

Will, NC, Mecklenburg, SAMUEL KNOX, 1794

State of North Carolina

BEING through the abundant mercy and goodness of God, though weak in body, yet of sound and perfect understanding and memory, do constitute this my last will and testament and desire it may be received by all as such.

FIRST I most humbly bequeath my soul to God, my maker, beseeching his most gracious acceptance of it through the all sufficient merits and mediation of my most compassionate redeemer, Jesus Christ, who gave himself to be the atonement for my sins and is able to save to the utmost all that come to God through him seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them and who I trust will not reject me a returning penitent sinner when I come to him for mercy in this hope and confidence I render up my soul with comfort humbly beseeching the most blessed and glorious trinity, one God most holy and most merciful and gracious to prepare me for the time of my dissolution and then to take me to himself into that peace and rest and felicity that he has prepared for them that fear him. Amen. Blessed be God.

I GIVE my body to ye earth from whence it came in full assurance of its resurrection from thence at the last day, as for my burial I desire it may be decent without pomp or state at the discretion of my wife and executors herein after named who I doubt now will manage it with all prudence, and as to my worldly estate I will and order that all my just debts be paid.

ITEM to my well beloved wife **MARY [KNOX]** I bequeath her bed and furniture which she commonly called her own, also two horses name ROAN and FOX, also two Negroes named JANUARY and NAN also six cows fo her own choosing out of my flock and hogs at the discretion of my executors for her maintenance, also four sheep with a new saddle and bridle, plough and tackling one mattock, two hoes, one walnut chest, one mahogany table with all the pots, pails and dresser furniture except the silver handled knives and forks which are to be equally divided between my widow and three daughters for her, my widow, to remain and enjoy this my mansion house and farm during her widowhood, also one black mare named CATE all which is to have and possess during her widowhood except, the Negroes and them to be equally divided among my three daughters: **JEAN [KNOX]**, **SARAH [KNOX]** and **MARY [KNOX]**, except the household furniture which she is to dispose of at her own discretion.

ITEM to my well beloved daughter **JEAN** I bequeath one roan horse name FLINT with three cows and four hogs.

ITEM to my daughter **SARAH** I bequeath one sorrel mare named Dawson with six head of Neat Cattle of two or three years old and five head of hogs and two sheep and in case she does not come for said legacy in the space of five years after my decease then said legacy to be divided between my daughters **JEAN** and **MARY**.

ITEM to my daughter **MARY** I bequeath one sorrel horse name BALL and six head of neat cattle of two or three years old with six young horses and four sheep, also one ??? named EVE.

ITEM to my grandson **JOHN PETTIS** I bequeath a Negro man named ??? and one gold watch.

ITEM to my grandson **STEPHEN PETTIS** I bequeath one Negro man called FRANK and four head of neat cattle of one or two years old.

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ITEM to my granddaughter **MARY PETTIS**, daughter of **GEORGE PETTIS**, I bequeath one Mulatto boy named **DUFF** and one yearling filly a colt of **DAWSON'S**.

ITEM to my granddaughter **MARY CANDLISH** I bequeath three Negroes named **TOM**, **WILL** and **PHEB**, also one plantation whereon **ALEXANDER CANDLISH** lived in York County South Carolina on waters of Steel Creek joining **GEORGE PETTIS**, **WILLIAM PETTIS**, **JOSEPH JACKSON** and **JESSE HORN** and one plantation in Mecklenburg County North Carolina joining **JOHN NEELY**, **CHARLES CALHOON**, **WALTER DAVIS** and **ROBERT BARNETT** on the waters of Steel Creek containing about three hundred acres and one plantation near **BIGGER'S** Ferry on the Catawba River joining the lands of **DAVID MCMICAN**, **SAMUEL NEELY** and **MARTIN WEST** containing three hundred acres also one plantation joining the Indian "Lands" and the lands that was formerly **JACKSON NEELY** and another tract of my own and **DAVID KNOX'S** all that the patent contains also a lease of land in South Carolina joining the last mentioned tract of land and a small tract of land joining **MARTIN WEST'S** and **STANDARD'S** line and if **ALEXANDER CANDLISH** returns to these parts to live he is to have, hold, occupy, and possess and tract willed to said **MARY CANDLISH** and to of the Negroes twenty five years after my decease and not sell, barter or trade said land or Negroes to any person or persons whatsoever and in case said **MARY CANDLISH** dies before she arrives to the age of eighteen years then said land and Negroes to descend to her brothers or sister in case said **CANDLISH** has any issue by her [tear] Have by her mother then said lands and Negroe named **SALL** til she, said Negro is twenty four years of age.

