

## CHESTERFIELD COUNTY MANUMISSIONS IN WILLS

### **Chesterfield County Will Book 3 1774-1785 LVA Reel # 27**

[Note that will books do not list when will recorded in court, just the date the will written as contained in the will itself]

p. 388—inv of Benj Watkins—Mem: Two Negroes to wit one Negroe Fellow named Joe and one named Will went off to the Brittish after the Death of Mr Watkins and have not since been heard of and are not entered in the foregoing Inventory—ca 1782—

p 510—25 Jan 1785—will of Lucy Jordan—emancipation???—my will and desire is to give to my daughter...Lee one Negro boy by the name of Randal and his mother to work about and half what she earns to give to my dau until she marries and then the said Negro woman b;y the Name of Polly to be to herself....no date of recording

### **Chesterfield County Will Book 4 1785-1800 LVA Reel # 27**

p. 109—estate of Jn Stringer, Geo Markham exec pays Atkins and Smith for taking up Ned 12/ in April 1785—p. 110—estate rec'd in May 1784 22.10 for 4.5 months hire of Frank and Ned from estate of Ben Watkins—

p. 124—estate acct of Benj Harris—26 Sept 1776—pays goaler of Amelia for Archer a runaway Negro 2.7.0—p. 126—6 Oct 77—pd for an advertisement—5/--

p. 358—will of George Kleinhoff of Chesterfield Co—24 Sept 93—gives man Cornby his freedom; ditto woman Hannah—gives Wm Pasture Smith son of Granville Smith a negro woman named Flor and her dau Sal—has bro in Barbadoes—

p. 362—will of Ann Cousins of Chesterfield Co—27 June 1786—my will and desire is that my Negro Woman Doll for the divers good causes wich[sic] I have received at her hands shall be free & clear from all servitude to any person or person wich [sic] may have any claims to the aforesaid Negro during her life—leaves to three gand daughters a Negro girl each and three slaves to dau Martha Cousins—

p. 407—will of John Barker—28 Sept 1792—my will is that Becky Cuffies wife shall have her freedom as soon as she and her husband has made compensation for 62.10/ given for her—land in York Co be sold etc—is involved with coal mines—estate profits after providing sister with 20L per year to be distributed among poorest widows and orphans—has connection to Methodist Episcopal church—signed—

p. 479—Philadelphia Mar 22, 1792—Gent: the gout is geting in my head fast and I think will kill me soon....names Jas Lyle and Dr McKenzie and Thos Banks execs—has brother near Frankfort and a sister...has enough to pay debts but says Dr Currie a quack and his account is an unjust

one..orders execs to purchase Dolly and her child and set them both and Patty also free..Jacob Rubsamon--followed p. 480 with a statement from Jas McClurg dated June 18 1792 that Dr Jas Curry has testimonials from a british university as prove him to be a physician regularly educated. See Will Book 6, 1802-08 p. 366 below.

### **Chesterfield County Will Book 5 1800-1802 LVA Reel # 28**

p. 146--will of Mary Claiborne dated 7 Sept 1796 directs that "the grave yard behind the garden shall be wald in with Bricks or stone at the expence of my estate and the grave yard where the negroes are buried be paled or railed in likewise...

p. 196--will of John Robertson of Chesterfield Co--27 Oct 1796--I give to my Negro Man Tom fifty Dollars also at my wifes death or end of her widowhood his freedom and in case he could get disabled so that he could not get his liveing to be maintain'd out of my estate during his life by all my children at an equal portion--JR will numerous slaves to his heirs--

p. 238--will of Joseph Mann of Chesterfield Co--24 Jan 1799--gives to wife Mary during her natural life or widowhood....my Negro man Starling...I give unto my wife Mary Mann a sufficiency of my estate to to purchase a Negro Girl by the name of Betty (at present the property of Tabatha Callico) for the purpose of freeing & emancipating the sd Negro Girl Betty clearly & impartially forever--see will of Mary Mann, Will Book 6, 1802-08 p. 277 below.

p. 268--will of Thomas Belcher of Chesterfield Co--29 Nov 1799--leaves to wife Edy Belcher the wench named Molly and child named Quen to her during her widdowhood..NB it is my will and desire that if the said Negro wench behaves herself property from this date for the space of twenty-one years she is to be set at liberty--

p. 269--will of Frederick Traylor of Chesterfield Co--29 Dec 1799--I order and direct that my exec hereinafter named do emancipate and set free my Negro Old Lucy and that she be permitted to reside as usual on my land and be furnished with a comfortable dwelling house, clothing and provision during her life out of my estate--son Archibald is exec--at least 8 other slaves left to wife and then to son--

p. 271--will of Thos Banks of town of Manchester--is native of GB? and former partner of Jacob Rubsamen--3 Oct 1799--PS should my Mulatto boy Damon not be bound out to a trade before I die, let him be bound out to one and when he has served out his apprenticeship I wish him emancipated and let him have a set of tools, such as suits his trade and fifty dollars, provided my execs think he will make a proper use of it... I own an old Negro woman named Kate, it would be doing a piece of injustice, in my opinion, to set her free at her time of life, I therefore wish my brother to send her out to his quarter and let her live as his other Negroes out there do, she at present is an useful servant to me, being a very good washer and a tolerable cook, and for any thing that I have seen, honest.

