

In the Name of god Amen. I James Grantham of Wayne
County, in the State of N. Carolina, being weak of body but of
sound mind and memory, Do hereby declare in the presence of my
Beloved wife Elizabeth Stevens, and my friends, that I do hereby
make and constitute an Ordinance this my last will and
Testament, in manner and form following, viz, first and principally
of all I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of almighty
god who gave it, and my body I recommend to the Earth to be buried
in a Christian like manner, nothing doubting but it will raise up
again at the last Day by the Power of my blessed Saviour
As for worldly Estate with which it hath pleased God to bless me
I do hereby bequeath and dispose of in manner and form following
First, my will I desire that all my just debts be satisfied
paid by my Executors hereafter mentioned in the following manner
viz, that it is my desire so many of the young negroes in
my Estate and not by the Sheriff at Public Vendue on the 1st of
as will satisfy and pay the D. Debts, (viz, Elizabeth Stevens)
Next, I desire to my beloved, the plantation whereon I now live
and one negro man called Jack, and one negro woman
called Nanny, for and during her natural life
Then, I send to my beloved wife the Residue of my whole Estate
after my Debts are paid untill my son Richard arrives to the
Age of Twenty one Years, and at the expiration of that time the
Estate then for that time be equally divided at the discretion of
my Executors Between my 4 Children
Next, my will and desire is that the land I have and then
moreover which I have left to my wife during her natural
life be at her decease equally divided, amongst all my children
or at the discretion of my Exrs, and I do hereby nominate and
appoint my beloved wife Elizabeth Stevens, my loving Brother Charles
Stevens, and my worth friend R. Bap. Edmund Stevens, Charles
Rayford and Edward Bap. Executors of this my will, and I do
hereby annulling all and every other former wills by me made
Acknowledging this and this only to be my last will and Testament
In witness whereof I the said James Grantham have hereunto set
my hand and Seal the 23rd March 1776
James Grantham

In the Name of god Amen, the 23rd March 1776, I Thomas
Grantham of N. Carolina, in the County of Dobbs, being very sick
and weak of body but perfect mind and memory, Do hereby declare
and testify that I do hereby make and constitute an Ordinance this my
last will and Testament, in manner and form following, viz, first and principally
I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of almighty god who
gave it and for my body I recommend it to the Earth to be
buried in a Christian like manner at the discretion of Executors
nothing doubting but at the general Resurrection I shall
receive the same by the mighty Power of god, and Touching my
worldly Estate when with it hath pleased god to bless me in
this life, I give and dispose of same in form following
Intending, I give and bequeath unto my dearly beloved wife Mary
Grantham one Hundred Acres of land Concluding part of the
plantation and the negro fellow called Jack during her natural
life and after her decease the land to be the property of my well
beloved son's Lion Grantham, and the negroes to be sold and
equally divided amongst the rest of my Children, and the
rest of my land I desire to be equally amongst the rest of my
sons as they see Cause. I then I give and bequeath to each of
my daughters Twenty five pounds of good money out of the residue
of my Estate, which is left be equally amongst all my sons & daughters
I also desire that what Bap. Pettit I much had hope may be sold
to discharge my debts, also I desire that my wife may only
have with my Children, and also desire that each my Children may
Receive this part of my Estate when they come of age, I also I nominate
and appoint my son James Grantham, my son John Grantham, and my
loving friend Grantham, my son Edw. of this my last will and Testament
but firm and confirming this and no other to be my last will and Testament
whereof I have set my hand and Seal this 23rd March 1776
Signed Seal & Published, in
presence of us
John Grantham
Joshua Grantham
Jm. Grantham
Thomas Grantham