

know all men by these presents that I James Mason of Mecklenburg County and State of North Carolina being but weak in body yet thro the mercy of God retaining the use of my reasoning powers do ordain and constitute this my last will and Testament, and the earthly property that God has been pleased in his kind providence to bestow on me I shall dispose of in the following manner- Viz First,

It is my will that all my just debts be paid out of such property as my wife may think proper to dispose of- Secondly I lend to my beloved wife Nancy Mason during her natural life or widow hood the whole of the plantation I now Reside on together with the plantation between the River and Crowders Creek also that part of the plantation my son William Mason now resides on except the part willed to him the sd William also

the use and Sole property of my ferry with all and Singular my Stock of every kind and haaf plantation or farming utensils household and Kitchen furniture- Thirdly. I give and bequeath to my Son William Mason the tract of Land he now resides on in the following order Viz. to beginning on a white Oak and Pine on Resin Woods line thence a Direct line within a road south of Dr. Allisons old Spring thence to Sid Allisons old house leaving the house to the South thence Eastern along the public road To the meadow branch thence a direct course to the river Where the present fence joins the river from the fore mentioned line South all the land with all its Appurtenances that I purchased of Allison to him & his heirs forever which sd land settles every contract between me & my son William Fourthly I lend to my son John Mason the tract of land he is now living on & a Negroe boy named Jack which property I shall not be subject to pay any debt of sed John Mason but for the

sole use of him & his family during his natural life After-
ward to be equally divided among his lawful heirs Fifthly
I lend to my son Thompson Mason all the two tracts of land
purchased of William Reeves deed. Estate & Williams Reeves
also a negro boy named Isaac which property Shall not be
subject to pay any debts of sd. Thompson Mason but for the Sole
use of himself & family durin his natural life afterwards to
be equally Divided among his lawful heirs- Sixthly I give and
Bequeath to my four Sons Viz. James Mason David M. Mason Richard
Mason and Clayborne Mason all the Land lent to my wife after
her decease or future marriage the ferry to be exclusively
joint property of my two youngest Sons Richard & Clayborn the
land to be equally divided according to quantity and quality
by Judicious judges to be theirs and their heirs forever- Sev-
enthly I lend to my Daughter Sally Smith three Negroes viz.
A woman named Nancy and two girls one named Celia the other
Paulina for her own proper use during her natural life after-
ward to be equally divided among her lawful heirs- Eighthly
I lend to my Daughter Polly Bailey four negroes viz Bridget
Joan Elvina and Caroline to be for her only proper use dur-
ing her natural life afterwards to be equally divided among
her lawful heirs the last mentioned girl Carolina to be part-
icularly in the care of my Executors- Ninthly my will is that
the decease or future marriage of my wife that my three oldest
Sons have each a negro of the three then youngest to be chosen
by Seniority the rest of my negroes and household and kitchen
furniture to be equally divided among my four youngest Sons
Viz James David M. Richard and Clayborne by my Executors and
all the Stock of every kind and plantation utensils to be
sold at the discretion of my Executors and the money arising
from such Sale to be equally divided among my four youngest

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William Mason the Negro boy George he now has in his possession Tenthly- It is my desire that my executors make a good and lawful title to John Bailey to a lot in Yorkville on his sd. Bailey paying off the price of sd lot with all Cost thereon- Lastly I do hereby ordain and appoint my beloved wife Nancy Mason and my two sons William Mason and James Mason Executors of this my last will and testament revoking and disanulling all others in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seal 8th day of January A.D. 1822

Signed in presence of

I Rooker

James Mason (LS)

Jno. D. McClean

Jas. S. Carothers

Recorded March 1, 1825

Will Book "G" P-154

Case No. 29

File No. 481