

July 15<sup>th</sup> 1852

I Nathaniel Wilson of the County of Catawba and State of North Carolina, do make and publish this my last will and Testament, in manner following, that is to say and first my will and desire is that all my land my negro man Frank and in that and in a word all of my Estate both real and Personal be left in the care and Custody of my wife Mary C. Wilson for the Term of Seven years from the Time of my death during which Time I give her discretionary power to dispose it in any way she may think best and proper for the purpose of maintaining her self and family and making money to pay my debts and also any Contract that she may make or money that she may borrow from any Person for the purpose of paying my debts during said Term of Seven years my will, desire and meaning is that my whole estate shall be bound and stand good for the payment of the same I also allow my wife if necessary for the payment of my debts to sell my negro man Frank or then of my Personal Property either at Public or Private Sale and if at the end of Seven years my debts and the money she may have borrowed be not all fully paid off and satisfied then my will is that she shall sell as much of my estate in any way she may think proper as will enable her to pay off all my debts and the demands that may be against her and after my debts &c are paid my will is that there shall be thirty acres of land laid off for the use of my wife during her life in any Part of my Plantation she may choose and also I allow her to keep ten acres more or sell so much of my land as will amount to one hundred dollars and apply the money to her own use and after this is done my will is that the balance of my land be equally divided between all of my children in their Personal Representatives, except my two daughters Julian & Isabel which two daughters in consequence of their ungratified conduct towards me and my wife my will is that they shall not inherit any Part of my estate the thirty acres of land that I have willed to my wife at her death I allow to be equally divided between all of my children, except my daughters Julian and Isabel, the balance of my Personal estate that may then be on hand I will to be equally divided between my wife and children except said two daughters Julian & Isabel, and finally I do hereby appoint my beloved wife Mary C. Wilson my Executor to execute this my last will and Testament in Witness Whereof I the said Nathaniel Wilson do hereunto set my hand and affix my Seal this 15 day of July 1852.

Witness my hand and affixing my Seal in Presence of us

Eliza Ramsey  
Ann Stuart

Nathaniel Wilson  
his mark

January 1853

76 In the name of God Amen I Joseph Wilson of the County of Catawba and State of North Carolina, being Sick and Weak of body but of Perfect Sound and Disposing mind and memory thanks be to God, do hereby this Twenty fourth day of May 1852, Make and publish this my last Will and Testament, in manner and form following, and first that my Executor herein of the name Providence for my body a decent burial & to take to the Wishes of my relations and friends and pay all my Just debts together with my funeral expenses however & to whomsoever owing out of any money that may come into their hands as a part or issue of my estate, and as concerning such Wasting estate wherein it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I give devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form

Item I give and bequeath to my wife Catharine during her natural life all my lands to her use and enjoyment except such Provisions as I shall hereafter make for a home for my son Edwin Thaddeus and otherwise, I also give unto my wife a negro girl named Jenny as her own absolute Property forever and also I give unto my wife during her natural life a negro Woman named Phoebe and a negro man named William and all my house hold & Kitchen furniture not otherwise disposed of all of my farming utensils my Wagon Buggy and horse Cars and all the Corn and Provisions that may be on hand at the time of my death together with the standing Crops, I give to the use and maintenance of my wife and family all of my Cattle horses Sheep and hogs that may be on hand at the time of my death, I allow to remain on my plantation for the use and maintenance of my wife and family except such of them as my wife and executor may think proper to dispose of and apply the money to the payment of my debts or otherwise according to my will.

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah Melinda who intermarried with L. M. Bradburn a negro girl named Fanny and her increase provided she should have any children which negro and her increase I will to my said daughter during her life and to her heirs born of her own body and also I give to my said daughter two horses & saddle, two cows, a Bull and some Kitchen & house furniture chairs &c which negro and other Property she has now in her Possession all of which I estimate or value to her at the sum of Six hundred & fifty one dollars

Item, I give and devise to my son Matthew M. Wilson a negro man named Peter a horse and Bed to him and his Personal absolutely for ever, which negro and other Property has been delivered to him some time ago all of which I value to him towards his absolute share or portion of my Estate at the sum of Six hundred & eighty eight dollars

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter Martha Ann Nelson a slave, who is intermarried with Calvin & William, a Negro Girl named Hannah and her increase which I give to her during her life and at her death to go to her own bodily heirs together with the increase of said Negro. I also give to my said daughter son Saml. Jane and his wife a Bureau two beds some kitchen furniture and other furniture, chairs &c. which Negro & other property she has now in her possession, all of which I value to be towards her portion of my estate at the sum of five hundred and twenty five dollars.

Item, I give and devise to my son James E. R. Wilson a Negro Boy named Morgan a small house and one bed which Negro and other property he has now in his possession which I give to him and his personal representatives absolutely forever, all of which I value to him towards his portion of my estate at the sum of five hundred and twenty five dollars.

Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary Matilda a Negro Girl named Gold which Negro I give to her during her life and at her death to her own bodily heirs provided she has any children if not to go to her heirs according to law. I also give to my said daughter two beds and their necessary furniture which are now in my house and known in the family as her which Negro & beds I value to her towards her distributive share or portion of my estate at the sum of five hundred and twenty five dollars. my further will is that if my said daughter should get married that then she shall be furnished with a house and other articles so as to make her equal to the share of my other daughters that are now married provided it can be lawfully done by my wife and executors out of the stock on hand which I have willed to my wife otherwise she shall be paid that much in money (viz) to make her share equal as aforesaid.

Item, I give and bequeath to my son Joseph Henry Wilson a Negro Boy named Jacob a small house and one bed as his absolute property for ever all of which, I value to him towards his portion of my estate at the sum of five hundred and twenty five dollars.

Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Leah Catharine a Negro Girl named Fide which Negro I give to her during her natural life and at her death to her own bodily heirs provided she has any if not to go to her heirs according to law. I also give to my said daughter two beds & furniture which Negro & beds I value to her at the sum of five hundred and twenty five dollars. my further will is that if my said daughter gets married that then she shall be furnished with a house and other articles so as to make her share equal with my other daughters that are now married provided it can be

Consequently done by my wife and executors out of the stock on hand otherwise she shall be paid that much in money (viz) to make her share equal as aforesaid.

Item I give and devise to my daughter Eliza Ann a Negro Girl named Emma which Negro I give to her and her own bodily heirs provided she should have any if not to go to her heirs according to law. I also give to my said daughter two beds and their necessary furniture which Negro and beds I value to her towards her distributive share of my estate at the sum of five hundred and twenty five dollars. my further will is that if my said daughter gets married that then as in the last item she shall be furnished with property or paid in money so as to make her share equal to that of my daughters that are now married.

Item I give and devise to my son John William a Negro Girl named Lucinda as his absolute property which Negro I value to him towards his portion at the sum of five hundred dollars. my further will is that my said son shall have privilege to live with his mother in my dwelling house together with the Negro that I have given him and have their maintenance there until he arrives at the age of twenty one years or until the death of his mother, shall have two years and six months schooling, paid for by his mother provided she lives if not it shall be paid for by my executors and shall not be charged to him towards his portion of my estate. my further will is that if my wife is alive when my said son arrives at the age of twenty one years so that according to my will a final distribution of my estate cannot be made, then my will is that my said son shall be paid by my executors such sum of money as will make his share equal to the share of my sons Matthew & James E. R.

Item I give to my son David Franklin E. R. same years schooling to be paid for by his mother out of the proceeds of the lands &c. that I have willed to her provided she lives, if not to be paid for by my executors out of any moneys that may come into their hands arising from the unappropriated part of my estate and shall not be charged to him as any part of his distributive share of my estate, and he is also to have privilege to live and have his maintenance with his mother in my dwelling house until he comes to the age of twenty one years or as long as she lives and provided my wife is living when my said son comes to the age of twenty one years so that a final distribution cannot be made then my will is that he shall be paid by my executors such sum of money as will make his share equal to the share of my other two sons according to the last item.

Then my Wife and I will is that my son Gaben Theodore shall have Privilege to live on some part of my Premises as a home for himself and family, and also to have the Privilege of cultivating as much and such of my lands as my wife may think necessary for a decent maintenance for him and his family during his natural life. Then my Negro Men Sam So and Perben I will to be hired out as long as it may be thought expedient by my wife & Executors and the money arising from this hire of said Negroes to be applied to the Payment of my debts, but if my Executors should think proper or it may be necessary to sell any of said Negroes or my Negro Woman Chany, or any of my Cattle that my wife may not think necessary for the maintenance of herself and family or for my son S. S. To satisfy then my will is that my Executors sell such of said land or Negroes as they may think proper either at Public or Private Sale for Cash or upon a Credit as they may think proper and apply the money to the Payment of my debts or otherwise as the necessity of the estate may require.

Then my Negro Woman Chany I will to remain on my Plantation in the Possession of my wife unless she is hired out, as aforesaid. Then I give to my son David S. B. my Watch which shall not be charged to him as any part of his portion.

Then having already given to my son Gaben Theodore the sum of Nine Hundred dollars in money and other property therefore my will is that he get no more of my estate, untill each of my other children get that amount.

Then my will is that at the death of my wife that all of my lands and the property I have willed her except the Negroes that I have given absolutely to her come all of my Negroes and all other personal property that I now possess or may possess at the time of my death, shall be sold by my Executors on a reasonable Credit and the debts owing to me collected and the money applied as follows (viz) that each of my other children shall get with what they have already got the sum of nine hundred dollars to make their share equal to the share of assets of my son Gaben Theodore and after each has received the sum of nine hundred dollars then the overplus if any shall be equally divided among all of my children due regard being had to the several bequests and valuation put upon the same in this my last will. Provided also that whatever share may be coming to my son Gaben Theodore shall be paid by my Executors to my son Joseph Henry as Trustee for my son Gaben Theodore to be paid out at interest or otherwise applied by said Trustee to the use and benefit of my son Gaben S. & his family.

And finally I will and order that my son Matthew M. Wilson and

and my son in law Thomas B. Bradburn to Execute this my last Will and Testament according to the true intent and meaning of every Part and Clause thereof and do hereby disallow make null and void all former Wills and Testaments by me heretofore made here ratifying, allowing and confirming this and none other to be my last Will and Testament.

In witness Whereof I the said Joseph Wilson do hereunto set my hand and affix my seal this day and date just above written Signed sealed and Published by the said Joseph Wilson in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto.

Joseph Wilson

Iskanah S. Smith

Joseph Wilson (Seal)

7) June 4<sup>th</sup> 1852

This my last Will and Testament is as follows (viz)

I do hereby Will my wife thirty fifty acres of land during her life time and that she shall have said fifty acres of land taking in my present house and improvements and at her death it to belong to my children.

I do hereby Will the remnant of my land or lands to be equally divided between my four children (viz) Anna Rackette John Rackette Calvin Rackette and Delaughter Rackette. I do also Will my title and vessels to my son John Rackette. I do also Will my Wagon to my son John Rackette. I do also Will my Vault to my son John Rackette. This done Signed and delivered in presence of

Joseph Johnson  
William Hemmings

Urban Rackette