

bill of complaint of *Joseph Moreton*, administrator *de bonis non* of *John Westeneys* and *James I. Pattison*, administrator *de bonis non* of *James Pattison*.

“ This defendant, by protestation to all the discoveries and relief in and by the said bill sought from or prayed against this defendant, for plea unto the said bill, saith ; That if *John Westeneys* deceased and *James Pattison* deceased, or the complainants, as administrators *de bonis non* of them, the said *John Westeneys* and *James Pattison* in the bill named, ever had any cause of suit against this defendant, for or concerning any of the matters or transactions in the said bill of complaint mentioned, the same did arise above twelve years before filing the said bill, and above twelve years before serving this defendant with any process to appear to answer the same.

“ And this defendant further for plea says and doth aver, that this defendant did not at any time within twelve years before filing the complainants’ said bill of complaint, nor within twelve years before this defendant was served with process to appear and answer thereto, ever promise and agree, or in any manner bind himself to pay or satisfy the said *John Westeneys* and *James Pattison* in their lives, or the said complainants as administrators *de bonis non* of the said *John Westeneys* and *James Pattison* the sum of money mentioned and expressed in the bond marked exhibit A, filed by the complainants with their said bill, and referred to by them ; or any sum of money, for or concerning any of the matters, or transactions in the complainants’ said bill of complaint charged or alleged. And therefore this defendant pleads the act of The General Assembly of the Province (now State) of Maryland, passed at a session of Assembly begun and held at the city of Annapolis, the twenty-sixth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifteen, entitled “ An Act for Limitation of certain actions, and for avoiding suits at law ”—and prays the benefit of the said act.

“ All which matters this defendant doth aver and plead in bar of the complainants’ said bill, and of the complainants’ pretended demand for which they seek to be relieved by their said bill. And this defendant prays hence to be dismissed with his reasonable costs in this behalf wrongfully sustained.”

These pleas were submitted, without replication, on the notes of the solicitors of the parties, to take the opinion of the court on their sufficiency.