

WILLS
OF THE
AMERICAN ANCESTORS
OF
GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON
IN
THE LINE OF THE ORIGINAL OWNER AND THE
INHERITORS
OF
MOUNT VERNON

From Original Documents and Probate Records

EDITED BY
JOSEPH M. TONER, M.D.

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WILLS

OF THE

AMERICAN ANCESTORS

OF

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Loving wife of John Washington my wife & so on
 executors of this my last will & testament as with
 my hand & seal this 21st of 7th mo 1775
 signed & sealed in
 presence of us —
 John Ford
 John Appleton
 John Washington

Signatures to the Will of Col. John Washington. See page 7.

Proved by & sworn to
 by John Ford
 John Appleton & my dears
 & others

Probate of Will. See page 7.



Seal to Release.
See page 13.

John Washington
 21st Sept 1775

Gen. Washington's endorsement. See page 7.

WILLS OF THE AMERICAN ANCESTORS OF GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON.

THE following may be relied upon as authentic transcripts of the wills of the American ancestors of George Washington. They possess interest to the genealogist and historical student, and are presented in the following order: First, the emigrant John Washington—the great-grandfather of the General. Second, Lawrence Washington, also an emigrant, and brother of John. Third, Lawrence Washington, son of John and nephew of Lawrence the emigrant. Fourth, Deed of release from Roger and Mildred (Washington) Gregory to Augustine Washington. This Mildred Gregory was daughter of Lawrence Washington and sister of Augustine Washington, and the aunt and god-mother of George Washington. Mildred inherited from her father Hunting Creek plantation now "Mount Vernon," which she and her husband by this deed conveyed to her brother Augustine. Fifth, Augustine Washington, son of Lawrence and grandson of John. Sixth, Lawrence Washington, son of Augustine Washington, half-brother of George and great-grandson of John the emigrant and patentee of the Hunting Creek plantation.

The will of John Washington has been copied from the original when it was in a better condition than it is at present, and every word I believe is correctly interpreted. The other wills are from certified copies of probated wills on record. The deed of Roger and Mildred Gregory is copied from the original document. They are submitted as sources of history without further explanation or comment.

WILL OF JOHN WASHINGTON THE EMIGRANT.

In the name god amen, I John washington of washington parish in y^e Countie of westmerland in Virginia, gent^l. being of good & perfect memory, thankes be unto Almighty god (for it) & Calleing to remembrance the uncertaine estate of this trau[s]itory life, & that all flesh must yeild unto death, when it shall plea[s]e god for to Call, doe make Constitute ordaine & declare this my last will & testament in maner & forme following, reuoaki[ng] & annulling by thes presents all & every testament & testam[ents] will or wills heirtofore by me made & declared ei[ther] by [oath] or by writing & this to be taken only for my last will & testament & noe other, & first being hartily & sorry from the bottome of my hart for my sins past,

most humbly desireing forgiveness of the same from the Almighty god (my saviour) & redeimer in whome & by the meritts of Jesus Christ, I trust & beleive assuredly to be saved & to have full remission & forgiveness of all my sins & y^t my soule wth my body at the generall day of ressuriction shall arise againe wth Joy & through the meritts of Christ death & passion, posses & inherit the Kingdom of heaven, prepared for his ellect & Chossen & my body to be buried on y^e plantation wheirr I now Live, by the side of my wife y^t is already buried & two Children of mine & now for the setling of my temporall estate & such goods Chatles & debts as it hath pleased god far above my deserts to bestow uppon me, I doe order give & dispose the same in maner & forme followeing—

first I will y^t all those debts & duties y^t I owe in right or Consience to any mañer of person or persons w^{ts}oever shall be well & truly Contented & payd or ordained to be payd by my executors—herein after named—

Imprimis I give & [be]quea[th] unto my eldest [son Lawrence Wash-] ington y^t seat of land wheiron Henery flagg liveth [w^{ch} I bought of John] watts & Robert Hedges, being by patten seven hundre[d] ac[res] it being by my father pope made over to me & my heirs Lawfully begotten of my body—

Item I give unto my soñ Lawrence washington my watter mill wth all appertinances & Land belonging to it a' the head of Rosiers Creik to him & his heirs for ever, reserveing to my wife her thirds dureing her Life—

Item I give unto my soñ Lawrence washington y^t seate of Land w^{ch} I bought of M^r Lewis marcum being about two hundred & fifty acres, at the mouth of rosiers Creik on y^e northwest side, wth all the houseing their unto belonging to him & his heirs for ever reserveing to my wife her thirds dureing her Life—

Item I give unto my soñ Lawrence washington y^t seate of Land at upper machotick w^{ch} I bought of M^r Anthony Bridges & M^r John Rosier, being about nine hundred acres to him & his heirs for ever, reserveing to my wife her thirds dureing her life—

Item I give unto my soñ Lawrence washington my halfe & share of five thousand acres of Land in Stafford County w^{ch} is betwixt Coll Nicolas spencer & myselfe w^{ch} we [are engaged] y^t their shall be no benifit taken by survivour ship to him & his [heirs] for [ever].

Item I doe give unto my soñ John washington y^t plantation wheiron I now Live w^{ch} I bought of David Anderson & y^t plantation next to M^r John Foxhall y^t I bought (w^{ch} was Ric^d Hills) to him & his heirs for ever & y^t seate of Land of about four hundred acres w^{ch} lyeth uppon y^e head of Rappahaneck Creik & adJoyning uppon David norways orphants Land the Land being formerly John whetstons & sold to me to him & his heirs f[o]r ever reserveing to my wife her thirds of the afoare sayd Land dureing her life—

Item I give unto my soñ John washington y^t seate of Land w^{ch} Robert foster now Liveth on being about three hundred acres to him & his heirs forever, Likewise I give unto my sayd soñ John washington y^t seat of Land w^{ch} Robert Richards Liveth on w^{ch} I had of my bro: Lawrence washington being about three hundred & fifty acres to him & his heirs for ever reserveing to my wife her thirds of the two sayd tracts of La[n]d dureing her life—

Item I give & bequeath unto my daughter Añ washington y^t seate of Land y^t tract of Land y^t Tho: Jordan now liveth on being about twelve hundred acres to her & her heirs for ever, Likewise I give & bequeath unto my sayd daughter that tract of Land wheiron John frier now Liveth

being about fourtein hundred acres after M^r fricke hath his quantity out of it to her & her heirs for ever reserving to my wife her thirds of the two above seates dureing her Life.

