

was to leave his personal Estate clear to his wife whom he very well knows to be so Tender and loving a Mother to his Children that she would take due care in making reasonable provisions for them and their future Support neither does this Defendant believe that the Complainant can bring such proof as he pretends that the Testator's meaning was his Estate should be divided according to the directions of the Law for distributing intestate Estate for, had he meant so it were an easy matter in few words for him to Express himself to that purpose. The Defendant doth acknowledge that the said Estate was appraised and an Inventory thereof returned into the Comptrolers Office and that the amount thereof may be pretty near what is in the bill suggested but that the same ought to be divided either by the rules of Law or Equity as in the Bill is suggested. The Defendant is advised to the contrary not that he means otherwise than to make a generous and handsome allowance to the Children of the Testator, especially such of them whose good behavior may deserve his kindness the Defendant further says that he knows not, but that his wife and her late husband Andrew Wollgley might think going ignorant of the Law that the said Andrews Estate ought to be divided as if he had made no will and further acknowledges that he himself thought so till he had taken advice upon the will but is now very well informed that if the pretentions of that Complainant were allowed in this honorable Court to bring overmights that are no way shew out to the plain words of the will to supply an intention no way expressed it would open a wide Gape for perjury and Subornation and render most of the wills that ever have been made in this province liable to be defeated and the Testators meanings quite eluded and frustrated which is what our Ancestors have always strove to evade by making good provisions against frauds and perjuries.

The Defendant likewise denies that the Estate is either Encumbered or Imberled by ~~any~~ ⁱⁿ ~~any~~ but is rather in a better Condition than at the Testators death and as for the Defendants Answering whether the Testator intended to give the full residue of his personal Estate to his wife He thinks

[Signature]