

The last Will and Testament of David Abernathy

David Abernathy deceased
 In the name of God Amen I David Abernathy of the county of Catawba & State of North Carolina being old and weak but of perfect mind and memory Thanks be given to God but knowing that it is appointed for all men ^{us} to die I do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament that is to say principal and first of all I give & recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it & my body I recommend to the Earth to be buried in a decent and Christian burial at the discretion of the Executors nothing doubting but at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God. As touching such worldly Estate wherein it has pleased God to bless me in this life I give and devise & bequeath of the same in the following manner and form first of all I give unto my beloved wife Esther my lands horses cattle & every thing belonging to me till after her death then it is to be divided between my six children.

I appoint my son John Abernathy and my son Noah Abernathy my whole and sole Executors. In witness whereunto I set my hand and seal this the 27 of December in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty-three

A. J. Whitener }
 Elias Sigman }

David his
 Abernathy ^{mark} 

State of North Carolina }
 Catawba County }

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of David Abernathy dec^d is exhibited before me Miles D. Sherrill Judge of Probate for said County by Noah A. Abernathy the executor there-in named and the due execution thereof by the said David Abernathy is proved by the oath and examination of A. J. Whitener & Elias Sigman subscribing witnesses thereto. It is therefore considered by the court that the said paper writing and every part thereof is the last Will and Testament of said David Abernathy, and the same is ordered to be recorded and filed.

And thereupon Noah A. Abernathy executor as aforesaid duly qualified as such by taking the oath required by law.

Aug 30 1870.

Miles D. Sherrill
 Judge of Probate

The last Will and Testament of Christian S. Reitzel.

Christian S. Reitzel
 deceased

Anderson A. Reitzel
 Executor
 appointed
 Nov. 4th / 1870

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I Christian S. Reitzel of the county of Catawba, and state of North 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 following, that is to say:-

First - That my Executor (hereinafter named) shall provide for my body a decent burial, suitable to the wishes of my relations and friends and pay all funeral expenses, together with my just debts howsoever and to whomsoever owing out of the moneys that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

Secondly - I will and bequeath to my beloved wife Susan all my home tract of land wherein I now live for and during the term of her natural life or widowhood. The division line between my home place and the Hedrick place is to commence in Coonses line near a white-oak standing on the east side of the road and to run in a southeasterly direction to a double pine standing not far from the fence, thence south down through the old field so as to strike the middle of the road at the upper corner of the field thence down the middle of the road to Sline's line.

Thirdly - I also will and bequeath to my beloved wife Susan all my household and kitchen furniture: one loom: one washpot, all the beds; all the stock of every kind; all the crop of every description that may be upon the plantation wherein I now live and all the provisions on hand at the time of my death.

Also all the domestic fowls and poultry on the place; all the bees; one wagon one buggy and all the farming tools on hand.

Fourthly - My Will is that all the balance of my land be equally divided between all my children either by selling the land and dividing the proceeds thereof or by dividing the land as they may think best; also the shares of Railroad stock in the western extension to be sold to the highest bidder and the proceeds equally divided namely between Anderson A. Reitzel, Henry J. Reitzel, Jerome C. Reitzel, Reuben D. Reitzel, Titus S. Reitzel, Philo L. Reitzel

Plato S. Reitzel and Hermann Hillemann heirs George C. Morse, Harry M. Baker, Lucinda C. Ditz, Sylvia S. Lee, Lydia S. C. Reitz, Jane C. Fry, Margaret J. Reitzel and Charles C. Reitzel.

Sixthly - In case my beloved wife Susan should marry my will is that the real estate willed to her be equally divided between her and all the children either by dividing the land or by selling it and dividing as they may think best and personal to be sold of which she is also to have a child's part.

And in case she does marry my will is that after her death the real estate willed to her be equally divided among all my children by a division of the land or by selling it and dividing the proceeds thereof, as they may think best and the personal estate to be sold and equally divided among all of them.

And lastly - I do hereby constitute and appoint my son Anderson A. Reitzel to be my lawful executor to all intents and purposes, to execute this Last Will and Testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same.

In witness whereof I the said Christian S. Reitzel do hereunto set my hand seal this 27th day of December A.D. 1869

Signed sealed and declared by the said C. S. Reitzel to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us

Test - C. Hedrick

Peter Little

Christian S. Reitzel (Seal)

State of North Carolina }
Catawba County } In the Probate Court

The foregoing paper writing purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Christian S. Reitzel deceased is exhibited before me the undersigned judge of Probate for said County by A. A. Reitzel the executor therein named and the due execution thereof by the said Christian S. Reitzel proved by the oath and examination of C. Hedrick and Peter Little witnesses thereto who being duly sworn doth depose and say and each for himself depose and saith that he is a subscribing witness thereto and that Christian S. Reitzel in the presence of the deponents subscribed his name at the end of said paper writing which is now shown as aforesaid and which bears date 27th Dec. 1869 and further that Christian S. Reitzel at the time of writing the same declared said paper writing to be his last Will and Testament and that said Christian S. Reitzel at the time of so subscribing his name thereto was of sound mind and memory of full age to execute a Will and was not under any restraint to the knowledge of these deponents, further deponents say not - Adjudged as duly admitted to probate and ordered to be recorded Nov. 4, 1870

Wm. C. Sherrill

Barbary Eckhard
"dec"

The last Will and Testament of Barbary Eckhard
Application for letters Testamentary
Catawba County: - In the Probate Court

Frederick Smith
"Exor"
appointed
19th Dec 1870

In the matter of the Will of } Before Wiles C. Sherrill
Barbary Eckhard } Judge of Probate.

Frederick Smith being sworn doth say: That Barbary Eckhard late of said County, is dead, having first made and published her last Will & Testament; and that, Frederick Smith is the Executor named therein. Further that the property of the said Barbary Eckhard, consisting of Real & corn and Land (real estate) is worth about \$900.00 so far as can be ascertained at the date of this application; and that Fanny Eckhard is the party entitled under said Will to the said property. F. Smith

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 17th day of Dec, 1870
Wiles C. Sherrill
Probate Judge.

In the name of God Amen.

I Barbary Eckhard wife of William Eckhard "dec." of the county of Catawba and state of North Carolina being in my right mind and memory blessed be God do this 3rd day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy make this my last Will and Testament in manner & form as follows - First I give and bequeath my soul to God who gave it and my body to be buried. As to my worldly concerns it is my will that the land whereon I had been living known as the mill Creek Land of which I fell heir from my Father's Estate and never has been transferred to any person, I will & bequeath to my grand daughter child of my son Daniel Eckhard for her to have and hold. Now on condition the said Fanny Eckhard daughter of Daniel Eckhard should not live to be twenty-one years or have no heirs then it is my will that the said Land shall be sold by my herein named executor by his own discretion.