

Thomas
Lankford
Will

In the Name of God Amen, I Thomas Lankford of Southampton County Virginia
being sick and weak of body, but of sound perfect and Disposing mind and memory and
calling to mind the uncertainty of this Transitory life & knowing that is appointed for
all men to die, do think proper to make this my Last Will & Testament in manner
and form following to Wit

I give and bequeath unto my dear and loving wife Elizabeth Lankford the use profits and ad-
vantages of the plantation and lands whereon I now live to include all the lands I bought
of William Hobday and at Allbrighton Whitley supposed to contain two hundred thirty-
seven acres also my negro man Bramfield Sambo boy, James negro woman Pat
and Pen, one bay mare, one filly and one old horse called Beck, sixteen head of
the best of my horned cattle, sixteen of the best of my sheep all my hogs
all my gear & household all my household & kitchen furniture plantation im-
plements and tools of all kinds, also a sufficient part of my crop of every kind
bark and salt for the support of her and her family from the time of my death
down untill the end of the year in which she hath made a crop, then she may have the
whole of the above & land her for and during the term of her natural life as a widow
and no longer I likewise give her one barrel of Brandy.

Also I Give devise and Bequeath to my Son Oloha Lankford The plantation and

Also I Give devise and Bequeath to my Son Oloha Sankford The plantation and
Lands which I bought of Wade Mountfortt supposed to contain one hundred forty
Acres likewise the lands I bought of William Glover, called the orchard tract containing
by estimation one hundred acres also one other tract called the Island Land supposed
to contain eighty acres which I likewise bought of William Glover the whole comprized
bounded and described as by the said Wade Mountfortt did and Wm Glover
two deeds to me is severally separately and distinctly expressed, also my hun-
ting Gun anyriding Saddle and bridle, as much money as shall be sufficient
to build him a house on his plantation of the size and equally as good as the one
in which I now dwell, being that nearest the road with a ten foot shed there
instead of eight feet likewise one cow and calf of one heifer which I do now may
be kept for him on his plantation to him and to his Heirs and assigns forever.

Also I Give devise and Bequeath to my Son Pifer Sankford The plantation plants
I bought of William Barrett wherein James Wilson now lives containing by esti-
mation One hundred and fifty acres bounded and described as by the said Barrett
did to me is declared and expressed to him and to his Heirs and assigns forever.
I also Give him my Squirrel Gun.

Also I Give devise and Bequeath to my Son Pifer Sankford after the death or marriage
of my wife the plantation and lands wherein I now live comprizing the lands I bought

bounded and described as by the said Wade Mountford and and a grove
two deeds to me is severally separately and distinctly expressed, also my Gun
long Gun my riding Saddle and bridle, as much money as shall be sufficient
to build him a house on his plantation of the size and equally as good as the one
in which I now dwell, being that nearest the road with a ten foot shed there
instead of eight feet likewise one cow and calf of one heifer which I possess may
be kept for him on his plantation to him and to his Heirs and assigns forever.

Also I Give devise and Bequeath to my Son Jesse Lankford the plantation place
I bought of William Barrett wherein James Wilson now lives containing by com-
mutation One hundred and fifty acres bounded and described as by the said Barrett

deed to me is declared and expressed to him and to his Heirs and assigns forever.
Also Give him my Squirrel Gun.

Also I Give devise and Bequeath to my Son Jesse Lankford after the death or marriage
of my wife the plantation and lands wherein I now live comprising the land I bought
of Mr. H. B. Day supposed to be ten acres and the land I bought of Albrighton Whitley sup-
posed to contain Two hundred & Twenty seven acres separately and distinctly bounded
and described as by the said H. B. Day and Albrighton Whitley and to me for the
same is expressed likewise my copper still with all furniture to him & to his heirs and
assigns forever.

Also, I Give and bequeath to my niece Mary Wahne one negro Girl called Judy to her and her heirs and assigns forever.

Also, Whereas my friend Shadrach Lewis hath kindly promised to be assisting to my Wife by coming at least twice in the week to order and direct her negroes in their business and to see that they do their duty, as negroes ought to do & also to extend his fatherly care to my children, by taking due care, as well of their education as of their Estate, and as the said services and care if faithfully attended and performed will not only be troublesome but will interfere with his own business, In consideration whereof I Give the s^d Shadrach Lewis the use and labour of my negro boy Caesar untill my son Eliza Sanford arrives to the age of Twenty one years or in case of his death untill my son Jesse Sanford attains to the age of Twenty one years as aforesaid at which his service and care is to cease and determine.

