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RECORDS OF THE WILLTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
1747-1841

Edited by SLANN L. C. SIMMONS

(Continued from July)

[*Signatures on Binder of Indenture*] Edwd Ferguson, Ezekiel Branford, Joseph Ash, James Stobo, Samuel Lowle, Saml Davison, Richd Ash, Richd Cochn Ash, Willm Hayne³⁵

THIS INDENTURE made the Twenty-fifth day of January, . . . One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Three, . . . Between Ezekiel Branford, James Stobo, Capt. Richard Ash Senior, William Hayne, Samuel Lowle, Edward Ferguson, Joseph Ash, Samuel Davidson and Richard Cockran Ash, all of the Parish of St. Paul's in the Province of South Carolina Planters of the one part, and the several Members of the Presbyterian Church and Congregation of Will-Town whose names are hereunto subscribed, and their successors, the Presbyterian Members of the said Presbyterian Church to all Future Time, of the other part. WHEREAS several well disposed Persons from a sincere desire to Promote the Interest of the Christian Religion in this part of the world, and for the support of the Presbyterian Church at Will-Town, and the Maintainance of Qualified Presbyterian Ministers thereof from Time to Time Have Given and Bequeathed to Certain Trustees, divers sums of Money, and Negroes, In Trust to be Improved and Employed for Effectuating those good Ends and Purposes . . . And Whereas the several Trustees appointed . . . joined to themselves other Trustees who are Faithful Men and Members of the said Congregation whereby the several Particular Trusts have now become one General Trust fixed and settled in the hands of the said [named above] and the Survivors or Survivor of them which said General Trustees, are Authorized and Empowered to Transact all Matters Relative to the said Trust, by a Majority, and to . . . appoint Others in a Course of Succession upon the Contingencys, . . . NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH that the said [General Trustees] . . . have . . . agreed . . . That they . . .

³⁵ Each signature here is sealed, as are some in other parts of the Indenture. The seal is identical in all, a boy's or man's profile wearing a cap, with the hair showing above the forehead. All parts bear the same date, and in most, the witnesses sign on the reverse of the sheet. Legal phraseology and repetition have been omitted wherever possible.

will according to the best of . . . their skill and knowledge . . .
 Execute and Perform in relation to the said Lega[cys and Be]quests
 and for the good Management . . . so that the good and pious In-
 tentions of the said Legators may be fulfilled . . . and the Trust
 handed down by them to Successive Generations without Fraud or
 Abuse. IN WITNESS whereof the [subscribers to ?] these presents have
 hereunto Interchangeably set their hands and Seals the day and Year
 first above written.

Sealed and delivered in the Presence of John McLeod, Charles Lorimer:
 Witnesses to all the Subscripns. of the Trustees excepting Mr. Davidson
 and to the Subscription of the first eleven Members of the Congregation.
 Tho. Bell, Charles Lorimer: Witnesses to Samuel Davison's Subscription.

[2nd part]—TO ALL PEOPLE to whom these presents shall come [etc.]
 Thomas Sacheverel and Samuel Davidson of St. Paul's Parish . . . send
 greeting—

[Trustees of the bequest of Henry Sherriff, Planter]⁸⁸ AND Whereas
 there is now in hand . . . Securitys for the Legacy of Two Hundred
 Pounds, together with Interest to the 13th day of February next to the
 amount the sum of Two Hundred and Four pounds current money of
 the Province . . . [appoint General Trustees, named] And the said
 Thomas Sacheverel and Samuel Davidson do by these presents consti-
 tute a majority of the said Trustees including themselves to be a quorum,
 And in case of their or either of them dying, removing from the Parish
 of St. Paul's, or changing their profession of religion, to elect other mem-
 bers of the said Congregation in their room; In the same manner, with
 the same powers, under the same limitations, and for the same purposes
 as are specified and expressed in a deed hereunto annexed, under the
 hand and seal of the said James Stobo, Trustee for the legacys of Wil-
 liam Sheriff and William McEchen, which deed is herein referred to and
 for greater certainty marked A. . .

[Signed]

Samll Davison Thos. Sacheverell

⁸⁸ The will of Henry Sheriff of James Island, bequeathed to Thomas Sacheverell and Samuel Davison of St. Paul's Parish, two hundred pounds currency in trust, the yearly income to be applied to the support of a Presbyterian Minister at Willtown, who would subscribe to the Westminster Confession and preach "Doctrine agreeable thereto as founded and shall adhere to the Presbyterian Government & Worship, of the Church of Scotland by law Established." It was dated, 1750, proved 16 Aug. 1751 wills, v. 6, p. 525, P.C.

