

## WILL OF JOHN CLAY

In the name of God Amen. I John Clay of Hanover County, being very sick & weak, but of a disposing mind, and sound memory, doe make and ordain this to be my last will and Testament in manner and form following Imprimis. First of all I recommend my soul to God that gave it, hoping that through the mediation and sufferings of my Lord and saviour to Receive free pardon of all my sins, and my Body to be decently buried at the Discretion of my Executors hereafter mentioned. Item, I desire my stock of horses and cattle may be sold and all my just debts be paid. Item, my will and Desire is that all my estate, Real and personal be kept together untill my eldest son George Clay shall arrive to the age of twenty years old except my loving wife should intermarry betwixt this and then. If she should marry, then in that case, I desire all my estate real and personal may be delivered up to my Executors. Except such part, as I shall hereafter mention for her use. Item I lend to my loving wife Elizabeth Clay, after my son arrives to the age above mentioned or the time she does intermarry if before, The use of my plantation at Euphrain in Henrico County together with seven negroes Charles, Judea Cesar left her by her Father's will, Sam, Paul, Chester, Bod and Fanny during her natural life and also two feather Beds and Furniture also a child's part of stock that may be at the time she marries, or my son comes to the age above mentioned. And after her decease, all the above lent to be



and equally divided among all my children, as shall be alive at that day, and to their heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath to my son George Clay two negroes (to wit) Hanover Bod and Ben to him and to his heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter Sally Clay two negroes (to wit) Sus and Frank to her and to her heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my Daughter Molley Clay two negroes (to wit) Annasa and little Judea to her and her heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath to my son John Clay two negroes (to wit) Daniel and Arther to him and his heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath to my son Henry Clay two negroes (to wit) James and little Sam to him and his heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my son Porter Clay two negroes (to wit) Dick & Harry to him and his heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath to the child my wife is now pregnant with if it should live Equal with my other children, out of my other negroes not mentioned above to its heirs and assigns forever.

Item, my will and desire is that all the rest of my Estate Except land should be Equally divided amongst all my children and if any should die before they arrive, the males to the age of twenty years, and the Females if not married to the age of Eighteen years, that then their part should be Equally divided amongst the Surviving Children, and if any of my children should loose any of their negroes above mentioned in their lotts that then such loss is to be made good out of my Estate to them and their heirs forever.

Item my will and desire is that the land I now live on, or any part thereof may not be sold untill my son George Clay arrives to the age herein mentioned, or untill my wife intermarries, that then it may be sold by my Exeors and the money arising by the sale be equally disposed of among my sons or to be laid out in land at their descretion and be equally divided amongst my sons as they come to the age of twenty years to them and their heirs forever.

Item I desire my estate may not be appraised, and I doe appoint my loving wife Elizabeth Clay my Executrix and Colo. Nathaniel Wilkerson and Mr. Richard Chapman Exeors. of this my last will and Testament Revoking all other wills heretofore made. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 4th day of November 1780.

Signed Sealed and published.

John Clay (Seal)

In the presence of

Jno. Starke Senr.

Charles Wingfield

Isaac Perrin

Charles Bridgwater

At a Court held for Hanover County on Thursday the 7th day of February 1782. This last will and Testament of John Clay deed. was offered to proof by Richard Chapman an Executor therein named and was proved by the oath of John Starke Genta. Isaac Perrin witnesses thereto, and also by the oath of the said Executor and is ordered to be Recorded. Test W. Pollard Junr. C. H. C. A Copy test William Pollard C. H. C.—Contributed by Margaret S. Mosby, Dallas, Texas.