

Will, NC, Edgecombe, Joseph Lane, 1758

**JOSEPH LANE** ]  
Edgecombe County ] 1758  
North Carolina ]

In the name of God Amen.

I **JOSEPH LANE** of the county and Parish of Edgecombe in the province of North Carolina being through the abundant mercy and goodness of God though weak in body, yet of a sound and perfect understanding and memory, do constitute this my last Will and Testament and desire it may be received by all as such.

Imprimis, I most humbly bequeath my soul to God, my maker, beseeching him most gracious acceptance of it, through all the sufficient merits and meditation of my most compassionate redeemer, Jesus Christ, who gave himself to be an atonement for my sins, and is able to save, to utmost all that unto God by him, Seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for him, and who, I trust will not reject me, a returning penitent sinner, when I come to him for mercy; in this hope and confidence I render up my soul with comfort, humbly beseeching the most blessed and glorious trinity, one God most holy, most merciful and gracious, to prepare me for the time of my dissolution, and then to take me to himself into that peace and rest, and incomparable felicity, which he has prepared for all and fear his holy name, Amen. Blessed be God.

IMPRIMIS, I give my body to the earth, from whence it was taken in full assurance of its resurrection from thence at the last day; and for my burial, I desire it may be decent, without pomp or state, at the discretion of my executor, hereafter named, who I doubt not will manage it with all requisite prudence. As to my worldly estate, I will and positively order, that all my debts be first paid.

ITEM I give my brother **WILLIAM LANE** the plantation whereon I do now live and all the land assigning there to I say to him, his heirs and assigns for ever, and also the land whereon **WILLIAM GRISSOM** now lives, I give to the said **WILLIAM LANE** his heirs and assigns for ever, I also give and bequeath to **WILLIAM LANE** eighteen head of cattle on the Manner Plantation, and also all my household furniture except such as shall be hereafter mentioned, and also I give to my brother **WILLIAM LANE** the five following Negroes that is to say, TOM, CALE, KING, ANNACA and MINGO, I say given to him, his heirs and assigns for ever.

ITEM I give my Negro boy PLOUGHMAN to my brother **NEWIT [NEWITT] LANE**, to him and his heirs and assigns forever, and also I lend the labor of Negroes JACK and CLEONY to my father during his natural life and his decease to return to my brother **WILLIAM LANE** and his heirs and assigns for ever.

ITEM, I give and bequeath to **WINEFRED POPE** my Negro girl VILET on condition that the said **WINIFRED POPE** deliver up a bond of fifty pound that then the said wench shall belong to the said **WINEFRED POPE** and her heirs and assigns for ever.

ITEM I give and bequeath to my sister **FAITH BYNUM** my Negro woman DASSINY to her and her heirs for ever and my desire is that all my hogs and cattle beside what has been before mentioned to be sold to pay my debts, further more my will and desire is that my Negro woman AFRICA can be saved without being sold to pay debts that mean my will and desire is that my sister **DREWSILLER BRYANT** shall have the said wench, her and her heirs and assigns for ever.

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ITEM I give and bequeath to my loving house woman **MARY MCKINNIE** the bed and furniture whereon I now lie in her and her heirs and assigns for ever.

I do hereby make null and void all other wills by me before made I do ordain this my last will and testament.

I do also appoint **JOHN BRADFORD** and **HENRY POPE** whole and sole executors of this my last Will and Testament.

In witness where of I have hereunto set my and seal this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 1757.

Testament

**BENJAMIN MERRYMAN**

**JOSEPH LANE** {seal}

**BARNABAS LANE**  
**DAVID DICKSON**

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Edgecombe County ]  
North Carolina ] November Court 1758  
]

The within will was in open court exhibited on oath by the Executor therein named and proved by the oaths of **BENJAMIN MERRYMAN** and **BARNABAS LANE**. The said executors at the same time refusing to take upon them the administration thereof.

Therefore administration with the will annexed was granted (on mocon) to **WILLIAM LANE** next eldest brother and residuary legatee to the deceased. And having given bond & etc. as the law directs, it is there upon ordered to be certified.

Test. **JOSEPH MONTFORT**, clerk of court

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Transcribed from original documents by Brent R. Brian & Martha M. Brian.

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