Item I give unto my sayd daughter, w^{ch} was her mothers desire & my promise, y^t Cash in y^e new parlour & the Diamond ring & her mothers rings & the white quilt & the white Curtains & Vallians—

And as for the rest of my personall estate after my debts & dues are sattisfied Justly, w^{ch} I desire should be sattisfied out of my Cropps, which I doe not question but will be far more than I doe owe (thanks be unto god for it) theifore it is my desire y^t my estate should not Come to any appraisement, but I order & bequeath a followeth y^t is to say that their shall be a Just Inventory & List taken of my personall estate y^t I am possessed of & for to be devided in quantitie & quallitie by three men of Judgement w^{ch} I request the Court to nominate, into foure [par]ts to be equall & proportionable devided in quantitie & qualitie the one fourth part I give to my Loveing wife in Kind in Lew of her dower or Claime, & one fourth part to my soñ Lawrence washington in Kind, & one fourth part to my soñ John washington in Kind, & one fourth part to my daughter Añ washington in Kind to them & either of them severally & their heirs for ever & it is my will y^t if either of my above sayd Children should happen to dy, before they obtaine the age of one & twenty years or day of marriadge then the Land of y^t Child y^t Dyeth to be the eldest soñ then Liveing, & if both my soñs should dy then the Land to be my daughter Añ, & as for the personall estate if any of my three Children should happen to dy, before they Come of age or day of marriadge, then it is my will that the two surviveing Children should equally devide the personall estate of y^t Child y^t is dead betwixt them & theirs for ever

Item I give & bequeath after all my legacies payd out w^t mony I shall have in England to my soñ Lawrence washington

[Ite]m my desire is y^t their may be a funerall sermon preached [at y^e Ch]urch & that their be no other funerall Lest y^e [fun]erall exceed four thousand pounds of [Tobb]^{co}.

Item I give unto the Lower Church of washing[ton] parish [y]^e ten Comandements & the Kings armes w^{ch} is my desire should be sent for out of w^t mony I have in England

Item it is my desire y^t w^t estate I shall dy possessed should be Kept Intire wth out deviding untill all debts & dues be payd & sattisfied

Item I give unto my bro: Lawrence washington four thousand pounds of tobb^{co} & Caske—

Item I give unto my nephew John Washington my godson eldest soñ to my bro: Lawrence w[as]hington one young mare of two years old—

Item it is my desire y^t when my estate is devided in quantitie & qualitie into four equall parts, & y^t my wife hath taken her fourth part, y^t then every Childs part should be put out uppon their owne plantation or plantations theire for to [be] manadged to the best advantage, for the bringing up & educating o[f each Chil]d acc[ordi]ng to the proffit of each Childrens share—

Item it is my desire y^t my wife should have the bringing up of my daughter Añ washington untill my soñ Lawrence Comes of age or her day of marriadge & my wife for to have the manadgement of her part to my daughters best advantadge

Item I doe give to my bro: Thomas Pope ten pounds out of y^t mony I have in England

Item I doe give unto my sister marthaw washington ten pounds out of y^t mony I have in England & w^t soever else she shall be oweing to me for transporteing her self into this Country & a years accomodation after her Coming in & four thousand pounds of Tobb^{co} & Caske—

Item it is my desire y^t my bro: Thomas Pope have the bringing up of my soñ John Washington & for to have the manadgement of his estate to my soñs best advantadge untill be of age of one & twenty years or day of marriadge—

finally I doe ordaine & appoint my bro: m^r Lawrence washington & my soñ Lawrence washington & my Loveing wife m^{rs} Aū washington my whole & soale executors of this my last will & testament as witness my hand & seale this 21th of 7ber 1675. JOHN WASHINGTON.

signed & sealed in y^e

presence of us—

John Lord

John Appleton

proued by y^e Oath of

Cap^a Jn^o Lord Cap^a

Jn^o Appleton Being deces^d

[The following endorsement is on the back of this will in the hand-writing of General Washington:

Will—L^t Col^o
John Washington
11th Sep^t 1675.

This further endorsement but in a different hand is also on the back:—"Recorded in y^e County records of Westmoreland Co y^e 10 Jan'y 1677."—J. M. T.

The original of the above will of John Washington, the emigrant ancestor of President Washington, was preserved among the General's papers at Mount Vernon. After the sale of the estate in 1858 to the Ladies' Mount Vernon Association of the Union, the papers and other relics were removed by the owner. Some of them were exhibitd at the United States National Museum at Washington, for a few weeks, last winter, but were removed in February last to be sold. A catalogue was prepared and printed, and on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 21st, 22d and 23d, 1891, the collection was sold at auction in Philadelphia by Thomas Birch's Sons. The relics brought very high prices. This will was sold to Mr. Collins for \$700. The original of the release of Roger and Mildred Gregory here printed was in the same collection. The relics sold were owned by Messrs. Lawrence Washington, Bushrod C. Washington, Thomas B. Washington and J. R. C. Lewis.

