

Will of John Goff

Amherst County, Virginia: Will Book 1, pp. 25-29

In the name of God, amen the thirtieth day of November one thousand seven hundred and sixty three [clerk error, should 1762], I John Goff of Amherst County, being sick of body but of good and perfect memory, thanks be to Almighty God, and calling to remembrance the uncertain estate of this transitory life, each and all flesh must yield unto death when it shall please God to call, do make and declare this my Last Will and Testament in manner and form following.

First being penitent and sorry for my former sins most humbly desiring forgiveness of the same, I commend my soul to Almighty God, my Savior and Redeemer in whom and by whose merits I trust and believe assuredly to be Saved & to have full remission and forgiveness of my sins and to inherit the kingdom of heaven and my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named and for the settling of my temporal estate and such goods and debts as it hath pleased God to bestow upon me, I do order, give and dispose of the same in manner and form following:

Imprimis, I lend to my beloved wife Anne five negroes, Bob, Hanah, Tamer, Judah and Jim and all my movable estate during her widowhood.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my son Joseph a negro Amey to dispose of as he shall think proper, at my wife's death or marriage, all my whole estate to be divided between Joseph Goff and John Goff & Ambrose, and Elizabeth Goff is to have twenty five pounds current money paid her by the Executors at my wife's death or marriage and I leave the tract of land being on Stovauls Creek and Bowlins to be divided equally between Joseph Goff and John Goff, and Elizabeth Goff and Ambrose Goff only.

Ambrose is to possess the place where the plantation now is after his Mother's death and to my son Leonard Goff I leave the hundred acres that he has a Bond for. Amen.

Test.

Thomas Gillenwaters

John Goff {seal}

During of widowhood and life and I do hereby make and appoint my loving sons Leonard and Joseph Executors full and sole Executors of this my Last Will and Testament hereby revoking disannulling and making void all former Wills and bequests by me made and declaring this only to be my last Will and Testament. In witness whereunto I have set my hand and seal this thirtieth day of November one thousand seven hundred and sixty two.

[Power of Attorney]

Know all men by these presents that I John Goff of Amherst County for diverse good causes and considerations me hereunto moving, have made ordained constituted and appointed my trust[ed] sons Leonard Goff and Joseph Goff of Amherst County my true and lawful Attorneys for me and in my name and to my use to ask demand recover and receive of and giving and by these presents granting to my said Attorneys my sole and full power and authority to take persue and follow such legal courses for recovery receiving & obtaining of the same as I myself might or could do were I personally present, and upon the receipt of the same acquittances or other sufficient discharges for me in my name to make sign seal and deliver as also one or more Attorneys under them to substitute or appoint

and again at their pleasure to revoke and farther to do perform and finish for me and in my name all and singular thing or things which shall or may be necessary touching and concerning the premises as fully throughly and entirely as I the said John Goff in my own person might or could do in or demand of me the said John Goff or of any other person or persons for me in my name by cause, means or consents, whereunto I have set my hand and seal this thirtieth day of November one thousand seven hundred and sixty two.

Sealed and delivered }
in presence of }
Thomas Gillenwaters
Elijah Moran
Joseph Goff

John [x] Goff

[Probate]

At a Court held for Amherst County at the Court House the 7th day of March 1763.

This Last Will & Testament of John Goff, deceased was this day presented in Court by Leonard Goff, one of the Executors therein named and was proved by the oath of Thomas Gillenwaters, and it appearing to the Court that the other Witnesses are legatees to the said Will, and Leonard Goff the Heir at Law agreeing to make the persons a Title to the Lands conveyed to them by the said Will, which is ordered to be for the Executors to give Security, and at a Court held for the County aforesaid the 2nd day of May in the year aforesaid, it appearing to the Court that the Heir at Law who was left an Executor is not able to give Security for the execution of the said Will, and the Widow of the said Decedent relinquishing her right of Administration, and on the motion of Ambrose Rucker administration with the said Will annexed is granted him in due form, whereupon he took the oath according to Law and acknowledged Bond in the penalty of one thousand pounds with John Rucker & George McDaniel his securities, which is ordered to be recorded.

Test. George Seaton Clk.

