

**John Washington, January 22, 1697, Will, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.**

**WILL OF JOHN WASHINGTON.<sup>1</sup>**

Recordat 5 May 1697

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN this 22d day of January in the year of our Lord 1697/8 & in the Ninth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King William I John Washington of Washing[ton] parish in the County of Westmld. Being Sick & Weak of Body but of Perfect mind & Memory thanks. be Givein to God therefore Calling into mind the Mortality of my Body & Knowing it is appoynted for all [mutilated] ce to dye doe make & ordain [mutilated] my Last will & Testamt. in maner & form following that is [mutilated] first & principally I give my Soul into ye. hands of God who gave it me & for my Body I Commend it to the Earth to be buryed in Christian & Decent manner in ye. Burying place on ye. plat [mutilated] where I now Live, by my Father mother & Brothers nothing Doubting but at the general Resurrecon I shall receive ye. Same again by the Mighty power of God & as touching Su [mutilated] it hath pleased God to Bless me with [mutilated] this Life I give devize bequeath & dispose ye. Same in Man [mutilated] form following first I give & Bequeath unto my welbeloved [mutilated] Ann Washington the platacon I now dwell on at appomattox Dureing Her Natural Life ITEM I give & Bequeath unto my Eldest Son Law. Washington that tract of Land which I Bought of Mr. Francis Dade Commonly called Barnets Quater it Lyes on uper Machotickes In Stafford County I give it to my Sd. Son and his Heirs for Ever ITEM I give to my Son John Washington that tract of Land wch. I now Live on after the decease of my Sd. Wife, to him & his Heirs for Ever but if it please

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God that my sd. Son John Should die before my Said Wife then I give the Sd. Tract to my Son Lawrence Washington to him & his Heirs for Ever, & if Both my Sons John and Lawe. should die before my Sd. Wife or without issue of their Body's Lawfully begotten then I give it to my Son Nathaniel to him & his Heirs for ever & if my three Sons Lawe. John & Nathl. Should die before my Said wife or without Issue Lawfully begotten of their bodys, then I give the Sd. Tract to my Son Henry Washington to him & his [heirs] for Ever & if it please God that all my Four Sons Should dye before my wife or without Issue of their body's Lawfully begotten then I give to the Next heir at Law to him & his heirs for Ever ITEM I give to my Son John Washington that Tract of Land Lying on popes Creek wch. John Llewelling now Lives on to him & his Heirs for Ever ITEM I give to my Son Nathl. Washington that tract of Land wch. Lyes at ye. Head of appomattox Creek which Anthony Rawlins & Joseph Smith & John Betts Now Lives on to him & his Heirs for Ever ITEM I give to my Son Henry Washington that tract of Land which was Between me & Robert Richards John Whitcraft lives now on part of it it is in Stafford County on the Dam Side where the Head of Machotick makes I give it to my Sd. Son and his Heirs for Ever ITEM it is my Will that if my Son Lawe. should dye without issue of his Body Lawfully begotten or before he arrives to the Age of Twenty one years that then my Son John Washington have the tract of Land wch. I bought of Mr. Francis Dade Called Barnetts Quater to him and his Heirs for Ever ITEM it is my Will that if my Son John Washington Should dye before he Come to the Age of twenty one Years or without issue of his Body Lawfully begotten that then I give to my Son Lawe. the tract of Land that I now Live on after my wifes decease to him & his Heirs for Ever and I give that Tract of Land on Popes Creek that John Llewelling Lives on to my Son Nathaniel Washington to him & his heirs for Ever ITEM it is my will that if my Son Nathl. Washington should dye without Issue of his body Lawfully begotten or before he Arrives to the Age of Twenty one Years that then I give to my Son Jno. Washington that tract of Land at the head of Appomattox Creek which Anthony Rawlins & Jos: Smith & John Beatts Lives on to him and his heirs for ever. ITEM It is my will that if any three of my aforesaid Sons should dye without issue of their Bodyes Lawfully begotten or before they arrive to the Age of twenty one years that then all the aforementioned lands

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I give to that Son that is Living & if it please god that they should all dye without Issue of their bodyes Lawfully begotten or before they arrive to the age of twenty one years or if I have no more Issue that then I give to my wife those two tracts of Land that Lyes in Stafford County to her and her heirs for Ever the three other tracts to bee divided between what Children It may please god to send my brother if he have but one I give it to him or her if more the Eldest Son to have his Choice of the tracts the next Eldest his next Choice if two Sons, if it be a Daughter that she have her Choice after her brother them & their heirs for ever ITEM It is my will that all my personl. Estate in Generall be Equally divided into five parts and that my wife have her first Choice & my Son Lawrence the next my Son John the next my Son Nathl. the Next & my Son Henry the other ITEM it is my will that if [it] please God any of my Sons should dye without Issue of their bodyes Lawfully begotten or before they arrive to the age of Twenty one years that then his part of the personall Estate be divided between my wife & the other three Sons Living & if it please God that three of my Sons should dye without issue of their bodyes Lawfully begotten or before they arrive at the age of twenty one years that then the pers.onall Estate be Equally divided between my Wife and that Son that is Living, and if [it] please God that if all my Sd. Sons should die without Issue of their bodyes Lawfully begotten or before they arrive at the age of twenty one years that then my per.sonall Estate be Divided Equally between My wife Ann Washington & my brothers Children ITEM it is my will that my brother [some words appear to be left out] & tuition of my Son Lawr. Washington & that my Sd. Brother have the keeping of my Sd. Sons Estate &c of this my Last [will] & Testamt. I make & ordain my well beloved brother Capt. Lawrence Washington & my Loving wife Ann Washington my full & whole Excr. & Executrix. and I do hereby utterly Disallow revoke & Annull all & Every other former Testamt. Wills Legacies bequests & Exs. by me in any wise before this time named willed & bequested ratifying & Confirming this & none other to be my last will & Testamt. In Witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand & Seal this day & year as afores'd Signd Seald publishd Pronounced & declared by the Sd. John Washington as his Last Will & Testament in the perrsence of ITEM it is also my will that Mrs. Elizabeth Hardid [mutilated] have my Watch that was given to me by Capt. Wm Hardidg's Will ITEM it is my will that my

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well beloved godson John Dudlstone have a gold Signet which was given me by his father on his death bed ITEM it is my Will that my well beloved brother Capt. Lawe. Washington have my Wearing Rings

JOHN WASHINGTON [Seal] JOHN SCOTTA WEBSTER THOS. HOWES PETER HYATT  
Westmld

At a Court held for the 2d. County the 23rd. day of ffebry. 1697

The above will was Duly proved & a probat thereof granted the Execrs. therein Named  
And Ordered to be recorded perr. Cur

Pr. JA: WESTCOMB Cle Com pb. Copy Test GEORGE LEE C Ct —

1 Second son of John the emigrant, and grand-uncle of George Washington.