Much search has been made for about a dozen years for this original will of the Virginia emigrant, John Washington. In 1878 Mr. James Coleman, the well known genealogical bookseller in London, advertised for sale a deed of certain real estate in London, from John Washington of London, citizen and draper, and Margaret his wife one of the daughters of Henry Harwood, gent., to Robert Abbott, citizen and scrivener. The deed was dated June 5, 1657. A deed of a John Washington, dated 1657, probably this one, came about 1878 into the possession of the late Col. Joseph L. Chester, who conjectured that this John Washington might be the Virginia emigrant, selling his property before leaving England, and as he knew his ancestry, he wished to procure an autograph of the emigrant, or a tracing of one, to compare with the signature to the deed. He wrote to Mr. Robert A. Brock of Richmond, Virginia, to the editor of the REGISTER, and to others in this country, asking them to assist him in procuring one. Mr. Brock had search made in the Westmoreland County Court House for the will, but neither the original nor the record was to be found there. Bishop Meade in his Old Churches, Ministers and Families in Virginia, published in 1857 (vol. 2, page 167), had printed an abstract of the will which was obtained from the papers at that Court House. This abstract must have been made from the record, as we now know that the original will was then in the possession of the family. But even the record book could not then be found in the office; and it was not discovered till last December, when Mr. J. Warren Hutt, the clerk, found it. He at once sent a copy to Mr. Moncure D. Conway and another to Mr. Isaac J. Greenwood. (See REGISTER, vol.

45, pp. 164-5.) Mr. Conway communicated his copy to the *New York Nation*, in which paper it was printed December 18, 1890. Mr. Greenwood sent his copy to the editor of the REGISTER. The record was much mutilated, portions of it being missing. Before Mr. Greenwood's copy of the record could be printed, the editor was informed of Dr. Toner's copy from the original, in which the missing portions are all found; and he has now the pleasure of laying it before his readers with other interesting Washington documents. The date on the original will looks like 21th, and the recorder read the figures 21; but Gen. Washington's minute is "11th Sept 1675." The record gives the date of probate "10th Jana: 1677."

This is the first time a perfect copy of the will has appeared in print. A facsimile of the original was taken by the National Museum in Washington, and another is given in Messrs. Thomas Birch's Sons' sale catalogue, from which we have had photo-engravings made of a few lines of the closing portion with all the signatures; of the minute of the probate of the will; and of the endorsement by President Washington. The fac-similes are given in the engraving facing page 3.—EDITOR.]

THE WILL OF LAWRENCE WASHINGTON, EMIGRANT.

In the name of God, Amen.

I, Lawrence Washington, of the county of Rapp^{ak}, being sick & weak in body, but of sound and perfect memory, do make & ordain this, my last will & testament, hereby revoking, annulling, & making void all former wills and Coddicills, heretofore by me made, either by word or writing, & this only to be taken for my last will & testament. Imp^{rs} I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God, hoping and trusting through the mercy of Jesus Christ, my one Savio^r and redeemer, to receive full pardon & forgiveness of all my sinus, and my body to the earth, to be buried in comely & decent manner, by my Executrix hereafter named, & for my wordly goods I thus dispose them. Item,

I give and bequeath unto my loving daughter, Mary Washington, my whole estate in England, both reall and personall, to her & the heirs of her body, lawfully begotten, forever, to be delivered into her possession immediately after my decease, by my Executrix hereafter named. I give and bequeath unto my afores^d daughter, Mary Washington, my smallest stone ring & one silver cup, now in my possession, to her & her heirs, forever, to be delivered to her immediately after my decease. I give and bequeath unto my loveing son, John Washington, all my bookes to him & his heirs, forever, to be delivered to him when he shall come to the age of Twenty-one yeares. I give and bequeath unto my son, John, & daughter, Ann Washington, all the rest of my plate, but what is before exprest to be equally divided between them, & delivered into their possession when they come of age.

Item, my will is, that all my debts which of right & Justice I owe to any man be Justly & truly paid, as allso my funerall expenses, after which my will is, that all my whole estate, both reall & personall, be equally divided between my loving wife, Jane Washington, & the two children God hath given me by her Viz^t John & Ann Washington. I give & bequeath it all to them, & the heires of their bodies, lawfully begotten, forever, my sonn's part to be delivered to him when he comes of age, & my daughter's part when she comes of age or day of marriage, which shall first happen.

Item, my will is, that that land which became due to me in right of my wife, lying on the south side of the river, formerly belonging to Capt. Alexander Flemming, & commonly known by the name of West Falco, be sold by my Executrix hereafter named, for the payment of my debts, immediately after my decease.

Item, my will is, that the land I have formerly entred with Capt. W^m Mosely, be forthwith after my decease, surveyed & pattented by my Exec^x hereafter named, & if it shall amount to the quantity of one thousand acres, then I give & bequeath unto Alexander Barrow, two hundred acres of the s^d land, to him & his heires, forever, the remainder I give & bequeath unto my loving wife afores^d, and two children, to them & their heires, forever, to be equally devided between them.

Item, my will is, that if it shall please God to take my daughter Mary out of this world before she come of age, or have heirs of her body, lawfully begotten, then I give & bequeath my land in England, which by my will I have given to her, unto my son, John Washington & his heirs, & the personall estate which I have given to her, I give & bequeath the same unto my daughter, Ann Washington & her heires, forever.

Item, I do hereby make & ordain my loveing wife, Jane Washington, Executrix of this my last will & testament, to see it performed, and I do hereby make & appoint my dear and loveing Brother Coll^l John Washington, & my loveing friend Thomas Hawkins (in case of the death or neglect of my executrix), to be the overseers and guardians of my Children untill they come of age to the truth whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & seale, this 27th of September, 1675.

LAWRENCE WASHINGTON [Seale].

Signed, sealed & declared to be his last will & testament,
in the p^rsence of us,

Cornelius Wood.

Signed,
John B. Barrow
Henry Tandy, Jun^r.

A codicill of the last will & testament of Lawrence Washington, annex^t to his will, & made September 27th 1675.

Item, my will is, that my part of the land I now live upon, which became due to me by marriage of my wife, I leave it wholly & solely to her disposall after my decease, as witness my hand, the day & year above written.

