

1582  
and each one of my Sons to have a Horse and Saddle  
when he comes to the age of 21 Years if my Executors  
judge the Horse so given be no detriment to the carrying  
on the farm for the support of my Widow and younger  
Children. ~~After~~ It is my will and I doe that when my  
Youngest Child living comes to age that then my Es-  
tate not before willed be sold and one third part thereof  
be given to my Wife if then living a Widow, the remain-  
ing two thirds to be equally divided among all my  
Children at their Death. ~~After~~ It is my will that the  
one third before willed to my Widow at her Death or  
Marriage shall also be equally divided among my  
Children and that my Widow do oblige herself not to  
Waste it alienate it or make it away by gift to any  
~~After~~ it is my will and I do order my friends Harry  
Houston & William Pitt to be my joint Executors of this  
my last Will and Testament ratifying and confirming  
this and me other to be my last Will and Testament  
Signed Sealed Published & pronounced in presence  
of Robert Brown  
James Young X  
John McCullough  
mark

John Henderson Esq.  
Mary Henderson  
mark

In the name of God Omnipotent I Joseph Lawrence (69)  
of Rowan County in the Province of North Carolina being  
through the merciful goodness of God of sound and perfect  
Understanding and memory, calling to mind my mor-  
tality and knowing that it is appointed for all men once  
to die do therefore this sixth day of August in the Year of  
our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy six  
make and constitute this my last Will and Testament in  
manner and form following, and first I most humbly  
 beseeche my soul to God my maker beseeching his gra-  
cious acceptance of it, through the all sufficient merits  
and mediation of Jesus Christ my Lord and Redeemer,  
and my body to the Earth from whence it came in  
the hope of a joyful Resurrection, and thro the merciful  
power of him who is the awakener of the dead, and unto my  
Worldly Estate I will and do hereby order that all my less-  
full debts be justly paid, and I do give and bequeath  
to my beloved and only son John my property of land  
lying between the forks of Catawba River on Little Creek  
and if he decease before he be of age, then said land to be-  
come the property of my well beloved and only daughter  
Elizabeth and I bequeath to my honoured Father John  
Lawrence my Negro Wench named Coombs to pay  
the sum of Eighty five pounds per Annum of North  
Carolina.

To my Executors, the said money to be by my  
Executors put on Interest till my Children be of age  
then one third to given to my Son John and two thirds  
to my Daughter Elizabeth. I also give and bequeath to  
to my Son John my Silver New Buttons and Plates  
Silver Buckles, and I give and bequeath to my daughter  
Elizabeth the small silver plate Buttons and Silver  
Silver Buckles which was my beloved Wifes. I also give  
and bequeath to my Son John my small Trunk  
also to my Daughter Elizabeth her Mothers small  
Trunk, which I think to be in the care of my  
Brother Abraham and Sister Elizabeth till the Child  
-ren be of age. I also give ~~and~~ and bequeath unto  
Waintha Barnet the Daughter of Charles Barnet  
Diseased all her own weareing Clothes given to her by me  
and my Wife before her death, also as much Cotton &  
Flax as will make her one bed Tick, Potster, Pillow  
Pillow Cases and two Sheets, also one Cow and Calf  
and Yearling heifer at his choice, and I give and  
bequeath to Daniel Hunt the eldest son of my  
Sister Margaret Hunt, one black Yearling Horse & Colt  
and I give and bequeath to my beloved Brother  
Abraham One black Mare the same of said black  
*Bell*

And I give and bequeath to my beloved <sup>(7)</sup> Brother  
Andrew my Mattock and as much of my Iron &  
Steel as be sufficient to lay said Mattock. The remain  
der of my Estate (movable) I order to be sold by  
the Authority of put into the hands of my Executors  
at public Vendue and the money equally divided  
to my two Children and put on Interest, which  
Interest with that of the Negro Wench and the rest  
of my Plantation to be for the maintenance and  
Schooling of my two Children, my Daughter I desire  
shall be learnt to read write and Cypher, so that she  
may be capable of book Keeping, and likewise that she  
be sent to my Sister Catherine or elsewhere to be learnt  
the Trade my Sister Catherine has, and my Son John  
I desire should (if his part of my movable Estate be  
sufficient for it) be taught as far as may  
be necessary to fit him for the preaching of the Gospel  
(And I do make constitute and appoint my well  
beloved Brothers, John and Abraham Lawrence to  
be my whole and sole Executors of this my last Will  
and Testament, disallowing, Disannulling and  
making void all other Wills, or Wills by me hitherto  
made, Ratifying and confirming  
this and only this my last Will & Testament

Providing also that in case one or both the above named Executors should die before the Execution of these presents, that then one or both of my other Brothers namely Andrew and Jacob be and hereby appointed to execute in the room and stead of the above, in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this sixth day of August 1775  
Signed sealed and delivered by the Testator for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who are present at the signing and sealing hereof

Andrew Lawrence Joseph Lawrence  
Elizabeth Lawrence George Hiblack

In the name of God Amen I Robert Lawrence  
of Rowan County and Province of North Carolina  
being weak in body but of a disposition of mind  
memory and understanding, but calling to  
mind the uncertainty of life do make this my  
last Will and Testament First I ordain and  
allow that after my decease my body be  
buried in a Christian and decent like manner

at the discretion of my Executors hereafter mentioned  
Secondly I give to my beloved Son Isaac Gaton and born  
of the body of Sarah Brandon the whole of my Estate after  
my funeral expence & other debts is paid, bonds and  
allow all my effects to be set up at publick sale and  
sold to the highest bidder and two years credit to be  
given bidder and allow the money to be put to interest  
until my above Son be the age of Twenty One Years  
Age, I do order and allow that William Cowan of the  
said Creek to be Executor of this my last Will and  
Testament and I allow this to be and no other my  
last Will and Testament in witness whereof I have  
set my hand and seal this ninth day of July  
in the year of our Lord 1775 Signed sealed in the  
presence of us

X Alex<sup>r</sup> Bradley  
Mary Bradley  
John Nivins  
mark

his wife & George Esely  
mark

State of North Carolina Rowan County, These are to  
certify that we the subscribers were called upon by Robert  
Smith in his last sickness in his own habitation  
or dwelling house, on Tuesday the 9th day of