

Will, NC, Johnston, Lovard Bryan, 1798

Benjamin Bryan

Only qualified as executor

Lovard Bryans

Will

Proved February Court

1798

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In the name of God Amen.

Considering the Frailty of human nature and being very weak in a low state of health though sound of mind and memory, blessed be God for the same, do make constitute and ordain this my last will and testament in Manner and form following, to wit:

Item I give and bequeath unto my brother **CLEMENT BRYAN** to lots of land in the city of Averasboro, N. as follow one fifty six and the other forty two to him his heirs and assigns forever.

Item I give and bequeath on to my loving wife **ELIZABETH BRYAN** nine Negroes namely CHARLEY, and her two children, WILL, BARNEY, ABRAM, CLANCY, OLIVE and PENNY. Also one half of my household and kitchen furniture, Plantation tools, one half of my stock of sheep, one half of my breeding cattle, one half of my breeding hogs, five head horses, namely Pony W, Jacket, Dunn mare & her two colts, to her and her heirs and assigns forever.

I also lend on to my loving wife **ELIZABETH BRYAN** the plantation where an I now live with all the land belonging to me and adjoining the same during her natural life.

I also empower my executor to sell the whole of my land in the Western Country and that send money arising from the same to be equally divided between my said wife and my son **NEEDHAM BRYAN**. I also empower them to purchase Negroes and land for my son if they shall think it best for his advantage.

I also given to my loving wife **ELIZABETH BRYAN** after my just debts be paid one half of the money or rising from the dead to me and the sale of the dry stock, my will and desire is that my executor is discharged all my just gets out of the debts to me and sale of said stock as above, crops and produce that shall be collected. The balance to be divided after paying my just debts to my said wife and son aforesaid.

Item I give and bequeath unto my said son **NEEDHAM BRYAN** the whole of my estate both real and personal (not already given to my brother and wife **ELIZABETH**) to him his heirs and assigns forever.

I also empower my executors, hereafter to be named, to make sale of the perishable part of my said son **NEEDHAM BRYAN**'s estate. To hire out the Negroes annually, seeing they are well clothed and not abused, and rent out his land, reserving said timber, except for plantation use, for the most they will bring and that shall appear most to my said son's advantage. And the whole of the money arising from sales, hires & rents, after discharging my just debts supporting my said son, be put out to interest on bond with good security.

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Lastly I appoint to this my last will and testament my brother **CLEMENT BRYAN**, **BENJAMIN BRYAN** and **JAMES GREEN** revoking all other Wills by me made and declaring this to be my only will only true last will and testament.

In witness I, the said **LOVARD BRYAN**, have hereunto set my hand and I fixed my seal is 29th of December 1797

LOVARD BRYAN {seal}

In the presense of

EDITH WATSON

SALLY BRIDGES {her mark}

JOSEPH GREEN