

State of North Carolina
Buncombe County

In the name of God Amen
And in the year of our Lord, one thousand
Eight hundred and seventy one & the 10 day of
October 1871 Rachael Steph of the County of
Buncombe & State of North Carolina Knowing
that by the Counsel of nature I must soon be
numbrous with the dead, think that while I live
with the reasonable Exercise of my mind I should
dispose of my Effects as seems best to me and
I therefore make and ordain this my last will
& Testament

1st I will and bequeath unto my youngest son
Joseph M Steph, one head and the residue
of my nature (his own choice) also two Hines of
Bee my Clock & Beans & all my stock
Except two Cows (Bridget and Beck, the
remainder of my property I wish Equally
divided between the following named children
Agnes M Steph one the Hines at Farm of John M
Steph one and William M Steph & Jesse M Steph
I also wish and devise that my youngest
son Joseph M Steph be the Executor to this
my last will and Testament
Signed sealed and delivered in the
presence of
S. F. Daugherty } (Signed) Rachael Steph
E R Kerle

State of North Carolina

Buncombe County } In the Probate Court

A paper purporting to be the last will and
Testament of Rachael Steph deceased is exhibited
before the undersigned Judge of Probate for said
County by Joseph M Steph, the Executor therein
named; And the one ~~for~~ Execution thereof by
the oath and Examination of S. F. Daugherty and
and E R Kerle, the subscribing witnesses thereto
who being duly sworn doth depose and
say and each for him self depose and
say that he is a subscribing witness
to the paper writing now shown them
purporting to be the last will and Testament

of Rachael Steph deceased, that the said Rachael
Steph in the presence of these deponents subscribed
her name at the end of said Paper writing,
which is now shown as aforesaid, and which
bears date on the 10 day of October 1871
And the deponent further sayeth, that the
said Rachael Steph the Testator aforesaid
did at the time of subscribing her name
as aforesaid declare the said Paper writing to
be subscribed by her and exhibited to be her last
will and Testament, & these deponents did
thereupon subscribe their names at the end
of said will as attesting witnesses thereto
and at the request and in the presence
of the said Testator, And these deponents
further say, that at the said time when
the when the said Testator subscribed her
name to the said last will as aforesaid
and at the time of these deponents subscribing
their names as attesting witnesses thereto as
aforesaid the said Rachael Steph was of
sound mind and memory of full age
to execute a will and was not under any
restraint to the information or belief of
these deponents and further these deponents
say not

Signed and sworn and subscribed (Signed) } S. F. Daugherty
this 1st day of September 1876 } E R Kerle

before me J E Reed Judge of Probate

Upon reading the foregoing affidavit and
proof of the due Execution of the foregoing will of Rachael Steph
It is ordered by the Court, that the said last will and Testament of the
said Rachael Steph be Read, and that the Executor therein named
to-wit: Joseph M Steph be allowed to qualify according to Law the 1st
day of September 1876. (Signed) J E Reed Judge of Probate
And thereupon Joseph M Steph the Executor named in the
said last will of Rachael Steph deceased, as Executor thereof
came into Court and took and subscribed the oath prescribed
by Law as Executor and is duly constituted the Executor
of the last will and Testament of Rachael Steph
this the 1st day of Sept 1876 J E Reed
Judge of Probate