

Groomes
Will - In the Name of God Amen I Rebecca Groomes of the Parish of
Charles in the County of York being very Sick and Weak in Body but of sound &
Perfect Sense and Memory revoking all former Wills and Testaments do make this
my last Will and Testament in manner and form following on the 15th day of May 1745
Item I Give and bequeath unto M^{rs} Elizabeth Howard all my Cash and my
Bed and furniture.
Item my Will is that all the rest of my Estate be divided between M^{rs} Elizabeth
Howard, Mary Sweeney, Elizabeth Howard Daughter of Francis Howard, Elizabeth
Howard Daughter of John Howard and Elizabeth Mingham.
Item my will is that M^{rs} Elizabeth Howard give a dozen pair Gloves to my friends.
Item my will is that my Ex^r shall give no security and that my Estate shall not
be Appraived. I do Appoint M^{rs} Elizabeth Howard to be my Ex^r of this my
last Will and Testament In Witnes whereof I have hereunto set my hand and
Seal.
F. Howard
Martha & Fabb
Rebecca & Groomes (ditt)

At a Court held for York County the 16th Day of September 1745.
This Will was presented in Court by Elizabeth Howard the Executrix therein
named and was proved by the Oath of Francis Howard Gent one of the Witnesses
and Ordered to be Recorded. And on the Motion of the said Executrix who made
Oath according to Law Certificate was granted her for obtaining a Probat thereof
in due form.
Teste Tho^s. Everard J. Cwl.

all and
Will - In the Name of God Amen I John Ballard of York Town in
the County of York Merch^t being in good health at present But not knowing
when it may please God to take me out of this World Therefore for avoiding
Contention after my death I do make this my last Will and Testament.
Imprimis my desire is that all my just Debts and funeral Expences be
first paid and then I lend unto my beloved Wife Elizabeth Ballard during her
Widowhood for the better enabling her to maintain and bring up my Children the
following six Slaves Namely Mingo, Frank, Old Will, George, Jenny, and Mary.
but in case of her Marriage or death then I Give the said six Slaves with their
Increase to my son Thomas Ballard and to his Heir. I likewise lend unto my said
Wife during her Widowhood all my Household furniture and Kitchen furniture
that

that shall be in Use at the time of my death also my Chaise Harness and Horses and Cart and Horses but in case she Marrieth again or at her death then I Give all those things to my Son Thomas and to his Heirs And if my said Wife Marry or dies before my Son Thomas arrives to the Age of twenty one Year then I desire that all the Household ^{Kitchen furniture} furniture, Chaise Harness Horses of Cart and Horses be sold at Publick Auction upon twelve Months Credit and the Produce thereof I Give unto my Son Thomas and if he dies before he comes to the Age of twenty one Year then I desire that the Produce thereof be equally divided amongst all my Surviving Children I likewise desire that the Rent of those two Lotts and Houses of mine whereon Henry Walters and Susanna Thompson now live may be paid to my said Wife (until my Sons to whom they shall be given come of Age) for the better enabling her to maintain and bring up my Children as aforesaid.

Item I Give unto my Son Thomas Ballard and to his Heirs the Lott or half Acre of Land whereon I now live described in the Plan of the Town by the Figures 54. together with all the Houses and Appurtenances thereto belonging and also an Acre of Ground which I bought of M^r. Gwyn Reader lying on the South West side of two Town Lotts where Capt. William Rogers lately dwelt also my Plantation near York Town called Rich Neck joining to the Land of Edward Baptist also my Warehouse at the Water Side also two young Negro Men named Giles & Jerry and also my Gun, Pistols Sword and Watch.

Item I Give unto my Son John Ballard and to his Heirs one half Acre of Land which I bought of M^r. Gwyn Reader and whereon Henry Walters now lives joining to the South West side of a Town Lott belonging to Cole Digges Esq^r together with the Houses and Appurtenances thereto belonging and also a Negro boy named William, Son of Negro Midge.

Item I Give unto my Son Robert Ballard and to his Heirs one half Acre of Land which I bought of M^r. Gwyn Reader joining to the half Acre of Land before given to my Son John and joining to a Town Lott of Richard Ambler Esq^r and whereon Susanna Thompson now lives together with the Houses and Appurtenances thereon and also a Negro Boy named Ben.

