

Be it Remembered that Joseph Bridges of the County of
Chatham and State of North Carolina being of sound
and perfect mind and memory do make and ordain
his my last Will and Testament in manner and form
following Viz?

Item 1st I leave to my beloved wife Frances Bridges for
and during her natural life the tract of land and House
whereon I now live together with the following things
namely Rachel Maney Charity Clarissa Archibald
and Alexander also a waggon and her choice of four
Horses the farming implements that are or may be on
the plantation and the House hold furniture of every
description the stock of cattle Hogs and Sheep and
her death the negroes and the other property to and against
mentioned to return to my Estate and be disposed of as
hereafter directed Item 2nd I give unto my son Robert
R Bridges one feather Bed and furniture four head of
Cattle which he claims as his property as also the stock
of Hogs which he claims as his property

Item 3rd At my wife's Decease or before her decease if she
thinks proper to Relinquish her title to the above named
property or either Conditions that may be offered
her in ^{place} of it my will is for it to be divided among
the Legals in the following manner Viz?

Item 4th I give and bequeath unto my Executors William
H Bridges and Nicholas R Bridges the following
Slaves namely Careiss Alexander Lemuel and
Mark Anthony with their increase to have and to hold to
them their Executors Administrators and assigns forever
Interest nevertheless and it is the intent of this my last
Will and Testament that my said Executors at their
discretion permit my son Horace D Bridges to have use
occupy and enjoy the above named Slaves for and during
the term of his natural life in such manner however
it is hereby expressly provided that said permission by
my Executors shall vest no Interest whatever such as in

shall be subject to the claims of any Creditor of my said
son Horace D Bridges and in Trust further that
at the death of my said son Horace D Bridges my
said Executors or either of them or either of their Executors
or Administrators do make and execute unto Louisa D
Bridges the present wife of the said Horace D Bridges
and all the Children of the said Horace D Bridges as
well those which he has by his first wife Martha as
those which his present wife Louisa has or may
hereafter have by the said Horace D Bridges a
firm and absolute Conveyance by Bill of Sale of the
aforesaid Negro Slaves to the said Louisa D Bridges
and all the Children of the said Horace D Bridges
which may survive him or the lawful Heirs of such as
may have deceased I also give to my said Executors for
the purposes above said one third part of what may be
left of my Estate after paying all of my just
debts and not otherwise disposed of

Item 5th I give & bequeath to my son William H Bridges
the following named Slaves Nancy Candice Osburn
Hegiah Charity Surdin Archibald Egtney and Harrieth
with their increase to have and to hold to him his heirs
and assigns forever Item 6th I give and bequeath to
my son Nicholas R Bridges the land and Plantation
whereon I now live together with the following named
Slaves Jidney Barney Rhoda Peter Amanda and Eney
with their increase to have and to hold to him the said
Nicholas R Bridges his heirs and assigns forever

Item 7th I give and bequeath to each of my sons William H
and Nicholas R Bridges one third part of what may be left of
my Estate and not otherwise disposed of after paying all
of my just debts Item 8th I do hereby nominate constitute
and appoint my sons William H Bridges and Nicholas
R Bridges as also my friend William Ragland sole Executors
of this my last will and Testament

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In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and
Seal the nineteenth day of June in the Year
of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and
thirty four signed Sealed & pronounced
by the said Joseph Bridges to be his
Last Will and Testament

In presence of us

James Moody

Robt. Moody

Chatham County

Joseph Bridges

This certifies that the foregoing
Last Will and Testament of
Joseph Bridges deceased
was duly exhibited in Open Court and
proved by the Oaths of James Moody
and Robert Moody subscribing
Witness thereto and ordered to be recorded
and whereupon William H. Bridges
one of the Executors therein named appeared
in Open Court and was duly qualified

Test Joseph H. Ramsey