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In the name of God Amen I Edward Richardson of the County  
of Middlesex & State of Carolina being weak of body but of  
sound mind & memory calling to remembrance the uncertainty  
of life & that it is appointed unto all men once to die do this  
24<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord 1797 Make constable  
& appoint this my last will & testament Impressis first & by witness  
my soul to Almighty God who gave it me, & my body to the dust  
from whence it came in hopes of a joyful resurrection thro' my  
mediator Jesus Christ, and as for what worldly goods it has made  
God to bless me with I dispose of as follows - Item I give to  
my beloved wife Catherine Richardson all my household  
goods of every kind whatsoever also two boxes & cases,  
Item I give to my son George Richardson five shillings burning  
Item I give to my son Edward Richardson five shillings burning  
Item I give to my son Major Richardson five shillings burning  
Item I give to my son Brentley Richardson all the land & property  
on the S<sup>t</sup> West of the Beaver dam branch inclosing the said both  
sides of the Rocky river road adjoining the lands of Samuel Jones  
Bullion Richardson. Item I give to my s. n Thomas wife or  
give the death of my wife all the land I possess on the East side  
of the Beaver Dam & Rocky river road adjoining the said S<sup>t</sup>  
branch, Dutton & Gregor running as far as they would & up to the  
branch to Joshua Yerbaughs line then to the head  
of the Beaverdam branch & down the said branch to the road  
inclosing the plantation wherein I now live - It is further  
to my daughters Betsy & Sally eighty acres of land adjoining  
the lands of Weston Richardson & William Fisher to be  
equally divided between them by my executors & witnesses  
My desire is that the whole of the residue of my said estate be  
left by my executors in trust to discharge my just debts so  
lastly I do by these presents appoint my trusty friends  
Thomas Weston & my son Edward Richardson my executors  
to lawful executors of this my last will & testament in  
witness whereof I have unto set my hand & seal the day & year  
above written signifying & acknowledging to be the last will  
& testament of Edward Richardson upon

John Fisher  
S. E. Johnson

Edward Richardson <sup>Seal</sup>