[Administrator's Bond]

Know all men by these presents that we Ambrose Rucker, John Rucker, & George McDaniel are held and firmly bound unto William Cabelly, James Nevel, George Stovaul, & James Dillard Gent. Justices of the County Court of Amherst their heirs and successors in the full and just sum of one thousand pounds current money to the which payment will and truly to be made we bind ourselves our heirs executors & administrators jointly and severally jointly by these presents Witness our hands and seals this 2nd day of May 1763.

The condition of this obligation is such that if the above bound Ambrose Rucker Administrator with the will annexed of all the goods chattels and credits of John Goff deceased do make or cause to be made a true and perfect inventory of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the deceased which have or shall come to the hands possession or knowledge of the said Ambrose or into the hands or possession of any other person or persons for him and the same so made do exhibit or cause to be exhibited into the said County Court of Amherst at such time as he shall be thereto required by the said court and the same goods chattels and credits and all other the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased at the time of his death which at any time after shall come to the hands or possession of the said Ambrose or into the hands or possession of any other person or persons for him do will and truly administer according to Law, and further do make a just account of his actings and doings therein when thereto required by the said court and also do well and truly pay and deliver all the Legacies

contained and specified in the said testament as far as the said goods chattels and credits will thereto extend according to the value thereof, and the Law shall change, then this obligation to be void and of none effect otherwise to remain in full force and value.

Ambrose Rucker {seal}
George McDaniel {seal}
John Rucker {seal}

Genealogical Analysis

Will of John Goff

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- John Goff
 - Resident of Amherst County, Virginia
 - Died between 30 Nov 1762 and 7 Mar 1763
- Spouse
 - Anne
- Heirs
 - Wife – Anne
 - Son – Joseph Goff (executor)
 - Son – John Goff
 - Son – Ambrose Goff
 - Daughter – Elizabeth Goff
- Others Mentioned
 - Son – Leonard Goff (executor)
- Probate
 - 7 Mar 1763
 - Executors
 - Ambrose Rucker

John Goff's
Will -

In the Name of God amen the Thirtieth Day
of November one Thousand Seven hundred and Sixty three I John
Goff of Amherst County being Sick of Body but of good and
perfect memory thanks be to Almighty God and Calling to
Remembrance the Uncertain Estate of this transitory life &c

26) and all flesh must yield unto Death when it shall please
God to call or make and Declare this my Last Will and
Testament in manner and form following first being
Penitent and Sorry for my former Sins most humbly
Desiring forgiveness of the same I commend my Soul to
Almighty God my Saviour and Redeemer in whom and by
whose merits I trust and believe assuredly to be Saved &
to have full Remission and forgiveness of all my Sins
and to Inherit the Kingdom of heaven and my Body I
commit to the Earth to be Decently Buried at the
Discretion of my Exors hereafter named and for the
Settling of my Temporal Estate and such Goods and Debts
as it hath pleased God to bestow upon me I do order give
and Dispose of the same in manner and form following
Imprimis I lend to my beloved Wife Anne five Negroes
Bob, Hannah, James, Judah, and Jim and all my moveable
Estate During her Widowhood I am I give and Bequeath
unto my Son Joseph a Negro amey to Dispose of as he shall
think proper, at my Wifes Death or Marriage all my whole
Estate to be Divided Between Joseph Goff, and John Goff &
Ambrose and Elizabeth Goff is to have Twenty five pounds
current money paid her by the Executors at my Wifes Death
or Marriage and I Leave the Tract of Land lying on Stovaults
Creek and Rowlins to be Divided Equally between Joseph
Goff and John Goff, and Eliz^a Goff, and Ambros Goff only
Ambros is to possess the place where the plantation now is
after his Mothers Death and to my Son Leonard Goff I leave
the hundred Acre that he has a Pond for Amey

Test.

Thomas Gillenwaters

For me John Goff S.S.

During of Widowhood and Life and I do hereby make and
Appoint my Loving Sons Leonard and Joseph Executors full
and Sole Executors of this my Last Will and Testament hereby
Revoaking Disannulling and making Void all former Wills
and Requests by me made and Declaring this only to be ^{this only to be} my
last Will and Testament In Witnes whereunto I have set
my hand and Seal this Thirtieth Day of November one thousand
Seven hundred and Sixty two.

