

In the name of God Amen. I WILLIAM CURTIS of the County of Accomac, being aged and weak of body but of perfect and sound mind and memory, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament.

FIRST I commit my soul to Almighty God who gave it me, my body to the Earth to be buried in a Christian manner and as for what worldly estate it hath pleased God to bless me with I give and bequeath as followeth: ~~ITEM~~—I give and bequeath unto my loving wife Bridget Custis to her, her heirs or assigns forever my five slaves hereafter named (viz) Joe, Robin, Sue, Nancy and Daniel—likewise two hundred acres of land which Churchill Darby is now my tenant upon, to her and her heirs forever; likewise I give unto my said wife Bridget all my personal estate as goods and chattels (excepting what I have already given in a Deed of Gift to my daughter Bridget Custis) to her my said wife and her heirs; Likewise I give to my said wife Bridget a third part of all my lands and Islands and all my orchards and houses (besides the two hundred acres of land above given) to my said wife Bridget during her natural life.

ITEM—I give unto my daughter Bridget Custis and to her heirs lawfully begotten on her body (excepting what is above given) all my lands, Islands, Marshes, orchards and buildings, but if my said daughter Bridget should die without heirs as aforesaid then the lands &c. given to my said daughter Bridget I give to my granddaughter Joanna Custis Hope and her heirs lawfully begotten on her body and in case of my said granddaughter Joanna Custis Hope shall die without heirs as aforesaid then I give all my said lands, Islands, Marshes, Orchards and buildings to my wife Bridget Custis her heirs and assigns forever.



ITEM. I give unto my granddaughter Joanna Custis Hope when she arrives to the age of eighteen years or on the day of her marriage (provided my wife Bridget should die without disposing of them) two of the slaves given to my wife aforesaid, viz:—Joe and Daniel and also the two hundred acres of land above given my wife—provided my wife Bridget should die without disposing of it, to her the said Joanna Custis Hope and her heirs lawfully begotten on her body, but if the said Joanna Custis Hope should die without heirs as aforesaid, then I give the said two slaves and the said two hundred acres of land to my daughter Bridget and her heirs forever. I give unto my said Grandaughter Joanna Custis Hope and to her heirs lawfully begotten three slaves, viz:—Harry, Betty and Sarah and their increase, they being the slaves I lent to my daughter, Joanna Custis Hope, and if my said granddaughter should die without heirs aforesaid, then I give the said slaves with all their increase to my daughter Bridget and her heirs forever. I also give unto my said granddaughter (provided she lives) after my wife Bridget's decease twenty head of cattle and two feather beds and furniture; likewise I give unto my said granddaughter Joanna Custis Hope sufficient diet, washing, lodging and apparel at my house till she comes to the age of eighteen years or the day of marriage to be given her by them that possess my estates. My will is further that if my wife should die without disposing of the two hundred acres of land aforesaid and the two slaves, viz: Joe and Daniel aforesaid—then my daughter Bridget to enjoy the said land and two slaves until that my granddaughter arrives at the age of eighteen years or the day of her marriage.

LASTLY: I make and ordain my loving wife and my daughter Bridget to be my Executrix of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all former wills by me made as witness my hand and seal this 29 day of Novr 1725. The words (viz) her or on the day of her marriage, to my wife interlined before signing or sealing

Wm. Custis. (Seal).