

WIDOWS.

284. Every devise of land, or any estate therein, or bequest of personal estate, to the wife of the testator, shall be construed to be intended in bar of her dower in lands or share of the personal estate respectively, unless it be otherwise expressed in the will.

285. A widow shall be barred of her right of dower in land or share in the personal estate, by any such devise or bequest, unless within six months after the first grant of administration upon her husband's estate, she shall deliver or transmit to the court, or Register of Wills where administration has been granted, a written renunciation in the following form, or to the following effect: I, A. B., widow of ———, late of ———, deceased, do hereby renounce and quit all claim to any bequest or devise made to me by the last will of my husband, exhibited and proved according to law; and I elect to take in lieu thereof, my dower or legal share of the estate of my said husband. But by renouncing all claim to a devise or bequest, or devises or bequests of personal property made to her by the will of her husband, she shall be entitled to one-third part of the personal estate of her husband which shall remain after payment of his just debts and claims against him, and no more.

286. If the will of the husband devise a part of both real and personal estate, she shall renounce the whole, or be otherwise barred of her right to both real and personal estate.

287. If the will devise only a part of the real estate, or only a part of the personal estate, the devise shall bar her of only the real or personal estate, as the case may require; *Provided, nevertheless*, that if the devise of either real or personal estate, or of both, shall be expressly in lieu of her legal share of one or both, she shall accordingly be barred unless she renounce as aforesaid.

288. But if in effect nothing shall pass by such devise, she shall not be thereby barred, whether she shall or shall not renounce as aforesaid, it being the intent of this article and consonant to justice, that a widow accepting or abiding by a devise, in lieu of her legal right, shall be considered as a purchaser with a fair consideration.