

At a Court held in said County on the  
10<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1868. The foregoing will was presented in Court  
proved by the Oaths of the subscribing witnesses <sup>New Kent County Wills, Vol. I,  
1864-1867  
www.virginiapioneers.net</sup>  
Easter and Robt A. Easter and ordered to be recorded  
Heard

I James Stamper of the County of Northern being at  
this time in perfect health sound & disposing mind  
do hereby certify this writing as and for my true  
last will & testament. I leave unto my kind and affection-  
ate wife Martha Stamper during her life or as long as  
she remains my widow, every thing that I may die  
possessed of, except what I shall herein after otherwise  
dispose of, This was interest & profits of which is to be applied  
to the support of herself & all my children & for the edu-  
cation of my three youngest children.

At the marriage of my daughter Octavia E. as her name  
is registered in my family Bible to Betty as she calls herself  
I leave her the following servants to wit: Nancy & her two children  
Eliza & Isaac, as also any child or children Nancy may have  
after this date hereof, as also the increase of Eliza and a try  
serving for and during her life and at her death  
I give over as servants, & the increase to such child or  
children as she may leave or the heirs of the said

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of such child or children of hers as may have <sup>with</sup> ~~any~~ <sup>any</sup> child or children.

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At the death or marriage of my wife, I direct that the property which I have lent her shall be equally divided amongst all my children & should my daughter Betty have received the servants which I have lent her, I wish them allotted to her, as when they were worth at the time of her marriage, but not intending that she shall receive any amount that may exceed in value over one fourth of my estate, but to receive, if

their value be not equal to the amount which my other children may be entitled to; I direct that my daughter Betty shall remain with her mother & be supported according to the ability of my estate

See J. J. Ma- to do so until her marriage and should she think proper  
her audit to leave and go elsewhere to live my wife may contribute out  
some pages far of what I have lent her such an amount as she chooses  
her on new- believing that my wife will be kind & affectionate to her  
and save as the if she acts as one ought, should my daughter at the division  
of my estate receive a slave or slaves, I leave the same as before  
stated. I direct that my land shall not be sold, unless it  
should be necessary to sell some of my slaves to pay debts  
in that event I leave it discretionary with my wife, to direct  
which shall be sold, the negroes or land, should I own a share  
in the mill at the time of my death, I do not wish the copartnership  
between Mr. Talley & myself to be disturbed, but request him to  
manage it & render his share to his family such share of the  
profits as there may be, nothing to be added to his estimation of it

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manage it & render whi I like the family such share of the  
profits as they may be entitled to according to his estimation of the  
same. I direct that my estate shall be inventoried by my  
Executor but that no sale shall be made unless it shall be  
necessary to do so, to pay my debts or my wife shall think that  
she can get a living comfortably with the perishable estate.  
There may be on the farm. There more may be sold, as she  
may designate. — I direct that if any of my servants  
shall become disobedient to their mistress or act in a  
way that they may become of less value to my estate  
that they shall be forthwith disposed of & the amount  
which they may sell for shall be put to interest for  
the benefit of my wife & her children. The principal of  
the division of my estate to represent the slave or slaves so  
sold. I hereby nominate and appoint B. D. Christian Trustee  
for my daughter Betsey and request him to act as such, and  
also nominate and appoint him & R. O. Howle Executors of this  
my last will and testament.

In Testimony whereof & that the same is wholly written  
by me and in my own proper hand writing. I have hereunto  
set my hand & affixed my seal this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 1863.  
J. Stamper

West Kent County

As a Court held for said County this 1<sup>st</sup> day of  
October 1866

The foregoing writing purporting the last will and  
Testament of James Stampes deceased was presented  
in order to be proved and then being the  
subscribing witnesses Thelms, John D. Christian and  
John D. Trump were sworn and solemnly deposed  
that they were well acquainted with the hand writing  
of the Testator James Stampes and that they believed that  
the whole of the said will is in the proper hand writing  
of the Testator James Stampes decd. whereupon the said  
writing was ordered to be recorded as the true last will  
and Testament of said James Stampes deceased  
Yester                      Jas. D. Christian cl. lev.

Markwell County

At a Court of monthly session begun and  
held for said County at the Court House on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>  
day of November in the year 1868

In appearing to the satisfaction of the Court  
that the record of the will of James Stampes decd. made  
on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of October 1856 has been destroyed and  
the original of said will being this day produced  
in Court it is ordered that the same be again  
recorded -

Yester

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Pat. D. Christian cl. lev.