Item I Give unto my Son William Ballard and to his Heirs one Acre of Land which I bought of M^r. Gwyn Reader lying and joining to two Town Lotts described in the Plan of the Town by the Figures 67 & 71. and also a Negro boy Named Michael and a Negro Girl Named Kate.

Item It is my Will and desire that if it shall Please God that either of my Sons John or Robert should dye before they come to the Age of twenty one Years that the Land with the Houses and Appurtenances given and devised to him dying shall descend and go to my Son William Ballard and to his Heirs and if both my said Sons John and Robert should dye before they come to twenty one Years of Age that then my Son William shall have his choice of the Lands and Houses with the Appurtenance given and devised to them and my Son Thomas Ballard to have the other to him and to his Heirs.

Item I Give unto my Daughter Catherine Ballard and to her Heirs one young Negro Woman Named Phillis and her Child Lucy and a Negro Girl named Hannah Daughter of Negro Mary and twenty Pounds Current Money to buy her a piece of Plate.

Item I Give unto my Daughter Elizabeth Ballard and to her Heirs one Negro Woman Named Rose and one Negro Girl named Moll and twenty Pounds Current Money to buy her a piece of Plate.

Item I Give to my Daughter Ann Ballard and to her Heirs one Negro Girl Named Hannah and a Negro Girl Named Grace.

Item I Give unto Miss Jany Gibbons the Sum of ten Pounds to be paid her a Year after my death.

Item It is my Will and desire that all the remainder of my Estate of what kind soever which I have not already particularly given and bequeathed away and all the Goods which may come in to me after my death be sold upon twelve Months Credit the buyers giving good security but it is my desire that the Goods which may come in to me after my death be sold intire without being broken and the produce of the whole together with what Cash I may have by me and all Outstanding Debts when received be equally divided between my said Loving Wife Elizabeth Ballard and my four Sons Thomas, John, Robert and William and my three Daughters Catherine, Elizabeth and Anne.

Item It is my Will and desire that my Son Thomas Ballard be bound to Messrs Thomas and William Nelson or to Thomas Nelson Jun^r Esq^r until he comes to the Age of Twenty one Years and that my Son John Ballard be bound when he comes to the Age of sixteen Years to the Sea if he shall approve of that if not then to some other calling as my Executors shall think proper til comes to the Age of twenty one Years and that my other two Sons Robert and William be bound to some Trade or calling as my Executors shall think proper when they arrive to sixteen Years of Age and to serve til they arrive to the Age of twenty one and that my Sons live with their Mother til

bound out and my Daughters til Marriage or til they respectively arrive to Lawful Age.

Item It is my desire that as the Money arising upon the Sale of the Goods Ordered to be sold and all other Money as fast as it shall be received be paid to M^r. William Nelson Jun^r. whom I desire to put the same out to Interest taking two good Securities for each Sum so by him put out And the Principal and Interest to be paid to my Children when they shall be respectively capable to demand it. And Lastly I do appoint my said Loving Wife Elizabeth Ballard, M^r. John Buckner, M^r. Matthew Hubbard M^r. Edmund Smith and M^r. Samuel Reade Executors of this my last Will and Testament (to whom I give each a Gold Ring of a Guinea Price to be bought in England) hereby revoking all other Wills and Testaments by me before in any manner made In Witness whereof I have unto set my hand and Seal this 24th day of December 1744.

Signed Sealed & Declared by the
abovenamed John Ballard for and
as his last Will and Testament in
the Presence of us

John Ballard (L.S.)

Edm^d Smith
John Gibbons
Philip Dedman
Thomas Loyd

At a Court held for York County the 16th day of September 1745.

This Will was presented in Court by Elizabeth Ballard one of the Executors and the same was proved by the Oaths of Edmund Smith, John Gibbons, Philip Dedman and Thomas Loyd the Witnesses thereto And on the motion of the said Elizabeth who made Oath according to Law Ordered to be Recorded. And

At a Court held for the said County the 18th day of November 1745.

John Buckner Gent another of the Executors named in the said Will made Oath thereto according to Law and on the motion of the said Elizabeth Ballard and John Buckner Certificate was granted them for obtaining a Probat thereof in due form Giving security Whereupon they together with William Nelson Esq^r. their security entered into and Acknowledged Bond in the Penalty of £5000 for the due Admon of the Decedents Estate &c

Teste

Tho^s Overard J. Cui^l.