

16
In the Name of God Amen. I James Martin of the County of
Chatham & State of North Carolina being very sick & weak in
body, but of perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God
calling into mind the Mortality of my body and knowing that it is
appointed for all men once to die; do make and Ordain this
my last Will and Testament that is to say principally and first
of all. I give and becommend my soul into the hands of Almighty
God that gave it, and my body I becommend to the Earth to be
Buried in decent Christian Burial: and as touching my worldly
Estates wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life
I give demise and dispose of the same in the following manner
and form - First I give unto my Executor to pay all my just debts
and funeral expenses after my decease
Item V. It is also my Will that my loving wife Rosanna
Martin hold and keep all and singular the House & plantation
whereon I now live together with my Stock of all kind House
hold and kitchen Furniture during her life or Widowhood unless
there be a surplus of Stock over and above what the Widow
can manage, then for that part to be sold and laid out to the
best advantage for my wife & Children equally my Negro
property to be hired out and the proceeds of hire to be laid out
to the use of raising my younger Children or so much thereof
as may be sufficient for their necessary support, and all my
other lands that I possess to be let out for the use of selling my Children
and further more that all my latter Children be made equal to
my first, then if my loving wife should think proper to marry
for all my property to be equally divided between my wife
and Children allowing to my wife the advantage and Horse
and Bed & Furniture I wish Care and House hold furniture
in proportion to one Child, first finally and lastly I should

my beloved wife remain a Widow through life. at her death my Will is
that the residue of all my property be equal divided amongst my Children
without regard to person. I leave to all my unmarried Children the privilege
of living in my House with their Mother during the humble subsistence
unto her: and further more I join it on my oldest daughter both together
with my Executor to be that my younger Children have proper help taken
to raise them in Credit. I likewise Constitute make and Ordain Caleb
Lundrey the sole Executor of this my last and Testament. And I do hereby
utterly disallow revoke and demand all and every other former Testaments
wills bequeaths and Executors by me in any wise before named
wills and bequeaths. Ratifying and Confirming this and no other
to be my last Will and Testament. In witness whereof I have here
hereunto set my hand and seal this fourth day of November in the
Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred twenty five
Signed sealed in the presence of us
in witness whereof we have hereunto
set our hands

William C. Lofson
Sedney B. Martin
Ruth A. Martin

James Martin Seal
Witnessed at February Term 1826
Executor qualified

In the Name of God amen I Evan de. M. Van of Chatham
County North Carolina being of sound mind perfect memory
do this Eighth day of February in the Year of our Lord one thousand
Eight hundred and twenty six make and publish this my last
Will and Testament in manner following that is to say
First I give and bequeath to my wife Abigail M. Van the land
where on I now live containing one hundred and twenty five acres
during her life or Widowhood, but if she thinks proper to marry
and marry: she is to have but one third of the land laid off
in the lower part including the houses wherein I now live
during her life time; after her death to be equally divided
among my Children then living. I also give and bequeath
to my wife Abigail a Negro man named Hannan during
her life or Widowhood (but if she marry, he is to be her
and