

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas and  
 Bladen County } Quarter Sessions  
 February Term An 1866

Then, was the within Will, duly proven by the oath of George Sait one of the subscribing witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded.

N. Blue, clk.

my daughter Catharine D. Murchison during her life and after her death the trust to terminate and vest in fee as tenants in common of her three children by her last marriage viz: Eliza Francis now called Ida Lucy, and Isaac Alexander Murchison. I also give unto my son Clement G. Wright, and his heirs, in trust, all the negroes sent to Little River, for the use and support of my said daughter Catharine D. Murchison now in possession of Duncan Murchison her husband, held by him subject to my order. See his written acknowledgement during her life and after her death to be equally divided between all her children, the trust then terminating. I also give in trust to my son Clement G. Wright and his heirs for the sole and separate use of my said daughter Catharine D. Murchison the negroes now named, as the number she now has the use of falls short in value to those in possession of my daughter Ann Eliza McDiarmid, viz: Mary and her two children Caroline the daughter of Joseph Harritt, the granddaughter of Patsy and Cassady sister of Caroline, also Joshua and his wife Dilly and all her children and also one third of all my negroes on my Walker's Bluff and Lisleburne plantations with their present and future increase during her life and after her death the trust to end and to be equally divided amongst all her children, but in the division I wish Jane Fairley to get, Joshua and his wife Dilly and all their children, but at their full value in apportioning to each their respective numbers.

I give unto my daughter Ann Eliza McDiarmid and her husband, David McDiarmid during their lives all the negroes now in their possession and known as a part of my Bladen stock of negroes with present and future increase also one third

In the name of God Amen—  
 This is the last will and testament of Isaac Wright of the State of North Carolina and county of Bladen, made this 15th day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, in his own hand writing—

First: I give unto William Fulton, Elizabeth Moorhead, Imogene, Isaac Wright and Matilda Amelia children of my deceased son Moorhead Wright of Red River and State of Arkansas all my negroes on my plantation known as the White Place except Isaac and Orion. Isaac Wright named after me, to have a negro girl his choice, extra if either should die leaving no living child or children, his or her share to vest in the survivors, unless the deceased should leave a child, to represent him or her. What is given to the females is for their sole and separate use, benefit and behoof independent of the marital rights.

Second: I give in trust to my son, Clement G. Wright and his heirs my Lisleburne plantation and the adjoining tracts above and below for the sole and separate use benefit and behoof of

Third:

negroes on my Walkers Bluff and Lisleburne plantations not herein already given during their joint lives and after their deaths to be equally divided amongst their children. I give to Daniel McDermid my plantation on the east side of the river known as the White Place to him and his heirs and such is my confidence in his judgment and discretion he is fully empowered to do so if he wishes to sell any unprofitable slave for misconduct, disregarding the above limitation.

Fourth: I give unto the children of my deceased daughter Lucy G. Monroe, viz: Adolphus Isaac Wright William Clement and Eliza Jane Monroe all the lands I own on the south side of the river situated on either White's Creek or Hammonds Creek and as it lies on the river and extends out from the same embracing all the McDougald and other pieces or tracts. But if either should die leaving no living children nor child of the dead to represent him or her, then to go to the survivors to them and their heirs. The plantation on which their father lives I have given him only during his life, after his death I give it to his and deceased daughter Lucy G. Monroe's children already named, subject to the limitation before cited. I also give to the children of my deceased daughter Lucy G. Monroe one third of all my slaves say negroes on my Walkers Bluff and Lisleburne plantations not already given. Also Gilbert W. come and Warrick after their fathers death having only a life estate in them but if either dies leaving no child or children, nor no child of the deceased to represent him or her, then his or her share to rest in the survivors.

Fifth: I give unto Isaac Wright Monroe my tract of land lying on White's Creek above Campbell's old mill, about 400 acres more

or less, also my Colly lands 100 acres on the Swamp and 50 acres high land more or less to him and his heirs. It is my wish and I also direct that Minerva and her family, John excepted, given to Clement in the division of the Walkers Bluff and Lisleburne negroes into the three parts as before named be included in the number that may be allotted to the children of my deceased daughter Lucy G. Monroe already named. I hereby give ratify and confirm the titles to all the negroes given by deed of gift now of record to the said children of my deceased daughter Lucy G. Monroe and now in possession of their father Hugh A. Monroe as their guardian with the negroes. And it is my wish and I also direct that up to his marriage to his present wife in 1862 he shall not be called on for the care of said negroes.

