

WILL OF

BENJAMIN CLARKE

In the Name of God Amen. The twenty fourth day of May in the Year of Our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Ninety Six - I Benjamin Clarke of Abbeville County, Ninety District & State of South Carolina; being in health of Body and of Perfect Mind and Memory - Thanks be to God for the Same Calling to Mind my Mortallity do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament -

~~Inprimis I positively will and order all my debts be paid -~~

I give and bequeath unto my two children Elisabeth Clarke and Jean N. Clarke my two feather beds and all their furniture and all my wearing apparel that now or hereafter may be made fit for them to wear - Also all my Books on Divinity, history, Miscellaneous Pieces and pamphlets - ~~also~~ part of my Medical furniture as may be suitable for them - I also bequeath them my two Chests- I also bequeath them all my household furniture- I order that all the above mentioned Articles Shall Speedily after my Decease be Equally divided between them according to quantity and quality by James Cochran and Mary Cochran- Except Such Articles as will Not be suitable to keep for them, these I will Shall be speedily sold & the mony arising from the Sale be Applied to their use - I bequeath to my Brother Ebenezer Clarke my Silver Seal-Stock-buckle, knee buckles, whip, best broad Cloth Coat, Cassimere Vest & Breeches and my Boots - And Should he incline to purchase any of my Medical Books I will that he Shall have them at half the price they are marked at - I also bequeath him Maryatts' Practice of Physic - I will that all my Medicine, Medical Authors or Books & Medical furniture together with Such part of my household furniture as will not suit to keep for my Children be Sold Either at public or private sale as will be most Advantageous for them

Abbeville County Wills 1787-1815
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Either at public or private sale as will be most Advantageous
for them
I will and order that my Negro James be hired out to a good
Master who will take care of him And not abuse him and that his
Wages be laid out for the Schooling and Maintainance of My Chil-
dren - He is thus to be hired from time to time Untill my Daughter
Jean Arrives to the age of Eighteen, and then if Any one of my
Children Should Chuse to keep him he is to be Valued by three Men
that they Shall appoint and the one who is to keep him Shall

pay the other, the one Equal half ~~of the~~ Sum at which he has been Valued - But if both of them are Desirous to keep him or if none of them Chuse to purchase him then the KK is to be Sold and the Money to be Equally divided between them

I bequeath all my Wearing Apparel that I have not mentioned, to John, James and David Cochran and that it be Equally divided Among them - I Bequeath my Latin Dictionary Latin Bible and Grammar to any one of my Brothers Sons that May learn latin -

I also will my fathers Margin Bible to my Brother - I will and do Devise that all my land be sold to the best advantage and the money ~~to be~~ Equally divided between my two Daughters - And in case my Children should both die I will and Order that all my

~~Real and pers~~ be Sold and that three parts of the money arising from the Sale be Equally Devided among my brothers three Sons, his Daughter And my Sisters Daughter and Son - And the fourth part be Equally divided among the children of my Motherinlaw Agnes Cochran -

I also Will that all my personal Estate that will not keep or be of Immediate Service to My Children nor Answer to be laid up for them that it be sold to the best advantage ~~for them~~ - Should any of My Daughters chuse to keep my Negro James, She is to pay her Sister the one Equal half at which he has been valued - I hereby Constitute my worthy friends James Cochran and Mary Cochran to be my Sole and only Executors and to See that this My last will and Testament be fully Executed According to the true intent and meaning thereof - In Witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal day and Year first above written

Benjⁿ. Clarke (Seal)

Signed Sealed and declared by the Said Benjⁿ. Clarke to be his last will and testament in presence of us the Subscribers

Viz: David Cochran

Agnes Cochran Jun^r