

In the name of god Amen

I James Reece of the County of Buncombe and State of
S Carolina Residing on William Moores Creek being of sound mind
and disposing memory and calling to mind that life is uncertain
do make this my last will and Testament And first of all I wish to give
Thanks to a merciful Redeemer for such blessings as he hath seen pleased to
bless me with, and should it be my good fortune to die at home, I wish to be
buried in a plain and decent manner at the Baptist Church at Warming Oak
The expenses of which to be paid out of my Estate by my Executor herein after
named

I will and devise that my lands be equally divided
between my wife Mary Caroline Reece and my two children Laura Sophronia
and Eliza Ann in such manner as to allow my wife to have the home in
which I now live

I will and devise that all my finishable property both
in the house as well as that out of doors, except my Smith tools & Carpenter tools
be equally divided between my said wife Mary Caroline and my two children
Laura Sophronia and Eliza Ann And that some of the above named personal property
except such as shall here in after provided be sold, I will and devise that my
said Executor herein after named shall sell my said Smith and Carpenter tools
as the Law directs to pay my debts, I may owe or other necessary expenses, and if any
monies in the sale of the last named should be left, the same to be used by my
wife in purchasing such necessaries as she may think proper

I request that my wife become guardian for my two children above named
I hereby constitute my said wife Mary Caroline Reece My Executor to carry this
will into effect In testimony whereof I have here unto set my hand and name
and affixed my seal in the presence of three witnesses who signed the same in
the presence of each other The words to be sold, and wife retained before signed

Let Saml B Guager James Reece and
L A E Guager

State of S Carolina } Court of pleas and quarter sessions
Buncombe County } June Term AD 1866

The execution of the above will was duly proven in open court by the oath of
S B Guager and L A E Guager subscribing witnesses thereto and admitted of Record
J R Weaver Clerk

I Silas H Stapp of the County of Buncombe and State of S Carolina being
of sound mind and memory But considering the uncertainty of my earthly
existence do make and declare this my last will and Testament in manner
and form as follows that is to say

First that my Executor herein after named shall provide for my body a
decent burial suited to the wishes of my relations & friends and
pay all funeral expenses together with my last debts here sever and
to whomsoever owing out of the moneys that shall first come into
his hands as a part and parcel of my estate

Then 1st I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Eliza Stapp all
my property consisting of Lands houses - mules, cattle, sheep, hogs
house hold and kitchen furniture together with every other species
of property of whatever kind and all money, notes and other things
of debt that may be due me at my death And further in case
of my death it is my wish and desire that my said wife in
raising our family sell or dispose of any species of property she
may desire of whatever kind she thinks best And further it is
my wish and desire that in case my beloved wife should survive
me that she give off to our children as they come of age or as
an divine with our said children as she may think proper
And further it is my wish and desire that in case of my beloved wifes
death that my beloved children to stay and remain together
and when they all arrive to be of age then for them to divide
my said property among themselves to share & share alike and
in case they cant agree in the division of said property then
to have it done by disinterested persons so as to share alike
as near as possible And further I do constitute and appoint
Hatcher Hartman Executor of this my last will and Testament
according to the true intent and meaning of the same

In witness whereof I the said Silas H Stapp do hereunto
set my hand and seal the 3 day of May 1863

Signed sealed and published & disclosed
by the said Silas H Stapp to be his last will and Testament In presence of
us who at his request in his presence
and presence of each other

A Burgin
Wm Stapp

State of S Carolina } Court of pleas and quarter sessions Sept term 1866
Buncombe County } The Execution of the above will was duly
proven in open court by the oath of A Burgin
one of the subscribing witnesses thereto and
admitted of Record J R Weaver Clerk