

RECORD OF WILLS.

In the Name of God. Amen

I Robert Melvin Sen^r of the County of Bladen and State of North Carolina being of sound and perfect mind and memory. Blessed be God do this the 15th day of November in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty Four. make and Publish this my last Will and Testament, in manner and form following That is to say -

And first I direct that my body be decently interred in the burying ground at my Father's and as to such worldly estate as it hath pleased God to entrust me with,

I dispose of the same as follows,

First I direct that all my debts and funeral expenses be paid as soon after my decease as possible out of the first money that shall come into the hands of my Executors from any portion of my Estate.

I give and bequeath unto my beloved Wife, Elizabeth Melvin, tracts of land including and adjoining the plantation where I now live viz - one tract of land containing one hundred and twenty two acres on the North Side of Big Turnbull, granted to me the 21st of November 1803 also one other tract for one hundred acres granted to me the 21st of December 1802. One other tract for fifty acres granted to David Nelson the 15th of May 1804. Another for one hundred acres granted to me the 29th of November 1817. Another tract on Turnbull containing one hundred acres granted to David Nelson the 16th of May 1804. Another on the east side of Turnbull for 300 acres granted to John Parker the 9th of November 1819. Another on the South Side of Turnbull fifty acres granted to me the 25th of September 1820. Another on the East side of Turnbull for one hundred acres granted to Joseph Carter the 11th of November 1784. Another containing one hundred acres a part of a 640 acre survey granted to me the 11th of November 1803.

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of August 1802. another east of Turnbull granted to David Melvin Sen^r on the 15th of December 1809. also one hundred acres more whereon my mill stands also a black man Jerry, and my black woman Mary, my black man and Colt. four Cows and Calves. four Sows and pigs. twenty two year old hogs and fifteen year old hogs. one thousand pounds of Pork one herd of sheep three Beds and furniture. my Church Bible and Prayer Book. House hold and Kitchen furniture one iron rake and grass scythe, my Crop of Corn. Potatoes Cotton two Hens and gear to be hers during her natural life, also.

Then the above negroes. Jerry and Mary to be equally divided between my beloved sons. John S. Melvin and Joseph M. Melvin, and the lands and divisible property that I have given to my wife at the expiration of the natural life of my wife Elizabeth Melvin. either by death or marriage to be equally divided between my beloved sons. George S. Melvin John S. Melvin and Joseph M. Melvin.

Secondly. I give and bequeath unto my beloved son. James S. Melvin. One hundred acres of land bought of James McLane. also I give to said James all that part of a two hundred acre tract bought of John Melvin Sen^r that lies on the North Side of the Big Branch. that lies between the said James S. Melvin and what is called the John Place.

Also I give and bequeath unto my beloved son James S. Melvin my black man Tommy and Ray Cows and Calves. two Sows and pigs two Cows and lambs. one Bed and furniture one shot gun that I have heretofore given him verbally.

Thirdly I give and bequeath unto my beloved son David B. Melvin the following of land viz - one hundred acres granted to Peter Neathman the 2nd of March 1795. another piece for 500 acres granted to Ezekiel Suggs. also 100 acres to Peter McLane the 19th of December 1803.

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granted to Peter Meacham. granted to Elizabeth Suggs. also all that part of the Creek and Lumber land lying on the South West side of a branch, by the James West Hog pen and the middle of the branch for the dividing line also my black boy Omie. two Cows and Calves two Cows and lambs. Two Sows and pigs. Two two year old Hogs. and my Bay mare and an old shot gun that I have heretofore given him verbally.

Fourthly, I give and bequeath unto my beloved Son, Daniel Marshall Melvin, all my lands bought of William J. Joseph. My Negro man Isaac, Two Cows and Calves. Two Sows and pigs. Two Cows and lambs. and my Bay Horse which I have heretofore given him verbally. and further I give him my Son Saul Marshall Melvin two two year old Hogs. and my new single barreled shot gun one Bed and furniture.

Fifthly - I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter, Eliza Ann Melvin and the heirs of her body. My Negro woman, named Rachel, and her future offspring. also two hundred acres of land lying in the "Sun Flats" granted to myself. also one hundred and fifty acres granted to James Donnan. and bought of Omie Smith attorney for Lewis Suggs. Two Cows and Calves Two Sows and pigs. Two Cows and lambs, and two two year old Hogs and one Bed and furniture.

Sixthly, I give and bequeath unto my beloved Son William Melvin. The following tracts of land. viz.