Sixth: To my son Clement G. Wright and his heirs I give all the lands I purchased from John S. Pearson and others, say all I own on the East side of the river not already disposed of, including my residence, mills and all improvements both on the river Panther Branch lands and all back tracts and the timber and lightwood of every description except for building purposes on the premises only of one hundred acres purchased by James Owen from John Harris and from conveyed to John S. Pearson and from him to Jedae Wright, the soil only claimed by the Downings, all which is now and hereby given to my son Clement G. Wright and his heirs. I give unto my son C. G. Wright all the negroes I own and be- longing to my Milton plantation residing there not already disposed of including Fred John called by distinction John McLeod, Bony, Patsy, Isaac and Owen, two last belonging to the White plantation. The negroes remaining at the White Place will make up one hundred to deceased son Monroe.



stock he took to the West with him with the increase. It is to be understood, that Benjamin the son of Rhody Baccus Jack Toney Thomas and Ben, the sons of Grace Yellow Potter and Holmes fall in amongst the Walkers Bluff and Lashorne negroes when divided and are not included amongst those given to my son Clement. I also give unto my son G. W. Wright Major and his wife Juliet, and all Juliet's children and Angher and Sally grow all in his possession with present and future increase which latter terms of present and future increase I apply to every bequest of negroes. I also give Gibbs to my son Clement. He has a wife at the White Place, one willed to my son Moorhead's children. Clement is authorized to make any arrangement for his comfort that will not injure my son Moorhead's children.

As regards the trusts my son as executor and trustee Clement G. Wright is hereby exempted from all liabilities of every kind whatsoever, and if a suit should be brought against him in a court of law or Equity, he will plead this in bar of a recovery in either. I desire in the division of the negroes families should be broken as little as practicable, and also the relation of man and wife shall be respected as far as can be done without undue sacrifice of interest, the stock not to be sold but to remain on each place if desired, also the carts, wagons and carriages to remain on each.

The crops, say all over one thousand bushels at Milton, all over five hundred at Walkers Bluff and five hundred at Lisburne to be sold, the corn over five hundred at White Place to pay debts, also the forage, say surplus on each place, and if not sufficient the executor can hire out negroes enough to do so, or sell each lot proportion.

also affected. I nominate, constitute and appoint my son Clement G. Wright Executor and trustee of this my last will and testament hereby annulling and revoking all others by me made signed, sealed and published in presence of the witnesses below attesting.

W. Wright (Seal)  
W. Graham  
A. N. Cromartie

### Codicil.

The household and kitchen furniture of every description I give to my son Clement G. Wright, also beds, bedsteads and furniture except his mother's mahogany bureau and her and my bed, bedstead and furniture that with the bureau I give to my daughter Eliza Jane Monroe, she is my granddaughter. Florence 19th 1862.

J. Wright. (Seal)  
Ratified September 9th, 1864.  
Witness

### Codicil

To alter the foregoing will, I do append this codicil to my will in form as follows: I give and bequeath to my son Clement G. Wright as his own property my negroes, Holmes Yellow Peter Mlimbo and her two children + her further increase and do also give and confirm to him all the negroes which I have heretofore put in his possession.

Item. 2nd I do hereby give to my son Clement G. Wright if he survives me, that all my negroes on the White Place, that is three in

date with their future increase, subject to the following charge - that he shall for four years hire but eight slaves from the Milton property four from the White Plantation four from the Monroe lot and four of those bequeathed to Mrs. McDermid - the money arising therefrom he shall as guardian for my grandchildren - the children of Moorhead Wright, deceased, keep at interest until, my said grandson, Isaac Wright comes of age when he shall pay over the same to my said grandchildren or such of them as may be alive. And at the same time he shall out of his own means pay such further sums as will make the whole amount sixty thousand dollars. And I do hereby appoint him the guardian of said grandchildren so far as this will and codicil is concerned. If he does not survive the war then I bequeath the said negroes to M. McDermid Mrs. Murchison and Mrs. Lucy Monroe's children, subject to the said charges.

Item 3<sup>rd</sup>. I also will that in case of my son Clements death, that the estate given to him shall be divided between his heirs and his widow each taking one part, but the portion to his widow to be hers only during her widowhood, and in case her marriage I bequeath her portion to my son Clements children.

Item 4<sup>th</sup>. I will direct that the crops stock horses cattle hogs mules and the wagons gears and farming implements of every kind shall remain on each plantation for the use of the same. Lastly I will that Mrs. Murchison and Mrs. McDermid come to Milton and take whatever their mother directed. In case of my son Clements death before mine then I appoint Daniel McDermid my executor.

Witness my hand and seal this September 9<sup>th</sup> 1864

I Wright (seal)

Witness

S. W. Guion  
Wm. J. Jessup

Codicil.

