

W. Bagel. In the Name of God Amen, I Joseph John Alston
of Halifax in the state of North Carolina being weak of body but of
Perfect sound sence mind and memory thanks be to almighty God
Do make and Ordain this my last Will and Testament in the
Manner and form following, that is to say,

Imprimis, I Recommend my Soul into the hands and protection of almighty
God that gave it, hoping for a Remission of all my sins and my body
I leave to be decently interred at the Discretion of my Exors. hereafter named
and as for my Worldly Estate which it hath been pleased the almighty
God to bestow on me I give devise & bequeath as follows,

Item I give and bequeath unto my son John Alston his heirs and assigns
forever all my Land that lies on Rudy Creek Fishing Creek, Koons
Creek and Long Branch on the South side Butterwood or the waters
thereof consisting of sundry Defor^t Tracts and whereas my said son John
Alston has now a Dispute Depending in Law for abstract or parcel of
Land Called the poison fields in Chattem County with Matthew Jones of
said County incase my said son John Alston should loose this Land Called
the poison fields then and in that case I give and bequeath to my s^d son
John Alston his heirs or assigns two Tracts of Land which I bought of
John Cupland in s^d County of Chattem But incase my s^d son John Alston

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John Alston his heirs or assigns two Tracts of Land which I bought of John Coupland in S. County of Chattem But in case my son John Alston should recover the S. Land now in dispute from the S. Mathew Jones, then and in that case only, I give my S. John Alston part of the S. two tracts of Land bought of S. John Coupland bounded as follows (to wit) (going above the Spring branch known by the name of Couplands Spring branch supposing to be Two Hundred Acres more or less including the Old Plantation whereon Rich. Coupland formerly lived,

Item, I give and devise to my said son John Alston his heirs or assigns all the Negro Slaves which I have heretofore Possessed with, as also one other Negro man named Levey and one other Negro man named Joseph which is now in my Possession,

Item, I give and devise unto my son Philip Alston, his heirs or assigns all the Negro Slaves which I allotted for him being now in his Possession,

Item, I have already given to my Daughter Patty Merony the Several Negro Slaves which I allotted for her Portion the same she has been Possessed with many years past.

Item, I give and devise unto my son William Alston his heirs or assigns

11
all the negroe Slaves which are now in his Possession Excepting the
following Negroes (to wit) Hannah, Agaz, Silva, Nancy, Pris, Boalswain,
Mussy, Moses, Rachel, & Sam, which S. Son Negroes herein mentioned
I lend unto my S. son Wm Alston the use of until his Children male
and female shall arrive to lawfull age or marriage Then I give
and bequeath the S. Son Negroes and their increase to be Equally Divided
between the S. Children and their heirs or assigns share and share alike,
Each Child to have his or her part or Proportion of the S. Negroes and
their increase as he or she shall arrive to Lawfull age or marriage
as afores. and the remainder of the S. Negroes to remain as undivided
until the next Child shall arrive to age as afores. and so on till the
youngest shall be of age aforesaid to take his or her part of the S. Negroes
which Division it is my will and desire shall be made among my S.
Grand Children by their father my S. son William, if Living if not by
My Executors herein after mentioned,

Item, I give and bequeath to my S. son William Alston his heirs and assigns
Two Negroes (to wit) Fork Ben and his wife Pris,

Item, I give and devise to my son Willis Alston his heirs or assigns all that

Item, I give and Devise to my son Miles Alston his heirs or assigns all that
Part of the land which I bought of Mr. Meade Estate that lies on the lower
Side of the Governor's branch and joining Irwins Creek on the soth Side -
Item, I give and Devise to my two Grandsons John Joseph & William Alston
Sons of my son William Alston a parcel of Land which I bought of the Estate
of Mr. David Meade Deceased, that lies on Irwins Creek alias Raccoon Creek
above the mouth of the Governor's branch to be equally Divided between
them and their heirs or assigns share & share alike but in case the S^r. John
Joseph & William Alston should either of them Depart this life before they
arrive to the age of Twenty one years or leaving Lawfull issue of
their body then and in that case I give and Devise the part of the Land
of him who shall or may Decease to the other that survives and in case
both the S^r. John Joseph & William Alston should Depart this life before they
arrive to the age of Twenty one years then and in that case I give and Devise
the S^d. Land to my Grandson Joseph John Alston, son of my son Miles his heirs
and assigns forever.

