

Last Will & Testament of William Dimmings

I William Dimmings of the County of Lincoln and State of Tennessee do make this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking and making void all other wills by me at any time made - First - I do direct that my funeral expenses and all my debts be paid as soon after my death as possible out of any money that I may be possessed of or may first come into the hands of my Executor.

Second - I give and bequeath to my wife Florence Dimmings during her natural life the following property to wit, The house and lot on which I now reside the lot North of my residence known as part of lot No 76, in the plan of Fayetteville, a tract of land west of Fayetteville containing two hundred & sixty acres it being the same I now have in cultivation, The following slaves for life with their natural increase, Old Elijah, Simon, Abby, Leida, Mary, Mariah, Lucy, Elizabeth, John, Young Elijah and Betty, all of my stock of horses, Cows, Sheep, hogs, waggon, farming utensils, house hold and kitchen furniture, money, notes, book accounts, with all and every article of property I may be possessed of.

Third - At the death of my wife Florence Dimmings the Trustee herein after named and constituted shall proceed to take possession of the above named and described town lots, tract of land, slaves with their natural increase, with all the horses, Cows, Sheep, hogs, farming utensils, house hold & kitchen furniture, with all the same goods may be and manage and dispose of the same in the way & manner herein after named and directed to wit, after giving twenty days notice by publicly advertising the same, he shall proceed to sell (allowing my daughter Mary Steele to select & take as much of the stock and house hold furniture as she may desire) at public auction all the stock of horses, Cows, Sheep, hogs, farming utensils, house hold & kitchen furniture with all the perishable property on a credit of twelve months requiring the purchaser to give bond with good & sufficient security.

Fourth - We the said Trustee so soon as he becomes possessed of the above named town lots & tract of land by the death of my wife Florence Dimmings, shall proceed to give thirty days notice of his intention of selling said town lots and tract of land by advertising the same in a news paper published in the town of Fayetteville, if any be published at the time if not he shall cause to be printed and posted up in the most public places in this and the adjoining County's fifty hand bills advertising the

property and stating the terms of sale and on the day so advertised for selling he the said Trustee shall proceed to sell or cause to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder between the hours of 12 O'Clock and 3 O'Clock P.M. separately the said town lots and tract of land on a credit of one, two & three years, equal payments with interest from the day of sale requiring of purchaser bonds with good and sufficient personal security and retaining a lien on the property until the last payment is made.

Fifth - The amount of money arising from the sale of perishable property, town lots & tract of land shall constitute and be held by the Trustee as a permanent fund, no part of which shall be expended during the life term of my daughter Mary Steele or her daughter Margaret Robertson but the Trustee herein after named & constituted shall proceed to loan out for twelve months, at a time the fund so created and at the end of each twelve months he the said Trustee shall collect the interest arising from the fund so created and pay the same over to my daughter Mary Steele during her life and after the death of my daughter Mary Steele he the said Trustee shall in like manner proceed to loan out the fund so created for twelve months at a time, and at the end of each twelve months collect the interest arising on the same, and pay the said interest over to Margaret Robertson the daughter of Mary Steele during her natural life and at the death of Margaret Robertson the Trustee shall pay the fund so created to the issue of the said Margaret Robertson their legally authorized representatives if the the said Margaret Robertson die without issue then and in that case the said Trustee shall pay over the fund so created to my lawful heirs at death of the said Margaret Robertson.

Sixth - At the death of my wife Florence Dimmings for and in consideration of the faithful services performed by Old Elijah and Simon the said Trustee shall take possession of the said Old Elijah and Simon and caused them to be liberated from slavery and if any time either of them should be enslaved by disease or sold again a decent support the Trustee herein after named & constituted shall appropriate a sufficiency out of the hire of the negroes for their decent support and have it applied in that way and if at the death of either of them they should not have a sufficient means of their own for a decent burial the said Trustee shall appropriate a sufficiency out of the hire of the negroes and have it expended for that purpose.

Seventh - If the death of my wife Florence should occur during the farming season so as to require the services

Slaves and houses to finish the cultivation and gathering in of the crop they shall be retained on the farm until that service is performed.

Eighth - At the death of my wife Phoebe the Trustee shall permit my daughter Mary Stute to select one of the slaves over which she shall exercise control during her natural life and at the death of Mary Stute the Trustee herein & after named and constituted shall proceed to take possession of said slave with her natural increase and exercise control over and manage and dispose of her with her natural increase as herein and after directed with the other slaves -

Ninth - At the death of my ~~former~~ wife Phoebe Dimmicks the Trustee herein & after named and appointed shall take possession of all the slaves with their natural increase not otherwise disposed of above and proceed as near the first day of January in each year so long as he is required to act as Trustee by this my last will to permit said slave separately except Mothers with small children for the term of twelve months requiring bond with good security with an express understanding that the said slaves are to be well clothed & fed and treated with humanity and not removed out of the County of Lincoln & State of Vermont -

Tenth - The money arising from the hire of slaves shall be appropriated and disposed of in the following way and manner to wit the Trustee shall first obtain a sufficient amount to pay himself for his trouble and labor as Trustee and then pay over the balance to my daughter Mary Stute yearly during her natural life and after the death of my daughter Mary Stute he the said Trustee shall pay over the balance as above to my grand daughter (the being the daughter of Mary Stute) Mayant Roberson during her natural life.

Eleventh - At the death of my grand daughter Mayant Roberson the being the daughter of Mary Stute the Trustee herein & after named and constituted shall deliver or cause to be delivered to the issue of said Mayant Roberson or their legal representatives all the slaves above named with their natural increase to have and to hold.

Twelfth - If Mayant Roberson should die without issue leaving no living issue at her death then and in that case the Trustee shall cause to be liberated from slavery all of the above named slaves with their natural increase.

Thirteenth - I hereby nominate and appoint my wife Phoebe Dimmicks my executrix to act as such without giving any security.

Fourteenth - I hereby nominate and appoint William Dimmicks

Trustee to carry into effect that part of this my last will relating to a Trustee - In witness whereof I do to this my will set my hand and seal this 9th day of September 1847 -

William Dimmicks

Signed sealed and published in our presence and we have subscribed our names hereto in presence of the Notary this 9th day of September 1847 - J. P. Shepard

Proven and admitted to record at County Court October Term 1852 George Birmingham Clerk

I William McCallum of Lincoln County in the State of Vermont do make, ordain publish and declare the following to be my last will and Testament that I do say

Item 1st I direct that so soon after my death as practicable that my executors or executors pay all my last debts & funeral expenses out of any money that may be on hand at my deceased or that may first come into the hands of said Executors

Item 2nd I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Sarah Maltella during her natural life, the tract of land on which I now live, containing One hundred & four acres bounded as described in a deed from William McCallum to me dated June 11th 1852 & which was conveyed to him by James, G. Wood, I also give to my said wife the following slaves in like manner, my Julia Corbin, Henry, Charles, & Michael, and in the event I sell Michael before my death & buy another in his place, I give such other negro or slave as I may buy to fill his place, in like manner to my wife, I also in like manner give and bequeath to my wife all my stock of every description what ever, One third of the crops on the place belong to my son William McCallum I also in like manner give to my wife all my household and kitchen furniture of every description what ever and also the crops & provisions on hand at my death.

Item 3rd I give and bequeath to my grand son William Wright only son of James B. Wright and Susan his wife who is my eldest child & daughter, a negro girl named Morgost now in the possession of said son B. & Susan Wright said James B. & Susan are to retain