

my two sons Oliver & Parker Vestal my
lawful Executors to all intents and purposes
to execute this my last-will & Testament
according to the true intent & meaning of
the same & every part & clause thereof
thoroughly revoking all other wills heretofore
made by me in witness whereof I the said
David Vestal doth hereunto set my hand
& seal this 6th day of June in the year of
our Lord one thousand eight-hundred &
fifty-four 1854

David Vestal

Signed sealed published &
declared by the said David
Vestal to be his last-will &
Testament in the presence of
us who at his request in his presence &
in the presence of each other do subscribe
our names as witnesses thereto

Jacob Garrett

Jimie Hinchshaw

May Term 1853 —

Court of Pleas & Quarter sessions

The execution of the foregoing last-will
& Testament of David Vestal was duly
proven in open Court by the oaths of
Jacob Garrett, a subscribing witness thereto
& the Executors Oliver & Parker Vestal
designated as such

Tobias

W. Taylor

I Reuben Herndon of the County of
Catham and State of North Carolina
being of sound mind and memory
in-considering the uncertainty of my
earthly existence, do make & declare
this my last-will & Testament in manner
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 relatives
& friends, and pay all funeral expenses
together with my just-debts however
to whomsoever owing out of this
monies that may first-come into
his hands as a part or parcel of
my estate then I leave & devise to my
lawful wife Nancy Herndon, singly
- William to have & to hold during
her lifetime & then the said negroes
to return to my lawful heirs as herin-
after stated & if she my wife should
marry & her husband should endeavor
to sell or make way with them so that
my wife cannot have the use of them
then my Executor to sell & hold them to
her use during her lifetime I do furthermore
leave to my beloved wife all of my alls
the lands that I hold during her lifetime and
widowhood I do furthermore leave
to my beloved wife all of my
household & kitchen furniture all
of my farming tools horses cows
hogs & sheep & one yoke of oxen &
cart - all of the crop of corn fodder
cotton & wheat on hand or that may
be growing all the bacon or pork

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and I do hereby say that may be on hand
or making I do furthermore loan
to my beloved wife my family
carriage during her lifetime & do further
more loan to my beloved wife during
her lifetime or widowhood my negroes
Thomas Srag, Paylor Maryann & Josephann
& at the end of her lifetime or widowhood
to return to my children to be divided
equally between them or at any time
that my wife may please she may divide
off to my children equally said negroes
Thomas I will that the two negroes that I loaned
to my wife during her lifetime Minty & William
be returned to my children with their increase &
be equally divided between them

Item I will that my Executor give to each one
of my children the sum of one hundred dollars
as they may arrive at age or get married
to be paid out of the money that may be on
hand & if when they shall need this money
their Mother shall give them any species of
property it shall count for so much money
at a fair valuation all to share & share alike

Item And whereas my children are all minors
now therefore my will & desire is that my friend
Jas B. Stone is hereby constituted & appointed
guardian of my children to have & to hold
the custody & guardianship both of their respective
persons & estates until they may ~~perforce~~
become of age or get married. It is my desire
that all my children all stay with their mother
until they arrive at age or get married & that she
should school them all that she can conveniently
And I do furthermore give to my wife my
shot-gun & lastly I do hereby constitute &
~~appoint~~ my beloved wife Maryann

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John Stone my lawful executor to all
intents & purposes to execute this my last
will & Testament according to the true
intent & meaning of the same & every
part & clause thereof hereby making
& declaring utterly void all other wills
& Testaments by me heretofore

In witness whereof I the said Reuben
Herndon do hereunto set my hand &
Seal this ¹⁴th of December A.D. 1854

Signed sealed published &
declared by Reuben Herndon
to be his last will & Testament -
in the presence of

A. J. Fowles

E. P. Fearrington

P. G.

Since I wrote this my last will &
Testament there has been a negro child born
by the name of John Martin & it is my will that
he should go to the use of my wife Nancy
Herndon as the negro Thomas Jerry Taylor Mary Ann
& Josephine has been disposed of in the body of
my will in witness whereof I the said Reuben
Herndon do hereunto set my hand & seal this
15th of Decr A.D. 1854
Signed sealed & delivered in presence of
the presence of

E. P. Fearrington

J. J. Perkins

Court of Pleas & Quarter - 2d Jan. August Term 1855

The execution of the foregoing last will &
Testament of Reuben Herndon was duly proven
in open court the oath of A. J. Fowles a subscribing
witness thereto with the Jurors there to & the executors
John Stone qualified as such

Teste

W. P. Taylor Clerk