

my military services, in the former war between Great-Britain and France; that if I should fall there, Mount Vernon (then left extensive to do me, than at present) should be his property; I give and bequeath all that part thereof, which is comprehended within the following limits, viz:—Beginning at the Ford of Dogue Run, near my mill, and extending along the road, and bounded thereby, as it now goes and ever has gone, since my recollection of it to the Ford of Little Hunting Creek at the Gum Spring, until it comes to a known, opposite to an old road which formerly passed through the lower field of Huddy hole farm, at which on the north side of the said road, are three red or Spanish oaks marked as a corner, and a stone placed there by a line of trees to be marked rect-angular to the back line or outer boundary of the tract between Thomson Mason and myself—thence with that line easterly (now double ditching with a post and rail fence thereon) to the end of Little Hunting Creek—thence with that run, which is the boundary between the lands of the late Sampson Beake and me, the tide water for the said creek—thence by that water to Patowmack river—thence with the river to the mouth of Dogue creek—and thence with the said Dogue creek to the place of beginning at the aforesaid ford, containing upwards of four thousand acres, be the same more or less, together with the mansion house, and all other buildings and improvements thereon. Second.—In consideration of the contiguity between them and my wife, being as nearly related to her as to myself; as, on account of the affection I had for, and the obligation I was under to, their father when living, who, from his youth had attached himself to my person, and followed my fortunes through the vicissitudes of the late revolution, afterward devoting his time to the superintendance of my private concerns for many years, whilst my public employments rendered it impracticable for me to do it myself, thereby affording me essential service, and always performing them in a manner the most filial and respectful; for these reasons, I give and bequeath, to George Fayette Washington, and Lawrence Augustine Washington, and their heirs, my estate east of Little Hunting creek, lying on the river Potomac, including the farm of three hundred and sixty acres, leased to Tobias Lear, as noticed before, and containing in the whole, by deed, two thousand and twenty-seven acres, be it more or less; which said estate it is my will and desire should be equitably and advantageously divided between them, according to quantity, quality and other circumstances, when the youngest shall have arrived at the age of twenty-one years, by three judicious and disinterested men; one to be chosen by each of the brothers, and the third by these two. In the meantime, if the termination of my wife's interest therein should have ceased, the profits arising therefrom are to be applied for their joint uses and benefit. Third.—And whereas it has always been my intention, since my expectation of having issue has ceased, to consider the grand children, of my wife, in the same light as I do my own relations, and to act a friendly part by them, more especially by the two whom we have raised from their earliest infancy—namely, Eleanor Park Cullis and George Washington Park Cullis—and whereas the former of these hath lately intermarried with Lawrence Lewis, a son of my deceased sister, Betty Lewis, by which union the inducement to provide for them both has been increased, therefore I give & bequeath to the said Lawrence Lewis and Eleanor Park Lewis, his wife, and their heirs, the residue of my Mount-Vernon estate, not already devised to my nephew, Buford Washington; comprehended within the following description, viz:—All the land north of the road leading from the Ford of Dogue run to the Gum Spring, as determined in the devise of the other part of the tract, to B. Washington, until it comes to the Stone and three Red and Spanish Oaks on the hillside, thence with the rect-angular line to the back line (between Mr. Mason & me) thence with that line westerly along the new double ditch to Dogue run by the tumbling dam of my mill—thence with the said run to the Ford store mentioned, to which I add all the land I possess west of the said Dogue run and Dogue creek, bounded easterly and southerly by the said store, together with the mill, dillery, and all other houses and improvements on

