It has been declared that every female orphan shall be accounted of full age to receive her estate at the age of eighteen years, or day of marriage, which shall first happen; 1715, ch. 39, s. 15; 1829, ch. 216, s. 5; and such female infants have been endowed with a capacity, after that age, to execute a release to their guardians on receiving it; 1829, ch. 216, s. 7, *and, since, with a capacity to execute powers of attorney for such purposes;* 1831, ch. 305, s. 5; and also with a capacity * then to make a will disposing of their
502 real estates. 1798, ch. 101, sub-ch. 1, s. 3. Yet, as it has been held that such females cannot be deemed of full age for any other purpose, or in any other respect, *Smith* v. *Williamson*, 1 *H. & J.* 149; *Davis* v. *Jacquin*, 5 *H. & J.* 100; *Bowers* v. *The State*, 7 *H. & J.* 32; *Crapster* v. *Griffith*, *ante*, 7, it would seem necessarily to follow, that female orphans between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one years, who have no testamentary guardian, being a class of infants for whom a guardian cannot be appointed by the Orphans' Court, 1798, ch. 101, sub-ch. 12; 1807, ch. 136, s. 4, guardians can only be provided for them by the Chancellor. It is admitted, on all hands, that the father is the natural guardian of all his legitimate children until they attain twenty-one years of age, or until the females attain that age or marry. But it seems to be doubtful whether the guardianship of a mother over her children continues longer than the age of fourteen; *Eyre* v. *Shaftsbury*, 2 *P. Will.* 116; *Roach* v. *Garvan*, 1 *Ves.* 158; —— v. ——, 2 *Ves.* 374; *Villareal* v. *Mellish*, 2 *Swan.* 536, *note; The King* v. *Oakley*, 10 *East*, 491; 2 *Fonb.* 237; *Hay* v. *Conner*, 2 *H. & J.* 347; *Jarrett* v. *The State*, 5 *G. & J.* 28; if not, then it would seem, according to a fair construction of the before-mentioned legislative enactments, so far as the Courts of ordinary jurisdiction may be permitted to assume any constructive power under them, 1798, ch. 101, sub-ch. 15, s. 20, that a guardian may be appointed by them during the residue of such infancy. But in such case, and in all others, where the ordinary tribunals have no power to make an appointment; as in case of the lunacy or incompetency of a natural or testamentary guardian; *Beaufort* v. *Berty*, 1 *P. Will.* 706; 1 *Blac. Com. by Chit.* 463, *note* 12; 1798, ch. 101, sub-ch. 4; or where, because of the limited jurisdiction of those tribunals, they are incompetent to grant relief suited to the peculiar nature or exigency of the case, the general jurisdiction and power of the Chancellor, which has been in no way abolished or diminished, may be resorted to and applied with effect. *Beaufort* v. *Berty*, 1 *P. Will.* 705; *Roach* v. *Garvan*, 1 *Ves.* 158.

The proper education of youth has, every where, and at all times, been held to be a matter of great and important interest to the State. *Beaufort* v. *Berty*, 1 *P. Will.* 703; *Vattel, b.* 1, *ch.* 11, *s.* 112. In England there has always been a religion, or church, by law established, which, by considering the clergy as one of the