

In the name of God amen I John Rice of the County of Berkeley being sick of body but of perfect mind and memory do hereby make and constitute this my last Will in the following manner. First my Will and desire is that all my just debts shall be duly paid. Secondly my Will and desire is that after my decease my beloved wife Elizabeth Rice shall quietly and peaceably possess and enjoy all my worldly estate it hath pleased God to bless me with both real and personal during her natural life free from any incumbrances whatever. Thirdly whereas since my marriage with my wife Elizabeth Rice I sold a negro man belonging to the Estate that my said wife possessed at our marriage for the sum of Eighty five pounds my Will and desire is that before any division of my Estate is made that the said eighty five pounds for which said Negro man was sold shall be replaced to the benefit of the Legatee of the estate of Ambrose Humbley &c out of the profits of my estate after my Wife's death. Fourthly whereas in the course of the last year past I purchased a negro boy named Harry from Mr Meredith Walker on certain Conditions as will appear from a memorandum on the back of the bill of sale which said Walker gave me for said negro boy, my Will and desire is that if the said Meredith Walker do and shall truly and fairly replace to my own Estate the four hundred dollars which he said Walker received in payment for said boy agreeable to the above mentioned memorandum that the said negro boy Harry shall be returned to the said Meredith Walker. Fifthly my Will and desire is that

said boy agreeable to the above mentioned memorandum that the said negro boy
Harry shall be returned to the said Meredith Walker ^{fifthly} my Will and desire is that
after the death of my wife Elizabeth Rice all the Slaves that now belong or hereafter may
belong, until that period, to my Estate shall of the Law of my Country well admit
be liberated free from bondage and the Ballances of my Estate that remain be equally
divided among the several Claimants as the Law may direct. ^{fifthly} If the Law
of the Country will not admit of the above mentioned liberation of said Slaves belonging to
my Estate at the death of my wife Elizabeth Rice my will and desire is that the said
Slaves shall be valued in real Cash by three honest discreet disinterested freeholders who
shall be chosen by my executors hereafter named, and the amount of the valuation be
allotted in as many equal lots as there are lawful Claimants, and after the lots are
drawn each Claimant shall pay to the other as the nature of the case may require in real
Cash before the said Slaves shall be delivered to those that may draw, according to the apportion-
ment: and lastly I do constitute and appoint my friend William Deaforce and my Wife
Elizabeth Rice my Executors and Executors of this my last Will and Testament. In Witness
whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this fifth day of March one thousand
eight hundred and five

John Rice L^r

Signed sealed and delivered to be my last Will and Testament
in presence of William Deaforce, John Deaforce, Martin G. Woolley
Jennett Roberts

his
witness

my Estate at the death of my wife Elizabeth Rice my will and desire is that the said
Slaves shall be valued in real Cash by three honest discreet disinterested freeholders who
shall be chosen by my executors hereafter named, and the amount of the valuations be
allotted in as many equal lots as there are lawful Claimants, and after the lots are
drawn each Claimant shall pay to the other as the nature of the case may require in real
Cash before the said Slaves shall be delivered to those that may draw, according to the apportion-
ment: and lastly I do constitute and appoint my friend William Deafries and my Wife
Elizabeth Rice my Executors and Counters of this my last Will and Testament. In Witness
whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this fifth day of March one thousand
eight hundred and five

John Rice J. R.

Signed, Sealed and sworn to as my last Will and Testament
in presence of Witnesses John McCargo, Martin G. Worthy,
J. Annals Roberts,

At a Court held for Charlotte County the 3^d day of June 1805.

This Last Will and Testament of John Rice sen^r was presented in Court by Elizabeth Rice the
Executing therein named, and the same was proved by the ^{oath} of John McCargo and J. Annals

Roberts two of the Witnesses hereto subscribed to be acknowledged by the said John Rice in his
Will and Testament in their presence and before the Court. And the said
said Court of said County is hereby certified to the said John Rice sen^r that the same

