

Will of Marmaduke Norfleet

28 June 1774, proved at the March Court of Northampton County in the year 1775.

In the name of God, Amen. I Marmaduke Norfleet of the Province of North Carolina and County of Northampton, being upwards of seventy four years of age and being in perfect sound sense and memory and calling to mind the mortality of all mankind, am willing to settle all my temporal affairs. My sincere prayer is to Almighty God to receive my soul after death and that my body may be buried in a decent Christian like manner at the discretion of my executors whom I shall hereafter appoint, my just debts being paid and truly satisfied. I do dispose of the remainder of my estate in form and manner as follows:

Imprimus: I give and bequeath to my son Reubin Norfleet several parcels of land and tenements lying on the North side of Roanoke river and joining each other and lying in both Northampton County and Bertie County being the land which I bought of Thomas Williams, Benjamin Foreman & Reubin Norfleet & Richard & John Whitaker, likewise the land on the South side of Roanoke River that I have already made over to my son Reubin Norfleet by a Deed of Gift. I do acknowledge it to be a free gift. All the above mentioned land I give to my son Reubin, and to his Heirs forever. I likewise give to my son Reubin Norfleet a parcel of Negroes that he has had in possession for some time past that is to say one Negro man called Harvey, one Negro man Daniel, one Negro man called Abram and one Negro wench called Hagar, and all her children excepting one Negro girl called Venus. Likewise I give him one Negro wench called Rose and all her children. I likewise give him one Negro man called Toney, likewise I give him one Negro wench called Old Nanny. I likewise give to my son Reubin Norfleet all my stock of cattle and hogs that is under the care of Mills Young and the work horses & ploughs belonging to that plantation whereon Mills Young lives and a young mare, Dennis. Imprimus: I give and bequeath to my son Reubin Norfleet several parcels of land and tenements lying on the North side of Roanoke river and joining each other and lying in both Northampton County and Bertie County being the land which I bought of Thomas Williams, Benjamin Foreman & Reubin Norfleet & Richard & John Whitaker, likewise the land on the South side of Roanoke River that I have already made over to my son Reubin Norfleet by a Deed of Gift. I do acknowledge it to be a free gift. All the above mentioned land I give to my son Reubin, and to his Heirs forever. I likewise give to my son Reubin Norfleet a parcel of Negroes that he has had in possession for some time past that is to say one Negro man called Harvey, one Negro man Daniel, one Negro man called Abram and one Negro wench called Hagar, and all her children excepting one Negro girl called Venus. Likewise I give him one Negro wench called Rose and all her children. I likewise give him one Negro man called Toney, likewise I give him one Negro wench called Old Nanny. I likewise give to my son Reubin Norfleet all my stock of cattle and hogs that is under the care of Mills Young and the work horses & ploughs belonging to that plantation whereon Mills Young lives and a young mare, Dennis.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Judith Baker the land and plantation wherein Joshua Fletcher now lives on the east side of the Cypress swamp being the land that I bought of William Roundtree, lying and being in Edgecombe County. I say I give it to her and her heirs, but if she should die without an heir begotten of her body, my will is that it should fall to my son Reubin Norfleet and to his heirs. Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Judith Baker the land and plantation wherein Joshua Fletcher now lives on the east side of the Cypress swamp being the land that I bought of William Roundtree, lying and being in Edgecombe County. I say I give it to her and her heirs, but if she should die without an heir begotten of her body, my will is that it should fall to my son Reubin Norfleet and to his heirs.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Judith Baker all my stock of cattle and hogs, and work horses and ploughs and a young mare all belonging to the above mentioned plantation. Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Judith Baker all my stock of cattle and hogs, and work horses and ploughs and a young mare all belonging to the above mentioned plantation.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Judith Baker several Negroes that she has now in her possession, namely one Negro wench called Lucey, and the children that she hath with her which are called by the name Cate, Ben, Hinny and Clarissa. Likewise I give to my daughter three Negro men called Tobey, Jack

and Dial, that she has now in her possession and I likewise give to my daughter Judith two Negro men called Jacob and Dempsey which she has not yet had in her possession. Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Judith Baker several Negroes that she has now in her possession, namely one Negro wench called Lucey, and the children that she hath with her which are called by the name Cate, Ben, Hanny and Clarissa. Likewise I give to my daughter three Negro men called Tobey, Jack and Dial, that she has now in her possession and I likewise give to my daughter Judith two Negro men called Jacob and Dempsey which she has not yet had in her possession.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Judith two feather beds and the furniture belonging to them.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Judith two feather beds and the furniture belonging to them.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah Jeffreys the law and plantation whereon I now live which I bought of _____, lying in Northampton County with the land and plantation whereon Amos Parker now lives. I say I give it to my daughter Sarah Jeffreys and to her heirs begotten of her body, and if she should die without an Heir begotten of her body my will is that it should fall to my son Reubin and his heirs. I likewise give to my daughter Sarah all my stock of hogs and cattle with the work horses ploughs & harrows belonging to the same plantation and one young riding mare called Polley. Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah Jeffreys the law and plantation whereon I now live which I bought of _____, lying in Northampton County with the land and plantation whereon Amos Parker now lives. I say I give it to my daughter Sarah Jeffreys and to her heirs begotten of her body, and if she should die without an Heir begotten of her body my will is that it should fall to my son Reubin and his heirs. I likewise give to my daughter Sarah all my stock of hogs and cattle with the work horses ploughs & harrows belonging to the same plantation and one young riding mare called Polley.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah sundry negroes namely one Negro man called Old Jack, one mulatto man called Dick, one Negro man called Jimmey, one Negro man called Caesar, one lad called Julius Caesar, one wench called Merrico, one wench called Sall, one girl called Celia. I say I give the above named Negroes to my daughter Sarah them and their increase during her life and after her death to be equally divided amongst her children, but if she should die without [heirs], I say the above named negroes I give to be equally divided amongst my son Reubin's children. Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah sundry negroes namely one Negro man called Old Jack, one mulatto man called Dick, one Negro man called Jimmey, one Negro man called Caesar, one lad called Julius Caesar, one wench called Merrico, one wench called Sall, one girl called Celia. I say I give the above named Negroes to my daughter Sarah them and their increase during her life and after her death to be equally divided amongst her children, but if she should die without [heirs], I say the above named negroes I give to be equally divided amongst my son Reubin's children.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah Jeffreys all my household furniture except four featherbeds and the furniture thereunto belonging. Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah Jeffreys all my household furniture except four featherbeds and the furniture thereunto belonging.

