

younger, merchants of the city aforesaid, executors in trust &c. And to each of my executors and to each of my above named friends and trustees in Virginia I give twenty shillings apiece as tokens of my love. Provision made for three daughters, Mary, Elizabeth and Margaret out of the personal estate (they under twenty-one).

Wit: John Churchman, W^m Meredith, W^m Brayne and John Selwood.
Cann, 124 (P. C. C.).

The Honorable JOHN CUSTIS Esq. of the City of Williamsburg and County of James City in the Colony of Virginia, 14 November 1749, proved at London 19 November 1753. My executor to lay out and expend, as soon as possible after my decease, out of my estate, the sum of one hundred pounds sterling to buy a handsome tombstone of the best durable white marble, large and built up of the most durable stone that can be purchased, for pillars, very decent and handsome to lay over my dead body, engraved on the tombstone my coat of arms, which are three parrots, and my will is that the following inscription may be also handsomely engraved on the said stone viz^t.

“Under this Marble Stone lyes the Body of the Honourable John Custis Esquire of the City of Williamsburgh and parish of Bruton formerly of Hungars Parish on the Eastern Shoar of Virginia and County of Northampton the place of his Nativity Aged . . . years and yet lived but seven years which was the space of time he kept a Batchelors House at Arlington on the Eastern Shoar of Virginia this Inscription put on this Stone by his own possitive Orders.”

And I do desire and my will is and I strictly require it that as soon as possible my real dead body, and not a sham coffin, be carried to my plantation on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, called Arlington, and there my real dead body be buried by my Grandfather the Hon^{ble} John Custis Esquire where a large walnut formerly grew and is now enclosed with a brick wall, which brick wall it is my will and I strictly charge and require it that the said brick wall be always kept up in good repair very handsomely by my heir that shall enjoy my estate; and if my heir should “ingrately” or obstinately refuse or neglect to comply with what relates to my Burial in every particular then I bar and cut him off from any part of my estate, either real or personal, and only give him one shilling sterling, and in such case I give my whole estate, real and personal, to the next heir male of my family named Custis that will religiously and punctually see this my will performed, but more especially what any ways relates to my burial in general, and if by any accident the Tombstone and appurtenances should be lost, broke or any ways miscarry in coming in from England, or any other ways whatsoever, in that case my positive will is and I earnestly require it that my heirs or executors immediately send to England for such another stone exactly, with the appurtenances, of the same price, until one shall come safe to hand according to my will and desire.

I give to my dear friend Thomas Lee Esquire, if living at my death, two hundred pounds to buy him any one thing he has a mind to remember me. To my worthy and much esteemed friend John Blair Esq. one hundred pounds, and to Mrs. Mary Blair, his wife, five guineas to buy her a mourning ring.

Whereas my plantation called Arlington, on the Eastern Shore of Virginia is entailed by my Grandfather, the Hon. John Custis Esq., on the heirs male of my body lawfully begotten and for as much as my father, the