

Lib. II. D. The humble Petition of Murrene Duvall Jun^r the Son of Murrene Duvall deceased, in most humble Manner sheweth your Ex^{ncy}

Murrene
Duvall's pet
& Ord^r & ca

That your Petitioner on Tuseday last did make his Address vnto this County Court, in Ord^r to Choose his Guardian (by Reason his ffather & Mother in Law, with whom he doth live do take little care for his proficiency in Learning, and lesser of his plantation, for his future good) And your petition^r was not admitted, neither would the Court suffer him to have as much as Assurance of some satisfaction when he comes at Age, for the vse of his plantation till then: ffor my Brother did proffer to give One thousand pounds of Tobacco p^o Annum for the vse of the plantation & would have had it Recorded, but they Refused Audience, choosing rather that his ffather in Law should wear out Land without any benefit; likewise they threaten to have your petitioner whipt, if he comes any more there.

Therefore your Pet^r doth humbly desire your Excell to Grant him the same priviledge of your Clemency to Orphans th^t others have, and to Admit & Ord^r he may Choose his Brother John Duvall, for his Guardian and your pet^r shall ever pray.

The Petition is Referred to the Worshipfull the Justices of this County to see that Justice be done to the pet^r & to give me a Reason why he may not Choose a Guardian.

ffr. Nicholson

The Report vpon the s^d Ord^r of Reference follows, Viz^t

In obedience to your Excell^s Ord^r The Court does shew these following Reasons, Viz^t

p. 313 The Article concerning the Orphans Learning, to the knowledge of some of the Court is false.

And that concerning his Plantation the Court is satisfied by Evidence that Coll Ridgely has fenced the whole in with a liffence, and has planted out a Nursery of Apple Trees, and has taken Ord^r to build on the s^d plantation; and are satisfied by a Clause of the said Orphans ffathers Will that his now Mother in Law is appointed Guardian to him & the rest of the Orphans till they come to the years of Eighteen.

The Court being satisfied in the falseness of this Orphans petition admonished him to be dutifull to his ffather & Mother in Law, and threatned (if he came with the like lying petition to the Court) to Chastize him for the same: And likewise Coll Ridgely has promised vpon the good behaviour of the Orphan to do much for the intrest of the Orphan on his plantation; All which is humbly Offered & signed p^o Ord^r of Court

p^o Stephen Blatchford Dep^{ty} Clk.