Cecil County ss. March 13th 1739. Samuel Duvall & William Ellet two of the Subscribing Witnesses to the foregoing Will being duly & solemnly Sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God depose & Say that they saw the Testator Thos. Johnson Sign the foregoing Will by making his mark & heard him Publish & declare the same to be his last Will & Testament that at the time of his so doing he was to the best of their Apprehension of sound & disposing mind & memory & that they & John Veritt the other Witness did Subscribe their respective names as Witnesses to the said Will in the Presence of the Said Testator & at his request Which Oath was taken by the said Witnesses in the Presence of Edward Johnson Heir at law which same Edw.d Johnson did not object to the Probate of the said Will made as aforesd. Before me

Wm. Rumsey Dep. Comy

Chu. Coty ss. Memo that on this day to wit the first day of April 1740. Thomas Douglas & Elizabeth his Wife Came before me the Subscriber Deputy Commisary of Charles County & made oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God that on the day next Preceding the date hereof Elizabeth Chambers late of Charles County aforesaid Spinster Decd. being then at the house of said Deponents & sick of the sickness whereof she soon after dyed, desired the Deponents to take notice that in case she dyed her Will & desire was that William Chandler should have all her Personal Estate, & they farther Depose that the said Elizabeth Chambers at the time of speaking the words aforesaid was to the best of their Apprehension of sound & disposing mind & memory. In Testimoney whereof I have hereunto Set my hand & Seal the day & year abovewritten

J Hanson Deptly Comy (Seal)

In the Name of God Amen I Thos. Strong of St Pauls Parish in Kent County being very sick & weak but of sound & perfect memory Praise be given unto Almighty God for the same & knowing the Uncertainty of this Transitory life here on Earth Do make Ordain Constitute & Appoint this my last Will & Testament in manner & form following Viz.t First & Principally I Commend my Soul unto Almighty God, surely trusting in the merits of my Blessed Saviour in sure & certain hopes of perfect Remission & forgiveness of all my Sins & my Body I Commend unto the Earth from whence it was taken to be buried in such Christian manner as my Exr. hereafter mentioned shall think meet & Convenient & as touching such worldly Estate as the Lord in his mercy has lent me my Will & meaning is that after my Debts & funeral Charges be paid is may be bestowed in manner & form following

Imprimis I Give & Bequeath unto my two Sons Michael & James to them & their Heirs for ever One Hundred Acres of Land called Common Garden to be equally devided between them & if either of them die without Heirs than my Will & meaning is that then it shall fall to the next younger Brother & if he should die without Issue to the next & so on.

Item I Give & Bequeath all my Personal Estate my Wifes thirds Excepted to be equally devided amongst all my Children Only that my Will & meaning is that after my well beloved Wifes Decease my Daughter Jane may have what Seats I have a Property unto in St Pauls Church & farther my Will & meaning is that my Son in law Henry Philip shall have a equal part of my Personal Estate.

And I Do Constitute & appoint my well beloved Wife Jane Strong my Soul Executrix of this my last Will & Testament & Do for ever Renounce Revoke frustrate & make void all manner of Wills by me formerly made & Do acknowledge this to be my last Will & Testament As Witness my hand & Seal this 19th day of Octob.r 1739.

Tho.s his Stron mark (Seal)

Signd Seald & Acknowledged before
Paul Whichcote
Jno. his Shehorn mark

On the back of the aforegoing Will was thus written Viz.t

February 23: 1739. Came Paul Whichcote & John Shehane the Subscribing Witnesses to the foregoing Will being duly & solemnly sworn on the holy Evangelist of Almighty God Do Depose & Say that they Saw the Testator Thomas Strong Sign the foregoing Will & heard him publish & declare the same to be his last Will & Testament that at the time of his so doing he was of sound & perfect Sense of mind & memory to the best of their Apprehension & that they Subscribed their respective names as Witnesses to the said Will in the Presence of the Testator & at his request

Sworn before Chas. Hynson D. Comy Pr. County

In the Name of God Amen I William Layton of Dorchester County in the Province of Maryland being in perfect mind & memory thanks be to Almighty God for the same & knowing it is appointed for all men once to dye Do make & ordain this my last Will & Testament that is to say First of all I give & Recommend my Soul unto Almighty God who gave it me hoping through the merits of my Beloved Saviour Jesus Christ to receive Remission for all my Sins And as touching my worldly Estate I dispose of as followeth. I give & Bequeath to my Son William Layton one Shilling & six pence in full for his part & portion of my Estate.

I give & Bequeath unto my Son Rich.d Layton one Shilling & six pence in full for his part & portion of my Estate.

I give & Bequeath unto my Son Tho.s Layton one Shilling & six pence in full for his part & portion of my Estate.

I give & Bequeath unto my Son John Layton one Shilling & six pence in full for his part & portion of my Estate.

I give & Bequeath unto my Son James Layton one Shilling & six pence in full for his part & portion of my Estate.

I give & Bequeath unto my Daughter Mary Layton two Shillings & six pence in full for her part & portion of my Estate.

I give unto my Daughter Sarah the Wife of William Riley five Shillings in full for her part & portion of my Estate.