Item: I give and bequeath unto James Norfleet the son of Phillissia Norfleet, grandson to my brother James Norfleet the land and plantation whereon Henry Spikes now lives, lying in Bertie County on the east side of one branch of the head of Curshy swamp, being the land that I bought of William Robertson. I likewise give unto the above named James Norfleet all the stock of Cattle belonging to the above said plantation.

Item: I give and bequeath unto James Norfleet the son of Phillissia Norfleet, grandson to my brother James Norfleet the land and plantation whereon Henry Spikes now lives, lying in Bertie County on the east side of one branch of the head of Curshy swamp, being the land that I bought of William Robertson. I likewise give unto the above named James Norfleet all the stock of Cattle belonging to the above said plantation.

Item: I give and bequeath to the above said James Norfleet two young negroes namely Davey and Celia. My will is that if the above named James Norfleet should die without issue or before he arrives to the age of twenty one years, then the above Land, Negroes and Stock to be sold to the best bidder & the money arising from the sale of the Land, Negroes & Stock to be equally divided amongst my three children namely Reubin Norfleet, Judith and Sarah or to their Heirs. Item: I give and bequeath to the above said

James Norfleet two young negroes namely Davey and Celia. My will is that if the above named James Norfleet should die without issue or before he arrives to the age of twenty one years, then the above Land, Negroes and Stock to be sold to the best bidder & the money arising from the sale of the Land, Negroes & Stock to be equally divided amongst my three children namely Reubin Norfleet, Judith and Sarah or to their Heirs.

Item: I give and bequeath unto Eusebeous Stone the land and plantation whereon Ephraim Adams now lives with the stock and cattle belonging to the same plantation. I say I give the aforesaid Land and Stock of Cattle to him and his heirs and if in case no such person can be found, then my will is that his sister Susannah or her heirs should inherit the land and Stock of Cattle and if in case there is no such person as Eusebeous Stone or his heirs or his sister Susannah or her heirs to be found, then the above mentioned land and plantation and Stock of Cattle shall be sold to the highest bidder and the money arising from the Sale of the said Land and Stock of Cattle to be equally divided amongst my three children, namely Reubin, Judith & Sarah. Item: I give and bequeath unto Eusebeous Stone the land and plantation whereon Ephraim Adams now lives with the stock and cattle belonging to the same plantation. I say I give the aforesaid Land and Stock of Cattle to him and his heirs and if in case no such person can be found, then my will is that his sister Susannah or her heirs should inherit the land and Stock of Cattle and if in case there is no such person as Eusebeous Stone or his heirs or his sister Susannah or her heirs to be found, then the above mentioned land and plantation and Stock of Cattle shall be sold to the highest bidder and the money arising from the Sale of the said Land and Stock of Cattle to be equally divided amongst my three children, namely Reubin, Judith & Sarah.

Item: My will is that Thomas Brown should have the use of the Land and plantation and Stock of Cattle as he has had heretofore during his life. That is to say to raise cattle for the one fourth part & my will is that after his & my death, the land & plantation and my part of the Stock of Cattle shall be sold to the highest bidder and the money arising from the sale of the said Land and Stock of Cattle to be equally divided amongst my three children, namely, Reubin, Judith and Sarah. Item: My will is that Thomas Brown should have the use of the Land and plantation and Stock of Cattle as he has had heretofore during his life. That is to say to raise cattle for the one fourth part & my will is that after his & my death, the land & plantation and my part of the Stock of Cattle shall be sold to the highest bidder and the money arising from the sale of the said Land and Stock of Cattle to be equally divided amongst my three children, namely, Reubin, Judith and Sarah.

Item: The Negroes that I let my son Marmaduke Norfleet have the use of in his life time, my will is that, as his daughter Abseley Bell has the one half of the aforesaid negroes, that his daughter Ann Norfleet should have the other half when she arrives to the age of eighteen or marries. Item: The Negroes that I let my son Marmaduke Norfleet have the use of in his life time, my will is that, as his daughter Abseley Bell has the one half of the aforesaid negroes, that his daughter Ann Norfleet should have the other half when she arrives to the age of eighteen or marries.

This I make as my last Will and Testament making void all other wills made heretofore by writing and I do hereby ordain and appoint my trusty and well beloved son Reubin Norfleet and my very good friend William Baker and my approved friend James Hogan to be my true and lawful executors to see this my last Will and Testament exhibited and fulfilled according to the true intent and meaning of the above written Will and Testament. Signed, sealed and acknowledged this twenty-eighth day of June in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy four.

/S/ Marmaduke Norfleet (Seal)

In the presence of

Amos Parker

Daniel Jackson

Samuel Parker

Phillissia Norfleet

Northampton County

March Court 1775

Then this will was duly proved by the Oath of Daniel Jackson & Phillissia Norfleet at the same time Reubin Norfleet, William Baker & James Hogan was duly qualified as Executors thereof, Ordered to be Certified and recorded.

Test

/S/ Willie Jones