

Will, NC, Mecklenburg, MOSES MOORE, 1785

TO ALL THE CHRISTIAN PEOPLE, to whom these presents may concern, know ye that I, **MOSES MOORE**, of Mecklenburg County in the independent state of North Carolina having long labored under a severe, chronic disease by which the has dissolution of my soul and body appears to be nearly approaching and as I have been and am singularly blessed with the use of my senses and reasoning powers, thanks be to my all bounteous God that when he afflicts with the one hand he adds and freely gives singular blessing with the other.

I NOW THEREFORE make this my last will and testament viz.

I RECOMMEND my soul to my all gracious and sin pardoning God and my poor, decaying, dying body I give to its mother earth believing that by the almighty power of God they will again be reunited at the last decision day when through the merits and mediation of my only Savior Jesus I would fondly hope for a glorious immortality. And as touching such worldly estate that God has blessed me with in this life I will, give, and disposed of the same in the following Manner and form.

IMPRIMIS I will, give, and bequeath unto my dearly beloved wife **ANN MOORE** in lieu of her dowery one feather bed and furniture, and my big black mare, four cows and all the sheep and the privilege Of living on and enjoying the profits of the plantation on which I now live during her widowhood and in order that she may support our three children clothes and school them clear of charge. I likewise give her, my said wife and, all my plantation tools, plow, harrow, gears and etc. to carry on the farm and as much money as will purchase one new set of plow irons and as much forage, grain, meat, and etc. as will support the family until the next harvest, and all the kitchen furniture, pots, pewter, and etc. and all the cloth now in the house to be made up for the children. And my apparel and saddle and etc. to be kept for the boys at the discretion of my said wife **ANN**.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my beloved daughter **ABIGAIL ROBESON** one chest of drawers and the sum of 5 shillings.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my beloved son **JAMES MOORE** the sum of £15.

ITEM I give and bequeath to my beloved Son **WILLIAM MOORE** the sum of £15.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my beloved daughter **MARY SCOTT MOORE** the sum of £40.

ITEM it is my will and pleasure that she be kept in the family for their use and when my executors see fit that they sell the bay filly and her price to be equally divided between my said son's **JAMES**, and **WILLIAM MOORE**.

It is my further will and pleasure that all the rest of my personal estate be sold by my executors (except my Negroes) and the money thence arising, together with all monies due me, after paying all my just debts and the said legacies be equally divided among my such children, **JAMES MOORE**, **WILLIAM MOORE**, **MARY SCOTT MOORE**.

It is my will and pleasure that my negro wench **RUTH** and her child be property of my wife **ANN MOORE** during her widowhood in order to carry on said farm for her and the children's benefit, on condition that if they said when she should prove obstinate that my executors may sell her and apply her price agreeable to the intentions of this will.

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And if my said wife should marry or die before either of my said sons thereunto arrives at the age of 21 years that then and in that case my faithful neighbors **JAMES HENRY, EZEKIEL ALEXANDER, and JOHN MCKNITT ALEXANDER** do sell and dispose of this said Plantation and divide the price thereof equally between my said sons **JAMES** and **WILLIAM MOORE** the survivor of them to enjoy the others share. But if they both should die having no heirs that then and there share an equal division of these estate be given to the said sisters **ABIGAIL** and **MARGARET MOORE**.

AND for the above said purpose I hereby give, grant, transfer, enfeoff, and set over on to them it said **JAMES HENRY** and **EZEKIEL ALEXANDER** and **JOHN MCKNITT ALEXANDER** to whom these heirs and assigns all that said tract of land which I now live on in trust nevertheless that they apply the price thereof as above specified and also that when my said wife and shall die or marry that then my executors **JAMES HENRY, EZEKIEL ALEXANDER,** either of them do sell my said negro wench RUTH provided that she is not obliged to be sold before as above hinted, and that all her children that she may have for the best price and the price thence arising from said Negroes to be equally divided among all my children then alive, except **ABIGAIL ROBESON**.

AND WHEREAS I have long intended to have conveyed by deed to **JOHN MCKNITT ALEXANDER** a piece of the above devised tract of land and as yet not done it which piece lies on the branch joining the Barony and said **ALEXANDER's** line including a spring near said line. I therefore having empowered my said executors **JAMES HENRY** and a **EZEKIEL ALEXANDER** to sell as above do hereby order them to make said **ALEXANDER** a deed. I therefore having empowered my said executives **JAMES HENRY** and **EZEKIEL ALEXANDER** to sell as above, do hereby order them to make said **ALEXANDER** a deed for said price of land, he paying my said executors proportional price for the same and the interest arising there on since the date of my deed.

AND lastly I hereby nominate and appoint my beloved wife and more my brother-in-law is **EZEKIEL ALEXANDER** and my trusty friend **JAMES HENRY** to be my whole and sole executor has this my last will and testament. Hereby actually revoking and disannulling all and every other former Wills, gifts, and requests by me made either by word or writing ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 5th day of October 1785

MOSES MOORE {seal}

Signed sealed published and pronounced and declared by the said **MOSES MOORE** as his last will and testament who in his presence and in the presence of each other subscribed our name

JAMES SHARPE
JEMIMA SHARPE
JOHN MCKNITT ALEXANDER

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