the premises; making together about two thousand acres, be it more or less. Fourth.—Actuated by the principle already mentioned, I give and bequeath to George Washington P. Cullis, the grandson of my wife, and my ward, and to his heirs, the tract I hold on Four Mile run in the vicinity of Alexandria, containing one thousand two hundred acres, more or less, and my entire square No. 21, in the city of Washington. Fifth.—All the real and residue of my estate, real and personal, not disposed of in manner aforesaid, in whatsoever consisting; wherefore lying; & whenever found; a schedule of which as far as is recollect, with a reasonable estimate of its value, is hereto annexed; I desire may be sold by my executors as such times; in such manner, and on such credits (if an equal, valid and satisfactory distribution of the specific property cannot be made without) as in their judgments shall be most conducive to the interest of the parties concerned, and the monies arising therefrom to be divided into twenty three equal parts, and applied as follows, viz: To Wm. Augustine Washington, Elizabeth Sporwood, Jane Thornton, and the heirs of Ann Ashton, son & daughter of my deceased brother Augustine Washington, I give & bequeath four parts, that is, one part to each of them: To Fielding Lewis, George Lewis, Robert Lewis, Howel Lewis, and Betty Carter, sons and daughters of my deceased sister Betty Lewis, I give and bequeath five other parts, one to each of them: To George Steptoe Washington, Laurence Augustine Washington, Harriot Parks, and the heirs of Thornton Washington, sons and daughter of my dec'd brother Samuel Washington, I give and bequeath the other four parts, one part to each of them: To Corbin Washington, and the heirs of Jane Washington, son and daughter of my deceased brother John Augustine Washington, I give and bequeath two parts, one part to each of them: To Sam. Washington, Frances Ball, and Mlrd. Hammond, son and daughters of my brother Charles Washington, I give and bequeath three parts, one part to each of them; and to George Fayette Washington, Charles Augustine Washington, and Maria Washington, sons and daughter of my deceased nephew George Augustine Washington, I give one other part, that is, to each a third of that part; To Elizabeth Park-Law, Martha Park Peter, and Eleanor Park Lewis, I give and bequeath three other parts, that is a part to each of them; and to my nephew Buford Washington and Lawrence Lewis, & to my ward, the grandson of my wife, I give and bequeath one other part, that is, a third thereof to each of them. And if it should so happen that any of the persons whose names are here enumerated (unknown to me) should now be dead, or should die before me, that in either of these cases the heirs of such deceased persons shall, notwithstanding, derive all the benefits of the bequest, in the same manner as if he or she was actually living at the time; and by way of advice I recommend it to my executors not to be precipitate in disposing of the landed property, therein directed to be sold, if from temporary causes the sale thereof should be dull; experience having fully evinced that the price of land (especially above the falls of the rivers and on the western waters) having been progressively rising and cannot long be checked in its increasing value. And particularly I recommend it to such of the legatees, under this clause of my will, as can make it convenient to take each a share of my stock in the Potomac company, in preference to the amount of what it might fall for; being thoroughly convinced myself, that no sales to which the money can be applied, will be so productive as the tolls arising from this navigation when in full operation, (and this from the nature of things it must be ere long) and more especially that of the Shenandoah is added thereto. The family Vault at Mount Vernon, requiring repairs, and being too properly situated besides, I desire that a new one of brick and upon a larger scale, may be built at the foot of what is commonly called the Vineyard enclosure, on the ground which is marked out—in which my remains, with those of my deceased relations, now in the old vault, and such others of my family as may choose to be entombed there, may be deposited.—And it is my express desire, that my corpse may be interred in a private

manner, without parade or funeral oration. Lastly, I constitute and appoint my dearly beloved wife Martha Washington, my nephews William Augustine Washington, Buford Washington, George Steptoe Washington, Samuel Washington, and Lawrence Lewis, and my ward George Washington Parke Cullis, (when he shall have arrived at the age of twenty years) executors and executors of this WILL & TESTAMENT.—In the construction of which, it will readily be perceived that no professional character has been consulted, or has had any agency in the draught, and that although it has occupied many of my leisure hours to digest, and to throw it into its present form, it may notwithstanding appear crude and incorrect, but having endeavored to be plain and explicit in all the divises, even at the expence of prolixity, perhaps of tautology, I hope and trust that no disputes will arise concerning them; but if, contrary to expectation, the case should be otherwise from the want of legal expression, or the usual technical terms, or because too much or too little has been said on any of the divises to be consonant with law, MY WILL and DIRECTION expressly is, that all disputes (if unhappily any should arise) shall be decided by three impartial and intelligent men, known for their probity and good understanding, two to be chosen by the disputants, each having the choice of one, and the third by those two—which three men thus chosen shall, unfettered by law or legal constructions, declare the sense of the testator's intentions; and such decision is, to all intents and