LAWRENCE WASHINGTON [Seale].

Signed, sealed & declared to be a Codicil of my
last will & tastmt in the p^rsence of us.

Cornelius Wood,
Henry Tandy, Jun^r.

The above Henry Tandy, Jun^r, aged 17 yeares, or thereab^{ts}, sworn & examined, saith, that he did see the above named Lawrence Washington, sign, seale & publish the above mentioned, to be his last will & testament, & that he was in perfect sence and memory at the signing, sealing & publishing thereof, to the best of your deponents Judgment.

HENRY TANDY.

Juratus est Henricus Tandy, in Cur Coud Rapp^{ak} Sexto die, Jany, An^o 1677, p^r Sacrand pr^d proba^t et reo-dab^r.

Test

A Copy Teste

EDM^d CRASK, Cl Cu^r

JAMES ROY MICOY,

Clerk, Essex County Court, State of Virginia.

WILL OF LAWRENCE WASHINGTON, SON TO JOHN WASHINGTON.

In The Name of God amen I Lawrence Washington of Washington Parish in the County of Westmoreland in Virginia Gentleman, being of Good and perfect memory thanks be unto almighty God for it & calling to mind the uncertain Estate of this Transitory life & that all Flesh must yield unto death when it shall please God to call me, doe make constitute, ordain & Declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following, revoking and annulling by these presents all and every Testament & Testaments, will or wills heretofore by me made and declared either by word or writing & this to be taken only for my last will and Testament and none other, and first being heartily sorry from the bottom of my heart for my sins, most humbly desireing forgiveness of the same from the Almighty God my saviour & Redeemer in whome by the merits of Jesus Christ, I Trust and believe assuredly to be saved and to have full remission & forgiveness of all my sins and that my soul with my body at the General day of Resurrection shall rise again with joy, and through the Merits of Christs Death and passion, possess & Inherit the kingdom of Heaven prepared for his Elect & Chosen and my body to be buried if please God I depart in this County of Westmoreland by the side of my Father and Mother & neare my Brothers & Sisters & my Children, and now for the setling of my Temporal Estate and such goods Chattles & Debts as it hath pleased God far above my desarts to bestow upon me I doe ordain give and bequeath the same in manner and form following:

Imprimis I will that all those Debts and dues that I owe in right or Conscience to any manner of Person or Persons whatsoever shall be well contented & paid or ordained or demanded to be paid by my Executors or Ex^{rs} hereafter named.

Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved friends M^r William Thompson clk & M^r Samuel Thompson, each of them a mourning Ring of Thirty shillings Value each ring; Item I give and bequeath to my Godson Lawrence Butler one young mare & two Cows: Item I give and bequeath to my Sister Anne *Wirtts* children, one man servant a piece of four or five years to serve or Three Thousand pounds of Tobacco to purchase the same, to be delivered or paid to them when they arrive to the age of Twenty years old. Item I give and bequeath to my Sister Lewis a mourning wring of forty shillings price. Item I give my Cuz: John Washington Sen: of Stafford County all my wearing apparel: Item I give unto my Cozen John Washingtons Eldest Son Lawrence Washington my Godson one man servant of four or five years to serve or Three Thousand pounds of Tobacco to purchase the same; to be paid him when he comes to the age of Twenty one years old: Item I give to my godsons Lawrence Butler & Lewis Nicholas that tract of Land adjoining upon Meridah Edward's and Daniel White, being Two hundred and seventy five acres of Land to be equally divided between them and their heirs forever: Item I give to the upper and Lower Churches of Washington parish, each of them a Pulpett Cloth & Cushion: Item it is my will to have a Funeral sermon at the Church, and to have none other Funerall to exceed Three Thousand pounds of Tobacco. Item it is my will after my Debts & Legacies paid, that my personal Estate be equally divided into four parts: my loving wife Mildred Washington to have one part, my Son John Washington to have another part, my Son Augustin Washington to have another Part and my Daughter Mildred to have the other part: to be delivered to them in specie

when they shall come to the age of Twenty one years old: Item I give to my son John Washington, this seat of Land where I now live, and that whole tract of Land lying from the mouth of Machodock, extending to a place called the round hills, with the addition I have thereunto made of William Webb and William Rush to him and his heirs forever. Item I give and bequeath unto my Son Augustine Washington all the Dividend of Land that I bought of M^r Robert Lesson's Children in England Lying in Mattox, between my Brother & M^r Baldrige's Land where M^r Daniel Lesson *formerly* lived, by Estimation 400 acres to him and his heirs forever, as Likewise that Land that was M^r Richard Hilts; Item I give and bequeath unto my said Son Augustine Washington, all that Tract of Land, where M^r Lewis Markham, now lives after the said Markham's & his now wife's decease, by Estimation 700 acres more or less to him and his heirs forever. Item I give and bequeath my Daughter Mildred Washington all my Land in Stafford County, lying upon hunting creek, where M^{rs} Elizabeth Minton & M^{rs} Williams now lives by Estimation 2500 acres to her and her heirs forever. Item I give my water mill to my son John Washington to him and his heirs forever. Item it is my will and desire if either of my children should die before they come to age or day of marriage, his or her personal Estate be equally divided between the two survivors and their Mother; Item it is my will and desire if all my children should die before they come of age or day of Marriage, that my Brothers children shall enjoy all their estate real, Except that Land that I bought of M^r Robert Lesson's children, which I give to my loving wife and her heirs forever, and the rest as aforesaid to them and their heirs forever; Item I give my personal Estate in case of all my childrens death as above said, to be equally divided between my wife and Brothers Children, my wife to have the one half; Item I give that Land which I bought of my Brother Francis Wright, being 200 acres lying near Storke's Quarter, to my Son John Washington and his heirs forever. Item It is my desire that my estate should not be appraised but kept entire and delivered them as above given according to time & my Children to continue under the care & *Tution* of their Mother till they come of age or day of marriage, and she to have the profits of their estates, toward the bringing of them up and keeping them at school; Item I doe ordain and appoint my Cozen John Washington of Stafford and my friend M^r Samuel Thompson my Executors, and my loving wife Mildred Washington my Executrix of this my last will & testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seale this 11th day of March Anno Dom 1697.

