

Levi Fort

In the name of God Amen I Levi Fort of the County of Southampton and State of Virginia being sick but of sound mind and disposing memory do make this writing my last will and testament and I hereby revoke all other wills heretofore made by me. I bequeath it is my will and desire that all my just debts be paid and for that purpose that my executors hereafter named or some of them at any act do sell any real estate of mine & Tenny and such part of my personal estate as they may think can be most advantageously disposed of and of these funds should prove insufficient for that purpose. I desire that the residue may be raised as I shall hereafter direct. Item It is my will and desire that the plantation where I now live together with all my slaves except those hereinafter mentioned and such stock as my executors in their discretion may leave unsold be kept up and worked in the most judicious manner and out of the sales of the crops arising therefrom I desire that the residue of my debts may be paid and the sum of three hundred dollars and a fifty dollars be also paid to my sister at any Fort exclusion of what I owe her to be paid to her at the may want or require it. Item It is my will and desire that after the expiration of Ten Years from my death out of the proceeds of the crops aforesaid there shall be annually raised the sum of five hundred dollars which I wish put out to interest in such stock as shall be thought most advisable and that the interest of such fund be applied to the Education of all the children which my daughter Mary Ann Mason now has or may hereafter have. Item I desire that the aforesaid fund with its accruing interest subject to the charges of Education if incurred shall remain entire and untouched except for these purposes until the youngest child which my said daughter may have shall have completed its education at which time if my said daughter be living I desire that she may draw the annual interest thereon during her life for her own use and enjoyment and at her death I desire that an equal division of the said fund shall be effected between all my said daughters children & their heirs forever. Item I give to my son in Law John Watson the balance of the profits or proceeds of my said land and negroes after raising the annuity aforesaid until my grandson Lewis Edmund attains the age of twenty one years to support his wife and family in which I wish done in a decent manner. Item I give to my grandson Lewis Edmund when he shall attain the age of twenty one years the House in which I now live and much hundred acres of land including the mill & mill race attached thereto and within the following bounds to wit by the corner of my mill frame on the north by the land of John Stuart and others on the east by the main run of the Horse Creek on South and a line to be drawn due north from the said Horse Creek to the said mill frame so as to include that quantity but in case my said grandson should die before he attains the age of twenty one years and without a child or children living at the time of his death I desire that the said land and mill shall be enjoyed as before directed until the death of my beloved daughter Mary Ann Mason and in the happening of that event I wished the said devised property be equally divided among her surviving children. Item It is my will and desire that my grandson Lewis Edmund when he attains the age of twenty one years receive from my executors one third part of his equal proportion of the negroes and stock then belonging to my estate that is to say one third part of an equal proportion with all the children which my said daughter may then have living and that when he attains the age of twenty one years that he receive the residue of his proportion or child part thereof and in like manner that each of my grand children shall receive their several proportions thereof as they respectively attain the same age. Item It is my will and desire that if any of my negroes should from any cause be my executors shall sell them and purchase others of equal value. I give and bequeath to my son in Law John Watson my land called Fife & my lands called Martin to him and his heirs forever. Lastly I constitute & appoint my son in Law John Watson and my friend Lewis Thompson and William D. Loomis my whole & sole executor to this my last will & testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal this 21st day of August 1826 signed Sealed published & declared before me as last will & testament in the presence of us

Wm. C. Young Wm. C. Young

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