

Will, DE, Sussex, NEHEMIAH DAVIS, 1787

In the name of God Amen.

The 17th day of January in the year of Our Lord 1787, I, **NEHEMIAH DAVIS**, of the county of Sussex on Delaware being of a perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God therefore, calling unto mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die to make & ordain this my last will and testament, that is to say.

PRINCIPALLY and first of all I give and recommend my soul unto almighty God that gave it and my body I recommend to the to be buried in a decent Christian burial at the discretion of my executors, nothing doubting, but at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God. And as touching such worldly goods and estate, wherewith it has pleased God to bless me with in this life, I give and demise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form.

IMPRIMIS I give and bequeath unto **RACHEL DAVIS** my beloved wife two negro girls called by the names of SARAH and PHOEBE provided that she holds no claim to her thirds or rights of dower but if in case she holds her right of dower there and in such case I give the two aforesaid Negroes to my beloved son **MARK TILNEY DAVIS** The shy will to each of them, their heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my aforesaid son **MARK TILNEY DAVIS** all my right hand title, claim and interest of my lands and marsh with the appurtenances and profits which in anywise appertain thereunto or belong and one negro man named CHESTER, I will unto him his heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my beloved daughter **ANN DAVIS** two negro boys, to wit, MOSES and DANIEL. I will to her her heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my daughter **ELIZABETH DAVIS** one negro boy called EMMANUEL. I will to her and her heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath the residue of my estate yet unwilling to be equally divided between my beloved wife **RACHEL DAVIS** and my three children **ANN DAVIS**, **MARK TILNEY DAVIS**, and **ELIZABETH DAVIS**, giving my wife her part in goods and chattels at the appraisement to be divided off at the appraisement by her and my executor here after appointed. This I will to each of them, their heirs and a signs forever.

Item I do hereby nominate, constitute, a point, and ordained my father, **MARK DAVIS**, to be the only and sole executor of this my last will and testament, and a true and lawful Guardian to my three aforesaid children **MARK TILNEY DAVIS**, and **DAVID [DAVIS]**, and **ELIZABETH DAVIS**, and no other Guardian to be appointed, hereby revoking and making null and void all other former wills and testaments by me heretofore declared and this only to be taken for my last will and testament and none other.

**Will, DE, Sussex, NEHEMIAH DAVIS, 1787**

In Testament whereof I have hereunto set my hand and a fixed my seal the day and year first above written.

**NEHEMIAH DAVIS** {seal}

Signed, Sealed, published, pronounced and declared by the said **NEHEMIAH DAVIS** to be his last will and testament in presence of us

**WILLIAM HINDS MANLOVE DAVIS**  
**NEHEMIAH DAVIS JR.**

**Will, DE, Sussex, NEHEMIAH DAVIS, 1787**

State of Delaware  
Sussex County

Memorandum the 8th day of March 1787 before us **PHILLIPS KOLLOCK** register appointed for the probate of wills and granting letters of administration for the county aforesaid, appeared, **WILLIAM HINDS** and **NEHEMIAH DAVIS JR.** two of the witnesses to the foregoing will and being sworn on the holy evangelists of almighty God and deposed and sayeth in their sight, presents, and hearing the testator, **NEHEMIAH DAVIS**, did sign, sealed, publish and declare the same to be his last will and testament, and that at the doing thereof he was of a sound and perfect mind, memory, and judgment and that they and each of them together with **MANLOVE DAVIS** subscribed the same as witnesses in presence of the testator and at his request.

**PHILIPS KOLLOCK**, register

Will, DE, Sussex, NEHEMIAH DAVIS, 1787

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