

William Stephenson's Will

In the name of God amen I William Stephenson of the county of Northampton and State of North Carolina being sick but in perfect mind and memory do make and ordain this instrument my last will and testament.

- Item 1st I commend my soul and body into the hands of God who gave them
- Item 2^d I lend unto my wife Martha Stephenson her natural life the following property (to wit) one negro man from one negro woman Elle one other woman Hannah one boy Alfred one small girl Aggy one small boy Ben one boy man and her choice one of the balance of my horses one cow & calves one hundred hogs and one white yearling - two sows and pigs her choice at the pen towards Henry's then feather beds & furniture with all my household and kitchen furniture one heavy wagon and hauled one cart & wheels one horse and gear and a year's provisions. It is my will and desire at the death of my wife that all of the above named property except the above named negroes should be equally divided between all my children namely Patrick H Stephenson, Rebecca Denton, Margaret Stephenson, Henrich J Stephenson and John W Stephenson to them & their heirs forever
- Item 3^d I give unto my son Patrick H Stephenson one negro woman Rachel also one negro boy Alfred at the death of my wife to him who has forever
- Item 4th I give unto my daughter Rebecca Denton one negro girl Patience also one negro woman Hannah at the death of my wife to her and her heirs forever
- Item 5th I give unto my daughter Margaret Stephenson one negro man Shade also one negro girl Aggy at the death of my wife to her and her heirs forever
- Item 6th I give unto my son Henrich J Stephenson one negro man Tombs also one negro boy Ben at the death of my wife to him and his heirs forever
- Item 7th I give unto my son John W Stephenson one negro man Sam and a negro girl Elle at the death of my wife to him and his heirs forever
- Item 8th I lend unto my wife Martha Stephenson her natural life one third part of my land including the house wherein I live & cotton gin and sours, the balance of my lands I give unto my son John W Stephenson including the house where he lived, and at the death of my wife, It is my will and desire that he should have and possess all the lands wherein I live and the cotton gin & sours to him and his heirs forever
- Item 9th I do make and appoint my sons Henrich J Stephenson and John W Stephenson my whole and sole executors to this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 18th day of April A.D. One thousand

eight hundred and thirty seven.

Wrote

Richard Hargrave, W. H. Harder,

Arthur J. Long

Northampton County September 2nd 1837

William Stephenson Esq

This last will and testament of William Stephenson deceased as exhibited in open court and proved in due form of law by the oaths of W. H. Harder and Arthur J. Long two of the subscribing witnesses thereto and ordered to be certified and recorded. Witness my hand and seal of office this 10th day of September 1837. John W. Stephenson & John W. Stephenson the executors therein named qualified according to law. Teste W. H. Harder Esq

Lore Fergusons Will.

In the name of God amen I Lore Ferguson of the county of Northampton and State of North Carolina do hereby make and ordain this my last will and testament, revoking all other wills heretofore made by me

- 1st It is my will and desire that all my just debt shall be paid by my executor out of my estate
- 2^d My will is that my Executor sell all my land lying on the south side of the road which runs through my plantation except the orchards and that the line run out side of the fence which inclosed the orchards
- 3^d I lend unto my wife Margaret Ferguson all my land and plantation whereon I now live and which lies on the north side of the same road with all monies bonds and accounts which I have all my household and kitchen furniture of every kind all my stock of horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs all my crop of corn, fodder and oats plantation utensils of every kind, all the rest of my estate of any that is not named, until my youngest son arrives to the age of fourteen years for the purpose of boarding, clothing and schooling my then son Miles H Ferguson, Baker L Ferguson & Littleton J L Ferguson and when my youngest son arrives to the age of fourteen years that my whole estate be equally divided and that my wife take one fourth part in fee simple and each of my sons one fourth part of the balance to them and their heirs forever but it is not my will that they take immediate possession of their property but may choose or have guardians appointed for them until they arrive to lawful age
- 4th I nominate and appoint my wife my whole and sole executrix to this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my

land and was the twenty second day of June 1837

Signed and acknowledged

Love Ferguson (Clerk)

In presence of

Ray. Cornwell

Abalom Harris, James Woods

Northampton County September Court 1837

This last will and testament of Love Ferguson was exhibited in open Court and proved in due form of law by the oaths of Benjamin Cornwell and Abalom Harris two of the subscribing, witnessed thereto and ordered to be entered and recorded - whereupon Margaret Ferguson the executrix therein named qualified according to law

Teste W. Polhem (Clerk)

Thomas Garner's Will.

In the name of God amen I Thomas Garner of the County of Northampton and State of North Carolina knowing it appointed unto me now to die do make and ordain this my last will & testament in manner & form following to wit -

Item 1st It is my will & desire that my brother Bradford Garner shall have my half of a fishing place called & known as the high Islands fishing place in the another River or Bradfords falls - also my shot gun. which he is to take possession at my decess.

Item 2^d It is my will and desire that my wife Nancy Garner shall have the portion of her fathers estate which is due me in right of her also my cow & calf and her and she are to have her husband & assigns forever

Item 3^d It is further my will and desire that my wife Nancy Garner shall have the tract of land (called the Arrowood ^{estate}) which is now by my uncle Wm Garner, at the death of my father during her natural life or widowhood and if she dies without an heir by me begotten, it is then my wish that my brother Bradford Garner should have the said land

Item 4th It is my wish & desire that my executrix hereafter appointed shall sell my crop of cotton now on hand, and together with what money I have by me pay all my just debts and retain the overplus if any in his hands for the benefit of my said wife Nancy Garner as she may need it

Item 5th It is my wish that my wife Nancy Garner shall have all the rest of my estate which I have not disposed of during her natural life or widowhood & if she dies without a lawful heir by me begotten it is then & in that case my will and desire that my brother Bradford Garner shall have it -

Item 6th And lastly I do hereby appoint David M. Matthews Executor to

this my last will & testament revoking by this all other wills heretofore by me made In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this 23rd day of March 1837

Testament in two places -

Signed sealed & acknowledged

In presence of us

John J. May - Wm. B. Matthews

of his
Thomas L. Garner (Clerk)
mark

Northampton County September Court 1837

This last will and testament of Thomas Garner was exhibited in open Court and proved in due form of law by the oaths of John J. May & Wm. B. Matthews the subscribing, witnessed thereto and ordered to be recorded whereupon David M. Matthews the executor therein named qualified according to law

Teste W. Polhem (Clerk)

Meritt L. W. King's Will.

In the name of God amen I Meritt L. W. King of the County of Northampton and State of North Carolina being weak of body but of disposing mind and memory do make and ordain this my last will and testament for the disposal of such worldly goods as it has pleased almighty God to bestow upon me

Item I give to my sister Jemmy all my stock of horses Cattle Hogs household & kitchen furniture of every description together with all my plantation tools & utensils with my present stock of provisions together with the crop now on the grounds to her and her heirs forever - Item I lend to my

Item I lend unto my sister Jemmy, Uncle Dalmy Canthon and his wife Sarah Canthon during their lifetimes for them to have a comfortable home so long as they may live the tract of land whereon I now live -

Item After the death of my said sister Jemmy Uncle Dalmy Canthon and his wife Sarah I give to the youngest surviving daughter of my said Uncle Dalmy Canthon and his wife Sarah my tract of land and the two negroes above mentioned to her and her heirs forever

Item I give to my sister Jemmy and she had former my crop of cotton now on hand and all the debt owing to me and all other species of property that I own after the payment of my just debts and funeral expenses -

It is my will & desire that then by an inventory or sale I hereby constitute and appoint my sister Jemmy Canthon of this my last will and testament - In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this first day of May one thousand eight hundred