

RECORD OF WILLS.

In the Name of God "Amen"  
 I, William J. Coran formerly a resident  
 of Bladen County North Carolina but at this time of  
 Washington City, District of Columbia do make public  
 and declare this as my last Will and Testament in  
 manner and form following to wit,

I give devise and bequeath to my step. son and  
 friend James W. Besse, after the payment of any debt  
 and funeral expenses, all my property both Real and personal  
 of which I may be seized or possessed or to which I may  
 be in any way entitled, to him his heirs Executors admors  
 utors and assigns forever.

And by these presents I do hereby constitute and appoint  
 the above named James W. Besse, Executor of this my last  
 Will and Testament.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and  
 seal this the first month day of April in the Year of our  
 Lord, One thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty five, 1855,

signed sealed published and  
 declared by the Testator as  
 his last Will and Testament  
 and witnessed by us, in his  
 presence and in the presence  
 of each other the day and year  
 above written.

Wm. J. Coran

Durmond Lewis  
 Elijah Knox

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

A paper writing purporting to be the last Will and Testa-  
 ment of William J. Coran, deceased is exhibited in  
 open Court for Probate by Durmond Lewis one of the  
 subscribing witnesses thereto, and the due execution thereof  
 by the said William J. Coran, is proved by the oath and  
 examination of Durmond Lewis, one of the subscribing witnesses  
 thereto.

It is therefore considered by the Court that the said  
 paper writing is the last Will and Testament of the said  
 William J. Coran.

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and Testament of the said William J. Coran deceased  
 and the same is ordered to be recorded and filed.

attest

A. F. Blevins Clerk.  
 per F. F. Cummings T. O.

In the Name of God "Amen"

I, David Sikes of the County of  
 Bladen and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind  
 and memory do make and declare this my last Will  
 and Testament in manner and form following.

"First"

I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Isabella  
 Sikes, a negro boy named, Urdum, and seven hundred  
 dollars in money, also one Bed and Bedstead, and the  
 other Furniture and Distress belonging to said Bed  
 and Bedstead to her and to her heirs the said  
 Isabella Sikes, for and during the term of her life and  
 to dispose of the same at her death as she may see  
 proper, in satisfaction for and in lieu of her dower and  
 thirds of and in all my Real and personal estate.

"Secondly"

I will and bequeath to my daughter Mary Ann Evans  
 wife of Jacob A. Evans, the following negroes, namely,  
 Henry, Mary Eliza and Dave to her heirs and at  
 her disposal absolutely forever.

"Thirdly"

I will and bequeath to my son Theodore M. Sikes,  
 the balance and all the remainder of my Real and  
 personal estate. provided nevertheless that he the said  
 Theodore M. Sikes shall never charge my beloved wife  
 for her board or lodging, so long as she remains single  
 and wishes to remain with him and if she should  
 be dissatisfied and go away then he the said Theodore  
 Sikes shall pay annually to her the sum of five dollars.

"Fourthly"

It is my earnest desire that my property  
 that left to my two children shall be divided