

✓ I WILL NAME OF JOHN WILL

I Abraham Venable of County Warwick in Lincoln County being
in health of Body & of Perfect Mind & memory thanks be given to
Almighty God & calling to mind the Mortality of my Body and
Perceiving that it is appointed for all men ^{men} to die Do make & ordain
this my Last Will & Testament that is to say, Principally & first of
all I Recommend my soul into the Hands of God that gave it, &
my Body I Recommend to the Earth to be decently Buried at the
Discretion of my Executors nothing Doubting but at the General
Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the Mighty Power of
God, & Touching such Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased
God to bless me, I give & dispose of the same in the following man-
ner & form, First I Will that all my Lawful Debts & Funeral Expen-
ces be paid & Discharged, & that Each of my Children to whom any
part of my Estate is now given do pay their Respective parts of my
Debts & Expenses to be paid in money in proportion to what they
Receive of my ^{estate} ~~estate~~ after my decease (said only accepted) and
that their Respective parts be subject to pay Each of their respective
respective parts of Debts & Expenses I Warrant & Command

son John Venable my Seven Hundred & Eighty Three acres of land
with the plantation whereon I now live Situate lying & being on both
sides the south ^{lane} river in Louisa County, then & divided of land, be the sa-
me more or less, to him the said John Venable & to his Heirs & Assigns forever, &
I also give & bequeath unto my son the said Venable my four Negroes (viz) Jack
David, Daniel, & my Negro Girl Joyce & their increase, to him & his heirs
& assigns forever, & I also give to my son the said Venable one Feather Bed, Bedstead &
furniture which of my Bed he shall chuse, my young Bay mare & grey horse
bolt & that he keep the sorrel horse heed all heretofore verbally given him, & likewise
give to my son John three cows & calves to his choice out of my stock, & six young
cattle not under Two Years Old, Ten sheep, my copper still & brass kettle all my
books both stiched & bound all my Kitchen lumber & Cider baskes, & it is my Will
that the said son John doth not pay above Twenty pounds worth Money of my debts
or less than that I say if his properties doth not amount to so much, anything
above mentioned to the contrary Notwithstanding, I the said I give & bequeath
unto my Daughter Mary Sherman Wife to Charles Moreman & to her
Heirs & Assigns forever, my Negro Boy Ben, I the said I give & bequeath unto
my son Nathaniel Venable & to his Heirs & Assigns forever, my four Negroes,

my son Nathaniel Comable & to his Heirs & Assigns forever, my four Negroes,
Isaac, Phillis & Two Children Malley & Johann Children of Phillis, he paying fifteen
Pounds Good Money to my Daughter Mary Moreman besides his proportion of
the remaining Value Towards my Debt as above Mentioned but if any of these negre
shall die before he is ^{to} disposed of them then in that case he to be excused from pay-
ing their Fifteen Pounds & I am to give & require the same to my son Nathaniel & my
Daughter Anne King Wife to Philip King & to their respective Heirs & Assigns for-
ever, my Three Negroes Peter, Sarah & Sam, Child of Sarah & their Increase, to be
divided between them in the following Manner, that is to say my son James
to have one third part, & my Daughter Anne to have two third parts, &
being unwilling to part the 3 Negroes I am Desires, if it should suit my son
& Daughter, but not to compel them, that my son & daughter do take all these three
Negroes & pay to my Daughter Anne Two third part of the Value of the
three Negroes according to my Appraisalment as they can agree & whereas I
have Undertaken to bring up Sarah Tucker, an orphan Child, it is my op-
pinion that my son & daughter do take care of her as far as may be & I have I say
my son in law Philip King the Ballance of his Old account being thirty
Pounds & four pence half penny.

I Give unto my Daughter Elizabeth Morton wife of Josiah Morton
to have & hold unto her & her heirs forever, my Negro Girl Judith & her Increase, I will that
my Negro Woman Hannah may go to which of my Children she shall choose
I will that my Negro man Tom may go to which of my Children he shall choose
or to be sold at his Negro Election, if he can be sold for his Value in the Term of my
Estate (or one of them) I Give & Bequeath unto my son William Venable my
Surveyors Instrument now in his Possession, I Give unto Sarah Tucker
Ten pounds Great Money, I will that my Crop of Tobacco on hand at my Death after
Cloathing my Negroes according to the Season the remainder may be apply-
ed as far as necessary, Towards paying my Debts & the Legacy left to be paid
in Money, & that the Division of my Negroes may be left on the plantation for
the support of my son John & his Negroes & stock a proportionable part
of the Corn wheat & Oats then Remaining, all the Rest of my Estate of what
^{Nature} ~~kind~~ soever, I Give & Bequeath to my wife the Venable & my Three Daugh-
ters, Ann King, Elizabeth Morton, & Mary Mooreman, to be Equally Divided
among them, in such manner as they shall agree, or in their disagree-
ment, the same to be done according to the Rules of Law, & the Condition I ap-
point my Friends Mr. Maddy Thomson & my sons Abraham Venable
Nathaniel Venable, Hugh Lewis Venable, & the Venable Executors of this my Last

Nathaniel Venable, though I was Venable & the Venable Estate, of this most
Will & Testament, & I do appoint my Friend M^r. Patrick Henry my Executor
& do hereby revoke all former Wills by me heretofore made Ratifying this my
Last Will & Testament, In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand
& seal this Eleventh Day of April one thousand seven hundred & sixty
Eight.

Signed Sealed Published & Declared
In Presence of us

James Tate
Low Natham

Abraham Venable

James Arnd
Jas Ryans
Jas Lea

At a Court held for Louisa County Aug 9. 1769
The Will & Testament was this Day in open Court proved by the
Oath of three of the Witnesses thereto & by the Court Oath Record
Done
John Nelson C. L. C.