

Alexander Joyce.
In the name of God amen. — I Alexander Joyce of Guilford County in the State of N. Carolina being at this time very weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory do make & ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say first and principally I commend my soul into the hands of God who gave it and my body to be buried in a decent and Christian like manner at the discretion of my executors herein after nominated and appointed and as to the worldly goods wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me I will and dispose of them in manner and form following.

Item I lend to my beloved wife Jane Joyce three negroes to wit Ned, Sue & Peggy and two hundred & forty acres of land including the plantation whereon I now live to be paid off in the N. E. East corner running down the river and out to the line which land my son Robert is to have when he arrives at full age also two negroes to wit Harry & Cate and one hundred pounds in money to him and his heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my son Thomas Joyce ten pounds in money & to his son Joseph Joyce one hundred pounds in money to them & their heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my son John Joyce five hundred and twenty six acres of land lying in Pittsylvania County in the State of Virginia on Sandy River, also two negroes, to wit — Dick and Jerry which said land & negroes I give to him and his heirs forever.

Item — My will & desire is that the two negroe children belonging to the negroe woman Peggy above mentioned to be lent to my wife Jane be kept and enjoyed by my said wife and also all the future increase of both the said negroe woman but as above said during the natural life of my said wife and at her decease as well the negroes lent as also all their increase be sold and the money arising from the sale to be equally divided amongst all my sons which shall at that time be living.

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Item - My will & desire is that the two negroe children belonging to the negroe woman Begg above mentioned to be lent to my wife Jane be kept and enjoyed by my said wife and also all the future increase of both the said negroe woman but as above said during the natural life of my said wife and at her decease as well the negroes but as also all their increase be sold and the money arising from the sale to be equally divided amongst all my sons which shall at times be living.

Item - I give and bequeath to my son James Joyce one negroe man named Will and one hundred pounds in money to him & his heirs forever.

Item - I give and bequeath to my son Elijah Joyce two hundred acres of land to be laid off in the So. West corner of the land I now live on running down the River & out to the line also one negroe woman named Beggat and one hundred pounds in money which said lands negroe and money I give to him and his heirs forever.

Item - I give and bequeath to my son Alexander Joyce one hundred pounds in money and one negroe boy named Caesar to him and his heirs forever.

Item - I give and bequeath to my son Elisha Joyce one entry or tract of vacant land including the mill, one negroe woman named Jack and one hundred pounds in money to him and his heirs forever.

Item - I give and bequeath to my son Andrew Joyce two hundred acres of land part of the tract I now live on the lower end lying on both sides the River, one negroe boy named Sam, and one hundred pounds in money to him and his heirs forever.

Item - I give to my daughter Sarah one negroe woman named Van now in her pofesion & also ten pounds in money and two cows to her and her heirs forever.

(Signed)

Now I give and bequeath to my daughter Margaret one negro girl named Lucy, one horse and saddle, one bed and furniture and one spinning wheel to her and her heirs forever.

Now I give and bequeath to my daughter Esther Joyce one negro girl named Elizabeth, one horse, saddle, one bed and furniture and one spinning wheel to her and her heirs forever.

Now I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth Joyce one negro named Lucy, one horse and saddle, one bed and furniture and one spinning wheel to her and her heirs forever.

Now I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary Joyce two negroes to wit Jacob & Agnes, one horse and saddle, one bed and furniture and one spinning wheel to her and her heirs forever.

Now I give and bequeath to my son Elisha Joyce one horse saddle and bridle.

Now I give to my son Andrew Joyce one horse saddle & bridle.

Now I give to my beloved wife Jane & son Elijah my still & cabinet is thereto belonging by their deaths to be occupied.

Now I give & bequeath to my loving wife Jane one black mare called Libb one saddle & bridle to her and her heirs.

My further will and desire is that all the residue of my estate of every kind whatsoever not herein devised be sold at publick auction by my Executors and the money arising from the sale (after reserving one hundred pounds thereof for the education of my little children, Elisha, Andrew, Robert, Margaret, Elizabeth & Mary) be equally divided amongst my sons, John, James, Elijah, Alexander, Elisha, Andrew & Robert Joyce.

Lastly I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint to be my Executors

the money arising from the sale (after reserving one hundred pounds thereof for the education of my little children, Elisha, Andrew, Robert, Margaret, Elizabeth & Mary) be equally divided amongst my sons, John, James, Elijah, Alexander, Elisha, Andrew & Robert Joyce.

I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint my son James Joyce, Elijah Joyce, my brother Thomas Joyce and my trusty friend Patrick Hamilton, Executors of this my last will and Testament hereby revoking dissolving and making void all former wills by me hitherto made ratifying confirming this & no other to be my last will & Testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal this third day of March A.D. 1778.

Witness my hand & seal published & pronounced
in presence of
James Alderson
Elisha Bates
James Vernon
Alexander Smith

Alexander Vernon (Jr)
(Joyce)

Guilford County, N.C. May Court 1778.

The within last Will & Testament of Alexander Joyce, dec'd, was read in open court by the oath of Elisha Bates & James Vernon two of the subscribing witnesses thereto & on motion, ordered to be recorded
Test. Tho Henderson Clk