

was brought to him, he made several alterations, and then wrote the whole over, this being found in his study held good, as to the personal estate. And on this head, see the cases cited in page 74.

Yet as blackstone observes, 2 vol. 502, it is the safer, and more prudent way, to sign, seal, and publish it in the presence of witnesses; and on this occasion, I cannot help remarking, how indiscreet it is, particularly for a man who has a family, to put off making his will till he is on his death bed. It is an act that requires the utmost deliberation, and should therefore be executed, when the judgment is in full vigour, that the estate may be disposed of with justice, and all family disputes, and quarrels prevented, by the clear expressions of his intention: for which purpose, money cannot be better laid out, than in getting able assistance, if not to be had without expence. For, tho' the rule is that a man's intention is to be followed in the construction; where it does not impugne some rule or principle in law, yet for want of accuracy in the expression, it is so often doubtful what the intention is, that, for the most part, when titles to lands are disputed, the contest arises upon some will. But to proceed,

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