purposes, to be as binding on the parties as if it had been given in the supreme court of the United States. IN WITNESS whereof, and of each of the things therein contained, I have set my hand and seal, this ninth day of July, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety— and of the Independence of the United States the twenty fourth. GEORGE WASHINGTON. It appears the testator omitted the word "NINE." BALTIMORE, Feb. 10. The following is a more detailed and particular narrative of the action between the American ship Washington of 15 guns, and a French privateer of 30, than has yet been published. It is written by a gentleman of this town, who was passenger on board, and handed us by a friend for publication. As it sets the valor of American seamen in a proper point of view, it will no doubt notwithstanding its length, be acceptable to our readers. Fed. Gaz. Extract of a letter from a gentleman passenger on board the ship Washington, captain Williams, dated Lisbon, Nov. 7, '99. "On the 24th ultimo, in lat. 48, 30, N. Long. 8, 50, W. we at day break discovered a sail at considerable distance stern of us; in a short time we clearly saw that she gained on us fast, and that the had every appearance of an armed ship of very considerable force; at half past 6 o'clock, orders were given for all hands to quarters, and every preparation was made for an engagement, which were executed by the crew with the utmost possible exertions of many courage and alacrity; during this time she came up near as far as to discover every proof of her being a French privateer. At this crisis the manoeuvred a little by sternly taking in and setting sail, as though she doubted whether an attack on us would be prudent—at nine o'clock, we saw her crowd sail and appearing determined to make up to us, we shortened sail in order that she might reach us & decide our fate, which, on their perceiving, they fired a gun to leeward and showed French colors; we instantly returned her fire and hoisted a French ensign; she then fired a shot at us, which fell short of our starboard quarter; we immediately downed with the French and up with the American colors, and fired a shot at her; she then hauled to windward a little and stood on a few minutes, when she bore down on our larboard side obliquely, so as to be in a position to give us a broadside—and when she got within two ships length of us, (at 10 o'clock) the action commenced, when both ships discharged their whole broadsides, and continued a tremendous

fight; she, in the course of a few minutes, came within pistol shot of us, and kept up a brisk & considerable fire of musquetry from the quarter deck and tops, which we returned to the best of our abilities from our quarter deck. On this side (the larboard) we had three long twelve pounders between our fore-mast and bow, one do. in the larboard main cabin, & 8 twenty-four pound carronades on the gun deck; of the latter, the principal part upset in recoiling, in consequence of the plan of the carriages, they were on—however, we continued a well directed firing with the remainder (that could be brought to bear, as well as a small quantity of musquetry, for about half an hour, during which time our colors were shot down, but instantly re-hoisted on discovery. She now thought proper to change her situation, and dropped stern of us, still keeping up a brisk firing; when she got in that position, she raked our rigging which cut it extremely; after firing a few minutes stern of us, she came up on our starboard side within musquet shot, and broadsides were fired at each other, as well as musquetry. Again we had the great mortification to see the most part of our carronades on this side upset: thus we were obliged only to fight our remaining guns, as before noted, not being able to replace the carronades immediately, for the want of a greater number of men; however, we supported ourselves in this situation for near another half hour, when she, we conceived, made an attempt to board us, but not finding it altogether practicable, at eleven o'clock she stood off our starboard bow, to repair the damages she had received, which we perceived to be material. "We fired a few of our long twelve pounders after her, but she failed to last, that she got out of our reach.—Orders were given for all hands on the upper deck which were obeyed with the addition of three cheers; refreshments were immediately given to the men, and orders for preparations to be instantly set about, to be made for her return. The men with the greatest firmness and alacrity set about it, some to repair the rigging others to get up the carronades, a fresh supply of ammunition, &c. &c. In fact, in the course of a short time, we were in perfect order to re-engage. At twelve o'clock she changed her course to one which gave us reason to doubt her being fatished with what she had received; at half past twelve o'clock, she had got about one mile stern of us; when she put about, crowded sail and after us; and at one o'clock, she came within long shot of us, and then came upon our starboard side, but still at long shot; and the firing on both sides was tremendous for