

Will, NC, Mecklenburg, Abraham Taylor 1778

In the name of God Amen

**ABRAHAM TAYLOR** being weak and body but have perfect memory and judgment and calling to mind the mortality of my body that it is appointed for all men once to die have therefore thought fit to make this my last will and testament thereby revoking and making no and for all other wills and Testaments by me made before maid and Dunn of whatever kind or form what so ever and first I recommend my body to the Earth to be buried in a just and decent manner at the direction of my executor and my soul to God that gave it me in hope of a gracious acceptance through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

One part I order that all my lawful debts be paid.

ITEM I will and bequeath unto **MARY TAYLOR** my loving wife her lawful part of all my personal and movable estate. I also will and bequeath unto my wife during her lifetime this tract of land of 75 Acres on which I know as of this other tract of land joining this of 125 Acres willed, bequeath and left to me by my sister **JEAN TAYLOR**, now deceased, to hold and enjoy the said lands with all its profits whatsoever belonging to the same while she, my wife, lives upon condition that she, my said wife, gives up all her rights of dowry or profits which by law may be claimed by her become to the prophet property and legatees that I have now willed it to be to any aiding for them and in by name by proper authority. But if it is not given up as above said will be this my said wife shall only have such profit of the said land as the law directs and in the first cases proposed it her desire and she bears child and it lives, that then this child shall then be whole and sole heir of said lands and tenements with all profits belonging to the same and this heir dies without heir or issue of it's own body then this said land fall to the rightest heir by law of my own family.

Next I will and bequeath unto my said child as above said all the rest and remainder of my personal estate after my wife's share is taken off and also all the remainder of my land with all their profits appurtenances but in case the said child heir shall die without lawful heir or issue of its own body begotten or if my said wife be not with child then and in either of these cases I will and appoint that all my lands here under mentioned be given in manner and form following, viz:

I will and bequeath to my well beloved brother **JOHN TAYLOR** a tract of land laying and joining on the northeast side of his own land he now lives containing 167 acres of land ... my desire ...

I also will and bequeath unto the now present children of my sister **MARY REED** Viz: **JOHN REED**, **ELIZABETH REED**, **ALLEN REED** and **WILLIAM REED**, **RUTH REED** and the next child that tract of land joining **WILLIAM REED**'s land and **ZEBULON ALEXANDER**'s land upon both sides of the creek containing 147 acres and to be sold by my executors at their discretion and the money there from arising to be equally divided amongst the above named children and put out at interest by my executors until each legatee shall come of age to receive their part.

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I also will and bequeath to my well beloved sister **MARGARET HUDSON** ... sons, viz: **DANIEL HUDSON, JOHN HUDSON, WILL HUDSON** and **ALEXANDER HUDSON** them two tracts of patent land containing in the whole of the two tracts six hundred acres of land be the same, more or less, laying on the waters of the south fork of the Catawba River as described in the said patents land near said **DANIEL HUDSON** Senr. And in the now present county Burke but formerly named Rowan. I also appoint that the said land be equally divided as may be in quantity and goodness by three or more men by them chosen for that purpose and if any one or more of the said legatees die, before of age, I will and appoint the their part be equally divided amongst the rest of the legatees that are living.

I also appoint **JOHN TAYLOR**, my brother, and **WILLIAM WILSON SENR.** My executors of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 21 day of April 1778.

Signed, sealed, pronounced, published and declared in presence of us the under-named subscribers.

N. B.

That if my wife has a child as heretofore said I will to her for its maintenance the sum of forty pounds out of the money arising from the sale of my ... my brother two parts of the remainder of my movable estate that the money arising as above said and also my sister **MARY REED** and **MARGARET HUDSON** the other third part to be equally divided between them. Also I will unto **JEAN LEES**, wife of **JAMES LEES**, my young Sorrel Horse three years old. In witness whereof as above written I have hereunto set my hand and seal this day above written in presence of:

**ABRAHAM TAYLOR**

**WILLIAM WILSON**

**DAVID HAYNES**

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