In the Name of God Amen I John Read of Somerset county and Province of Maryland being in Perfect mind and memory thanks be to almighty God calling to mind the uncertainty of human life and that it is appointed for all men once to die do think it Proper to make this my last Will and Testament in manner as followeth.

Imprs I give and Bequeath unto my Son John Read one shilling sterling for his hole Part of my Estate.

2ly I give and Bequeath unto my Son Zachariah Read my Land which lieth in Dorchester county (viz) one Parcell of Land called Pikely containing fifty acres and thirty five acrs which I took up called chance this I give to him and his heirs forever.

3ly I give and Bequeath unto my Son Obediah Read a Negro woman called Bess to him and to the lawfull heirs of his Body forever.

4ly I give and Bequeath unto my Son Ezekiah Read the Dwelling Plantation I live on and the Remainder Part of that Tract of Land I bought of Charles White that Pelice give to my Son John Read and likewise I give him a shilling sterling for his hole part of my Estate.

5ly I give and Bequeath unto my Son James Read one Negro called Will to him and the lawfull heirs of his Body forever and I likewise give him my shalop with all the apertinances thereunto Belonging and my white horse.

6ly I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Tabitha Bounds one Negro man called Harvey to her and to the lawfull heirs of her Body for ever.

7ly I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Mary Walton one Negro woman called Rose & her Increase to her & to the lawfull heirs of her Body forever.

8ly I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Hannah Huggins one Negro woman called Pegg and I likewise give her Seventy Pounds to be paid out of my moveable Estate more then any of the Rest.

9ly I lend unto my loving wife Mary Read all my moveable Estate with in Doors and without Negros and all to her during her life or widdehood and then to be after the Legacies taken out Equally Devided Between my five children Zachariah Obediah James Tabitha and Mary.

Lastly I constitute and appoint my Son Obediah Read my hole Executor of this my last Will and Testament making void all other Wills and Testaments heretofore by me made In Testamony hereof I sell my hand and Fix my

Seal this Seventeenth day of march anno Domi 1745/6

Seal John his mark Read Senr (Seal)

Witness Jacob Mezick

Covington Mezick

Dashiell

On the Back of the forgoing Will was this written viz November the 16th 1748 Came Covington Mezick and Joseph Dashiell two of the Witnesses to this Will and made oath on the holy Evangelist of almighty God that the saw the Testator John Reed sign and seal and heard him Publish Pronounce and declare the within Instrument of writing as his last Will and Testament and that at the time of his Signing he was to the Best of their apprehensions of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding and that they said Covington Mezick and Joseph Dashiell subscribed as Witnesses and further depose that they saw the other Witness Jacob Mezick subscribe as an Witness at the same time all which was done in the Presence and at the Request of the Testator John Read.

Sworn to before Nehemiah King Deputy Comry of Somt county

Novemr 28th 1748 then did Mary Read Widdow of John Read by a letter of this date directed to me for that Purpose which come herein inclosed make her Election this Will and desires to be conducted by the Law and disclaims under the Will. attested p Nehemiah King Dcom

November the 28th Mr Nehemiah King this is to give Notes that I claime to the Law and not to the will of my of my husbn John Read from under hand

Mary Read

Testes

Obediah Read James Read

In the Name of God Amen, the tenth of November in the year of our Lord 1748 I Edward Corby in the county of Somerset being very sick and weak in Body but of Perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God therefore calling unto mind the mortality of my Body and knowing that it is apointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last Will and testament that is to say Principally and first of all I give and recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it and for my Body I recommend it to the Earth to be Buried in a Christian like and decent manner at the discretion of my Executors Nothing Doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive same again by the might Power of God and as touchen such worldly Estate wherewith it hath Pleased God to Bless me in this life I give devise and dispose of the