

in the usual Form for the due Administration of the same Estate, and as your Libellants apprehend returned an Inventory of the said Estate amounting to five hundred and sixty Pounds current Money but has past no Account of her Administration or returned an Inventory of separate & desperate Debts of her said Husband's Estate as by Law she ought — That your Libellants conceive they are intituled to a third Part of the said Deceased's Estate after Payment of his just Debts to be equally divided among them; That your Libellants by Mr. James Bech of Prince Georges County their Attorney in Fact have often in a Friendly Manner applied to the said Jane Bech the Widow and Administratrix aforesaid for their Distributary Part of the said Deceased's Estate and offered to give Security to refund in Case of any latent Debts appearing against the said Estate and likewise desired that she would pass a full and final Account of her Administration and return a list of separate and desperate Debts the better that the Amount of the said Estate might be known, Yet the said Jane Bech the Widow and Administratrix aforesaid with some frivolous Pretences has hitherto refused to pass an Account of her Administration or bring in a List of separate and desperate Debts or to come to an Account with your Libellants, all which Actions and Demands of the said Jane tend to the great Loss of your Libellants and are contrary to Equity and good Conscience, In tender Consideration whereof, and for as much as your Libellants are remediless in the Premises but before your Honour or in a Court of Equity; To the End therefore that the said Jane Bech may true and perfect Answer make to all and singular the Premises as if herein again particularly repeated and interrogated and more particularly that the said Jane the Administratrix aforesaid may on Oath pass a full and fair Account of the said Deceased's Estate with a List of separate and desperate Debts and declare if there is any Thing more of the Deceased's Estate come to her Hands Possession or Knowledge more than is therein mentioned, and if any, that she may declare the Particulars of the same and of what Value, and that the Administratrix aforesaid by your Decree, Sentence and Order may be compelled to come to a full and fair Account with your

July Court 1750

75

Libellants of and concerning the Estate aforesaid and that your Honour will be pleased to make a final Sentence and Decree of what distributive Part belongs to your Libellants out of the said Estate with Cost of Suit and that your Libellants may be relieved in all and singular the Premises according to Law, Equity and good Conscience, May it please your Honour to order Citation to issue for your Libellants against the said Jane Beck Administratrix aforesaid to answer the Premises, and for to stand and abide such Sentence Order and Decree in the Premises as to your Honour shall seem most, And your Libellants shall pray &c

William Cumming f. Libellants

Whereupon the said Arthur Beck and Roger Beck hath his Lordship's Writ of Citation to them granted directed to the Sheriff of Ann Arundel County commanding him to cite and summons the aforesaid Jane Beck that she do appear before our General Commissary and Judge for Probate of Wills and granting Administrations &c to answer the Premises aforesaid returnable to the second Tuesday of March then next ensuing being the tenth Day of the same Month in the Year one thousand seven hundred and fifty two.

At which said second Tuesday of March being the tenth Day of the same Month Anno Domini One thousand seven hundred and fifty two and the Day of the Return of the Citation aforesaid come again the said Arthur and Roger Beck by William Cumming Esq. their Procurator aforesaid and the Sheriff of Ann Arundel County to whom the same Citation was directed likewise come and make Return thereof

Endorsed Summoned of Nath Hammond Sheriff
Whereupon the said Jane Beck by Edward Dorsy Esq. her Procurator appears and this Cause is continued till next Court and the same Day is given to the Libellants and Respondent also.

At which said next Court to wit, the second Tuesday of May being the twelfth Day of the same Month Anno Domini One thousand seven hundred and fifty two come again the said Libellants and Respondent by their Procurators aforesaid, but for that the Libelles hath not filed an Answer to the Libell aforesaid it is ordered by his Honour the Commissary General and Judge that this Cause be continued till next Court and the same Day is given to the Libellants and Respondent also.

At which said next Court to wit the second Tuesday of July being the fourteenth Day of the same Month Anno Domini One thousand seven hundred and fifty two come again the Libellants and Respondent by their Procurators aforesaid. And Jane Beck by Edward Dorsy her Procurator aforesaid files her Answer to the Libell and Complaint of Arthur and Roger Beck aforesaid which follows in these words to wit,

The Answer of Jane Beck of Arm Arundel County Widow, Respondent to the Libel and Complaint of Arthur Beck of Carlinoll in the County of Lancaster Peruke-Maher and Roger Beck of Thordall in the County of Westmoreland Peruke-Maher Libellants.

