

JOHN BLOUNT'S WILL.

NO. CAROLINA SC.

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I, John Blount, of Chowan precinct Esq., Do make and declare these presents to be and contain my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all former and other Wills by me heretofore made or declared.

Imprimis, I Give, Devise and Bequeath unto my well beloved Wife, Elisabeth, all and Singular my Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments whatsoever within this Government for and during the Term of her Natural Life if she so long continues Sole.

Item. Whereas the Land I now dwell on containing Six hundred and forty acres, fronting on Albemarle Sound is Intailed Land, It is my Will and Desire that the one half thereof, or Such part thereof being the Westernmost part as in this my Will is hereafter described, shall be my Son, John, the Heir at Law, be vested in my Son, Thomas, and the Heirs of his Body Lawfully begotten, either by Act of Assembly or by some other Lawfull way or means, or that in Lieu thereof my Son John shall have such part of my back Lands as is hereafter described. But if some Expedient shall not be found out, by my Son, John, either by Act of Assembly, or otherwise, to vest the Westernmost part of the Land whereon I now dwell, to and for the Use of my Said Son, Thomas, and the Heirs of his Body lawfully begotten, then it is my Will that all my Said back Lands containing by Estimation Twelve hundred and Sixty Seven Acres, be the Same more or less, shall be and remain to my Said Son Thomas and the Heirs of his Body lawfully begotten; And in Case a Division of the Said intailed Lands can be Effected, then my Will is that my Eldest Son, John, and his Heirs lawfully begotten shall have the Easternmost part of all the Lands as well intailed as those I have taken up myself, and my Son, Thomas, and his heirs lawfully begotten to have the Westernmost part of the Said Land, all which Lands are to be divided after this Manner, Vizt: The Breadth of the Land belonging to the plantation whereon I now dwell on Chowan or Albemarle Sound, to be equally divided on the Front to the Water, and when the Middle is found, then to Set a Course which will take the Branch or Valley on the Back of my now dwelling House where is a Sort of a Spring of Water, and Mulbery Trees planted; and from thence down the Branch 'till it comes to a Bridge (which goes over the Swamp behind the House unto the neck called poplar Neck), which Bridge is now the Main Horse Road to Yawpim, and that Bridge to be the Division across the Swamp, So along the Swamp on the West Side of the Bridge 'till it comes to the Mouth of the Branch where there is a piece of Ground cleared, and a puncheon House built at the Head of the Branch, and that Branch to be the Division 'till it comes to the North west Corner of the Said cleared Ground; then Such a Course as will go to a Hickory, in both Patents called a Poplar, marked with this Mark *; and from that Tree the division to be according to the patents 'till it comes to the Northernmost End of the Beech Island Land, and so to divide each Ways according to, and agreeable with the Patents: But if my Son Thomas cannot by any lawfull wayes or means have the part of all the Lands allotted him according to the Division mentioned in this Paragraph, then my Will is as before Exprest, that all my back Lands, containing by Estimation Twelve Hundred and Sixty Seven Acres, be the Same more or less, shall go to my Said Son, Thomas, and the Heirs of his Body Lawfully begotten.

Item. My Lands lying on Welches Creek Vizt: Six hundred and forty Acres that I bought of Roger Snell, and One hundred & Ten acres adjoining thereto surveyed for me by Mr. William Gray, I Give, devise and Bequeath unto my Two Sons, James & Charles, to be Equally divided between them; my Son James to have the Lowermost half; and my Son Charles to have the uppermost half, To have & to hold the same unto the said James & Charles, and the heirs of their Respective Bodies Lawfully begotten, by Moieties in Severalty and not in Joint Tenancy.

Item. I Give, devise & Bequeath unto my Son, James, and his Heirs & Assigns, Two hundred forty five acres of Land, commonly called Tickers rich neck, lying on the back of Welches Creek land, he paying the Sum of Thirty pounds to my Son, Joseph, within One Year after my Son, Joseph, shall arrive to full Age, but if my Son, James, shall not think fit to accept of that Land on this Condition, then I Give the same unto my Son, Charles, and his heirs and Assignes, on the like Condition of his paying to my Son, Joseph, Thirty pounds within Eighteen months after my said Son, Charles, shall come to Age: But if neither my Said

Sons, James and Charles, shall pay unto my Said Son, Joseph, the aforesd Thirty pounds as exprest in this Paragraph of my Will, then I Give, Devise and Bequeath the said Two hundred forty five Acres to my Said Son, Joseph, and his heirs and Assigns for ever.

Item. I Give, Devise & Bequeath unto my Son, Joseph, all my Lands at Matchapungo, known by the name of Goshen, where Thomas Davis lately dwelt, to him the said Joseph, and the heirs of his Body lawfully begotten.

