

In the name of God Amen! I Alexander Bellitts of the County of Stokes and State of North Carolina, being of sound and perfect mind and memory (helped by God) though weak and feeble in body, do this 9th day of June, the year of our Lord 1825. Make and publish this my last Will and Testament, in manner and form following, that is to say, after recommending my soul to God who gave it, and my body to its Maker, to be buried in a decent and Christian burial, by my executors hereafter named. I will that my Executors make and pay all my just debts - I will in second place, that my beloved wife Leah, remain and continue on my plantation and in the house I now live, during her natural life, and to have her support out of my plantation. Thirdly, I will, that all my children, (that is to say, My daughter Betty Bellitts and son Jonathan Bellitts, and two daughters, Polly and Sarah Bellitts, and two sons, George and Matthew (Heaton) shall go share and share alike in all my estate.

Further I will, that when my youngest son, Matthew, comes to the age of twenty one, that my lands is to be equally divided. Amongst all my above mentioned children, unless they see proper amongst them for one of them, to buy the land and pay their other brothers and share an equal part of the price of the land.

Fifthly I will that my two daughters namely, Nancy Bellitts married to George Long, and Anne Bellitts married to David Mitchell, shall for their subsistence, towards me, have only one dollar each, of my estate - And I hereby make and ordain my friends Elijah Hooper and Henry Doubt Executors of this my last will and testament, in writings hereof, & the said Alexander Bellitts, have to this my last will and testament, set my hand and seal the day year above written and delivered by the said Alexander Bellitts in his last will and testament in the presence of, who in his presence and in the presence of each have subscribed our names.

Alexander Bellitts
his mark

Benjamin Hooper Clerk

Eliza Hunter

My Doubt Sworn to the instrument.

Stokes County, September Term 1825

The foregoing is a true copy taken from the original Will which is filed
Proven by Benj. Hooper

Matthew Moore Clk
By the Court

In the name of God Amen! I Thomas Dwyer of the County of Stokes and State of North Carolina being in entire mind and memory, help by God, and as it is very uncertain of what duration my life may be, in time, do constitute this my last will and Testament, in manner and form following, (that is to say) I give my soul into the hands of Almighty God & may only to be buried in a decent manner at the discretion of my Executors hereafter to be named, in hopes of a happy resurrection through Jesus Christ my Lord and Saviour.

I give and bequeath to my step-son Aaron, a negro boy by the name of Ben, a bed and furniture and one hundred and fifty dollars which he has rec'd. and his part of stock.

I also give to my daughter Polly a negro girl by the name of Sally & her increase, bed & furniture, one hundred & fifty dollars & her part of stock, which she has rec'd.

I also give and bequeath to my step-son Horton Dwyer one hundred & fifty dollars, bed & furniture, one hundred and fifty dollars of stock, which they have rec'd.

I also give and bequeath to my step-son Richard one negro boy, one hundred & fifty dollars & his part of stock which he has rec'd.

I also give and bequeath to my daughter Catherine a negro girl by the name of Kate & her increase, and one hundred and fifty dollars, bed and furniture, and her part of stock, which she has rec'd.

I also give to my son Joseph a negro boy by the name of John, one hundred and fifty dollars, bed & furniture and his part of stock which he has rec'd.

I give to my daughter Sally one negro girl by the name of Mary, and her increase and one hundred and fifty dollars, which she has rec'd. Twenty seven dollars, and bed and furniture and her part of stock.

I give and bequeath to my son Thomas, one negro by the name of Winston, one hundred & fifty dollars, bed and furniture and his equal share of stock.

I give and bequeath to my daughter Nancy, one negro girl by the name of Mary, one hundred and fifty dollars, bed and furniture and stock which she has rec'd. (The stock only)

188 I also give and bequeath to my son Joseph one negro girl by the name of (Polly), her and furniture, and one hundred and fifty dollars, and an equal part of Stock

The remaining part of my Estate I had to my beloved wife Sally Bryant during her natural life, and then to be Equally divided amongst the above named Children, but those that have not etc. & their part of money and Stock, must be paid up first and in case any should die with a lawful issue, then in that case for it to be equally divided amongst the survivors to them & their heirs forever, and it is my wish for the negroes to be kept in the family

lastly) I appoint, William, Richard & Thomas, Executors for my whole estate, to manage as here in directed - I wish whomever I have heretofore set my hand and standing seal

July Mathews, Clerk

Thomas Mathews

Thomas Mathews

This endorsement was on the back of the will (viz)
1820 paid to son Joseph fifty dollars -
1824 Paid to Daughter Sally thirty dollars

Paid Sally Hampton on Corral mare of forty dollars
1823 Paid to Joseph Bryant 1 Bay mare of eighty dollars -

Stokes County, Tennessee term 1825

The foregoing is a true copy taken from the original will which is filed
Proven by J. Mathews -

W. Mathews
By the Court

Yachariah Branson Will

I The name of God Amen, I Yachariah Branson of the County of Stokes in the State of North Carolina, being of Sound and perfect mind and memory, bless be God, do this 13th day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty four make and publish this my last will and testament, in the words following

I give and bequeath unto my wife Jane Branson, my home place, and all my household furniture and Stock with all farming tools during her life time or widowhood, until my son Daniel Branson, arrives at the age of twenty one years of age, and then if my said wife be a widow to have

and to be avoided between her and my son Daniel, by a line running by North and South about half way between the two barns, giving Daniel the East part of the land, and my wife having the West part, the dwelling-house and one Barn, and at the death of my wife Jane, my son Daniel, to have her part of the said Land, and also as much Land of the place which I purchased of David Bryant to be paid to the said home tract or well made for Daniel Branson two hundred acres in the whole, Also I give and bequeath to my two Daughters, Elizabeth Branson and Jane Branson, all the remaining part of the land which I purchased from Mr. Bryant, I have already given my son Eli Branson one hundred and fifty acres of Land, and my son Eli one hundred acres, and my daughter Sarah wife of Enock Hutchings, fifty acres and made them heirs, also my daughter Hannah Branson fifty five and a half acres, my daughter Mary wife of Henry Morris, fifty five and a half acres, and my daughter Sally Branson fifty five and a half acres and made them heirs - Also I give and bequeath to my daughter Mahala Branson, forty acres of land here by the claim of the Marshall tract, also I give and bequeath to my sons Eli Branson and Daniel Branson my stock, with all the negroes of individuals, then unto belonging, to be equally parted and enjoyed by and between them three, Also at the death of my wife twenty dollars in cash to be paid to my daughter Elizabeth, to be paid by my Executors out of my estate, also I give and bequeath to my son Eli Branson one horse, saddle and bridle & feather bed and furniture, and to my son Daniel, one horse, saddle and bridle, feather bed and furniture, and one cow and calf, and if James King and Sanders King, shall pay to my Executors, one hundred and twenty dollars, on or before the first day of January next, that, then my Executors make them a deed to the land which I purchased of Mr. Marshall of Stokes County & which was sold as the property of their father James King dead, and I hereby make and ordain my son Daniel Branson and George Pugh, son of Peter Pugh Executors of this my last will and testament - I witness whereof I the said Yachariah Branson, have, to this my last will and testament, set my hand and seal, the day and date first above written

Signed sealed, published and declared by the said Yachariah Branson as his last will and testament in presence of us

O. P. Linville
Allen M. Tucker
J. Mathews
Stokes County, Tennessee term 1825

The foregoing is a true copy taken from the original will which is filed