

GEORGIA In the Name of God amen
 I Thom Butler of the County of Chatham
 and State of Georgia Esquire being
 in perfect health and of sound mind
 Memory & understanding praised
 be God for it, and considering the
 certainty of Death and the Uncertainty
 of the time thereof and to the end
 I may be the better prepared to
 leave this World whenever it
 shall please God to call me
 hence do therefore make and
 declare this my last Will and
 Testament in manner following
 that is to say first and principally
 I commend my Soul into the Hands
 of Almighty God my Creator -
 hoping for free pardon and
 remission of all my sins and to
 enjoy everlasting happiness
 in his heavenly Kingdom Tho'
 the sole Merits of Jesus Christ
 my Saviour - My Body I
 commit to the Earth at the

discretion of my Executors herein after
Named And as to such worldly Estate
where with it has pleased God to -
enrich me I dispose of the same as
follows In premises my Will and
desire is that all my just Debts and
funeral Expenses be fully paid and
satisfied as soon as conveniently
may be after my decease I then I
give and bequeath unto my beloved
Wife Elizabeth Butler the sum of
Twenty five pounds Sterling out
of my Estate yearly and every Year
for and during the Term of her
natural life in lieu and bar of
all her Dowry and other that she
may or can claim or demand out
of my Estate and to the payment
of the yearly sum of Twenty five
pounds I do hereby Subject and
make liable my said Estate;
Also my Will and desire is that -
my said Wife should be maintained
supported of my plantations free
from all Tax or Charges whatsoever

36
during the time of her natural
life; & now I also give and bequeath
unto my son Thom Butler Tom
pound or sterling in him and bar
of all right of claim or demand
he may have on my Estate.

Now I give and bequeath unto
my son Joseph Butler all that
tract of Land lying between
Ogeechee and Canouchee, where
I formerly lived containing five
Hundred acres to him and his heirs
for ever Now I give and bequeath
unto my son Thom as Butler all
that tract of Two = ^{hundred} (200)
Edw. Harn
Thom Butler (200)

Edw. Harn
William Harn
Thos. Smith

2. Hundred and fifty acres of land
adjoining my son Joseph Butler's
Also Two Hundred and fifty
acres to be taken out of a
piece Hundred and fifty acres
tract, adjoining the other

Two Hundred and fifty acres to him
and his heirs for ever I then I
give and bequeath to my son
James Butler all that remaining
five hundred acres tract of land
which was the seven hundred
and fifty acres tract to him and
his heirs for ever Also my will
and desire is that, that tract
of land lying on the Salt hatches
in the State of South Carolina
formerly granted Joseph Butler
Esquire containing two thousand
Two Hundred and fifty acres also
the tract I now live on contain-
ing five hundred acres bought
of William Hurn shall be disposed
of at the discretion of my Executors
and the monies arising from the
sale of said land shall be laid
out in the groves and my will
and desire is that the said
groves so purchased shall
be equally divided among

95
My last named children viz
Joseph Butler, Elizabeth Butler,
Edith Butler, Thomas Butler,
Ann Butler James Butler and
John Butler; I do also give
and bequeath unto my last
named seven children all my
negroes and other moveable
property that I now possess to
be equally divided among
them share and share alike
Also my Will and desire is that
in case of any of my children the
said Joseph Butler, Elizabeth
Butler, Edith Butler Thomas
Butler Ann Butler James
Butler and John Butler should
happen to die before he she
or they shall arrive to the age
of twenty four years or day
of marriage then and in
such case my Will and desire
is that the part or share
by me hereby given devised

or bequeathed to such of them
 so dying shall go to the survivors
 of them And I do in such case
 hereby give devise and bequeath
 the part or share of him, her or
 them unto the survivors of my
 wives and children to be equally
 divided among such survivors
 or the heirs of such survivors -
 or her -

John Butted (Jr)

Edw. Harn
 William Harn } Witnesses
 Thos Smith

I therefore used and lastly I
 do hereby nominate constitute
 and appoint Benjamin Stiles
 Esquire, James Harn and John
 Butted all of the County of
 Chatham of the State of Georgia
 Executors to this my last Will
 and Testament and Guardians
 of the persons and Estates of my
 of said children, until they
 shall respectively arrive at

40
The age of twenty one years on
day of the arrigo which were
shall first happen and no longer
hereby looking and making
said, all former Wills by me at
any time heretofore made and
do declare this only written on
three sheets of paper each of
which I subscribed with my
name to be my last Will
and Testament. In Witness whereof
I the said Shem Butler the
Testator have to this my last
Will and Testament set my
hand and seal this twentieth
Day of July in the Year of
our Lord one thousand seven
hundred and eighty seven and
of the Independence and sovereignty
of the United States of America
the Eleventh

Signed sealed Shem Butler ^{and} (21)
and delivered
and published

by the said then-
 But the above
 named Testator as
 and for his last Will
 and Testament in the
 presence of us who at
 his request and in his
 presence and the presence
 of each other have
 subscribed our names
 as Witnesses thereto
 (See of in page 2 intubed)

Edw. Harding } Witnesses
 William Harn }
 Thos Smith.

Georgia Before me James M. Taylor
 Register of Probates for the
 County of Chatham in
 the State aforesaid
 Personally appeared Edward Harding
 one of the subscribing Witnesses to
 the within written Will of

12
Thom Butler late of the County
and State aforesaid Plaintiff
who being sworn with that he
was present and did see the said
Testator sign seal pronounce
publish and declare the same to
be and contain his last Will and
Testament and that he was of
sound mind & memory at the
execution thereof (to this Depo-
nent being) and that William Harn and
Thomas Smith together with this
Depo-ment subscribed their Names
as Witnesses to the due execution
thereof at the request and in the
presence of the said Testator and
of each other Edw^d Harding
Sworn to 17th Day of
Jan^y 1789 —
Whitefield

Benjamin Miles and
John Butler Surviving Exors
qualified as such by taking
the oath prescribed by Law and
read before Testamentary Theron