[*On reverse*] Sealed and delivered, [etc.] John McLeod, Charles Lorimer: Witnesses to Mr. Sacheverells Subscription.

Tho. Bell, Charles Lorimer: Witnesses to Mr. Samuel Davison his Subscription.

[*3rd part*]. . . Ezekiel Branford and Samuel Lowle of St. Paul's Parish . . . [Trustees of the bequest of George Mitchell, Physician.] AND WHEREAS there is now in hand . . . Securitys for the legacy of Five Hundred Pounds with interest to 13th day of February next the sum of Five Hundred Pounds current money of the Province . . . [appoint General Trustees, named] [etc.]

[*Signed*] Samuel Lowle Ezekiel Branford

[*Witnesses*] John McLeod, Charles Lorimer, James Donnom.

[*4th part*] . . . Thomas Sacheverel, Planter . . . [Trustee for the bequests of Purchase Hendrick and Royal Spry] . . . Whereas the said legacy [of Purchase Hendrick] has been under the management of the said Thomas Sacheverel . . . now in hand security for said legacy [thirty pounds] and interest to 13th day of February next the sum of eighty pounds seven shillings—2 1/4 current money of the Province AND WHEREAS Royal Spry, Planter, did bequeath unto John Bee and Thomas Sacheverel four slaves . . . in trust. AND WHEREAS the said John Bee is lately dead and the power . . . survives unto the said Thomas Sacheverel, [appoints General Trustees, named.]

[*Signed*] Thos. Sacheverell

[*Witnesses*] John McLeod, Charles Lorimer, James Donnom.

[*5th part*] . . . Edward Ferguson of St. Paul's . . . [Trustee for bequest of William Ferguson, Planter] AND WHEREAS William Ferguson did bequeath unto Brigadeer John Bee and Edward Ferguson his son . . . AND WHEREAS the said John Bee is lately dead and the Trust devolves upon Edward Ferguson the survivor, [appoints General Trustees, named.]

[*Signed*] Edwd Ferguson

Settled this thirteenth day of February, 1753, the above Legacy of Fifty Pounds, which with . . . interest to this time amounts to—Seventy nine Pounds Seven Shillings and Sixpence.

[*Witnesses*] John McLeod, Charles Lorimer, James Donnom.

[6th part] . . . Richard Ash Senior and Ezekiel Branford of St. Paul's Parish [Trustees for bequest of Paul Hamilton, Planter] WHEREAS Paul Hamilton did bequeath Forty Three Pounds Sterling to . . . Minister . . . Elders and Deacons of the Presbyterian Church at Will-Town . . . AND WHEREAS the said several members of the said Church Session are dead, and the said Richard Ash and Ezekiel Branford are the only survivors of their successors in office upon whom the trust under the will devolves [appoint General Trustees, named]

[Signed] Richard Ash Ezekiel Branford

The above legacy of Forty Three Pounds Sterling settled to this thirteenth day of February amounts to Nine Hundred and Eighty Nine Pounds Two shillings and Ten Pence half Penny Currency—989.2.10-1/2.

[Witnesses] John McLeod, Charles Lorimer, James Donnom.

[7th part] . . . Ezekiel Branford, Richard Ash Senior, and James Stobo of St. Paul's Parish (Planters) . . . [Trustees for the gift of Elizabeth Stobo, widow, and the bequest of William Stobo] WHEREAS The Reverend Mr. Archibald Stobo . . . by will dated 25 February 1735 did give One Hundred Pounds current money for the use of the Church or Congregation at Will-Town³⁷ AND WHEREAS after the death of the Rev. Mr. Stobo, it came to be doubted whether the Will, as drawn, would be effectual. Wherefore Elizabeth Stobo, widow of Archibald Stobo, in order to remove all doubt and . . . agreeable to the known intention of her deceased husband, did by certain deed in writing . . . dated 28th October, 1750, give the said One Hundred Pounds to Ezekiel Branford, Richard Ash and James Stobo, in Trust for the uses mentioned. AND WHEREAS Elizabeth Stobo by the same deed of writing did further give to [above named] another sum of One Hundred Pounds current money . . . [to] place out at interest both the said sums amounting to Two Hundred Pounds, [to] apply and pay the annual profits to the Presbyterian Minister of the Church at Will-Town for the time being, and during such time as the said Minister shall officiate, and no longer, and in case of a vacancy to improve such profits . . . provided that such Minister be qualified, and admitted and received by the said Congregation, according to the Rules of the Presbyterian Church Government, and Discipline of the Church of Scotland . . . AND WHEREAS Elizabeth Stobo by the said deed hath also given unto [above named] . . . a parcel of Books, in Trust for the use of such Min-

