January the 26th 1739/40 Came John Culver & Edmond Collins two of the Subscribing Evidences to ye this Will & made oath on the holy Evangelist of Almighty God that they Saw the Testator Peter Calloway Sign & Seal & heard him Publish, Pronounce & declare this Instrument of Writing 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 & understanding & that they the said John Culver & Edmond Collins Subscribed the Will & further Deposed that they Saw ye other Evidence John Williams Subscribe as an Evidence at the same time all in the presence & at the request of the Testator Peter Calloway

Sworn before Nehemiah King Deputy Comty of Somerset County

16 Ladies

In the Name of God Amen I John Beck of Queen Annes County being sick & weak but of sound & perfect memory Praised be God Do make & ordain this to be my last Will & Testament this 24th day of March Anno Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred & Thirty eight.

Imprs I Commend my Soul unto Almighty God my Body to the Earth to be decently buried at the Discretion of my Executors hereafter named.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my Son John King Beck a Negroe man called Drumer & a Negro Woman called Dianer & her Child called Jenney with all their future increase Also I give unto my said John King Beck Six large Silver spoons & one Stone Gold Ring.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my Son James Beck one Negroe man called Cook a Negro woman called Lidey & the Child she now goes with Also a Negro Girl called Franch with all their future increase Also I give unto my said Son James Beck Six large Silver spoons & one Gold ring.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my Daughter Sarah Beck one Negro boy called Docker One Negro Woman called Daffene & her Child called Sue with all their future increase Also I give unto my said Daughter Sarah Beck Six Silver teaspoons a pair Silver Sugar Tongs & a Silver Tea Strainer all in a Shagareen Case.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my Loving Wife Sophia a Negro man called Dick & one Negro Woman called Flora & one Mulatto woman called Moll with all their future increase Also Six Silver tea spoons.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my Son John King Beck all that Fifty Acres of Land that I formerly bought of Thomas Barber being part of a Tract of Land called Smeath Also one Hundred & Seventy five Acres part of the said Tract of Smeath which I bought of Richard Hynson & Wife Also four Hundred & twelve Acres of Land part of the said Tract called Smeath lately Resurveyd by me & Patent granted thereon for that quantity To hold all the foresaid Tracts & parcells of Land unto my said Son John King Beck & the Heirs of his body lawfully begotten for ever & in default of such Heirs unto my Son James Beck & the Heirs of his body lawfully begotten for ever & in default of such Heirs unto my Daughter Sarah Beck & the Heirs of her body lawfully begotten for ever & in Default of such Heirs then to the next Heir at Law to my Loving Wife Sophia for ever more.

Item after my just debts & funeral Charges are paid & my Wifes thirds deducted I desire the Remainder of my Estate to be equally divided Between my three Children Viz: John King Beck James Beck & Sarah Beck.

Lastly I Doe hereby Nominate & Appoint my Loving Wife Sophia Beck & my Son John King Beck to be my Executors of this my last Will & Testament & to perform the same In Confirmation whereof I have here Set my hand & Seal the day & year aforesaid being the 24th day of March Anno Dom 1738.

John Beck (Seal)

Signed Seale Publisht & Declard by the said John Beck to be his last Will & Testam.t before us

James Cox
Will Emory
John Walters
John Lockerman jun.r

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

Queen Annes County for.t Jan.y the 16th 1739. James Cox William Emory John Walters & John Lockerman jun.r the Subscribing Witnesses to the aforegoing Will being duly & solemnly Sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God do depose & Say that they Saw the Testator John Beck Sign & Seal 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 Subscribed their respective names as Witnesses to the said Will in the Presence of the said Testator & at his request

Before me Wm Tilghman D Comry of Queen Annes County

Also the following Widows Election for.t

Feb.y the 18th 1739. Mrs Sophia Beck Widow of the within John Beck Deceas.d then made her Election to have the third part of his real & personal Estate instead of the Bequest of personal Estate to her made in the within Will

Before Wm Tilghman D Comry of Queen Annes County.

In the Name of God Amen I David Berry of St. Pauls parish in Queen Annes County in the Province of Maryland Planter being sick & weak of body but of perfect mind & memory thanks be to Almighty God Do make & ordain this to be my last Will & Testament in manner & form following Viz.t

Imprs I give & Bequeath my Soul into the hands of God my Creator hoping for Salvation in & through the merits of my merciful Redeemer Jesus Christ & my body unto a Christian burial.

