

a plea of trespass on the case. The facts brought out in this trial, June 18, 1678, were the same as those in *Royston v. Nichols*, except that in the first case the verdict is not spoken of as a nonsuit. This trial also went to a jury, but this time the jury declared *Royston* not guilty, and the Court gave him 920 pounds of tobacco for his costs, also a high sum (*Archives LXVI*, pp. 458-459; *post*, pp. 403-405).

On December 9, 1676, the High Court of Chancery, in the case of *Peighen* against *Fulford* and *Leach*, decreed, after two days of hearing, that *Leach*, factor to *Fulford*, the London merchant, should "forthwith out of the Goods Shipped upon the . . . *Ruth* of London . . . pay the Seamens Wages . . . amounting in the whole to the Sume of" £457/16 Sterling, and should also pay *Thomas Peighen* £630 Sterling for ship hire, with £12 interest (*Archives LI*, pp. 473-474). *Leach* did not pay, but he kept on harassing *Peighen*. Accordingly, on April 21, 1677, the Court of Chancery ordered a sequestration against all the goods that had come over in the *Ruth*. The Kent County Commissioners were ordered to take possession of all the cargo, wherever found, to appraise the goods, and then to turn them over to *Peighen* to satisfy his claim (*Archives LI*, pp. 201-202). The return was to be made without delay to the Court of Chancery. So said the High Court of Chancery. The Kent County Commissioners acted without delay, as they were told to do, but they made their return to the Provincial Court. The two courts had the same judges and the same clerk. On May 9, 1677, they made their report to the Court, and signed and sealed it, as they must. Happily, the clerk copied it in full into the Court record, happily for it is good reading. Part of it was hardware, especially nails, from four penny to twenty penny, and rose nails, felling axes and wooding axes. There was a bundle of scales, two pair of long steelyards, and a smaller pair, as well as a pair of brass scales worth 11/. By far the greater part of the cargo was clothing or cloth. Two bales of hose held 108 dozen pair, from yarn hose at 13/ per dozen to worsted hose at 40/ a dozen. There were shoes: men's and women's wooden-heeled shoes, boys' shoes, children's shoes. There were women's dresses, fustian frocks at 5/ apiece, painted calico gowns at 14/ apiece. There were men's woollen suits, usually moth-eaten, suits of kersey and serge and broadcloth and *Hallifax*; bales of cloth by the thousand yards, much of it moth-eaten. A bale of broadcloth amounting to two hundred and one yards had twenty-five yards deducted for moth damage, and another bale was even worse. Besides the cargo, the inventory included the wages due the seamen. Most of them were paid for the voyage no more than £1/6, and the total was £48/4/6 (*post*, pp. 33-36). A little later the Provincial Court decided "here the nineteenth day of June 1677 That the returne of the Sequestration is good and valid.", and presumably the goods were turned over to *Thomas Peighen*, as the Court of Chancery had ordered (*Archives LI*, p. 202; see also *Archives LXVI*, pp. xxvii-xxxi, 297-302, 307, 372, 371-372).

OF A SUICIDE AND OF A FEATHER BED

For some years *John Browne* of *Salem* in *New England* had had dealings in *Maryland*: February 1, 1663/4 he sold 1676 acres of land on *Sassafrax*