W. J. Jessup  
S. W. Guion

Whereas I, Isaac Wright, of the county of Bladen and State of North Carolina, have made my last will and testament in writing bearing date the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two (1862) and whereas there are two codicils written upon the fourth page of my said will which codicils are dated respectively as follows: the first November 19<sup>th</sup> 1862, and the other September the 9<sup>th</sup> 1864 the latter witnessed by S. W. Guion and W. J. Jessup, and my intention is to revoke both of said codicils and to substitute the present one in place thereof. Now therefore by this writing which I hereby declare to be a codicil to my last will and testament and to be taken as a part thereof, order and declare as follows:

First:

Jane Fairley is to share equally with Elizabeth Francis (not called Ida) Lucy Gillespie and Isaac Alexander Murchison, her half sister and brother in the division of my six burne lands and the tracts upon and below after the death of their mother to whom the lands are willed during her lifetime and in the division of the slaves Joshua and Dilly and their children are to be put down as equal to seventeen (17)



and given to Jane Fairley, to her and her heirs.

Item Second. Little Jack (called Jack Toney) Holmes, Yellow Peter, Gibbs Isaac Nat, Owen Little, Peggy, the wife of Hannibal and, child and Mambo and her two children with their further increase, are given to my son Clement G. Wright in addition to those already given to him in my last will and testament.

Item Third. The land and slaves willed to Daniel McDermid I give to him and his heirs subject to the clause hereafter annexed.

Item Fourth. I give to my son Clement G. Wright if he survives the war, all the slaves on my White Place with their future increase, subject to no other clause than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be paid in Confederate or the then currency, to Elizabeth R. Wright, the mother of the children of my deceased son Moorhead Wright if still a widow when Isaac Wright, the son of my deceased son, comes of age, she being appointed a special guardian to receive the same and give proper discharges on the payment thereof. But if she should not remain a widow, let Clement G. Wright will retain it in his own hands until they all come of age and make such investment of it here as he thinks best.

I appoint him their guardian to represent the interest of said children, either by working the slaves on his lands or to hire any portion of them as he may see proper. My object is that the income of the hire of said slaves should be turned and kept at interest so as to produce the greatest accumulation for their benefit, of which he as to be sole judge.

Item Fifth. I wish the slaves given by me to the children of my deceased daughter Lucy G. Monroe to remain in possession of their guardian, Hugh L. Monroe, two years from the date of

this instrument to assist him in any improvement he may wish to make on his lands below subject to no other charge than that the support of his three sons, Adolphus, Isaac and William may require. Then I wish them all to be located on the lands I have willed to Adolphus, Isaac and William, and Eliza Jane Monroe, and work thereon for their benefit, and if either should die leaving no child to represent him or her, his or her share to rest in fee in the survivors.

Item Sixth. If the share of slaves willed to any one of my children should be injured by capture on the part of the enemy, or by desertion, the loss is to be born equally but I wish it distinctly understood that the slaves thus given can in no wise be exempt from contributing their part. This comprehends only the slaves to be divided after my death.

Item Seventh. I give Arthey, the husband of Candia to Annette and her children such as she has now alive or may be born hereafter by my son Clement G. Wright and a child's part in everything willed to him so long as she shall remain his widow, she surviving him. And if either of his children should die it is my wish that that share should go exclusively to the survivors. All which give accordingly to his children and their heirs, subject to the limitation as regards survivorship.

Item Eighth. It is my wish of Elizabeth R. Wright should remain a widow (the wife of my deceased son Moorhead Wright of Ad. Kansas) at the close of the war, and on her appointment as guardian of her five children already named, that my son Clement G. Wright will pay to her the whole of the Fifty thousand Dollars in Confederate or the then currency and for the same shall be a full

charge from all liability, on his part both as regards himself and his heirs confiding to her the entire management of the same, subject to the restriction already recited. If the negroes willed to my son Clement G. Wright should be taken by the enemy or lost by desertion, he is exempt from all liability, both as regards himself and heirs, but if all should not be lost that portion of them saved he will use according to his judgment and discretion.

Item Ninth: The lands on Whites Creek above Campbells old mill, about four hundred and forty acres more or less, and one hundred acres in Colly Swamp east of the river and twenty acres on the high land joining the same. I give unto Adolphus Monroe, Isaac William Monroe and Eliza Jane Monroe, to them and their heirs. If either should die leaving no child to represent him or her the land thus given to rest, in fee in the survivors.

