

Wills — October Court 1837 ✓

she is now pregnant with with, shall all have an equal part or share of my estate after my just debts is paid, which must be first done of all.

And I hereby make and ordain my worthy friends Anderson Elam and Andrew ~~Platter~~ executors of this my last will and testament.

In Witness Whereof I the said Sarrance Costner have to this my last will and testament set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Sarrance Costner in the presence of us, who were present at the time of who were present at the time of signing and sealing thereof.

(Witness)

Henry Scherck Jr. (Jurat)

William Martin

Samuel Thompson (Jurat)

January Court 1832.

I, Richard Eskridge of the County of Rutherford and State of North Carolina do make and publish this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all others by me at any time heretofore made. And first I direct that my body be decently interred and that my funeral be conducted in a manner corresponding with my station in life; and as to such worldly estate as it hath pleased God to bestow on me with, I dispose of the same as follows First, I direct that all my debts be paid as soon after my decease as possible out of the first moneys that shall come into the hands of executors from any portions of my estate. Secondly, it is my will and desire that my beloved wife Elizabeth have all my tract of

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land Wharrior I now reside during her lifetime or widowhood, and after her death or marriage I give my tract of land to my two sons Jeph and Elijah Eskridge to be equally divided between them. Containing in the whole two hundred and thirty four acres more or less.

Thirdly, I give unto my beloved wife Elizabeth my negro Woman Hannah to dispose of as she pleases and her increase, also forever. Fourthly, I give unto my three sons, John J. Eskridge, Jeph Eskridge & Elijah Eskridge each of them a bed and furniture tract of them a Cow & Calf also (to make them equal with those that has received such) to be delivered to them by my beloved wife when called for.

Fifthly, I give all the rest of my property including my present crops, household and kitchen furniture, farming tools of every description, all my stock of horses, cattle, hogs & such like unto my beloved wife Elizabeth during her life.

And after her death or marriage, it is my will and desire that my executor herein after named sell to the highest bidder on a credit of twelve months, all the property that is in possession of my beloved wife and the proceeds to be equally divided between all my children, to wit William L. Eskridge, Samuel Eskridge, Richard H. Eskridge, Simon Eskridge, Unicy Martin, John J. Eskridge, Sally Wilkins, Jeph Eskridge and Elijah Eskridge, each to share and share alike, and to effectuate this my intention I do hereby vest in my executor full power and authority to dispose of the same in every respect as I could do if living and the proceeds as soon as it shall come into the hands of my executor, the heirs or representatives of any of any of my children who shall have died between the time of my decease



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and the line of such division or distribution to be entitled to such share or shares as their respective ancestors would have been entitled to receive if then living.

And I do hereby make and Ordain my son Elijah Eskridge executor of this my last will & testament.

In witness whereof I Richard Eskridge the testator have to this my will, written on one sheet of paper, set my hand and seal this third day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty one.

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of  
Witnesses  
D. Dobbin

Richard Eskridge

In the name of God, Amen.

I William Stewart of the County of Rutherford and State of North Carolina, being very sick & weak in body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God; Calling unto mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and Ordain this to be my last will and testament, that is to say, principally and first of all, I give and recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it, & my body I recommend to the Earth, to be buried in a decent Christian burial at the discretion of my executors; and I appoint my wife Lucina and my son William Stewart to be my executors, and to act and do for me as though I was personally present, nothing doubting but at the general resurrection, I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God. And as touching such worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life, I give, devise, and dispose of the same in the

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following manner and form — First, I give and bequeath to my dear & beloved wife two hundred acres of land that I now live on and also give my wife one grey mare and two cows and one calf and all my hogs & my farming tools and my working instruments and all my household furniture and all that I possess in this world besides, during her natural lifetime and at her death all this property that is left, I do will to my son William Stewart, and I also give Peggy Jones five dollars, and I also give Lucina Simons five dollars, and I also give my grand daughter Peggy Stewart ~~five dollars~~ one grey mare called ~~Lucy~~ and do hereby utterly disavow, revoke and disannul all & every other former testaments, legacies and executors by in anywise before made, made and bequeathed, ratifying and Confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this sixth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty one. Signed, sealed published and pronounced and declared by the said William Stewart, as his last will and testament, in the presence of us, who on his presence and in <sup>the</sup> presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names.

Test, Robert Johnston (affirms)

Samuel Stewart (seal)  
Mark

William Stewart (seal)  
Mark

In the name of God, Amen.

I Thomas West of the County of Rutherford and State of N. Carolina, being very sick & weak in body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be to God, Calling unto mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed