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this my last Will and Testament, In witness where-
of I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Twenty
Eight day of December 1782 - Signed Sealed Pub-
lished and pronounced in the presence of

John Forts
Christopher Clark
James Withers *

John ^{his} Cothran Esq.
^{mark}


In the name of God Amen. Melchus
Leatherman of the Province of North Carolina and
County of Rowan, being weak in body but of perfect
mind and memory, calling to mind the mortality
of the Body, and knowing that it is appointed for all
men once to die, I 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 Almighty God that gave
me, and my body I recommend to the Earth to be
Buried in a decent Christian Burial at the dis-
cretion of my Executors nothing doubting but at
the general Resurrection, I shall receive the same ^{again}
by the mighty power of God. And as touching my
worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God

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to bless me in this life, I give demise and dis-
pose of the same in the following manner and
form. First, I give and bequeath to my beloved
Wife Elizabeth my Spinning Black Mare, and the big
Rounded Cow and her bit and Bitting, her Spinning
Wheel and the half of the Household furniture and
her share the rest of my Estate to be given to my
Children; my Son Christian, I give and bequeath
the sum of fourteen pounds after the decease of
my Wife Elizabeth, my Son John Leatherman I
give and bequeath the bond I gave had of Thomas
Haddock now in the hands of my Son in law ~~the~~
Cally, and the sword Feller that goes by the name
of Snapper. I give and bequeath to my two sons
namely, Jonas and Daniel, my plantation and
the two Houses and floor, and floor Sackling and
my own Tools belonging to the said place if my
Loving Wife is to dwell as usual to gather and
keep their provisions if agreeable to the mother mind
if not the said Son her son is to give his mother
fifteen Bushels of Wheat and fifteen Bushels of
Corn and six bushels rye and a half Acre of
Flax to give to the Mother One hundred lb. of Pork
and forty weight of Beef to be given yearly

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The said Son is to winter his mother Mary &
Low, and to let them run with him in during
her Widowhood. And if both parties are agreed to sell
the land for to sell it and take the money and pur-
chase land again for the purpose for Son and David
and their mother, and when David is come of age they
are to sell the land and each to have an equal share
and to take the money and purchase land again for
each other, if David is come of age he is to have an equal
share with his Brother Sons both mentioning his mo-
ther and the said David for to be under subjec-
tion under his Mother or Son till he comes of age
I Will and bequeath to my daughter Mathe the sum of
Twenty five pounds in money, to be paid in two years
after this date, if not paid, that they shall pay interest
for the said money however keeps the said Mathe
shall be care of her Estate after her Decease. I Will give
and bequeath unto my daughter Rachel the sum
of Twenty five pounds in money, I Will and
bequeath to my daughter Liza the sum of Twenty
five pounds in money and the young Cow that goes
in her name and the young Printed Cow both to
be born, and likewise give and bequeath to my
Daughter Susanna the sum of Twenty five pounds

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in money and two young Heifers ^{One} with a white
face and the other a Printed Heifer. The rest of the
House furniture and Creatures are to be divided
And after the death of this Mother Elizabeth, to be
equally divided amongst all my Children, and
the three girls to have liberty to make themselves bits
While they are with their Mother. And I do hereby
utterly Disallow revoke and disannul all and
every other former Testaments, Wills, legacies Bequests
and Executors by me in any ways before named
willed and 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 this 7th day of September in the year
of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and
Eighty Two, Signed sealed published and pronounced
in and declared by the said Nicholas Latherman
as his last Will and Testament in the presence of
us, who in his presence and in the presence of each
other have subscribed our names

Wm Kenburn
John Earnest

Nicholas Latherman