

WILL OF JOHN ROWLAND - 6 JULY 1780

(Transcribed by Robert Hairston – Hairston.org – 2024)

In the name of God Amen. I, John Rowland, of the County of Henry, being of sound mind and memory, do make and ordain this to be my last will and testament, revoking all other wills by me heretofore made, and dispose of my estate in the following manner:

First, I give and bequeath to **my brother Michael Rowland's eldest son, William Rowland,** one cow and a calf. I also give to **Michael Rowland, brother to the aforesaid William Rowland,** one shilling sterling and no more. I give to **my brother George Rowland** all my rights, title, and interest to a tract of land I formerly obtained a deed of trust from George Lumpkin lying on **Marrowbone Creek.** I give to John Palfrey all my right and claim to a survey of land whereon he now lives, together with my wearing apparel.

I direct that my whole estate, both real and personal, be kept together, and the money derived from the profits be applied to the payment of my just debts and legacies hereafter mentioned. And it is my desire that my creditors be allowed three years or longer to bring in their accounts if they choose, and after my just debts being fully satisfied and paid, my will and desire is that my executors pay to **my wife, Mary,** out of the profits of my estate, the sum of two hundred pounds and maintenance annually, provided my said wife stands and abides by this my will. But should the currency of the money rise in value, then in that case a proper deduction to be made out of the two hundred pounds as also the other legacies hereafter mentioned.

I give to **Obedience Ryan, wife to Phillip Ryan,** in consideration of my wife standing to this my last will, one negro girl named Phillis and her increase to her and her heirs forever. I give and bequeath to **George Rowland Jr. and William Rowland, son of Gilbert Rowland,** each of them one sixth part of the proceeds arising from the profits of my estate annually, after paying taxes, clothing the negroes, corn, meat, stock of all kinds, my just debts, and the clothing and education of **Garland Akin** excepted. I give to the **two sons of Joshua Bowles (deceased)** one hundred pounds each for their education, which said sums are to be paid to **their mother, Sarah Bowles,** or their trustees for the use of the said orphans. It is my will and desire that the legacies heretofore mentioned shall be null and void except as to my said wife after **Garland Akin** arrives at the age of twenty-one years.

I then give to **Garland Akin** one half of the real and personal estate, to him and his heirs forever, and the other moiety to be equally divided amongst the youngest sons of all my brothers and sisters, and in case the said **Garland Akin** should die without lawful issue, then his part to be equally divided among the sons of my said brothers and sisters. It is my will and desire that my executors execute a deed to John Wills for a tract of land I sold him on **Leatherwood Creek** containing about two hundred and eighty acres, conveyed to me by a deed recorded in the General Court from Paul Carrington, Esquire. It is my desire that **George Rowland Jr.** be appointed to act as clerk for the estate agreeable to my executors and to continue during good behavior.

Item: I give to **Mary Isham, wife of James Isham,** two cows and calves. It is my will and desire that my negro man Will and his wife Betty be kept together, distilling at the proper season of the year to Will from the first day of November till the last day of April. I do constitute and appoint William Tunstall, Henry Morgan, Peter Saunders, and Josiah Carter, executors of this my last will and

testament, and do further appoint Patrick Henry, John Fontaine, and John Salmon to settle with my executors annually, and for them the said Patrick Henry, John Fontaine, and John Salmon to receive the profits arising from the estate together with the money now on interest, and to be lent out or disposed of for the benefit of the creditors and legatees, and Garland Akin, to them the aforesaid trustees shall think most advantageous and proper. And I do further request that the said Patrick Henry, John Fontaine, and John Salmon be guardians and trustees to the said Garland Akin until he arrives at the age of twenty-one years. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this sixth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and eighty.

John Rowland, L.S.

Signed, sealed, published, and declared by the testator as and for his last will and testament.

Baldwin Rowland

Henry H. Bandile (his mark)

John Salmon

At a court held for Henry County on the 29th day of September 1780

The within last will and testament of John Rowland, deceased, was exhibited in court by William Tunstall and Peter Saunders, two of the executors within mentioned, and proved by the witnesses thereto, who made oath with John Fontaine and George Hairston their sureties, entered into bond and acknowledged the same according to law. Whereupon it was ordered to be recorded by the court, they having obtained a probate thereon in due form.