

In the name of God Amen I Thomas Kent of the State
of North Carolina Lincoln County do make and
bequeath this to be my last will and testament that
is to say principally and first of all I give and
recommend my soul into the hand of almighty
God that I have it and my body to the earth
from whence it came and as to my worldly
estate give and dispose of in the following
manner First I allow all my just debts to be
paid if any there is and next I give and
bequeath unto Rachael my dear wife the place
whereon we now live with all the
appertainances thereunto belonging both real
and personal that is all the upland and stock
of every description the house and all that it
contains Except there is more than she would
wish to keep if they may sell what she don't want
with the advice of the Executor and she is to
have the interest of what ever is sold or as much
as she needs and if any over let it be at interest
and in case she don't wish to work the place she
may rent the place or as much of it as she thinks
fit or perhaps may get a crop what if not the negroes
may be sold or hired whatever is thought best
and she is to have their hire or the interest of their
price or as much as she needs as said above
and the balance to be at interest during her
life and what ever is sold let it be sold privately
if it can to any advantage if not make a sale
But if she sees cause to keep the place and
business going on as usual she may make a will
and then do as they think best if you know there
is many things about a place that is useful
yet will bring very little but selling them
privately and giving time they may sell better
in case she chooses to keep the farming going
on if the Executor cannot see to it let him
or her give some one that will have and

July 1 September 1829

up to it if John Bell would choose to come he might
perhaps do as well as any and if he does well
let him have a share equal to our sons at
her death as he comes so far to see us he
ought to be considered ~~as~~ to the books and
clothing of every description our sons & to
share among themselves and what of
the furniture they please to divide they may
and all that is put to sale their Cousin John
is to share with them and the place at her
death is to be given unto James but every
thing else is to be divided as said and also
all the dresses affairs and her bed and furniture
and all her clothing is to be left as she pleases
Except she was so frail as to unfit her for
being a judge of who wanted and if so
then everything must go as is judged
equitable and this must be left to the
Executor and some others whom he may
consult if it should be thought fit to sell
Lewis and Kate and Rose (well if not
she may keep them if she does well if not
she may sell her and buy another or more
if able which she is to have during life this
I confirm in Witness whereof I set my
hands and seal after appointing

Robert C Bell my Executor

May the 31st 1829 Thos Bell (seal)

Robert C Bell Executor