

John Bryan - 1837

In the Name of God Amen - I John Bryan of the County of Wilkes and State of North Carolina do make this my last will and testament in the following form first I give and bequeath to my Decdy beloved wife Nancy Bryan All my Estate Real and personal that is to say all my land, Negroes Money on hand Notes Bonds, Deeds, of trust farming utensils household and kitchen furniture and stock of every kind during her natural life and she may ^{give} any part of it to our Children as she pleases so that they all have Equal Shares - - - - -

2^d I give and bequeath to James and Elvira Martin one Dollar and all the Negroes and other property they have had of me like wife Henry and Sarah - - - - -

3^d I give and Bequeath to William and Matilda Parks ~~and Dollars~~ one Dollar and all the Negroes and other property they have had of me - - - - -

4th I give and bequeath to James and Polly Parks one Dollar and all the Negroes and other property they have had of me - - - - -

5th ~~I give to James and~~ I give to Benjamin & Betty and Cynthia his wife all the Negroes they have had of me and one Dollar - - - - -

6th I give and bequeath to George and Nancy Bower one Dollar and all ~~the Negroes~~ the Negroes they have had of me - - - - -

7th I give to my son Felix Bryan ~~widow~~ Julia Bryan and his daughter Frances Cornelia Bryan one Dollar and all the Negroes that I gave to him in his lifetime to be Equally Divided between them Except the Negro girl Mira that I gave to Francis Cornelia Bryan to be her own property which gift I confirm to be absolutely

W also give to my grand Daughter Frances Cornelia Bryan five hundred Dollars to be paid out of my Estate when she is Eighteen Years of age but if ^{she} should Die before she arrives at that age my Will is that the five hundred Dollars should be Equally Divided among my other grand Children - My Will is that if any ^{of my} Daughters should Die and their Husbands should marry again that no part of what they have had of me shall go to the benefit of an after marriage but that every part of my Estate that they had should belong to my grand Children

John Bryan

It will be seen that my Will is to have all my Estate Real and
Personal Equally divided Among my living Children But my son
Felix Bryan Widdow Julia Bryan and his Daughter Francis Cornelia
Bryan is not to have any more of my Estate Except the five
hundred Dollars to Francis Cornelia Bryan given by this my present
Will as I think with what was given to him my son Felix Bryan
9th in his lifetime was Equal to what my other Children have
My Will is that my wife Nancy Bryan Which I appoint to be
Sole executrix of this my last Will and Testament shall
have the sole Disposal of my Estate both Real and per-
-sonal so as to make as equal Division as possible and I do
hereby authorize and empower her to Dispose of and convey the
Same by Deed or otherwise in the manner heretofore directed and
According to what is hereafter stipulated - But if any of our
Children should be Dissatisfied with what she does they must
not go to Law but leave the matter in Dispute to two good men
and if them two cannot agree then them two may choose a
third man and whatever them three agree upon shall be as
binding as if Judgment was given in the Superior Court
10 My Desire is that my land on the South Side of the Garden should
not be divided but remain in one tract as I think that dividing
it would hurt its value and if any of my Children should
wish to purchase it to live on that my other Children should
give them the preference and also give Eighteen months
time of Interest on the price likewise allow Reasonable time
to pay the whole amount and if any of my Children should
purchase any of the aforesaid property they shall be allowed
reasonable time for to make payment for any property that
any of my Children ^{should} purchase and ^{they} land on the north side of the
Garden and that on Market Lane and that on the Round Man-
-tain may be Disposed of in any way by my Executrix or any one
she chooses to act for her may think fit and if any of my Children
should wish to purchase any of my property and they think the
price set on it is too high they may choose two good men to value the
same and if they cannot agree they may choose a third man to assist
but if the purchaser thinks it too high he is not bound to take
it
John Bryan

11th But as my desire is that there should be no wrong meaning put on
the wording of this my last will and testament I repeat in out words
what I have above written that all my Estate Real and Personal
I shall bequeath to my wife during her natural life to be disposed
of in what manner she pleases among our Children and theirs
in Equal portions Except to my Son Felix Bryan and his
heir or heirs claiming under him whose full share is Expressly
given as above stated in this my will - And if any of my Daughters
I should be without Children they are to have an Equal share with
those that have Children - But if any of my Daughters should die
in my lifetime or before the death of my wife without Child or Child
Eden then their husbands is not to have any more of my Estate
that is Wills to be disposed of by my wife - - - - -

12th I do hereby Revoke, Disannul and make void all former Wills and
Testaments by me heretofore made Declaring this to be my last
will and testament In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
hand and seal this ~~24th~~ ^{10th} Day of May in the Year of
our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty seven
Signed and Sealed
in the Presence of

John Bryan 

J. J. Bryan At

Mabury Wilborn At

John Bryans Will
May 13th 1837

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Recorded by 2/10, 1827.

North Carolina } To the worshipping Court of Pleas and Quarter
Wilkes County } Sessions, now in session; Whereas in my hus-
-band's last will and Testament bearing date the 13th of May 1837,
he has appointed me the sole executrix to said will; and for ~~various~~
various causes, me hereunto moving, I do hereby relinquish my
right of qualifying as executrix to said will, unto my four sons in
law, to wit, James Martin, James McParks, William Parks and Benjamin
J. Petty, whom I wish to qualify as Administrators ~~of~~ the will
annexed, witness my hand this 2nd day of May 1842.

Test
J. L. Dwyer

Nancy Bryan

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