

I Joseph Sylvester of Sumter District in South Carolina--Being weak of body, but in perfect soundness of mind and memory, for which I humbly desire to thank god, do make constitute, and ordain, this to be my last will & Testament, in the manner and Form following. Viz. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God who gave it. and my body to be buried in a decent manner. As to my worldly goods of which I am at present possessor I will and dispose of them in the following manner. Viz In the first place I will that out of the present Crop of Cotton on my Plantation all my Just debts and Funeral expences be discharged. Secondly. I give and bequeath unto My Beloved Wife Martha Sylvester entirely and exclusively to her own disposal--My Negro man Ben, and my negro woman Pat with her Children Abe, Maria, & Serena, with their usufruct & issue, to her and her Heirs for ever--together with my riding Chair and Horse called Tarleton, and all my House hold and Kitchen Furniture--except three Beds and furniture to my Children as hereafter mentioned--I also will that my said beloved Wife do occupy and possessor my dwelling house and out houses attached to it and Fifty Acres of Land during her natural life at her death the house and Land to be equally divided among my then surviving Children or their Heirs, I will that my executors hereafter named do sell to the best advantage for the benefit of my ^{children} children my Bay Gelding named Bacchus. I give and bequeath to my beloved Mother Martha West Fifty Dollars. I give and bequeath unto my three Children Joseph H Sylvester, Mary I. Sylvester & Frances E. Sylvester. All the remainder of my Property both real and personal to be equally divided amongst them Share and Share alike as they become of age or are Married--and as they receive their share of Property each to receive a Bed and Furniture. I will that my negroes be continued, to Labour on the Plantation as heretofore until my Children respectively come of age and receive their portion, and also that my stock of every kind with all my Plantation utensils, Waggon & be continued for the use of the

Plantation, & for the support of my wife during her widowhood &
of my Children--And I do hereby solemnly enjoin it on my executors
hereafter Named that they bestow particular care on the Education
of my Dear Children--bestowing on them such tuition as they in
their discretion shall see fit. I do hereby constitute and appoint
my Brother James Sylvester and my Friend James Gray to be executors
of this my last will and Testament--and I do hereby annul all
former wills made by me. In witness whereof I have hereunto set
my hand & seal this Eighteenth day of September in the year of
our Lord one Thousand Eight Hundred and twelve-----

Signed & Sealed in presence of

Joseph Sylvester (SEAL)

Jn^o Murray--

Sam^l I Murray

Milton Jn^o Mellet

(Recorded in Will Book A page 136)

(Recorded December 11th 1812)

~~Witness~~

Bundle 106 Pkge 7