

Will of Henery GAY of Rockbridge Co., VA, 16Jan1779, proved 6Apr1779  
with its proof, and the executor's bond  
transcribed (RMM) from photocopy of RockbridgeCoVA Probate:1:46-48 (on FHL film 33748)

Will, Henry Gay deceased, Examined [*marginal caption*]

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN 16Jan1779:

I **Henery Gay** being sick in body but a good and perfect memory, thanks be to Almighty God, and calling to remembrance the uncertain estate of this transitory life and that 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 all my sins, most humbly desiring forgiveness for the same, I recommend my soul unto Almighty God, my Saviour and Redeemer, in whom and by whose Visits, I trust and believe assuredly to be saved, and 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 executors hereafter named.

And for the settling my temporal estate and such goods, chattels, and debts as it hath pleased God to bestow upon me, I do order, will, and dispose the same in manner and form following that is to say:

- IMPRIMIS, I give and bequeath to my grandson **Henery Gay** 250a of land by way of entail, joining lines with Robert Lockridge, and £14 in money—and this is his money that is in my hands.
- I will and bequeath to my dearly beloved wife, **Marthew Gay**, the land on which I now live on, from the line of my grandson's Place to [a] black walnut at the mountain, and to run a straight line across the bottom to an ash on the bank of the river, and from thence a straight course to the side line; also a negro wench and child, and, at the decease of my wife, the land is to fall into the hands of my daughter **Sary Gay**, to her and her heirs forever, and to live on the place while single.
- Also, I allow the price of the land sold to ma [*sic*] **Cage Smith** to pay all lawful demands that shall come against the estate and legacies
- I will and bequeath to my son-in-law **John Freasher**, the land from the black walnut before mentioned to **James Freashers** line—to him and his heirs forever—and £3 to his son **James Fresher**.
- I will and bequeath to my grandson **John Thompson** the price of the land I sold to **Thomas Davis** which is £50.
- I likewise will and bequeath to my son-in-law **John Gay**, £17 cash, which is his full share.
- I leave and bequeath to my daughter **Ann**, £5 as an acknowledgement, [as] having received her equal share before.
- I leave and bequeath to my daughter **Marthew** £5 for an acknowledgement as having received her equal share before, like her three Children £5 apiece: **Mary**, **Ann**, [and] **Marthew**.
- I will and bequeath to my grandson **David Moor** £20 in cash.
- I leave and bequeath to my daughter **Rebecka** £20.
- I likewise leave and bequeath to my granddaughter **Marthew Glispee** in case she lives with her grandmother until of age, £10.
- Likewise the remainder of my moveable estate, with the wench and child before mentioned, I allow to be at my wife's disposal at her death.

- I also allow all my clothes and cloth unmade up to my grandson **Henery Gay**.
- I leave my wife and my son-in-law **John Freasher** to be the executors of my estate.

I do hereby acknowledge this to be my last will and testament, disanulling all other wills, either by word or writing AS WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL the day and year above mentioned.

**Henery Gay** [*seal*]

Witnesses Present:

**Robert Lockridge**

**James Crockett**

**John Frazer**

At a court held for Rockbridge County 6Apr1779:

This last will and testament of **Henery Gay deceased** was presented in court by **Martha Gay** and **John Frazer**, the executors therein named, and proved by the oaths of **Robert Lockridge**, and **James Crockett**, subscribing witnesses and ordered to be recorded.

And on the motion of his executors who made oath according to law, certificate is granted them for obtaining probate thereof in due form, giving security whereupon they, together with **James Crockett** and **Robert Lockridge**, their securities, entered into and acknowledged their bond in the penalty of £5000 with condition required by law.

Teste

Andrew Reid Clk

Henry Gay deceased, Executrix & Executor Bond, Examined [*marginal caption*]

Know all men by these presents that we **Martha Gay, John Frazer, Robert Lockridge, and James Crockett**, are held and firmly bound unto **John Bowyer, Sam[ue]l McDowell, John Lyle, John Gilmore, Dav[i]d Gray, Joseph Moore, and John Gay**, Gentlemen Justices of the Court of Rockbridge County now sitting, in the Sum of £5000 current money of Virginia, to the payment whereof, well and truly to be made to the said Justices and their successors, we bind ourselves and each of us, our and each of our heirs, executors, and assigns, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

Sealed with our seals this 6Apr1779, and in the third year of the Commonwealth.

