

North Carolina. Sept.

In the name of God Amen.

I Benjamin Gurley, of the County of New Hanover, in the Province
aforesaid, planter, being sick, of body, but of perfect mind and
memory, thanks be to God, do make and ordain this my last will
and Testament; that is to say principally and first of all: I recom-
-mend my soul into the hands of God that gave it, and my body
to the earth to be buried in a decent christian burial at the discretion
of my executors, and as touching such worldly estate wherewith
it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I give and dispose of the
same in manner, and form following, Viz,

Item. It is my will that my just debt and funeral expences
be paid immediately after my decease.
Item. I give and bequeath unto my two daughters Elizabeth Gurley
and Mary Gurley, one hundred and seventy acres of land more
or less, to be equally divided, to them and their heirs lawfully beg-
-otten of their bodies forever. And I also bequeath my negro wench
Dido and her increase equally to be divided between Elizabeth Gurley,
and Mary Gurley; and in case she should not prove a breeder,
she is to be sold, and another bought with the money, that will
breed, the said wench and her increase, is to be delivered to them
at the years of eighteen or their marriage.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Elizabeth Gurley
one negro man named Willacey, to her, or her disposal, and all
the rest of the moveables to be equally divided betwixt my wife
Elizabeth Gurley and my daughter, Elizabeth Gurley and my daughter
Mary Gurley.

and for the executors of the above will, I nominate my beloved wife
Elizabeth Gurley and my good friend James Chisleton Executors of
this my last will and Testament; and I do hereby, utterly, disavow
revoke and make void all and every other former will and wills,
Testaments, Legacies, Requests by me before made, ratifying and
confirming this and no other, to be my last will and Testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this the
day of January in the year of our Lord 1771.

Signed, sealed, published, pronounced
and declared by the said Benjamin
Gurley as his last will and Testament,
in the presence of the subscribers

George St George
Solomon + Morice

Mary St George

his

A

mark,

Seal

At New Haven, July Court 1771

The within will was exhibited to the Court and proved on the oath of Mary Sturge a subscribing witness, who swore, that she saw the Testator sign, seal, publish and declare the same to be and contain his last will and Testament, and that at the time thereof, he was to the best of this deponents knowledge and belief of sound and disposing mind and memory, and that George Sturge and Solomon Morris, signed at the same time as corroborating evidences thereto, at the same time Elizabeth Gursley qualified as Executor agreeable to law.

John Leonard. C. C.

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State of North Carolina

This 13th December, 1778. came before me, William Evans and David James both of the town of Wilmington and State of North Carolina, and made oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that they the said Evans and James heard William Gregory of the town and State aforesaid declare and say on Tuesday the 8th of December, inst, that it was his last will and desire, that all his lands and money should be the property of his wife Abigail Gregory at his decease after all his just debts being paid; and they the deponents do declare, that they believe the said Gregory was then of sound mind though weak in body, and further the deponents declare, that the said William Gregory departed this life betwixt the hours of twelve and one o'clock, this morning; and further, the deponents saith not.

I swear to before me this 13th day of December, 1778, betwixt the hours of one and two o'clock, said day.

Ino Walker, S. P.

Wm. Evans
David James

Deposition of William Evans and David James relation to the unexecuted will of William Gregory

January Term 1779