Memorandum of an Oath 1692 —

Thos. Laurence

The Deposition of his Excellency Nathaniel Blakiston Esq taken the nineteenth day of April Anno Domini 1700. —

That on Tuesday morning being the Fifteenth instant Some Gentlemen Jurors before the Honorable Thomas Laurence Esq Secretary of this Province did desire his said Excellency being to visit him, the said Mr Laurence acquainted his Excellency that he had made his Will Some Considerable time before and therein appointed Mrs Williams Dent his Executrix but with all that he had done an undecided thing therein which was bequeathing his Wife to Mr Comfort Taylor Gent which he then desired might be sworn to his Father Mr Margrett Laurence and that his Excellency being well acquainted with the character and hand writing of the said Mr Laurence does believe that the Will here to annexed is the proper hand writing and Sealed with his Seale of Armes. —

N. Blakiston

Sworn in Open Court
Coram Wm Taylard Esq —

The Deposition of Mrs Margarett Freeman taken the Time day and upon her Oath Sayth that she was then present at the time Mr Thomas Laurence acquainted his Excellency with what she has above mentioned and that she knows what is above to be true, And further upon her Oath Sayth that she found the Will here unto annexed in a Cundore belonging to the said Mr Laurence where he often acquainted this deponent it was his own Sayth that he Signed the same to be all his own hand writing and Sealed with his proper Seale of Armes. —

Marg.t Freeman

Juratus — Coram
Wm Taylard Esq —

In such manner and to the Persons hereafter named all former Wills either verbally or in Writing I do by these presents make void and very and do ratifie and confirm this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following. —

Imprimis I give and bequeath my Soule to Almighty God that gave it me trusting that he by and through the merrits of Jesus Christ will grant and give me Pardon for my Sins and receive me into his Everlasting Joy and rest Amen. —

Item I give and bequeath my Body to the Ground from whence it was taken by decent burrall to be interred to the discretion of my Executrix hereafter named. —

Item I give unto my Son Thomas that Dun Heifer. — Item I give unto my Son James the Young Dun Mare and I do give my daughter Rose Bayles the Bay Colt that now sucks being branded on the near Stand. —

Item I do give unto my Son Thomas my Plantation with the Land that doth now belong to it after his Mother doth go to Rest and his Wife for ever and if my wife should dye before my two Sons arrive to age that then they shall be free to have their Choice of there Labour to themselves and I do order that my Son in Law Ralph Boyle may live where he now dwells and have the benefitt of the Land that he doth now live on and if he will he may clear towards Richard Clemens and he may make use of what Timber there is that ways but to have none of it off the plantation Land and thus he may live on it during my wifes pleasure and my Son Thomas his will pleasure and no longer. —

Item I do give unto my Son James five Thousand pounds of Tobacco and that is to be paid unto him when he comes to the age of One and Twenty and the remainder of the Goods and Chattles to be divided equally between my Wifes and my two Sons Thomas and James Hopper I do appoint my Dear and loving wife Mary Hopper to bring whole and Sole Executrix to this my last Will performed and if my wife should dye before my two Sons come to Age then I desire their Brother in Law Daniel Dell to be assistant unto my Sons to see that their Brothers in Law do not wrong them by keeping of Timber off their Land or any other wrongs for he is willing to do it if he can have an Opportunity. —

Rob.t Hopper (Seale)

Signed Sealed acknowledged & Delivered in the Presence of
Alex.r Lawall
Eliz.: Stow
Wm Barwer
Mark

January —