³⁷ The bequest was "to the Presbyterian Congregation at Willtown."

ister . . . AND WHEREAS William Stobo late of James Island Planter deceased . . . did bequeath unto John Bee and John Splatt, . . . One Hundred and fifty pounds Current Money in Trust . . . and in case of the death of the said John Bee and John Splatt, did empower their Executors to appoint others. AND WHEREAS the said John Bee first died, and after him the said John Splatt dyed also, whereby [the whole trust] became invested in John Splatt Junior, son and Executor of John Splatt Senior Deceased who was Surviving Trustee of the said Legacy. AND WHEREAS John Splatt Junior Executor by a Certain Deed dated 21st day of June, 1751, did elect Ezekiel Branford, Richard Ash and James Stobo to act in Conjunction with him . . . as Trustees for the purposes intended AND WHEREAS the said John Splatt Junior is also dead, whereby the whole trust is now invested in Ezekiel Branford, Richard Ash and James Stobo as Trustees for William Stobo's Legacy. Now remaining in hand Securitys for Elizabeth Stobo's Donation and Confirmation with interest to 13th February next the sum of 234 Pounds 16/8 $\frac{1}{2}$ —Current Money; also securitys for William Stobo's Legacy with interest to the said Time 320 Pounds 5/9 $\frac{1}{2}$ —In the whole Sum of 555 Pounds 2/5 $\frac{1}{2}$ Current Money in their hands. [appoint General Trustees, named].

[Signed] James Stobo Richd Ash Ezekiel Branford

[Witnesses] John McLeod, Charles Lorimer, James Donnom.

[Written on side]

Amount Mrs. Elizth Stobos Legacy to the 13th Day of February 1753	£234:16:8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Am't of William Stobos Legacy to the 13 Day of February 1753	£320: 5:9 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<hr/>
	£555: 2:5 $\frac{1}{2}$

[8th part] . . . James Stobo Eldest Son, and Heir of the [Revd Archibald] Stobo . . . [Trustee for the bequests of Willaim Sheriff³⁸ and William McEchen]

³⁸ The will of William Sheriff, undated, was recorded Nov. 11, 1725. Wills, v. 2 (1724-25). P. C. It is of especial interest because of the early date. Executors named are "the Ministers of the Presbity Collected at Wiltown in Colleton County." The bequest was one hundred pounds currency for "the perpetual use of the Church belonging to the aforesaid Presbytery." Other conditional bequests to children of his sister Elizabeth (not residing in the Province), and wife, Isabella Sheriff, were to go to the church if conditions were not fulfilled, or in case of death.

[William Sherriff] Planter did bequeath several sums of money and certain [torn] Carolina, for the Perpetual Use of the Church to be disposed of and applied as the Presbytery should judge proper. [Money paid by executors to Rev. Archibald Stobo] which by him were let out upon interest . . . But the said Principal Sums so bequeathed came into the hands of James Stobo his son . . . and there is now remaining in custody and possession Securitys for the principal Moneys [and interest] to the 13th day of February next the sum of 576 pounds 27/8-3/4 Current Money AND ALSO WHEREAS [William McEchen] did bequeath unto John Atchinson, John Bee Junior and the said [James Stobo] . . . in Trust . . . One Hundred pounds . . . AND WHEREAS the said John Atchinson and John [Bee, Jr. are dead] whereby the whole Trust survives to the said James Stobo in whose hands there now remains Securitys for the principal sum of Two Hundred Pounds [and interest] calculated to the 13th day of February next amounts in the whole to the Sum of 576 pounds 17/ 8-3/4 . . . [appoints General Trustees, named].

[Signed]

James Stobo

[Witnesses: Charles] Lorimer, [James] Donnem, [John] McLeod.

(To be continued)