I give & Bequeath unto my two Sons Charles Layton & Nicholson Layton Ninety five Acres of Land part of a tract of Land called Taylors Neglect to be equally devided between them And after it is devided my Son Nicholson Layton to have that half which includes my dwelling Plantation if he likes it better than the other to them the said Charles Layton & Nicholson Layton & their Heirs for ever.

It is my Will & desire that all the Remainder of my Estate after my just debts & Legacies are paid be equally devided between my two Sons Charles Layton & Nicholson Layton & I hereby Constitute & appoint my said two Sons Charles Layton & Nicholson Layton my whole & sole Executors of this my last Will & Testament Revoking all other Wills before by me made. In Witness whereof I have hereunto Sett my hand & affixed my Seal the 18th day of July Annoq. Domi Seventeen Hundred & Thirty nine

Signd Seal'd Published & Pronounced by Wm. Layton to be his last Will & Testament in the Presence of

William his WL mark Layton (Seal)

Wm. Murray
Martha her M mark Hollock
Willm. M Hollock

On the back of the aforegoing Will was thus written Viz.t

March ye 29th 1740. Then Came Doctor William Murray & William Hollock two of the Subscribing Witnesses to the foregoing Will being duly & solemnly sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God did Depose & Say that they Saw the Testator William Layton Sign the foregoing Will & heard him publish & declare the same to be his last Will & Testament that at the time of his so doing he was to the best of their Apprehension of sound & disposing mind & memory & that they Signed their respective names as Witnesses to the said Will in the Presence of the Testator & at his request & that the other Witness Viz. Martha Hollock was there present & Signed with them as a Witness to the same

Jno. Pitt Dep.t Commisary of Dorchester County.

In the Name of God Amen I John Rider of Dorchester County in the Province of Maryland being in good health & sound memory Blessed be God for the same Do make this my last Will & Testament in manner & form following.

First I Recommend my Soul to God who gave it & my Body to the Earth there to be buried in decent manner as my Executor hereafter named shall think fitt And my Real & personal Estate I give & dispose thereof in manner following.

I give & Bequeath unto my Daughter Dorothy one Tract of Land called Riders Forest Containing Seven hundred & twenty five Acres to her & her Heirs for ever.

I give & Bequeath unto my Daughter Sarah one Tract of Land called the Discovery Containing three Hundred & thirty two Acres, & one other Tract of Land adjacent thereto called Hope containing Fifty Acres, to her & her Heirs for ever.

I give & Bequeath unto Wm. Hously one Tract of Land called Scotch Folly to him & his Heirs for ever.

I give & Bequeath unto Denwood Hicks one third part of a tract of Land called the three Brothers to him & his Heirs for ever.

I give & Bequeath unto Capt. Tho. Hicks one third part of a tract of Land called the three Brothers to him & his Heirs for ever.

I give & Bequeath unto my Son Char. Rider & his Heirs for ever all the residue or remaining part or parts of my real Estate Lands & Tenements which I now have or hereafter shall have or of right ought to have any right or title to in Perception Reversion or Remainder.

And as God hath blessed me with several personal Goods I give & dispose thereof in manner following. Whereas my Wife Mary hath Shewed her great concern & uneasiness at my making some Deeds of Sundry Particulars to my Children & Grand Children under an Apprehension that she should not at my Death receive as much as she brought with her when married to me, which was One Hundred & Eighty Pounds in sundry Particulars as may be seen in my Account book B. folio. 110. Now my Will & desire is that she shall have all the Negroes I had with her & their Increase, but if any die she to bear that loss, as also what other things as Household Goods, Horses, Cattle, Hogs & Sheep made good to her out of my Estate, amounting to the said Sum abovementioned. So that by no means she shall be a Loser but with this Provisoe & Condition that my said Wife by accepting of this Bequest shall be Barred & intirely excluded from the third part of my Estate & not to have both. And as touching her Dower in my Lands my Will & desire is that my Wife have the two lower Rooms in my brick Building as also liberty when her Occasion requires, to use my Kitchen, Oven, Meat House & Quarter & liberty of Pasture for her Creatures Provided they be reasonable in Quantity. Moreover to have four Hundred Acres of Land on the lower side Wapperamanno Creek with its benefits in Houses Orchards Pastures fences & Woodland Provided that she make nor suffer to be made any Waste or Destruction thereon of Wood Timber or other things not use any more than is absolutely Necessary for the use of the said Plantation all which Lands she shall have & lying during her life as full Satisfaction for her third part of all my Lands, but not to have this Devise & her Dower besides.

I give & Bequeath unto Mary Housely One Thousand Pounds of Tobacco to be paid her by my Executor six months after my death And as touching the Residue of my Personal Estate my Will & desire is that my Son Charles Rider shall have one half thereof & the other half to be devided equally in all respects between my three Daughters Sarah, Ann & Dorothy.

Further my desire is that if I should be Removed from this life before my Daughter Dorothy arrive to the age of Sixteen years old that then she remain under the care of her two Sisters Sarah & Ann till she come to that Age which I hope they will take all imaginable care to Execute as well out of respect to their fathers Will as out of love & respect to their Sister.

And it is my Will & desire that my Son Charles Yearly after my Decease Pay unto my Daughter Dorothy untill she shall marry One Thousand Pounds of Tobacco & also Pay her Land rent.

And for to avoid all or any trouble misunderstanding mistakes or Errors in any Deed or Deeds thing or things heretofore