

Annie R. Reedy, who is hereby appointed special Commissioner for the purpose, is authorized and directed to convey to said Frank P. Leach the said fourteen acres upon the payment by him to her of the said cash payment of \$220, out of which she shall pay the costs of these proceedings, she being hereby authorized to use one-half of said residue (the other one-half being due her as half owner of said property and having waived her dower in said one-half owned by her late husband) for the maintenance and education of said six infants; reciting in said deed that the said purchaser assumes and is to pay the aforementioned vendor's lien.

And this decree shall be final.

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MARGARET W. BERKELEY, MARY B. McNEILY,
MARGARET W. NANCE AND A. B. NANCE, HER
HUSBAND; JULIA L. BERKELEY, KITTY BLAND
BERKELEY, MARY KATHERINE BELCHES,
PETER B. BELCHES AND ADELE BELCHES,
HIS WIFE, LUCY B. BRESEE AND STUART
BRESEE, HER HUSBAND, COMPLAINANTS

V. DECREE.

FRANCES E. BELCHES, AN INSANE PERSON,
RICHARD E. BELCHES, BOTH IN HIS OWN
RIGHT AND AS COMMITTEE FOR THE SAID
FRANCES E. BELCHES, AND OLLIE BELCHES,
HIS WIFE; AND R. B. GOSSOM, TRUSTEE/
DEFENDANTS.

This cause came on this 6th day of April, 1936, to be heard on the complainant's bill; on the original process issued against each of the above named defendants and acceptance of due and legal service of the same in Prince William County, Virginia, by the defendants, Richard E. Belches, both in his own right and as committee for Frances E. Belches, the insane defendant, Ollie Belches and R. B. Gossom, trustee; on the joint and separate answer of the said defendants, Richard E. Belches, both in his own right and as committee for the said Frances E. Belches, Ollie Belches and R. B. Gossom, trustee; on the answer under oath of the ^{insane} defendant, Frances E. Belches, by Stanley A. Owens, her guardian ad litem, duly appointed by the clerk of this Court as such guardian ad litem, and the answer under oath of the said Stanley A. Owens, guardian ad litem for the said Frances E. Belches; and was argued by counsel.

Upon consideration whereof, it appearing to the Court that the parties to this cause, other than the said insane defendant, Frances E. Belches, have agreed upon a division of the farm known as "Evergreen", situate in Gainesville Magisterial District, Prince William County, Virginia, containing 707 acres, 1 rood and 18 poles, in the bill mentioned, being the same land that was conveyed by one Edmund Berkeley to William N. Berkeley, trustee, by deed bearing date of February 29, 1868, and recorded among the land records of said Prince William County in Deed Book 26, page 562; less and except, however, the 25 acres and 1 rood of the said tract of land that was conveyed by Thomas Lanier Berkeley and others to one Walter Leonard by deed bearing date of June 25, 1924, and recorded among said land records in Deed Book 80, page 378; and it appearing further to the Court that in the partition of said farm agreed upon by said parties the complainant, Margaret W. Berkeley, is to have for her part and portion of said farm, the same to be allotted to her in severalty and to include the portion of the same containing $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres conveyed to her by William L. Heuser, substituted trustee, and certain of the parties to this cause, by deed bearing date of April 11, 1914, and recorded among said land records in Deed Book 65, page 123, the north portion thereof, the same being more particularly described as follows, to wit:

Beginning at a stone in the line of Mrs. Edith Latham, widow of the late William C. Latham, at the southeast corner of the northeast field of said "Evergreen Farm"; thence in a straight line in a westerly direction with the fence line, passing through a stone marking the intersection of the four most northerly fields on said farm, to a stone on the mountain road; thence continuing in a westerly direction in the same straight line, across said mountain road, to the line of C. E. Jordan, toward the mountain top; thence with Jordan's line in a northerly direction

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to a corner in said line; thence in an easterly direction with the line of Jordan and continuing with the line of H.L.Leonard to the said mountain road; thence still in an easterly direction with the line of E.P.Watson to a stone marking the corner of the said Watson, Eugenia Latham, the said Edith Latham and said "Evergreen Farm"; and thence in a southerly direction with the line of the said Edith Latham to the point of beginning, containing 157 acres, be the same ever so much more or less.

It appearing further to the Court that in the partition of said farm agreed upon by said parties the complainants, Mary B. McNeily, Margaret W. Nance, Julia L. Berkeley, Kitty Bland Berkeley, sometimes known as Catherine B. Berkeley, Mary Katherine Belches, Peter B. Belches, Lucy B. Bresee and the defendants, Frances E. Belches and Richard E. Belches, are to have for their part and portion of said farm, the same to be held by them jointly as tenants in common and in the same proportion in which they would now own said "Evergreen Farm" in the event that the said Margaret W. Berkeley had no interest therein and divided from the portion of the said Margaret W. Berkeley, all of the residue of said farm remaining after deducting the said 157 acres, more or less, allotted to the said Margaret W. Berkeley.

And it appearing further to the Court that all persons who have an interest in said farm are more than twenty-one years old and have been made parties to this cause; that the defendant, Frances E. Belches, is an insane person, and that all of the heirs and distributees of the said Frances E. Belches, if she were dead, are likewise parties to this cause; that the interests of the said Frances E. Belches will be promoted by the division of said farm in the manner aforesaid, and that the rights of no one will be prejudiced thereby.

The Court doth adjudge, order and decree that the said division of the said farm that has been agreed upon by said parties be, and the same hereby is, in all respects ratified and confirmed, that the partition, in manner and form aforesaid, made, be held firm and stable, that the title to said portion of said farm containing 157 acres, be the same ever so much more or less, hereinbefore described, allotted to the complainant, Margaret W. Berkeley, shall by virtue of this decree vest in the said Margaret W. Berkeley in severalty; that the title to all the residue of the said farm remaining after deducting the said 157 acres, more or less, allotted to the said Margaret W. Berkeley shall, by virtue of this decree vest jointly in the said Mary B. McNeily, Margaret W. Nance, Julia L. Berkeley, Kitty Bland Berkeley sometimes known as Catherine B. Berkeley, Mary Katherine Belches, Peter B. Belches, Lucy B. Bresee, Frances E. Belches and Richard E. Belches, as tenants in common and in the same proportion in which they would now own said entire "Evergreen Farm" if the said Margaret W. Berkeley had no interest therein; and that this decree be recorded by the clerk in the current deed book in his office and indexed in the names of all parties to this cause.

And this decree is final.

LLOYDS & NATIONAL PROVINCIAL FOREIGN BANK,
LIMITED, A CORPORATION, COMPLAINANT,

DECREE.

LORANDA BATCHELDER LAIDLAW, PRINCIPAL
DEFENDANT, AND DAVID J. BATCHELDER, TRUSTEE
CO-DEFENDANT.

This cause came on to be heard this 6th day of April, 1936, on the complainant's bill; on the original process issued against the above-named defendant and co-defendant; on the return of the Sheriff of Prince William County, Virginia, showing the execution in person in said Prince William County on the 27th day of December, 1935, at half past two o'clock P.M., of a copy of such process on the co-defendant, David J. Batchelder, trustee; upon process had against the principal defendant, Loranda Batchelder Laidlaw, by order of publication; upon the application and affidavit thereupon, the certificate of the clerk of this court that a

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
VIRGINIA
CIRCUIT COURT ARCHIVES

Chancery Order Book No. 9 (1928-1936)
pages 486-87

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[The body of the document contains several paragraphs of text that are extremely faint and difficult to read. The text appears to be a legal order or report, but the specific details are illegible due to the quality of the scan.]