

appellate court of a sister state, has settled the construction of the provisions of its legislation, similar to that of our own state, a note of such decision will be furnished.

The work will then present a systematic classification under appropriate subdivision, of all the laws relating to last Wills and Testaments; shewing in what manner they are to be executed, how published, how revoked or cancelled, how avoided, from incompetency, or undue influence or by duress. And as connected with this subdivision, it will contain, the leading English decisions and those of our sister state as to dispositions, by last will and testament made by Lunatics, the law of nuncupative wills and of *donatio causa mortis* and the ademption of legacies and of the assent thereto by executors; on the duties, and liabilities of executors and administrators in settling estates on priority of payments, on liability for interest; on the duties of Guardians and the rights of Widows and Orphans; on the liabilities of securities, and rights of substitution for principles, on letters *ad colligendum*, by whom granted and when, and the powers conferred by the same; and the powers and jurisdictions of the Orphans Court and Register of Wills, and the entire law of the state on testamentary matters.

The work will be peculiarly adapted to instruct executors and administrators in the practical details of their duties; it will facilitate the labors of the Orphans Court, and the Judiciary, by presenting in a condensed form and in one volume, all the law on this most interesting branch of our jurisprudence, now scattered through the various acts, from the earliest periods of our legislation until the present time, and will furnish the Maryland bar with the decisions of every state of the union on their testamentary code when like unto that of our own state.

Your committee would express their surprise that the state has permitted **this most interesting** branch of our jurisprudence to remain so long scattered through numerous and unconnected acts of the general assembly; thus rendering it impracticable to obtain a knowledge of it, but by a tedious, laborious and minute research. It is owing to this unconnected legislation, that the great **mass of our citizens are ignorant of the provisions of our**