

John Mathis Will

Written November 6, 1776 – Proved October 23, 1779

[transcribed by Peter H. Stemmer from the recorded copy on microfilm in the N.J. State Archives]

I **John Mathis** of Little Egg Harbour in the County of Burlington in west New Jersey Yoman being of sound and perfect Disposing Mind & Memory thanks be to Almighty God therefore as for all others Mercies Calling to mind the Mortality of my body & knowing that it is Appointed for all Men once to die I do make and Ordain this my last Will and Testant that is to say, **Imprimis** This my Will and I do hereby Order that all my Just debts and funeral charges be well and duly paid and Satisfied by my Executors herein after named **Item** I give and bequeath unto my beloved Wife Alice Mathis a good decent and Sufficient Support and Maintenance to be provided done and performed by my Son Micajah Mathis During the Term of her Natural life In Consideration of the Estates herein after devised unto him and that in Lue of her Dowry **Item** I give and bequeath unto my Son Micajah Mathis all my whole Estates land and personal bonds, bills, debts due, and Demands what soever to Enable him the said Micajah Mathis to pay the Legacies following **Item** I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Sarah Leeds, Wife of John Leeds the Sum of fifty pounds **Item** I give and bequeath unto my Son Nehemiah Mathis the Sum of one hundred pounds **Item** I give unto my Son Jeremiah Children four Sons to each of them ten pounds a peace and Elizabeth & Mary five pounds Each. **Item** I give unto my Son Eli the Sum of five Shillings he having had a reasonable part of my Estates already and **Item** I give my Son Daniel the Sum of five Shillings he having had a reasonable part. **Item** I give to my Son Job the Sum of five Shillings he having had a reasonable part of my Estates already. And I do hereby Constitute make and Ordain my beloved Wife Alice Mathis Executrix and my beloved Son Micajah Mathis Executor of this my last Will and Testament hereby Satisfying Allowing and Confirming this and no Other to being last Will and Testament. **In Witness** hereof I have hereunto Set my Hand and Seal the Twenty Sixth day of November In the Year of Our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Seventy Six John Mathis *** his Mark Seal; Signed Sealed published and Declared by the said John Mathis as his last Will and Testament In the presence of us William Grant Caleb Cramer John Platt. William Grant one of the Witnesses to this _____ Will being duly Sworn on the Holy ___angels of the Almighty God did dispose and Say that he was present and Saw John Mathis Sign and Seal the Same and heard him publish pronounce and declare the within Writing to be his last Will and Testament and at the doing thereof the _____ Testator was of Sound and disposing mind & Memory as for as this deponent _____ and as he merily(?) believes and that Caleb Cramer and John Platt the other Witnesses whose Names are Hereto Subscribed were also present and Signed there Names as Witnesses together with this Deponent in the presence of the said Testator. Sworn at Burlington the 23 of October 1779. Before Rob. Buridian(?) Surregator.

The foregoing Will being proof probate was Granted by His Excellency Geo Livingstone unto Micajah Mathis Executor in the said Will named having first been duly affirmed well and truly to perform(?) the Same _____ true and perfect Inventory _____ as Inst and true account when thereto lawful required Given under the prerogative Seal _____ day & Year _____.

Bowes Reed Esq