

In the Name of God. Amen

I James Mercer being very sick in Body but of perfect Mind and Memory praise be therefore given unto Almighty God to Ordain Constitute & Appoint this my last Will & Testament. First and Principally I command my Soul into the Hands of Almighty God, hoping through the Merit Death & Passion of my Saviour Jesus Christ to have full and free Pardon of all my Sins. And my Body I commit to the Earth to be decently Buried at the Discretion of my executors hereafter named, And as touching all my Temporal Estate which it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I Give & Bequeath as followeth. First Principally it is my Will & Desire that all my Debts & Funeral Charges be paid and discharged. Item I Give & Bequeath unto my loving Wife Mary Mercer her first Choice of the Beds, and my daughter Mary Mercer to have the second Choice in the Beds. Item I Give & Bequeath unto my loving Wife Mary this Plantation whereon I now live and all the Lands thereunto belonging during her natural Life. And after her Decease I do give & bequeath the said Lands & plantation as before mentioned unto my loving Son John Mercer and his Heirs for ever. Item It is my Will & Desire that my other two Beds be divided, one to my Daughter Ann, and the other to my daughter Martha. Item It is my Will and Desire my last Survey of Land which joins to the said Divisions whereon I now live be equally divided between my two Sons Robert and James Mercer my Son Robert to have the first Choice to them my said Sons and their Heirs for ever. Item It is my Will & Desire that my Survey of Lands lying on the Gravelly Run and Cypress Swamp beginning in the fork between the said Gravelly Run and Cypress Swamp containing One Hundred Acres of Land unto my Son Thomas Mercer and his Heirs for ever, And if any of my said Sons should die before they come to Age of Twenty one Years or lawfully begotten of their Body then the said Lands is before mentioned I give unto my Younger Son which is not named Item I Give & Bequeath unto my two Daughters Elizabeth and Patience two Young Heifers to each of said Daughters And to my Daughter Sarah three Sheep. Item It is my Will & Desire that the rest of the Residue of my personal

estate goods & chattels whatsoever the horses excepted and my loving Wife during her natural Life, and after her decease to be equally divided between my Children.

Item I Give unto Bequith unto my Son Robert the several Horses, and one of the small saddles and Bridle.

Item I Give & Bequith unto my loving Wife my other Horses & Wear, desiring her to give to my Son James one of them which she thinks fit at the time of his going away from her.

Item I Give unto my younger Son two Pewter Dishes and one Iron Pot.

Item I Give unto my loving Son in Law Robert Williamson one Fichon Jacket & Brutes. And the rest of my Wearing Cloths unto my two Sons Robert & James to be equally divided between them.

And lastly I do Appoint my loving Wife Mary Mercer my whole & sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament revoking & disannulling all other Will & Testament heretofore made by me. In Witness whereof I have put my Hand & Seal to this my last Will & Testament this Eleventh day of December 1720.

Signed Sealed in Presence of James I. Mercer. Seal  
Us. William Kinchen. Arthur Purcell. mark

At a Court held for Isle of Wight County June. 24. 1734

The last Will & Testament of James Mercer deceased was presented in Court by Mary Mercer the Executrix therein named who made Oath she was according to Law, and being proved by the Oath of Wm. Kinchen Gent one of the Witnesses thereto the other Witness being Dead. And the said Will was admitted to Record.

Teste James Baker Cl. Co.  
Cera theodotus Teste J. Baker