

In the name of God amen, I Jacob Rhodes of
 Swain county and State of North Carolina, planter
 being at this present time much afflicted and in-
 vaded with bodily pains although of perfect sound
 mind and disposing Memory, yet not know-
 ing how soon it may please the Almighty God to call me
 out of this transitory life into some future state
 of existence, I do therefore Make and Ordain the fol-
 lowing to taken and received as my Last Will & Testament.
 And first of all I recommend my soul into the hands
 of Almighty God the creator and Author of my being
 Humbly hoping that through his great Mercy & goodness
 as also thro' the blood and Merits of his son our Lord
 and saviour Jesus Christ, I shall receive the same
 again in glory at the general Resurrection of all man-
 kind, and as to my body I request, that it may be decently bur-
 ied after the manner and custom hitherto used & observed
 amongst Christian people and according to the discretion
 of my Executors herein after named, and me in this
 will appointed. As to whatever worldly substance
 whether real or personal, which it has been the will of
 God to bless me with in this life, it is my will, Desire
 and Request that my Executors dispose of the same in
 the manner following, that is to say all my Just Debts
 and funeral charges to be by them paid and discharged, &c.

Item It is my will and Request ^{that} the Justice of the worship-
 full court of Swain County nominate and appoint three
 honest and reputable persons, as soon as the youngest of
 my sons comes to be of Lawfull Age, to value and appraise
 the tract of land I now live on at ready price, if then
 my said sons being now four, or the survivors of them
 or any them should be willing to retain the said lands to
 himself or themselves at such valuation, such son or
 sons after paying unto their Mother one third part of such
 valuation in such reasonable time as may be agreed upon
 by their said Mother and my Executors herein named,
 and also pay the remainder two thirds unto the hands
 of my Executors, and in order to be by them divided be-
 tween each of every of my children male & female without
 distinction of the survivor or survivors of them or any
 of them and such division to be made as soon as circum-
 stances may admit of and in case my said sons should
 not be disposed at the time aforesaid to hold the said
 lands on the above conditions, it is my will and Request
 and I do hereby empower to sell and dispose of the same
 to the best Advantage for the Benefit of my Wife & my
 children in general, and to appropriate the money aris-
 ing from the sale of such lands to their use, That is to
 say one third part to my Wife and the other two thirds to
 be divided by even and equal proportions amongst all my
 children male & female, and it is further my Will &
 I do direct that my Wife Continue to be & the main & full
 possession and enjoyment of that plantation & premises

Of every kind the same belonging, for and until my said youngest son shall arrive to the age aforesaid, without any set or hindrance whatever.

Item I give and bequeath unto my eldest son Jacob Rhodes ten pounds a piece over and above his share and dividend of my Estate. — Item I order and direct that the remainder of whole Estate, like ther improvements purchased or taken up and landed, as also all and singular my personal Estate of every kind be sold by my executor agreeable to the laws of the state and the money arising from such sale after paying all and every incident charge, to be divided in manner following that is to say one third part unto my beloved wife Mary and the remaining two thirds to be equally divided between the whole of my children without distinction as to sex or age, and such divisions to be paid them who are or may be of proper age, when such money becomes due and such part or share as shall happen to fall to those of my younger children, I request that the same be put to interest for their benefit until they receive the same from the hands of my executor, at their arrival at full age according to their own. — And lastly I nominate, Ordain, constitute and appoint my Trusty friends Godfrey Green, Philip Woods and my Well Beloved Wife Mary Executors of this my Will and Testament, that they confirm this and no other to be my last Will &

and Testament, thereby Revoking all other and former Wills and Testaments by made in any wise in Testaments. Money Whose I So Remains Let My hand and seal this Sixth Day of May in the Year of our Lord Anns Domini one thousand seven hundred and Eighty two

Signed Sealed Declared & pronounced by the
Said Jacob Rhodes in the presence
of us, who in his presence
of presents of each other
have hereunto set our
hands as Witnesses

John Lewis Record

Andrew G. G. G.

Henry G. G.

John Dunn

OF

In the name of god amen, I William Lee Davidson of the state of north carolina and county of Rowan being in health of body & of perfect sound memory thanks be given to god, calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my Last Will & Testament, that is to say firstly and first of all I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God that gives it, and my body I bequeath to the earth, to be buried in decent