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Benjamin
Wells

In the Name of God Amen, Benjamin
Wells of the County of Brunswick being in perfect mind and memory thanks
be to almighty God for the same & calling to mind & remembrance the uncertain
state of this transitory life and that all flesh must die when it shall please
God to call. Do make and ordain this my last will and Testament,
in manner and form following (Viz) I commit my Soul into the hands
of God my Creator, & my body to the earth, to be buried in a decent manner,
hoping through the satisfaction & merits of Christ my redeemer, to be
made partaker of eternal happiness. And as for my estate which it
hath pleased God to bestow upon me. I dispose of the same in manner
following. I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah Ann
Langton the Estate I have before gave her possession of, and no more.
Item, I give to my son James Wells all my Lands, and the following
Negroes. Solomon Dinah Milly, her children, Silvia & Child & Matt
and all their increase, to him and his heirs forever; also one feather bed and
new furniture, and four head of cattle; - Also I lend to my granddaughter
Jane Rivers, the negro girl Molly which she hath in possession, her increase
during her life, and then I give the said Molly & her increase to be equally
divided between all her children, to them and their heirs forever - also I give
to my granddaughter Sarah Ann Harrison, a Negro girl Cynthia & her child
named Edmund with her future increase to her and her heirs forever. And
I lend to my beloved wife the following Negroes Livia, Lucy & her children
during her life, or widowhood and then I give the said Negroes and
their increase to my son James Wells to him & his heirs for ever, all the
rest of my Estate, that I have not mentioned after my debts are paid.
I lend to my wife during her life or widowhood, and then one half to
be equally divided between my four grandchildren, Jane Rivers, Nathl
James, & Sarah Ann Harrison, and the other half I give to my son
James Wells, and I do appoint my son James Wells Executor to this
my last will and Testament In Witness whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and seal this twenty seventh day of January one
Thousand seven hundred and ninety nine

Signed sealed & acknowledged
by Benjamin Wells to be his
last will and Testament

Benjamin Wells (Seal)

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