

William Kears  
Father of Mary Kears Breeland

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No Picture Available

Born: 1746

Married: Elizabeth McMilan

Died: 14 Sep 1838 Barnwell, SC

Parents: Hans George Kersh & Barsheba Unknown

## WILL OF

WILLIAM KEARSE

In the name of God amen- I William Kearsse of Barnwell District in the state of South Carolina, considering the uncertainty of of this mortal life; and being of sound and disposing mind, memory and understanding; Thanks be to Almighty God for the same; do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

Item 1st. I give, bequeath and devise unto my beloved wife Elizabeth the following named Negroes (to wit) Flora, Betty.. David, Richard, Nelson, Stephen and Phillis, To have and to hold the said seven above named Negro slaves from the day of my death, during the time she shall remain my widow

I also give and devise unto my beloved wife Elizabeth Two Hundred acres of land, One Hundred acres of which to be the land I purchased from Joseph Brabham, adjoining the Land on which my dwelling house is erected, and the other One Hundred acres to be admeasured from the tract on which my dwelling House stands, and adjoining the one Hundred acres above mentioned, in such form as to enclose my dwelling House and all the out buildings appertaining thereunto, and to have such forms and shapes as my wife Elizabeth may hereafter direct; To have and to hold the said Two Hundred acres of land, together with all and singular the rights, members, hereditaments and appurtenances to the said premises belonging or in any wise incident or appertaining, from the day of my death during her widowhood, Provided neverthelefs, that if my beloved wife shall intermarry after my death, that from the day of such marriage, the above negro slaves and the above described land shall be disposed of, otherwise than by sale, by my son William M. Kearsse for the benefit of his mother, my wife Elizabeth during her natural life, and after her death, to be equally divided between my seven beloved children (vir) William M. Oliver P. Miles I. Henry I. James L. John F. and Caroline H. Kearsse I also give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Elizabeth my gigg and Harnefs and the sum of Seven Hundred Dollars in cash- I also give and bequath unto my beloved wife Ten Head of good hogs for bacon, Four Stacks of fodder,

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Two Hundred Bushels corn and the entire crops of potatoes made on the plantation this year, for the mutual benefit of herself and my seven youngest children-

Item 2nd. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Mary the wife of William Breland two negro slaves named Winney Elizer

Item 3rd. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Nancy the wife of James Breland Two negro slaves named Esther & Mary Ann

Item 4th I give and bequath unto my daughter Sarah the wife of Martin Williams two negro slaves named Mary & Lorra

Item 5th I give and bequeath unto my daughter Harriet the wife of William G. Williams two negro slaves named Molley & Dorcas

Item 6th I give and bequeath unto my son George H. Kearse Two negro slaves named Lonan & Landy

Item 7th I give and bequeath unto my son William M. Kearse Two negroes named Simon & Aggy and one Horse named meddler and saddle & bridle-

Item 8th I give and bequeath unto my son Oliver P. Kearse Two negro slaves named Sylva & Lotsey Ann, and one Horse called young Fanny, and saddle and bridle-

Item 9th I give and bequeath unto my son Miles I Kearse Two negro slaves named, Abram & Margaret, and one Horse called Malock and saddle & bridle-

Item 10th I give unto my son Henry I, Kearse Two negro slaves named Gilbert & Anna-

Item 11th I give and bequeath unto my son James L, Kearse Two negro slaves named named Hannah & Jeff-

Item 12th I give and bequeath unto my son John F Kearse Two negro slaves named Silas & Rivan-

Item 13th I give and bequeath unto my daughter Caroline H. Kearse Two negro slaves named Clary & Christianna-

Item 14th All the remainder and residue of my personal Estate of what kind or name soever it may be, I desire to be sold at public auction and the money arising from the sale thereof, after paying all my Just debts, and after paying my beloved wife Elizabeth the sum of seven Hundred Dollars, as before directed, to be equally divided among all my children-

Item 15th All my real Estate, not otherwise disposed of, I give

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bequeath and, devise unto my six youngest sons to be equally divided among them, provided nevertheless that if either of my seven youngest children should die leaving neither widow nor child then his or her part shall be equally divided among the surviving children of my wife Elizabeth

Item 16th My will and desire is, that the education as well as the property of my youngest children should be under the control and management of my son William M Kearsse until they severally shall arrive to twenty one years of age or shall marry