LAWRENCE WASHINGTON [Seal].

Signed Seald Declared & pronounced in presence of us,

Rob^t Redman,
George Weedon,
Thomas Howes,
John Rosier.

Westmoreland Sct:—

At a Court held for the said County the 30th day of March 1698.

The Last will and Testament of Lawrence Washington Gent desc. within written was proved by the oaths of George Weedon, Thomas Howes. & John Rosier Three of the witnesses thereto subscribed, and a probate thereof

Granted to Samuel Thompson Gent one of the Executors therein named, and the will ordered to be recorded.

Teste JAMES WESTCOMB C. W. C.

A Copy

Teste J. WARREN HUTT, Clk.

of the County Court of Westmoreland C^o. V^s.

RELEASE OF THE HUNTING CREEK OR MOUNT VERNON ESTATE.

This Indenture made the Seventeenth Day of May in the thirteenth year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George by the grace of God King Defeuder of the Faith &c and in the year of our Lord God One Thousand seven hundred Twenty six Between Roger Gregory of Stratton-Major. Parish in King and Queen County Gent of the one part and Augustine Washington of Washington Parish in Westmoreland County Gent of the other part Wittnesseth that the said Roger Gregory and Mildred his wife for divers good causes & conciderations him thereunto moving but more Especially for and in Concideration of the sum of one Hundred & eighty pounds Sterling money of Great Brittain,—to him in hand paid at and before the Ensealing and Delivery of these presents the receipt wherof the said Roger Gregory and Mildred his wife Doth hereby acknowledge and himself therewth to be Fully Satisfied and contented and Paid and thereof and every part and Parcel thereof doth fully and absolutely acquit Exhonerate and Discharge him the Said Aug^t Washington his Heirs Execu^{rs} and Adm^{ts} and every of them by these Presents Hath Granted, Bargained Sold Remised Released Alienated, Entfeeofited and confirmed and by these presents Doth Grant Bargain Sell Remise Release Alien Entfeeeftee confirm unto the said Aug^t Washington his Heirs Execu^{rs} Adm^{ts} and Assig^s for ever. He being in the actual Possession thereof by virue of a Lease thereof made by the said Roger Gregory and Mildred his wife bearing Date the Day before the Date of these Presents and by virtue of the statute for transferring usses into Possession all that certain tract or Parcel of Land situate Lying and Being in the Parish of Overwharton—in the County aforesaid, Being by Estimation two thousand & Five hundred acres a moiettie or half of five thousand acres formerly Lay^d out for Coll^o Nicholas Spencer & the father of Cap^t Lawrence Washington and Bounded as followeth Begining by the River Side at the Mouth of Little Hunting Creek and Extending up the Said Creek according to the several courses and Meanders thereof nine hundred Eighty and Six Poles to a mark^d A Corner Tree standing on the west side the South Branch being the main branch of the said Hunting Creek From these by a Lyne of mark^d trees west Eighteen Degrees South across the Woods to the Dividing Lyne as Formerly made Between Madam Francis Spencer and Cap^t Lawrence Washington and from thence W^{by} the said Lyne to y^e River and with the River and all the Courses and Meanders of the said River to the Mouth of the Creek afor^{sd} Together with all Houses Out-houses Gardens Orchards Fences Meadows Pastures Feedings Woods underwoods Swamps marshes Way^s Waters Watercourses and all other Emoluments Hereditieriments and appertenances to the Said granted Premisses belonging or in any wise appertaining with all the Estate Right Title Interest Claim and Demand Whatsoever of him the said Roger Gregory or Mildred his wife of in & unto the said granted Premises and

every part thereof wth the appurtenances to the said granted Premises and reversion and remainder yearly and other rents and Profits of the Premises and every part and Parcell thereof To have and to hold the said two thousand & five hundred acres of Land together wth all the Rights Titles Benefitt Property Interest, Claim and Demand whatsoever of in and to the said Lands & Premises hereby granted sold demised released & confirmed and mentioned or intended to be herein granted Bargined Sold Remised Released & Confirmed and every part and Parsel thereof wth their and every of their appurtenances unto the said Augustine Washington his Heirs forever to the only Proper use and behoof of the said Augustine Washington and his heirs and assignes forever to be holden of the chief Land or Lands of the fee or fees of the Premises by the Rules & services for the same due & accustomed to be paid and the said Roger Gregory and Mildred his wife for themselves their heirs Exec^{trs} and Adm^{trs} Doth covenant and wth the said Aug^t Washington his Heirs & Assig^s by these Presents that the said Roger Gregory and Mildred his wife now is and standith Rightfully seised of and in the said two thousand & five hundred acres of Land and Premises wth their appurtenances of a good sure perfect & Indefeasable Estate in Fee simple and now hath good Rightful powers and Lawful authority to grant and convey the said Land & Premises unto the said Augustine Washington and his heirs according to the purport True intent and meaning of these Presents and that it shall and may be Lawful to and for the said Aug^t Washington his Heirs and assig^s from time to time and at all times forever hereafter Peaceably & Quietly to have hold Possess occupy & enjoy the said two thousand & five hundred acres of Land wth their and every of their appurtenances wthout the Lett Suit Trouble molestation or Interruption of him the said Roger Gregory & Mildred his wife their Heirs Execu^{tors} Adm^{tors} or Assigns or any of them or any other Person or Persons Lawfully claiming or to claim from by or under them or either of them and the said Roger Gregory & Mildred his wife for themselves their heirs Execu^{trs} & Admst Doth covinent and agree to and wth the said Augustine Washington his heirs & Assig^s by these presents that he the said Roger Gregory and Mildred his wife their Heirs Execu^{trs} Adm^{trs} and assig^s shall and will at any time or times hereafter During the space of years next Ensuing the Date hereof upon the request and at the Charges in the Law of the said Aug^t Washington his heirs or assig^s do make and Execute or cause or procure to be done made or Executed all and every such further and other act and acts conveyance & conveyances in the Law whatsoever for the further and better conveying and assuring the said two thousand & five hundred acres of Land & Premises with their appurtenances unto the said Augustine Washington his heirs and assig^s forever as by the Counsell Learned in the Law of the said Augustine Washington his heirs or assigns shall be Reasonable Devised advised or required Soe as the Parties Required to do the same be not compelled to travell above Fifty miles from the place or places of their abode for the doing thereof Wittness whereof the Parties to this Indenture have Interchangeably hereunto set their hands and seals this Day and year first above written—

