

In the name of God Amen, I Stephen Cooper of the Parish of St. James in the County of
 Charlotte being in perfect health and of sound mind & memory (praised be the Almighty
 God) but knowing the certainty of Death and the uncertainty of Time and the
 disputes which might arise after my Death, concerning my Estate which God hath
 been pleased to bless me with, I do make & Ordain this my last Will & Testament in
 manner and form following — In presence I most Humbly offer up my soul to Almighty
 God hoping thro' the intercession of my ever blessed Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ to obtain
 Pardon for all my ^{past} sins & griefs my body I desire may be Decently ordered at the
 Discretion of my Executors & Executors hereafter named, and after Just Debts & Funeral
 Charges are paid thereon The Remainder of my Estate I give as followeth, I do give
 & bequeath to my beloved wife Francis Bedford the use & power of my Negroes viz^t Hannah &
 Peggy, Bette, & Pate, during her life and at her Death to Return to the Child my
 beloved Wife is now with Child with, my Will & Desire is that the said Child my beloved
 Wife now gone with should have the increase of two Negroes to wit, Bette & Pate to be delivered
 to the said Child when it comes of age or married, I give & bequeath to the said Child a
 Tract of Land containing three hundred & 40 Acres, the same being the same
 I bought of Saml. Perkin

Bought of Saml. Perkins

Tract of Land containing three hundred & thirteen acres be the same mine or less when the said Child comes of age or marries I give and bequeath to the said Child one horse & saddle

The Value of Twenty pounds current money of Virginia Three coats & hats one feather bed &

Furniture when the said Child comes of age or marries, My Will & Desire is that if the said

Child should die without lawful Issue that all that I have given the said Child, ^{should} be equally

Divided between all my Children then living, I am I give & bequeath to my son Robert Bedford,

The Tract of Land whereon I now live I give and bequeath forever, my Will & Desire is that my

Living Wife Frances Bedford shall peacefully enjoy one third part of the Land whereon I now live

and if it should happen that my son Robert and my living Wife Frances should disagree

and not be willing to live Together then it is my Will & Desire that my son Robert should at

his own Cost & expense, ^{cause to be Built} a Dwelling house and other out houses necessary for his said Mother

agreeable to her desire, and if my son Robert shall Refuse to provide such necessary buildings for

his Mother when by her required then my Will & Desire is that my beloved Wife shall peacefully

enjoy the house where I now live without the least interruption or hindrance of him my son

Robert or any other person what so ever during her life My Will & Desire is that my beloved

Wife shall peacefully enjoy all my Household furniture, Together with my stock of cattle

tools & horses as I now have

Provision when the said Child comes of age or marries, My Will & Desire is that if the said
Child should die without lawful Issue that all that I have given the said Child ^{should} be equally

Divided between all my Children then living, Item I give the quarter to my son Robert Bedford,
the Tract of Land whereon I now live I give him and his heirs forever, my Will & Desire is that my
Living Wife Frances Bedford shall peacefully enjoy one third part of the Land whereon I now live
and if it should happen that my son Robert and my living Wife Frances should disagree

and not be willing to live Together then it is my Will & Desire that my son Robert should at
his own Cost & expense, a Dwellinghouse and other necessary necessary for his said Mother

agreeable to her desire, and if my son Robert shall Refuse to provide such necessary dwellings for
his Mother when by her required then my Will & Desire is that my beloved Wife shall peacefully
enjoy, the house where I now live, without the least interruption or hindrance of him my son
Robert or any other person or persons during her life My Will & Desire is that my beloved

Wife shall peacefully enjoy all my Household furniture, Together with my stock of cattle,
tools, & Hogs, all but what I shall hereafter Will away, Item I give the quarter to my son

Robert Bedford, three Negroes to wit, Christian, Ned & Sampson To him & his heirs forever, Also I
give to my son Robert my Virginia made Smith bar Gun & my Musket & Powder, one pair of

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And I am to have this last for ever, Item I give My dear Son an Aunting Dick, Three
Cows & Horses, one horse & Saddle of Twenty pounds Value, when this last for ever,
Item I give and bequeath to my Daughter Rebecca Bedford Three Negroes named, Sally, Molly & Bob,
each one of the Value of Twenty pounds Current money Three Cows & Horses one feather bed
& furniture to be delivered to my said Daughter Rebecca when of age or married to her this last
for ever, Item I give & bequeath to my Daughter Sally Bedford, Three Negroes named, Bonto,
Fid, & Frank, one horse & Saddle of the Value of Twenty pounds Current money of Virginia Three
Cows & Horses one feather bed & furniture to be delivered to my Daughter Sally when of age or
married to her & her heirs for ever, Item I give & bequeath to my Daughter Frances Bedford Three
Negroes named great Will & little Will & Jude, one horse & Saddle of the Value of Twenty pounds,
Current money of Virginia one Feather bed & furniture, Three Cows & Horses to be delivered to my
said Daughter Frances when of age or married to her and ^{her} heirs for ever. And lastly my Will
& Desire is that after the Death of my beloved Wife all the moveable Estate I have not Will'd
Away may be equally divided among my Children then living. — I do constitute &
Appoint my loving wife Frances Bedford, and my friend Sherwood Watson, and my brother
Thomas Bedford, and my friend Joseph Parson to be Executors & Executors of this my last Will
& Testament.

Thomas Bedford, and my friends Joseph Pearson, his Executors & Executors of this my last Will
& Testament Quashing all former Wills by me made, do Witness my hand this fourth day of
June, one thousand seven hundred & twenty two,

Stephen Bedford. L.S.

signed, sealed, in the presence of us, Robert Walton, Sherwood Pearson, John Sullivan,

At a Court held for Charlotte County the third day of May 1773.

The above written last Will & Testament of Stephen Bedford ^{Bedford} was exhibited in Court by Francis
Bedford, Sherwood Walton, Thomas, the Executors & Executors herein named & the
same was proved by the oaths of Robert Walton, Sherwood Pearson & John Sullivan the three ^{of the} Witnesses
thereunto subscribed to be the Act & Deed of the said Stephen Bedford dec'd & ordered by the Court upon the
motion of the said Executors & Executors who made oath according to Law. Certificate for obtaining a
Probate of the said Will in due form is granted them, they giving Security thereupon they
together with Matthew Flannery, Thomas Flannery, Jost Town, & James Watkins, their Sureties
entered into and acknowledged their bond according to Law for that purpose, reserving Liberty to
Joseph Pearson the other executor herein named to sue in the probate thereof when he shall think

for
E.C.

Truly Ours
J.P.

Teste.

Thos. Read

Thomas Read. Ch.