

In the name of God Amen I William Bickers of the county
of Lincoln State of North Carolina being weak and feeble
of body and conscious of the instability of earthly things
do deem it proper while possessed of the ^{disposition} ~~disposition~~ of reason
mercifully bestowed in me by the great giver of all
Good to arrange my worldly concerns and do therefore
this 15th day of August in the year of our Lord 1879
make & publish my last will & testament in manner
& form following hereby expressing void in force will
by me heretofore made considering it to be the duty of
every person to provide for the payment of all legal demands
if any such there be it is my will that my Executor
hereafter named shall dispose of such part of my personal
property at private sale as may be considered best in
convenience to share in order to discharge all such
demands with a little delay as convenience will admit
expressly forbidding the disposal of any of my property by
way of public sale unless I should so direct it but seldom
can be considered as nearly approaching to a fair val-
uation and most generally passing into the hands
of thoughtless and frequently intoxicated purchasers
who regardless of future consequences to themselves
& their families contract unpaid debts without any
rational prospect of discharging the same ^{and at last making of bills of exchange and notes without} ~~and at last making of bills of exchange and notes without~~
ing the rightful claimants to give and bequeath to
my daughter Martha & Louisa Bickers all the live
stock belonging to me of every description including
a young cow and mare and her increase cattle sheep
& hogs together with all the sheep household
& kitchen furniture and a loom & a furniture
belonging thereto the farming tools & waggon to be
common to them and my son John & also will to the
said Martha & Louisa Bickers the right of possession
of the dwelling house and such part of the out build-
ings as may be considered reasonable together with
the use of part of the cleared land for their
support and a third part of the meadows
now cleared if so much be needful for the support
of the stock said Martha & Louisa Bickers may

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consider as if they had kept together with the privilege
of opening land if considered by them necessary &
for best to designate any particular location of
land wherever it will conduce to the advantage
of all accostomable to shift the fields but leave that
to themselves to determine and only direct that an
eventual situation be made in regard to soil the above
bequest to be considered as the exclusive right of
settlement of the said Martha & Louisa whether or
either of them so long as they remain in a single
state the personal property to be indefinitely theirs
having received from Isaac Price a note of hand
as a partial compensation for money paid by me
for him I will and direct my Executor to use all
reasonable & lawful exertion to obtain payment of
the same with as little delay as practicable which
money if obtained or any part thereof to be divided
into five equal parts and distributed as follows
one part to my daughter Eliza one to my daughter
Mary one to my daughter Martha one to my daughter
Louisa & one in trust to my son John to and for
the use of and benefit of my daughter Margaret
which part he my son John may at any time
apply to the use of my said daughter Margaret
or place in her hands without any breach of trust
and I also will to him my son John in trust for
the support of my daughter Margaret & her children
whatever remains of the property conveyed to me
by bill of sale from Isaac Price which he my son
John may have in the hands of my daughter Margaret
without any breach of trust which property or
bequested not to be in any way liable for the
debts of said Isaac Price Being joined as
surety in an obligation with Andrew Gardner
for the payment of a sum of money to
John Butler which is yet unpaid of
the said Andrew Gardner by payment

of the same or otherwise so that my property be released
 from liability in the case of the shipwreck of my vessel &
 bequeath to my daughter Eliza & her children that part of
 my land known as the Williams place - according to
 a line run by Eliza Wilson & lying on the north of said
 line but in case of not being released from the same
 - at of the above mentioned obligation it shall be the
 duty of my Executor to make sale of the said land
 to discharge the demand of the aforesaid promissors
 & the balance if any to be paid to my daughter Eliza
 I give devise and bequeath to the church of the Independent
 Presbyterian in perpetuity for the purpose of
 of erecting a place of worship a lot of ground not
 less than six acres together with the use of the most
 convenient spring which lot cannot be alienated or
 applied to any other purpose in the congregation than
 that above specified but in case it is not accepted
 and continued for the above purpose it shall
 revert to my heirs at law with my other land
 said lands to be conveyed to my son William on the
 above terms I give devise & bequeath to my son John
 all my lands except that otherwise indicated and
 make constitute & appoint him my heir & John
 Vickers sole Executor of this my last will & having
 executed a will to the lot of ground above described
 as bequeathed to the Independent Presbyterian Church
 since writing the above clause relating to the
 same is to be considered no longer obligatory but
 absolutely null & void the words "and he is hereby
 inserted between the 10th & 11th lines were wrote before
 the completion of this will signed sealed published
 & declared to be last will & testament of the testator
 in presence of

L. J. Farmer
 John Rushall
 James Deak Forest

Wm. M. Vickers seal
 John Vickers Exr sworn