

Hand of the name of God amen. I John Ward of the County of Chesterfield
Will & County being in perfect mind and memory do constitute and appoint this
to be my last will and Testament viz.

My Primis I give to my beloved wife the use of my plantation, on which
I now live, including all the land I hold on James river. Together
with the negroes and stocks of all kinds, household and kitchen
furniture, with all the Implements of husbandry and the like
belonging, also my chaunc during her natural life, excepting such
legacies by this Will I shall make to my children; I also give to my
wife my whole right and property, in the plantation, slaves, stocks of
all kinds household furniture and Implements of husbandry, which
by my deceased Father's will is vested in me, untill my brother, George Ward
comes to the age of Twenty one, at which time by my Father's will he
is to take possession of the same, never the less on condition that my
wife shall stand chargeable with and be accountable for all my
debts as well contracted by me self as those I stand chargeable with.

and accounts for my Father, and also pay
legacies as by this my will shall be made known
Item I give to my son Seth when he shall arrive at the age of
Twenty one, my land on James river lying below the land of Leonard
that deceased to be divided from the other part of my land by a line
to be continued the same course as the said Leonard's dividing line
and more runs from Leonard Ward's south, not come to my line
to him my said son Seth and his heirs forever. I also give to
my said son at the age of Twenty one all my slaves, except such
as by this will I shall give to my wife and Daughters Lucy one
half of my stock of all kind, household furniture and implements
of husbandry which division my executors are desired to make, but
my wife shall die before my son arrives at the age of Twenty one, then
I give to my son all my estate of what nature and kind soever by the
former part of this my will devised to my wife for life, subject to the

I give to my son all my estate of what nature and kind soever by the
former part of this my will devised to my wife for life, subject to the
same conditions as my said wife stands subject to, but if my wife
is living at the time my son arrives to the age of twenty one I then give
to my said wife the use of five of my negro men and two women and
such she may choose from amongst all my slaves, also her key and
children, which said slaves I hereby empower her to divide by
will or otherwise, to be kept my children as she pleases.

Item I give to my Daughter Lucy when she ~~comes~~ arrives to the age of
seventeen or married the sum of one thousand pounds, also four neg-
ro girls to be chosen by my wife if alive, if not by my Daughter herself
but my will is that they shall not exceed 16 years of age nor shall
either of them have a child.

Item, provided my son Seth should die before he comes of age

My dear wife, I have given you the death of myself and my lands and tenements in condition that I pay my daughter Lucy one thousand pounds and also the one thousand by the former part of my will directed to her. I have also my dear wife now with child, and it is nice for my son should be made for such child in this my will. I give to the child my wife is now big with provided it shall prove a son and shall live to the age of Twenty one years, that part of my land below Leonard Woods tract by the former part of this my will given to my son Seth, to him the said unborn son and his heirs forever, also one half of all the slaves stock of all kinds and Imptiments of husbandry, which by this my will I have given to my son Seth, and my will is that if the son to be born shall live untill my son Seth comes of age then I give to my son Seth, one half of my upper Tract of Land, wherean I now live, with one half of my dwelling house and offices, and my wife is to continue possessor

born shall live untill my son Seth comes of age then I give to my son
Seth, one half of my upper tract of Land, wherein I now live with one
half of my dwelling house and offices, and my wife is to continue possessor
of the lower plantation untill my unborn son comes of age, but if my
said unborn son shall die between the time of my son Seth's coming
of age and his being of age, then my son Seth is to give up the half
of the upper plantation and houses, to my wife, and the the lower
plantation to my son Seth, and if my son Seth should die before
he comes of age, then I give to my said unborn son, all the estate of
what nature and kind soever, which by the former part of this will
I have given to my said son Seth, under the same conditions and
lyable to the same limitations, as before given to my said son Seth. My will
further is, that if both my sons shall live till the younger comes of
age, then my wife is to make choice of which of my sons plantation
she will live on and such choice being made, I give her the use

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during her life of half such plantation and houses thereon and
herby charge my other son, whose land she does not make charge
of with the sum of Twenty five pounds per annum to be paid to my
said wife during her life.

