

have been heir to the father of the deceased, or to the mother, or any other purchasing ancestor, shall also be heir to the child.

The *sixth* rule of descent is, that the collateral heir of the person last seized, must be the next collateral relation of the *whole blood*, either personally, or by representation. This proximity is to be reckoned according to the canonical degrees hereafter mentioned. Sixth rule.

It is to be observed, that the heir need not be the nearest relation in an absolute, but in a qualified sense, that is, he must be the nearest relation of the *whole blood*: for if there be a much nearer relation of the *half blood*, the more distant relation of the *whole*, shall be admitted in total exclusion of the *half blood*.

A relation of the *whole blood*, is such person as is derived, not only from the same ancestor, but from the same *couple* of ancestors, for, as every man's own blood is compounded of the bloods of his respective ancestors, he only is properly of the *whole blood* with another, who hath (so far as the distance of degrees will permit) all the same ingredients in the composition of his blood, that the other hath.