

and children, and such as legally represent them; and when distant relations are entitled, from the want of issue of the intestate, then recourse is had to the table of descent, so far as to find out by the computation of the civil law, the person described by the statute, to wit, the next of kin to the intestate.

I shall endeavour, by stating a few cases, of the most frequent occurrence, to elucidate the general tendency of the rules, which obtain in the distribution of personal estates.

E X A M P L E S.

When a man dies intestate (that is, without a will) leaving

A widow, only?

Then such widow takes the whole residue of the personal estate, by virtue of the act assembled in 1719 chap. 14. § 4. Where it is enacted "That in case there be a widow, no collaterals shall be admitted, other than those directed by an act of assembly of this province, entitled, *an act for the better administration of justice in testamentary affairs*; but such widow shall have the whole residue of such estate." But if the said intestate had left kindred within
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