

JOHN BERNARD

~~IN THE NAME OF GOD~~

To all present and to come, be known & manifested, as also let it be that in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety six and the 23^d day of January, I John Bernard an inhabitant of New Bordeaux, Abbeville County Ninety six District of South Carolina, not knowing the hour nor the moment in which it shall please God to call me to him; I have thought proper to set in writing, disposing thus of my last will in the following manner:

First I give thanks to God that he has been mercifull to me, and that by his free goodness made me a member in the Christian Church ~~and made me~~ participate to the light of his Gospel and of the Doctrine of Salvation, granting me his mercee, he has supported me in so many sins and weaknesses, which would well deserve that I should have been rejected a hundred thousand times by him. More than that he has extended his mercy on me, granting me grace to persevere in the christian church in which I protest with the assistance of the holy Spirit to be willing to live and die, in that faith which has been given to me in our Lord Jesus Christ, accepting the Merit of his Death and passion, that by that means, all my sins may be blotted out and buried; and praying him ardently thus to cleanse me from my iniquities by the blood of that great Redeemer, which has been shed for us poor sinners that I may be put in the city of his children and may appear before his face without blemish and without reproch, and as clothed with or bearing his image

But, Alas! the desive & Zeal I have had to be faithfull to him in the vocation of which he has honored me, by his grace, if I am allowed to express myself thus, has been so unworthy that I find myself highly beholden in all & by

of New Bordeaux, Abbeville County Ninety six District of South Carolina, not knowing the hour nor the moment in which it shall please God to call me to him; I have thought proper to set in writing, disposing thus of my last will in the following manner:

First I give thanks to God that he has been mercifull to me, and that by his free goodness made me a member in the Christian Church ~~and~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~ participate to the light of his Gospel and of the Doctrine of Salvation, granting me his mercy, he has supported me in so many sins and weaknesses, which would well deserve that I should have been rejected a hundred thousand times by him. More than that he has extended his mercy on me, granting me grace to persevere in the christian church in which I profess with the assistance of the holy Spirit to be willing to live and die, in that faith which has been given to me in our Lord Jesus Christ, accepting the Merit of his Death and passion, that by that means, all my sins may be blotted out and buried; and praying him ardently thus to cleanse me from my iniquities by the blood of that great Redeemer, which has been shed for us poor sinners that I may be put in the city of his children and may appear before his face without blemish and without reproch, and as clothed with or bearing his image

But, Alas! the desire & Zeal I have had to be faithfull to him in the vocation of which he has honored me, by his grace, if I am allowed to express myself thus, has been so unworthy that I find myself highly beholden in all & by all and it is only through his goodness and pity that he shows himself a Father to so miserable a sinner.

I desire that after my death my body may be buried according to the customary manner upon my habitation if I die there, if elsewhere at a place the most convenient (all the earth & what it contains belong to the lord) in expecting the happy

resurrection.

as concerning the Small property that God has given me in this
can. to dispose of it ; I name & appoint for my administrators
& Executors Mrs. John Gervais Esq^r. & ~~in~~ in Charleston and
Peter Gibert Senior residing at new Bordeaux Abbeville County
Ninety Six District, Confiding my self in their wise direction to
execute in full my last will without changing anything in it.

I name & institute for my heirs my nephews St^e. Poi of
my late brother James Beraud Surnamed Rousseau my deceased brother
and of Elisabeth Battide Beraud their Mother residing at the
Canton Bourg d'Enessee Jurisdiction of St^e Poi in Agines
province of Guienne in France I give to all three of them,
without being able to Name them, not knowing their right Names,
by reason of ~~my never seeing them~~, I ~~leave~~ bequeath to each of
them equally all that which belongs properly to me that is land
houses & cattle exactly all that which belongs to me, after
debts paid if there is any after my death; without any of my
kindred here can pretend any this to it; I except four
guineas or the value, which I give to the poor-- I give full
power and authority to Mrs. the Executors & administrators
of this present Testament to Make an inventory without any
form of law & to fulfill the within contents such as it is here
written.

It is so, John Beraud after having writting is with my own
hand as above, in the ~~xxxxxxx~~ Same instant , I have under
signed with my usual Sign declaring that Such is my last will
and disposition, desiring that it should be observed

Signed & Sealed in the presence of Witnesses -- under Signed
in Columbia this 24th of January 1796 true translation of the
last will & Testament of John Beraud

Sworn to in open Court of Abbeville County

the 27th March 1799

P. Gibert