Item Tenth: If my son Clement G. Wright should not survive the war, I constitute and appoint Daniel McDiarmid, my son-in-law, of Cumberland county, my executor and trustee, with all the power and exemption from liability given to my son Clement G. Wright as set forth in this codicil to my last will and testament, and on paying the fifty thousand dollars to Elizabeth W. Wright, either from hire, or by working them on the plantation, I give the said slaves including such as may be born hereafter to the children of my said son Clement G. Wright, by his wife Annette, to them and their heirs with this restriction: if either die leaving no child to represent him or her his or her share are to rest in the survivors. If my slaves are hired it is on condition that they are not to go out of the county except from going on water well fed clothed and shod. All this to be inserted in the bond given for their hire.

Item Eleventh: If I should die before the two years expire as before stated a division of all my slaves on Walkers Bluff and the Lisleburne plantations must then take place, not previously disposed of. I then direct that all the slaves in the possession of Hugh A. Monroe, as guardian of the said children, by my deceased daughter Lucy A. Monroe, with their present and future increase to be given up by him, but not included in said division, as they are already disposed of by deed of gift to the said children, proved and registered, this division postponed until the then crop is gathered, and all the slaves to be located on my river land willed to said children. But if their guardian Hugh A. Monroe should refuse to give up said slaves (which I have no reason to believe he will do as said slaves cost me many drops of sweat and much self-denial) I am unwilling that they should be retained for the benefit of a second family in whose veins none of my blood circulates (having amply provided for one family, I cannot provide for a second) having for the accommodation of my deceased daughter Lucy A. Monroe given up to her my most valuable house servants, Isadore and Isabella known as "Dorck" and "Bella" who have remained in his possession ever since though greatly needed by me. If the said Hugh A. Monroe then should be unwilling to give up such slaves, in order to terminate said guardianship and to obtain possession of all the slaves before recited, I direct Isaac William and Eliza Jane Monroe to file a petition to be allowed to choose their own guardian and to obtain possession of said slaves and I enjoin it as an indispensable duty on Adolphus to join in the petition with him and the said guardian.



with all the means necessary to effect the above object. <sup>Now</sup> as far as the raising & education of Eliza, Jane Monroe has cost her father nothing neither shall it so long as I live. But after my death it will be otherwise. Money must be supplied to her aunt, Catherine D. Murchison, to complete her education when and where she shall direct, and also the education of William must be attended to. Hence the guardian, is empowered to hire out negroes, confining them to the county, exempt from going by water on the river, to be well fed, clothed and shod, and all this to be inserted in the bonds given for their hire. In order to raise money to educate said minors, Adolphus (and Isaac when he comes of age) is to be consulted as to the negroes to be hired. If they prefer working them and furnishing the money, they can do so. To disturb the relation of father and son is not my purpose. I enjoin it upon my dear grandchildren to honor their father and to him be both dutiful and respectful. The negroes in the possession of Hugh A. Monroe, during the two years shall be well fed, clothed and shod and not unduly exposed.

Item Twelfth. Daniel McDermid is to have all the corn and forage made on the White place the year preceeding my death, free of charge.

Item Thirteenth. As my Lisburn land and the tracts above and below cannot be divided without ruin, I give the whole of it to Isaac Alexander Murchison, after the death of his mother, for which he is to pay his three sisters two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) each. The bond to be given on the first of January after the gathering of the first crop, payable in three annual instalments, with interest, and I hereby appoint Duncan Murchison, their father, guardian of the three minor children, Eliza, Francis (now called Ida), Lucy Gillespie and Isaac Alexander Murchison, to take charge of their interest so

as to secure to them the profits arising therefrom, and the said land, subject to the said clay I give to the said Isaac Alexander Murchison, to him and his heirs.

Item Fifteenth. Whereas Hugh A. Monroe has committed a continual trespass of ten years on my river land, and paid me no rent as he entered into an agreement to do witnessed by Dr. H. H. Robinson and Wm. McNeill, I empower my executor to collect the rent for the same. And also I think he has committed a trespass on the land lying back of his house on which I think he has erected buildings - See deeds from Magnus Draughon and Jas Dowie and from John Owen & wife to Isaac Wright, now I believe, in possession of Hugh A. Monroe. I authorize my executor to take by way of remuneration for said trespass all the wooded land which he bought of William Savage on the east side of the creek, not interfering with the mill pond. It is not intended that my executor shall appraise but receive only such remuneration as the circumstances of the case call for and justly demand. I give in charge to my executor to correct an unintentional blunder committed by the said Hugh A. Monroe in giving in Henry, at the call of the Government for slaves to work on the fortifications near Wilmington, N.C., to the impressing officer to work as his own property, by which blunder, should the said slave die from disease incurred while in the Government's service, or be captured by the enemy, all his wages for hire and the right to prosecute for indemnity for his loss would be lost to my grandchildren - the child of my deceased daughter Lucy G. Monroe. I empower my executor to collect the same and pay it over to Duncan Murchison, to be applied to the education of Eliza J. Monroe in such manner

Catharine D. Murchison shall direct.  
 In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this  
 thirteenth day of November in the year of our  
 Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty  
 four.

