

**CITATION:** Last Will and Testament of Lewis Demoss, 17 June 1743, Orange Co., Virginia, recorded in Frederick Co in March 1744

WILL OF "LOIS DEMOS" (Lewis Demoss)

Orange County  
In the Colony of Virginia

"In the name of God, Amen, I Lowis Demos of Oppeckon in the said county of Orange and in the colony of Virginia, being weak in body, but of sound memory thanks to Almighty God for ye same; and calling to mind ye uncertainty of this frail and mortal life, and that it is appointed to all men once to dye, and after death come to judgment, I do make and ordain this my last will and Testament in manor and form following Viz: First and Principally I recommend my soul to Almighty God my creator who gave it to me, assuredly trusting and believing that I shall receive full pardon and free remission of all my sins to be saved by the precious death and merits of my blessed Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ, and my body to the earth from whom it came to be buried in decent and Christian-like manner at the discretion of my Executioner hereinafter named. And as for such worldly goods and estate with which it has pleased God to bless me in this life: I give and bequeath the same as followeth:

(Impromis) I give and bequeath unto my son-in-law **James Crabtree** and his heirs of the body of my **daughter Catherine** now his wife his heirs and assigns forever, one hundred acres of land where he now lives part of my homestead.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my **son Lewis Demos** his heirs and assigns one young mare two years old, and one iron pot, one two year old heifer and two hundred acres of land had before.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my son **John Demos** one hundred acres of land joining to James Crabtree's land being also part of my homestead to him and his heirs forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto **Peter DeMoss** and his heirs forever one hundred acres of land, part of my homestead, joining to John Demos land and one breeding mare and one heifer to him and his heirs.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my **daughter Jane Demos**, her heirs and assigns one feather bed, one cow, one breeding mare.

Item: I give and divide unto my **son William Demos** his heirs and assigns one young horse he having his possession given him before.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my **two sons Thomas and James Demos** and their heirs one hundred and sixty acres of land my home tract to be equally divided between them after my wife's decease, or marriage, and to said son Thomas one young mare after my decease, and that my son James is to have its first colt said young mare shall bring.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my **son Charles Demos** three years schooling to be paid out of my movable estate, and one young mare to him and his heirs and assigns

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forever after my decease.

I give ad bequeath after my lawful debts and funeral charges paid all my goods and chattels, and all moveables unto my wife Catherine during her lifetime, or widowhood, and after her decease or marriage, to be divided between my three youngest sons, Thomas, James and Charles equally share and share alike.

And I do further constitute and appoint my well beloved wife Catherine Demos, and my loving son, John Demos, to be my sole executors of this my last will and testament, revoking all other testaments and wills by me formerly made, and I do ordain this and only this to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the 17th day of June in the year of our Lord God, one thousand seven hundred and forty three.

Signed: Lois Dumas

(Seal)

Sealed and delivered in ye presence of us,

Thomas Williams

James Overakers

Note: "The seal of his French ring is on wax, now very fragile. In it are two little designs, reminding one of a little wheel in a watch, very pretty but not so plain" (J.W. Baker, dec'd 1954, when he copied will in 1939.)

### Additional information about this story

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**Date** 17 June 1743

**Location** Orange County, Colony of Virginia