

Bowen Family

In the name of God Amen, I Joseph Bowen, of Rutherford County and State of North Carolina, calling to mind the uncertainty of life, and the certainty of Death, do make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following.

1st. I give and devise all the lands I received by my beloved wife, Milly, to her in fee simple--

2nd I give and bequeath to my beloved wife, the negro girl, Mary, which she had at our marriage, to have and to hold the said girl Mary, as her own separate and absolute property for ever.

3rd I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Milly and our two children, Mary Ann and Thomas, any increase or children which the said negro girl Mary hay have to have and to hold the said increase and tehold as tenants in common and to be equally divided between tem, upon either the arrival of our oldest child at twenty-one years, the marriage of my daughter, or wife.

4th I give and bequeath all the personal property of every discription, including..three hundred dollars and interest on that sum from the first day of May 1823, which I received upon the marriage of my wife to be her absolute property for ever.

5th I will and devise that all my interest in lands and lots, not before mentioned, and belonging to the firm of Reinhardt Bowen and Co., be sold in twelve months on a credit of not less than one year and not morethan five years; and all property not received by my wife belongs The Firm, and further, all debts and credits and papers evidenceing the same, are due to or owing from the firm, wheather in my individual name or under the signature of the Firm.

6th I give and bequeath all my plains, hand saw, and iron square to my brother-in-law Robert G. Twitty.

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7th I desire all my part of goods in the store to be sold in twelve months on such terms as my Representative and the Rest of the firm may think best.

8th I desire that all my other property not before mentioned be sold.

9th I wish all my part of the proceeds of the sales of goods in the store and debts due the firm together with all other monies accruing from the sale of my property, after payment of debts, to be equally divided amongst my beloved wife, Milly and our two little children, Mary Ann & Thomas.

And finally---I appoint my trusty friend Robert G. Twitty to be the Executor of this my last will and Testament. In witness where of I have affixed my seal and set my hand this 24th day of September 1825.

Jos Bowen seal

In presence of

Jacob Michael Jurat
Osmyn B. Irvine

State of North Carolina Court of Pleas
Rutherford County October Term 1825....

The foregoing writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of Joseph Bowen, dec. was presented in open court for probate: Jacob Michal one of the subscribing witnesses thereto, came into court and proved the same in the usual form when it was ordered by court to be recorded and resolved at full length..

Witness: T Craton, Clk.

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