

Will, NC, Edgecombe, DREWRY BRYAN 1843

I **DREWRY** [DRURY] **BRYAN** of the county of Edgecombe and state of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this, my Last Will and Testament, in manner and form following, that is to say:

ITEM 1st I lend unto my beloved wife **SUSAN BRYAN** the land whereon I now live, containing about one hundred and twelve acres. I further lend unto her the **BRADLEY** place on the was side of Fishing Creek containing one hundred & eleven acres. I further lend unto her the field know by the name of the Mill field:

Beginning at a Cypress on said creek running along a ditch to two Persimmon trees, then across the field to the road, then along the road to the **BRADLEY** place.

All the above land I lend to her, my wife **SUSAN BRYAN** during her natural life with all the houses and appurtenances thereon belonging. I further lend unto her all my household and kitchen furniture and all kind of farming utensils on the place whereon I now live. I further lend unto her two horses, one bay mare Jennet & grey horse, two cows & calves, six head of sheep, two sows and pigs & twenty shoats [suckling pigs] all her choice. I further lend unto her my Borouch & harness. I further lend unto my wife **SUSAN BRYAN** five Negroes, to viz: **SAM**, **PHILLIS**, **BUSHLIA**, **LITTLE SAM**, and **CHANY**, all of the above property I lend unto her, my wife, during her natural life.

ITEM 2nd I give to my son **WILLIAM L. BRYAN** five hundred dollars payable in two years after my death.

ITEM 3rd I give unto my son **JOSEPH BRYAN** all my right, title & interest in the land whereon he now lives in Halifax County as his part of my land. I further give unto him five Negroes, to viz: **GEORGE**, **AUSTIN**, **NANNY**, **TIB** and **WASHINGTON**. I also give unto him three horses, three feather beds & necessary furniture.

ITEM 4th I give unto my daughter **PENELOPE** [**BRYAN**] **MABREY** five Negroes, to viz: **CLEMMONS**, **BENNY**, **ELIZER**, **ARY** and **CALVIN**. I further give unto her one **BAROUCH**, one feather bed and furniture.

ITEM 5th I give all the land that I now own that is not lent to my wife to my four sons, to viz: **HARRY** [**BRYAN**], **BOULNT** [**BRYAN**], **GREY** [**BRYAN**] and **ETHELDRED BRYAN** to be equally divided between them. If either of them die before he arrive to twenty one years old or has a lawful heir begotten of his body, his part to be divided among the other three. I further give unto my four sons **HARRY**, **BLOUNT**, **GREY** and **ETHELDRED** to be equally divided among them all the Negroes that I have in possession at my death that I have not willed away to my wife and other children.

ITEM 6th It is my will and desire that all my land & Negroes, stock & household & kitchen that I have lent to my wife, **SUSAN BRYAN**, during her life, at her death to be equally divided among all my children (excepted **WILLIAM L. BRYAN**).

ITEM 7th It is my will and desire that all my stock crop, farming utensils of all kinds after furnishing my wife **SUSAN BRYAN** & family one hear support to be sold and all moneys due me in any way collected by my executors, hereafter named, and all my just debts paid out of the same and the legatees paid off and the balance, if any, to be divided between my four sons **HARRY**, **BLOUNT**, **GREY** & **ETHELDRED BRYAN**.

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I do hereby constitute and appoint my son **JOSEPH BRYAN & CHARLES MABREY** my lawful executors to all intents and purposes to execute this my Last Will and Testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof, hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof, I the said **DREWRY BRYAN** do hereunto set my hand and seal this the 11th day January 1843.

DREW BRYAN {seal}

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said **DREWRY BRYAN** to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence do subscribe our names as witness thereto.

BENJAMIN BATTS
WILLIAM DICKEN

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Edgecombe County Court

February Term 1843

The execution of the foregoing Last Will & Testament of **DREW BRYAN**, deceased, was duly proven in open court by the oaths of **BENJAMIN BATTS** and **WILLIAM DICKEN** the subscribing witnesses thereto, and was ordered to be recorded. At the same time **JOSEPH BRYAN**, one of the executors therein named, qualified as such. **CHARLES MABRY**, the other executor therein named, renounced the executorship in open court.

Test.

JOHN NORFLEET, clerk

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