

At New Hanover, January Court 1778 -

The will and last Will and Testament was exhibited to the court, and proved on the oath of Mr. Francis Price a subscribing witness thereto, and that Elias Howell signed at the same time as concurring concurred thereto -

Sam'l Swann. C. G.

In the name of God received. I Edmund Cobbin, New Hanover County, in the State of North Carolina, being in sound mind and memory, do make, constitute and appoint this to be my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all other Wills and Testaments by me heretofore made -

I give, devise and bequeath unto Lewis Le Grand a mulatto boy (the son of a negro woman called Nelly) whom I purchased of Mr. Frederick Jones Jr. (he having purchased from Sarah Moore widow of the late Mr. George Moore) his freedom forever, and I desire my executors will have the same ratified by the County Court -

I give, devise and bequeath unto the said Lewis Le Grand a negro woman called Heney, together with her children Nancy, Iris, Billy and Tom; also I give unto the said Lewis Le Grand a negro boy called Henry, and a negro girl called Rose, together with all the future increase of the above mentioned negroes, to have and to hold the same forever. I desire and request my executors will hire out all the above negroes except any two of them that Nelly may choose to be with her, and the money arising therefrom to be applied to the use of the said Nelly, and Lewis Le Grand, and the child the said Nelly is now big with -

I give, devise and bequeath unto the said Nelly, my horse named, six cows, one bed, bolster, and pillows, all my blankets, sheets and all my bed furniture, and as much of my kitchen furniture as she wants, and what China I may have, all my clothes and buttons -

I give, devise and bequeath unto Capt. Thomas Allen three negroes, viz., Barnesby, Dolly and her child Henry, and I request and desire he will purchase the child that Nelly is now big with from Mr. George Moore and have it made free. This I expect and make no doubt he will comply with, as I know his sincerity and friendship for me, and as they will be sufficient to pay him for the price of the child -

I give, devise and bequeath unto Mr. Frederick Jones Jr. my plantation whereon I live, and a piece of land (adjoining the said plantation) which I took up, for and in consideration of the

money which I owed him, to have and to hold the said plantation and a piece of land to him and his heirs forever; but, should said Jones think the said plantation is not equal in value to the money I owed him, then I desire the said plantation to be sold and the money arising therefrom to be paid him; but, the land adjoining as above, to remain his as before mentioned, all the remaining part of my estate, I desire my Executors will sell, and apply the money to the discharge of all my just debts, and if any money should remain in their hands after the discharging my debts, I desire it may be applied to the schooling and maintaining the aforesaid Lewis Le Grand and the child Nelly, is now big with

Four of my negroes has left and are gone to the English troops in Wilmington, but should they return or be got again, I give, devised and bequeath the said negroes for the purpose of purchasing Nelly and the child she is big with free, and for the maintenance of her and the said Lewis Le Grand and the child she is now big with; I desire my Executors will purchase the said Nelly free, either by exchange or by selling the said four negroes and purchasing her, as shall seem best to them; and should any money be left after her purchase, to be applied to the schooling & maintaining her and her two children Lewis Le Grand and the one she is now big with.

I desire and request my Executors will have Lewis Le Grand Schooled and qualified for a carpenter, and have him kept as much from negroes as they can, and to have all the negro boys I have left, placed out to the Carpenter's trade, as soon as they are old enough, so that when he arrives to the age of twenty one, he may have them delivered to him.

I request and desire my Executors will prosecute the suit, I have against Mrs. Robbins estate and endeavoring by all means to have it recovered; and should they recover it to pay themselves out of the said estate for the expence in prosecuting it, and the remaining part to be applied as hereafter mentioned should Nelly and the child she is now big with, not be purchased before this happens, I then desire they will purchase her freedom, and give to Margaret Moore (daughter of Mr George Moore) a negro girl about fifteen years of age and two negro girls about six years of age as an inducement to Mrs Moore to set Nelly and her child free. I then give and bequeath unto Lewis Le Grand two negro men and two negro women, to be hired out for his maintenance and schooling, and to be delivered to him at the age of twenty one. I also desire that four negroes not under fifteen years of age be hired out for the maintenance of Nelly and the child she is now big with; & should

