

In the name of God amen Loving Merritt of Kent
County and State of Maryland being weak in body but of sound
and disposing mind memory and understanding, do hereby
make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner
and form following that is to say.

First and principally I commit my Soul into the hands of Almighty^{4y}
God, and my Body to the Earth to be decently buried at the
discretion of my Executor hereafter named, and after my Debts
and funeral charges are paid I devise & bequeath as follows
Item I give and devise unto my Sister Mary Merritt my plantation
whereon I now live and which I now possess and dwell on
containing three hundred & fifty three acres or thereabouts
more or less together with all the appurtenances thereunto
belonging in fee simple to her and her heirs for ever.

I also give and bequeath to my Sister Mary Merritt and my Negroes
Duke, Jane, Berk, Harry & Sarah together with all my Stock
Household furniture Farming Utensils and all every other property
which I am now, ~~or~~ ^{or} may be found, possess'd of, and it is my Will
and pleasure that my Sister Mary aforesaid shall to be Sole Heires
to all and every part of my property both Real & Personal which
I am now possess'd of or may be found hereafter to have any Right
Title Interest or claim to, to her and her heirs for ever.

And lastly I do hereby constitute & appoint Malachi Ambrose
of Kent County & State of Maryland to be my Sole Executor of this my
last Will & Testament, revoking & annulling all former Wills by me heretofore
~~by me~~ made ratifying & confirming this and none other to be my last
Will & Testament. In ~~testimony~~ ^{Testimony} whereof I have hereunto set my
conclusive hand and fixed my Seal this ~~date~~ Thirtieth day of
of December one thousand seven hundred & Eighty four.

Signed sealed published & declared by Loving Merritt the above named
Testator as & for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who
at his request & in his presence have subscribed our names as Witnesses
thereto

Loving Merritt 