

In the name of God Amen the Thirtieth first day of October in the year of our Lord One Thousand, Seven hundred and Seventy Six I James Orton of the County of Rowan in the province of North Carolina planter, being sick, and weak in Body but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be given unto God: Therefore calling to mind the mortality of my Body (and knowing that it is appointed for men once to die) Do make and Ordain this 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, hoping through the merits Death and passion of my Saviour Jesus Christ to have full and free pardon and forgiveness of all my Sins and to inherit everlasting life and my Body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executor herein after named nothing doubting but at the general Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God, and as touching such worldly Estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me with in this life, I give, devise, bequeath and dispose of the same in the following manner and form (Viz) First I Will that all those Debts and duties as I do owe in Right or Conscience to any manner of person or persons whatsoever shall be well and truly contented and paid, or Ordained to be paid in Convenient time after my decease by my Executors hereinafter named First I will, bequeath, and devise to my Loving Son James Orton and to his heirs and assigns for ever, That part of my plantation whercon he now lives on the North side of the South side of the said River Beginning at the Run next to John Beckmans and up to the middle of the pond, thence to the River thence up the River to the upper line of said Land Item I give devise and bequeath to my loving Son Joseph Orton and to his heirs and assigns for ever all the Residue and Remainder of my Plantation whercon I now live together with the two year old felly the Serral Mares Colt and the Roan Colt and one Milk Cow and bed and furniture &c two Sheep, Item I will and Bequeath to my loving Wife Jane one third part of all my personal Estate after the several Bequests herein contained be taken out, together with a Milk Cow and her spinning Wheel

Wheel and a decent and comfortable living on my plantation bequeathed and devised to my son Joseph which I will that he do maintain her comfortably during her natural life or continuing my Widow and also that he find her a horse to ride ~~there~~ at all times when she requires ite Item I give and bequeath to my loving Daughter Rachel two milk cows a bed and furniture a spinning Wheel two peauter Dishes and six plates and a side Saddle and two Sheep, Item I will and bequeath to my loving Daughter Rebecca two peauter Dishes and six plates and an Iron pot of a middling size, Item I give and bequeath to my loving Son John Orton and to his heirs and assigns the Entry to gether with my Claim of my old place joining the Widow Armstrong and Samuel Young, Item all and singular the Remainder of my personal Estate I will to be sold at publick sale and after my wife Jane Receiveth one third part of the Proceed of said sale the Remaining two thirds to be equally divided amongst all my Sons and Daughters share and share alike.

Lastly I nominate constitute, Ordain and appoint my wife Jane and my loving Son Joseph Orton Executors and Executor of this my Last Will and Testament and I do hereby disallow revoke and disannul all (and every other former Testaments, Wills & Legacies Bequests and Executors by me in any way before this time named Willed or bequeathed 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 the day and year above Written.

Signed, sealed, published pronounced and declared by the said James Orton as his Last Will and Testament in the presence of us the Subscribers

John Bayon
Elizabeth ^{her} West
Mark
Samuel Young

James Orton