

So under a devise to all the children of A., except B., a posthumous child is entitled, *Clarke v. Blake*, 2 Ves. Jun. 672, see 2 Bro. C. C. 320; *Doe v. Clarke*, 2 H. Black. 399; and if one devises, in case he leaves no son at the time of his death, to J. S. and the testator dies leaving his wife *enceinte* of a son, this posthumous son is a son living at the testator's death, and J. S. is not entitled, *Burdet v. Hopegood*, 1 P. Wms. 486. So the same rule applies where there is a gift to children generally, the word being evidently used in a general popular sense, without a particular design of distinguishing between children born and children procreated, and it would therefore be superfluous to make mention of such objects except for the purpose of excluding them, a purpose scarcely to be supposed; indeed, though sometimes given otherwise in the dictionaries, *posthumus* is certainly the superlative of *\*posterus*, Trench, **644** Study of Words, p. 101. Therefore a gift to each of the children of the testator, who should be living at the time of his death, will accrue to a child born seven months after, *Rawlins v. Rawlins*, 2 Cox, 445, but although interest was directed by the will to be allowed from the testator's death, the Lord Chancellor directed it to be computed from the time of *birth only*. So a gift to all the children of the testatrix's nephew R., born in the life-time of testatrix, includes a child of which the wife of R. was *enceinte* at the time of the death of the testatrix, though not born for several months afterwards; for inasmuch as it is adopted as a rule of construction, that a child *en ventre sa mere* is within the intention of a gift to children living at the death of the testator, because plainly within the reason and motive of the gift, so a child *en ventre sa mere* is to be considered within the intention of a gift to children born in the life-time of a testator, because it is equally within the reason and motive of the gift, *Trower v. Butts*, 1 Sim. & Stu. 181,<sup>5</sup> and see *Clarke v. Blake supra*; *Whitelock v. Heddon*, 1 B. & P. 243; *Northey v. Strange*, 1 P. Wms. 340. In *Treemantle v. Treemantle*, 1 Cox, 248, it was indeed held that an immediate devise to great grand-children did not include a great grand-child *en ventre sa mere* at the testator's death, but the other cases referred to are subsequent to this. So also a posthumous child is within the provision in marriage articles for such children as shall be living at the death of its parents, *Hale v. Hale*, Prec. Ch. 50, and such a child, in charging for the portions of other children living at the death of the father, is included as then living, *Beale v. Beale*, 1 P. Wms. 244. So equity will stay waste in its favour, *Wallis v. Hodson*, and a testamentary guardian may be appointed to it, see *ante*, Stat. 12 Car. 2, c. 24. So marriage and the birth of a posthumous child revoke a will as if the child were born in its father's life-time, *Doe v. Lancashire*, 5 T. R. 49. And it may be appointed executor; nay, where such is so appointed, if the mother bring forth two or three children at one burthen, they are all to be admitted executors (though of course administration *durante minoritate* would be granted under Art. 93, sec. 67,<sup>6</sup> of the Code), and so of a legacy

<sup>5</sup> But cf. *Villar v. Gilbey*, (1905) 2 Ch. 301; (1906) 1 Ch. 583; (1907) A. C. 139.

<sup>6</sup> Code 1911, Art. 93, sec. 67.