

In the Name of God Amen Benjamin Swelling of the
County of Portsmouth in the County of Norfolk in Virginia I being
Sick but in Perfect Sound Sense and Memory Praised be Almighty God for I have
thought it necessary to put my Estate and Affairs in Order as follows First I give and
Bequeath my Precious and Immortal Soul to God and the Lord Jesus Christ that give
it me and my Body to be decently Buried in the Earth as my Executors hereafter
mentioned shall think proper and my Worldly Estate I give in Manner and
form as followeth - Item I give and Bequeath unto my Beloved Wife Isabella
Swelling the Use of the Plantation whereon I now live with the Houses and
Appurtenances thereto during her natural Life or Widow hood but not to sell nor
Convey any thing but what shall be necessary for bringing up my Children
the use of all my Negroes during her widowhood or till I shall hereafter give
them to the use of my Children also all the use of all my moveable Estate
Within Doors and without (except such things which she can most conveniently
spare to sell and pay my Debts) I give her during her said Widowhood -
Item, I give and Bequeath unto my son Benjamin Best Swelling the Plantation
whereon I now live at the Marriage or Decease of my abovesaid Wife Isabella
Swelling also unto my son Benjamin Best Swelling the Plantation

Whome I now live at the Marriage or Decease of my abovesaid Wife I shall
Selling also one Negro boy named Cesar to him and his Heirs forever —
Item I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Leticia Sewelling one Negro boy
Named Joe to her and her heirs forever Immediately after the Marriage or Decease
of my abovesaid Wife — Item I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter M.
Sewelling one Negro girl named Margaret (or Peg) with all the Increase of
Negro to her and her Heirs forever at the day of Marriage —

Item My Will and desire is that at the Marriage or decease of my Wife my Two
Daughters Elizabeth Sewelling and Lydia Sewelling shall have such a part of my
that are set off to my children as shall be by two honest Neighbours by thought
their part of Estate equal to the part above given to my two Daughters Leticia
Sewelling and then all the Test of my Negroes with their Increase that shall be
before given away to be equally divided between my Four Daughters Viz Leticia
Elizabeth and Lydia Sewelling with their after Increase to them and their
Heirs And as for all my Moveable Estate that is to be found after the
Decease of my Wife and my Just debts paid my Will and desire is that

Mr. be equally divided among my four children Viz Benjamin Best Swelling Lettie
Swelling Mary Swelling Elizabeth Swelling and Lydia Swelling & their heirs forever
I also nominate Appoint and Ordain my Loving Wife Isabella Swelling and my
trusty friend Henry Best my sole Executor & Executrix of this my Last Will and
Testament Revoking and Disallowing all former and other Will or Wills by me
made but Ratifying Allowing and Confirming this to be my Last Will and
Testaments In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and
my Seal this ^{1st} ~~10th~~ ^{1st} day of April One Thousand Seven Hundred and

Benjamin Swelling Seal.

Sixty Six

Witness

Wm Bailey

Lewis Swelling

Elizabeth ^{his} ~~mark~~ ^{mark}

March Court 1773 Proved &c as by Order Book.