

Cravat Carter of the County of Fincastle in the State of Virginia  
knowing the certainty of death and that will now from my present infirmity of  
body that wont cannot be distant, do therefore that it proper whose best judgment  
concern its several strength to make a short Will; and I do hereby declare my  
Will to be as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> that my Executrix hereafter named so soon after  
my decease as circumstances will admit and justify sete at public Auction on  
such outlet as they may deem proper the whole of my personal perishable  
property, and also my tract of land in the County of Fairfax in the State of  
Virginia, containing two hundred & acres and my house and lot and an improved lot  
on Franklin Street in the Town of Alexandria in the District of Columbia and from  
the proceeds of those sales pay off and satisfy all my just debts and claim decent burials  
expenses; 2<sup>nd</sup> that my Wife dutly take and hold during her natural life the  
same share and proportion of my estate real and personal that she would either  
in law or equity be entitled to if this was no other will by me had never been  
made, with this exception that she claims no interest in my tract of land in the  
County of Fairfax nor in the lots in the Town of Alexandria herein directed to  
be sold, for the payment of my debts, as a for the exception I suppose to stand,  
my Will is that she take and hold on the same conditions that she will hold  
the other part of my estate my carriage and a horse and the two carriage horses  
and a breed mare of her choice. 3<sup>rd</sup> my intention was has been and now  
is to make among my children Charles and Francis an equal distribution of my  
estate of every description if not in kind at least in value, and with this view  
the advances made by me to those of my children who have been married and left  
the aforesaid made by me to those of my children who have been married and left  
the family, have been charged — these charges will be found standing against  
them individually by name in my account book, and in my own hand writing amounting  
as follows: To my Son John B Carter \$1934. To my Son Archibald Carter \$2150.  
To William Hamilton who intermarried with my daughter Marian \$885.  
To John C Deniole who intermarried with my daughter Matilda \$566. To James Carter who intermarried with my daughter  
Lucinda \$470. These accounts as they then stand charged  
must be considered and taken as parts of my estate in the  
division to be made thereof under this will. To arrise at a fair division  
of my estate by this rule my land in the County of Fincastle wherein I at this time  
accide must as well as my slaves be valued at a fair market price, the valuation  
to be made by three or more persons to be appointed by the County Court of  
Fincastle, or selected and agreed on by my wife, Charles and those of my children  
that may be present and of lawful age, to this valuation must be added the amounts  
of the said different accounts for advances made, and also any balance that may  
remain of the proceeds of the sales herein directed to be made after the payment of  
the debts, and the aggregate to be divided by eight the number of my children now  
living or the number that may be living when this will may go into effect, and  
the dividend thus obtained shall be considered and taken to be an equal  
share in my Estate, and which share or dividend shall amount and except of my  
children to wit, John Archibald, Marian, Matilda, Lucinda, Nancy, Elias &  
and fully clear on the inventory of them in case of death, shall under this will  
claim to be settled from a fair rent hold. So much my Will is done I will for example take the account standing in my said account Books against my son John —  
the account will be joined as before stated to amount to \$7634 for advances to him  
now all my other children must receive up to this account & before he my son  
John can claim further and should my estate after the payment of my debts  
not be sufficient real and personal to give to each of my children this

amount to wit \$1934. being son John must in that case demand a pay up  
until the shares to be made equal, the same rate must be observed by  
and towards my son Archibald, the advances to him being \$2150.  
This my Son John and Archibald must agree to and will willingly agree  
to if they mean to be just, and not abuse the confidence that I have  
reposed in them, as they both know or have good reason for believing  
that it never was my intention to give less to them nor more to them  
than to my other children, my children to me are all equally dear  
and all equally dear, and Justice and my conscience say they have  
equal claims upon my estate, and equal claims therein; This by acknowl-  
edged grant and forever confirm to them, and it will be necessary to me  
indeed if possible at this our parting have given to such their exact share  
in kind, but this I suppose cannot be done, owing to the peculiar situa-  
tion of my tract of land as to wood and water, a division of it  
into as many parts as would give to each of my children an equal share  
therein cannot well be done, so as to make each share equally conven-  
ient and eligible — Therefore suggest and advise as the most  
advantageous for the whole of my children, that my Sons John and  
Elias take the whole of the land and they account to and pay to my  
other children the amount of their shares therein agreeably to the val-  
uation price, and this I cannot nor do not wish to impose upon my son  
John and Elias unless they approve it, but if they do then it is my will  
that it be so, and if so then it is further my will that the said be to  
divide a between them my said Sons John and Elias by a line beginning  
at a White Oak a corner of the tract of  
White oak a straight line to the extreme West corner of the tract of  
land belonging to the heirs of Mr. Archibald Braxton's duty and from thence  
the said corner continuing to the line of Bricey Shumard's land to be the  
intersection where it may, the West division by a line that drawn I give  
to my Son John and the East division by a line that drawn to be held  
by my Son Elias but in the terms and conditions herein before stated  
to wit, that they John and Elias pay (the) in full proportion to my other  
children individually the amount of their shares therein to be ascertained  
wherein before stated and to secure and insure the payments of the  
other individual shares therein the whole of the said land must be held  
subject, but these shares thus binding upon the land must as to the mode  
and time of payment be under certain restrictions and limitations  
to wit — 1. The share or interest therein of my daughter Marian now  
Marian Hamilton must be kept by my Executors and by them held  
In trust for her my said daughter Marian, to be paid to her at  
such times and in such portions as my Executors may (the) reasonably  
think proper with the lawful intent thereon, from the time the said share  
or interest therein shall be ascertained, and in case of her death then  
to her children — 2<sup>nd</sup> The shares or interest therein of my  
daughter

