

**K** NOW all MEN by  
these PRESENTS, that we *Presly Spruance*  
*and David Griffin*

of the County of *Kent*, are held and firmly bound unto the *Delaware State*, in the Sum  
of *Two thousand Pounds* current Money of the  
said State; unto which Payment well and truly to be made unto the said State, We do  
bind ourselves, our Heirs, Executors and Administrators, firmly by these Presents. Sealed  
with our Seals, and dated at *Dover*, in *Kent* aforesaid, this *17<sup>th</sup>*  
Day of *October* in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred  
and *Eighty Seven 1787*.

**T**HE Condition of this Obligation is  
such, That if the above bounden *Presly Spruance* Sole Exe:  
cutor named and appointed in the Testament of  
*Last will of John Spruance Sen. deceased*  
Administrator *do* call and singular the Goods and Chattels, Rights and Credits  
*deceased*, do make,

or cause to be made, a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the said Goods and  
Chattels, Rights and Credits, of the said deceased, which have or shall come to the Hands,  
Possession or Knowledge of the said *Presly Spruance*  
or unto the Hands or Possession of any person or persons, for *him*  
and the same so made, do exhibit, or cause to be exhibited, unto the Register's Office of  
the county of *Kent* aforesaid, at or before the *17<sup>th</sup>* day of  
*April* next ensuing the date hereof, and the same Goods  
and Chattels, Rights and Credits, of the said deceased, at the time of *his* death; or  
which at any time after shall come to the Hands or Possession of the aforesaid *Presly*  
*Spruance* or into the Hands or the Possession  
of any other person or persons, for *him* do well and truly administer  
according to Law; and further do make, or cause to be made, a true and just Account of  
*his* *Executorship* Administration, at or before the  
*17<sup>th</sup>* day of *October* which shall fall in the  
Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and *Eighty Eight*. and all  
the Rest and Residue of the said Goods and Chattels, Rights and Credits, which shall be  
found remaining upon the said *Administrators* Account, the same being first examined  
and allowed of by the Orphans Court of *Kent* county aforesaid, shall deliver and pay  
unto such person or persons respectively, as the said Orphans Court, by their Decree or  
Sentence, pursuant to the true Intent and Meaning of ~~this~~ shall limit and  
appoint. And if it shall hereafter appear, that any ~~last will and Testament~~ was  
made by the ~~deceased~~, and the Executor or Executors therein named, do exhibit the  
same in the Register's Office, making Request to have it allowed and approved accord-  
ingly; if the said

within bounden, being thereunto required, do surrender and deliver up the said Letters  
of Administration (Approbation of such Testament being first had and made in the  
Register's Office) then this Obligation to be void, and of none Effect, or else remain in  
full Force and Virtue.

Sealed and Delivered in

*Presley Spruance* 

\* The  
Testator  
and  
will  
the  
Spru

In the Name of God amen, I John Spruance of Duck Creek Hundred  
Kent County on Delaware being weak in Body, but of sound mind &  
understanding, but considering the uncertainty of this transitory Life,  
do make publish and declare this my last Will and Testament  
in manner and form following, to wit

First, I give and devise unto my Son John Spruance, his Six  
Children, vizt Henry, John, Mary, Presley, William & Penunia  
Spruance, all that plantation, Tract or parcel of Land & Premises  
whereon William Gray now dwells, lying & being in Duck Creek  
Hundred in the County aforesaid, and on a Branch called  
Frenchman's Branch, containing by estimation Two Hundred  
& thirty Acres of Land, to be equally divided between them the  
aforesaid Heirs, John, Mary, Presley, William & Penunia, to them  
their Heirs & Assigns, Share & Share alike, as they respectively arrive  
at Lawful age, And further my Will is, that my Son Presley Spruance  
shall have the Renting & receiving the Rents of the above said Land &  
Premises, untill the eldest of said Children arrive at Lawful age &  
then to have the Renting only of five Shares, and soon till the above  
Named other Children arrive at Lawful age, to possess their & each of  
their respective Shares, as above devised, And my Son Presley to  
pay into the hands of the Guardian or Guardians of my said Son  
John Spruance & Child, & Children as above named, the Rent or Rents  
as they become due for said Tract of Land share & Share alike  
(first deducting ten per Cent) for or towards supporting said Child

