

~~WILL OF~~

JOEL BIRD

The last Will and Testament of Joel Bird, In the name of God Amen I Joel Bird being weak in body but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding and knowing the uncertainty of this mortal life also that it is appointed for every man once to die do make this my last will and testament in Manner and form following, First and principally I give my soul to God hoping through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ to receive full ommission of all my sins to what worldly substance it has pleased God to bestow upon me, I give devise and bequeath the same as follows, first it is my will that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid with all convenient speed after my decease it is my will that my stock of black cattle and Hogs together with all my Household and Kitchen furniture be kept together on my plantation for the use of my beloved wife Mary Bird and my five younger children William Bird Joel Bird Emily Bird Emander Bird and Elizabeth Bird but in case my widow should happen to marry my will is that then her claim on my Estate shall sease it is my will that my two negroes known by the name of Willis and Hampton shall be kept on my plantation and worked and managed to the best advantage for the use of my widow and five younger children it is my will that my older children Henry Bird Martin Bird Sarah Bartlet Patience Edwards Sharlotte Wiggins Eldread Bird shall each have from my Estate two dollars each as there part and portion in full of my Estate it is my will that the ballance of my Estate be kept together on my plantation til my youngest child arrives at the age of

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made at any time by me void and of no effect declaring this to be my last Will and testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty second day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty and of the independence of the United States the sixty fourth-----

his
Joel X Bird (L.S.)
mark

Signed sealed published and
declared by the said testator
as and for his last will and
testament in presence of us who
in his presence and at his request
have subscribed our names as wit-
nesses thereto

Wm G Cantley

James Ard

John Blakley

John G Howard

Recorded in Will Book " B " Page 213 (217)

Recorded 14th day of December 1840

Samuel G McClary Ordinary Williamsburgh District.