

In the Name of God Amen this Sixth day of October 1766 Joseph Ray of the
County of Bedford and Colony of Virginia being Very Sick and Weak of Body but
of perfect and sound mind and Memory thanks be given unto God therefore calling
to mind the Mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once
to die do make and Ordain this my Last Will and Testament that is to say princi-
-pally and first of all I give and Recommend ^{my soul} into the hands of Almighty God
that gave it and my Body I Recommend to the Earth to be Buried in Decent
Christian Burial at the Discretion of my Executors Nothing Doubting but at the
General Resurrection I shall Receive the same again by the Mighty Power of God
and as Touching such Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to blese
me in this Life I give Demise and Dispose of the same in the following Man-
ner and form Inprimas I give and Bequeath to my Two Beloved Sons Vizt
Andrew Ray and John Ray my Land whereon I now live to be Equally Divided
Between them Item I give unto my Dearly Beloved wife one Dark bay Horse
balled by the Name of Prince and Went for her Riding Horse and also her side
Saddle and likewise her bed and furniture Belonging to it like Wife her live

And now I give and bequeath to my Two Beloved Sons Viz.
Andrew Ray and John Ray my Land whereon I now live to be Equally Divided
Between them I am I give unto my Dearly Beloved wife one Dark bay Horse
called by the Name of Prince and Went for her Riding Horse and also her side
saddle and likewise her bed and furniture Belonging to it like Wife her live
ing on the plantation During her Widowhood for the Use of her two Children
I am I give to John Michal Miller the Bed whereon he lies and furniture belong
ing to the same I am I give to my Wife Two bows and balves the s^d Sons to be of
her own choosing out of the Stock with their Increase and likewise my Stock
of Hogs and Sheep and likewise the house hold stuff for her & the Childrens Use
During her Widowhood Together with all her wearing Apparel belonging to her and
at her Marriage what is left to Return for the use of the Children of the Estate
I am I give unto my Two Daughters Viz^t Mary Ray and Priscilla all the Rest of
my Estate that is to say all the Rest of my Horses and Mares & Colts and likewise
the Rest of my battle Waggon and still to be Turned into money for the girls with
all my Bills Bonds and Book Debts to be Equally Divided Between y^e Children

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and paying What Debt is due by me and my Desire is that the Boys Land
shall be kept clear of the Duties for which I shall leave a Bond of W^m Thomas for
that same use Viz^t Twenty pounds and the Overplus of what is left Besides clearing
the Duties of the Land to go to the support of my Wife and children I am I give
all my crop of Grain that is made and what is in the Ground growing to my
Wife and children for the supporting and Maintainance of them and lastly
I do Appoint William Thomas and Jonathan Grimes Executors of this my last will
and Testament Utterly Revoaking any Other Will heretofore by me made and this
only to be taken for my Last Will and Testament In witness whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and seal the day and Year Above Written: Joseph Ray (L.S.)

Signed Seal'd Published and Declared
by the said Joseph Ray as his Last Will
and Testament in presence of us

John Boyston. John M^{his} Etlichal Miller
Peter ^{his} + ^{mark} Blankenship

Attest that the above is a true and correct copy of the original

John Boyston. John M^h Michael Miller
Peter^h Blankenship^{mark}

A Court held for Bedford County May 26th 1767
There within Last Will and Testament of Joseph Ray Deceased was
proved in Court by the Executors therein Named & proved by the
Oaths of John Boyston & Peter Blankenship and Ordered to be Recorded
& the Executors in the will Mentioned Refused to Take upon the Execut
ion of the said Will Whereupon on the Motion of Martha Ray whom a de
Oath according to Law Certificate is granted her for Obtaining Letters
of Administration of the Estate of the said Joseph Ray Deceased with
Will Annexed she giving Security whereon she Together with Henry
Taylor & James Standefer her Securitys Entered into & Acknowledged
bond in the penalty of Five Hundred pounds for her due Administra
tion of the said Decedents Estate Teste Ben Howard 6036