

Joseph Beals Will

I Joseph Beals now being in my perfect senses but being far advanced in life and of feeble health and knowing the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death do hereby make and publish this as my last will and testament hereby revoking and making void all other wills by me at any time made.

First I direct that when I die that my body be decently buried and that my funeral expenses and all my just debts be paid as soon after my death as possible out of any money that I may die possessed of or may first come into the hands of my Executor.

Second I will and bequeath that my beloved wife Mary Beals have a decent and plentiful support off my farm during her natural lifetime and to remain in possession of the house where we now live with free use of all necessaries and to have a cow and a good and well supplied bed and half a dozen chairs and her choice books to read a table and cup and ware and such like necessaries under her own controul as long as she lives and all her personal apparel she is to have liberty to dispose of as she pleases at her death.

Thirdly I will bequeath that my son Solomon's heirs my son Isaac my son Joseph and my daughters Mary Ann Archer Rebecca Pitcock Hannah Ellis have all of my moveable property to sell it at publick vendue or divide it among them as they may choose or agree among themselves.

Fourthly I will bequeath my farm to my son John Beals and my daughter Sussannah Beals to be divided with conditional lines as follows Beginning at a stick in the big road on Colley line and running with the said road sixty nine and a half poles to a black oak stump to a white oak stump North fifty five and a half and twenty six poles & five links to a perimman North ten East crossing the Spring branch ten and a half poles to a large white oak North sixty seven East six poles crossing the head of a spring to a bush North Eight West eleven and a fourth pole to a white oak stump North thirty East forty six poles crossing a branch to a black oak North thirty nine East thirty and a fourth pole to a stake near a hickory on Archer line the portion lying on the East of said conditional line to belong to my son John it joining the land of Hannah Higgins

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and that lying west of said line and adjoining the land of Michael Barker to belong to my daughter Sussannah but neither of them to have possession untill after the death of my wife if she survives me and if any valuable mine shall be opened and worked on any portion of my land after my death direct that all my children or their heirs be entitled to an equal share of the net profits arising from the proceeds of said mine and I further direct that if my daughter Mary Ann Archer should become a widow and desire to live on the farm now belonging to me that she shall have a house in the house where John Beals now living in common with my daughter Sussannah and my son Solomon my daughter Sussannah are to see that my wife Mary Beals is to be provided and kept plentifully and permitted to remain in the house and live in peace and if she is sick she is to be nursed and kindly and tenderly treated and they are to have liberty to use timber & stock or any thing that they may need for the improvement of the farm or buildings or to sell for money and the said John Beals & Sussannah Beals are each to pay the taxes on their respective portions of the land after my death until the time of the death of my wife and if any taxes are unpaid at the time of my death they are to pay them in proportion to the amount of land they severally get.

Fifthly & lastly I do hereby nominate and appoint my son John Beals my executor to carry this will into effect in witness whereof I do to this my last will and testament set my hand and seal this 6th day of June 1836.

Joseph Beals (Seal)
Signed sealed and published in our presence and we have subscribed our names hereunto in the presence of the testator this 6th day of June 1836.

R. S. Ferguson
Elizabeth Archer