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In the name of God Amen! I, Gideon Matthews of the State of North Carolina and County of Halifax being weak and lame in bodily health but in perfect sound mind and memory knowing it is appointed for all to die in order to dispose of my worldly estate which it hath pleased God to bestow on me I do this seventeenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifteen make and ordain this to be my last will and Testament in the manner and Form following that is to say — First I bequeath to my beloved Wife Charlotte Matthews the use of my plantation together with the balance of my other Lands during her natural Life in order for her to raise my four Children (viz) Anne Matthews, Baldy Matthews, James Matthews, and John Matthews, also I bequeath to my wife Charlotte Matthews my negro girl Charvity together with my old mare and two cows and yearlings and two ewes and Lambs with all my corn and fodder and wheat and two sows and eight shoats and all my plantation tools with all my household and Kitchen furniture (except such as here after Excepted) for the use of said Property for my wife Charlotte Matthews to keep together and save my four Children above mentioned and give them a reasonable education in schooling — and at the death of my wife Charlotte Matthews or whenever she may be about to waste the said property land or to cause the same to be wasted or to be removed or about to be removed from this Country or suffers my Children before mentioned to be wilfully abused — Then it is my will and desire that all the last property be equally divided among my four Children (viz) Anne Matthews Baldy Matthews, James Matthews and John Matthews then it is my will and desire that all the balance of my property not before to be sold and the money arising therefrom together with the Debt that are due me — after paying my last debts be equally divided between my four Children above mentioned — Then I nominate and appoint my friend John Matthews Executor to this my last will and Testament and also nominate and appoint my friend John Matthews Guardian to and for my four Children (viz) Anne Matthews, Baldy Matthews, James Matthews and John Matthews —

As witness my hand

I have hereunto set my hand and fixed my seal this day and date above written: —

Signed in the presence of
Eaton Pullen — Just
Weslie Pullen —

Gideon Matthews



Halifax County 2.
May Term 1815 3.

That this will was exhibited in Open Court & duly
proven by the Oath of Eaton Pullen one of the subscribing witnesses thereto and
On Motion ordered to be recorded — Whereupon John Matthews the Executor
therein named came in and was duly qualified to the same — Witness;

R. Oppes C. C. 1815 —

Halifax Feb. 24. 1815 —

The last will of Mary Clarke — I give and bequeath to Elizabeth
Clark & her heirs forever the whole of my stock consisting of one horse, six
head of cattle, ten sows and seven pigs — Likewise give and bequeath
to Elizabeth Clark & her heirs forever the whole of my household furniture
which I deem too tedious and unnecessary to mention —

Test — Robt. M. Williams — Just

Mary Clarke
her + mark



Halifax County 2.
May Term 1815 3.

That this will was exhibited in Open Court & duly
proven by the Oath of Robert Williams the subscribing witness thereto & on mo-
tion ordered to be recorded. — Witness —

R. Oppes C. C. 1815 —

In the name of God amen; I Thomas Nichols of Halifax County
North Carolina, being of sound mind and memory, do make and ordain this
my last will and Testament. —

First I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Sarah Nichols all
the property which I now possess or hereafter may possess during her
natural life, and after her death to descend to my daughter, Betsy
Carlock and her heirs forever —

And lastly I give and bequeath to my grandson Caleb Butts Five
shillings to be paid out of such property as my wife has a possession
after said Caleb arrives of lawful age. —

Mary Clarke's Will

Thomas Nichols will