Will of Mary Rowland – 17 December 1789

(Henry County Will Book 1 page 215 – FSL #7898570-137 - Hairston.org)

To all to whom these Presents shall come know ye that I Mary Rowland of Henry County, now in my perfect senses and memory. Notwithstanding my said will & testament which is recorded in the county court aforesaid in the execution of which it was stipulated and agreed that provided I myself whose hand & seal is hereunto persist & subscribed should at any time in my natural life think proper to revoke or disallow any part of such last will and testament that such revoking or disallowing should stand good and effectual in law. Now so it is upon mature deliberation I do hereby revoke and disallow of so much of my last Will and Testament as shall enslave two negroes to wit Will & Betty his wife after my decease, but in every respect to receive emancipation forever from any of my heirs or legatees claiming or holding them the said Will and Betty in slavery & the said negroes as aforesaid and hereby accordingly emancipate according to law as above said it is further my request and demand of my heirs that should the said negroes or either of them survive after my decease that they have out of my estate one fourth part of the dead provisions on hand to support them also a cow & a sow. Also, the mare I have now in possession, except her present being in foal which if it comes to maturity is the emolument of my granddaughter **Lucy Ryan**. Also, the said negroes are to receive and possess the choice of the iron working tools I now possess now to the end that due justice may be to the slaves above named in the premises aforesaid. I do hereby constitute and appoint George Reeves & William Turner my true and lawful attorneys touching the premises aforesaid to act and do everything that may or can be lawfully done touching the same. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affix my seal this 17th day of December 1789

<div style="text-align:center">Mary Rowland (her mark)</div>

Signed Sealed & Delivered in presence of

John Solmen and L. S. John Reed