Item I give and Devise to my Grandson John Joseph Alston son of my son
William all that part of Land I bought of Joseph Moore in the County of
Chatham that lies in the fork between two Streams where the S^r. Joseph Moore

12 Buitt and formerly lived as high up each stream as my Land Extended to him his heirs and assigns forever but in case my S. Grandson John Joseph should Depart this life without Lawfull Issue then and in that case I give and devise the S. Land to my Grandson his brother -

William Alston his heirs or assigns forever,

Item, I give and devise to my son Willis Alston his heirs or assigns all my Land that lies in the fork on the Northwest side the Beaverponds between Butterwood & the mill swamp as high up each stream as my Land Extended as also all my other Lands between the mill run & the N^W branch of Arvins Creek alias Alstons Swamp Including my Dwellinghouse and my manner Plantation likewise including the Plantation and tract of Land where John Mills formerly lived lying at the head of ~~the~~ Swamp as also all my other Lands on the S^o E^t side of the Beaver Pond and Bur swamp that lies above & joins the Land that was formerly Meads.

Item, I give and devise to my son Willis Alston his heirs and assigns all the negroes slaves which I have already Possessed his with as also three other negroe men Calo Simon, & Pecover Ber as also Frank which are yet in my Possession,

Item, I give and bequeath to my Grandson Joe John Alston son of my

Which are yet in my Possession,

Item. I give and bequeath to my Grandson Jos John Alston son of my son Willis all them two Tracts of Land lying on the waters of Grate Creek that I bought of Archibald Hammett & Antony Winston to him his heirs and assigns forever, But in case of his death before he arrives to years of Twenty one or leaving Lastfall Ifue of his body Lawfully begotten then and in that case I give and devise the aforesaid two tracts of Land to my son Willis his heirs and assigns I also give my S. Grandson Jos John Alston one negro boy named Jim, son to Melate Pegg & one negro girl named Jude (daughter of Penny to him his heirs and assigns forever,

Item. I give and devise to my son Henry Alston his heirs and assigns forever four thousand acres of Land whereon he now Lives which I Purchased of Abolomon Alston Jr,

Item. all the Slaves which I allotted for my son Henry I have already Possessed him with and the same I do give to him & his heirs & assigns forever as also I do give and bequeath to my S. son Henry Eight other negroes to wit: Peter, Daughter, Jacob, a Melattoe boy young Breckan

Dynor & Increase Subiner & Davy to him his heirs or assigns, &
 Item. I have already given my Daughter Mary Palmer the Negro Slaves
 which I allotted for her Portion the same she has been Possess with some
 time past,

Item. I give and bequeath to John Cooper his heirs and assigns forever all that
 tract of Land & Plantations in the County of Chatham which I bought of
 Thomas Coupland known by name of the Hiory Mountain bounded by a line
 between the Lands I bought of T. Coupland and the Land I bought of Thomas
 Stone & from the head of S. branch by a line of Mark trees Westerly to the
 back then round by (Deferent lines several Courses to the S. Branch, —

Item. I lend unto my Daughter uphan Wilson Cooper the use of the following
 Negroes (during their natural life (to wit) Sall, Toby, Will, Roger, Anne,
 Salls Children, Creas, Buck, Nann, Adam, Creas, Children Nann, & Will, Cates
 Children, Charles, & Edue, Peggs Children, Jubitor, & Abraham, all free sons
 and after her Deceas I give and devise the S. Negroes & their increase to
 be Equally Divided Between the Lawfull Issue of her body male & female
 share & share alike to them & their heirs and assigns forever,

Item. I give and devise to my son Jo^l John Webster all my Lands and
 Plantations lying in the County of Chatham that is not herein before

Plantations lying in the County of Chatham that is not herein before
mentioned or given in Legacies to him and his heirs or assigns forever
this Express Condition and proviso that in Case my son Jos. John Alston
shall live to the age of twenty one years or leave lawfull Issue of his
Body but if neither of these Cases happen I then give and Devise the
Lands to my Grandsons hereafter named to be Divided in the following
Manner (to wit) to my Grandson Jos. John Alston son of my son Willis
two tracts (to wit) one tract on the E. end of the Hiory Mountains Containing
one hundred and fifty acres the other tract Containing three hundred and fifty
acres more or less which I bought of Simon Pyrell, to him and his heirs or
assigns forever the Residue of the afore^d. Lands I give (Devise and
bequeath as follows (to wit) to my Grandson Jos. John Alston son of my son
to my Grandson John son of my son Philip to my Grandson John Joseph
son of my son William and to my Grandson Jos. John son of my son Willis
to be Equally Divided between them and their heirs or assigns forever
Share and share alike but In case either of my^d. Grandsons shall depart
this life before they arrive to the age of twenty one years or leaving of
Lawfull Issue of their body then I give and Devise the part or parts of him
or them so dying to the next brother of him or them so dying which

