

In the name of god, amen. I, John E. Beale, of the County of Southampton and State of Virginia, do hereby make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that to wit, After my decease I desire that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid out of my estate, by my Executors hereinafter named.

2^d I desire that my plantation whereon my father in law William Bryant formerly resided, includ- ing the Corners tract, altogether containing nearly six hundred acres be sold at the best advantage either privately or publickly for one third cash, and one half the balance on credit of one year (and the other half on a credit of two years, sales begin that my stock of seed, the crop, (after getting the crops) and farming utensils in said plantation be sold at the highest bidder.

3^d I desire that my tract like Mill and To a plantation formerly called Rockliff's mill, be sold at the best advantage either privately or publickly in the same terms as the land.

4th I leave to my beloved wife, Lydia W. Beale during the term of her natural life and for the support of my children, my plantation whereon I reside with all my negro Slaves, Horses, and other stock, household and kitchen furniture, farming and plantation utensils and a sufficient quantity of my present crop for support of my family, and necessary expenses, and for a new and the surplus after a plentiful support of my family be sold for the benefit of my estate annually.

5th I desire that my son Thomas W. Beale should go to school six or eight months more, if he should think proper to do so. I desire that my son John E. Beale should support him next year with his mother, to assist in carrying on the farm, and afterwards I desire that he be sent to school until he obtains an education equal to a gentleman. I desire that my daughter Lydia E. Beale should go to school about one year more (and I also desire that my daughter, Dr. Beale shall be sent to school until she obtains an education equal to my daughter Ann Louisa, (and the expenses of schooling my said children to be paid out of my estate).

6th After the decease of my wife, I desire that all the balance of my personal estate be sold at the highest bidder.

7th I give and bequeath to my three sons William E. Beale, Herman W. and John E. Beale my tract of land above directed to be divided between them so as to give a normal W. and John E. one thousand dollars worth of land a piece more than William E. - to them and their heirs forever.

8th I give and bequeath to my daughter Ann Louisa Beale the negro girl Dobi and other household now in her possession, and also the sum of one thousand dollars to her and her heirs forever.

9th I desire that my negroes and the balance of my estate not herein disposed of in conjunction with the legacies of land bequeathed to my three sons (William's share of land is to be considered equal in value of the other two in value, on account of the expenses incurred in educating him) to be so divided between my five children, namely: William E., Herman W., Lydia E., John E. and Dr. Beale as to make them equal legacies; but in case my daughter Ann Louisa should have a child or children then I desire the same to be so divided in conjunction with the legacy bequeathed to her as to make all my five children equal legacies or shares to them and their heirs forever.

10th And lastly, I hereby nominate and appoint my son William E. Beale and my son-in-law Alexander Beale Executors of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking and annulling all other former Wills or testaments by me heretofore made. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 10th day of August in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty three.

Signed, sealed and acknowledged by
John E. Beale
In the last will and testament of
John E. Beale
Thos. B. Warrick

At about half for the County of Southampton, the 21st day of November 1853.
This last will and testament of John E. Beale last was this day proved to the records of Wm. A. Maupin & Thomas B. Warrick the Subscribing witnesses thereof and ordered to be recorded. Witness our hands the within of William E. Beale one of the Executors in the said will named who made oath thereof and gave bond of solemnity according to law.