This Respondent now and at all Times hereafter saving and reserving to herself all Benefit of Exception, to the manifold Untruths, Incontainties, and Insufficiencies in the Libellants said Libell contained for Answer thereto or to so much thereof as materially concerns her to make Answer unto - She answereth and saith that She admits it to be true that Anthony Beck her late Husband died Intestate and without Issue on or about the Time in the Libell set forth supposed of a Personal Estate of a considerable Value. This Respondent also admits that She as the Widow and Relict of the said Anthony Beck soon after his Death took out Letters of Administration on his Estate and by Virtue thereof possessed herself of all the Personal Estate of the said Anthony Beck which were in this Province at the Time of his Death or which She could come at and returned an Inventory and Appraisalment thereof into this Honourable Court amounting to the Sum of five hundred and nine Pounds four Shillings and four Pence Current Money or thereabouts but for Certainty refers herself to the said Inventory and Appraisalment now remaining in this Honourable Court. This Respondent admits that She has not yet past any Account of her Administration of her Intestates Estate. This Respondent also admits that She had not at the Time of filing the Libellants Libell returned an Inventory of the Separate and Disparate Debts due to the said Anthony Beck at the Time of his Deaths. The Reason why this Respondent made no such Return to this Honourable Court, was, that the Books and Accounts of the said Anthony Beck who died at Sea never came to this Respondents Possession, by Means whereof this Respondent could not return an exact List ^{of the Debts} due to her Intestate. And this Respondent doth deny that the Libellants to her Knowledge are the Brothers of her Intestate or entitled to a Distributive Part of his Estate, and the Libellants making no satisfactory Proof to this Respondent, that they are the Brothers of her Intestate she admits that she hath hitherto refused to pay them any Part of the Intestates Estate, altho' the Libellants Attorney in Part has offered this Respondent Security to refund in Case of latent Debts as in the Libell is set forth. And this Respondent further saith that it has not been in her Power yet, to make any

July Court 1750.

a full and final Account of her Administration of her Deceased Husbands Estate, for that her said Intestate was at the Time of his Death Commander of all those belonging to Mr. Patrick Croagh of Annapolis, and his Books and Papers never came to the Possession of this Respondent as aforesaid. And this Respondent further saith that no Part of the Personal Estate whosoever her Intestate did possess hath yet come to her Hands except what is contained in the Inventory by her returned thereof as aforesaid. And this Respondent further saith that if the Libellants are, and can prove themselves to be the Brothers of her Intestate she is ready and willing and always was upon the said Proofs being made to pay the said Libellants their distributive Part of her said Intestates Estate. And this Respondent further saith that she has with this her Answer returned an Inventory of all the separate and desperate Debts due to the Intestate which have come to her Knowledge which she prays may be taken as Part of her Answer, without that, there is any other Matter or Thing in the Libellants said Libell contained material or Effectual for this Respondent to make Answer unto and not herein and hereby sufficiently answered unto, confessed or avoided, traversed or denyed, is true to the Knowledge and Belief of this Respondent: All which Matters and Things this Respondent is ready to aver and prove as this Honourable Court shall award and humbly prays to be hence dismissed with her reasonable Costs and Charges in this Behalf wrongfully sustained

J Dorsey

Sworn to May the 1st 1752

J Dulany Com^{rs}

To the aforesaid Answer was annexed the following Lists of Debt Viz^t
A List of desperate Debts due to the Estate of Captain Anthony Beck deceased.

- Stephen G. Lanwell . . . £ 5¹¹ 13¹¹ 9
- Capt. John Para 2¹¹ 15¹¹ 9
- John Hammond Dorsey . . . 1¹¹ 2¹¹ 6
- Thomas Treadway 7¹¹ 5¹¹ 0
- Mary Prazier 9¹¹ 9¹¹ 8
- Patrick Croagh £ 2¹¹ 7¹¹ 4¹¹ 6

A List of Separate Debts due to the Estate of Captain Anthony Beck deceased

Patrick Croagh on Act. £ 17¹¹ 10¹¹ 2

£ 4¹¹ 7¹¹ 6¹¹ 6 or £ 27¹¹ 5¹¹ 11
Doctor Rich and Hill Madeira 18 Mill Rays

And thereupon this Cause is continued until the second Tuesday of September next being the 19th Day of the same Month Anno Domini 1752 and the same Day is given to the Libellants and Respondent also