daughter Matilda now Matilda Dencale must be sold before  
my Executors to be held by them In trust for her my said  
daughter Matilda to be paid to her at such time and in such  
proportions as my Executors may (the reasonably) think proper, with the  
lawful interest thereon, from the time the said shares or interest  
may be ascertained, in case of her death to her Children.

3<sup>rd</sup> the share or interest therein of my daughter Lucretia Carter to  
be paid to her or her heirs or assigns in one year from the time the  
said share or interest may be ascertained with the lawful interest.

4<sup>th</sup> the share or interest of my daughter Nancy, having to be paid to her  
heirs and assigns in ten years from the time said share or interest  
shall be ascertained with the lawful interest -

5<sup>th</sup> the share or interest of my daughter Sally Ann, then, to be paid  
to her when she reaches the age of twenty one years or at her mar-  
riage if that event should happen sooner, with the lawful interest.  
This closes the arrangement I wish made as regards my land estate  
but in making this arrangement the land descends to my son Elias  
will be involved with the interest of his mother, this as far as I can  
see cannot well be avoided and I do hope that with this it will  
not be material as it will only be throwing together the interest of  
Mother and Son who have ever been devoted to each other and I hope  
ever will, and I do also that their interests will therefore an & grow better  
of kept together, and as my wife Sally has ever wished a strong de-  
sire to promote the interest and Welfare of her children and if not  
more so towards her son Elias that their interests being thrown  
together will not be met by an objection from either of them, but if it  
should stand leave them and my other children to reconcile the  
difficulty, as I know not how to remove it without suffering a greater.  
In the division of my slaves I apprehend no difficulty, my will as re-  
gards them is that all my children herein named or those of them that  
may be living when this will is carried into effect, claim and hold an  
equal share in them, a be divided in kind if it can be done  
as well then (when time shall make it proper) that will be best  
by my wife Sally as thereupon which she will have no claim provided  
that the interests of all my children in the whole of my estate  
be made equal thereby, taking into the estimate the advances made  
as charged in my said account books, and I do repeat that  
these advances must be accounted for in the manner herein before  
pointed out, by those for whose benefit they were made, before  
they can have any further claims whatever upon my estate under  
this will - The shares in my slaves falling to my daughters  
Marion now Marion Hamilton, and Matilda now Matilda

Dencale in the division to be made of them must also for reasons not necessary to be explained here be held by my Executors  
in trust for them my said daughters Marion and Matilda  
upon the same principles and for the same uses and purposes as  
their interest in my land are herein before directed to be  
held, with the only difference, that the slaves are to be hired  
out and the hire paid over to the slaves delivered over as my Execu-  
tors may think most conducive to the comfort and Welfare of my  
said daughters and my children: the shares or interests of my  
daughters in my land estate the place & under certain restrictions as to  
time and mode of payment are not thereby to lose in their value  
as interest in any case must be charged and allowed until full  
payment be made, and a quitness granted and the same as  
regards the fair income of the slaves falling to my daughters Ma-  
rion and Matilda, upon the same principles and for the same  
restrictions are placed upon the slaves falling to any other  
children, what effect the life interest of my wife Sally may  
have in ascertaining the true amount of the interest or  
shares of my children in my said Estate I know not, therefore  
leave it without further remark, my children must be satisfied  
to me as they may find it - One thing I had forgotten and  
which I must mention here is it this, that as the I had never  
intended to give to one of my children more of my estate than to  
another, yet I did mean at the time to appoint from this determina-  
tion in one instance in a small matter - I do therefore give and  
set aside to my daughter Sally Ann my youngest child  
and above the equal share in my estate, a small negro  
girl name Millie to her and her heirs forever, and I must  
add that my daughter Nancy can have a equal share  
in my Estate by will and bequeath my residence - I do  
now hereby nominate constitute and appoint my Sons John B Earle  
and Elias Earle executors of this my only last Will &  
Testament - In witness whereof I do hereunto set my  
hand and affix my seal this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August 1826  
the foregoing will signed sealed and Csa<sup>r</sup> Earle  
published by the Testator as his last -  
Witnessed & Testament in presence of  
Wm. Cook  
The Boswells

