

In the name of God amen Paulus Smelser of the County of
Bedford being sick and Weak of Body but of sound Memory and calling to mind the
Uncertainty of this Transitory life knowing that God has Appointed that all Men shall
Once die, I have thought proper to make Constittute and Conformation as my last Will and
Testament Viz That I first of all recommend my soul into the hands of God the giver thereof
my Body to the dust from whence it was taken to be decently Buried and as for my Worldly
Estate that it has pleas^d God to bless me with I Ordain in form and manner following to wit
Imprimis my desire is that all my Debts any ways Contracted before of all paid I give
and Bequeath unto my Beloved Wife Catharine Smelter during her natural life or
Widowhood the plantation I now live on with all the stock that is now on it Excepting
what is hereafter Mentioned but if my Wife should die or alter her name by Marriage then
all my Movables & Chattles to be sold and Equally divided amongst my Children then
alive & to them and their Heirs for ever Item I give and Bequeath unto my Beloved
sons John Smelter and Abraham Smelter that Tract of One hundred & sixty Nine Acres
to them their Seperate Heirs and Assigns for ever Viz it is a piece of Land bought of
Edmund Smith to be parted as follows Viz a line to be run a Cross Equitably the lower
part

part joining where I live to belong to my son John and the upper part to
Abraham with a hundred Acres of a New Survey adjoining them to each if there is
four hundred Acres in the Survey, if not to be proportioned. Item I give and
Bequeath unto my beloved sons Hiram Smelser and Paulser Smelser a piece of Land
of two hundred and twenty five Acres it being the track I now live on a line being
Equitably run a Crook the Land the lower part being one hundred and thirty Acres and
half and giving John Pearey to belong to Hiram Smelser and his Heirs and assigns forever
and the other half being where on I live to belong to Paulser Smelser to him his
Heirs and assigns forever with an Equitable part of the above New Survey adjoining
them both Item I give and Bequeath unto my Beloved son Jabez Smelser to him his
Heirs and assigns for ever a new Survey of Land joining William H. Saland and
that my son Paulser Smelser shall pay out of his part of the Estate unto my son Jabez
thirty pounds to make his part Equal. Item I leave unto my Daughter Betty the
Cows and Calves and other goods to be given her by my son John out of his part of the
Estate. I request that my three sons John Hiram & Paulser may keep their Horses as I
have appointed them and that John give unto Abraham the first two Year Old Colt
from his mares and that Paulser give unto Jabez the first two Year Old Colt
that comes from his mare. But if any Accidents happeneth to either or both the
Horses then this to be Void. I further Order that my son Hiram give unto my son

I Constitute and Appoint to see this my last Will and Testament Executed by
 my beloved Wife Catharine Smelser John Searcy and John Searcy before Witnesses
 of this my last Will and Testament I have set my hand and seal this seventh day
 of December and in the Year of Our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and
 Seventy Seven.

Helnes
Thomas Dooley
Michael Kain
Thomas Campbell
Samuel Campbell


 Parker Melser

At a Court held for Bedford County May 25th 1778
This last Will and Testament of Paulser Smelser decd was proved by the
Oath of Michael, one of the Jurors thereto jurorated and at another Court hold
for the said County the 27th day of July 1778 the said Will was further proved by
the

the Oath of Thomas Campbell another Witness thereto subscribed and Ordered to be recorded and On the Motion of Catharine Ameliser John Tarcy and John Sharp the Executors therein named who made Oath According to Law Certificate is granted them for Obtaining Probate thereof in due form giving security whereupon they together with Gros Scruggs and Henry Buford their Securities entered into and Acknowledged their Bond in the penalty of Three Thousand Pounds for the said Executors due and faithful Administration of the said Decedents Estate and performance of his Will.

Es²

Test. J^y

Stephens Cl^r

Burgess

Will

In the name of God AMEN William Burgess of Bedford County in the Colony of Virginia being very sick and weak in body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be given to Almighty God, calling unto 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 principally and first of all I give and recommend my soul into the hand 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 notwithstanding but at the general resurrection I shall Receive the same again by the power of Almighty god and as touching such worldly Estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in