

executors, named therein, shall apply for letters testamentary within thirty days thereafter, and shall be capable of the same, and shall execute a bond as aforesaid, letters testamentary shall be accordingly granted, and the same shall be construed as a revocation of the letters of administration; provided nevertheless, that all acts done by any administrator or administratrix according to law, before any actual or implied revocation of the letters of administration, shall be valid and effectual; and provided, that the executor, executrix or executors, so obtaining letters testamentary, shall thereby be authorized to prosecute any actions at law or equity, commenced by the administrator, administratrix or administrators, and to obtain judgment in his, her or their own names, and likewise to defend any suit, as aforesaid, commenced against the said administrator, administratrix or administrators; and the granting letters testamentary in such case shall not be construed to affect any suit as aforesaid, commenced against the administrator, administratrix or administrators, but the plaintiff or plaintiffs shall be allowed to prosecute the same unto judgment; nor shall the granting such letters testamentary be construed to affect any suit brought by the administrator, administratrix or administrators, but the same shall be prosecuted unto judgment, unless the executor, executrix or executors, shall come into court, and pray that the same be struck off, or discontinued; and the executor, executrix or executors, shall have the benefit of all judgments obtained by the administrator, administratrix or administrators, and shall be bound by all judgments obtained against them, unless the same shall be shewn to have been obtained by fraud, and set aside by the court in which the judgment was rendered, upon such suggestion of fraud, either upon an examination in a summary manner into the fact, or by directing an issue to try the same, or unless the said executor shall shew to the court that there are good grounds to open the judgment, in which case the court shall and they are hereby authorized to open the said judgment for future litigation; and with respect to the allowance of costs, all administrators shall be on the same footing as if letters testamentary had not been granted, and the same rules in making the executor or executors plaintiffs or defendants shall be observed as are directed by the act of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, chapter eighty.

To whom, and under what circumstances letters of administration may be granted.

SEC. 5. And in all cases where letters testamentary shall be granted as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the administrators to exhibit to the orphans court their accounts, without delay, and to deliver to the executor, on demand, all the goods, chattels and personal estate, in their possession, belonging to the deceased, and on failure, their administration bonds shall be liable