judge it is ordered that . . . the whole cause [be] tryed by the next Assembly" (pages 184-185, 330-331, 295). As no record of the case coming before the Upper House is to be found it seems likely that it was settled out of court.

Perhaps the most important suit involving land was the attempt made by Marmaduke Snow to wrest from his brother-in-law, Thomas Gerard, the ownership of the latter's valuable manor of St. Clement's. Gerard, who had married Snow's sister, had some twenty years earlier been closely associated in various trading and land ventures with Abel Snow, of Snow Hill Manor, St. Mary's County, the brother of Marmaduke. It is said that after the death of Abel Snow, Gerard on behalf of his wife had laid claim to Abel's lands, and that Marmaduke had come over to Maryland to assert his rights in them, and that there was bad blood between them. About 1661 Marmaduke Snow had brought suit in the Provincial Court against Gerard for old debts due his brother Abel, which he had acquired by assignments (Arch. Md. XLI, 530-534, 542-550, etc.). Matters came to a head when Snow at the October 6, 1664, session of the court obtained a judgment against Gerard for one thousand pounds sterling. Execution upon Gerard's personal property only yielded about three hundred pounds, so the court at its March 1, 1665, meeting ordered the sheriff to have his lands appraised and sold, unless Gerard paid the balance of the judgment against him. Gerard by a writ of error took the case before the General Assembly through his attorneys Thomas Notley and John Morecroft (pages 269, 401, 415-416, 555-558). The case was heard on appeal by the Upper House, at the April-May, 1666, session, the order of the Provincial Court to execute upon the lands of Gerard was reversed, and Snow was ordered to yield possession of St. Clement's Manor to Gerard (Arch. Md. II; 11-12, 59-60).

The use as early as 1642 of the Broad Arrow by the sheriff to mark tobacco seized by him for fines, or fees due to the Lord Proprietary and to various public officials, is of considerable interest, as it is the reflection in Maryland of the employment in England of the same picturesque symbol to denote the ownership of certain crown property. Although the origin of the use of the Broad Arrow for this purpose in England, and the date when it was first used, have been matters of no little discussion and speculation, conjectures as to its origin cannot be entered into here. In September, 1642, the General Assembly of Maryland passed an act directing the sheriff in executing for debt upon tobacco or corn, to weigh the tobacco in casks and to measure the husked corn, and then to mark what he had so seized with a Broad Arrow, and a special mark to show for whom it had been taken, all debts, taxes, fines or fees due to the Lord Proprietary or to public officials, to have precedence over private debts. The operation of