I. Wright. 

The above instrument, consisting of two sheets  
 of foolscap paper making nearly seven pages  
 in all, was at the date thereof signed, sealed,  
 published and declared by Isaac Wright as  
 and for a codicil to his last will and Testament  
 in presence of us, who, at his request, and in  
 his presence and in the presence of each other,  
 have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto  
 and have written our names on the margin of  
 the first sheet in identification thereof.

W. A. J. Jessup.  
 R. W. Guion.

 March 12, 1865.

### Additional Godicil to the last Will and Testament.

As the estate at the West of my deceased  
 son, Moorhead is very large and uninterrupted  
 I give unto my son Clement L. Wright all  
 the negroes at my White Plantation, now  
 called Nats, with their future increase and  
 their present and future profits subject to  
 no limitations, but if either should die, leav-  
 ing no child or children to represent him  
 or her, they must go to the survivor or survivors  
 as it is my intention that no one but a Wright  
 by Clement either living or dead shall ever  
 have anything to do with Milton or its ap-  
 pendages.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand  
 and seal this the 15th day of March 1865.

I. Wright. 

Attest:  
 J. M. Cromartie.  
 W. A. Jessup

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas and  
 Bladen County } Quarter Sessions  
 May Term 1866

A paper writing is offered for probate at this  
 term, purporting to be the last will and testa-  
 ment of Isaac Wright, deceased.  
 The witnesses to the said paper writing and  
 the several codicils thereto attached being duly  
 summoned to attend at this term, viz: Neill  
 Graham, J. M. Cromartie, R. W. Guion, W. A.  
 Jessup and James H. Cromartie, now in open  
 court appeared and being duly sworn upon  
 the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, proved  
 the due execution of the said paper writing  
 and the codicils attached to the same.  
 Whereupon the Court doth declare that the  
 whole of the said paper writing including  
 the godicils of L. B. is the last will and testament  
 of the said Isaac Wright, executed so as to  
 give and convey both real and personal estate  
 and probate of the same is allowed and or-  
 dered.

C. L. Wright named one of the executors  
 has died. D. M. Diomed, the other executor  
 refuses to accept the trust and here renounces  
 the executor of the will.  
 The Clerk is directed to record the paper in  
 the proper Will Book kept for this purpose.



Catharine S. Murchison shall direct.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this thirteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four.

I. Wright. 

The above instrument, consisting of two sheets of foolscap paper, making nearly seven pages in all, was at the date thereof signed, sealed, published and declared by Isaac Wright as and for a codicil to his last will and testament in presence of us, who, at his request, and in his presence and in the presence of each other, have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto and have written our names on the margin of the first sheet in identification thereof.

W. A. Jessup.  
H. W. Guion.

March 12, 1865.

### Additional Codicil to the last Will and Testament.

As the estate at the West of my deceased son, Moorhead, is very large and uninterrupted, I give unto my son Clement E. Wright all the negroes at my White Plantation, now called Nats, with their future increase and their present and future profits, subject to no limitations, but if either should die, leaving no child or children to represent him or her, they must go to the survivor or survivors, as it is my intention that no one but a Wright, by Clement, either living or dead shall ever have anything to do with Milton or its appendage.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal this the 15th day of March 1865.

I. Wright. 

Attest:  
J. W. Cromartie.  
W. A. Jessup

State of North Carolina }  
Bladen County } Court of Pleas and  
Quarter Sessions  
May Term 1866

A paper writing is offered for probate at this term, purporting to be the last will and testament of Isaac Wright, deceased. The witnesses to the said paper writing and the several codicils thereto attached being duly summoned to attend at this term, viz: Neill Graham, J. N. Cromartie, H. W. Guion, W. A. Jessup and James W. Cromartie, now in open court, appeared and being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, proved the due execution of the said paper writing and the codicils attached to the same. Whereupon the Court doth declare that the whole of the said paper writing including the codicils J. L. B. is the last will and testament of the said Isaac Wright, executed so as to give and convey both real and personal estate and probate of the same is allowed and ordered.

C. E. Wright named one of the executors has died. D. M. Diernid, the other executor, refuses to accept the trust and here renounces the executor of the will. The Clerk is directed to record the paper in the proper Will Book kept for this purpose.