Item 17th And I do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint my said wife Elizabeth and my son William M Kearsse Executrix and Executor of this my last will and Testament; hereby revoking and making void all former wills and testaments at any time heretofore by me made; and do declare this to be my last will and testament- In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Eleventh day of August in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Eight

Signed, sealed, published and declared <sup>his</sup> William Kearsse <sup>L S</sup> mark  
by the Testator William Kearsse in presence

of us who have hereunto set our hands in the presence of the said Testator and in presence of each other; the day and year above written

George Kirkland

Williams McMillan

H Moore

Recorded in Will Book "C", Page 212.

Recorded September 14, 1838.

Orsamus D. Allen, Ordinary Barnwell District.

Bundle 71, Package 12.



No Picture Available

Born: 1710/20 Zuzenhausen, Germany

Married: Barsheba Unknown

Died: Unknown

Parents: Unknown

Occupation:

Farmer (assumed)

Family:

Wife:

Barsheba Unknown

Children:

Godfrey

Andrew

Konrad

David

John

Mary

William

Jacob

Evidence obtained to date indicates that Hans George KERSH (Kirsh, Kirsch, Kerce) was born in Zuzenhausen, Baden, Heidelberg, Germany about 1710. Several sources verify that he received approval from the Karlsruhe, Germany office in 1744 to emigrate, with his wife and 6 children.

\*Hans George Kersh received a land grant in 1749 for 250 acres, located in Saxe Gotha Township.

<http://www.ogsgs.org/origin.htm>

In 1744, Mr. John George Kersh left Germany for his new home South Carolina. With him were his sons Godfrey, Andrew, Conrad, John George, Jacob, (and others). In 1749, King George II awarded a 250 acre land grant to Mr. Kersh in Saxe-Gotha (present Lexington Co., S.C.), near Charleston. The Kersh family built a plantation home at "Chalk Hill" (Sandy Run), in present Calhoun County, and became prominent citizens in the community.

<http://www.deuteronomyandmary.com/getperson.php?personID=I1198&tree=harriatki>



**Lately arrived**  
 in this Harbour, the  
 Ship *St Andrew* Ro-  
 bert Brown Master,  
 from *Rotterdam*, with  
 300 **PALATINES**,  
 amongst which are  
 several Tradetmen and Farmers, also a  
 great Number of young Men and Maids,  
 the greatest part are indebted for their  
 Passage and are willing to serve any Per-  
 son inclinable to purchase their Time.  
 Enquire further on board the said Ship  
 or of **Mackenzie & Rocks.**

Above article is from "The South Carolina Gazette" dated Monday, 7 January 1745. The ship, Andrew, arrived in Charleston, SC, on 31 December 1744, Captain Brown Master. It is reported that the captain, in effect, forced the German immigrants to land in Charleston rather than in Philadelphia due to being chased by French privateers.

From Brentwood's Petitions For Land from *South Carolina Council Journals* 1745 we find:  
 24 Jan 1744/5:

Read the petition of a considerable number of Protestant Palatines, most humbly showing that the poor petitioners have been on board the St. Andrew's, Captain Brown commander, these twenty-six weeks past, and there is as yet no likelihood for them to get free of her, because there are none of us yet who have purchased their service; they therefore humbly pray his Excellency and Honors that they may find so much favor as to their passages that a sum equivalent to discharge the same be raised by the government, for which they promise to join in a bond to repay the same within the term of three years, with lawful interest; and that if any of them shall not be able to pay the above sum within that time, that the government in that case shall have full power to dispose of them and their families as they shall think proper, &c. Ordered to make investigations and report.

Partial passenger list, as reconstructed from petitions for land in the *SC Council Journals*. Lists shows location of land and acres of land granted (headright grant of 50 acres per person). In some cases, the person who purchased their services.

- George Kirch/Kirsh [of Zuzenhausen, Germany], wife, 6 children (3 in service), 250, Orangeburgh, 26 Feb 1744/5 Son John Conrade Kiersh, served George Nicholas (man who purchased their services), 50, near father at Congarees, 6 Aug 1751

Information above from online research at: <http://www.progenealogists.com/palproject/sc/1744standrew.htm>

No further information is known on the Kears (Kersh) line