

RECORD OF WILLS.

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Signed sealed published and declared by the said Joel Johnson to be his last Will and Testament Codicil to the foregoing will. Whereas I Joel Johnson have made my last will and Testament in writing bearing date the twenty third of October 1856 and have thereby made sundry devises and bequests according to the existing circumstances of my estate but which circumstances now having materially changed I do by this my writing which I hereby declare to be a Codicil to my said Will to be taken and construed as a part thereof. I give and bequeath to my son Owen Johnson my negro boy by the name of Simon to him and his heirs in fee simple to have and to hold forever. In testimony whereof I do hereunto set my hand and seal this 9th church day of ~~November~~ in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty eight.

Joel Johnson Test

This is the paper admitted to probate as the last will and Testament of Joel Johnson it appears to the Court to be duly executed for which see minutes of this term

Blue Clerk

Bladen County
August Term 1861

Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of Joel Johnson is offered for probate at this term and it being proven by the oaths of John P. Lytle, Hubert P. Francis, William J. Carter and John G. Sutton, Credible witnesses who only believe such paper writing and every part thereof to be in the hand writing of the said Joel Johnson and it appearing further to the Court that the said paper writing, as the said witnesses were sworn among the valuable

papers of the said Joel Johnson, it is declared by the Court that the said paper writing is duly executed as a will and subject to convey both Real and Personal estate, the same is admitted to probate, Daniel Johnson sworn as Executor and Letters Testamentary are granted to him,

I Archibald Kelly of the County of Bladen and State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this my last will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say

First That my Executor herein after named shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my relatives and friends and pay all funeral expenses together with my just debts recorded and to whomsoever owing out of the money that may first come into his hands as a part and parcel of my estate

Then I give and devise to my son John Archibald Kelly all of that tract of land whereon he now lives known as the White or Freeman Place containing one hundred and forty five acres more or less to have and to hold to him and his heirs in fee simple forever,

Then I give and devise my youngest son William Owen Kelly all that tract of land known as the "Shard lands" together with a tract of thirty five acres bought from Duncan (Thomas) and in as much as the lower line of the Shard tract touches my Mausum House, my devise is that my Mausum House shall be considered as a part of the tract to have and to hold to him and his heirs in fee simple forever.

Then I give and devise to my son James C. Kelly the upper half of my Reed land the dividing line to be run from back line to the Swamp so as to leave ninety acres on each side of said line to him and to his heirs forever.

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in fee simple forever.

"Then" I give and devise to my son David Alexander Kelly, the lower half of my Russ land, and as much as the upper jr of said land is more valuable by the sum of two hundred dollars, it is therefore my will and desire that my son James E. Kelly pay to my son David Alexander Kelly, the difference in said devise, that is to say the sum of two hundred dollars to him and his heirs to have and to hold in fee simple forever.

"Then" It is my will and desire that my daughters Eliza Ann Catherine Jane, Eliza Nelson, McK. and William Emu, all remain and occupy my Mansion house yard and the houses on the upper half of my Russ land, at their option until the youngest of my daughters attain the full age of twenty one or marry.

"Then" It is my will and desire that all of my children, that are now minors or will be at the time of my death, shall be made equal to those that are now twenty one years of age, in point of education that the amount of money needed for that purpose shall be adjudged by a Committee of three prudent and discreet men, and that my Executor retain in his hands, said amount of money to be disbursed as needed.

"Then" My son James E. Kelly and my daughter Mary M. wife of Stephen D. Clark each received a bed and its furniture which are considered by me as an advancement, therefore my will and desire is that my other children be made equal to them in that respect.

"Then" As the devise to my son John Archibald, it is considered that there is an excess of value of twenty five dollars, therefore it is my will that he pay the sum of twenty five dollars, to my Executor to be applied by him to the education of my minor children.

"Then" I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary M. wife of Stephen D. Clark the sum of fifty dollars, to be paid to her by my Executor, at the settlement of my estate to have and to be her and at her disposal absolutely forever.