Item I give unto my beloved Friend Mary Cheshire Daughter of John Cheshire my black Mare called Nobb.

Item I give all the remaining part of my Estate after my just debts are paid unto my beloved Wife Mary Berry & my beloved friend John Cheshire equally to be devided between them & I do Nominate & appoint my said Wife Mary Berry & John Cheshire to be Executors of this my last Will & I do hereby declare this to be my last Will & Testament hereby annulling & making void all other Wills & Testaments by me heretofore made. In Witness whereof I hereunto Sett my Hand & Seal this fourth day of January Anno Dom 1739.

David his Q mark Berry (Seal)

Signed Sealed & Published in the Presence of us whose names are Subscribed in the Presence of each other As Witness our hands

Christopher his C mark Birch
James Everett
Matthew Dockerry

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

Queen Annis County for.t Feb.y the 14th 1739. Christopher Birch James Everett & Matthew Dockerry the Subscribing Witnesses to the aforegoing Will being duly & solemnly sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God depose & Say that they Saw the Testator David Berry 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

Before me Wm Tilghman D Comry of Queen Annes County

In the Name of God Amen I Edward Sanders being sick & weak of body but of sound & perfect mind & memory thanks be given to Almighty God therefore calling to mind the Frailty of humane life & that it is appointed for all men once to dye Do make & ordain this my last Will & Testament in manner & form following And Primarily I Bequeath my Soul unto the hands of God that gave it hoping thro the merits & Intercession of Jesus Christ my God & Saviour for a full pardon of all my Sins & my Body to be buried in the Earth at the charge of my Exors hereafter named And as to those worldly goods with which it hath pleased God to bless me I give & Bequeath the same as followeth, And first I will that all my debts & funeral Expences be Discharged by my Executors hereafter named.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my eldest Son Joshua that Tract or parcell, or part of a tract or parcell of Land called Annis delight lying in Charles County on the Southside of Tachia Swamp with all the title Claim or Demand that I have or may or ought to have in or to the same, to be to him & his Heirs for ever.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my aforesd Son Joshua that Tract of Land called Eatons delight in Nanjemy parish in Charles County to be to him & his Heirs for ever

Item I give & Bequeath unto my Son Joshua aforesd one Negro fellow named Ned & a Negro Wench named Jane & a Negro boy called Naice they & their Issue to be to him & his Heirs for ever.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my Son John that Tract of Land I now live on being a part of Keens Purchase & a Negro fellow called Robert & a Negro Wench named Sarah to be to him & his Heirs for ever.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my Sister Mary Poor five Hundred Pounds of Tobo to be laid out for her own proper use at the discretion of my Executors.

Item I give & Bequeath unto the Preist who shall perform the funeral Rites at my burial, five Hundred Pounds of Tobacco.

Item my Will is that if either of my Sons should dye without Heir & under the Age of Eighteen years that then what I have hereby willed & Bequeathed to him & his Heirs shall be & belong to his Surviving Brother & his Heirs for ever And if it should so happen that they both dye without Heirs & under the Age of Eighteen years as aforesd that then the Tract of Land called Annes delight bequeathed to my eldest Son Joshua as aforesd shall be & belong to Ignatius Sanders Son of my Brother John Sanders & his Heirs for ever & that Tract of Land called Eatons delight bequeathed as aforesd to my eldest Son Joshua shall in such case be & belong to Thomas Sanders Son of my loving Kinsman Thomas Sanders & his Heirs for ever And that Tract of Land called part of Keens Purchase bequeathed to my younger Son John as aforesd I will in such Case as aforesd shall be & belong to William Sanders Son of my Brother William Sanders & his Heirs for ever & the personal Estates left by my said two Sons in such Case as aforesd to be equally divided between the said Ignatius Sanders, Thomas Sanders & William Sanders last mentioned.

Item I Do hereby make ordain Constitute & appoint my loving Brother in law James Howard & my loving Brother William Sanders Executors of this my last Will & Testament & it is my will & desire that my said Brother in law James Howard may have the bringing up & the care of the Education of my Children And I Do hereby Disannul make void & revoke all former