

Will, MD, Queen Anne's, MATTHEW BRYAN 1767

In the name of God Amen

**MATTHEW BRYAN** of Christ Church Parish in Queen Anne's County in the province of Maryland planter being sick and weak of body but of sound and disposing mind and memory to make this my last will and testament in Manner and form following viz.

Imprimis I give and devise on to my son **ARTHUR BRYAN** my land and Plantation on Eastern Neck Island in Kent County which I bought of the executrix of **JOHN HYNSON** of the same county deceased being all that part of the said **HYNSON's** lands on the said Island that lies to the Eastward of a line drawn a gut issue in out of Chester River which was to a bounded post at the head of to the Southward from a bounded Red Oak that stands near the main road between the Fresh Pond and the head of Calf Pasture Creek and near where **SAMUEL MUNGAR** lives, a division between the said **JOHN HYNSON** and his brother **CHARLES** and also of a line drawn Northerly from the said Oak to the head of the gut of Calf Pasture Creek and also to the Eastward of the said Creek which said land and Plantation afterwards on the 19th day of November one thousand seven hundred and sixty three was confirmed to me in fee simple by Act of assembly to hold the said land and Plantation with the appurtenances unto him my said Son **ARTHUR BRYAN** and his heirs and assigns forever burthened nevertheless with the payment of 100 pounds current money of Maryland in manner following, that is to say to my son **JOHN BRYAN** the sum of fifty pounds current money before said when he shall arrived at the age of twenty three years and the like some of fifty pounds current money aforesaid to my son **WILLIAM BRYAN** when he shall arrive at the age of twenty one years.

Item I give and bequeath unto my good friend Mr. **CHARLES BLAKE** son of **JOHN SAYER BLAKE** one of my two blooded colts called Valiant and Ladylikes at his choice to be delivered to him by my executive here in after named immediately after my decease.

Item my will is that my executor, hereinafter named, will rent out my Plantation, herein before devised, with the negroes now they're on this **JAMEY, MACEY, VENUS,** and **LITTLE JAMEY** and the stock and utensils which I have let to and are now in The possession of **EPHRAIM STOCKER,** my tenant, thereon and that the rents are rising there from or such part thereof as shall be necessary shall be by them applied to the maintenance and education of my children hereinafter named in manner herein after mentioned until my said son **ARTHUR** shall arrive at the age of twenty one years and that the whole residue and remainder of my personal estate sale immediately after my decease with all convenient speed be sold by my said executive at public to the highest bidder and the money arising from such sale buy them put out at interest on good security and the interest arising therefrom or such part thereof as may be necessary applied to the maintenance and education of my children as aforesaid and my will and intention is and I hereby order and direct my said executors to pay to the several and respective persons whom I have hereinafter appointed to have the tuition of all or any of my said children and equal part or proportion of the money or rising from the said rent and

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interest yearly and every year until the said children shall respectively come of age to be by them respectively applied to the purpose aforesaid.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son **JOHN BRYAN** the sum of fifty pounds current money of Maryland to be paid to him by my son **ARTHUR BRYAN** in a Manner here in before directed.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son **WILLIAM BRYAN** the sum of fifty pounds current money of Maryland to be paid to him by my son **ARTHUR BRYAN** has here in before directed.

Item my will is that in case my said son **ARTHUR BRYAN** shall die before he arrives at the age of twenty one without children of his body lawfully begotten and by that means my land herein before devised shall descend to my said son **JOHN BRYAN** then and in such case I hereby order and direct that my said son **JOHN BRYAN** shall pay on to my son **WILLIAM BRYAN** here and before named the aforesaid sum of fifty pounds current money of Maryland when he shall arrive at the age of twenty one years.

Item I give and bequeath my whole personal estate, accept my wife's clothes and jewels in case she shall die before me, and the legacy hereinafter bequeath to my executive to be equally divided between my children after named, viz **ARTHUR BRYAN, JOHN BRYAN, WILLIAM BRYAN, ANNE BRYAN, and SUSANNAH BRYAN** to be paid to them when they come of age respectively.

Item I give and bequeath unto each of my children herein before named one of my wife's gold rings, in case she shall die before me, and her wearing apparel to be equally divided between my daughters **ANNE BRYAN and SUSANNAH BRYAN**, which division hereby order and direct to be made by **SUSANNAH** the wife of **RICHARD GRASON** and **FRANCES** the wife of **JOHN RAYLAND** hereinafter named.

Item I give and bequeath unto my executor hereinafter named the sum of twenty pounds current money each in compensation for their trouble and care in the execution of their trust by this will.

Items constitute and appoint my much honored friend Colonel **WILLIAM FITZHUGH** of Calvert County guardian of my said son **ARTHUR BRYAN** and my friend **RICHARD GRASON** of Talbot County guardian of my daughter and I also constitute and appoint my friend **JOHN CLAYLAND JR.** of Queen Anne's County guardian of my daughter **SUSANNAH BRYAN** and my will and desire is that my son's **JOHN BRYAN** and **WILLIAM BRYAN** shall be and remain in the care of my executor to be by them found out to such trades as they the said **JOHN** and **WILLIAM** shall choose.

Lastly I constitute and appoint **JOHN SAYER BLAKE**, gentleman, and **MR. THOMAS CLAYLAND** of Queen Anne's County, aforesaid, joint executor of this my last will and testament hereby revoke an annoying and making void all former will Four Wheels by me made and declaring this only to be my last will and testament.

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In testimony whereof I have here on to set my hand and seal this 8th day of February 1767

**MATTHEW BRYAN** {seal}

Signed Sealed published and declared by the testator **MATTHEW BRYAN** to be his last will and testament in presence of us

**JOHN BRACCO**

**WILLIAM MURPHY**

**RACHEL IMBERT** {her mark R}

On the back of the foregoing will was this written viz Queen Anne's County 28th of May 1767 **JOHN BRACCO** , **WILLIAM MURPHY**, and **RACHEL IMBERT** the subscribing witnesses to the Within and for going will being duly and solemnly sworn on the holy evangels of almighty God to depose and say that they saw the testator **MATTHEW BRYAN** sign the same will and heard him publish and declare it to be his last will and testament that at the time of his so doing he was to the best of their apprehensions of sound and disposing mind and memory and that they did subscribe there Representatives names and mark as witnesses to the said will in the presence of the said testator and at his request.

Sworn to before

**H. WRIGHT**, Deputy Commissioner of Queen Anne's county

The children of **MATTHEW BRYAN** are all infants under age