p. 315--will of Thomas Shore of Violet Bank Farm in Chesterfield--1 Oct 1800--is partner with Christopher McConnico--leaves land slaves etc to wife etc--emancipates and manumits my mulatto woman Betty Williams and all the children she now hath or may hereafter have and it is

my will that the annual sum of ten pounds be paid to her during her natural life by my execs--

p. 328--10 Nov 1800--inquisition taken at John Robertson's on the cause of death of Joe Gooding a free Negro man--jury says that on the last night past in the quarter of John Robertson the sd Joe Gooding according to evidence, about midnight was wilfully premeditatedly shot in the quarter aforesaid lying asleep with an iron gun loaded with powder and shot by whom this inhumane murder was committed we cannot say--

p. 347--will of Thomas Worsham of Chesterfield Co--3 Nov 1800--wills other slaves to children, grandchildren etc--I desire that the three old Negroes hereafter named vizt Cyrus, Cate and Juno be free, & in case they should live to be so infirm as not to be able to maintain themselves, that they be maintain by my son John Worsham and Archd Baugh--p. 528--inv of estate taken 4 Feb 01 lists Cirous at 5L; Cate at no value; and Junah at no value among about 21 slaves--

p. 567--will of Jane Baugh widow of Jn Baugh Sr of Chesterfield--19 July 1802--lends Negro man named Hall for three years to niece Jane Dunn and then to be set free--

#### **Chesterfield County Will Book 6 1802-1808 LVA Reel # 28**

p. 46--will of Samuel Landrum of Chesterfield--19 July 1802--leaves to his son Samuel Negro boy Aaron to serve him until Aaron turns 25 and then to be freed--also leaves to dau Ann Beals Negro woman Cloe till Cloe turns 25--another man slave is willed but no provision for freedom--

p. 198--10 Aug in 29 yr of the commonwealth--inq on body of Perer a man of colour drowned in one of coal pits--jury rules accidental drowning--

p. 199/202-- Inv of Thos Bridgewater taken 24 Jan 1803--no will in book--inv lists under Negroes: Susanah for 18 months at 9L; Amey for two years and a half at 10.12.6; Samuel for 5 yrs at 60L; James for seven and half yrs at 60L; Granville at 28L; Thomas Eldridge at 15L; Edward at 15L--might be times to serve before freedom--where is will?

p. 257--26 May 1805--inquisition taken at Mrs Eliz Archer's on the body of James Field (a free mulatto)--jury rules that he was murdered by a person unknown--marks of violence on his head and face and on the left side of his breast and his right arm very much bruised in several places above the wrist--

p. 262--will of Robert Wooldridge of Chesterfield-- 15 April 1805--leaves slaves to nephews--exec to emancipate my old Negro woman by the name of Aggy with three months provision--

p. 264--will of Jordan Anderson, Sr of Chesterfield--1 Jan 1805--provides for support for Methodists--It is my will and desire that all my Negroes that shall be 21 yrs old now living with me and my sons Jordan, Thomas and Nathan shall be free on the 1 Jan after mine and my wife's death and they shall be well cloathed both males and females and shall have their working tools and bread corn for one year and liberty to settle on 33 acres of land where my son Thomas shall choose for them and I earnestly request that no advantage may be taken of them or suffer any to

be taken of them that can conveniently be prevented but let them have wood land as well as cleared—mentions in will that Nathan to have labor of young Negroes namely Annaca's increase and Tom and Patt and Peter, Phillis's children and her future increase and not to be moved out of state or so far as to deprive them of their freedom—ditto for son Thomas for Amey's and Milley's increase and Sall till come to age of 21 but Matt is now excepted with Charles—ditto for Jordan of Rachel's increase....as there are two young Negroes with Charles and two with James they and all others to be free at 21 yrs old—rec 9 Dec 1805—

p. 277—will of Mary Mann of Chesterfield—22 Sept 1805—rec 9 Dec 1805—mentions sister Tabitha Callico to whom she leaves all her estate—leaves to my Negro man Starling fifty pounds—Thos Bufort named exec--see Chesterfield County Legislative petitions, 12 Oct 1814 where Sterling refers to this will, and petitions for permission to stay in Virginia after purchasing himself from Thomas Burfoot who had purchased the right to Sterling from John Mann who set up a claim for Sterling—Sterling says he raised and worked to get 550\$ to buy himself—petition referred to cts of Justice comm, thought reasonable and bill drawn acc to endorsement on petition.

