

W. B. Christian's
Will

I William B. Christian of the County of Charles City do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say, first I appoint and do hereby constitute my Wife Elizabeth B. Christian my Brother Turner Christian, also my Nephew John Hunt Christians Executors, Executors and trustees of my whole estate, hereby directing them or either of them, who may Qualify to this my Will, at the time the same shall be proven, or at any time afterwards to arrange and settle my estate and to sell any of my property, which to them or either of them who may Qualify as before stated shall seem best, and to make speedy payment of all my just debts hereby wishing my said Executor, or Executors to use their own discretion as to the manner of such sale, after all my debts are paid it is my wish that the balance of my property should be disposed of in the following manner Viz First I give and bequeath to my Wife Elizabeth B. Christian the Negro Woman named Jenny which I got by my marriage with her together with her three children named Jack, Sam and Sally to her and her heirs forever. Secondly I give to my Niece Susanna B. Christian, Daughter of my Brother Turner Christian a Negro Girl or a maid, such an one as my ^{Wife} ~~Wife~~ shall chose out of my Negroes for her to her and her heirs forever. Thirdly. It is my wish that the debt or debts due me from my Brother Henry Christian now deceased, should be for the use of his Widow Sally Christian during her life, after her death I give the said debt, or debts to his two youngest daughters, named Frances and Martha and if my executors think it necessary that my Brother Henry Christians property should be sold for the payment of the money he owes me, in that case I wish them to purchase the property as far as the debt will go for the use of his Widow and two youngest Daughters as aforesaid. Fourthly. It is my Will and desire that my Negro Woman named Mounning should be emancipated and set at liberty. Fifthly. All my estate of every kind not here before disposed of I lend unto my wife Elizabeth B. Christian during her widowhood, should she again marry I wish her to have only the one half during her life, wishing her to take choice of such half. Sixthly. Should my wife again marry the half of the property lent her during her widowhood to be divided equally among my Brother Turner Christians three youngest Sons named, William, John and Turner should my wife die a widow I wish the whole of the estate lent her divided at her death among my said Brother Turners Sons, William, John & Turner which I give to them and their heirs forever. Seventhly. It is my wish, that should any money be left in the hands of my Executor, or if they think it expedient at any time that they appropriate a sum of money for the education of Isaac Duckers four Sons named, Henry, Ambrose, Isaac & William, not exceeding fifty pounds each, but to that amount they are hereby authorised to appropriate to the said Children at such time, or times as shall suit the convenience of my estate in their Opinion. Lastly, ^{whereas} many disputes arise from the words of Wills for the want of Technicality it is

my wish, that should any part of my Will not be plainly understood, or any dispute should arise as to the technicality, or understanding of the same, it is my wish that the Court where the same shall be proved in, should appoint three proper persons whose opinions respecting the disputed parts, should then be such, shall be made a part of this my Will, this I wish done to prevent any disputes, which may arise between legates and Exors respecting the meaning and construction of Wills, and I do hereby revoke all other Wills heretofore made, by signing and sealing this as my last will and testament. As Witness, my hand and seal this twenty first day of August One thousand eight hundred and five.

Signed sealed & delivered

W. B. Christian

in presence of
W. Douglass, Charles ^{his} Word
Mark

At a monthly Court held for Charles City County at the Courthouse on Thursday the seventeenth day of October 1805. The aforesaid last Will and Testament of William B. Christian did was this day presented into Court by Turner Christian one of the Executors therein named and being proved by ^{the said} W. Douglass and Charles Word the Witnesses thereto is ordered to be recorded, and on the motion of the said Executor, who made Oath as the Law directs, and entered into bond with John Christian & John Hunt Christian his securities in the penalty of seven thousand Dollars, conditioned according to Law, Certificate is granted him for obtaining a probat thereof in due form, liberty reserved the other Executors therein named to join in the Probat, when they may think fit.

teste

Wyatt Walker. C. C.

Thomas Griffiths
Will

In the name of the eternal God who formed all things by the dictates of the power of his word Amen. I Thomas Griffiths of Charles City County, and parish of Westmoreland, say sick and weak, but of perfect sense and memory, and tranquillity of mind, do constitute and ordain this my last Will and testament in private. Knowing it is appointed One for all men to die, trusting in my dear Redeemer, I resign my soul to Him who gave it being, and my Body unto the Earth, from whence it was taken, in shame and certain hope of joyful Resurrection, and a blessed immortality, and as for my worldly goods, which God has graciously lent me, I give and bequeath them as followeth. In private, First my will and desire is that all my just debts be paid, and after they are paid, my will and desire is to lend the use of my whole estate, both real and personal to my beloved wife Amey Griffiths, during of her natural life. Then my will and desire is that after my beloved wife's death that my lands, the whole of it may be divided between my two Sons, namely William Griffiths, and John Griffiths, my will and desire is that after the death of my beloved wife that all my Negro slaves that may be alive at that time be divided among my Children by selling them out in Lots, and not to be sold among my Children namely William Griffiths, John Griffiths, Martha Trapwell the wife of Jacob Trapwell, Amey Griffiths, Mary Griffiths, Elizabeth, Nancy Griffiths