And I bequeath to my daughter Eliza Ann

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Single Woman, the sum of fifty dollars to be paid to her by my Executor at the expiration of two years from my death and her personal representatives forever.

"Then" I give and bequeath to my daughter Catherine Jane the sum of fifty dollars, to be paid to her at her marriage or the age of her majority, to her and her personal representatives forever.

"Then" My will and desire is that my tract of land at the mouth of Singletam Swamp, be sold by Executor to the highest bidder, and that the proceeds thereof, be applied to the education of my children as herein before directed,

"Then" My will and desire is, that my negroes, be equally divided among and between all of my children share and share alike according to the valuation to have and to hold to them and each of them in severalty absolutely forever.

"Then" My will and desire is that all the residue of my estate after taking the devise and legacies above now lined out shall be sold and the debts owing to me shall be collected, then any surplus remaining shall be equally divided among all my children, in equal proportions, share and share alike, to them and each and every of them their Executors administrators and assigns absolutely forever.

"Then" And whereas my son David Alexander, and William and my daughters Eliza Ann Catherine Jane, and Eliza Nelson, McK. are all minors, not therefore my will and desire is that my son James E. Kelly is hereby constituted Guardian of them my five children to have and to hold the custody and guardianship both of their respective persons and estates, until they the said David A. Williams, D. Eliza Catherine Jane, and Eliza Nelson McK. shall respectively arrive at the full age of twenty one or marry.

And lastly, I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved son James E. Kelly, my lawful Executor, to all intent and purposes, to execute this my last will and Testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof, hereby making and declaring void all other wills and Testaments by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof, I the said Archibald, do hereunto set my hand and seal, this 10th day of

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A.D. 1861. Signed sealed published and declared by the said Archibald Kelly, to be his last will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence do subscribe here to.

Chas. Kelly
John C. Kelly } Archibald Kelly. Seal!

In the Name of God "Amen"

I William J. Dunham, of the County of Bladen and State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory do make public and declare this my last will and Testament in manner and form following. That is to say, - First I wish all my just debts paid and in order to do so with the least possible inconvenience to my wife and children I desire that my Executors shall in a reasonable time after my demise offer and sell at Public or private sale as to them may seem most advantageous to the estate, a part (the opposite) of my land as much as they may consider necessary to meet the amount of my indebtedness.

It is further my desire that my Executors settle out of the first moneys arising from the sale of said land a note made by me to my brother John Dunham and the balance to be applied to the payment of my other debts and to the use of my family.

2nd After the payment of my debts I give and bequeath to my wife Elizabeth Dunham during her widowhood all the remaining property that I may die possessed of both Real, Personal and Personal including chattels for the better maintenance of my family and the education of my minor children. Then after her death it is my desire that the estate be equally divided between all my children share and share alike. Nevertheless if my wife Elizabeth Dunham should marry again then it is my

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Will and desire that a division take place as soon as convenient of the property given to her, as much as she can direct and the balance to my children share and share alike.

3rd After my demise I do not wish a sale of my perishable property or chattels but that my wife and children may live together and that they may retain them and be as deep and stay to each other and enjoy all in common.

4th And Lastly, I hereby constitute and appoint my Brothers James S. Dunham, and my Son William S. Dunham my lawful Executors to all intents and purposes to execute this my last Will and Testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof.

In testimony whereof I the said William J. Dunham do hereunto set my hand and seal this the 21st January 1861. The word appeared in the trust line from the top was interlined before the signing and sealing of this

Signed sealed published and declared by the said William J. Dunham to be his last will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

Edw. B. Richardson
Joseph S. Dunham Jr.
J. R. Dunham

North Carolina

Bladen County

Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions
May Term 1861

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of William J. Dunham deceased is exhibited for probate in open Court by William S. Dunham one of the Executors therein named and the due execution thereof by the said William J. Dunham is proven by the oath and testimony of Edward B. Richardson and J. R. Dunham.