THE CONDITION OF THIS OBLIGATION is such that if the above bound **Martha Gay**, Executrix, and **John Frazer**, Executor, of the last will and testament of **Henry Gay deceased**, do make or cause to be made a true and perfect inventory of all and singular the goods, chattels, and credits of the said deceased, which have or shall come to the hands, possession, or knowledge of the said **Martha Gay** and **John Frazer**, or into the hands and possession of any other person for them, and the same so made, do exhibit into the County Court of Rockbridge, at such time as they shall be thereunto required by the said Court of the same goods, chattels, and credits, and all other goods, chattels, and credits of the said deceased which at any time after shall come to the hands or the possession of the said **Martha Gay** and **John Frazer**, or into the hands and possession of any other person or persons for them, do well & truly administer according to law, and farther do make a just and true account of their actions and doings therein, when thereto required by the said Court, and also shall well and truly pay the heirs all the legacies contained and specified in the said testament, as far as the said goods, chattels, and credits will thereunto extend, and the law charge, THEN THIS OBLIGATION TO BE VOID or else to remain in full force & virtue.

**Martha Gay** [*mark & seal*]  
**John Frazer** [*seal*]

Sealed and delivered in presence of:

**James Crockett** [*seal*]  
**Robert Lockridge** [*seal*]

At a Court held for Rockbridge County 6Apr1779:

**Martha Gay, John Frazer, Robert Lockridge, and James Crockett** acknowledged this their bond for the executorship of the estate of **Henry Gay deceased**, which is ordered to be recorded.

Test Andrew Reid

Inventory, Estate of Henery GAY of Rockbridge Co.,VA, 1May1779  
transcribed (REM) from photocopy of RockbridgeCoVA Probate:1:52 (on FHL film 33748)

Henry Gay deceased, Inventory Estate, Examined [*marginal caption*]

The appraisement of the estate of **Henery Gay deceased**

	£/s/d
	<i>[VA pounds, shillings, &amp; pence]</i>
Sheep £27, 1 brindled cow & calf £23.....	50/00/00
1 black cow and calf £20, 1 flecked [cow] & calf £22....	42
1 black cow & calf £16, 1 bull £18, 1 black cow £16.....	50
1 flecked cow £14, 7 young cattle £30.....	44
1 sorrel mare and colt £70, 1 sorrel [Colt] £70.....	140
1 black mare £45, 1 bay [mare] £100.....	145
1 negro wench and Cchild.....	300
Ccrn £15, wheat £40, oats, and buckwheat £8.....	63
dresser furniture and other articles.....	35
pots and pothooks £15, guns £4.....	19
iron tools £29, 1 crosscut saw £4, bells £4.....	37
saddles £5/10, wheel & tackle £14/10.....	20
sickles £3/5, 1 grindstone £3.....	6/5
beehives £7, set of plow irons and hingings £20.....	27
1 Dutch scythe 25s, vessels £10.....	11/5
leather £11, hogs £12.....	23
1 man's saddle £25, raw hides £5.....	30
1 feather bed and bedding.....	60
1 shelf bed.....	7
1 bed £8, wool £11.....	19
1 woman's saddle & bridle.....	20
gray cloth.....	27
body clothes.....	22
1 [French?] & chest.....	8
flax 30s, bags 70s.....	8
cash.....	21/19/6
cash.....	25
bonds.....	70
1 note.....	10
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	£1340/9/6

*[The total value of Henry's personal estate, £1340/9/6, comes to about \$40,000 in 2009 US\$]*

It being duly appraised this 1May1779:

**James Poage, Henr\* Danla\*\* , John Dunlap**

To be paid out [of] the estate, [£]76/10

At a Court held for Rockbridge County 4May1779:

This inventory and appraisement of the estate of **Henery Gay deceased** was this day returned, which is ordered to be recorded.

Test: Andrew Reid Clk