

And if any man hold a tract of land by the side of a creek or branch, and it be described to begin at a marked tree by the side of the said creek, river, or branch, and at the last is on that side to be bounded with the said creek, river, or branch, but it is expressed from the said marked tree to run up or down the said creek, river, or branch, a certain number of perches, or a certain course, which course declines from the water side, and runs into the land, and no marked tree appointed for it to end at, in all such like cases, the owners of the said land shall reverse his last line, viz. as suppose the first course is north, one hundred perches, to the branch, creek, or river, and the other west, one hundred and sixty perches, and then south, one hundred perches, and then east, or on a straight line to the first marked tree, he shall run from his first tree west, one hundred and sixty perches, and then south one hundred perches, and then east unto the said creek, river, or branch, and where the said east line intersects or falls into the water, it shall determine his bounds, and he shall hold from that intersection, by the water side to the first tree; but in this case, or any cases parallel, if fifty *per cent.* will not intersect the branch, creek, or river, then the precise lines and course to be the bounds thereof, and the reversing of lines shall determine bounds when the lines by the water side slants over the creek, river, or branch, and in that case the creek, river or branch, shall be the bounds of such tract, and it shall not pass over, as in the second, third, and fourth example is demonstrated; and the reason why fifty *per cent.* is allowed to reach the creek, river, or branch, that if more is, there will be no coherence between the creek and course. And if a tract be described to lie on a certain side a creek, river, or branch, and begin at a marked tree and run a certain course, as suppose north one hundred perches up or down the said creek or river, to another marked tree by the river side, which second marked tree is known, and really stands by the water side, and make the breadth of the land within fifty *per cent.* there the second line, supposing east, shall be drawn from the second tree the certain number of perches, supposing one hundred and sixty, and from the end thereof south, till it intersect a line drawn also east from the first tree, (though the said east line last mentioned be more or less, in this case, than fifty *per cent.* over or under,) and from that intersection, a line drawn west, to the first tree, the water, the west and the south line shall be the bounds of such tract, and all such tracts in cases parallel; because that generally takers up of such backward land have so allowed the tracts fronting the river to lie, and that with good reason, and as for the reasonableness of it, it cannot be otherwise enacted, so if it should be otherwise enacted, it would make a general confusion in all backward lands, bounded first upon the frontier tracts, and then one upon another. And in the cases aforesaid, although there be a great variation betwixt the prescribed course and the real course from the first to the second tree, yet all the land betwixt the said trees, by its general bounding on the water, shall be adjudged part of the said tracts, and afterwards from the second tree it shall be determined by lines as aforesaid, as in the fifth and sixth example. And if a tract of land be laid out for a certain number of acres on such courses, which, though the length of the lines, yet the acuteness of the angles, will not make the cer-