

Ed
Ex

Decr 14th 1661

In the name of God Amen I John Bates of Russel Parish
Bates an County of Bedford being such but imperfect mind and Memory thank
Will be to god for his Mercies and calling to mind the Mortality of the Body that
it was Appointed for all men once to die. I do make and Ordain this my
last Will and Testament That is to wit. I sincerely and first I recommend
my soul unto the hand of that god that gave it nothing doubting but at the
general Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the Mighty Power of
god and as to my Body I recommend it to the Earth to be Buried in a
Christian like and decent Burial at the Discretion of my Executors hereafter
Named and as Touching my Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased god
to bless me with in this life I give and Dispose of in a Manner and form
following to wit. Item I give and Bequeath to my beloved Wife Mary Bates
Two feather Beds and furniture with all my Horses Cattle Sheep Hogs with
all my household furniture with the Money arising from all my Lands in
New London given in Winter During her Natural life also I give and
Bequeath

I bequeath to my beloved son William Bates the Land I now live on to him
and his heirs for ever also it is my Will that my Negro Man James
be sold and the money be paid to ~~John~~ ^{for my son} when he is of
age also one feather Bed and furniture also it is my Will that my Negro
Woman Jid and two girls be sold and the money arising be apply'd
to the Discharging my lawful debts and if any of that should
remain to be added to my sons part &c And I do Constitute and
appoint my well beloved Wife with my well beloved friends John
Murphy and William Head Esrs of this my last Will and Testament
In Witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and Seal this Twentieth
day of Nov: One Thousand seven hundred seventy seven 1777

Test James Mitchell

Catherine ^{her} Murphy

Mary ^{her} Hamers
J. Marks

John Bates

It is a Court held for Bedford County the 22^d day of December 1777

The above last Will and Testament of John Bates Deceased was proved

by the Oaths of James Mitchell and Mary Hamers Witnesses

Subscribed and Ordered to be recorded And on the Motion of William

^{per} Catherine Murphy
^{per} Mark
Mary & Hamers
per marks

John Bates

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It is a Court held for Bedford County the 22 day of December 1777
The above last Will and Testament of John Bates Decedent was proved
by the Oaths of James Mitchell and Mary Hamers being their
Subscribers and Ordres to be recorded And on the petition of William
Hlead and Mary Bates two of the Executors therein named who said
Oath thereto Certificate is granted them for obtaining probate thereof
in due form giving Security (Security being reserved the Court being
in this Will Mentions to form in the probate thereof what he shall think
fit) whereupon they together with Jacob Moon their Security taken
into and Acknowledges their Bonds in the penalty of Two Thousand
Pounds for the said Executors due and faithful Administration of the
said Decedent's Estate and Performance of his Will.

Et

Teste J. Steptoe Clk.

In the name of God The Father Son & Holy Ghost Amen