

August the 3^d 1894

In the Name of God Amen.

I Thomas C. Smith, of the county of Bladen and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and memory do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following, to wit;

I give and bequeath all of my lands not heretofore deeded- all of my notes and debts due my estate and all personal property of whatever description to be equally divided share and share alike between my sister A. M. Purdie, John W. Purdie, Eliza Purdie, James A. Purdie, John A. McDowell, Thos. D. McDowell, Alexander McDowell, John McDowell, James C. Robinson, Thomas A. Robinson, Irving Robinson, Newton Robinson, Mary E. Robinson and Charles Robinson.

I decline giving to John L. McMillan and part of my estate as he is possessed of an estate amply sufficient.

I constitute and appoint Thomas D. McDowell, John A. McDowell and J. M. Purdie executors of this my will

Witness

L. J. Norman
B. J. Randolph.

Thos. C. Smith. (Seal)

State of North Carolina }
Bladen County } ss. In the Probate Court.

A paper purporting to be the last will and testament of Thomas C. Smith, deceased, is exhibited before me the undersigned Judge of Probate for said county by John A. McDowell, J. M. Purdie & Thos. D. McDowell, the executors thereon named, and the due execution thereof by the said Thos. C. Smith by the oath and examination of Thomas J. Norman, and B. J. Randolph the subscribing witnesses thereto who being duly sworn doth depose and say, and each for himself deposes and

saith that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him, purporting to be the last will and testament of Thomas C. Smith, that the said Thomas C. Smith 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 3^d day of August 1894. And the deponent further saith that the said Thomas C. Smith, 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 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 this deponent further saith that at the said time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last will as aforesaid, and at the time of deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto, as aforesaid, the said Thomas C. Smith 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.

Soberly sworn and
subscribed this 12th day
of December 1894 before me
Erander Singletary
Probate Judge

L. J. Norman (Seal)
B. J. Randolph (Seal)

State of North Carolina }
Bladen County } ss. In Probate Court

We, John A. McDowell and J. M. Purdie, do solemnly swear that we believe this writing to be and contain the last will and testament of Thomas C. Smith, deceased, and that we will well and truly execute the same by first paying his debts and then his legacies as far as the said estate shall extend or the law will charge us, and that we will

and faithfully execute the office of executors, agree-
able to the trust reposed in us and according
to law - So help us God.
Sworn and subscribed } John A. McDowell
before me this 27th day } J. W. Purdie
of December 1874 }

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 moneys 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 1874
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

L. M. Melvin
R. A. Melvin

State of North Carolina Bladen County. In Probate Court
A paper purporting to be the 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 doth depose and say and each
for himself depose and saith that he is a subscrib-
ing 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 1874. And the deponent further saith
that the said Catharine L. Beard, the testator afore-
said 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