

RECORD OF WILLS.

North Carolina
Bladen County } Court of Three Quarter Sessions
May Term 1841

A Paper writing without subscribing witnesses purporting to be the last will and Testament of James Roberts deceased is exhibited for probate in Open Court, by Thomas D. McDowell, one of the Executors therein named, and it is thereupon proved by the oath and examination of three Competent and Credible witnesses to wit: Samuel Lewis Benjamin, St. Randolph, and Colin Morrow, that they are acquainted with the said writing of the said James Roberts having seen him write and sign the same, and that the name of the said James Roberts subscribed to the said will, and the said will itself and every part thereof, are in the said writing of the said James Roberts, and it is further proved by the evidence of the above witnesses that the said writing is generally known to the acquaintances of the said James Roberts.

It is therefore considered by the Court, that the said paper writing is the last will and Testament of the said James Roberts, and the same is ordered to be recorded and filed.

And thereupon Thomas D. McDowell, one of the Executors therein named, duly qualifies as such by taking the oath required by Law, and enters into bonds in the sum of Ten thousand Dollars with Colin Morrow and John B. McDowell as securities therefor.

Attest.

J. Blue Clerk
Jt. P. D. Cunningham D. C.

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in the name of God. Amen"

I John 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 to wit.

That my Executor herein after 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 debts Remitted and to whomsoever owing out of the monies that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

I give and bequeath unto my son William C. Kelly his heirs and assigns forever one Red Brick Bed and Furniture and my Gold, Watch and travelling Trunk but should he die then I want them to go to my son John C. Kelly his heirs and assigns forever.

I give and bequeath to my son John C. Kelly his heirs and assigns forever.

I give and bequeath unto my son John C. Kelly his heirs and assigns forever one Red Brick Bed and Furniture and my Shot Gun.

I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Mary Jane two Hundred and Sixty acres of land including my Messuage House, all out houses, and other improvements to have and to hold to her the said Mary Jane for and during the term of her natural life in satisfaction for and in lieu of her dower, in all my Real Estate, the said land is known as the old Hundred acre Tract and as the Thompson Hundred acre tract, and forty acres adjoining and bordering upon Dr. McKinnon.

I give and bequeath unto all my children all my books to be equally divided between them share and share alike.

I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Mary Jane during her natural life my negroes, kids, Pigs and Mollies, my Household and Kitchen Furniture together with the Farming utensils and my Carriage and Harness, Yoke of Oxen and Cart and my gray horse saddle &c. and twenty head of sheep and two milk cows and calves, my wife chooses in my stock to have.

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red. Oats and all the provisions in hand and all my stock of hogs and of the growing crop, one hundred bushels of Potatoes, one hundred bushels of Corn and two hundred pounds of Butter, and the shares and twenty bushels of rice, the pea crop and the crop of sugar cane.

It is my will and desire that after the death of my beloved wife Lucy Jane that she leave the negroes and their issue and in case of household and kitchen furniture and stock of all kind herein before bequeathed and devised to my beloved wife during her natural life he equally divided between all my children their heirs and assigns forever, share and share alike.

I give and devise to all my children their heirs and assigns forever, the residue of my lands to be equally divided between them share and share alike.

It is my will and desire that all the moneys of my estate, after taking out the debts and legacies above mentioned shall be sold and the debts owing to me collected and if there should be any surplus and above the payment of my debts and expenses that such surplus shall be equally divided and paid over to all my children in equal proportions share and share alike to them and to each and every of them their Executors administrators and assigns absolutely forever.

I do hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend A. S. Kemp 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. Revoke and declaring utterly void all other wills and Testaments by me heretofore made.

In Witness Whereof I the said Chris. Kelly, do hereunto set my hand and seal this 12th day of August 1864

Signed sealed published and declared by the said Chris. Kelly 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
 D. J. Kelly
 Chris. Kelly Seal

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North Carolina
 Bladen County Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions
 November Term 1864

A. Paper writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of Chris. Kelly, deceased is exhibited for probate in open Court, by A. S. Kemp the Executor therein named and the due execution thereof by the said Chris. Kelly is proven by the oath and examination of Duncan Kelly, one of the subscribing witnesses thereto, who also gives the hand writing of the other subscribing witness A. J. McCreary, who though not dead is now a prisoner in the Army of the Confederate States.

It is therefore considered by the Court that the said Paper writing and every part thereof is the last will and Testament of the said Chris. Kelly, and the same is ordered to be recorded and filed.

And therefore A. S. Kemp the Executor therein named duly qualifies as such by taking the oath required by Law, and enters into Bond in the sum of fifty thousand dollars with J. N. McDaniel as security thereto which bond is accepted by the Court and ordered to be filed.

Attest

D. Blue Clerk
 P. F. F. Cunningham D.C.

I, Joel Johnson of the County of Bladen and State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory, do hereby declare this my last will and Testament, in manner and form following that is to say first - That my Executors hereinafter named, shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my relations and pay all funeral expenses to which my just debts I owe and whatsoever owing out of my money that may come into my hands as a free and sole owner.