

Will of A. J. Stine

In the name of God Amen.

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I A. J. Stine of Catawba County and State of North Carolina, being in feeble health and of sound mind, memory and understanding do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following.

I give, devise and bequeath unto my beloved wife, Lovie C. Stine during her natural life or so long as she remains my widow, all my property real and personal whereover the same may be at the time of my death.

And I do nominate constitute and appoint my Son Charley R. Stine executor of this my last will and testament, and that he pay all my just debts out of the money that may first come into his hands as a part of my estate.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand and seal this the 28 day of March A. D. 1898

A. J. Stine Seal

North Carolina } In the Superior Court:
Catawba County }

A paper writing without subscribing witnesses, purporting to be the last will and testament of A. J. Stine deceased is exhibited for probate in open Court by Charley R. Stine, the executor therein named; and it is thereupon proved by the oath and examination of Chas. R. Stine that the said will was found among the valuable papers and effects of the said A. J. Stine after his death; and it is further proved by the oath and examination of three competent and credible witnesses, to wit

Mc. J. Rowe, A. H. Crowell and J. F. Herman that they are acquainted with the handwriting of the said A. J. Stine, having often seen him write, and verily believe that the name of the said A. J. Stine subscribed to the said will, and the said will itself and every part thereof is in the handwriting of the said A. J. Stine.

And it is further proved by the evidence of the three last mentioned witnesses, that the said handwriting is generally known to the acquaintances of the said A. J. Stine

Sworn to and subscribed
before me this Nov. 17th 1898
J. W. Rockett (C. C.)

C. R. Stine Seal
Mc. J. Rowe Seal
A. H. Crowell Seal
J. F. Herman Seal

It is therefore considered by the Court that the said paper writing is the last will and testament of the said A. J. Stine, and the same is ordered to be recorded and filed.

J. W. Rockett
Clerk, Superior Court

Last Will and Testament of Eli Burns.

State of North Carolina,
Catawba County.

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I, Eli Burns of the aforesaid County and State, being of sound mind, but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence, do make and declare this, my last will and testament: My executor hereinafter named shall give my body decent burial, suitable to the wishes of my friends and relatives, and pay all funeral expenses together with all my just debts, out of the first money which may come into his hands belonging to my estate.

First,

Second,

I give and devise to my beloved wife, Betsey, all of my home tracts of land where I now live, to wit: the Mull tract, the Solomon Worlick tract and the Hilderbrand tract, containing about 137 acres, for her use during her natural life, I also give to her three hundred dollars of the first moneys collected not otherwise appropriated, and I also give to her all my household and kitchen furniture, in satisfaction of her dower and third in my lands.

Third,

I give and devise to my beloved son Max the three hundred and ninety (\$390) dollars previously paid to him, I also give and devise to him, all my home tracts of land where I now live, to wit: the Mull tract, Solomon Worlick tract and the Hilderbrand tract all of which he shall possess at the death of his mother and myself, to Max and his children, after his death, give I these lands. Now this is more property than I shall give to any one of my other children, but I do this in order that he be compensated for whatever trouble I and my beloved wife may be to him in our old and feeble days, therefore if Max should prefer charges against my estate for caring for myself and wife, then in that event, I hereby authorize my executor to expose to public sale, two acres of bottom land at the extreme lower end of this tract of land, known as the Mull place, to the highest bidders, for cash and out of the proceeds of said sale pay to Max a reasonable compensation, but if no charges are made then he and his children after him shall possess my lands as aforesaid.

Fourth

I give and bequeath to my beloved son William the three hundred and ten (\$310) dollars which I have previously advanced to him.

Fifth

I give and bequeath to my beloved son John the three hundred and thirty five (\$335) dollars which I have previously advanced to him.

Sixth

I give and bequeath to my beloved son Hossa the three hundred and thirty five (\$335) dollars which I have previously advanced to him.

Seventh I give and bequeath to my beloved son Scott (who is now dead but has living children) the three hundred and ten (\$310) dollars which I paid on his land for him previous to his death.

Eighth I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Sallie, who married James Brittain, and now dead, the three hundred and ten (\$310) dollars which I advanced to her before her death.

Ninth I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Nancy, wife of Jacob Johnson, the three hundred and ten (\$310) dollars which I have previously advanced to her.

Tenth My will and desire is that all the residue of my estate, including land, stock, farming implements, grain &c be by my executor hereinafter named legally advertised and sold, and all notes and debts owing to me be collected, and if there should be any surplus over and above the payment of debts, expenses and legacies, that such surplus shall be equally divided and paid over to my beloved sons and daughters, namely: John, Horace, Scott & three children (Brantley, Jennie and Jimmy), Nancy, Jacob Johnson's wife, Sallie's children (Ela and Raymond) and William, but should William die before I die, then his children must not have any part or parcel mentioned in this item, but if William is living at my death then he must have his equal share of whatever surplus money there shall be to divide, according to this item.

Eleventh I hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend, J. M. Clappitt, (and in case of his death, then my friend Sidney L. Severe) my lawful executor to all intents and purposes, to execute this my last will and testament, according to the true intent and meaning of the same, and declaring utterly void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof, I, the said Eli Burns, do set my hand and seal, This 28th day of January 1896.

Signed, Sealed, published and declared by the said Eli Burns to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

Luther Mosteller } Witness
Barton, Baker, } Witness

State of North Carolina, } ss. In the Superior Court.
Catawba County.

A paper purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Eli Burns deceased, is exhibited before me the undersigned, Clerk of the Superior Court for said County, by J. M. Clappitt, the executor therein mentioned, and the due execution thereof by the said Eli Burns proved by the oath and examination of Luther Mosteller and Barton Baker the subscribing witnesses thereto; who being duly sworn, doth depose and say, and each for himself depose and saith, that he is a subscribing witness to the paper-writing now shown him, purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Eli Burns; that the said Eli Burns in the presence of this deponent subscribed his name at the end of said paper-writing, which is now shown as aforesaid, and which bears date of the 28th day of January, 1896.

And the deponent further saith, That the said Eli Burns the testator aforesaid, did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid, declare the said paper-writing as subscribed by him, and exhibited to be his last Will and Testament, and this deponent did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of said Will, as an attesting witness thereto and at the request and in the presence of said testator. And this deponent further saith, that at the said time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last Will as aforesaid, and at the time of the deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto, as aforesaid, the said Eli Burns was of sound mind and memory, of full age to execute a Will, and was not under any restraint, to the knowledge, information or belief of this deponent: And further these deponents say not.

Luther Mosteller.
Barton, Baker

Severally sworn and subscribed,
this 21st day of November, 1898,
before me:

J. W. Rockett
Clerk Superior Court

North Carolina, } ss. In the Superior Court
Catawba County.

It is therefore considered and adjudged by the Court that the said paper-writing and every part thereof is the last Will and Testament of Eli Burns, deceased. Let the said Will, together with the probate, be recorded and filed.

This 21st day of Nov, 1898.

J. W. Rockett
Clerk Superior Court