Also, And whereas James Chapple did of his own free will and accord Give up and sell to me, his right (being one third part) in a pair of millstones formerly my Father's, for service done for me for the s^d Chapple, but as I conceive that his part or share in said stones are more than adequate to the service I have done him, I do direct my Executors hereafter named to sell my right (being two thirds) thereof to the s^d William and if the s^d two thirds shall sell for more than six

done herein I do direct my Executors hereafter named to sell my right (being two thirds thereof) of said Middleton, and if the s^d two thirds shall sell for more than Six hundred pounds I do hereby direct and authorize my s^d Executors to pay one half the s^d surplus to s^d James Chapple or to his Heirs or assigns.

Also, I Give and bequeath all the remainder of my estate real or personal or profu-
sion remainder, or reversion, to be equally divided, between all my (Children viz)

Eliza Lankford Jesse Lankford Margaret Lankford Rebecca Lankford
Ann Lankford And in case it should please Divine Providence to bless me

with other Children or Child it is my will and desire that they be included
in this clause of my will and I do hereby Include them as fully as tho they
were now born and mentioned by name to them and to their heirs and assigns or to

the ~~survivors~~ survivors of them or their heirs and assigns for ever

And whereas a part of my negroes must unavoidably be hired out it is my will and desire and I do hereby direct that they shall have the liberty of choosing their own master with the approbation of my Executors and that they shall not be forced to serve Masters wholly against their liking provided they will chuse for themselves as aforesaid. And as doubts may arise in some part of my last will & Testament,

by seeming contradictions or one-forness; In every case I have shown my E. G. disapproval I desire them to apply to Joseph Mainthorpe and Benj. Ruffin of Mr. Ughart & Mr. Horne one of the for their judgment thereon I desire their judgment or opinion may not be withheld.

Eliha Lankford Sister Lankford Margarill Lankford Rebecca Lankford
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were now born and mentioned by name to them and to their heirs and assigns or to
the survivor or survivors of them or their heirs and assigns forever
And whereas a part of my negroes must unavoidably be hired out it is my will
and desire and I do hereby direct that they shall have the liberty of choosing their
own master with the approbation of my Executors and that they shall not be forced
to serve Masters wholly against their liking provided they will chuse for themselves
as aforesaid. And as doubts may arise in some parts of my last will Testament
by seeming contradictions or otherwise, In every case of the nature in which my last
disagree I desire them to apply to Joseph Mearns and Ben^g Ruffen Jr. Wth Uguhart
Jth Wth Jones one of the for their judgment thereon I desire their judgment or opinion may
be taken and established and I do hereby establish as fully to all intents and
purposes as tho I had in matter provided they be unanimous
Lastly I do hereby nominate constitute name & appoint my wife Eliza Lankford
my friend Chasth Clark Jr my brother John Lankford my whole & sole Executors
in and to this my last will Testament hereby named they all then will
by my then last man testifying and signing this & so then to be my last

Will and Testament, In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal
 this Twentieth day of November In the Year of our Lord Christ One thousand Seven
 hundred and Eighty Thomas Lankford (Sealed)

Second Sealed pronounced and Declared by the S^r Thomas Lankford as his
 Last Will & Testament In presence of us, Joseph Mountfort Thos Mountfort
 James Wilson Dⁿ Mⁿ At a Court held for the County of Southampton the 11th
 Day of Jan^r 1781. This Will was presented in Court by Elz Lankford Shadrach
 Lewis & Jesse Lankford the Executors & Executrix therein named and proved by
 the Oaths of Joseph Mountfort & Thos Mountfort two of the witnesses thereto: And
 ordered to be Recorded. And on the motion of the s^d Executors & Executrix, who made
 oath according to Law Certificate is granted them for obtaining a probat in due
 form giving security whereupon &c

Sam Kello &
 (S)

Imp^d Wth of
 S. Stephens

The Inventory and Appraisement of the
 Estate of Simon Stephenson dec^d appraised by
 us John Summerell James Summerell &
 Wm Boykin jr are the s^d appraisers being first
 sworn 19th Jan^r 1781

1 Augie Women Grace	L 4000.00.0
1 Dills by Jack	3000
1 Dills Dills Bon	800
1 Anne Mar L825 + Bonnet L925	1050

3 Quarts bottles L 30.00.0	66.12.0
Saddle L 63	
1 Room of Geo L 30.00.0	115.0
1 Shovel of H. Tonge L 45	18.0.0
1 Higg L 3	
5 Rd powdering bottles L 6.00.0	9.0.0
1 Raza L 3.00.0	10.0.0