

March Sessions 1826.

In the name of God, Amen!

Frances Koulthas of the County of Berke and State of N. C. heretofore being weak of body, but of sound disposing mind and memory do make and ordain this to be my last Will and Testament in the following manner to wit.

Item My Will and desire is that all my Just debts be first paid and the residue of my property if any to be equally divided between my four Children Joseph, John, Francis and Jane, share and share alike except my share horse, Plow, Press, Silver Table Spoons Tea Spoons Sugar Tongs and Ladle which I give to my two Daughters Francis and Jane.

Item It is my wish that should it be necessary to sell my land and negroes that my children should be the purchasers as my Negro Woman Winny has been a faithful servant I wish her and her children to remain in the family unless she should prefer to live with some other person, in that case I wish to have her choice.

Lastly I constitute and appoint my affectionate sons Joseph B. Koulthas and John B. Koulthas Executors to this my last Will and Testament with full power to sell (if necessary) either to pay my debts or for a Division amongst themselves any or the whole of my estate real and personal either at public or private sale as they may think proper.

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this day of ^{March} June Term 1822.

Signed Seal and acknowledged

in presence of us

(Signed) Jas. L. Bryan

Jas. L. Bryan

State of North Carolina, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Martin County

March Session 1826

The above Paper (writing) purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of Frances Koulthas of the day of March June Term 1822 was produced in open Court by James L. Bryan one of the subscribing witnesses thereto who swore that he saw Francis Koulthas sign Seal and acknowledge the same to be his last Will & Testament that she was of sound disposing mind & memory at the time she signed the same that he signed the same with John L. Bryan as a witness thereto. And Joseph B. Koulthas came into Court at the time of the probate herof and qualified to execute the same according to the stipulations therein contained

Attest

Henry B. Hamlin Ck.
J. L. Bryan & Jas. L. Bryan

March Sessions 1826.

In the name of God, Amen!

St. Andrew Station of the County of Martin and State of North Carolina being of perfect mind and memory (Thanks be to God for the same) though weak of body and much reduced by sickness and affliction: And taking into Consideration the uncertainty of human life that it is ordained that all share digans being devisors while living so to dispose of my estate both real and personal as shall best comport with my views among my Children do make and ordain this to be my last Will and Testament (annulling and annulling all other Wills or parts of Wills by me heretofore made or declared) in manner and form following (To wit)

Item I recommend my soul to God who gave it and my body to the earth to be buried in a decent and Christianlike manner by my Executors whom after to be named and appointed.

Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Nancy Piers & her husband John Piers one negro girl named Curran, one Bed and furniture, one Vase of Pew, three Cows and Calves, three Sows and broods, ^{two} pigs, one Mare called the Jacky Mare half a Loxen Winter Charron, one pair of light white said articles have heretofore been delivered to the said Nancy and John Piers, and I hereby exonerate and discharge the said John Piers of all liability to me for all advances either in Cash labor or goods made down or delivered to him heretofore by me except seven head of Cattle by three cows and calves which I permitted him for the last year, to take and then turn for ever.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son Thomas Station all that tract of land which I purchased at a Sheriff's sale known by the name of the Council Place which will be more fully ^{expressed} by the Sheriff's deed to me, and so much of another tract purchased of Benjamin & Lady as will be included within a line beginning in the Cherry olden Branch on the dividing line between John Thomas and Thomas Wheatly running thence up the said Branch a direct line to a Cypress and Gum standing in a large Pond thence a direct line easterly to the head of the first Branch to the downward of the Harrier Pond thence down the various Courses of the said Branch to the said Benjamin & Lady, ^{then} on the edge of the Mill Swamp thence up & along the said Swamp the said Lady's line to the dividing line of the said Thomas and Wheatly, thence up their said line to the beginning in the Cherry olden Branch to have and to hold the same to him and his heirs for ever. And I give and bequeath unto my son Thomas Station one negro man named Frank, one sorrel Mare saddle and bridle, one Bed and furniture, two Sows and Pigs, two Cows & calves to him and his heirs for ever.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son Arthur Watson all the residue of that tract of Land which I purchased of Benjamin F. Slade after deducting the tract above described which I took off & gave to my son Thomas Watson, including my dwelling House and all other Plantations all by in the said County and including within the lands of the said Slade to me which will more fully appear thereby, to him and his heirs for ever. Also a Negro man named Barley, one Bay Colt named Bradlock one Red & fawn mare two Cows and calves, two sows & Pigs to him and his heirs for ever.

