

February 21<sup>st</sup> 1870. In the name of God a man,  
I James Shannon, of Gaston County & State of North Carolina,  
Being in feeble State of health & of body & impressed with the  
conviction that my time is short, but having all my rational  
powers, unimpaired & being of sound mind & memory do  
make this my last will & Testament, Whence I bequeath my  
estate as follows, 1<sup>st</sup> That after my death my body shall  
be decently buried according to the wishes of my friends &  
relations, 2<sup>nd</sup> That all my just debts by me contracted  
together with my funeral expenses out of my estate shall be paid  
by my executor herein after named including the expenses of  
my Tomb Stone, 3<sup>rd</sup>, I give & bequeath unto my beloved  
wife Hannah, one third interest in my landed estate,  
in consideration of her maintenance during her natural  
life, 4<sup>th</sup> I give & bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth B,  
one hundred acres of land, & I do further desire that  
she refuse to assign any conveyance of her right  
during her life of the same, 5<sup>th</sup>, I give unto my  
grand son James Abshur Cox, one hundred acres of  
land being the balance of my landed estate,  
6<sup>th</sup> And I do hereby further appoint my trusty friend  
Eli Cox, my executor of this my last will & Testament  
Test Attest  
James Shannon, Senr,

Test A. G. Galloway }  
Eli J. Robinson }

James Shannon, Test.

State of North Carolina } Before the Probate Court,  
Gaston County } of said County.

A paper writing purporting to be the last will & Testament of James Shannon dec'd, is exhibited before me the undersigned Judge of Probate of said County by Eli J. Robinson, the executor therein named & the execution thereof by the said James Shannon, by the oaths & examinations of the subscribing witnesses thereto who being duly sworn do depose & say & each for himself depose & say that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last will & Testament of James Shannon late of Gaston County, that the said James Shannon, in the presence of these deponents subscribed his name to the end of said paper writing which is now shown him & bears the date of Feb'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1870, & the deponents further say that the said James Shannon, the testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name thereto as aforesaid did declare said paper writing so subscribed by him & exhibited to be his last will & Testament.

and these deponents did thereupon subscribe their names at the end of said will as attesting witnesses thereto & at the request & in the presence of the said testator James Shannon, and these deponents further say that at the said time when the said testator James Shannon, did subscribe his name thereto to said last will & Testament and at the time when these witnesses did subscribe, ~~the~~<sup>their</sup> names to said paper writing that the said testator was of sound mind & memory & of full age & executed a will & was under no restraint to the knowledge, information or belief of these witnesses.

E. J. Robinson, *Test*  
A. C. Dickson *Test*

Severally sworn to & subscribed  
to before me this the 15<sup>th</sup> day Nov 1872.

E. H. Withers Probate Judge;

Ch. Cof the named Executor in the said will of James Shannon died; asks a further day to qualify to execute said will; which further day is granted & allowed  
March 15, 1873. E. H. Withers Probate Judge

I Caleb Strong, of the County of Gaston & State of North Carolina, being of sound mind & memory but being uncertain of my earthly existence do make & declare this my