

December Sessions 1847

Wisanu Bess's Will.

In the name of God Amen, I Wisanu Bess of the
State of North Carolina Lincoln County being of
sound & perfect mind & memory do this 5th day of
November in the year of our Lord one thousand
eight hundred forty seven do make & publish this
my last will & Testament in manner & form following
viz. First, I recommend my soul to God who can
it, and my body to be buried in a Christian like manner
Item 2nd I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife
Eliza Bess the plantation on which I now live,
also my negro girl Esther and negro Boy Joseph
also all my lands & cattle & shops & all my stock
of every kind & description, also all the farming
utensils of every kind & description, also all the
household & kitchen furniture of every kind
& every implement of every kind that I now
own or expect to have & to hold during her life
if she shall so long continue my widow —
Item 3rd Provided always, that if my wife
Eliza should die she shall remain in possession
of the land & negroes & all the above named
property until my son John Franklin shall
arrive to the age of twenty years, then he
shall come into full possession of the above named

in the name of God Amen. I. William Wells of the
State of North Carolina Lincoln County being of
sound & perfect mind & memory do this 5th day of
November in the year of our Lord one thousand
eight hundred & forty seven do make & publish this
my last will & testament in manner & form following
viz. First, I recommend my soul to God who can
it, and my body to be buried in a Christian like manner
Item 2nd I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife
Eliza Wells the plantation on which I now live,
also my negro girl Esther and negro Boy Joseph
also all my horses, & cattle & hogs & all my stock
of every kind & description, also all the farming
utensils of every kind & description, also all the
household & kitchen furniture of every kind
every implement of every kind that I now
own or possess to have & to hold during her life
if she shall so long continue my widow —
Item 3rd Provided always, that if my wife
Eliza should die she shall remain in possession
of the land & negroes & all the above named
property until my son John Franklin shall
arrive to the age of twenty years, then he
shall come into full possession of the above named
land and premises, also the above named
negroes Esther & Joseph & their issue (if any)
shall be divided equally between my four

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daughters, Mary Ann, Isaac Catterton, Margaret
Elizabeth, and Susan Adeline at the time when
Franklin arrives to the age of twenty years
Item 4th Provided always that the aforesaid
Eliza Bep. or her husband, or any other person
shall be prohibited from ever selling the above
named Negroes.

Item 5th I allow my wife Eliza to dispose of
as much property as she can most conveniently
spare to satisfy demands that may be against
my estate —

And I do hereby appoint my wife Eliza Bep
& John F. Webb Executors of this my last will and
testament in witness whereof I have set
my hand and seal the day & date above
written

Hiram Bep H. B.

Signed sealed published & declared by the above
named Hiram Bep to be his last will and
testament, in the presence of us who have
hereunto subscribed our names as Witnesses,
in the presence of the Testator

Thomas Spratt

Wm B. Briggs (Curator)

Orin Bep Surety

Lanson Bep

Executors & Sureties