about forty minutes, during which time we made every exertion to get near to her, but as we drew up the fell off. She then came very near us, and passed our bow within pistol shot, we conceived, with an intention either to board or rake us, neither of which she did, while going round our bow she kept up a faint fire of musquetry, and when off our larboard bow, she fired a few guns at us, while we gave her the contents of all ours which could be brought to bear on her. Several of our carronades stood this time, the effects of which must undoubtedly have extremely injured her hull. At two o'clock she ran from us again, and we continued an unremitting firing while within our reach: she stood off our larboard quarter, our crippled state preventing us chasing her. We immediately, as during the previous cessation, made every repair and preparation for a third assault. In the course of an hour we discovered her making after us, and when she got within about half a mile of us, she changed her course to the S. E. and totally abandoned the idea of capturing us. We fired a few guns after her, with a view of frustrating the pirates the contained. "Thus ended a very severe engagement of two hours, which some of our men (old man of war's men) say was on our side, uncommonly well fought, and that the chance against us at the commencement was very great. "The privateer (or frigate) of our ship (she was) appeared new and clean, a beautiful mould, and an uncommon sail faster—

we are well assured that she contained from two hundred to two hundred and fifty men, and had eight guns, masts, twelve, &c. We are fully convinced that she must have been very considerably damaged, particularly in the bow. Some of our men lay feverish in their crew thrown overboard during the engagement. "Our ship (the Washington) an old Indian, about 350 tons burthen, sails tolerable fast, carries seventy men, eighteen twenty-four pound cannonals, only fifteen of which were mounted at the commencement, and the greater part of which upset, as I have noted before, eight long six pounders (one of which was not mounted) and two six pounders on the upper deck, (one of which was foul and not used) consequently we had but twenty-three guns at the commencement, and a great number of them not being in use after the first fire we cannot calculate on having more than fifteen guns during the action. We had but one man killed and two wounded; our masts, spars, sails and rigging are extremely cut and shattered by balls, double-headed shot, cannister, grape and langrage, which is composed of pieces of bar-iron, nail rods, and spikes of various sizes. It is impossible for me to describe to you the appearance of our deck after the action; it was almost covered with our rigging &c. &c. as also an astonishing quantity of the enemy's musket balls, &c. &c. as above noted. "We have received but little injury in our hull; our captain (Williamson) and the other officers, during the contest, behaved with the greatest degree of bravery, firmness and activity, as also some of my fellow passengers; and the conduct of the men, almost indiscriminately deserve the highest praise for their spirited actions, whose exertions I saw much of." Extract of another letter from the same gentleman, dated Lisbon, November 16, '99. "The detention of the Malabar gives me an opportunity to inform you, that I have just seen an extract from a letter which gives an account of a French privateer that looks like a frigate, having arrived at Corruna, about the 27th or 28th ult. in order to repair the damages which she had received from being engaged with (according to their accounts) an American ship of twenty guns and fifty men, but that they found it totally impracticable to capture her, after laying along side of her four hours. This privateer is called the Bellona, out of Bourdeaux, containing thirty guns (of the sizes I have wrote to you) and upwards of two hundred men. They acknowledged that they had thirty men killed, and many wounded, also that their hull is extremely pierced, cut and shattered. "Those accounts, perfectly correspond with the conceptions we had of the privateer with which we had the engagement on the 24th ult. If so, I will leave you to judge of our conduct in that action, as I hope you are in possession of the details from me, which I assure you correct, and as committed in my note book the day after the action." TO BE SOLD, On Saturday, the 15th instant, AS SHE now lies trailed on AERON, Inlet, the schooner Blasco, with all her tackle, and apparel: An Inventory may be seen at the Auctioneers counting room. JOHN MACLELLAN. March 6. NOTICE, THE Copartnership of Deem and Lowder, being by mutual consent this day dissolved. All persons indebted to the same, are requested to make payment to Joseph Dean, who will pay the debts due from the said firm. If Business will be carried on in the place they occupied by Joseph Dean in the same manner as formerly. JOSEPH DEAN. SAMUEL LOWDER. N. B. As Samuel Lowder will leave this state in a short time, he requests those indebted to him to make payment, or they will be liable to his friends. SAMUEL LOWDER. February 27.