

Stephen Carlton Will

Elbert County, Georgia Wills 1836 to 1860

www.georgiapioneers.com

137

Georgia

Elbert County

In the name of God Amen. I Stephen Carlton of the state of Georgia and County aforesaid being of imperfect health But of perfect mind and memory. Knowing that men have to Dye and after death

the Judgment I first of all recommend my soul into the hands of God who it and my body to the dust from whence it came to be buried in decent Christian Burial. And as to the affairs of this world where as God has blessed me with a small portion of and I have a right to dispose of the same as seemeth Right to myself and By my own free will without any bribery or controlling by any person or persons contrary to my own mind. I first wish all my just debts to be paid out of my estate as I may (herein direct viz) that is after collecting all the debts that are owing to me with all legal efforts made by my Executors if there is a ballance that cant be settled otherwise they may sell off a corner of the land where they think best to settle the demands against me and after they are all settled I give and bequeath unto my Loving wife Sarah Carlton during her naterl life or widdder hood all my lands and household and kitchen furniture to free by herself as follows that is to say as the children Marry to give them in proportion with them that have married if it can be done without material injury to the maintenance of the ballance with the exception of Isom Carlton my son who have had his portion with those that have married. and at the general division of my estate those of my children that have not had any portion of my estate that is my children they are first to have as much as those that are married has had before any division takes place and my wish and will is for my daughters as they come of age till they marry to remain on my lands with their mother till they marry if they can agree and sons likewise till they marry if they can agree all while single to to worke to the advantage of the family in working the land and if they after the youngest child Sarah Carlton comes of age believe that it will be more to the advantage of the Legatier and with the consent of my wife Sarah Carlton they may sell the land and Equally divide my estate for every child of mine to Shear and Shear alike and if no division till after my wifes death all my children to Shear and Shear alike also provided they Boys shold all leave their mother and it was thought that she could not support on the Rent of the land with her own Industry and keep the children together in that case with the advise of the executor they will be authorised to sell the land and purchase a smaller place and apply the ballance of the money in the best way for her and the childrens support and at her death an equal division of the same with all my children as above stated and I

Appoint my son Hiram Brown Executor to they my only
and last will and Testament and acknowledge the same by my
own signature and seal in the presents of this 10th of March 1841.
Test Hiram Brown
Robert Steel
P. B. Roberts J.P.

Stephen Carlton Seal

Georgia } Court of ordinary September Term 1841.
Elbert County } Personally came in to open Court Hiram Brown and
Presley B. Roberts two of the subscribing witnesses to the
annexed will and Testament of Stephen Carlton deceased, and being
sworn saith that they were present and saw Stephen Carlton sign
and acknowledge the annexed instrument of writing as his last will
and Testament, and they together with Robert Steel signed the
same as witnesses in the presence of the testator and at his request
and in the presence of each other, and that they believe the testor
to have been of sound mind at the time he executed the same
sworn to in open Court this 6th September 1841.
Attest Wm B. Nelms c.c.o. Hiram Brown
P. B. Roberts

Georgia } Court of ordinary September 1841.
Elbert County } ordered by the Court that the foregoing will be
Recorded 6th September 1841.
Attest Wm B. Nelms c.c.o.

Recorded the 9th of September 1841. Wm B. Nelms c.c.o.

Betsy C. Middleton's Will 1841

State of Georgia } In the name of Almighty God Amen.
Elbert County } I, Betsy C. Middleton of the above named State
and County being of sound & disposing mind
memory and understanding praised be god for the same do make
this my last will and Testament in manner and form following
Item 1st I Give and bequeath to my grand son Dunston B. Verdell for
the use of my daughter Sally, C. Verdell during of her natural
life. Eighteen Negroes and their Increase viz a negroe man
named Jefe also a man named Edmond an other man named
Jack. Polly and her three Boys i.e Wesley, Wm, or Allen, also
Charity and her two children i.e Jane & her Infant not named
also Prudence & her two children i.e Johnson & Rose. Alcy & her two
children i.e Ben & Nelson. also two girls named Caroline & Milly
Also my carriage & Harness also my two Horses at Mr. Verdells
also one sett of Walnut Sables & side board and at my daughters
death to be equally divided among all her children.