Item. It is my Will, and I do hereby order the same, that in case either of my Sons John, Thomas, James, or Charles should dye without Lawfull Issue, the first of them so dying, his Lands in this Will given, shall go to my Son, Joseph, and to the Heirs of his Body lawfully begotten forever. And if any other of my Said Sons shall Dye without Issue after my Son Joseph shall be possess of any Lands by Virtue of this paragraph of my Will, then my Will is that the part of such so dying without Issue, shall go to the next heir at Law, and the heirs of his Body Lawfully begotten forever.

Item. I Give, Devise & Bequeath unto my Dearly beloved Wife, Elisabeth, all my Lands at Bear Swamp and at Barrow Hole & that piece of Land which I bought of Henry Haughton, to her, and her heirs & Assigns forever.

Item. I Give, Devise and Bequeath unto my Dearly beloved Wife, Elisabeth, the use and occupation of all and Singular my Personal Estate during the time she shall continue Sole, and at her Decease (if sole), to dispose thereof as she shall think fitting, to all, or any of my Children; But in case my said Wife shall Marry, then it is my Will that my Personal Estate shall be equally divided into Three parts, whereof my said Wife shall have one Third part, and the other Two third parts to be divided by my Said Wife among my Children, as she shall think most proper and convenient.

Item. I Bequeath unto each of my Daughters Vizt: Mary Jacocks, Elisa. Paget, Sarah Lovick, Martha Worsley, and Hester Worley, a Gold Ring.

And I do hereby make & Constitute my said Wife, Elisabeth, Executrix of this my Will, and also do request my respected friends John Lovick & Thomas Pollock Esqur., to be assistants to my said Will to see every Clause and article in this my Will performed.

Lastly, It is my Will that my Sons, John & Thomas, shall have Liberty to Build & Settle on each of their respective Tracts of Land when they shall come to Age or sooner with their mothers Consent, and that they may have Liberty to clear Ground, Fence & Tend it & make Pasture of the clear Ground where I dwell, without too much incommoding their Mother, to whose advice & direction I recommend them and all my Children.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto Set my hand & Seal this twenty Seventh day of January Anno Dom. 1725-6.

JOHN BLOUNT (Seal)

Signed Sealed published and declared in presence of

SAMLL. WARNER.

WM. BENBURY.

MAGNES

Illustration
PLOWMAN.

NO. CAROLINA SC.

Be it known to all Men by these presents, That whereas, I, John Blount, of Chowan precinct, Esq., have made and declared my last Will and Testament in Writing, bearing date this twenty Seventh Day of January Anno Dom: 1725-6, I, the Said John Blount, do by this present Codicil, confirm and Ratify my Said last Will and Testament, and in Consideration that my Daughters, Ann, and Rachel, are not mentioned in my Said Will, I do hereby desire that my Said Daughters should have a Gold Ring each, as in my Will is directed to be given to the Rest of their Sisters, and that they also shall receive of my Estate as their Mother shall see convenient.

And I also do request Christopher Gale, Esq., to be an Assistant, together with Jno. Lovick, and Thomas Pollock, Esq. mentioned in my Said Will to See every Clause and Article of my will performed. And my Will and meaning is that this Codicil be, and be adjudged to be, a part and parcel of my Said last Will and Testament, and that all things herein Contained be as truly performed as if the Same were so declared and Set down in my Said last Will and Testament.

[Page 60]

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto Set my Hand and Seal, this twenty Seventh Day of January, Anno Dom. 1725-6.

JOHN BLOUNT (Seal)

(Coat of Arms on Seal)

Signed, Seald, published and declared, in presence of

SAMLL. WARNER.

WM. BENBURY.

MAGNES

Illustration
PLOWMAN.

NO. CAROLINA SC. Sir Richard Everard, Barrt., Governor, Capt General, and Admiral.

These may Certify that Samuel Warner, Gent., personally appeared before me and made Oath on the holy Evangelist, that he Saw John Blount, Esq., Sign, Seal, publish and declare the within written to be his last Will and Testament, and that he was then of a Sound disposing mind and Memory; and that he saw the other Evidences that have witnessed the Same, Sign their Names to it at the Same time; and further that he Saw the Sd John Blount, Sign & Seal the Codicil annexed to this Will, and that he was then of perfect mind & Memory, and Witnessed the Same together with the other Evidences thereto.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto Set my Hand, this 18th day of May 1726.

Letters Granted May ye 18th, 1726.

RICHD EVERARD.

Copied from Original Will filed in the Office of the Secretary of State.