In the name of God, Amen.

The twentieth day of September in the year of our Lord God ever lasting one thousand seven hundred forty and four, I, **ROBERT LANIER** of the County of Tyrrell and province of North Carolina, planter, being very sick and weak of body but of perfect mind and memory all praise be given to God therefore.

Calling to mind the mortality of my body, and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, do make, ordain this to be my last will and testament that is to say, principally and first of all I give, recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it and as for my body I commend it to the earth to be buried in a Christian like manner at the discretion of my executors, nothing doubting but at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God, touching such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I give, devise and dispose of the same in the following manner.

FIRST I do order and desire that all my just debts and my funeral charges be fully paid, discharged and satisfied and legacies paid.

ITEM I will and bequeath to my beloved wife **SARAH** [LANIER] my negro man named JACK and my negro woman named NAN forever. Likewise four cows and calves and what steers belonging to my own stock and the household furniture to her, my said wife SARAH. I likewise give the use of this, my manner plantation to my beloved wife SARAH during her natural life and no longer.

ITEM to my beloved daughter **JEAN** [LANIER] I give one shilling sterling money.

ITEM to my beloved daughter **ELIZABETH** [LANIER] I give one shilling sterling money.

ITEM to my beloved daughter SARAH [LANIER] I give one shilling sterling money.

ITEM to my beloved daughter **ANNA NARAH** [LANIER] CHRISTIAN I give one shilling Sterling money

ITEM to the lawful ??? of my daughter **GRASEE** [**GRACE LANIER**] I give one shilling sterling money.

ITEM to my beloved daughter **SAMARIAH** [LANIER] I give one shilling sterling money.

ITEM I will and bequeath to my beloved son WILLIAM LANIER one bibele.

ITEM I will and bequeath to my beloved son JOHN LANIER one bibele.

ITEM I will and bequeath to my grandson **ROBERT DANIEL** my female negro child named HANNAH.

ITEM I will and bequeath to my grandson **JOHN BRYAN** one yearling heifer and the increase to be left in the care of my two sons afore mentioned until he arrives at the age of twenty and one years.

ITEM to my granddaughter **SARAH GILBERT** I ratify and confirm a gift that I formerly gave, it being a yearling heifer, which I desire may remain in the care of my beloved wife until she arrives at the age of eighteen years or on her marriage day.

ITEM to my granddaughter MARY GILBERT when she doth arrive at the age of eighteen years or her marriage day I give and bequeath one yearling heifer and the increase to be left in the care of my beloved wife.

ITEM Likewise I desire yt my tools may be equally divided to the use of my two sons and my grandson  ${f ROBERT}$   ${f DANIEL}$ .

ITEM to the two orphan children raised in my house namely **AN BROWN** and **MICAUL CHECK** I give and bequeath a yearling heifer each of them to be delivered at the discretion of my executors to pay the increase likewise

ITEM to my grandson ADAM LANIER I give one cow and calf.

ITEM Likewise the remainder of my cattle after my legacies is all paid is to equally divided between my two sons **WILLIAM LANIER** and **JOHN LANIER** 

... will and desire that there may be no misinterpretation or wrong constructions put on this my last will and testament but it may be understood I do nominate choose and appoint my beloved wife **SARAH** to be executrix and my beloved son **WILLIAM LANIER** and my beloved son **JOHN LANIER** to be executors of this my last will and Testament.

#### **ROBERT LANIER** {seal}

Signed, sealed, published and declared in the presence of us.

WILLIAM WILLIS
ROBERT LANIER DANIEL
JOHN LANIER

Tyrrell County

March Court 1744

Then the within will of **ROBERT LANIER** was duly proved in open court by the oaths of **ROBERT LANIER DANIEL** and **JOHN LANIER**, evidences thereto.

Test

THOMAS LEE, Clerk Court

And at the same time **WILLIAM LANIER** qualified as executor to the within will by taking the executors oath in due form of law.

Ordered that the honorable **NATHANIEL RICE** Esquire, secretary have notices thereof that letters may issue accordingly.

Test

THOMAS LEE, Clerk Court

# ROBERT LANIER

Will

Fees paid

Letters issued April 8<sup>th</sup> 1745

Grandson John Bryan

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