

State of North Carolina
Stokes County,

In the name of God Amen.

I Joseph Seales of the County of Stokes and State of North Carolina aforesaid being weak in body but of disposing mind & memory do make & obtain this my last will & testament

First, I will that all my just debts & funeral expenses be paid out of my estate

Secondly I give & bequeath to my son Absalom Seales the tract of land wherein I now live known by the name of Sandy ridge containing one thousand & thirty three acres, including my dwelling place & mill, which said tract of land was deeded to me by Nathaniel Seales Sr. I also give & bequeath to my son Absalom Seales aforesaid the following negro slaves & all their increase (wits) Hark, Delph, Aba & Nan & Lommon, Gorry & Gorry Jr. Lucy Karam, Nan & Frank, Ally, Bill & or, Mariak & Little

Thirdly I give & bequeath to my son-in-law Peter Hay & my daughter Sally his wife & her heirs one half of my two tracts of land known by the names of Halls place & the Long purchased of David Dalton & both tracts containing eight hundred & eighty acres, which land was deeded to me by David Dalton & John Hughes I also give & bequeath to the said Peter Hay & my daughter Sally and her heirs aforesaid the following negro slaves & their increase (to wits) Daniel, Rade, Adabae, Daniel Jr. Moses, Delph, John, Charlotte, Puck, Luce Jr. Loretta & Pitt — I also will that my son Absalom Seales pay to the said Peter Hay aforesaid seventy five dollars in consequence of the negro child Little which I have given to my said son Absalom he having the mother which said seventy five dollars he is to pay out of his own money after my death without interest

Fourthly I give & bequeath unto my son Absalom Seales one half of my two tracts of land known by the name of Halls place & the Long purchased of David Dalton containing eight hundred & eighty acres which land was deeded to me by David Dalton & John Hughes the said Absalom Seales to hold the land last devised for the children of my Daughter Jane Seales wife of Nathaniel Seales

I will that the said Absalom Seales his executors & administrators shall hold the said land aforesaid for the maintenance, use and benefit of my Daughter Jane Seales wife of Nathaniel Seales aforesaid during her natural life but to be free from the demands and claims of the creditors of her present husband or any other after taken husband and to be solely enjoyed by herself & her husband or any other after taken husband with a view to the support & maintenance of themselves & their children & in further trust & confidence that the said Absalom Seales his executors & administrators shall hold said land for each & every of the children of my said Daughter Jane that may be living at the time of my death or which may hereafter be born of the present or any subsequent marriage to be equally divided among said children

at the death of my Daughter Jane aforesaid. And I further will that if my said son Absalom Seales Trustee aforesaid shall at any time think it best & for the advantage of my Daughter Jane & her children to sell said land so devised to my Daughter Jane & the heirs of her body that is her children by her present or any after taken husband he have full power & authority to do so for the best price he can get and the proceeds to be so divided as aforesaid that is for the maintenance use and benefit of my said Daughter Jane & for the support and education of her children to be laid out as my said son Absalom Seales Trustee aforesaid in his discretion may think proper for the purpose aforesaid

Fifthly I give & bequeath unto my son Absalom Seales the following negro slaves & their increase (wits) Alfred, Itham, Harrison, Dick, Asham & Mally Peter, Charles, Berice, John & Look, Bile Jr. Frank & Mary in trust that the said Absalom Seales his administrators & executors shall hold them & their increase for the maintenance, use & benefit of my Daughter Jane Seales wife of Nathaniel Seales during her natural life but to be free from the claims of the creditors of her present or any after taken husband & to be solely enjoyed by herself & her present or any after taken husband, with a view to the support & maintenance of themselves & the children of my said Daughter Jane Seales. And in further trust & confidence that the said Absalom Seales his executors & administrators shall hold the land & negroes so devised for each & every of the children of my said Daughter Jane that may be living at my death or which may be thereafter born of the present or any subsequent marriage to be equally divided among said children as they may marry or respectively arrive at the age of twenty one years, reserving a sufficiency for the support & maintenance of my said Daughter Jane before such division & the whole subject to the support of their parents as heretofore provided to employ & apply the hire & profits of said slaves & land so devised toward the maintenance & education of the children of my said Daughter Jane during their minority & upon the death of any child or children of my said Daughter Jane without having married then it is my will & direction that the share of such child or children be equally divided amongst the surviving child or children of my said Daughter Jane

Sixthly I will that all my stock, crop household & kitchen furniture which may be on hand at my death except what is hereafter devised shall be sold on a credit of twelve months by my executor & one third to go to Peter Hay & his wife Sally and one third to Absalom Seales for his own use & benefit & the other third to be held by my said son Absalom Seales for the use & benefit of my Daughter Jane Seales wife of Nathaniel Seales and the children of her the said Jane Seales living at my death

