

Will: John Markham

Will of John Markham; Chesterfield County Virginia; Will Book 2, pg 138-139; written 1770; proved 1 Feb 1771.

In the name of God Amen, I John Markham of the County of Chesterfield being sick and weak of body but of perfect mind and memory do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following.

First, I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Rebecca one Negro fellow named Bristol with his wife Lucy and their two sons Jerry and Dublin with all their future increase to her and her heirs forever, also one feather bed and furniture at her brother Bernards.

Item- I give unto my daughter Judith one negro man George, with his wife Amey and their son London with all their future increase to her and her heirs forever, also one feather bed and furniture.

But in case of the death of both of my daughters Rebecca or Judith before arrive of lawfull age or marry, then my desire is that their parts be equally devided by my Executors one half to go to the surviving sister Rebecca or Judith, and the other half to be equally devided between my four sons, John, Vincent, George and Archibald, but in case of the death of both of my said daughters before they arrive of lawfull age or marry that then the whole of their parts be equally devided between my sons aforesaid.

Item- I give unto my daughter Cathrine Smith one feather bed and furniture.

Item- I give unto my son William Five pounds current money

Item- I give unto my son Bernard five pounds current money

Item- I give and bequeath unto my four sons, John Vincent, George and Archabald my negroes, York, Toby, Wiggom, Tom, Silvie and Aaron to be equally divided between them, to them and their heirs forever.

All the rest of my estate both real and personal of every kind whatsoever I give and devise to my Executors hereafter named (except my land and Ferry opposite to Warwick in Henrico County) in Trust to be by them sold for the best price that may be got and in such manner as they shall think proper and the money arising from such sale after my just debts are paid to be equally divided between my four sons aforesaid John, Vincent, George and Archibald or so much thereof as will make their proportions of my Estate with what I have already given them amount to the sum of two hundred fifty pounds current money.

My lands house and Ferry opposite to Warwick in Henrico County as aforesaid I give and devise to my Executors hereafter named to be rented for the best price that can be got and the money arising from such rent I give to be equally divided between my sons John, Vincent, George and Archibald aforesaid, and my desire is that when Brett Randolph's Estate is divided between his children whoever of them gets Warwick shall have the offer, of my aforesaid Land and Ferry, and pay to my Exbis the price the said Land and Ferry shall be valued to by three indifferent men, but if they refuse to give the price it shall be valued at, that then my executors sell the same for the best price that can be got, and in case the legacies which I have given my sons John, Vincent, George and Archibald should no amount to the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds, then I desire it may be made up out of the money arising from the sale of the said Land and Ferry, and if there should be any overplus after pay my four sons the legacies aforesaid, then I give to my daughters Rebecca and Judith as much as will make their shares of my Estate with what I have already given them, amount to the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds, and in case there should anything remain after paying the legacies aforesaid, I desire the same may be equally divided between all my children.

And lastly I constitute and appoint my friend Benjamin Watkins and my sons Bernard, Vincent and George to be Executors of this my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twentieth day of October in the year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and seventy.

Signed, sealed and published in the presence of Dudley Brooke, William Ball, Samuel Branch, Thomas Wooldridge

Signed John Markham (ff)

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[Inventory: John Markham](#)

Will: John Markham; Pamela Hutchison Garrett, 2014.