

EDWARD D. SMITH.
For my family-----

The circumstances of my present situation having induced a state of peculiarly serious and solemn feelings I have determined to make a record, which is intended for those who are inexpressibly dear to me by nature and with whom I do most earnestly pray that I may hereafter be inseparably united in the indissoluble bonds of Eternal Felicity-- On the Morrow is to be celebrated the holy ordinance of the Lord's Supper, in which, together with my beloved wife, I hope to partake, and Oh! that it may prove a foretaste of our future mutual and unfading happiness. This alone should be sufficient to excite the most serious reflections; but in addition to this I expect on the succeeding day to commence a journey to the Missouri, which will probably detain me from my family for at least three months, and which duration, altho' very painful to my feelings, I deem it my duty to undergo, with the hopes of making a better temporal provision, than there is a prospect of doing in my present situation. As human life is uncertain and it may please God in his Providence to call me away before my return) altho' I humbly hope and pray that I may yet be spared to those who look to me as their earthly support and comfort I have thought it both necessary and prudent to leave behind me some memorial, in case of such an event-- And, in the first place, I desire to state that I humbly hope my trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, as my only Saviour and Redeemer, is firm and unshaken, but at the same time I am truly sensible that too often my faith is weak and almost dead, and that too often my Life and conversation are not such as become his professed Disciples-- Still I hope that my Sins will be pardoned thro' his atoning blood, that I shall be purified from all pollution and clothed in his righteousness and accepted before the Throne of God-- Lord! I believe,

help thou mine unbelief! I would then enjoin it upon my dear Children, as they respect my sentiment or my Memory, to seek the one thing needful, to avail themselves diligently of all their opportunities for acquiring Religious instruction, and to walk in the steps, in which their Parents have endeavoured to train them--My doing this and adding their daily and earnest prayers to God for his assistance and for the teachings of his Holy Spirit, they can alone expect to obtain immortal happiness----I do also hereby enjoin upon them to pay the most dutiful and respectful attention to their Mother, who is entitled to it, not only from the ties of nature, but from her unwearied kindness and solicitude for their welfare--and if they fail in this respect, they cannot expect the blessings either of this life or of that, which is to come-----

So my beloved wife, with whom I have been so long united, not only by the bond of civil society but far more strongly by long tried and highly proved affection, I would say that I commit to her the entire charge of my worldly possessions well convinced that she will manage them in the best manner, for the benefit of her family---The particulars are too well known to her to need any detail, and I have no doubt that she will find some kind and judicious friends, whose advice will give her all the aid that she may need--- Of course she will, from the smallness of my fortunes, perceive the necessity of settling herself in some eligible, cheap and healthy part of the country; and with perfect confidence I leave the definitive arrangement of this matter to her judgment-----

And now having endeavoured to make one prudent provision for the uncertainty of human existence, and at the same time humbly praying that if it be consistent with the will of the Lord there may be no occasion to make use of it, I

do now solemnly commend my dear family and myself to the

WILL OF

EDWARD D. SMITH.

protection and favour of Him, who is the disposer of all events, beseeching his holy spirit to be with us and that our Sins may be pardoned for the sake of what his Son hath done and suffered----

Edward D. Smith --

Columbia, S. Carolina--

June-26. 1819-

Mr. Sarah Tucker Smith Widow

Qualified as Executrix November 1819.

Recorded in Will Book G.

Page# 117 - Box# 28 - Package# 586

South Carolina)

Richland District)

Personally appeared William S. Smith Esquire who being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God did make oath and say that the writing contained on the preceeding three pages of these two Sheets of Paper is all in the true and proper hand writing of his deceased Brother Edward D. Smith late of the Town of Columbia as also is the Signature thereto.

W. S. Smith.

Sworn to before me this)

5 day of November⁸⁶ 1819)

James S. Guighard

Ordinary.