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or which may be born thereafter in the same way & for the same purpose as the land & slave heretofore devised to my said son Abraham for the use & benefit of my said daughter Jane free from the creditors of her present or any after taken husband

Eleventhly, I will that my son Abraham Seals in consequence of payment hundred dollars advanced to him in his store in business pay over to my daughter Sally Ray or her husband Peter Ray three hundred & fifty dollars he having paid to Peter Ray one hundred dollars heretofore, which said three hundred & fifty dollars is to be paid after my death without interest

Eighthly, I will that my son Abraham Seals shall hold in trust for the use & benefit of my daughter Jane Seals wife of Nathaniel Seals four hundred & fifty dollars & be free from the claims of the creditors of her present or any after taken husband which shall be used & divided in the same way that the land & negroes heretofore devised to said Abraham Seals in trust is directed to be used that is for the use, benefit & support of my daughter Jane & her children which may be living at the time of my death or be thereafter born by the present or any after marriage, which four hundred & fifty dollars is not to carry interest until after my death

Ninthly, I gave a bequest unto my son Abraham Seals two good beds & furniture & my house clock, also all my ready money out-
standing with all the balance of my property not heretofore divided

Tenthly, In explanation, I have given to my son Abraham Seals the negro fellow Bill & the girl Mariak & consequently or to balance against the negroes heretofore given my daughters who had four each which are not named in this will

Eleventhly, I constitute nominate & appoint my son Abraham Seals and Peter Ray my principal executors of this my last will & testament

Twelfthly, I hereby revoke all former wills & testaments heretofore made by me & say the foregoing is my will & desire. In witness whereof I have unto set my hand & affixed my seal this 10th day of July 1831.

Signed, sealed & acknowledged
in presence of

Wm. H. Lyon

Richard Mills

Just

Joseph Seals

Stokes County June term 1832

The execution of the last will & testament of Joseph Seals of which the foregoing is a true copy was proven in open court by the oaths of Wm. H. Lyon & Richard Mills & ordered to be recorded

W. H. Mills. c. c. c.

In the name of God Amen

I Isaac Poff son of the bounty of Stokes & State of North Carolina being at present of perfect & sound mind & memory blessed be Almighty God do this eighteenth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & twenty eight make & publish this my last will & testament in manner & form as follows (to wit) first of all I recommend my soul unto the hand of Almighty God who gave it, & at my death my body to the dust from whence it came to be buried a Christian burial at the discretion of my executors hereinafter named and as touching such worldly estate wherewitht God hath blessed me to bless me with in this life I give, bequeath & dispose of the same in manner & form as follows (that is to say)

First That all my just debts & debts I may owe at my death shall be paid out of my estate

2nd I will, & bequeath to my beloved wife if she should live longer than myself one choice card & calf, bed & furniture & my mansion house & to have her support from my plantation during her life with all necessary house hold & kitchen furniture that she may stand in need of

3rd I give & bequeath to my son Christian all my plantations on which I now live containing one hundred & thirty acres, allowing & reserving to my wife Mary Margaretta her support as aforesaid and a room in my mansion house. Also I give & bequeath to my said son Christian twenty one acre & 1/4 of an acre on both sides of muddy creek adjoining Peter Poff & others taking both pieces at three hundred dollars in my estate. also I give my said son my share in a still & still tub & six hogheads at the sum of fifty dollars & to have all the horse beasts on the plantation as he has raised them himself & if he my said son Christian shall fall in debt in the division my estate it is my will that he shall have four years to pay whatever sum he may fall indebted to my other children, to pay interest two years after my will is recorded

4th I give & bequeath to my daughter Rebecca Seiler & her heirs twenty three acres & three quarters in two parcels for which I have signed a deed & gift both of which is returned to her at one hundred & fifty two dollars as part of her legacy

5th I give & bequeath to my daughter Mary Margaretta Bryan an equal share with my other two children of my estate of which I have given her one more at twenty five dollars

6th It is my will that all the remaining part of my Estate consisting of cattle hogs sheep & other loose property shall be sold by my executors on a credit of twelve months & the proceeds thereof to be added to the above valuations of land & more & to be equally divided share & share alike between my three children aforesaid or their heirs

7th I further give to my son Christian my waggon & harness & two hip traps at the valuation of forty dollars to be added & charged to him as above stated

8th and lastly I nominate constitute & appoint my brother Poff & my son Christian Poff executors of