Item I give and devise unto my Daughter Elizabeth David, to her,  
Her Heirs, and Assigns forever, all that Tract or parcel of Land  
and Premises lying and being in Duck Creek Hundred and  
County aforesaid, and on a Branch called Frenchman's Branch  
which land I purchased from the Heirs of a certain James  
Steel, containing about One Hundred and forty Nine Acres

Item I give and devise unto my Daughter Susannah Larson, to her,  
Her Heirs and Assigns Forever, all that plantation, Tracts or  
parcel of Land and Premises, which I purchased of a certain  
Richard Burrows and James Ford, lying & being in Duck  
Creek hundred & County aforesaid and now in the tenor  
of William Watkins, being part of Lands formerly sold by  
Joseph Galloway to William Bostick and Richard Burrows  
containing about One hundred and seventeen Acres

Item I give and devise unto my Daughter Penunia Grayson  
and her Heirs and Assigns forever, all that tract plantation or parcel  
of Land and Marsh, lying and being in Duck Creek Hundred

Seventy acres of the Land on which I now dwell, to begin at a corner Black Oak, standing at or near the Entrance of my Lane being a Corner, of Parsons, Knocks and my own land, and to run from thence up said lane, so far, as by running across my outside field, lying south east of my dwelling house, on or nearly on, a parallel Line with the outside Line of said field, so as to make Twenty five Acres of cleared Land, and Twenty five Acres of Woodland, adjoining the said cleared Land, and next to Griffin's and Parsons Land, to hold the said seventy Acres to her, her Heirs and Assigns forever.

Item My Will is that all my Negroes Slaves, both Male and Female, who shall be entitled unto at the time of my decease, as well <sup>those</sup> in my own possession, as those in the possession of my Son Griffley, and my Daughters Elizabeth, Pisanna, and Semima, shall be fully and absolutely free at the time of my decease, & those under lawful age, to remain under the direction of those with whom dwell, till they respectively arrive at lawful age.

Item I give and devise unto my Son Griffley Spruance, all the rest, residue and remainder of the aforesaid plantation, or parcel of Land and premises, whereon I now dwell, lying and being in Duck Creek hundred & County aforesaid, to have the same to him, for and during the term of his natural life he paying to my daughter Elizabeth David, One hundred fifty Pounds Lawful Money of this Government, Fifty Pounds thereof to be paid in Six Months after my decease, the remaining one hundred Pounds in Eighteen Months after my decease, Also that he the said Griffley Spruance pay unto my said Daughter Pisanna Parsons, Two hundred and fifty Pounds Lawful Money aforesaid, Fifty Pounds thereof to be paid in One Year after my decease, and Fifty Pounds annually afterwards, untill the whole sum of two hundred & fifty Pounds be paid. Also that the said Son Griffley Spruance pay to my said Daughter Semima Griffin, One hundred & fifty Pounds Lawful Money aforesaid, fifty Pounds thereof to be paid in One Year after my decease, and fifty Pounds annu-

above devised to my Son Joseph during his natural life, to hold  
them the said John & Daniel Sprounce their Heirs & Assigns  
from and after the decease of their said Father Joseph Sprounce  
& Remnants in Common - subject to the payment of all such  
parts of the Legacies, charged upon this part of Land, as shall  
become due after the decease of the decease of the said Joseph  
Sprounce; if the said Joseph Sprounce should die before  
the whole become due in manner aforementioned.

My. All the Best Residue and Remainder of my Estate  
both Real and personal whatsover, not before disposed of  
I give and devise unto my Son Joseph Sprounce his  
Heirs & Assigns forever. And I hereby nominate and  
appoint my said Son Joseph Sprounce Executor of this my  
last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all former Will and  
Wills hereto fore by me made, In witness whereof I have  
hereunto set my hand and Seal this Eleventh day of  
May - in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven  
Hundred & Eighty Seven

Read Sealed published and declared John <sup>his</sup> Sprounce   
the above said ~~Sprounce~~ <sup>Sprounce</sup>

at Will and Testament in the presence  
us, who have hereunto subscribed our  
names as Witnesses thereunto in the presence  
the said Testator & at his request and  
the presence of each other -

Robert Holliday  
John Cogill  
Henry Cogill

proved on affirmations by Rob<sup>o</sup> Holliday and John Cogill  
this 13<sup>th</sup> day of Oct<sup>r</sup> 1727. T. R.