ROG^r GREGORY []
MILDRED GREGORY []

Sign'd Seal'd & De^d In Presence of

W^m Aylett J^r
John Washington
Lawz Butler

[Immediately below the text and signatures of the Indenture is recorded in the same hand-writing the following]—

The corses of Spencers Land and mine on Little Hunting Creek beginning at y^e mouth of Little Hunting Extending up y^e s^d Creek 986 poles thence by a marked Line of trees W 188— cross y^e main wood, a mapel standing on y^e E. side of y^e main brantch of Dague run 720 p thence Down y^e said Brantch & Creek 1128 p p^c to y^e mouth of y^e s^d Creek thence along y^e river to y^e begining.

[Endorsed in Gen^l Washington's hand-writing]—

Rog^r & Mild^d Gregory'

Release to

August^t Washington

17th May 1726

[Beneath this endorsement is the following of a probable current date with the execution of the Indenture.]

Merandom thos Leews & Reles was acknowledged at y^e Jeneral Court by Rodger Gregory & Mildred his wife in Aprill 1726.

[The document is written on two large sheets of paper fastened together with wafers. To each signature is attached, in sealing wax, an impression of a seal which may be heraldic but cannot be called so with confidence. The design is a bloodhound on scent, who stands on what may be a wreath, but perhaps is only meant for a support to his feet. A photo-engraving of this seal will be found in the illustration facing page 3.]

WILL OF AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON, FATHER TO GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON.

In the name of God, Amen.

I Augustine Washington of the County of King George—Gentleman being sick and weak but of perfect and disposing sence and memory, Do make my last will and Testament in manner following hereby revoking all former will or wills whatsoever by me heretofore made.

Imprimis;—I give unto my Son Lawrence Washington and his heirs forever all that plantation and tract of Land at Hunting Creek in the County of Prince William containing by estimate, two thousand and five hundred acres with the Water Mill adjoining thereto or lying near the same and all the Slaves, Cattle and Stocks of all Kinds whatsoever and all the Household Furnature whatsoever now in and upon or which have been commonly possessed by my said son, together with the said plantation track of Land and Mill.

Item,—I give unto my son Augustine Washington and his heirs forever all my lands in the County of Westmoreland except such only as are hereinafter otherwise disposed of together with twenty five head of neat Cattle forty hogs and twenty sheep and a negro man named Frank besides those negroes formerly given him by his mother.

Item,—I give unto my said son Augustine three young working Slaves to be purchased for him out of the first profits of the Iron Works after my desase.

Item,—I give to my son George Washington and his heirs the land I now live on which I purchased of the Executors of Mr W^m Strother deceased. And one, one moiety of my land lying on Deeps Run and ten negro Slaves.

Item,—I give unto my son Samuel Washington and his heirs my land at Chotank in the County of Stafford containing about six hundred acres and also the other moiety of my land lying on Deeps Run.

Item,—I give unto my son John Washington and his heirs my Land at the head of Maddox in the County of Westmoreland containing about seven hundred acres.

Item,—I give unto my son Charles Washington and his heirs the land I purchased of my son Lawrence Washington whereon Thomas Lewis now lives, adjoining to my said son Lawrence's land above devised. I also give unto my said son Charles and his heirs the Land I purchased of Gabriel Adams in the County of Prince William containing about seven hundred acres.

Item,—It is my will and desire that all the rest of my negroes not herein particularly devised may be equally divided between my wife and my three sons Samuel, John and Charles, and that Ned, Jack, Bob, Sue, and Lucy may be included in my wife's part, which part of my said wife's, after her decease I desire may be equally divided between my sons George, Samuel, John and Charles, and the part of my said negroes so devised to my wife I mean and intend to be in full satisfaction and in lieu of her dower in my negroes. But if she should insist notwithstanding on her right of Dower in my negroes I will and desire that so many as may be wanting to make up her share may be taken out of the negroes given hereby to my sons George, Samuel, John and Charles.

Item,—I give and bequeath unto my said wife and my four sons George, Samuel, John and Charles, all the rest of my Personal Estate to be equally divided between them which is not particularly bequeathed by this will to my wife and it is my will and desire that my said four sons Estates may be kept in my wife's hands until they respectively attain the age of twenty one years, in case my said wife continues so long unmarried but in case she should happen to marry before that time I desire it may be in the power of my Executors to oblige her husband from time to time as they shall think proper to give security for the performance of this my last will in paying and delivering my said four sons their Estates respectively as they come of age, or on failure to give such security to take my said sons and their estates out of the custody and tuition of my said wife and her husband.—

Item,—I give and bequeath unto my said wife the crops made at Bridge Creek, Chotank, and Rappahanock quarters at the time of my decease for the support of herself and her children and I desire my wife may have the liberty of working my land at Bridge Creek Quarters for the time of Five years next after my decease, during which time she may fix a quarters on Deeps Run.

