

October Session 1847

41 In the name of God, Amen. I Henry Whitman of the County of Catawba and State of North Carolina, being sick in body, but of perfect in mind and memory, knowing that it is appointed for man once to die and wishing to dispose of my worldly affairs do make this my last will and Testament, in the following manner, and form, as follows, viz, 1st I Recommend my soul to Almighty God. 2nd I care for and my body I desire to have buried in a decent Christian like manner. 3rd I will and bequeath unto my dear and beloved wife Margaret, our Negro Woman named Bette, as long as she lives and also a negro boy named Simon to help maintain her and the children that may stay with her as long as she lives, and also to have the use and tillage of as much of my land as she may need to tend and all the house hold and kitchen furniture as long as she lives, and the privilege of the house as long as she lives. 4th It is my will and desire that as much of my stock of all kinds as my wife may need to remain on the premises as long as she lives. 5th I will and bequeath unto four of my sons (namely) John, Henry, David and Edward, all my lands except the pine tract joining Davis Rater and share to be equally divided among them in valuation and value to have and have the John Whitman tract 5th of size and bequeath unto my daughter Mary our negro girl named Sarah. 6th I will and bequeath unto my daughter Margaret with our negro girl named Nance. 7th I will and bequeath unto my daughter Eliza 2nd a little negro girl named Caroline. 8th I will and bequeath unto my daughter Agnes 1st our small negro girl named Martha. I also will that my son David pay each heir ten dollars a piece out of his part. I will that my pine tract of land be sold and add the balance of my property that is not named in the above bill, be sold, and all my debt, both be paid out of it and the over plus if any, to be equally divided among my children. I do here by pronounce this to be my last will and Testament, and do here unto affix my hand and seal this the 18th day of August, A.D. 1847.

Acknowledged in

Presence of
 J. M. Whitman
 A. H. Sigmon

Henry Whitman Seal

October Session 1847

42 In the name of God, Amen. Whereas it is appointed for all men once to die, but the living uncertain, and now being in perfect mind and memory, I make and ordain this my last will and Testament. First, and foremost I resign my soul into the hands of God, who care for it, and my body to the earth from whence it was taken, and as to my little worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me with, I bequeath in the following viz - First, I bequeath to my beloved wife, Betty all my property, both land and movable, to occupy and manage as she may think fit, and most beneficial to her self, and children, during her natural life, and after her death, all both land and other property, to be sold at public sale, and as some of the children have not received any thing, and may not during my life or their mothers, they also shall receive as much as will be to the amount of what the others have received, and then what remains to be equally divided between all my children viz John, Henry, Johnnie, William, Eslet, Rhedick, Catharine and Elizabeth, and in case any of them my children should die before the time of this little will being any more or have such time, he shall be in debt to the other parents, part, and I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved wife Betty and my son John Coulter to be the Executors of this my last will and Testament, and Guardian of youngest child Eslet, and William with my own hand and signed this 25th day of May 1847.

M Coulter

Test John Robinson
 David Robinson

I Martin Coulter, who made and signed the foregoing will and Testament, do add the following as a codicil thereto. viz, It is my will that the portion or share of my little estate that may be due my youngest daughter, who has married Andrew Stokes viz, my daughter Elizabeth, be and remain in the hands of Executor ~~Henry~~ John Coulter, or Whosoever may have the execution thereof as trustee for the said Elizabeth Stokes and her children, and that the said be kept, as a fund for her benefit and profit at interest, and expended by said trustee for the special purpose of said daughter Elizabeth, and her children, at such time, and in such manner as said trustee may think most to her interest and advantage. I do hereby publish and declare, this to be a part of my last will and Testament. Given under my hand the 25th day of February A.D. 1848.

Signed Sealed & published in presence of

David Coulter, David Latta

M Coulter Seal