1730 Will of James Cooper

Surry County VA Deeds, Wills, Etc. Book 8, Part 1 (1730–1738), pp. 425–426

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Note: The following verbatim transcription retains all of the original spelling and punctuation. Line breaks have been added to facilitate readability.

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*In the Name of God Amen. I **James Cooper** of Southwark Parish in ye County of Surry being very Sick and Weak but in Perfect sound sense and memory Praised be God for it, and knowing the Sureness and uncertainty of Death doe make & Ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following.*

First of all my Soul into the hands of God that gave it my body To the ground to be buryd in a Christian like and decent manner at the discretion of my Executors hereafter to be named and for what Worldly Estate it hath Pleased God to bless me with all I desire may be disposed of in the following manner.

*Imprimis. My Will is that the Plantation whereon I now live be at the disposall of my Loving Wife **Elizabeth Cooper** either To live on it or Rent it or sell it as she shall think fitt during her Naturall life unless she happens To Marry but in Case of her Marriage shes Immediately To sell it, and the Value thereof is To be Equally divided between her and my four Children now living with me (Viz:) **John**, **William**, **Thomas**, and **Martha**, and if she does not marry and thinks fitt To sell it, in both these Cases the Value is To be Equally divided as aforesaid but if shee does not think fitt To sell it during her life, yet after her death I desire it may be Sold by the other Executor and the Value as aforesaid To be divided between ye above mentioned four Children (To Witt. **John**, **William**, **Thomas** & **Martha** and in Case of any of their Deaths To the Survivors as long as one Remain.*

*Item. I Give my Wife **Eliz^th^ Cooper** the young Mare & young horse Nobb. Also I Give my Wife the best bed and furniture belonging To it with her side Sadle. Also I Give unto my Wife five young Cattle with all my hogs & Tony and a heifer called Duck. Also I Give and bequeath unto my youngest daughter **Martha** a brass kettle and Two puter dishes and half a dozen Coffey Cups & Saser dishes the little bed and furniture belonging To it. Also I give and bequeath unto my Daughter **Martha** 6 Puter Plates and a Tinn kettle. Also I give and bequeath To my Daughter **Johana Gilbert** the Value of Twenty Shillings. Now my desire is that the Remaining Part of my Estate of what kind soever after my debts and funeral Charges are paid be Valued (and if my Executor thinks fit Sold) but whether they be Sold or not they are To be Equally divided between my Wife, and my four*

Children mentioned (To Wit. ***John****,* ***William****,* ***Thomas*** *and* ***Martha****) and to be paid unto them as they shall severally come To the years of Twenty one my Daughter* ***Martha*** *To be paid on the day of Marryage if it happens before that Age or To the Survivors of them as above mentioned.*

And I do Appoint my Loving Wife ***Elizabeth Cooper*** *To be my Sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament hereby Revoking all other Wills by me made. Witness my hand and Seal this 28th day of February 1729/30.*

The mark of ***James Cooper*** *Seald wth red wax*

Sign'd Seal'd Deliverd and Pronounced
As his last Will & Testamt in
presence of

Wm Saunders
Richard Steward

Imprimis. I give and bequeath unto my Wife my Chest.
Item. I give unto my daughter ***Martha*** *her box that shee now maks use of.*
Witness this 9th day of October 1734.

Witnesses: ***Wm Saunders***
Richard Steward

At a Court held for Surry County
Novembr ye 20th 1734

The within mentioned Will of ***James Cooper*** *Deced. was Presented in Court by* ***Elizabeth Cooper*** *Executx thereof who made Oath thereto & gave bond with Security according To Law, & being proved by the Oathes of* ***William Saunders & Richard Steward*** *Witnesses thereto ye same is Ordered to be Recorded & is Recorded by*

Jno Allen *Cl. Cur.*

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