Item,—I give to my son Lawrence Washington and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten forever that tract of Land I purchased of Mr. James Hooe adjoining to the said Lawrence Washington's land on Maddox in the County of Westmoreland which I gave him in lieu of the land my said son bought for me in Prince William County of Spencer and Harrison and for want of such heirs then I give and devise the same to my son Augustine and his heirs forever.

Item,—I give to my said son Lawrence all the right title and interest I have to in or out of the Iron Works in which I am concerned in Virginia and Maryland provided that he do and shall, out of the profits raised thereby purchase for my said son Augustine three young working slaves as I

have herein before directed and also pay my daughter Betty when she arrives at the age Eighteen years the sum of four hundred pounds which right title and interest on the condition aforesaid I give to my said son Lawrence and his heirs forever.

Item,—I give to my said daughter Betty a negro child named Mary daughter of Sue and an other named Betty daughter of Judy.—

Item,—It is my will and desire that my sons Lawrence and Augustine do pay out of their respective Estates devised to them one half or moiety of the debts I justly owe and for that purpose I give and bequeath unto my said two sons one half of the debts and owing to me.—

Item,—For as much as my several children in this will mentioned being of several venters cannot inherit from one another in order to make a proper provision against their dying without issue It is my will and desire that in case my son Lawrence should die without heirs of his body lawfully begotten that then the land and Mill given him by this my will lying in the county of Prince William shall go and remain to my son George and his heirs but in case my son Augustine should choose to have the said lands rather than the lands he holds in Maddox either by this will or any Settlement. Then I give and devise said lands in Prince William to my said son Augustine and his heirs on his conveying the said lands in Maddox to my said son George and his heirs. And in case my said son Augustine shall happen to die without issue of his body lawfully begotten, then I give and bequeath all the said lands by him held in Maddox to my son George and his heirs and if both sons Lawrence and Augustine should happen to die without issue of their several bodies begotten then my will and desire is that my son George and his heirs may have his and their choice either to have the lands of my son Lawrence or the lands of my son Augustine to hold to him and his heirs and the land of such of my said sons Lawrence or Augustine as shall not be so chosen by my son George or his heirs shall go to and be equally divided among my sons Samuel, John and Charles and their heirs share and share alike and in case my son George by the death of both or either of my sons Lawrence and Augustine should according to this my intention come to be possessed of either their lands then my will and desire is that said lands hereby devised to my said son George and his heirs should go over and be equally divided between my sons Samuel, John and Charles and their heirs, share and share alike and in case all my children by my present wife should happen to die without issue of their bodies, Then my will and desire is that all the lands by this my will devised to any of my said children should go to my sons Augustine and Lawrence if living and to their heirs or if one of them should be dead without issue then to the survivor and his heirs. But my true Intent and meaning is that each of my children by my present wife may have their lands in fee simple upon the contingency of their arriving at full age or leaving heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten or on their dying under age and without lawful issue their several parts to descend from one to another according to their course of descent and the remainder of their or any of their land in this clause mentioned to my sons Lawrence and Augustine or the survivors of them is only upon the contingency of all my said children by my present wife dying under age and without issue living, my sons Lawrence and Augustine or either of them.

Lastly,—I constitute and appoint my son Lawrence Washington and my good friends Daniel M^cLarity and Nathaniel Chapman—Gentlemen Executors of this my last will and Testament.—

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the Eleventh day of April 1743.

AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON [L. S.]

Signed sealed and published
in the presence of us

Robert Jackson
Anthony Strother
Ja^s Thompson

Provided further that if my lands at Chotank devised to my son Samuel should by course of law be taken away then I give to the said Samuel in lieu thereof a tract of Land in Westmoreland County where Benjamin Wicks and Thomas Finch now live by estimation seven hundred acres.

Item—I bequeath to my son George one lot of land in the town of Fredericksburg which I purchased of Col John Walton also two other lots in the said town which I purchased of the Executors of Colo Henry Willis with all the Houses and appurtenances thereunto belonging.—

And whereas some proposals have been made by Mr Anthony Strother for purchasing a piece of land where Matthew Tiffy lately lived now if my Executors shall think it for the benefit of my said son George then I hereby empower them to make conveyance of the said land and premices to the said Strother.

In witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and seal this eleventh day of April 1743

AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON [L. S.]

Signed sealed and Published
in the presence of us

Robert Jackson
Anthony Strother
Jas Thompson

At a court held for King George County the 6th day of May 1743

The last will and testament of Augustine Washington Gentⁿ deceased was presented into Court by Lawrence Washington Gentⁿ one of the Executors who made oath thereunto and the same was proved by the oath of Anthony Strother and James Thompson admitted to Record

A Copy Teste

HARRY TURNER—Clerk

WILL OF LAWRENCE WASHINGTON, HALF-BROTHER TO GEORGE WASHINGTON.

In the name of God Amen, I Lawrence Washington of Truro parish in Fairfax County and Colony of Virginia Gent, Knowing the uncertainty of this transitory life, and being in sound and desposing mind and memory do make this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking and disannulling, all other wills and Testaments by me at any time heretofore made.

Imprimis my will and desire is that a proper vault for Interment may be made on my home plantation wherein my remains together with my three children may be decently placed, and to serve for my wife and such other of the family as may desire it.—

Item my will and desire is that my funeral charges and respective debts be first paid and discharged, out of such of my personal Estate as my Executors hereinafter to be named Shall think best and most advisable to be disposed of for that purpose.—

Item my will and desire is that my loving wife have the use benefit and profits of all my Lands on Little Hunting and Doegs Creeks, in the parish of Truro and County of Fairfax with all the Houses and Edifices during her natural life, likewise the use labour and profits arising from the one half of all my Negroes, as my said wife and Executors may agree in dividing them, negro Moll and her issue, to be included in my wife's part of the said Negroes. I also devise that my said wife may [sic] have the use of the Lands surveyed on the south fork of Bull Skin, in the County of Frederick, during her natural Life. But in case of my daughter Sarah dying without issue before her said Mother then I give and devise my said Bull Skin tract, to my said wife, to her and her Heirs for ever.—

