Read's Will

I Isaac Read of Charlotte County & Parish being sick and weak in body but of perfect mind & memory thanks be given unto God therefore calling unto mind the mortality of my body & knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make & ordain this my last Will & Testament that is to say principally & first of all I give & recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it & my body I recommend to the earth to be buried in a decent Christian like manner 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 & as touching such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give & dispose of the same in the following manner & form

Item I lend unto my loving wife Elizabeth Read during her natural life or widowhood the Plantation whereon I now live containing by Estimation Two hundred & fifty acres be the same more or less also my Negro Woman Sall & her Child Lucy & my Negro Girl Sarah during her life or widowhood & after her death or marriage I give the said Negroes Sall & Lucy to my daughter Mary Ann Read & her heirs forever & the said Negro Girl Sarah to my daughter Elizabeth Read & her heirs forever

Item I lend unto my loving wife Elizabeth Read during her life or widowhood my Negro Man Jack & my Negro Woman Lucy & after her death or marriage I give the said Negroes Jack & Lucy to my son Clement Read & his heirs forever

Item I lend unto my loving wife Elizabeth Read during her life or widowhood my Negro Man Peter & my Negro Woman Rachel & after her death or marriage I give the said Negroes Peter & Rachel to my son Isaac Read & his heirs forever

Item I lend unto my loving wife Elizabeth Read during her life or widowhood my Negro Man Ben & my Negro Woman Hannah & after her death or marriage I give the said Negroes Ben & Hannah to my son Thomas Read & his heirs forever

Item I lend unto my loving wife Elizabeth Read during her life or widowhood my Negro Man Sam & my Negro Woman Sarah & after her death or marriage I give the said Negroes Sam & Sarah to my son Nathaniel Read & his heirs forever

Item I lend unto my loving wife Elizabeth Read during her life or widowhood my Negro Man Jacob & my Negro Woman Nanny & after her death or marriage I give the said Negroes Jacob & Nanny to my son Joseph Read & his heirs forever

Item I lend unto my loving wife Elizabeth Read during her life or widowhood my Negro Man Jeffery & my Negro Woman Rose & after her death or marriage I give the said Negroes Jeffery & Rose to my son Clement

and their respective heirs forever. At the death of my wife I direct the Slaves and personal Estate that I have hereby lent her to be Equally divided between my three Children if living, and to their Lawfull Representatives if dead. It is my desire that my debts be Collected and paid, and whatever Money may arise from the Collection of my debts, after paying the just Claims against my Estate, to Equally Lay out for the farther and more effectual education of my Son or Sons and the Convenience of my Infant Family. I order that my Estate be Inventoried. And entreat my Executors who I appoint Joint Guardians of my Children to particularly attend to the Education of my Son or Sons and if the debts due to me, together with their share of the proceeds of the Estate be insufficient to defray the expenditures of his or their Education my further will is that my executors sell any or such of his or their part of the Estate as they shall think proper for Completing their Education which I desire may be Liberal and extensive. I Appoint my dear wife Sarah, and my Relation and friend Coll. Thomas Read and Col. John Coleman Executrix and Executors of this my Last Will and Testament

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Lawfull Representatives & Assd. It is my Desire that my Debts be Collected and Paied, and Whatever Money may arise from the Collection of my Debts, after Paying the Just Claims Against my Estate, to Equally Layd out for the Further and more effectual Education of my Son or Sons and the Convenience of my Infant Family. Order that my Estate be Inventoried. And intreat my Executors who I Appoint Joint Guardians of my Children to particularly attend to the Education of my Son or Sons and if the Debts due to me, together with their Share of the Profits of the Estate be Insufficient to defray the Expenditures of his or their Education my further will is that my Executors sell any or such of the or their part of the Estate as they shall think proper for Compleating his or their Education which I desire may be Liberal and extensive. I Appoint my dear wife Sarah, and my Relation and friend Coll Thomas Read and Coll John Coleman Executrix and Executors of this my Last Will and Testament

Signd Seald and Acknowledgd by Isaac Read Sr. as

in Presence of us

Jonathan Read Isaac Coleman Edmund Read Peter

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176 At a Court held for Charlotte County the Second day of March 1778

The above Written Last Will and Testament of Isaac Read Esqr dec.d was Exhibited in Court by Sarah Read Thomas Read and John Coleman the Executors and Executor therein Named and the same was Proved by the Oaths of Jonathan Read and William Dabbs two of the Witnesses thereto Subscribed and Ordered to be Recorded, and on the Motion of the said Executors and Executors who made Oath according to Law, Probate of the said Will is Granted them they giving Security whereupon they together with Edmund Read Jonathan Read and Walter Coles their Securities entered into and Acknowledged their Bond for that Purpose.

Teste Tho.s Read C

Ex.e Truly Recorded

Tho.s Read CR

In the Name of God Amen, I John Johns of Charlotte County in the Common Wealth of Virginia being weak in body, but of a sound Mind and understanding do Conclude this my Last will and Testament in Manner and form following, Imprimis I commit my Body to the Ground from whence it came. And my Soul to God who gave it. As to my Worldly estate I order

Charlotte Co., Virginia Will Book No. 3, 1765-1782
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