

**Garret VanMeter  
Last Will and Testament**

**Will Book 1, pages 25-28  
Hardy County Clerk's Office  
Moorefield, West Virginia**

In the name of God amen I Garret Vanmeter of the County of Hardy and State of Virginia being at this time in a low state of health, but in perfect mind and memory, do now constitute and declare this to be my last will and testament

Item. I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Ann Vanmeter One bed and furniture a Bay mare known by the name of James's Mare Saddle and Bridle a good work horse, two cows, two ewes two sows. I likewise leave unto my said wife Ann, during her natural life the use of my dwelling house. Also Ten acres of Ground to till and five acres of meadow and pasturage for the s<sup>d</sup> creatures likewise the use of my two Slaves Cuff and Moll. I likewise give and bequeath unto my said wife Ann, One hundred pounds of my movable Estate which She may \*26 Take in such Articles as She may Choose at the Appraisalment.

Item. I give and Devise unto my Son Isaac Vanmeter the half of the Tract of Land whereon I now dwell to be measured straight across at the river from [\_\_\_\_] upper line to the Lower and the Same way at the Gut below the barn so as to divide the bottom as even as they can to there then with a straight course to a small Mulberry tree between the Barn and the Nursery and then the nearest part of the Run and then following the several meanders of the Run to John Sibley's Line so that both Divisions may have an equal advantage in the water. I also devise unto my son Isaac Vanmeter a Tract of Land lying on Turnmill Run purchased of George Stricker, also one Tract lying on the Flag Meadow Run. Likewise one other Track of Land on Turn Mill run Bought of Thomas Neale. Also One Hundred and Eighty three Acres being part of a Lease for Two hundred and Ninety eight Acres which I hold of the Late Lord Fairfax bearing Date the Sixth day of March One Thousand seven Hundred and Eighty, the said one hundred and eighty three acres to be taken off the Lower side of the said tract. All which several Tracts of Land aforementioned I give unto my said son, Isaac Vanmeter his heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I give and devise unto my son Jacob VanMeter the other half of the tract of land whereon I now live being the Upper part thereof. Also the remaining one hundred and fifteen acres being the upper side of the tract of two hundred and ninety eight acres aforementioned. Also a tract of land I purchased of William Lane, Also a tract I purchased of Martha Williams containing sixty eight acres which I hold by Lease from Lord Fairfax the 7th of August 1779. All of which several tracts of land I give and devise unto the said son Jacob Vanmeter his heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Ann Seymour a tract of land on Paterson's Creek mountain containing two hundred and sixty acres. Also one other tract adjoining the same which lands I give and bequeath unto the the [sic] said Ann Seymour her heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I give unto my son Isaac Vanmeter my slaves Jef, Luce and her four children Lid, Bab, Landon and Sampson to him and his heirs forever.

Item. I give unto my son Jacob Vanmeter my slaves Will, Jack, Nice, & Leah \*27 to him his heirs forever. I also leave unto my son said son Jacob Vanmeter such part of my stock as will be equal to what I gave my son Isaac.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Ann Seymour my slaves Rove and Jude, daughter of old Jude to her and her heirs forever. Also stock or a young Negro to the amount of one hundred pounds when added to the value of what stock she has had already.

Item. I do hereby order and direct my two sons Isaac Vanmeter and Jacob VanMeter, to pay unto my daughter Ann Seymour, such sum of money as will amount to six hundred pounds when added to what I have paid toward Abel Seymour's Land which will appear in my Book.

Item. I leave my stills and still house to stand where they now do and the profits to be equally divided between my two sons

My will and desire is that if any of my children should die without lawfull [sic] issue in that case their parts of my Estate shall be equally divided between the survivours [sic], and my will and desire is also that the Land given my wife Ann shall be taken from the tract whereon I now live and given to my two sons, that is to say they shall each furnish an equal part. And I do hereby direct and order that all the rest of my real or personal estate of whatsoever kind may be sold, except as much household furniture as I gave my son Isaac which my son Jacob is to have, and after the payment of my debts and legacies I desire that my Executors may pay unto my wife Ann the sum of one hundred pounds and the remainder to be equally divided between my two sons Isaac Vanmeter and Jacob Vanmeter. And I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint my said two sons Isaac VanMeter and Jacob VanMeter executors of this my last will and testament revoking all former wills or bequests by me made, ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the first day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & eighty eight.

\*28

Garret V<sup>an</sup>Meter (Seal)

Signed sealed, Published and Pronounced

By the Said Testator as his last will &

Testament in the Presence of us

Daniel M<sup>c</sup>Neill, Tabitha Inskeep, Henry Hawk, John Sibley

In a Court held for Hardy County the 7th day of July 1788

This Last will and Testament of garret VanMeter dec<sup>d</sup> was proved by the oaths of Daniel M'Neill, John Sibley and Tabitha Inskeep three of the four witnesses thereto

And ordered to be Recorded, and on the Motion of Isaac Vanmeter and Jacob Vanmeter the Executors therein named who made Oath thereto a Certificate is granted them for obtaining a probate thereof in due form, giving Security whereupon they with Security entered into and acknowledged a Bond conditioned as the Law requires.

Teste.  
Edward Williams C.H.C.