Know all Men by these Presents that I John Goff of Amherst
County for Divers Good causes and Considerations me hereunto
moving have made ordained constituted and appointed my
Trust Sons Leonard Goff and Joseph Goff of Amherst County
my True and Lawfull Attorneys for me and in my Name and to
my use to ask Demand Recover and Receive of and Giving
and by these Presents Granting to my said Attorneys my
Sole and full power and Authority to Take pursue and follow
such Legal Courses for the Recovery Receiving & Obtaining
of the same as I myself might or could do were I personally
Present, and upon the Receipt of the same Acquittances or
other Sufficient Discharges for me and in my Name to make
Sign Seal and Deliver as also one or more Attorneys under
them to Substitute or Appoint and again at there pleasure
to Revoke and farther to do perform and finish for me and in my
Name all all and singular thing or things which shall or may
be Necessary touching and concerning the premises as fully
thoroughly and Entirely as I the said John Goff in my own
person might or could do in or Demand of me the s. John
Goff or of any other person or persons for me in my name by
any cause means or consents whereunto I have set my hand and

(20) Seal this Thirtieth Day of November one thousand Seven
hundred and Sixty two,

Sealed and Delivered
in presence of

his
B^r me John H Goff S^r,
marks

Tho: Gillenwaters

Elijah Morran

Joseph Goff

At a Court held for Amherst County at the Court House
the 7th Day of March 1763.

This Last Will & Testament of John Goff Deid was this
Day Presented in Court by Leonard Goff one of the Executors therein
Named, and was proved by the Oath of Thomas Gillenwaters,
and it appearing to the Court that the other Witnesses are
Legates to the said Will, and Leonard Goff the Heir at Law
agreeing to make the persons a Title to the Lands conveyed
to them by the said Will, which is ordered to lie for the Exors
to give Security, And at a Court held for the County aforesaid
the 2^d Day of May in the Year aforesaid it appearing to the
Court that the Heir at Law who was Left an Executor is
not able to give Security for the Execution of the said Will,
and the Widow of the said Decedent Relinquishing her Right
of Administration, and on the Motion of Ambrose Rucker
Administration with the said Will Annexed is granted him
in due form, whereupon he took the Oath according to Law,
and acknowledged Bond in the Penalty of One
Thousand Pounds with John Rucker & George
McDaniel his Securities, which is ordered to be recorded

Jus^r Geo: Seaton CLK

(29) KNOW all Men by these presents that We Ambrose Rucker, John
Goffe
Administrators Bond
Rucker & George M. Daniel are held and jointly bound unto William Cabell,
James Newell, George Stovaul & James Dillard Gent. Justices of the
County Court of Amherst their heirs and Successors in the full
and just Sum of One Thousand pounds Current Money to the ^{which}
Payment well and truly to be made we bind ourselves our heirs,
Exors & Adors jointly and Severally jointly by these presents
Witness our hands and Seals this 2. Day of May 1763.

The Condition of this Obligation is such that If the above
Bound Ambrose Rucker Administrator with the Will Annexed of
all the Goods Chattels and Credits of John Goffe Deed do make or
cause to be made a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular
the Goods Chattels and Credits of the said Deed which have or shall
come to the hands Possession or knowledge of the said Ambrose or
into the hands or possession of any other person or persons for
him and the same so made do Exhibit or cause to be Exhibited
into the said County Court of Amherst at such Time as he
shall be thereto Required by the said Court and the same
Goods Chattels and Credits and all other the Goods Chattels and
Credits of the said Deed at the Time of his Death which at
any Time after shall come to the hands or possession of the
said Ambrose or into the hands or possession of any other person
or persons for him, do well and truly administer according to
Law, and further do make a just Account of his Actings and
Doings therein when thereto Required by the said Court and
also do well and truly pay and Deliver all the Legacies contain-
ed and Specified in the said Testament as far as the said Goods
Chattels and Credits will thereto Extend according to the Value
thereof, and the Law shall Charge, Then this Obligation to be Void
and of none Effect otherwise to remain in full force & Virtue

Ambrose Rucker (S.S.)
George M. Daniel (S.S.)
John Rucker (S.S.)