

and faithfully execute the office of executors, agree-
able to the trust reposed in us and according
to law - So help us God.
 Signed and subscribed } John A. McDowell
 before me this 27th day } J. W. Purdie
 of December 1894 }

Catharine L. Beard } State of North Carolina, Bladen County

I, Catharine L. Beard 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 hereinafter named shall provide for my
body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my
relatives and friends and pay all funeral ex-
penses together with my just debts to whomsoever
owing out of the money that may first come into
his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

Item first I give and bequeath to my two sisters Eliza S. Melvin
and Margaret M. Melvin all the lands that I have and
all the interests and claims that I have in any
lands whatsoever.

Item second I give to my two sisters above named all claims
notes and accounts that I may have, and all
other property that I may have not named in the
above item.

Item third I give to my sister Ann C. West the sum of two
dollars and fifty cents to be paid to her by my
executor.

Item fourth I give to my brother James S. Beard the sum of
two dollars and fifty cents to be paid to him in
like manner. And lastly I do hereby constitute
and appoint my trusty friend William S. Melvin
my lawful executor to all intents and purposes to
execute this my last will and testament ac-
cording to the true intent and meaning
of the same and every part and clause thereof

revoking and declaring void all other wills and
testament by me heretofore made. In witness where-
of I the said Catharine L. Beard do hereunto set my
hand and seal this the (5) fifth day of December AD 1894
Catharine L. Beard (Seal)

Signed sealed published and declared by the
said Catharine L. Beard to be her last will and testa-
ment in the presence of us who at her request
and in her presence do subscribe our names as
witnesses thereto.

J. M. Melvin
R. A. Melvin

State of North Carolina Bladen County. In Probate Court
A paper purporting to be that last will and testament
of Catharine L. Beard, deceased, is exhibited before me
the undersigned Judge of Probate for said county by
William S. Melvin, the executor therein named, and
the due execution thereof by the said Catharine L.
Beard by the oath and examination of David Miles
Melvin & R. A. Melvin, the subscribing witnesses thereto,
who being duly sworn do depose and say and each
for himself depose and say that he is a subscribing
witness to the paper writing now shown him pur-
porting to be the last will and testament of Catharine
L. Beard; that the said Catharine L. Beard in the pres-
ence of this deponent subscribed her name at the
end of said paper writing which is now shown as
aforesaid and which bears date of the 5th day of
December 1894. And the deponent further saith
that the said Catharine L. Beard, the testator aforesaid
did at the time of signing her name as
aforesaid declare the said paper writing as
subscribed by him and exhibited, to be her last
will and testament. And this deponent did
thereupon subscribe his name at the end
of said will as an attesting witness thereto
and at the request and in the presence of said
testator. And the deponent further saith that

at the said time when the said testator subscribed her name to the said last will as aforesaid and at the time of the deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto as aforesaid the said Catharine L. Beard was of sound mind and memory, of full age to execute a will and was not under any restraint to the knowledge, information or belief of this deponent. And further these deponents say not.

Generally sworn and
subscribed this 16th day of
March 1895 before me

W. M. Melvin (Seal)
R. A. Melvin (Seal)

Grand Juror Judge of Probate

State of North Carolina, Bladen County. In the Probate Court
I, William S. Melvin do solemnly swear that I believe this writing to be and contain the last will and testament of Catharine L. Beard, deceased, and that I will well and truly execute the same by first paying her debts and then her legacies as far as the said estate shall extend or the law will charge me, and that I will well and faithfully execute the office of executor agreeable to the trust and confidence reposed in me and according to law. So help me God.

William S. Melvin.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 16th day of March 1895

Grand Juror Judge of Probate

Jonathan Melvin's
Will

In the name of God Amen.
I, Jonathan Melvin of the County of Bladen and State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory do make and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say

I give and bequeath unto my two sisters Demaria Melvin and Rosana Melvin to be equally divided between them share and share alike all the

property which I may die possessed of, real, personal and herishable and all moneys due me by note account or otherwise.

I hereby constitute and appoint my worthy friend William S. Melvin my lawful executor to all intents and purposes to execute this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same, hereby revoking all former wills testaments by me heretofore made. In witness whereof I, the said Jonathan Melvin do hereby set my hand and seal this 26th day of February A.D. 1895

Jonathan Melvin (Seal)

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Jonathan Melvin to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request, in his presence and in the presence of each other do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

R. A. Melvin
W. M. Melvin

N. J. Burk

State of North Carolina, Bladen County. In the Probate Court.
A paper purporting to be the last will and testament of Jonathan Melvin, deceased, is exhibited before me the undersigned Judge of Probate for said county by William S. Melvin, the executor therein named. And the due execution thereof by the said Jonathan Melvin by the oath and examination of R. A. Melvin and W. M. Melvin the subscribing witnesses thereto who being duly sworn doth depose and say, for himself separately and saith that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last will and testament of Jonathan Melvin, that the said Jonathan Melvin in the presence of this deponent subscribed his name at the end of said paper writing which is now shown as aforesaid and which bears date of the 26th day of February 1895. And the deponent further saith that the said Jonathan Melvin the testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing to be his last