ITEM to my granddaughter **REBECCA PETTIS** I bequeath a Negro girl name **POLL** and five head of neat cattle above one or two years old.

ITEM to my grandson **SAMUEL KNOX PETTIS**, sone of **WILLIAM PETTIS**, I bequeath the plantation whereon I now live and as much in the south state joining this tract as will make his tract eight hundred acres with all the improvements and appurtenances thereunto belonging and also one Negro woman named **DINAH**, one Negro name named **STEP** and one Negro boy called **Moss** and his father to have the use of said Negroes til said heir is twenty one years of age.

ITEM to **WILLIAM PETTIS** I bequeath all the remainder of land in South Carolina except the tract my brother **ROBERT KNOX** lives on which he is to hold during his life and then to descend to **WILLIAM PETTIS**, except a tract joining **RICHARD SPRING'S** on the Millstone Branch and Glenn's Branch and that tract I bequeath to my grandson **STEPHEN PETTIS** and half of said tract is **JOHN KNOX'S** and the lease in his name and mine and **JOHN PETTIS**, son of **GEORGE PETTIS** I bequeath one tract of land joining the lines of **RICHARD ROBINSON**, **JOHN PRICE**, **WILLIAM MCREE**, **JAMES BLACKWOOD**, **WILLIAM FERGUSON**, **ROBERT MCCORMICK** about one hundred and twenty eight [128] Acres, and one piece of land that **GORDON** lived on and a small tract joining widow **NEEL'S**, **JAMES PORTER** and Captain **HARTT'S** and two warrants in the hand of the county surveyor and these last mentioned lands I bequeath, to my executors herein after named, to be sold the money arising from the sale to be equally divided among my grand children above named.

AND my two stills on my stallion, my two wagons, my guns, my sword and all horses and neat cattle, hogs and sheep not mentioned and all the farming utensils to be sold and of the money arising from the sale the brick house that is now begun to be completed and done off according to where **THOMPSON HARDGROVE [HARTGROVE]** and **CHARLES WRIGHT** has agreed to be do it for said house to be twenty [smear] stone work and chimney and all the money arising from the sale and all notes, bonds and [smear] debts after said building is completed and the money in the hands of my

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executors to be equally divided among my grandchildren and put to use [tear] for them.

AND to my brothers **JOHN KNOX**'s son **SAMUEL KNOX** I bequeath one young bay horse two years old.

AND to ??? **PETTIS**, my grandson, I bequeath one tract of land joining **SAMUEL CALHOUN**'s and my own and **SAMUEL NEELY**'s lines, about thirty acres, the grain in the ground after a sufficient quantity laid off for the maintenance of my widow to be sold at the discretion of my executors, my smith tools, harness, leather and saddle, furniture and all other hides and leather and what whiskey can be spared and loom and tackling to be sold and the money to be divided as above directed.

AND I leave all my wearing apparel to be equally divided between my brothers **MATTHEW KNOX** and **DAVID KNOX**, and the plantation that is between **DAVID KNOX** and me I bequeath him my half of it and I bequeath **JAMES FAGERT** my best hat.

AND I do hereby forever ratify and confirm all gifts, bequests and legacies by me formerly granted and I appoint and constitute my beloved wife **MARY KNOX** my executrix and **WILLIAM PETTIS** and **JAMES FAGERT** my executors to see this my last will and testament put in execution.

AND I do hereby renounce all other wills and wills and testaments.

IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 1794.

**SAMUEL KNOX** {seal}

Signed, sealed and pronounced in the presence of

[**DAVID MCMICEN, DAVID MCMICHEN, DAVID MCMICKEN**]

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State of South Carolina  
York District

**JAMES F. GORDON** came before me after being first duly sworn according to law ??? he was present and saw **SAMUEL KNOX** sign, seal and deliver the within instrument of writing as his last will and testament and that **JOSEPH KNOX** and **GEORGE PETTIS** were subscribing witnesses thereto.

**JAMES F. GORDON**

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4<sup>th</sup> day of August 1800

**ALEXANDER KNOX**, ordinary, York District

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