p. 366—in estate acct of Jacob Rubsamen—in 1792 estate B. Markham for the purchase of Patty who agreeably to the testators will is to have her freedom—L59.7.0 and for the hire of said wench 6 yrs 5 months and 7 days at L120 per annum L38.12.6 which totals 97.19.6—p. 367—cash pd Dr McKenzies bond granted to Dr Adams for the purchase of Dolly and her child who are to have their freedom provided the effects of the dec'd are sufficient to pay his debts—L80—

p. 411—will of Thomas Elmore Trabue of Chesterfield Co—23 July 1806—rec 13 April 1807—will and desire that my Negro boy Roderick be emancipated and set free as soon as he conveniently can after my decease and if the laws of the state will at the time of such emancipation not suffer him to remain in the state in a state of freedom then my exec or admin as the case may be is enjoined to convey him at the expence of my estate to the Cumberland settlement in the state of Tennessee and to render the situation of the said Roderick when emancipated the more comfortable and eligible I give and bequeath unto him and his heirs forever one hundred acres of land lying and being in the Meso? District and state of Tenn and fifty pounds cash lawful money of Va, but should the said Roderick die under the age of 21 yrs it is then my will that the legacy left him be equally divided between my brothers John and Jacob Trabue and my sister Polly Depp....

p. 471—will of Alexander Banks of Chesterfield—has relatives in Scotland—4 June 1806—I leave to my Negro woman Salley during her natural life 5L Va currency per annum. To her dau Fanny whom I consider partly incapable of earning her livelyhood I leave 8L pr [annum] during her life with the use of the house and lot which they now occupy known in the plan of the town of Manchester by number 164 which house and lot I leave in trust with my execs....to Bob eldest son of the said Salley I leave 100 Spanish milled dollars. To Jack her other son the like sum of 100\$—leaves other property to his servant woman Nancy sometimes called Nancy Faction 350\$ spanish milled; to her eldest son Tom \$350 sp milled; to her second son George 350\$; to her youngest son James \$350; these sums to be retained in hands of execs who are to pay to Nancy the interest annually or as she may want it for her use of that of her family; children to be taught to read write and cypher and bound out at age of 14 to some good man to learn the carpenters

trade or whatever trade my execs think them most fit for; gives Nancy lot 287 in Manchester and as much of 281 as will add up to an acre; also leaves her 250\$ in hands of exec to build a house on the lot which is for her and her children—leaves her the kitchen furniture and the right to live in the kitchen she is now occupying until the house is built—orders exec to sell 5 other slaves—has codicil dated 17 July 1807 in which he says that the different donations and bequest to Nancy Fraction would after my death be converted into purposes very different from the intentions of the donor so cancels and does away with the whole of these gifts and instead leaves Nancy 100 spanish milled dollars-- rec in ct 14 Dec 1807—

### **Chesterfield County Will Book 7 1808-1813 LVA Reel #28**

p. 45—will of Charles Duncan of Chesterfield County—27 Jan 1807—leaves some money to parish in Scotland—leaves slaves etc to heirs—it is my will and desire that on my death my execs will emancipate and set free my mulatto woman Shattie and her child Jean with their future increase if it is their desire to be free and settle in some other state in case the law will not permit them to reside in VA, but if either of them don't wish to leave the state, I leave them to either of my daus they may wish to live with—rec 13 June 1808—mentions going to England with one of his daus—

p. 68—will of William C. Bott—17 Jan 1805—rec 10 Oct 1808—It is my desire that all the Negroes falling to my lot at the division of my father's estate be sent out of the country and liberated, unless Charles be one of them, in this case he shall be free and remain in the country; and Branchly who may have his choice, either to be the property of my bro Thomas or to be sent out of the country and be free—then gives some slaves by name to sister, to Thomas and to mother—before the above wish and desire be fulfilled I subject all my estate both real and personal to the payment of my just debts....appoints brother John B. Bott his sole exec..and asks him to give my Negroes an opportunity of exerting themselves to prevent their being sold off for the benefit of my creditors and of becoming free as above prescribed....I pray and recommend to all my brothers, mother and sister for the security of their own lives, not to allow any of the Negroes of the estate of my father to remain near their residence except Charles, Frank, Jeffrey, Branchley, and Isabell, these being inoffensive and undesigning will have no disposition to injure their healths and destroy their lives in the manner they have done mine....

