WILL OF JAMES HILL, SENR

Hanover County, Virginia July 12, 1849

In the name of God Amen. I, James Hill of the County of Hanover, being in perfect mind and memory I do make this my last will and Testament, in manner and form as followeth. Item my wish and desire is that my wife Mary Hill shall have my home house Plantation with one half of all my negroes, dividing big ones and small ones. And all my horses, cattle hogs and crops of all kinds plantation utensils and kitchen furniture and carriage, during so long as she is my widow. My wish and desire is that my sons James Hill and Walker Hill, that they shall jointly act as my Executors and shall have the management of my Estate without giving any security in court as I have full confidence in them to do justice to all concerned. My wish is to give to my Daughter Sally Hill, who was by my first wife who went off contrary to my wish and desire and unknown to me marry Davis Timberlake, and by him Sally had three children namely Emily, Archibald and William Timberlake and then Sally, their mother was taken sick and died soon after the birth of her last child. I give my Daughter some time after she went away with Davis Timberlake to be married. I gave her a likely young negro fellow called Harry and some cattle which property I give to them and their heirs forever. I also give the three children of Davis Timberlake as above married one dollar to each of them in lawful money which is all I wish to give or mean to give them in any way whatever. If anyone of my children by my last wife should die without a child their portion or part of my estate shall descend back only to their mother's children or grandchildren.

My wish and desire is to give to my son William Hill my plantation called Thompsons, during his life not to be sold or parted with to any person whatever as it is a valuable tract of land I wish it to go to his lawful children and if he does not have any at his death, the estate shall go to his brothers or their heirs including Geo B. Reads children for their mothers share, Susan B. Read his sister. My wish and desire is that my son James Hill shall keep the plantation that I gave him possession of in the County of Henrico as his portion of land to be given him by me. I think my son James Hill has received his share of my negroes including their increase, but should he not be equal he must be made equal in the division. My wish is that one half of my negroes shall be equally divided between William Hill Newton Hills children for their fathers share James Hill if he has not already received his share with their increase Walker Hill and my Daughter Susan B. Read her children for their mothers share. My son William Hill has two negroes which must be accounted for. Robert the lame boy, I gave him for services he rendered me on the plantation. Newton Hill had three negroes during his life which must be accounted for in the division of his share which is to go to his children.

My son Walker Hill had three negroes which must be accounted for in the division. Geo B. Read the husband of my Daughter Susan B. Read had three negroes during his lifetime which must be accounted for in the division to his children for their mothers part of my negroes.

That part of the personal Estate that falls to my wife at her death must be equally divided among William Hill Newton Hill children for their fathers part. James Hill if he has not already received his share of the negroes with their increase. Walker Hill and Susan B. Read children for their mothers part. Except my household and kitchen furniture which I wish equally divided between William Hill and Walker Hill.

My wish and desire is that at my wife's death my son Walker Hill shall, have my home house plantation, him and his heirs forever.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal, this twelfth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty nine.