

Will, NC, Bertie, Needham Bryan 1764

In the name of God, amen.

[---] Third day of September in the year of our Lord 1764, I **NEEDHAM BRYAN** of North Carolina in the county of Bertie, farmer, being very sick in body but of perfect mind and memory, Thanks be given unto God for the same, and calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make this my last Will and testament, that is to say:

PRINCIPALLY and first of all I give and recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it and for my body I recommend it to the earth to be buried in a Christian like and decent manner 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 touches and as touches such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I give and devise and dispose of the [same] in the following manner and form.

IMPRIMIS I give and bequeath **SARAH**, my dearly beloved wife, one feather bed and furniture, choice of all my beds, one horse the choice as she likes, side saddle and [B-t] and after her decease to go in the estate.

ITEM I give to my grandson **WILLIAM BRYAN** son of my son **WILLIAM** my still and my blacksmith's tools.

ITEM I give and bequeath to my [four] grandsons **EZEKIEL WILLIAMS**, **LEWIS GARDNER** and **JOSEPH JARNIGHAN** [**JOSEPH JARNAGAN**] and my daughter's son **WILLIAM** her first born each of them a [---] apiece and that to XXX XXX XXX

ITEM I give and bequeath to **ELIZABETH** and **SUSANNA HARRELL** one [---] called grey.

ITEM I give and bequeath to young **JACOB JARNIGHAN** [**JACOB JARNAGAN**] three pounds out of my estate when shared and after my debts is paid.

ITEM I do lend all all my whole estate to my wife and grandson **WILLIAM BRYAN** that now lives with me and after my wife's widowhood to be equally divided to my three children all get he has in reason that his share all rest to my son **NEEDHAM** and **WILLIAM** and daughter **RACHEL** and my son **NEEDHAM** and son **WILLIAM** and son-in-law **WILLIAM WHITFIELD** for every one of them to choose them a men to valet and divide in three lots and each to take their share.

And I do make and ordain my two sons **NEEDHAM BRYAN** and **WILLIAM BRYAN** my sole executors of this my last will and testament and I do hereby utterly disallow, revoke and disannul and all and every other former testaments and wills legacies bequests and executors by me in any wise before this time named or meant.

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In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this day and year above written.

NEEDHAM BRYAN {seal}

Signed, sealed and published, pronounced and declared by me, the said **NEEDHAM BRYAN SENIOR** as his last will and testament in the presents of we the subscribers.

WILLIAM TURNER
JAMES TURNER
JOSEPH TURNER