

In the name of God Amen. I Joseph
Lawton, of the Parish of Jefferet District &
County of South Carolina, Planter, being very weak
& feeble, but of perfect mind & memory, thanks
be given unto God; calling unto mind the mortal
condition of my Body, & knowing that it is appointed for
all men once to die; do make & give in this
my last will & Testament revoking all others,
that I do give, principally & first of all, I give &
bequeath my Soul into the hands of Almighty
God, who gave it me; & my Body I commend to
the ground, to be buried in a decent Christian
manner, at the discretion of my Executors;
nothing doubting but at the general resurrection
I shall receive the same ~~again~~ ^{again} by the mighty
power of God.

And as touching my worldly Estate
which I have pleased God to bless me in this life, I
give & devise & dispose of the same in the following
manner & form, to wit:

First, I give & bequeath unto my beloved Wife Sarah
during her natural life, the use of my House &
and much land as she wishes to cultivate, of any
kind of Town in this Country; also the following
persons to wit: Old Soney & Lucy & their children till
they are married, Hannah & her son Joe; Christmy
& their children; Bristol, Della & their children
James & their children Dick, Lemmy, Felix Eideon &
Kenton; Runny & child & Dor Cassey; also my Stock
of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Hogs; my Household & ~~other~~
Furniture, riding chair, Wagon & all plantation
Tools, the same property (except the land) ^{shall} ~~shall~~
be equally divided between all my children
that shall survive me. It is my will that should my
beloved Wife wish to remove to the Mississippi Territory
between her children there; that so much of the Household
& plantation Furniture; Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, & ~~other~~

Char. & Meggon & Plantation South, as well as with
with or Meggon shall be sold to the best advantage
& the money to be used to defray the expenses of
Chillicothe.

Second. I give & bequeath to my son William the
one negro man named Ben & also by the will
what I have already given him to him & his
heirs forever.

Third. I give & bequeath to my son Joseph the
negro man & woman, Spitz & girl & the land which
he lately sold, to him & his heirs forever.

Fourth. I give & bequeath to my son Benjamin
the negro man Sam & Dow Jane together with
the land he lately sold to him & his heirs forever.

Fifth. I give & bequeath to my daughter Sarah
negro woman & girl & her issue, & French officer,
her & her heirs forever.

Sixth. I give & bequeath to my daughter Mirza
French Elsey & her issue, French Mary & girl & her
to her & her heirs forever. It is my will that
the above French Elsey & children shall be sent to
daughter Mirza in the Mississippi Territory,
the expense of my Estate.

Seventh. I give & bequeath to my son Alexander
James, one negro man named Martin, one fellow
named George & one French named Peggy & her
children together with the tract of land on which
I now live, on which my House stands (excepting
the two tracts I bought of John Audibert & the
land left me by my mother) also a tract of
two hundred acres, lying between this & a place
called the old Store, as will be more particularly
described by the Plat & grant, reserving to the
use of his mother, as long as she wishes, the
as much land as she wishes to cultivate, the
land shall not be sold, but by the consent of his
I give this & give two tracts of land & negroes to him & his
heirs forever.

The Slave of our Lord Amen. Thousant Eight
Hundred & Eleven

I have been thinking of the last
time I saw you, and how much
time has passed since we last
met. I am now in the
position of a widow, and I
am very lonely. I am
very much interested in
the progress of the cause of
the slave.

1. I have been thinking of
the last time I saw you, and
how much time has passed since
we last met.

The last will of L. L. S.
Bequest of Joseph Lawton
Nov. 1811