

Will: William Fleming

transcribed by Pamela Hutchison Garrett (1992)

Will of William Fleming; Mixed Probate Records of Chesterfield county Virginia (FHL); Will Book 10, page 222; written 1 April 1823, codicil 2 June 1823, probated 9 March 1824.

I William Fleming of Summerville in the county of Chesterfield, being in a state of . . . health, but of sound mind and for which inestimable blessings . . . most grateful thanks are due to the omnipotent and beneficent God of the Universe, do make this my last Will and Testament of which I constitute and . . . in friends Doctor Archibald Wooldridge, . . . McRae and Edward Cocke, . . . of the county of Chesterfield and my honourable friend John Williams(?) . . . of the town of Fredericksburg and a judge of the court of appeals, executors and trustees.

. . . my will and desire is that all my just debts be paid as seems . . . and the circumstance of my estate . . . To enable my said executors to perform this . . . part of my . . . I give and desire to them in fee simple all my lands in the State of Kentucky, lying . . . on Floyds fork and . . . branches thereof and on the branches of Pen. . . in the county of Jefferson to be by them or by any two or more of them, . . . , at their decision for the purpose of paying all my debts aforesaid.

. . . Item . . . I give and desire to my beloved daughter, Caroline Fleming during her natural life, who at times is and for many years past has been afflicted with a mental malady that requires the particular . . . and kindness of all her friends . . . and plantation call Summerville and wheron I now reside which lies on the North side of Michaux(?) branch . . . The land I purchased of Sam'l Lundrum.

Item: I give and desire to my each executors in fee all that part of my estate Summerville Estate which lies on the South side of . . . branch to be by them or by two or more of them sold at . . . auction . . . in payment of my debts. Provided that my lands in the State of Kentucky and personal estate . . . specifically bequeathed be insufficient for that purpose but in case the money ensuing from the sale of my lands in Kentucky and my personal estate not specifically bequeathed be sufficient to pay my debts (which I trust will be simply so) that then, . . . that the . . . of that part of my Summerville estate lying on the South side of . . . branch be postponed until the . . . of the estate be sold, as is hereafter directed. On the death of my said daughter Caroline or as soon thereafter as may be convenient, my will and desire is that the whole of my Summerville estate, . . . be sold by my executors or any two . . . or more of them after due . . . altogether or in parcels at their discretion and on such reasonable credit as they may think . . . taking . . . and a deed or deed of trust on the land from the purchaser or purchasers thereof to secure the deed . . . and I desire the said land to my said executors . . . But, I except from the above one quarter or forth of . . . of ground, part thereof being the graveyard, a burying place on the Southeast corner of the garden(?) . . . where many of my friends be . . . which burying place with free negroes and negroes to and from the same and descend to my own right heirs.

Item: I give and bequeath to my said daughter Caroline Fleming and to each of my granddaughters, Elizabeth Stanard, Mary LB Stanard and Julia Ann Stanard . . . feather bed and furniture and to the said Elizabeth Stanard . . . bequests one portrait picture(?) in . . . by Thompson and . . . of my father and mother now at Summerville. I also give and bequeath to the said Elizabeth Stanard my gold watch chain which her great grandmother, Mrs . . . Champe(?) gave to her daughter Betty Champe on her marriage in the year 1766. I also bequeath to my said granddaughter Elizabeth Stanard . . . I die possessed of which is not worth deciding . . . set free one faithful and . . . used servant, Old Nelly . . . the 7(?) year of her age who is to be decently maintained during her life out of my estate at the direction of my executors and she is to reside at Summerville so long as my daughter Caroline (to whom she is warmly attached) remains there. . . . sons John, Spencer, Peter, William . . . Caroline . . . to whom they were conveyed in deed recorded in the county court of Chesterfield many years ago and trust that their . . . will be sufficient to support her decently and comfortably and . . . her not to suffer . . . of them . . . to be used in the coal pits where fatal accidents frequently happen.

Item, After the payment of all my debts I give and bequeath to the five children of my late affectionate, dutiful and most amiable daughter Mary Bolling Stanard, to wit: Elizabeth, Mary LB, Robert, John C and Julia Ann Stanard, all the rest and residue of my estate not already disposed of whatsoever it may consist . . . in the hands of my executors, . . . to themselves a reasonable commision for their trouble which residue or . . . to be equally divided among the said . . . legatees, share and share alike. But, the above small bequests to the girls . . . but are . . . of the last mentioned dividend of the residue of my estate.

Having great confidence in the integrity and diligence of my executors I desire that no security be demanded of them or either of them in the probate of this my last will and testament. . . . with my own hand sealed with my seal this first day of April(?) in the years of our Lord Christ one thousand eight hundred and twenty three. To . . . wish my estate to be not appraised but an inventory should be taken and . . . in court.

William Fleming

A Codicil to William Fleming's last will and Testament written with his own hand and sealed with his seal this second day of June in the year of Christ One thousand eight hundred and twenty three(?). Reflecting that I have no male . . . in whom I can confide to . . . at Summerville to guard and protect a family of females and not doubting but that the . . . of my daughter Caroline, six negroes will be amply sufficient to maintain, her decently and comfortable, I revoke that clause of my will which gives to her a life estate in part of my Summerville estate, and my will and desire it that in the month of December, just after my decease the same be rented out for one year by my executors and that in a written lease the tenant covenant neither to commute or suffer to be commuted by . . . on the premise . . . But a . . . [lengthy section that is difficult to read] . . . Land called Summerville be sold a . . . in the body of this my Will. Should a . . . Richard C Harris(?) attorney at law, has a deed for fifty acres of the said land, bounded by

the Bucking Road on the South and to the land of Zephaniah McGruder on the West during the life of Beverly Chew Stanard, but no longer. I give and release to the said Beverly C Stanard all the debts he owes me, particularly one of [blank] doctor, as . . . of Isaac Johnsons to whom I paid so much . . . for him and took in a . . . of his bond. I also give and bequeath to the said Beverly C Stanard all my wearing apparel. . . . given to my beloved daughter Lucy Champe Markham a large . . . of my small estate . . . give and bequeath to her a ring of ten dollar's value. I also bequeath to my great aunt(?) Maria . . .Branch who has lived with me from her early infancy a ring of the same value, which rings to be delivered to them as soon as convenient by my executors.

William Fleming

In Chesterfield county court the 9th day of Mar anno Dom 1824.

Do you want to know more?

[Link to William Fleming in database](#)

The Will of William Fleming; transcribed and prepared by Pamela Hutchison Garrett for the Markham of Chesterfield website; 2018.