

I John Benford of Charles City County being in perfect sense, mind, and

Charles City County, Virginia Wills 1789-1830
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John Benford's } memory, and calling to mind the uncertainty of this life, do make and adorn
- Will } this my last will and Testament, revoking and disannulling all former
will and Testaments heretofore made by me. — Imprimis I give & bequeath
to my two eldest sons Robert and Thomas Benfords my tract of Land on
Chickahomony Swamp containing by estimation one hundred and fifty acres
to be equally divided between them, after the death of my loving wife, to them
and their heirs, and assigns forever. — Item I give to my son Thomas Benford
one feather Bed and furniture, one Cow and calf, and one Sow and Pigs to
to him and his heirs forever. — Item I give and bequeath to my son John
Benford the Land and plantation whereon I now dwell, and the plantation
call'd Days after the death of my loving wife (only my desire is that my
daughter Martha may have half the house, and as much Land as she
can cultivate where she may chuse, as long as she remains single) also
one feather Bed and furniture, one Cow and calf, and one Sow and Pigs

~~daughter Martha~~ may have half the house, and as much land as she
can cultivate where ~~she may choose~~ so long as she remains single) also
one feather Bed and furniture, one cow and calf, and one sow and Pigs
to him and his heirs forever. Item I give and bequeath to my
daughter Martha Benford one feather Bed and furniture, one cow &
calf, and one sow and Pigs to her and her heirs and assigns forever.
Item my will and desire is that my four negroes David, Moggie,
Jacob and Kate may have their Freedom, and be intitled to all the
estate they may hereafter acquire. Item I lend to my loving wife
all the remainder and residue of my estate during her natural life.
and after her decease, my will and desire is that my estate so lent
may be divided in manner following to wit, that my ^{three} sons Robert,
Thomas and John Benford may have ashare each, and my two daughters Mary
Crew and Martha Benford two shares each of the said estate to them and their
heirs forever. Lastly I constitute and appoint my brother James Benford,
and Gerrard Ellison my whole and sole Executors of this my last will and

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estate they may hereafter acquire. — Item I lend to my loving wife
all the remainder and residue of my estate during her natural life.
and after her decease, my will and desire is that my estate so lent
may be divided in manner following to wit, that my ^{three} sons Robert,
Thomas and John Benford may have a share each and my two daughters Mary
Crow and Martha Benford two shares each of the said estate to them and their
heirs forever. — Lastly I constitute and appoint my brother James Benford,
and Gerrard Ellison my whole and sole Executors of this my last will and
Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed
my seal this twelfth day of the second month, one Thousand seven hundred
and eighty —

Signed, sealed, & delivered

in presence of, —

James Ladd, Charles McKimmy
Susanna Ladd, Isabel Ladd

John Benford



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At a monthly Court held for Charles City County on Thursday the nineteenth day of February 1795; The afore written last Will and Testament of John Benford deceased was this day proved by James Ladd, and Charles McKenny two of the witnesses thereto, and ordered to be recorded. And the Executors therein named refused to qualify, and on the motion of Thomas Benford and making affirmation thereto as the Law directs, and together with James Ladd and John Benford his securities entered into and acknowledged their bond in the penalty of two hundred pounds, with condition according to Law Certificate is granted him for obtaining Letters of administration with the said Will annexed in due form.

Teste Otway Boyd es

Wilkinson's
In the name of God amen I David Wilkinson of the County
of Charles City being very weak in body but in perfect mind & memory,
do make, and ordain, constitute, and appoint this my last Will and
Testament in manner following. — Imprimis. My desire is that my two