

James Durham's Will

In the Name of God Amen - I James Durham of Johnston and Province of North Carolina being sick and weak in body but of perfect sense and memory do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say Principally and first of all I recommend my soul into the Hands of God that gave it as for my body I commit it to the earth to be buried in a decent manner at the discretion of my Executors and Exors that by burying my worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me with I dispose of it in the following manner Vizt in the first place I desire that my just debts and funeral charges be paid which I desire that my Executors and Exors hereinafter named sell as much of the moveable estate and stock as they shall see proper to satisfy my debts and funeral charges as before mentioned.

- Impression
Item I give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife Elizabeth one side saddle and bridle and one mare called Mat brought and her best furniture and all the rest of my estate real and personal I lend to her during her life time or widowhood.
- Item I give to my daughter Mary Ten pounds Pave - money -
- Item I will that after the decease or widowhood of my wife I give and bequeath unto my son William all the rest of my estate real and personal lands and ornaments to him and his heirs forever but in case he should die before he comes of age or having any lawful issues then my estate above mentioned to be disposed of as follows. The three old negroes named Tony, Prince and Nance to be sold at Public vendue and the money arising from such sale be equally divided between my three grand children namely Alice Arter, Nancy Arter and Hannah Arter and also three young negro girls one called Hannah to Alice Arter one called Tommy to Nancy Arter and one called James to Hannah Arter and one negro boy called Sam I give unto my grand daughter Mary Lawson and the land and the Plantation whereon I now live I give and bequeath unto my grand daughter Hannah Arter and after the above legacies all be paid of the remainder part of my estate to be equally divided between my three grand children above named Alice Arter Nancy Arter and Hannah Arter and also I will and desire that my son William be under the direction of his mother till he comes of age in case she should die before he comes of age it is my will that Benjamin Russell and Jane his wife take him into their care till he comes of age but in case they both die leave him to be reared as above said and it is my will that of which the above named persons he falls in care of give him sufficient schooling out of the interest of the estate

Item And I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved wife Elizabeth Executrix and my trusty friend Benjamin Russell Executor of this my last will and testament and I do hereby revoke and disannul all other former wills Bonds legacies grants or promises whatsoever by me made ratifying and allowing this and no other to be my last will and testament In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this the twenty third day of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and sixty nine

Signed, Sealed and pronounced
in the presence of us

Samuel Smith
Nicholas Farmer
Ezra Powell

James Durham Seal

North Carolina
Johnston County

Aug Term 1769 - then was this will

forseen in open Court in due form of law by Nicholas Farmer, Ezra Powell subscribing witnesses and recorded in the Clerks Office of said City

John Rand Clerk

Emanuel Dees's Will

In the name of God Amen, the 20th day of January 1770 -

I Emanuel Dees of the County of Johnston in the Province of North Carolina being sick of body but of perfect memory thanks be to God and calling to remembrance the uncertainty of this life do make constitute and ordain this my last will and testament hereby disannulling all others heretofore by me made either by word or writing and this is only to be read in manner and form following, that is to say first giving up my soul to God who gave it and my body to the earth to be buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named

Impression I lend the manner house and half the orchard and clear ground to my well beloved wife Elizabeth during her life

Item I give and bequeath to my loving son Daniel my plantation with all my land

Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved son Dorsey Dees two pounds

Item I give and bequeath to my beloved son David Dees forty shillings

Item I give and bequeath to my loving daughter Sarah Benton ten shillings

Item I give and bequeath to my loving daughter Presilla Hatcher ten shillings

Item I give and bequeath to my loving daughter Susan Dees two cows and calves and my will and desire is that all my just debts and all the just debts that shall be owing my son in law so as subject to John Smith make and to Samuel Smith his brother be paid and out of the money now in my house and live with all my funeral expenses and the remainder part if any to the use of my wife and son Daniel

Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved grand daughter Abigail Hatcher one quarter of an acre and furniture

Item I give to my loving friend Robert Hatcher five shillings

Item I lend all the remainder part of my estate to my well beloved wife Elizabeth Dees during her life and after her decease to be equally divided between