One tract of fifty acres granted to myself the 15th of June 1818. and another tract of eighty two acres. granted to myself the 1st of December 1829. also one hundred and fifty acres granted to Arthur Fort. the 29th of March 1829. also one hundred acres granted Elias M. Lamoore. the 23rd of November 1800. also all that part of a two hundred acre tract bought of John Melvin. Son. lying to West of the Big

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line between him and James M. Melvin. also one hundred and fifty acres in three fifty acre tracts granted to myself. also my Negro man Samuel. Two Cows and Calves. Two Sows and pigs Two Cows and lambs and one Bed and furniture.

Seventhly = I give and bequeath to my beloved Son, Arthur J. Melvin. the following tracts of land. viz. One hundred and fifty acres granted to Daniel Melvin. Son. the 15th of December 1827. also one hundred acres. granted to Peter M. Lamoore joining the above one hundred and fifty acres including where Elizabeth Suggs formerly lived also fifty acres granted to myself joining the above and runs across the Big branch. also one hundred acres called the Red Hill place. also six hundred and forty acres on Suggs Mill Pond bought of Samuel Robinson and wife. also my Negro man named Peter. Two Cows and Calves Two Sows and pigs Two Cows and lambs and one bed and furniture.

Eighthly = I give and bequeath unto my beloved Son, Robert J. Melvin. The following tracts of land. viz.

Four hundred and thirty two and a half acres. of land bought of John Cain. Four hundred and fifty acres in and in Suggs Mill Pond. granted to myself. One hundred acres including the M. Lamoore plantation. granted to Peter M. Lamoore. the 20th of October 1800. also one hundred acres granted to myself the 13th of June 1818. also one hundred acres more granted to myself the 13th of June 1818. and one hundred acres. granted to Peter M. Lamoore the 1st of December 1801. also all that part of a one hundred and fifty acre tract. lying on the North West side of Cones branch. granted to Peter M. Lamoore the 1st of November 1818. and balance of this tract I give and bequeath unto my Son William Melvin.

Also I give and bequeath unto my Son Arthur J. Melvin. My Negro man named Peter.

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Two Cows and lambs, one bed and furniture.
 I give and bequeath unto my
 grand children, Robert M. Elizabeth and
 Amos Jessup. Fifty acres of land bought of
 John McKinnon, and fifty acres joining the
 above granted to myself, also one hundred and
 fifty acres in the "Main State" granted to Shadrach
 Heathersby also one gray Horse and a Bed and
 furniture, which I gave their Mother before her
 death.

Truly - I give and bequeath unto my three
 sons, George, J. John Sands, and Joseph M. Melvin
 all the balance of my lands, which I have not
 heretofore given away, to be equally divided be-
 tween them.

And I further give or leave to my beloved Wife
 Elizabeth Melvin, for the purpose of raising and
 educating my children who may be under
 the age of twenty one at my death my
 negro man Abram and my negro Woman Fanny
 together with her children, Rose Henry and
 Sally, to be hers during her natural life, and then
 to be equally divided between my three sons,
 George, J. John, and Joseph M. Melvin, to-
 gether with any future increase there may be
 of the above named negro Woman Fanny and her
 children.

I further give and bequeath unto my son
 David B. Melvin, all that part of a tract of
 land bought of John Melvin Senr. lying
 South East of the Lightrock Log Branch, & the
 main road.

I further direct that my Executors herein
 after to be named, sell on a credit of six
 months - all the property which I have not heretofore
 given away, and the proceeds arising
 therefrom to be applied, to the payment of my
 just debts, if any left to be given to my beloved
 wife Elizabeth Melvin, and I do now hereby ap-
 point as my Executors, George M. and David B.

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Executors to this my last Will and Testament
 signed sealed published and declared as my last
 and testament in presence of the subscribing witnesses
 who were present at the time of signing and sealing
 thereof

Witnesses

R. McLeod
 J. Jones.

R. Melvin Senr. Seal

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas & Sessions
 Bladen County }
 November Term 1846 -

Now in open Court the within paper, meeting
 offered for Probate, as the last Will and testament
 of Robert Melvin and the same is duly proved
 and proven from by the oaths of Kenneth Melvin
 and J. Jones. The subscribing witnesses thereto
 and is declared to be the last Will and testament
 of the said Robert Melvin in every part thereof
 sufficient to pass his Real and Personal Estate
 and it is ordered to be recorded, and thereupon
 George W. Melvin and David B. Melvin
 of the Executors therein mentioned are duly
 qualified and admitted accordingly

H. H. Robinson Clerk.