

Henry Duke's
Will

In the name of God amen I Henry Duke of the County of Charles
City and Newover parish being in perfect health sense and memory thanks be unto
God for the same, but calling to mind mortality, do constitute and ordain this
my last Will and Testament in manner following, First I give my soul into the
hands of almighty God humbly beseeching him to be merciful to me in the hour
of death and day of Judgment, and as touching such worldly Estate as God has
been please to bless me with, I dispose of in manner and form ^{as} follows to wit.
My will and desire is that my body may be decently interred in the Orchard
with my family, if it be convenient to my executors hereafter named I desire

I desire that all my just debts and funeral charges may be paid. - Item I give and bequeath unto my son in law Benson Hopkins one negro man named Isham which he has now in his possession to him and his heirs forever. Item I give and bequeath unto my Niece Mary Marston Duke daughter of my brother Edward Duke dec'd one negro named Ned to her and her heirs forever. Item, all the residue of my Estate both real and personal I lend to my beloved wife Elizabeth Duke during her natural life, and after her decease my will and desire is that my Land and plantations shall descend to my Niece Mary Marston Duke to her and her heirs forever. My will and desire is that the residue of my Estate at the decease of my wife be equally divided between my son in law Benson Hopkins and my Niece Mary Marston Duke daughter of Edward Duke dec'd to them and their heirs forever. But in case either dies before the decease of my wife Elizabeth Duke the survivor is to have the whole forever. And Lastly I do nominate and appoint my wife Elizabeth Duke executrix, and my son in law executor of this my last will & Testament revoking and disannulling all other wills heretofore made by me. Witness my hand and seal this ninth day of December, one thousand

Wrote my hand and seal this ninth day of December, one thousand
seven hundred and eighty nine

signed, sealed, published and
delivered in the presence of, —

Samuel Pryor, Rich^d L. Lacy
John Walker, John Williams

Henry Duke 

At a monthly Court held for Charles City County on Thursday the sixteenth day
of July 1795 The afore written last Will and Testament of Henry Duke deceased
was proved by the oaths of Samuel Pryor and Richard L. Lacy two of the witnesses
thereto, and ordered to be recorded. And on the motion of Benson Hopkins one
of the executors therein named who made oath thereto as the law directs, and toge-
ther with William Southall and William Graves his securities entered into and
acknowledged their bond in the penalty of thirteen thousand Dollars conditioned
according to Law, Certificate is granted him for obtaining a probat in due form.
Liberty reserved to the executrix therein named to join in the probat when
she shall think fit.

Teste

Sturay Pryor &c