Item I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Affrica Watson two Negro men Mingo and Jeffery, one Red and fawn mare two Cows and calves, two sows and Pigs. Also it is my desire that my Executors purchase and furnish the said Mingo and Jeffery with one good Cobaw one Broad Ax and one sawyer Ax and that the said Negro be hired annually as slaves. And in case the said Negroes shall become unruly and disobedient my Executors are hereby empowered and authorized to sell the said Mingo and Jeffery and put the proceeds at discretion for the benefit of my Daughter Affrica. Also I give and bequeath to my Daughter Affrica Watson one Bay Mare called the Cornish Mare a Side Saddle and Bridle, to have and to hold all the above described property given to the said Affrica to her and her heirs for ever.

Item I give and bequeath unto my two Daughters Nancy Pore and Affrica Watson all my Lot and town property in the County of Anson in the said County to be equally divided between them, to them and their heirs for ever.

Item It is my Will and desire all the residue of my property of every description shall be sold and after paying all my Just debts, be equally divided among my four above named Children Nancy Pore Thomas Watson, Arthur Watson, and Affrica Watson.

Item I have nominate, constitute and appoint my well beloved Brother Jordan Watson and son in Law John Pires of the said County to be Executors to this my last Will and Testament. Witness my hand and seal this 7th day of Decr. A.D. 1825. (Signed) Arthur Watson

Signed sealed declared and published before us by the Testator Arthur Watson to be his last Will and Testament the day and date first above written

(Signed) Benj. F. Slade

Edw. McCaskey

Bayton Boyett

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Martin County } March Sessions 1826.

The foregoing Paper Writing purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of Arthur Watson was produced in open Court by Jordan Watson of the date of the 7th day of Decr. A.D. 1825 and proved by the oath of Benjamin F. Slade one of the subscribing Witnesses thereto who swore that the Testator Arthur Watson was of sound disposing mind and memory at the time he saw him execute the same, that he signed the same with Edw. McCaskey and Bayton Boyett as subscribing Witnesses thereto. And Jordan, ^{being} at the same time came into Court and qualified as Executor to the same, and to execute the same according to the stipulations therein mentioned.

Attest Henry B. Horner Clerk
Benj. F. Slade Deft.

In the Name of God, Amen!

I Silas Ballard of the State of North Carolina and leaving on the County of Martin being of sound and perfect mind and memory blessed be God do this 1st day of November in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty five make and publish this my last Will and Testament in and no following that is to say.

Item I give and bequeath unto my beloved Wife Mary Ballard my Negro slaves also all my household and kitchen furniture also one yoke of Steers also all my flock of Hogs and Cattle also my two Horses together with my Crop of Corn to her for ever also I lend unto my beloved wife Mary Ballard during her natural life three Negro Males Fanny, Washington and Elston, & after her death to return in manner and form following I give and bequeath Washington to my brother Samuel Ballantison Joseph Ballard to him and his heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath at the death of my Wife Mary Ball and Fanny & Elston to be equally divided between Mary Ann Ballard Tracy Long Children & Isham Ballard Children of my Brother Isham dies without Children then the legacy left to his Wife to return to my sister and Brother Children. And I hereby make and ordain my worthy friend John J. Sherrod Executor of this my last Will and Testament, in Witness whereof I the said Silas Ballard have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand and seal this day and bear above written. Signed sealed published and declared by the said Silas Ballard the Testator as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who were present at the time of signing and sealing thereof.

Witness (Signed) Qualling Borer

(Signed) Silas Ballard & Seal

Nathan Horton.

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions March Sessions 1826.
Martin County } The Above Paper Writing purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Silas Ballard was produced in open Court of the 7th day of November A.D. 1825 by Qualling Borer and Nathan Horton the subscribing Witnesses thereto and proved by them who swore that Silas Ballard the Testator was of sound disposing mind & memory when he signed the same and that they signed the said Will as Witnesses at the same time and on motion was ordered to be recorded.

Test Henry B. Horner Clerk
Benj. F. Slade Deft.