

**Will, NC, Lincoln, John Matthews 1816**

In the name of God, Amen.

I **JOHN MATTHEWS** of the county of Lincoln and state of North Carolina being weak and infirm in body but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be unto God for the same, and calling to mind the uncertainty of this life, that it is appoint to all men to die, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say:

I recommend my soul into the hands of the almighty that gave it and my body I commit to the earth from whence it was taken to be buried with a decent Christian burial at the discretion of my executors herein after named and as touching such worldly goods as it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life, I do give and bequeath them in manner and form following, viz.

After all my just debts are discharged.

I do give and bequeath to my six sons **WILLIAM, JAMES, NATHAN, THOMAS, PAUL** and **ISAAC** my lands that I now live upon to be divided in the following manner.

FIRST it is my will that my son **WILLIAM** shall have that part which he now lives upon of land formerly the property of **MILLER, ROSO** and **SAMPSON**. **WILLIAM** and **NATHAN** may have water.

SECONDLY it is my will the improvements joining ... thereto the whole piece to be divided into four parts, the first running a short line half way through the middle from the west to the east. The south quarter to my son **JAMES** and the north quarter to my son **THOMAS** and after such division the other half to have a line run through the middle from north to south, the west quarter to be **PAUL's** and the east quarter to **ISAAC**.

AND it is also my will that all my stock of horses, cattle, hogs and sheep all my household furniture of all kind and all the movable together with all my plantation tools shall be sold at public sale, after my decease, and the money arising there from to be equally divided between my three daughters: **ELIZABETH, MOLLEY** and **ANNEY**.

It is my will that my friends **PETER LITTLE & JACOB LITTLE** be the executors of this my last will and testament, making void all other wills and testaments by me made and done, ratifying and confirming this to be my only last will and testament.

In witness whereof, I the said **JOHN MATTHEWS** hath hereunto set his and and seal this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February 1816.

**JOHN MATTHEWS** {seal, his M mark}

Signed, sealed by the testator himself as his last will and testament in the presence of us.

**PETER LITTLE**  
**JACOB LITTLE**

Witness  
**V. MCBEE CC**