

Will, NC, Mecklenburg, ROBERT KERR 1784

In the name of God Amen.

I **ROBERT KERR** of Mecklenburg County in North Carolina being in a sickly and pale state of body but of sound mind and memory thanks to God therefore calling to mind the mortality of my body and approaching disposition I do make and ordain this my last will and testament, viz.

PRINCIPALLY and FIRST of all I give my soul into the hands of almighty God who gave it, and, my dying body I recommend to the earth to be buried in a decent manner at the discretion of my executors, not doubting but I shall receive the same again at the general resurrection by the all Mighty power of God. And, as touching such worldly estate as it has pleased God to bless me with in this life, I now will give and dispose of the same in the following manner and form viz.

IMPRIMIS. I give and bequeath unto my dearly beloved wife **HANNAH KERR** the third part of my movable estate, exclusive of all my Negroes, together with her saddle and bridle, one Feather Bed & Furniture, and the privilege of living and enjoying the benefits of the plantation on which I now dwell during her widowhood, or until my son **RICHARD KERR** arrives at the age of 21 years, and the further benefits of my to Negroes **WILL** and **MATILDA** to work said plantation, the letting to enable her to raise, clothe, school and & c, clear of any charge, our young children, five in number.

And whereas it will be difficult for my wife **HANNAH** to carry on the farm for the purpose of for said without horses & c, I do therefore request and require my executors here after named to apportion and layoff is a said **HANNAH** such horses, cows, hogs, sheep, and farming utensils & c. as they may judge necessary for the said purposes, including said Negroes, for the benefit of the legatees hereafter named, and whenever it shall appear necessary and consistent, my said executors are hereby required and empowered to make sale of the whole, or part, of my said movable estate or the taking security for the same as to them or any two of them shall appear necessary.

And whereas it may be this happen that my said negro **WILL** is then sold, it is my will and pleasure that the half of his price he paid to my son **JOHN KERR** and the remaining half be equally divided between my son **ROBERT KERR** and daughter **JENNETT KERR** and it is for them I will and pleasure that when my said negro wench is this sold that her price be equally divided among my wife **HANNAH** and all my children now alive.

ITEM I will give bequeath transfer and said over to my beloved **SON ROBERT KERR** five hundred acres of land situate on Little River now in South Carolina, granted by patent in North Carolina, being one divided tract of land and also one hundred acres of land situate, joining the large tract I now live on known by name of the Z place being one divided survey, to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

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ITEM I will give bequeath transfer and set over to **JENNETT KERR**, my beloved daughter, one hundred and twenty acres of land situated on Beaver Dam Creek on the west side of the Columbia River at the Great hat Rock granted by Patent being an undivided survey to her and her heirs and assigns forever I also her feather bed and furniture and her saddle and bridle.

ITEM I will give bequeath transfer and set over unto **JOHN KERR**, my beloved son, one hundred and fifty acres of land to be laid off the north side of the four hundred and twenty acre tract I now live on from the Great Road to the creek but not to extend over the creek any further then to include the bottom and Meadow ground on the said Creek to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I will and bequeath give bequeath transfer and said over onto **SAMUEL KERR**, my beloved son, one hundred and fifty acres of land to be laid off of the West End of the said four hundred and twenty acre tract and the other thirty nine acre tract which is to include the creek bottom and below the falls on the creek to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I will give bequeath transfer and make over to **RICHARD KERR**, my beloved son, all the residue and remainder of the said four hundred and twenty acre and the thirty nine acre tracts contained by computation one hundred and fifty acres including the improvements I now live on to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

And, that complete Justice may be done to each of the said three last mention sons, I hereby empower by said executors, or any two of them, to apportion, measure, and lay off each and every said child's part or division of land aforesaid, having a due regard to quality and quantity, and it is my will and pleasure that the mansion house and garden be still reserved for my son wife **HANNAH** during her widowhood.

ITEM I give and bequeath one negro girl named TAMES on to my beloved daughter **MARGARET KERR**.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto **HANNAH KERR**, my beloved daughter, one negro boy named ABNER to her and to their heirs and assigns forever. Said children to be kept in the family and raised, or hired out by my executor, or any two of them, as to them shall seem best for the benefit of said legatees until my said two daughters shall arrive at the age of twenty one years.

ITEM I will have bequeathed to each and every of my said children one new Bible to be purchased hand delivered by my executors.

ITEM I give and bequeath to **MARGARET KERR**, my granddaughter, the sum of forty shillings specie hand one new bible as above.

ITEM I give and bequeath to **MARGARET KERR**, my daughter, the sum of thirty pounds specie.

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ITEM I give and bequeath to **HANNAH KERR**, my daughter, the sum of thirty pounds specie.

And it is further my will and pleasure that if any of my said three young sons should die, leaving no heirs of their body, before they arrive at the age of twenty one years, that then his division of land and legacy shall be equally divided between his two surviving Brothers. But in the case two of said three should die as aforesaid, that then their divisions of land and legacies will fall to and be received by the surviving brother on conditions he pay to each of his sisters viz, **JENNETT KERR, MARGARET KERR, HANNAH KERR** the sum of thirty three pounds specie.

I further recommend and request my executors, hereafter named, immediately after my deceased, to meet and use all prudent endeavors to appraise, apportion, and by consent, to lay off the aforesaid widow's third & c, & c, & c; and that as few things of my estate be sold by my executors as to them appears necessary for paying all my just debts and the aforementioned legacies; and the remainder to be equally divided among all my aforesaid children.

AND I do hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friends **HEZEKIAH ALEXANDER, ROBERT ROBISON JR., ROBERT ALLISON,** and **JOHN MCKNITT ALEXANDER** to be my sole executor of this my last will and testament.

And I do hereby utterly revoke and disannul all and every other former wills, testaments, legacies, and executors by me in any wise named or bequeathed before, ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof the said **ROBERT KERR** have hereunto set my hand and fixed my seal this 15th day of February 1784.

ROBERT CARR [KERR] {seal}

Signed Sealed Delivered published pronounced and declared by the said **ROBERT KERR** as his last will and testament who in his presence and in the presence of each other subscribed our names as Witnesses.

**GEORGE ELIOTT
JAMES MCCrackEN
ADAM EDGAR**

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Codicil to the within will, viz:

Whereas, since the signing of the within will my negro wench MATILDA is dead to the apparent loss, hardship, and disadvantage of my wife **HANNAH**, and whereas in this said will a negro girl named TAMER is bequeathed to my daughter MARGARET, & c, & c, & c., I do therefore by this codicil set aside and break that part of this will, and I, **ROBERT KERR** do hereby expressly order, & it is my will, that said negro girl named TAMER be the property of my beloved wife, HANNAH KERR, during her life or widowhood in place of MATILDA, thus dead, the better too enable her to raise the said children as mentioned in said will. And after said death or marriage, that said negro girl TAMER shall revert and then become the property of my said loving daughter **MARGARET KERR** and her heirs and assigns forever .

In witness whereof I the sun rubber curbing in my ordinary health and sound mind and memory do hereby set my hand and seal this 16th of June 1785.

ROBERT CARR [KERR] {seal}

Signed sealed and delivered by the federal worker as a codicil to his last will and testament who in his presence and in the presence of each other subscribed our names as Witnesses.

JANE ALEXANDER

MARGARET ALEXANDER

J. MCK ALEXANDER [MCKNITT]