

Glory be to God Amen. I, Thomas Gedwin of Nanssemend County, kneeling the uncertainty of life & the certainty of death, do make and declare this to be my last will & testament as followeth:

Items. I give, to my well beloved wife Martha Gedwin my new dwelling plantation, ^{houses and} out houses my mill & all the appurtenances, the one halfe the orchard and halfe the land purchased of Thomas Jordan, I say unto my beloved wife Martha Gedwin during her natural life and after her decease then to my son Thomas Gedwin & to his Male heirs forever and for want of such heirs then to my son William Gedwin & his heirs.

Item, I give the other halfe of the land purchased of Thomas Jordan and halfe my orchard to my son Thomas Gedwin and to his male heirs forever, and for want of such to return as aforesaid.

Item, I give to my son Joseph Gedwin and his two sons Joseph & Thomas the plantation houses & orchard whereon he lives and land purchased of Mr Richard Prestwood excepting sixty acres thereof for the use of the plantation aforesaid for firewood and fencing, I say unto my son Joseph Gedwin and his two aforesd. sons and the heirs male of their bodys or the survivor of them forever, and the sixty acres aforesd. to take its length along Col. Pitts' line to the mel

Item, I give to my son Edmond Gedwin the plantation and lands whereon he now lives purchased of Mr. Scott and of Mr. Butler to him and to his heirs forever.

Item, I give the land & plantation situate on the South side the Indian Creek purchased of Walter Beasley and John Bryant, with all houses & other appurtenances unto my son Samuel Gedwin and his heirs forever.

Item, I give to my son William Gedwin one hundred acres of land purchased of Henry Johnson and Barnaby Makiviney lying upon the North side of his Brother Thomas Gedwin's land and likewise Two hundred acres of land parcell of a Greater tract purchased of Mr. _____ and his choice thereof, I say unto my son William Gedwin and to his heirs forever, as also one small parcell more lying betwixt Bunsley's line & my great pasture swamp.

Item, I give the remaining part, being four hundred acres purchased of Mr. _____ unto my two daughters Elizabeth & Martha to be equally divided to them and each of their heirs forever.

Item, I give, all that parcell of land which I purchased of William Carter and that also which I purchased of Mr Joseph Ashley both of whom unto my son James Gedwin & to his heirs forever.

Item, I give all that plantation and land upon black creek unto my daughter Mary Gedwin and her heirs forever and my will and mind is that what stock of cattle and hogs do belong to that plantation may be equally divided between my daughter & my daughter Mary and my Son William and James equally.

Item. As touching the remaining part of my estate both reavall & personall of what nature quality or condition soever it may be I give the use thereof to my well beloved wife Martha Gedwin, during her natural life and after her decease I give the same, if any to my three youngest children viz: William, James and Mary equally to be divided amongst them or the survivor of them forever.

Lastly, I do ordain nominate and appoint my two sons Samuel Gedwin & William Gedwin to be my Executors of this my last will and testament hereby revoking and annulling all former and other will or wills and this to be my only last will & Testament.

In testimony and witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and fix my seal this third day of May Anne Demi, one thousand seven hundred and twelve.

Copy of
Will of
Thomas
Gedwin

Examined

Item. As touching the remaining part of my estate both reavall & personall of what nature quallity or condition soever it may be I give the use thereof to my well beloved wife Martha Godwin, during her natural life and after her decease I give the same, if any to my three youngest children viz: William, James and Mary equally to be divided amongst them or the survivor of them for ever.

Lastly, I do hereby nominate and appoint my two sons Samuel Godwin & William Godwin to be my Executors of this my last will and testament hereby revoking and annulling all former and other will or wills and this to be my only last will & Testament.

In testimony and witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and fix my seal this third day of May Anno Domini, one thousand seven hundred and twelve.

Signed sealed, published
and delivered by ye Testator
to his last will & testament
in the presence of us

Thos. Godwin, (SEAL)

Bar: Keene,

John X his mark Gray

James X his mark Snowden

James Webb

John X his mark Kinder

At a Court continued and held for Nansemond County May 27th 1714.

The last will & Testament of Thomas Godwin dec'd, was presented in Court by Samuel Godwin & William Godwin, the Executors therein named, who made oath thereto and being proved by the oaths of Banaby Keene, John Gray, James Snowden & James Webb, four of the witnesses thereto, is admitted to record, and on motion of the said Samuel Godwin & William Godwin & their performing what is usual in such cases, certificate is granted them for obtaining a probate thereof in due form.

Test--- W. Ragdale, Dpty, C. Cur.

Truly recorded--- Test-- Michl. Archer Cl. Cur.

A copy: Teste, Peter B. Prentis, Clerk.

VIRGINIA

In the Clerk's Office of Nansemond County Circuit Court, the 13th day of April, 1918.
The foregoing Copy of Will with certificates thereon was produced by Miss Mildred M. Holladay to the Clerk of said Court and on her application is recorded anew, the Will Book from which the same was copied having been destroyed by the burning of the Clerk's Office and the records on the 7th day of February, 1866.

Teste; G. E. Bunting, Clerk.
By, Ruby V. Benton D.C.