

In the Name of God, Amen---I Francis J. Lesesne of the District of Williamsburgh in the State aforesaid, being weak in bodily health, but of sound and disposing mind, memory and understanding, being desirous of settling my worldly affairs and directing how the Estates with which it has pleased God to bless me, shall be disposed of after my decease, while I have strength and Capacity so to do, make and publish this my last will and testament, hereby revoking and making null and void all other last wills and testaments by me theretofore made.

And first I commend my immortal being to Him who gave it, and my body to the earth to be burried with little expense or ostentation by my Executors hereinafter named. And as to my worldly Estate, and all the property both real and personal of which I shall die seized and possessed, or to which I shall be entitled at the time of my decease, I devise, bequeath and dispose of in the following manner, to wit;

Imprimis---My will is that all my just debts and funeral expenses shall, by my executors hereinafter named, be paid out of my Estate, as soon after my decease as shall by them be found convenient.

Item---I give devise and bequeath to my beloved wife Amaritha N. Lesesne my Carriage and my two horses, the one a bay named Jim and the other a Brown named Arab.

Item---It is my will and desire that my whole Estate both real and personal be Kept together on my Plantation until my Youngest child shall arrive at the age of twenty one years, that the Plantation be Kept up, and the Planting be continued, and that the income and profits arising therefrom be expended in the support of my wife and the Maintenance and education of my children and that any overplus which may remain be invested in good securities at interest, or in the purchase of slaves; but in case my wife should see fit, after my decease, to marry, It is my will and desire that she shall receive such a portion of my personal

WILL OF FRANCIS J. LESENE, page 222 2.

Estate, from my executors, upon such marriage, as would make her equal with any of my children and no more.

Item---It is my will and desire that in case any of my children should marry before the general division of my estate, he or she shall receive annually from my executors his or her just proportion of the nett proceeds of the crops.

Item---It is my will and desire that when the youngest child becomes of age, my whole Estate both real and personal shall be divided amongst my wife (in case she remain my widow) and such children as may survive at that time, and the children of any deceased child, share and share alike, the children of any deceased representing their parent, and taking amongst them only such share as their parent would take if living at the time of such division; but in case any child or children should die without issue before such general division, his, her or their share or shares shall revert to my estate, and go to increase the portions of the survivors.

Item---It is my will and desire that my Executors shall have power, if it should become necessary or expedient, to sell any portion of my real or personal property, and invest the proceeds in other property, to be held by them in the place, and subject to the same trust as the property sold.

Item---It is my will and desire, that, when a division of my property becomes necessary, either by the marriage of my wife, or upon the coming of age of the youngest child, it shall and may be lawful for my Executors to call in three discreet men of the neighborhood to make such division; and that such division made by them shall be firm and binding and that it shall not be necessary to apply to any Court of Law or Equity for leave to make such division.

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Item---It is my will and desire that my Executors shall have power, if it should become necessary or expedient, to sell any portion of my real or personal property, and invest the proceeds in other property, to be held by them in the place, and subject to the same trust as the property sold.

Item---It is my will and desire, that, when a division of my property becomes necessary, either by the marriage of my wife, or upon the coming of age of the youngest child, it shall and may be lawful for my Executors to call in three discreet men of the neighborhood to make such division; and that such division made by them shall be firm and binding and that it shall not be necessary to apply to any Court of Law or Equity for leave to make such division.

Lastly---I do nominate and appoint my wife Amaritha N. Lesesne and my sons Francis James, Charles, and Edward Ransom, to be Executrix and Executors of this my last will and testament.

In testimony whereof, I the said Francis J. Lesesne, have to this my last will and testament subscribed my name and affixed my seal this Twenty Sixth day of November in the year of our

WILL OF FRANCIS J. LESESNE, page 3.

Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty two

Signed, sealed, published, and declared,

by the said Francis J. Lesesne, as and for his

last will and testament, in presence of us, who,

at his request and in his presence,

and in the presence of each other, have subscribed our names

as witnesses hereto

Theo M. Mouzon

Gabriel D Rhodus

Joseph C Lesesne

F. J. Lesesne-- (L.S.)

Recorded in Will Book "D" page 100.

Recorded on the 9th. day of February, 1853, by N. M. Whitehead,
Ordinary of Williamsburgh District.

Apt.17---Pkg. 28.