

In Vacation of the Circuit Court of Dartmouth County, on the 26th day of July 1778, the following claims due received and entered of record, to wit,

John A. Rodding, Geo. B. Davis, & Anne C. Davis his wife, Robert M. Hedden & Sarah C. Roddams his wife, Wm. Griffin, & Mary C. Griffin his wife, Walter Rodding, & Samuel S. Rodding, who are for themselves and all the heirs, heirs at law & assigns of Wm. A. Rodding dec'd.

against

William A. Bell and with the will annexed of Wm. A. Rodding dec'd.

Plaintiffs

Defendants

In Chancery

This Cause came at this day to be heard in Vacation by Consent of parties given in Open Court, as appearing by Deeds entered at the April Term of this Court, 1778. On the Read of Compliments and explanations made out Exhibits therewith filed. On the answer of William A. Bell and with the will annexed of Wm. A. Rodding dec'd. and John Griffin dec'd. and upon Disputations of Witnesses filed in the Cause.

And it appearing to the Court that the persons referred to in Defendants answer as having been Slaves of the Petitor and their Successors, do not answer the description of the Legacies described in the 3^d Clause of William A. Rodding's will, if any Legacy was therein given, and for other reasons stated, forsooth to the Court, That the said Persons (former Slaves of the said Wm. A. Rodding dec'd.) and their future Successors, are not entitled to recover the Petitor of the said Wm. A. Rodding dec'd. or any part thereof; But that the Heirs at Law & Distributors of the said Wm. A. Rodding are entitled thereto, to which the Court adjudge, Order and decree, That the said Wm. A. Bell and Wm. A. Rodding with the will annexed, &c. answer before One of the Commissioners of this Court, on account of his Proceedings as such Administrator.

That the said Commissioners do ascertain and report to Court the Names of all persons entitled to share in the Distribution of the Petitor of the said Wm. A. Rodding dec'd. and the proportions to which they may be respectively entitled, together with such other account as may be demanded & required by himself, or required to be so stated by any of the parties, and make report to.

To the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the County of Dartmouth

Geo. B. Davis