my Executors purchase the child she is now big with child, I have given and bequeath the last mentioned four negroes to the said child when it arrives to the age of twenty one; but should either Lewis Le Grand or the said child she is now big with child die before they arrive to the age of twenty one, then I desire my Executors shall sell out as many of the said negroes as will amount to the sum of thirty pounds sterling per annum, for the sole purpose of maintaining the said Kelly, to be paid her yearly, and every year on the first day of January, and the remaining part of what I have left to the said Lewis Le Grand and the child Kelly is now big with child they die, to be divided between Capt Thomas Allen and Mr Frederick Jones Jr, Lastly I give, devise and bequeath all the remaining part of the said estate which my Executors may recover from Mrs Cobbin's estate (after complying with the above mentioned part of this Will) to be equally divided between my friends Capt Thomas Allen, Mr Frederick Jones Jr, and Mr Thomas Bracke slave and slave alike, and in case either of them should die without issue lawfully begotten, then to go and be equally divided between the others surviving, provided nevertheless that if the person dying should be married, he shall have it in his power to leave it to his wife during her widowhood or during her natural life and no longer.

(omitted) I give, devise and bequeath unto Lewis Le Grand all the money that is due me for the purchase of the land I sold Mr Robert Hogg; to be put out at interest and delivered him when he arrives to the age of twenty one.

I hereby appoint Capt Thomas Allen, Mr Frederick Jones Jr, and Mr Thomas Bracke Executors to this my last Will and Testament I have much confidence in the friendship of the above named gentleman, that I have no doubt they will comply exactly with this Will, and it is my earnest request and I call upon them by the most sacred ties of friendship, that they will not suffer Kelly, Lewis Le Grand, or the child she is now big with child to be treated ill, or want any of the necessaries of life. I know they will manage what little I have left them to the best advantage. I beg of them to keep Lewis and the child Kelly is now big with child from negroes as they can, though I should be sorry they should be taken from their mother, untill they are of proper age. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this thirtieth day of January in the year of our Lord 1774
 Signed and sealed in the presence of (the word) Edmund Cobbin. And the in first line of the second page, the word (four) in eleventh line of the 3rd page and the words (and to be delivered him at the age of twenty one) in the 18th line of the 4th page, and the word (desire) in same line and page being first interred
 I agree to do so

182

August 1782. James Moore one of the subscribers, witness to
the above will, appeared before me and made oath on the Holy
Scripture of Almighty God, that he saw Edmund Corby, sign
and acknowledge the within writing for and as his last will
and Testament, and that the said Edmund Corby was at the
time of signing and disposing mind and memory. Sworn to
before me the day and year above.

Sam'l Atkin. J. S. C. Lt C.

August 17th 1782,

Let it be recorded

Sam'l Atkin.

State of North Carolina
New Hanover County

January Second 1783

This is to certify that Mr Thomas Briske
one of the Executors named in the within Will, came into Court and
qualified by taking the oath of an Executor, agreeable to law; at some
time it was ordered, that letters testamentary issued to the said
Thomas Briske agreeable to law.

Thos: MacLaine. Atty.

In the name of God Amen. I James Bolson of
New Hanover County being of sound and disposing mind
and memory, but being weak in body and considering the
uncertainty of life, do make and ordain this to be my last will
and Testament, revoking all other wills and testaments by me
heretofore made.
Item. I give, devise and bequeath to the children of my late
deceased friend Thomas Davis esq; and their heirs and assigns forever
the bond given to me by Benjamin Smith esq; for one hundred
and seventy five pounds sterling money of Great Britain, also all
my real estate on Black, Peale, or any other place.
Item. I give and bequeath to my beloved friend Samuel Swan
his choice of my filly, got by Sweepes, from my mare called Fair
she was got by Bessie.
Item. I give and bequeath to my beloved friend Samuel Swan
a note given by the said Samuel Swan payable to me for twenty
two pounds, nine shillings, also one other note given by Col. Jacob
Leaven and payable to me for twenty pounds currency.
Item. I give and bequeath to my beloved friends George Moore
and John Moore, my mare called Fair and her other filly, got
by Sweepes, also my chest of books.
Item. I give and bequeath to Mrs Mary Davis wife of the aforesaid
Thomas Davis, my negro boy named Sam.