

In the name of God and by his blessing, in full possession of the faculties of my mind, I hereby ordain the following as my last will and Testament.

First. It is my desire that all and every my just debts be fully and satisfactorily paid (and I request my executors, if it can be effected, to do this without the sale of any portion of my property, unless such a step be thought by them most conducive to the interests of Legatee hereinafter named) and as the payment of my debts will require time, a competent support will be provided by them from the income of my estate for my dear wife Marianna and my daughter Julia, and also for my children Mary Ann and Charles Bruce, until they viz Mary Ann and Charles Bruce come to the enjoyment of the property which they inherit from their mother.

Secondly. After the payment of all my just debts, I desire and hereby direct, the following distribution of my property, real and personal to be made, viz.

To my dear and affectionate wife Marianna, I give and bequeath the tract of Tide swamp, which is now opposite the town of Wilmington N. C. containing one hundred acres more or less. The place on which I at present reside, adjoining the Southern Boundary of the town of Wilmington and commonly called "The Basin" containing six lots and two half lots, together with the dwelling house and out houses thereon, and all my household furniture and farming utensils, the rice machine, outhouses, mill seat and land attached thereto situated four and a half or five miles below Wilmington known by the name of Basnett's Creek; together with the following negro slaves, viz, Gato, Phoebe, Timmy, Elegg, Jenny and her three children Anthony, Henry and Amy, Delia, Richard, Mentor, Ned, ^{Sam} Melvina, John, Lemis, July, Betsey, March, Peter, Old Murry, Christina, Stephen, Bessy, and old Amy, together with their increase.

To my dear daughter Mary Ann, only, in token of my affection I give and bequeath the negro slaves Peg and her daughter Violet, with their increase.

And to my son Charles Bruce I give and bequeath the negro slaves Sampson, Esther, and their son Rinty, also as a mark of my parental regard.

I think it proper to mention here that my children Mary Ann and Charles Bruce are amply provided for in the property which they inherit from their mother; for this reason and not from the want of parental feeling and tenderness toward them, is the portion bequeathed to them so small.

To my friends Mr William C. Lora ^{James H. Speer} and Doc. Fred. Hild, I confide the execution of this my last will and Testament and do hereby appoint them my Executors, and as they have kindly consented to

