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In the name of God almighty. I leave a thousand living stock in hand,
but after my decease I give every thing into God's hands, therefore calling to mind
the mortality of my body & knowing that it is appointed for all men
to die, I make & bedeck this my last will & testament that is to say par-
ticularly & first of all I give & bequeath my body unto the hands of Almighty
God that it may be disposed of at his pleasure & my body I
herein command to be buried in a decent manner at the
discretion of my executors that as touching death bodily estate
wherewith it shall please God to end me in this life again before
such dispersion of the same in the world as is common by man. My
I give & bequeath my ~~last~~ ~~second~~ ~~third~~ ~~fourth~~ ~~fifth~~ ~~sixth~~ ~~seventh~~ ~~eighth~~ ~~ninth~~ wife the re-
maining part of all the land & goods in chiding of the disagreement, due
her natural life & her widowhood and in case she marries I allow
above mentioned lands & estate back to my children, also the
Brasson place named John S. oddle & saddle, two cows & calves, two
sheep with pig & one sheep which has lost & / or will be lost among all
then I give & bequeath my ~~last~~ ~~second~~ ~~third~~ ~~fourth~~ ~~fifth~~ ~~sixth~~ ~~seventh~~ ~~eighth~~ ~~ninth~~ daughter
I give & bequeath my ~~last~~ ~~second~~ ~~third~~ ~~fourth~~ ~~fifth~~ ~~sixth~~ ~~seventh~~ ~~eighth~~ ~~ninth~~ daughter
one cow & Calf, one saddle & bridle one bed & mattress and
her wearing clothes — Then this is my ~~last~~ ~~second~~ ~~third~~ ~~fourth~~ ~~fifth~~ ~~sixth~~ ~~seventh~~ ~~eighth~~
my son John Cleland he is bound to attend & keep out it until
he be qualified for any branch of business, also it is my will
that the remaining two thirds of my goods & chattels be pro-
vided for my three daughters & they to keep it & pay my son John
Cleland & his brother John & pay all necessary charges, no less
than a living comfortable to him. In witness of these my last & true
my dear children I affix my hand to all the handwriting above
done this 22nd day of January in the year of our Lord 1783.

especially & first of all I give You, my wife my bedchamber the bed, & bedding
which you used to be accustomed at birth upon delivery body I
will moreover be the cost to be added in account to you at the
execution of my will so much as necessary each yearly to be
whence with it shall be paid to you in this life again before
said division of the same in the year ensuing as a sum of £100.
I give & bequeath unto ~~my~~ ^{the} ~~widow~~ ^{my} beloved wife the sum
third part of all the land & herds in abiding the improvements due
her natural life & her deathbed and in case she arrives, I allow
above mentioned lands to fall back to my children, also the
Brassiere more knowne pollard will be divided two cows & calves, two
sheep with piggs & some sheep also her bed & furniture with money £
100 I give You, and her daughter ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~widow~~ ^{my} beloved daughter
to have & keep riding there you will be left with her; also £100
and her wearing apparel with her & your ^{the} ~~widow~~ ^{my} beloved daughter
otherwise my beloved daughter Anna & her Sibyl, both of her
own bed & furniture and her dressing clothes &

Also I give & bequeath unto her account my beloved daughter
Anna & Ralph, one saddle & bridle one bed & furniture and
her wearing clothes — Then I give further unto ^{the} ~~widow~~ ^{my} beloved
my son William Cleaveland he shall be left with her & her children
it will be good for my house of business, also it is my will
that the remaining two thirds of my house fall into the purser
of my dear daughters & they do begin at my death my dear
daughter & her husband I pay all necessary charges, so to
be having suitable to a man of middle years & then
my dear daughter I pay her to all the bed & furniture
from his own house or elsewhere, also whatsoever a widow
she is to have the third that was mentioned to her above
but that $\frac{1}{2}$ I allow her to get and it is my will that I
the next house named to settle to said $\frac{1}{2}$ &
of other houses and other money standing
on said house & herd ~~for~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{my} ~~widow~~ ^{my} beloved daughter
in case of gathering also out of said house
£100 & £100 to be paid to her if she

At law the use of tickles & shooting - Now I give & bequeath
unto my son in law Dr. James Alexander one hundred & twenty
Acres of land lying between Pitt Tavern, Fredericksburg & my
place disposed of at my wife's pleasure amongst my
children my son in law James Alexander excepting also
all goods not mentioned in this will such as my
watch & bedding to be sold & the money arising
therefrom to be equally divided my children.
All these kids hereby constituted & appointed as a com-
mittee, & my wife & myself retained to see every sale
made of these my last kids division, & to do
equally their above work & division all & every other
of your will, Testaments & legacies I bequeath by me
in any way named or called or designated before, hereby
ratifying this & no other to be my last will & Testament.
In witness whereof I the said John Alexander hath
signed at my house & signed my book the 16th day of
October A.D. 1805.

Signed by John Alexander & sealed by the said
John Alexander my last will & Testament
in the presence of us who witnessed
the same & attested.

John Alexander my last will & Testament, I the
writer of the foregoing & Alexander K. Alexander of Fredericksburg, Person
in whose office I was educated, both of whom I thank most
for their assistance & help given to me in the preparation
of this will. Given to me this 31st day of October in the
year of our Lord 1805. In witness whereof this my last will
and Testament is signed & dated this day to the intent
whereas it is done to have & to hold to me & my heirs &
friends & friends' legatees all my lands & tenures & manors &c
as per a former will made by me, hereinafter to be
done to me.

W. H. Jones, Esq. Clerk of Court, Mecklenburg Co., NC Wills 1783-1844