

In the name of God Amen. This twentieth day of
September one thousand seven hundred and seventy
one I Richard Willson of St. James Parish in Mecklen-
burg County in Virginia having my understanding
and memory continued to me thanks be given to
Almighty God I call to mind the mortality of my
body and know that it appointed for all men I
therefore make and ordain this my last will and
Testament, that is to say, principally & first of all
I recommend my soul unto the hands of God that
gave it and my body to the earth to be buried in a
quiet christian like manner at the discretion of
my executors and as touching such worldly estate
as it hath pleased Almighty God to enable me to
acquire of I give leave and dispose of in the
following manner, viz, I give and bequeath
that my land negroes or any other part of my estate
should be sold (on being needed to make the most of it)
to pay my debts if they can't be payed without -
except my negroes but if it is my desire he may
not be sold and that he should always be well used
but not kept in idleness while he is in my power

not be sold and that he should always be well used
but not kept in idleness while he is able to work. If
he should desire to be sold and a good master &
mistress can be found for him that would not part
him under an Oath to be whipped & overdone
with hard work he may be sold not else. I owe
some debts which I desire may be paid if my
estate be sufficient viz. To Mr. Thos. an Ironmaster
or his heirs who in the year 1739 I think did live
in Wales To Mr. Edward Night an Ironmaster in
Merchiston. To Jonathan Harriott an Ironmaster
living in Shrewsbury in Worcestershire can give an
account of them & their heirs if dead) I also owe to
Mr. Dr. Wilson an Ironmaster who did live in
Shrewsbury in Wales in the year 1739 but afterwards
removed to the city of Worcester where I suppose his
heirs live if he be dead the sum of ten pounds in
Porting sent to Michael Reynolds twenty pounds
Porting he followed the trade of a frazier in Shrewsbury
in Worcestershire in the year 1739

Thus It is my Will and desire my wellbeloved wife

should have a comfortable maintenance out of my estate if it
sufficient after my debts are paid till her death if it
don't marry but if she marries it as my will & desire
beloved son and heir Richard Wilton who is now born
at a store kept at Joⁿ. M. Gutchers in this County
should take into his possession and hold and enjoy
what was allotted for my wives maintenance with
every other part of my estate that is left after the
payment of my debts for the benefit of him & his
heirs for ever. But if my son John Richard Wilton
should die unmarried and before my wife then it
will my beloved wife should have the use of my estate
till the day of her death if she don't marry but if it
marries it as my will my estate should be equally
divided and that one half of the same should be given
to each of my wives brothers children as my wife shall
mention immediately after her marriage which be-
come before sufficient evidence if she gives security
that those names she mentions shall have it as for
death as my will she should have the use of it to
life. The other half I give to the eldest child
living (or to his or her heirs) of my Sister Lydia
in England now living in the town of Walsley

living (or to see of her hair) of my father by sea
in England now living in the town of Lichfield
Staffordshire. Directions may be had of Mr. [unclear]
Attorney of Lichfield.

And I do constitute make and ordain my wife
wife executrix and my beloved son Richard Wilton
the said son James being executors of this my last
will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and seal the day & year above written.

Published & declared to be the
last will & testament by Rich^d
Wilton in our presence with
all his requests we attest the
same.

Richard Wilton

James Gray

Philip Brouderlay

John Schuster

At a court held for Mecklenburg County the 11th day of Dec^r
The Will was proved by the oath of Philip Brouderlay a Witness
therein and James Gray one of the other Witnesses being absent
he said Philip was sworn & dep^d that he saw the same.

James being outside his name as a witness to the said
Will in the presence of the testator whereupon the said
Will was ordered to be recorded. And on the motion of
Richard Wilson one of the executors therein named who
made oath thereof and together with Benjamin
Meredith and George Tarry his securities entered into
an acknowledged their bond in the penalty of two
hundred thousand pounds, conditioned as the law in
these parts was granted him for obtaining a
probate of the said Will in due form. And Frances
Wilson widow of the testator and the executrix named
therein not being satisfied with the provision made
for her thereby personally appeared in Court and
declared that she would not accept or take the
legacies to her given and bequeathed or any part
thereof and did renounce all benefit and advantage
which she might claim by the said Will & also the
benefits of the Beneficiary thereof.

Teste

John Brown Clerk