Testis. John Ennis
Levin Davis
William Teague

April 26th 1771 Then came John Ennis and Levin Davis two of the Subscribing Witnesses to the foregoing Will and made Oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God that they Saw Isaac Brittingham the Testator sign seal and heard him Publish pronounce and Declare the same to be his Last Will and Testament, And that at the Time of his so doing he was to the best of their Apprehension of a sound disposing mind and Memory and that they Subscribed their names as Witnesses to the said Will in the presence of the Testator and at his request, and also that they Saw William Teague the other Subscribing Witness sign his name as a Witness to the said Will in presence of the Testator and at his Request.

9 fides

Sworn before

Examined

Benton Harris Deptty Comtty of Wor. County

In the Name of God Amen Febry the 13th Day 1771 I Benjamin Melson of Worcester County and Province of Maryland being very Sick and weak in Body but in perfect mind and Memory thanks be to God therefore calling unto mind the Mortality of my Body and knowing that it is Appointed for all Men once to die doe make and Ordain this my Last Will and Testament that is to say Prensaly and first of all I give and Recomend my Sole into the hand of Almighty that gave it, and my Body I recomend to the Earth to be buried in a Desent Christin Burial at the Diseretion of my Exeters nothing Doubting but at the Great Resurection to receive the same again by the mighty Power of God, And as tuching such worldly Estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless in this Life I give Dismes and dispose of the same in the following Name and form. Item I give to my Son Joseph Melson all the part or Parsill of Land on the North East end of a Tract of Land called Poplar Ridge devided from the other part of the said Tract of Land by a Line drawn a Cross the said Land from a marked white Oak Standing on the North Side of the Road that leads from Broad Creek to Luestown bearing South twenty four degrees East to him and his for ever. Item I give to my Son William Melson Seventy five Acres of Land that I bought of Thomas Wingate being a part of the Track of Land called Poplar Ridge to him and his Ears and one Shilling Starling and no more. Item I give to my Son Isaac Melson the Remander of the said track of Land called Poplar Ridge whereon my Dwelling House stands and if he dies without Ear then to my Son Joseph Melson. Item I give to my Daughter Eby Johnson one Shilling Starling and no more. Item I give to my Daughter Hannow Dalby on Shilling Starling and no more. Item I give and bequeath to my beloved Wife all my Moveable Estate Endweing her Widowhood any more then for her

(to)

to let the Children that is not Cut of have their parts as they coume of Age and if she Maries a dies for my Son Joseph Melson to Act in her Stead any more then if she Maries then for her to have none but her thirds. Lastly I do Constitute and Appoint my beloved Wife Honnow and my Son Joseph Melson to be my whole and Sole Exeters of this my Last Will and Testament Disannelling and making void all and every other Will or Testament heretofore by me made Ratifying and Confirming this and none other to be my Last Will and Testament In Testimony whereof I have hearunto set my hand and Seal the Day and year first above written, Signed Sealed and Delivered by the Testators as his Last Will and Testament in the presents of

Robert Hopkins
Robt Hopkins
Robert his + mark Parsons

Beniamen his ✠ mark Melson (Seal)

On the back of the aforegoing Will was thus written Viz.t June 20th 1771 Then came Robert Hopkins and Robert Parsons two of the Subscribing Witnesses to the foregoing Will and made Oath on the Holy Evangelis of Almighty God that they Saw Benjamin Melson the Testator sign Seal and heard him publish pronounce and declare the Same to be his Last Will and Testament and that at the Time of his so doing he was to the best of their Apprehension of a sound disposing mind and Memory and that they signed their names as Witnesses to the Said Will in the Presence of the said Testator and at his Request, and also that they Saw Robert Hopkins the other Subscribing Witness Sign his name as a Witness to the Said Will in the presence of the Testator and at his Request.

Sworn before

6 fides

Examined

Benton Harris Deptty Comtty of Wor. County

Sir

This coms to Satisfie you that it is out of my power to Administer on my Husbands Estate so I have gin the hole of it up unto my Son Joseph Melson to do so this Given from under my hand this 19th of May 1771.

To Mr. Benton Harris

Hanner her + mark Melson

Robert Hopkins

4 fides

Exam.

In the Name of God Amen this Second Day of February Anno Domine Seventeen hundred and Seventeen hundred and Seventy one I Rachel Piper of Worcester County and Province of Maryland being sick and weak in Body but of sound mind and Memory (thanks be to God) do make and ordain this to be my Last Will and Testament that is to say (Principally) and first I leave to my well beloved Brother John Piper and to Nutter Piper & to my Sister Nelly Piper and to my Brother in law Levin Stott the Sum of one Shilling Starling each and they nor any of them to have any Claim to any other part or parcel of my Estate to them their Heirs or

(Assigns)