Item it is my will and desire that all my Household goods, and furniture with the liquors be appraised and valued by three persons to be chosen by my wife and Executors and that my wife have the liberty to choose any part of the said Household goods, and furniture to the amount of a full moiety of the whole sum which they shall be appraised to. Which part I give and bequeath to her and her heirs for ever; the other moiety to be sold and the money arising applied towards the payment of my debts.—

Item What I have herein devised and left to my wife I intend to be in Lieu, and instead, of her right of Dower, provided my wife according to her promise, sells her several tracts of Land near Salisbury Plains, and applies the said money to the discharge of my debts due at the time of my death; But in case of her refusal then my will is that all my Household furniture be sold, and the whole amount to be applied towards the discharge of my debts—

Item I give and bequeath to my Daughter Sarah and the heirs of her body lawfully begotten forever after my just debts are discharged all my real and personal Estate, in Virginia and the Province of Maryland not otherwise disposed of. But in case it shall please God my said Daughter, should die without issue, it is then my will and desire my Estate both real and personal, be disposed of in the following manner

First I give and bequeath to my loving brother Augustine Washington and his heirs forever all my stocks, Interest and Estate in the Principio, Accokeck, Kingsbury, Lancashire, and N^o East Iron works in Virginia and Maryland reserving one third of the profits of said works to be paid to my wife, as hereinafter mentioned, and two tracts of Land lying and being in Frederick County which I purchased of Col Cresap and Gerrard Pendergrass.—

Second I give and bequeath unto my loving brother George Washington and his heirs forever, after the decease of my wife all my lands in Fairfax County with the improvements thereon, and further it is my will and desire, that during the natural life of my wife, that my said brother George shall have the use of an equal Share and proportion of all the Lands hereafter given and devised unto my brother Samuel, John and Charles.—

Third I give and bequeath all those Several tracts of Land which I am possessed of and claim in the County of Frederick (except the tract on the south Fork of Bull-Skin, bequeathed to my wife and the two tracts purchased of Col Cresap and Gerrard Pendergrass devised to my brother Augustine) unto my brother Samuel, John and Charles, reserving as above

an equal proportion for my brother George provided they Samuel, John or Charles pay or cause to be paid unto my and their sister Betty Lewis the sum of One hundred and fifty pounds.—

Fourth my will also is that upon the death of my or all of my said Brothers George, Samuel, John and Charles, dying without lawful issue, such Lands as was given them or any of them in case of my said Daughter's demise as aforesaid, to become the property and right of my brother Augustine and his heirs.—

Fifth my further will and desire is that after the demise of my said wife the Negro woman Moll and her increase be given unto my said brother Augustine his Heirs Admors &c. and likewise give him an equal proportion with his other brothers, of the other part of the Negroes, and personal Estate upon their paying my said wife One Hundred pounds sterling, my intent and meaning is that the said one hundred pounds sterling be paid by my said brothers, to my said wife immediately or soon after it may please God to remove by death my said Daughter—

Item I further give and bequeath unto my loving wife during her natural life, one full third part of the profits from the share I hold in all the several Iron works both in the Colony of Virginia and Maryland to be paid unto my said wife from time to time by my Executors immediately upon notice given them by the partners residing in England of the annual amount of the profits to be paid either in bills or cash at the current exchange as she shall choose—

Item I give unto my brother John Washington, Fifty pounds in lieu of the Land, taken from him by a suit at Law Cap^t Maxmⁿ Robinson, after my debts are paid.

Item my will and desire is that my two Tracts of Land one joining my wife's Tract, near Salisbury plain, the other on a branch of Goose Creek being three hundred and three acres, my two Lots in the town of Alexandria with the edifices thereon and my Share and Interest in the Ohio Company, all be sold by my Executors and the money applied toward discharging my debts. also my arrears of half pay, which Col^o Wilson the agent or Mr Stuart his kinsman, and clerk be addressed for and the money applied to the same use.

Item whereas the purchasing Negroes and Land may greatly tend to the advantage of my Daughter, I therefore fully empower my Executors to lay out the profit of my Estate, or any part thereof in Lands and Negroes at their discretion, *i. e.* I mean such part of the Estate as I have devised to my Daughter Sarah which said several purchases in case of her discease, without issue shall be deemed and counted personal Estate, and be accordingly equally divided among my brothers as above provided.—

Item I also desire my just suit of Complaint at Law depending against Gersham Keyes of Frederick County for breach of trust be effectually prosecuted by my Executors.—

Item it is furthermore my will and desire that all my estate be kept together till the debts are discharged.—

Item I give to my wife, my Mother in Law and each of my Executors a mourning ring.—

Lastly I constitute and appoint the Honb^e William Fairfax and George Fairfax Esqr^s my said Brother Augustine and George Washington, and my esteemed friends Mr Nathaniel Chapman and Maj^r John Carlyle Executors of this my last will and testament, whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seale this twentieth day of June one thousand seven hundred

and fifty two in the 26th year of his Majesty King George the Second's reign.—
 LAWRENCE WASHINGTON [Seal].

Signed Sealed & published
 in the presence of us

W^m Waite

Jn^o North

his

Andrew **W** Warren

mark

Joseph Gound

At a court held for Fairfax County September the 26th 1752 This last will and testament of Lawrence Washington Gen^t deceased was presented in court by the Honb^e William Fairfax and George William Fairfax Esqr^s John Carlyle and George Washington Gen^t four of the Executors therein named who made oath thereto according to Law, and being proved by the oaths of William Waite, John North and Andrew Warren three of the witnesses is admitted to record.—

And the same Executors performing what is usual in such cases, Certificate is granted them for obtaining a probate in due form.

Test

JOHN GRAHAM C.

A Copy

Test

W^m Moss C.

Copy

Test

F. W. RICHARDSON—Clerk

