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James
Clarke's
Will

In The Name of God Amen The second of May one thousand seven hundred and Eighty Five. I James Clarke of The County of Mecklenburg being of perfect mind and memory tho in a lowe State of body and knowing the certainty of Death and The uncertainty of This Transitory life knowing when Death calls I must go hence do Think proper to make constitute and ordain This my last Will and Testament in manner and form as followeth, avoking & annulling by These presents any or all other Will or Wills either by word or writing before The date hereof First I recommend my soul to God who gave it me in hopes of pardon and Aremission of all my Sin's past most humbly desiring forgiveness for the same First I desire That all my Just debts Be paid out of a collection of Tobacco and money that is due me with The Assistance of the crop of Tobacco now on the plantation, as well as money arising from such a part of my Estate as shall be posed for sale The balance of such money if any be to be Equally divided between my wife and Children Here

exposed for sale the balance of such money if any be
to be Equally divided between my wife and Children Item
I lend unto my beloved Wife Hannah Clarke three negro
Neg Tom. and Reac hell during her Natural life, and a
bald face small horse black face filly I had of Allen Young
the Choice of Three Cows & Calfs the Choice of Twelve Hogs
the best feather Bed & furniture also all the House hold and
kitchen furniture that is not mentioned in the Will and
at her death to be Equally divided between my Children Item
I give and bequeath to my Daughter Sally Clarke Three Negroes
Jane, Bob. & Lady. to her and her heirs forever also a feather
Bed and Furniture Item I give and bequeath unto
my Daughter Elizabeth Clarke two Negroes Cuffy and
Jude to her and her heirs forever also a small Cows Commonly
called huns and a feather Bed and furniture Item I give and bequeath
to my Son Burden Clarke my Tract of Land Containing
four hundred and ten Acres. to him and his heirs forever, also
two Negroes Peter and Pompey and a small Mare Commonly
called his out of which Legacy he is to pay to my Daughter

new face small horse black face fifty I had of Allen Young
the Choice of Three Cows & Calves the Choice of Twelve Hogs
the best feather Bed & furniture also all the House hold
kitchen furniture that is not mentioned in the Will and
at her death to be Equally divided between my Children I give
I give and bequeath to my Daughter Sally Clarke Three Negroes
Jane, Bob, & Lady, to her and her heirs forever also a good
feather Bed and Furniture I give and bequeath unto
my Daughter Elizabeth Clarke two Negroes Cuffy and
Gude to her and her heirs forever also a good Coat Commonly
called hers and a feather Bed and furniture I give and bequeath
to my Son Burden Clarke my Tract of Land Containing
four hundred and ten Acres, to him and his heirs forever, also
two Negroes Peter and Pompey and a good Mare Commonly
called his out of which Legacy he is to pay to my Youngest
Daughter now living two hundred and fifty pounds Lawful
money of Virginia to be paid to her at Sixteen Years of Age
(to her and her heirs forever) it is my will and desire that
my

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my beloved Wife Hannah Clarke be allowed The privilege of living on, clearing and cultivating any part of my Tract of Land lying on The North Side of a Small Branch Running near William Rowlets using Spring and emptying into Latens Creek Near The Ford between the said Rowlets and Carter Clarks during her natural life it is my desire The Negroes continue on The plantation until the first of January ensuing at which Time adivision of The same to take place it is my desire that my Riffle watch and Stock not mentioned in The will be Sold, and The money Arising to be Equally divided between my wife and Children I do appoint my beloved wife Hannah Clarke and Allen Young Executors of This my last will and Testament I Witness Whereof I do hereunto Set my hand and Seal This day and date Above mentioned

Test

James Clark

JS

11th before my will is signed I desire That my youngest Daughter shall have the Child that my Negro woman Tachel is now supposed to be with Child with - 4. 1. 1.

posed to be with Child with, or to have choice of any one of The
said Negroe. woman's children that may be born before This say-
said youngest Daughter may arrive to the years of sixteen
Interimination before a signed

John Bevill

Robert Buntin

John Farrar

At Court held for Mecklenburg County The 14th day of November 1785
This Will was proved by the oaths of John Bevill Robert Buntin
and John Farrar the witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded and
on the motion of Hannah Clark and Allen Young The execs therein
named who made oath thereto and together with George Farrar and
Robert Buntin their securities entered into and Acknowledged their
bond in the penalty of four Thousand pounds Conditioned as the
Law directs Certificate was granted them for obtaining a probat
There of in due form

Teste

John Brown Cl. Cuv