

December Sessions 1844.

In the name of God. Amen. I John R. Stamey of the County of Lincoln & State of North Carolina being of sound & perfect disposing mind & memory, blessed be God, do this first day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & forty four make & publish this my last Will & testament in words & manner as follows to wit: First calling to mind the mortality of the body & knowing that it is appointed once for all men to die I therefore recommend my soul to God who give it, & my body to the earth to be decently buried in a Christian like manner, and as to the worldly estate which it has pleased God to give me I will give & bequeath in the following manner to wit: First, I direct all my just debts to be paid by my Executors. Secondly, my will is that my beloved wife Nelly Stamey shall have all my real & personal estate of every kind during her natural lifetime or widowhood, and to dispose of the same as she sees fit; but in case she marries at that time my will is that all the property be sold or hired out & be equally divided between my wife & all my children, after paying all my just debts as above specified. Thirdly, my will is that in case my wife should die before my children is of age in that case my will is that all the property be sold but land and negroes, and that the slaves be hired out until oldest of my children are of age & then to be equally divided between all of my children and I hereby constitute make & appoint my beloved wife Nelly Stamey and beloved brother Joseph Stamey my Executors of this my last Will & testament —

Words interlined before the signing of this my Will & testament.

1st. Elder marked out & Nelly, inserted, 2nd Interline (or hired out)

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3rd Interlined (oldest of)

Signed sealed & published & declared by John R. Stamey the testator to be his last Will & Testament
in presence of us who was present at the signing & sealing hereof

Mr. Hull. Curat
W. W. Smith

J. R. Stamey Seal