

Will, NC, Chowan, Charles Merritt 1718

To all Christian people to whom these presents shall come, greeting.

In the name of our Lord

Now know ye I **CHARLES MERIT** in Chowan Precinct in North Carolina do ... of this ... followeth ...

I bequeath my body to ye earth as it was requiring a decent & Christian like burial ... and my soul to of whom I received it hoping for a joyful resurrection by my Jesus Christ my savior at ye last day.

Next I require that all my ... and just debts be truly paid, and for my personal estate I ... and as followeth.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son **CHARLES** a cow and yearling and a two year old heifer.

Item I give unto my son **NATHANIEL** a cow and calf and a two year old and year old heifer.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son **WILLIAM** a cow and calf and yearling heifer.

Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter **ANN** a year old heifer ...

Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter **SARAH** a year old heifer ...

Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter **HARDY** a cow and calf and

Item I give and bequeath unto my son **JOHN** two sheep.

Lastly I give unto my loving wife all the rest of my personal estate making her my ... and ... only my land and plantation after her decease to my son **CHARLES**.

And this I acknowledge to be my last will and testament and by this I revoke and make void all other wills whatsoever.

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As witness my hand this sixth day of April in ye year of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred and eighteen.

CHARLES MERIT {seal, his P mark}

Signed and sealed in ye presents of

JAMES BRYANT

PETER EVANS {his PE mark}

[name not legible]

Chowan October 21, 1718

Proved in open court & recorded, aath of **PETER EVENS**

R. HICKS, Clerk