

In the Name of God Amen April the 12<sup>th</sup> 1756 I Benjamin Ball in the County of Norfolk in the Colony of Virginia being very Sick and Weak of body but of perfect Mind and Memory Thanks be to God for Calling to Mind the Mortality of My body and Knowing that it is appointed for all Men once to die do Make and ordain this to be My last Will and Testament that is to say principally and first of all I give and recommend My Soul into the hands of God who first gave it Me and for My body I recommend to the Earth to be buried in a Christian like and decent Manner 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 and as touching Such Worldly Estate wherein it hath pleased God to bless Me in this Life, I give and Dispose of it in the following Manner and form —

Item I give to My loving wife Sarah Ball the use of My plantation where on I now live and houses during her Natural Life. Not debarring of My Son Willis Ball any reasonable Liberty of the Same. Likewise I give to My loving wife of a Negro Girl Named Nan during My wife's Natural Life then to My Son Willis Ball & his heirs for ever.

Item I give to My loving wife Sarah Ball one Mare called Phillis with her Increase to her and her heirs for ever Likewise abed and furniture —

Item I give to My Son Willis Ball one Negro Girl Named Phillis with her Increase to him and his heirs for ever and Likewise after his Mothers Decease a Negro Girl Named Nan she and her Increase to him and his heirs for ever Likewise a bed and furniture to him and his heirs for ever likewise a horse called Span with a bridle and Saddle to him and his heirs for ever likewise his coat of arms.

Item I Give to My Loving Wife Sarah Ball a Desk and Looking Glass during  
her Life

Item I Leave My Negro fellow Jeffery to be Sold by My Executors and the Money  
to be paid to the orphans that is to say to the Estate of Lemuel Miller Deceased

Item and all My other Estate Not Given I Give Equally to be divided between  
My Loving Wife Sarah Ball and My Loving Son Willis Ball all both  
Real and personal to them and their heirs for ever and I leave appoint  
and ordain My Loving Wife Sarah Ball Executor and My Loving Son Willis  
Ball Executor of this My Last Will and Testament Disallowing revoking  
and Disanuling all Maner of former wills and Testaments by Me at  
any time afore mentioned as witnesses My hand and Seal this day and year

Above written  
Assigned Seals and Delivered  
in presence of Us  
Test William Bowin

Mary <sup>bet</sup> Etheridge

Sarah <sup>mark</sup> Lumming

Sarah Ball