14 Shall then be Living to them or each of them and their heirs or assigns
for ever.

Item. it is my will and Desire that my Negroe Woman Lucey the Cook
wench shall enjoye her liberty after my Decease in the same manner
as a free born person for and during the space of thirty five years to
Commence Immediately after my Decease the said Lucey yielding and
paying to my Ex^{ors} herein after named the Annual Sum of one Shilling
Proc money if the same is by them Demanded and at the Expiration
of the afores^d Term of thirty five years it is my will and Desire that
Ex^{ors}. or either of them shall and they or either of them are hereby
Impowred to sell the said Lucey and the money arising from such sale
to be given to my son Jo^s John and during afores^d Term of years
It is my Desire that the afores^d Lucey be under the Protection of my
Ex^{ors} herein after mentioned.

Item. and for Preventing Disputes which may arise amongst my
Sons about any former Rights or titles of heir ship in any Slaves
given by me amongst any of my S^{ons} and now in their Possession it is my
Will and I do hereby Desire and direct that if any one of my S^{ons} John,
Philip, William, Ellis, Henry or Jo^s John shall at any time hereafter sue
for and recover or otherwise Dispose of any other of my S^{ons} of any Slave

for and recover or other ways Dispose of any other of my S. sons of any Slave or Slaves given them by me, in such case I do hereby revoke so much of this my Last will as bequeath any Land to such son, who shall Dispose of any of his brothers and I do hereby Will and devise all the Land such son might have Inheritance in virtue of such will unto such of my other sons who shall be so Disposed of their Slaves by him to be held or them their heirs and assigns forever in fee simple.

Item. I give and Devise to my son Jos. John Abston, all and Singular of the Remainder of my Negroe Slaves, and all other of my Estate both Real and Personal of what Nature Kind or Quality soever which is not here before by me bequeathed which I shall be disposed with at the time of my decease to him and his heirs and assigns forever, and in case he should depart this life without leaving Lawfull Issue of his body then I give and Devise the afores. Negroe Slaves with their increase and all other of the Personal Estate above bequeathed to be equally divided to and amongst all the rest of my sons & Daughters, my sons John, Philip, William, Ellis, Henry, & my Daughters Patty, Mary, & Susan Wilson, and my Grandson Jos. John son of my son Ellis and to their and each of their

15

hair (and assigns for ever) (and the Survivors of them,
 them, and Lastly I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint my trusty
 and well beloved friends, Willie Jones, Solomon Williams, William Alston
 the son of Philip, James Alston and John Jones and my son Joseph
 John Alston Exors. to this my last Will and Testament Hereby Revoking
 Disanulling and making Void all other Will or Wills or Testaments
 by me heretofore made or Published. In Witness whereof I have hereunto
 Set my hand and affixed my Seal this Fifth day of January
 in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty

Signed Sealed Published and Declared
 by the Testator Jos John Alston as to his
 last Will and Testament in presence of us
 who at his request Subscribed our names
 as Witnesses to the same Ex. of the same

Jos John Alston *Sealed*

Robert Green Jr

John Green Jr

Wiley Green

Halifax County 5th August Court 1781
 Then this will was Ex. in Open Court and
 duly proved by the oaths of John Green and
 Robert Green Two of the Subscribing Witnesses there to whereupon

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Jos John Alston

Robert Green

John Green

Wiley Green

Halifax County J^t. August Court 1781

Then this will was Ex^d. in Open Court and

only proved by the oaths of John Green and

Robert Green, Two of the Subscribing Witnesses there to whereupon

Solomon Williams, W^m Alston son of Philip, & John Jones Esqrs.

Qualified according to Law and on Motion ordered to be Recorded

Jest J^m Wooten

In the Name of God amen, I have Read of the Court