

In the name of God Amen. I, John Benson of New
Hanover County, being sick, and weak, of body, but of perfect mind
and memory, thanks be to God, therefore calling to mind the mortality
of my body, and that it is appointed for all men to die; do
make and ordain this to be my last Will and Testament,
that is to say;

Principally and first of all, I give and recommend my soul
into the hands of God that gave it, and my body I commit
to the earth to be buried in a decent and christian like man-
ner, at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named, not-
withstanding doubting but at the general resurrection I shall receive
the same again by the mighty power of God. And as touching
such worldly estate where with it hath pleased God to bless
me in this life, I give, devise and dispose of in manner
and form following.

Inprimis.

Item. I give unto my wife Ede Benson one third part of all
my personal estate.

Item. I give unto my son James, the plantation whereon I
now live, to be his immediately after his mothers decease.

Item. I will that the rest and residue of my estate be equally
divided amongst my three children, vizt, James, Mary, and
Elizabeth.

And I hereby constitute and appoint Francis Proctor and
John Potter, to be Executors to this my last Will and Testament,
and I do hereby disannul and revoke all other Wills and Test-
aments before this time by me made, ratifying and confir-
ming this and no other, to be my last Will and Testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this
fourteenth day of February, 1744.

Signed, sealed and delivered

his
John. B. Benson Seal
mark

in presence of us
William Lewis
John Robeson
John Potter,

New Hanover County
March Court 1744

The execution of this Will was
duly proved by William Lewis, being duly sworn,
James Smallwood. D. C. C.