

WILL OF THOMAS STEELE.

South Carolina

In the name of God Amen. I Thomas Steele of the District of Williamsburgh & State aforesaid, Planter, being aged & infirm but of sound and disposing mind & memory, praised be God for the same. Do hereby make, publish & declare this instument of writing as my last Will & Testament, hereby revoking all other or former Wills made by or for me at my request by any other person

Imprimis -- It is my will and desire that my Executors herein after mentioned pay all my just debts without delay

Item. I hereby desire that the plantation on which my son Thomas M Steele lived immediately preceding his death be disposed of according to his will

Item. I give devise & bequeath to my son Stephen M Steel the plantation or tract of land on which I now live also a Tract of land adjoining which I bought from M^{rs} West Howard to him his heirs & assigns forever

Item. I give devise & bequeath to my son in law Henry C Durant his heirs and assigns forever the tract of land on Whites Bay

Item. I hereby desire that my Executors do sell the tract on the South side of Black River & divide the money equally among my grown up children

Item. I give devise & bequeath to my two sons W^m H. Steel & John J. Steel their heirs & assigns forever all the remainder of my real estate wherever found to be equally divided between them --?

Item. I give & bequeath to my children Stephen M. Steel,

Williamsburg Co., SC Will Book B (1827-1840)
W^m H. Steel John J. Steel Mary H. Durant Susan A Baily

hereby revoking all other or former Wills made by or for me
at my request by any other person

Imprimis -- It is my will and desire that my Executors herein
after mentioned pay all my just debts without delay

Item. I hereby desire that the plantation on which my son
Thomas M Steele lived immediately preceding his death be dis-
posed of according to his will

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plantation or tract of land on which I now live also a Tract
of land adjoining which I bought from M^{rs} West Howard to him
his heirs & assigns forever

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John J. Steel their heirs & assigns forever all the remain-
der of my real estate wherever found to be equally divided
between them --?

Item. I give & bequeath to my children Stephen M. Steel,
W^m H. Steel John J. Steel Mary H. Durant Susan A Baily
Magdaline M. Lane Eliza J. Steel & ~~my~~ ^{my} three grand children
(the children of my son Tho M. Steel) they to receive their
Fathers proportion, all my negroes except one herein after
mentioned, to be equally divided among them during the Term
of their natural lives, to have the use profit income service
& hire thereof and at the death of either of my said children
I give & bequeath his or her share so dying to the lawful
issue of his or her body, which issue shall live to be mar-
ried or attain the full age of twenty one years, if one only

live to be married or attain the age of twenty one years, to that one absolutely if more that one live to marry or attain lawful age to be equally divided among them, & if any one of said children shall die without leaving lawful issue which issue shall live to be married or attain lawful age, his her or their share so dying without leaving issue which shall marry or live to twenty one years as aforesaid shall go to & be equally "divided among the survivors of my said children, or the issue of any one of said children in equal proportions, and it is to be understood that the issue & increase of the negroes which were above omitted go with the others, and the said negroes bequeathed in this will are in no event to be subject to or liable for the debts contracts or engagements of any of my said children or any of the husbands which my daughters have or may ^{hereafter} have, but be and remain for the sole & separate use & behoof of my said children during their lives & their issue surviving as before particularly mentioned

Item. I give and bequeath to my children aforesaid all my stock of cattle & hogs to be equally divided among them.

Item. I give and bequeath to my sons & daughters W^m H. Steel. John J. Steel. Stephen M. Steel. Susan A. Baily & Eliza J. Steel all my beds & bed furniture &

Item All my horse & mules & other effects I wish to remain on the premises until Stephen M. Steel attains the age of twenty one years then to be equally divided among all my children

Item. I wish my Executors to dispose of my negro man Sam who is now in the woods as a runaway, he is to sold beyond the limits of the State, & the proceeds to be equally divided

marry or live to twenty one years as aforesaid shall go to & be equally "divided among the survivors of my said children, or the issue of any one of said children in equal proportions, and it is to be understood that the issue & increase of the negroes which were above omitted go with the others, and the said negroes bequeathed in this will are in no event to be subject to or liable for the debts contracts or engagements of any of my said children or any of the husbands which my daughters have or may ^{hereafter} have, but be and remain for the sole & separate use & behoof of my said children during their lives & their issue surviving as before particularly mentioned

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Item All my horse & mules & other effects I wish to remain on the premises until Stephen M. Steel attains the age of twenty one years then to be equally divided among all my children

Item. I wish my Executors to dispose of my negro man Sam who is now in the woods as a runaway, he is to sold beyond the limits of the State, & the proceeds to be equally divided among my children

Item. All my cash on hand or debts owing to me at the time of my death. I wish my Executors to keep ^{put} ~~put~~ on interest in notes or bonds with good indorseees for the schooling & support of my four youngest children "& when my youngest child comes to full age to be equally divided among all my children & thier heirs "

Item. Should my grand children herein mentioned die before

attaining full age or leaving lawful issue, then the property herein left to them to revert to my Estate & now as then to be under the control of my Executors according to this will.

Item. I hereby give & grant to my children the privilege of choosing three or more respectable & intelligent men to divide my negroes among them if it may be approved by them or a majority of them, which division when made & certified under their hand & seals shall be as binding on all my children as if done thro an order of Court.

Item. That portion of the property shared by my youngest Children, I wish to be kept together on the premises for their mutual benefit, each recuring his or her share as they marry or come of full age

Item. It is my wish that my Executors by & with the consent & advice of each other do loan out my money in hand at my death on interest to responsible men in Williamsburgh district, It is also my wish that the negroes remaining on the premises do make their own clothing & that Magdaline M Lane & Mary H. Durant be allowed the use of my saddle horse to attend to the making of the cloth, and also that M^{rs} Mary Miller be allowed to keep a horse on the premises, fed as one of my own & remain here herself at pleasure, It is also my wish that none of my children be educated for Professional men but to have a plain English education as cheap as practicable and to wear homespun for their every day clothing

Item. I do hereby nominate & constitute and appoint John Tisdal Henry C. Durant Richard G. Green & John W. Lane Executors of this my last Will & Testament hereby revoking all other or former Wills made by me or any person on my behalf (1840) request rat-

their hand & seals shall be as binding on all my children as if done thro an order of Court.

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Item. I do hereby nominate & constitute and appoint John Tisdal Henry C. Durant Richard G. Green & John W. Lane Executors of this my last Will & Testament hereby revoking all other or former Wills made by me or any person else at my request ratifying & confirming this instrument of writing as my last will & Testament.

Dated at Black River 30 March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & Thirty nine

Thos Steele (Seal)

Signd seald publish'd & declared

by Tho Steel as his last Will &

Testament in our presence & at his

request in his presence & in the

of each other we have subscribed
our names as witnesses to the same
Witness

W Ferdon

Jn^o White

Rich^d G Green

(Recorded)

Recorded in Will Book " B " Page 195

Recorded 29th day of April 1839.

Samuel G. McClary Ordinary Williamsburgh Dist.

Apt. 27

Pkg. 11