p. 166—will of John Heveningham of Chesterfield—has English relatives—18 Dec 1809—names 4 men to serve as trustees to see that they shall permit my Negroe woman slave Nancy and all her future progeny to live within this commonwealth and without burthening the same or any person therein to provide for her and themselves, their subsistance forever—that annually they shall allow out of my estate to the said Nancy the sum of 50\$ for the maintainance and education of her child Page Anne until she shall attain the age of ten years and the like sum of 50\$ for the maintainance and education of her dau Suckey or Susan until she shall attain the same age at which I direct that they shall enjoy the same priviledge and immunity with their mother as herein before mentioned. My intent and design was to have made these slaves absolutely free and my wish is that they shall be so, if ever the existing law, providing that emancipated slave shall remove themselves out of this Commonwealth shall be repealed and I direct it to be so whenever that shall happen, the sum to be laid out for the maintainance and education of the said Page Anne and Suckey or Susan not being withdrawn or in anywise impaired...that the other children

of the said Nancy be not sold to any person residing more than ten miles from the place where she shall choose to fix for her residence at the time of sale...rec 8 Jan 1810—inventory p. 270 identifies him as a physician—values his slaves as: Nancy, Page Anne, Suckey or Susan at 400\$; Matilda and Brown children of Nancy at 233.33 and 266.67; Nancy and Robert, children of Katey at 500\$; Old Lucy in a wretched state and without a value listed; Eliza, supposed to be sold to Mr Mills—estate sale begins on p. 283—p. 285—Katey and her children Robert and Nancy bought by Jn Mayo for 471\$; Philip Haxall bought Brown and Matilda for 350 and 221 respectively; p. 294 note: the three slaves Nancy, Page Anne, and Suckey or Susan were not sold, but suffered to remain unsold and placed in the situation directed by the testator in and by his testament and last will—

p. 578—estate acct of Thomas Trabue dec'd with Jn Trabue, exec—includes expences for keeping Roderick's mare 19 days for 3.16; to my services 50 days in complying with last will and testament of Thos Trabue relative to the emancipation of Roderick \$200; to expence of Roderick and horse in traveling to and from Tennessee and Kentucky \$37.46; to paid Roderick his legacy \$166.66—estate acct ends 1 Jan 1812—

#### **Chesterfield County Will Book 8 1813-1818 LVA Reel # 29**

p.389—will of Nancy Crawford of town of Manchester—20 Nov 1815—rec 11 Dec 1815—leaves to her mother Dolly Smith various kinds of property and Sally and at death of mother, Sally be put with some good Lady to bring her up should she [ie mother] die before Sally comes of age —when 21 then wants her to be free if it can be done consistent with laws of VA, if that can't be done then she to have benefit of her own labor for her life and the liberty of choosing any person she pleases to act and stand as her master—it is also my wish that if she or the heirs of her body should at any time after she becomes of age wish to remove to another state for the purpose of enjoying her or their freedom that she or they be permitted to do so—leaves to Sally my bed and furniture and all my cloths—her mother is in Richmond it appears—

p. 443—will of Nathaniel Quarles of Chesterfield Co and Manchester town—13 Dec 1808—rec 26 Feb 1816—provides that Negro slave man Will wait exclusively on his wife as long as she occupies the house and lots or dies—then he is to have the choice of whom to live with, not as a slave, or to be transferred in any way and in case he should become old or disabled he is to be comfortably supported by Quarles's children—p. 455—I Negro Will late the property of Nathaniel Quarles...agreeably to the provisions of the last will and testament of my said master have made my election to live with Joseph Hodgson and Mary his wife, one of the daus of NQ—28 Feb 1816—signed with X—I Joseph Hodgson do hereby agree to take charge of Negro Will...not as a slave or to be transferred in any way but to be comfortably supported under my protection agreeably to the will etc—signed 28 Feb 1816—rec same day—

p. 510—will of Louis Ducos Lahaille—23 May 1816—rec 22 July 1816—wants exec to take money owed to him from Louis Truehart's estate of Hanover for which there is a suit to collect and buy a boy named William, about 2 yrs old, son of Nancy who belong to Gervas Storrs...and which boy I consider and believe to be my child....exec should keep hiim until he is 21 and bring him up to gardening as a trade and profession...to have and enjoy from 21 on the full and absolute

benefit of his time and labour and in the same manner as free men are entitled to the same, but if the said William shall think proper to leave VA or if at his age of 21 the laws of VA shall permit the emancipation of slaves then and in either event it is my will and desire that the said Wm shall be absolutely and forever free....

p. 646—will of George Hewlett—12 April 1817—rec 9 June 1817—In the first place it is my will and desire that my wife Alsey and my five children Patsy 11 yrs, Sarah 9 yrs, George 7 yrs, Eliza 3 yrs, and Thomas 3 months shall from and after my death be forever free in exactly the same manner as if they my said wife and children had been born free.....