

North Carolina
Catharine County

I Charles Stillman of the County and State aforesaid do by these presents make and declare this my last will and testament in manner & form following that is to say -
1st Ily bequeath from the proceeds of my personal property to pay all my just debts & contingent expense.

2^d I give unto my wife Nancy Stillman during her natural life that portion of my lands on the north side of Deep creek beginning on Deep creek at William Reavis line running up said creek to the Tinsler branch then up said branch to Daniel Longs line then east with Longs to William Reavis line the north line but south to the creek & beginning including the mansion house and all other buildings & improvements on the same. And I further give my wife Nancy two of my negro slaves such as she may make choice off & two horse creatures, her choice of my stock three milk cows and three calves her choice of my stock, fifteen head of hogs and ten head of sheep, her choice of each. House hold furniture two feather beds, stoves, under beds and all necessary furniture to make the same comfortable. One walnut desk, one walnut chest, one cupboard with its furniture, including all my other table furniture, knives & forks, plates &c two tables, her choice also a candlestand, 6 sitting chairs, one clock all kitchen furniture & cooking utensils, a two horse wagon & gears & my family carriage & harness three good plow gears, saws &c & chains for the same. Three hinds & two oxen, two mares &c - all the above personal property to have and hold during her natural life.

And further my said wife Nancy to have a sufficient support laid out of my stock & provisions on hand at my death for her

self & family for one year - two bee stoves and fifteen dollars to buy coffee & sugar. 3^d I give and bequeath unto my two sons John and William Stillman all my real estate of any description in fee simple & to have possession at my death of all except that part willed to my wife during her life, to have possession of that portion willed to my wife at her death. To be equally divided between the said John & William Stillman. And it is my will that my said real estate in the hands of my sons John & William Stillman be charged with the sum of five hundred dollars to my son George Stillman, to be paid at the death of my wife. And whereas I have heretofore given to my son George Stillman a deed to that tract of land whereon he now resides, and it is my will that in addition thereto that he receive from my two sons John & William Stillman the sum of five hundred dollars and to be by them paid as heretofore directed at the death of my wife. And it is further my will that my Executors as soon as convenient after my death to proceed to sell all my personal estate of every description (excepted such as is herein otherwise disposed of) and convert all my personal estate into money.

To each of my daughters Polly Steward wife of William F. Steward, Melinda Bennett wife of Abraham Bennett, Betsey Williams wife of Stephen Williams, Eliza Ketchum wife of Isaac Ketchum, Rebecca Thomas wife of Charles Thomas, Rosanna Long wife of Isaac Long, Martha Bevil wife of George Bevil, I give and bequeath one tenth part of all my personal estate except the portion herein before given to my wife.

I give and bequeath unto the children of my deceased daughter Sally Furchar wife of David Furchar, one tenth part of all my personal Estate, except the portion herein before given to my wife, to be equally divided between them.

I give and bequeath unto my son John Stetman the remaining two tenths of all my personal estate, except that portion given to my wife, in trust and confidence, nevertheless that he will hold two tenths of my personal estate for the following purposes and some other, that is to say:— one of the said tenths he shall hold as Trustee for the use and benefit of Mary Williams wife of Francis K. Williams & her children free from all controul and direction of the said husband Francis K. Williams, and the said Trustee shall vest the same upon good security & pay to my said daughter Mary Williams for the use and benefit of herself and children, from time to time as he may deem necessary the interest that shall accrue thereon, and the said Trustee shall have power at any time if he deem it necessary to spend for the benefit of Mary Williams & her children portions of the principal which he holds in trust for them. If the said Mary Williams shall survive her husband F. K. Williams, then upon the death of her said husband, the Trustee shall pay over to her all principal and ~~interest~~ interest remaining in his hands of said trust funds. And if she do not survive her husband, then upon her death the said Trustee shall pay said fund to her children or their lawful executors.

And the said John Stetman shall hold the other tenth of my personal property aforesaid, as Trustee for the use and benefit of my daughter Ruth Stetman wife of Joseph Stetman free from all controul and direction of her said husband Joseph Stetman. And the said Trustee shall vest the said tenth upon good security, and shall pay to the

said Ruth Stetman from time to time the lawful interest that shall accrue thereon & make portions of the principal fund as he shall deem necessary for her maintenance and comfort. And in case the said Ruth Stetman shall survive her husband Joseph Stetman, then the said Trustee upon the death of her said husband, shall pay to her all said fund and the overs of interest remaining in his hands, and in case she should not survive her husband, then upon her death the said Trustee shall pay the remainder of said fund and overs of interest to whomsoever the said Ruth Stetman may appoint by a written instrument under her hand properly attested. And it is further my will that after the death of my wife Mary Stetman that my executors friends to sell all the personal property that I have bequeathed given be, and divide the proceeds of the same into ten equal parts. I give and bequeath one of said tenths to each of my daughters Polly Atwood, Melinda Russell, Betty Williams, Eliza Hutchins, Rebecca Kears, Rosand Long, Martha Beril & Sally Surchas, or to the children of each of them as many them be dead.

And the remaining two tenths I give and bequeath unto my son John Stetman to be held in trust for my two daughters Mary Williams & Ruth Stetman in the same manner and to be disposed in the same way as the fund herein before given to him in trust for them. And do hereby constitute and appoint my two sons John Stetman & William Stetman Executors of this my last will and testament.

In testimony whereof I Charles Stetman do hereunto set my hand and affix my seal this seventeenth day of August A.D. 1855.

Attended in the presence of the testator & his agents
by S. Speer,
W. J. Sampford,
Charles Stetman Secy