

Reading Bennett's Last Will & Testament

I Reading Bennett of the County of Union and State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say.

1st first that my self namely I shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to their wishes and that the same be paid out of my Estate.

2nd I wish all my Just debts howsoever and to whomsoever owing be promptly paid out of the moneys that may first come into the hands of my Administrator as a part or portion of said Estate.

3rd I will and bequeath to my son Joseph Bennett a certain tract of Land lying and being on the old Branch beginning at an overcup tree on the East bank of said branch and run with the line of the old tract, that he bought from Christ an & a half by direction of Joseph Bennett Senr to a white oak on the Flint ridge thence a direct line to the logwood knot hollow from thence with R Bennett's line in a westerly direction to the meadow branch thence up the various corners of said branch to the beginning containing two hundred & a few more or less.

4th I will and give to my Grandson James Reading Bennett the balance of my Land (with this exception that my son Melij Bennett shall have the privilege of living and tending the same until the said James R Bennett becomes of age and then to be his & R Bennett beginning at the logwood knot hollow and run with Joseph Bennett's line to a white Oak on a flat ridge thence with said Bennett line of (R.B.) old line to the meadow branch to a line of ~~some~~ up the various

1st I will and do give to my Grandson James Reading Bennett the balance of my
Land (with this exception that my son Melij Bennett shall have the privilege of
living and tending the same until the said James R Bennett becomes of age
and then to be his & R Bennett Beginning at the log house or house hold on and
runs with Joseph Bennetts line to a white Oak on a point side then south and
Bennett line of (N. B.) old line to the meadow branch to a line of James the various
courses of meadow branch to a line of James H. Hamiltons land thence with W.
x I read away & thence with John McCollum to the beginning of containing two
hundred acres more or less.

5th I will and bequeath to my beloved wife Tilly Bennett the House where she
lives with all my house hold and kitchen furniture horses Cattle hog & sheep to be
and remain hers during her natural life time.

6th I will and bequeath unto my son John Bennett and the heirs of ^{her} my son
Darius the sum of one dollar each

7th I will and bequeath to my Grand son Lewis and son Bennett & my daug-
ter each shall and share as like or their heirs (viz) Polly, Mary, Rebecca, Groffin
Elizabeth Groffin, Charlesa Williams, Eliza Brown, Susan Light, Polly as the death
of my wife Tilly Bennett I wish for all her effects, her house hold & kitchen furni-
-ture horses Cattle Sheep and everything whatever be sold and what Col-
-lected to be equally divided as above between my Grand son Lewis and son
Bennett & all my daughters as above named.

8th I hereby revoke and declare utterly null and void all other wills and
testaments by me heretofore made — in witness whereof I the said
Reading Bennett do hereunto set my hand &

Reading Bennett Last Will & Testament Com^d

Seal this the 1st day of March 1855

Signed sealed and published and declared by the said R. B. Bennett
to be his Last Will and Testament, in the presence of us who at his request
and in his presence do subscribe

our names

G. W. May
J. A. Sinclair

Reading ^{his} Bennett
mark

State of North Carolina & Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions
Union County & July Term 1855

Then this instrument the last will and testament of Reading Bennett
was produced in Open Court and proved in due form of Law by
G. W. May one of the subscribing witnesses, and was recorded whereupon
Joseph B. Bennett was duly appointed administrator with the will
annexed and letters issued

Attest
J. M. Hewitt Clk

old Eli's son, married Lydia Pressley wife of John Pressley
Olias Preslar Last Will & Testament

I Elias Preslar of the State of North Carolina and County of Union being of
sound mind and memory and considering the certainty of death do this day
make my last will & testament in the presence of Almighty God after this manner