

Thomas Beech will made this 20 day of July 1799
that I live my hol Estate to be divid between my sisters children
Nancy Dofy and Sy dy Brown children and after the Negroes
make crop on plantasion then that to be sold for the best price
to pay my debts and then sam and Prydy and Aggy tobacco
free and to live on land one her.

Thomas Beech

At a Court held for ~~Halifax County Virginia~~ ^{Halifax County Virginia} the 23rd day of September 1799.

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The foregoing writing purporting to be the will of Thomas Beech dec^d was
presented in Court - and thereupon James Lucas, Thomas Boyd, and John Atkins, all
of the said County being of lawful age and severally sworn on the holy Evange-
list of almighty God, deposed as follows. vizt. James Lucas, saith that he was
well acquainted with the hand writing of the said Thomas Beech dec^d - that
he lived with the said decedent seven years and often saw him write - and that
he verily doth believe, that the paper now exhibited to the Court is every
letter thereof in the hand writing of the said Thomas Beech. That the
said decedent produced to this deponent an Instrument of writing which he
saw and read before his death, and the deponent

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list of almighty God, deposed as follows: vizt. James Lucas, saith that he was
well acquainted with the hand writing of the said Thomas Beech dec^d - that
he lived with the said decedent seven years and often saw him write - and that
he verily doth believe, that the paper now exhibited to the Court is every
letter thereof in the hand writing of the said Thomas Beech. That the
said decedent produced to this deponent an Instrument of writing which he
called his last Will about eight or ten days before his death, and the deponent
doth believe this now produced to be the same instrument of writing.
And further he saith that the said decedent declared he was glad
that this deponent with others had come, that they might witness

the said Will - And that on account of same conversation which then took place on this subject the said Will was not Witnessed - And further saith not. - Thomas Boyd, saith, that he was present about eight or ten days before the death of Thomas Beech at the said Beech's house that the said Beech produced a paper which he read to this deponent and others and called the same his last will and Testament and said that he had wrote the same with his own hand - and this deponent is positive that the paper which was read contained the same words which are mentioned in the paper exhibited before the Court - and further saith not - John Atkinson saith, that he was well acquainted with the decedent Thomas Beech and his hand writing; that he believes the paper now exhibited as his last will is altogether written by the said Thomas Beech and that this deponent saw the said paper taken out of the breeches pocket of the said decedent, by Beverly Parks - dale whilst they were collecting his papers together - and further saith not when upon the said writing was ordered to be recorded as the last will and testament of the said Thomas Beech decd and on the motion of Beverly Parks dale who made oath according to law, and for reasons appearing to the Court, administration of the estate of the said Thomas Beech decd with his will aforesaid annexed is granted him, he giving security. Whereupon he with Thomas Boyd James Lucas John Atkinson and Caleb Lowme his securities entered into and acknowledged this bond in the presence of the Court.

which was read contained the same words which are mentioned in the papers exhibited before the Court — and further saith not — John Atkinson saith, that he was well acquainted with the decedent Thomas Beech and his hand writing, that he believes the paper now exhibited as his last will is altogether written by the said Thomas Beech and that this deponent saw the said paper taken out of the breeches pocket of the said decedent, by Beverly Parkside whilst they were collecting his papers together — and further saith not when from the said writing was ordered to be recorded as the last will and testament of the said Thomas Beech decd and on the motion of Beverly Parkside who made oath according to law, and for reasons appearing to the Court, ^{Certificate for obtaining letters of} administration of the estate of the said Thomas Beech decd with his will aforesaid annexed is granted him, he giving security. Whereupon he with Thomas Boyd James Lucas John Atkinson and Caleb Townes his securities entered into and acknowledged their bond in the penalty of fifty thousand dollars, conditioned as the law directs for that purpose.

Halifax County Virginia Wills 1798-1804

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Teste, John Wimberly C.H.C.

Truly recorded

File

Bryman Green D.C.H.

In the name of said deceased