

NEMO EST HÆRES VIVENTIS

The sense of the maxim's apparent,
For, no matter how you contrive,
No person is heir to his parent
As long as his parent's alive.

But he who was but heir apparent
Upon his late parent's decease,
At once becomes heir to his parent,
For the rule and its reason then cease.

OR

Nemo est hæres viventis—
By this maxim what's really meant is,
When a man is alive
By no means you contrive
Can you prophesy what the descent is.