

*Votes and
Proceedings
of the Lower
House,
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Oct. 19*

Age of Nineteen Years. That a paper or Instrument of Writing purporting to be the last Will and Testament of the said *Francis Key*, was found amongst his Papers in his own Hand writing shortly after his Decease, fully expressing the Manner in which he intended to devise his Estate, but for Want of the said Testament or Will being executed before Three credible Witnesses, the then Commissary General adjudged the same to be good and sufficient in Law, so far forth only as respects the personal Estate. That in Consequence thereof the Petitioner and her younger Children were left destitute of that Provision which her deceased Husband intended them. That the Whole of the Deceased's Personal Estate not specifically devised has been paid away in Discharge of Debts, and that there are several Demands yet unsatisfied. And therefore praying the Legislature to take the Premises into Consideration and pass an Act to establish the said Paper or Instrument of Writing as and for the last Will and Testament of the said *Francis Key*, deceased, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as if the same had been duly executed in due Form of Law, before Three credible Witnesses.

A Petition of *Martha Roundell*, *Sarah Cox*, *Henry Brooke* and *Mary* his Wife, and *Benjamin Skinner* and *Henrietta* his Wife, setting forth, that the Petitioners, *Martha*, *Sarah*, *Mary* and *Henrietta*, are Daughters and Coheirs of *Mary Smith*, late of *Prince-George's* County, Widow, deceased, and as such are intitled to One Moiety or Half Part of sundry Tracts of Land mentioned in the said Petition. And further setting forth, that the said *Martha* intermarried with a certain *Samuel Roundell*, who is since gone beyond Sea and resides somewhere in *Great-Britain* as the Petitioners are informed. And further setting forth that the said Moiety of the Lands specified in the said Petition had been heretofore divided, by Consent, by Persons appointed by the Petitioners. And further setting forth, that the Petitioners being advised that the same Division cannot be perfected, nor Deeds properly executed by Reason of the Absence and for Want of the Concurrence of said *Samuel Roundell*, therefore prayed that

p. 36 an Act of Assembly may pass empowering them by the Interposition of those who had heretofore divided the said Lands, or others to be agreed upon to divide the same, and complete the Whole by Deed or Deeds of Partition and a Petition of sundry Inhabitants of *Saint Mary's* County, praying that no Act may pass for the removal of *Chaptico* Warehouse; severally indorsed, "By the Upper House of Assembly, *October* 19, 1773, read and referred to the Consideration of the Lower House of Assembly.

Signed by Order, U. SCOTT, Cl. Up. Ho."

The House adjourns till To-morrow Morning 9 o'Clock.