

RECORD OF WILLS.

State of North Carolina / In the Superior Court
Bladen County

A paper purporting to be the last will and testament of Stephen Edwards deceased, is exhibited before me the undersigned Clerk of the Superior Court for Bladen County by Alfred Edwards and Ralphy Edwards the executors therein mentioned and the due execution thereof by the said Stephen Edwards by the oath and examination of George W. Jones and John Platt the subscribing witnesses thereto who being duly sworn doth depose and say and each for himself depose and saith that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be his last will and testament of Stephen Edwards, that the said Stephen Edwards 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 the 29th day of August 1863. And this deponent further saith that the said Stephen Edwards the testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing so subscribed by him, and exhibited to be his 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 the said testator. And this deponent further saith that at the time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last will as aforesaid and at time of the deponent subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto as aforesaid, the said Stephen Edwards 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 these deponents. And further these deponents say not.

Sworn and subscribed
this 1st day of August 1864
before me

G. H. Melvin

George W. Jones

John Platt

(Seal)

(Seal)

RECORD OF WILLS.

Will of
Daniel Hester

First.

Item

Item

Item

I, Daniel Hester of the County of Bladen and State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory but musing over the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make & declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say
That my executor hereinafter named shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my relations and friends and pay all funeral expenses together with my just debt considered and to whomsoever owing out of the money that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

I give and devise to my beloved wife Sarah Hester two hundred acres of land whereon I now live as was to include my mansion house all outhouses and the mill and all other improvements thereon said land being the tract of land decided by Julius High to Thomas Hester and registered in Bladen County in Book K page 301 December 7th 1861. Also that she be allowed to use timber for the use of plantation on one hundred acres known as the Dunham tract and also one one hundred and fifty acres tract known as Lot No 1 in the division of Thomas Hester's real estate and allotted to Moses Jones and wife Sarah for and during the term of her natural life in satisfaction for and in lieu of her dower and thirds of and in all my real estate.

I give and bequeath to my eldest daughter Martha J. wife of William L. Boyan four hundred and eighty three acres of land it being a part of the John Owen tract and embraces Lots No 1, 2 & 3 in the division of Thomas Hester's real estate & allotted to Elizabeth Hester as reference to said division will more fully show to pass and to hold to her and her heirs in fee simple forever.

I give and devise to my second daughter Sarah E. wife of William Edwards one hundred it being the balance of Lot No 5 not divided in the above devise it being the south end of said Lot No 5 also thirty acres adjoining the above mentioned pieces both of which was allotted to Andrew Hester in the division of Thomas Hester's real estate also one hundred acres granted to Thomas Hester and lying on Stallion Branch recorded at 1861.

in Book M. page 14 to have and to hold to her and her heirs in fee simple forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my youngest daughter Mary L. wife of John D. Biggs two hundred and seven and a half acres of lying on both sides of the public road leading from Lumberton to Whiteville and known as the Lewis land and recorded in Bladen county to have and to hold to her and her heirs in fee simple forever.

Item I give and devise to my eldest son Edward L. Hester two hundred acres of land be the same more or less and including the land deeded from Julius High to Thomas Hester described in the first item of this will, also all the lands in the mill pond or reserved by me in deeding off lands for the benefit of said mill. And after the death of my beloved wife Sarah Hester should she survive me then the said Edward L. Hester to have and to hold to him and his heirs in fee simple forever the above lands and mill &c.

Item I give and bequeath to my nephew Edward L. Lewis one tract of land containing one hundred and sixty acres more or less. For minute description see the deed from Jas. L. Freeman to Daniel Hester which is registered in Bladen county in Book A. page 337. To have and to hold to him and his heirs in fee simple forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my said beloved wife Sarah Hester all my household and kitchen furniture, my stock of all kinds and all the crop or stock of provisions that may be on hand at the time of my death. Also all moneys, notes or accounts which may be due or belonging to my estate after paying my just debts and all necessary expenses, also all farming tools and everything else that I may be in possession of at the time of my death not otherwise disposed of in the foregoing will to have and to hold to her and her heirs absolutely and in fee simple forever. I do hereby constitute and appoint my

trusty friend Edward L. Hester 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 and every part and clause thereof, hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other wills and testament by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof I the said Daniel Hester do herunto set my hand and seal this 26th day of January A.D. 1888
Daniel Hester (Seal)

Signed sealed published and declared by the said Daniel Hester to be his last will and testament in presence of us who at his request and in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto
George W. Jones
R. E. Lewis

Witnesses

State of North Carolina) In the Superior Court.
Bladen County

A paper purporting to be the last will and testament of Daniel Hester deceased is exhibited before me the undersigned Judge of Probate for said county by E. L. Hester the executor therein named and the due execution thereof by the said Daniel Hester by the oath and examination of George W. Jones, and R. E. Lewis the subscribing witnesses thereto who being duly sworn both depose and say and each for himself depose and say that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown them purporting to be the last will and testament of Daniel Hester that the said Daniel Hester in the presence of these deponents subscribed his name at the end of said paper writing which is now shown and said and which bears date 26th Jan. 1888.

And the deponent further saith each for himself that the said Daniel Foster the testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing as subscribed by him and exhibited to be his last will and testament and these deponents did thereupon subscribe their names at the end of said will as an attesting witness thereto and at the request and in the presence of the said testator. And these deponents further saith that at the time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last will as aforesaid and at the time of the deponents subscribing their names as an attesting witness thereto as aforesaid the said Daniel Foster 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 these deponents. And further these deponents say not.

Solemnly sworn and subscribed
this 6th day of October A.D. 1884
J. T. Melvin C. J.

R. S. Lewis (Seal)
George W. Jones (Seal)

Will of
Bristle
Singletary

I, Bristle Singletary 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

That my executor hereinafter named shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my relatives and friends, pay all funeral expenses together with my just debts hereover and to whomsoever owing out of the money that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

I give and devise to my grandsons Bristle Singletary and General Singletary the tracts of land shown on a map containing 48 acres being the land that Snowden Singletary decided to me the 20th day of April 1867 do said deed will more fully show said deed is registered in Book W page 232 in the

Register's Office of Bladen County, subject to the condition set forth in this will.

Item 2nd My will is that my sister Winnie Singletary shall be allowed to stay at my house during her natural life and my executor shall provide her with support from the rents of the place.

Item 3rd That my executor shall rent out the place and two partition boxes land with the rents that may be received shall keep the place in proper repair and when the said Bristle Singletary and General Singletary shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years then the said land to be equally divided between them in value and that the said Bristle Singletary and General Singletary shall jointly pay to each of the following named heirs Nathan Singletary, Nancy Singletary, Hannah widow of Jacob Stephen, Martha wife of Ed Singletary, Caroline wife of Elias M. Kenzie and Betty wife of William Powell the sum of five dollars.

Item 4th My desire is that my son Goodman Singletary shall have my or coat and gear and that the rest and residue of my estate shall be equally divided by sale or otherwise between the above named heirs, share and share alike to each of them to their use and behoof forever.

And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my trust friend E. W. Williams 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 and every part and clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other will and testaments by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof I the said Bristle Singletary do hereunto set my hand and seal this 17th day of June A.D. 1884. Signed sealed published and declared by the said Bristle Singletary to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto

Witness
George W. Jones
Mary J. Jones

Bristle Singletary (Seal)

Codicil.

Whereas certain changes has taken place in the execution of the foregoing will. My will