I Elias Earle being still of sound mind, and upon re-  
flection have thought proper to add this writing as a codicil to my last  
will, and inasmuch as it alters the provisions of said will in some  
particulars, I hereby declare it is my intention to alter said will so far

290) as it is done by this writing, and that the Writing a Codicil shall be attached to and form part of my said Will and have its full force when it may conflict with the other parts of said Will. I trust to appoint my son Thos B. Earle the only Executor to my Will and hereby direct that all my property or estate be kept together for the full term of two years after my decease, as the best way of paying my debts, under the direction of my said Executor, but if he shall think it best he may sell my part of my estate which is directed in my said Will to be sold, as soon after my decease as he chooses. 2<sup>nd</sup> at the expiration of the two years I direct that all my negroes except the dower negroes be equally divided among my children or their heirs and delivered to them or held in trust by my said Executor agreeable to the provision of my said Will. The dower negroes are to be divided in like manner at the death of my wife. 3<sup>rd</sup> I wish my son Elias and my daughter Nancy and Sally each to have a feather bed and furniture equal in the opinion of my wife to those given to my other children and to be charged the same price for them. I also give to my daughter Nancy my Negroe Hannah. 4<sup>th</sup> I give to my wife on the same terms she is to hold the property given to her before, and on the same terms in addition thereto three Heather beds and furniture, the Mahogany Bureau and Clock and my Watch. 5<sup>th</sup> instead of the valuation inserted in my will I hereby fix the value of my land at twenty dollars per acre it being the price charged to my sons John and Caleb for their land. 6<sup>th</sup> I direct that my son Elias may hold the two fields he now has in possession without paying rent, until a division of my land is made to my daughter Matilda Dunlap my Negroe girl. 7<sup>th</sup> Lastly I again declare this writing to be part of my Will and desire that it may be attached thereto, as witness my hand this 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 1826.

Signed and acknowledged by  
In presence of  
Deth Mason, John Brownley  
John Brownley Esq. T. Johnson

Thos Earle

At a Court continued and held for Frederick County the 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 1826, the last Will and Testament of Thos Earle deceased was proved by the oath of John Brownley a Notary Public, and the Codicil thereto was proved by the oaths of Deth Mason and the said John Brownley Notaries thereto, and at a Court continued and held for the County aforesaid the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November in the year aforesaid

the said Will was further proved by the oath of William Cook another witness thereto and the said Will and Codicil ordered to be recorded. And on the motion of John B. Earle the Executor thereto named who made oath according to law, certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof in due form on his giving security Wherupon he together with his wife and John Brownley his securities entered into and acknowledged bond in the penalty of ten thousand dollars, conditioned for his due and faithful administration of the said decedent's estate.

By the Court Jas Tidball C. J. G.

Virginia Frederick County set

J Thomas Allen Tidball Clerk of the Court of the County of Frederick do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy from the records of my office In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the County aforesaid the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November 1826, and in the 51<sup>st</sup> year of the Commonwealth —

J. A. Tidball

This will was recorded Nov: 28 1827 at the request of the testator

C. Moore Reg: Wills

I now all men by these presents that we John Dunlap and John A. Stewart are held and firmly bound unto Christopher Neale Coggin Judge of the Orphan Court of Alexandria County in the district of Columbia and his Successors in Office in the sum of two thousand dollars lawful money of the United States, to the payment whereof well and truly to be made in kind over to our Executrix and administrator jointly and severally fully by these presents sealed with our seals and dated this ninth day of August 1827 —

The Condition of the above obligation is such that if the above sum to John Dunlap shall well and truly be paid in the office of Administrator of William Dunlap Esq; of Alexandria County demands, according to law and shall in all respects discharge the duty of his required by law as Administrator aforesaid, without any injury or damage to any person interested in the just and performance of said office, then the above obligation to be paid else to remain in full force and tenure in law —

Sealed and delivered  
In presence of  
The Court.

John Dunlap Esq.  
John A. Stewart

I now all men by these presents that we John Mott and John Lawson are held and firmly bound unto Christopher Neale Coggin Judge of the Orphan Court of Alexandria County in the district of Columbia and his Successors in Office in the sum of one thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States, to the payment whereof well and truly to be made in kind over to our Executrix and administrator jointly and severally fully by these presents sealed with our seals and dated the 6<sup>th</sup> day of August 1827 —