

(175) In the name of God. Amen

I John Wordham of the County of Jones & State of North Carolina being in common health but in sound and perfect mind and memory have thought proper to make constitute and ordain this my last will and Testament in manner and form following to wit.

first I Recommend my soul to God who gave it me and my body to be buried at the discretion of my friends and as to the worldly Goods that it hath pleased God to bless me with I dispose of in the following manner to wit

Item 1 I lend unto my beloved <sup>late</sup> Nancy Wordham during her natural life time all my possession of land on the west side of Sashway creek including the building of every description with the privilege of a set of Bores if ~~she thinks~~ proper and also the use of all the household and kitchen furniture of every description on the condition that <sup>she</sup> shall furnish each of my Children as they arrive at the age of twenty one years or marry with one good bed and all necessary furniture also the use of one yoke of Steers and the use of ten cows and calves and one years provision for all her family and also I lend ~~her~~ two Negroes during her life that is to say George and William and three horses Henry, Fly & Clara, four Ploughs & Gear & four hoes & three axes & one Jersey Wagon & Gear & one cart & Gear & all the Lese and Poltry of all sorts.

Item 2 I Give to my Daughter Leah Nobles seventy five dollars to her and her heirs

Item 3<sup>d</sup> I Give unto the heirs of my Daughter Penelope Brown seventy five dollars to be equally divided among them to them & their heirs,

Item 4 I Give to my Daughter Mary Gooding ten dollars to her & her heirs,

Item 5 I Give unto my Daughter Atelia Wordham one Negro boy named Bob to her her heirs and assigns forever

Item 6<sup>th</sup> Give to my Daughter Nancy Wordham one Negro Girl Betsey to her her heirs and assigns forever

Item 7 I lend unto my Daughter Elender Koonce during her life time one Negro Girl named Peg, and at her death I give the same to the heirs of her body to be equally divided among them,

Item 8<sup>th</sup> It is my Will and desire that my nine sons viz, William G. Fordham, Christopher Fordham, Iry Fordham, Iry Fordham, Lepe Fordham, Calvin Fordham, Jackson Fordham, Lewis Fordham, & David Fordham, shall have all my lands, that I die in possession of to them their heirs & assigns forever & provided either of them should die before he arrives at twenty one years of age then his Interest to me to his surviving Brothers, I have & share alike to them & their heirs forever

Item 9<sup>th</sup> It is my will and desire that my Negroes that is to say Nancy, Rler, Shade, Frank, & Dennis, be sold at my death provided that they will fetch a fair Price if not to be hired out until they will fetch a fair Price & then to be Equally divided among my children, viz, William G. Fordham, Christopher Fordham, Iry Fordham, Iry Fordham, Lepe Fordham, Calvin Fordham, Jackson Fordham, Lewis Fordham, David Fordham, & Athalia Fordham and Nancy Fordham to them their heirs & assigns forever.

Item 10<sup>th</sup> I give unto my son William G. Fordham one horse named Rock & saddle & bridle one bed & furniture, two Cows & Calves to him & his heirs forever,

Item 11<sup>th</sup> I give unto my son Christopher Fordham one horse named Hermet and saddle & bridle and one bed & furniture two Cows & Calves to him & his heirs forever,

Item 12<sup>th</sup> It is my will and desire that my sons & Daughters viz Iry Fordham, Iry Fordham, Lepe Fordham, Calvin Fordham, Jackson Fordham, Lewis Fordham, David Fordham, Athalia Fordham, & Nancy Fordham, as they arrive at the age of twenty one years or marry shall be furnished with one horse saddle and bridle one bed & furniture two Cows & Calves out of the proceeds of my sale to make them equal with my two sons William G. Fordham & Christopher Fordham to whom I have advanced the same amount to be furnished by the manager of the Property to them their heirs and assigns forever

Item 13<sup>th</sup> It is my will and Desire that my blessed wife Nancy Fordham have ten heads of Sheep & three Cows & Pigs to her and her heirs.

Item 14<sup>th</sup> It is my will and Desire that all the Property of every description not heretofore given away by me be sold & the proceeds, and all the Claims due me of every kind be Equally and fairly divided among my sons & Daughters viz, Iry Fordham, Iry Fordham, Jackson Fordham, William G. Fordham, Christopher Fordham, Lepe Fordham, Calvin Fordham, Lewis Fordham, David Fordham, Athalia Fordham, Nancy Fordham to them their heirs & assigns

after all my just Debts are paid (177)

lastly I nominate and appoint my friend J. H. Hammond Executor to  
this my last Will and Testament revoking and annulling all former wills or  
wills heretofore made by me & ratify and confirming this to be my only last  
will and Testament in Witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal  
this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of July AD 1844

signed sealed and  
acknowledged in the

John Gorham Deats

Presence of us

Calvin Koonce

Zaccheus Brown

State of North Carolina Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions December 1845

Jones County In open court then was the Execution of the last  
will and Testament of John Gorham decd, proved in due form  
of law by the oaths of Calvin Koonce & Zaccheus Brown two of the  
Subscribing Witnesses thereto & thereupon James H. Hammond J. H. Hammond  
the Executor therein named were duly qualified as Executors of the  
last Will and Testament of the said John Gorham decd, & the said  
last will and Testament was ordered to be Registered

the codicil annexed to the will of John Gorham

State of North Carolina

Jones County

Now Know all persons to whom this may come that  
I John Gorham of the County & State aforesaid being in sound mind  
perfect memory do now think proper to add to or amend this my last  
will and Testament with the following Codicil that is to say in the  
presence of them or clause in stead of leaving to my daughter Glendora  
Koonce my Negress Girl Peg during her natural lifetime & then to the heirs  
of her body. I give and bequeath the said Negress Girl Peg to her my said  
daughter Glendora Koonce to her her heirs and assigns forever also it  
is my will and desire that she share and share alike with the rest  
of my children in the Property I have left to be sold - In witness whereof  
I have hereunto set my hand and seal this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of November 1845

signed sealed and delivered

in the Presence of us

Calvin Koonce

John Gorham

J. John A. Hammond Clerk of the County Court of

Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Jones County Certify

that the above contains a true copy of the Will and the Codicil annexed

of John Gorham decd, as filed in office at Greensboro Decr 1845

J. H. Hammond