

Item I give to my son Bennett to be received at my death four negroes namely Bob, Mids, Bright and Wither also two tracts of land one of them being where he formerly lived which is now in his possession the other tract adjoining David Daniel and Thomas Weibers land containing fifty acres in each tract to be the same more or less as I give him my home plantation to be received at the death of my wife containing two hundred and twenty acres to be the same more or less to him and his heirs forever.

Item I leave the land that I bought of Gaston Lockart and Longley to be equally divided between my four children after the death of my wife and it is my desire for them to run the line north & south across the land also all the land property that is not willed at her death I leave it to be equally divided between my four children at her death and the remainder part of my property and stock that is not willed nor given away in this will I leave it to be sold or equally divided between my four children and all my just debts paid out of it and if any remainder be left after my debts is paid I leave it to be divided between my four children and I do hereby nominate and appoint my worthy friend Cary Golden Lord Atkinson and John D. Atkinson my sole and sole executors to this my last will and testament as aforesaid and revoking all other former wills heretofore by me made and ratifying and confirming this my last will and testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written signed sealed and acknowledged in the presence of

Benjamin Stevens

Thomas Atkinson Seal

Will of Benjamin Stevens

In the name of God Amen I Benjamin Stevens of the County of Johnston and State of North Carolina being weak and infirm in body but of sound mind and memory and knowing that it is appointed unto all men to die do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner following to wit: I recommend my soul to Almighty God and body to be buried in a decent christian like manner by my executors. It is my will and desire that all my just debts be paid. I give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife Karen Stevens all my household and kitchen furniture of which I am at present possessed consisting of beds and furniture, chairs, tables

First

Secondly

Thirdly

chests, trunks, pots, pans, spiders, &c together with all the household furniture or property contained in or about my dwelling house. I also give and bequeath unto my beloved wife as aforesaid, all my stock of corn fodder and provisions now on hand to be sold use and benefit and behoof.

Fourthly

I give and bequeath unto my two beloved grandsons Loomie Stevens and Enoch Benjamin Atkinson all my wearing apparel of every description to be equally divided betwixt them share and share alike.

Fifthly

It is my will and desire that my horse bridle & saddle be sold and the proceeds of such sale let on interest until it shall be ascertained whether or not my beloved wife be in a state of pregnancy which is at present uncertain but should she be in that state and bring forth a living child then in that event the proceeds arising from the sale as aforesaid to be applied by my said executors to the use of said child but in the event of there being no child then the said proceeds to be paid over to my said wife Karen for her own proper use.

Sixthly

I give and bequeath to my son Ezekiel Stevens all my property contained in my office room consisting of tables, bookcase, escrutoire and contents.

Seventhly

It is my will and desire that my said executors collect all the moneys due me and after settling my debts should any surplus remain that the same be applied by my said executors to use of my before mentioned grandsons Loomie Stevens and Enoch Atkinson equally. And I do hereby appoint & constitute Adin Strickland, Henry C. Ennis, Ezekiel Stevens and John D. Atkinson executors to this my last will and testament. In testimony whereof I do hereby set my hand and seal the 12th day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine.

Signed & sealed in the presence of

B. Stevens Seal

Young Morgan

May Term 1840. Then was the above last will and testament duly admitted to probate where upon it is ordered that the same be recorded.