And if the child my wife is now big with shall prove a
Daughter and shall live to the age of sixteen, or shall marry, I give my
said unborn Daughter the sum of five hundred pounds one half of
the Legacy before given to my Daughter Lucy, also one half of the four
shares given my said Daughter Lucy and if both my said Daughters
be alive when my Daughter Lucy shall marry or arrive at the age
of sixteen, then my Daughter Lucy is to have but five hundred
pounds and the choice of two girls, and the other two to be chosen
by or for my said unborn Daughter when she shall be entitled
to her five hundred pounds as before given her by this clause of
my will and if my said son, Peter shall die before he comes of

to her five hundred pounds as before given her by this clause of
my will and if my said son, Seth shall die before he comes of
age, then I give to my said unborn Daughter Five hundred
pound, one half of the same my Brother Benjamin is to
pay, my Daughter Lucy, on consideration of my giving her
all my lands as before given, also I give to my said unborn
Daughter one half of all my negroes and other personal
estate before given to my Daughter Lucy, so that my two
Daughters shall have an equal fortune whereas I am indebted
on my other's estates accounts and for debts of my own contracting
to many persons, more money than I can raise at present without
disparaging or some part of my estate and if my creditors shall insist
on being paid before the money can be raised by the profits of my
estate, I do hereby in the fullest and most absolute manner.

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I empower my executors hereafter named to borrow if they can as much
money as will satisfy such demands, but if they cannot borrow it
to sell any part of my estate except the lands, or of my fathers estate
left to my brother Benjamin as by his my said Fathers will is subject
to his Little proportion in the same manner as my own estate so that no more
than an equal proportion of my Brothers estate be sold then of my own for
my fathers debts and Legacies but for satisfying Debts of my own con-
-ding no part of my Brothers estate be sold. I do also empower fully
and absolutely my executors to purchase any lands adjoining either the
upper or lower part of my tract of Land, and to charge my ^{estate} with the
purchase money and if any such purchase shall be made I direct
that the 'Laid shall be made to such of my sons whose tracts of land
such purchase shall join, that is to say if the land join the lower
part of my land it is to go to the person who shall inherit by
this my will such lower land, and if it join the upper part of my
land to the person who shall inherit by this my will such upper land.

part of my land it is to go to the person who shall inherit by
this my will such lower land, and if it joyn the upper part of my
land, to the person who shall inherit the upper part of my tract
reserving one half such purchase to my wife for her life, if such
purchase or purchases shall joyn the plantation my wife
shall make choice of, or if but one son the whole use of such
purchase, provided it joyns the lands left her after my son comes of age
and if I shall have no son live to the age of Twenty one then my wife
is to enjoy the use of all such purchases during her life and at her
Death I give such purchased lands to my Brother Benjamin
and his heirs he paying to my Daughter Lucy, or to both my
Daughters the whole amount of such purchase, further desiring
that my estate may not be appraised. I do hereby constitute and appoint
my loving wife Mary Ward, my Friend Robert Goode and James

Goode, and my Brother Benjamin Ward, (when he shall
arrive at the age of twenty, one) to be my executors to this last will
hereby making all former wills by one made, In Witness whereof
I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 23 Day of December,

Nathaniel Goode

Ben Ward Junr

Martha Goode

Amos Ward

Leth. Ward

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Thus by the sixth clause in this my Will (to which will this is
added as a codicil). I have made provision In case my wife
shall have a Daughter, My will is that if the child she is now
big with shall be a Daughter, and either my unborn Daughter
or my Daughter Lucy, shall die before they comes of age or
marry, then I give to the surviving Daughter at the period, and
manner in that clause mentioned the sum of one Thousand
pounds, also I subject my Brother Benjamin to pay to the

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big with shall be a Daughter, and either my unborn Daughter
or my Daughter Lucy, shall die before they comes of age or
marry, then I give to the surviving Daughter at the period and
manner in that clause mentioned, the sum of one Thousand
pounds, also I subject my Brother Benjamin to pay to the
surviving Daughter the sum of one Thousand pounds, on
the same condition that he is ordered to pay the same sum
to my Daughter Lucy by the fourth clause of my will.

Witness my hand and seal this 25th of October 1772.

Archibald Cary

Lethe Ward (L.S.)

Ben Ward Junr

Martha Goode

Ann Ward