

James M. Ritch last will & testament

1865

Confederate States of America

April the 30th 1862

My dear mother & Brothers & Sisters, with great pleasure I seat myself this morning to answer your letter which I received yesterday which gave me great satisfaction to hear that you was well I am well and happy and I hope this may find you all still ~~and~~ enjoying the same great blessing of God. I have not write any letter since the battle for I could not get any paper at all I fought through the battle and came out safe and all of our Company also, there was none of our men killed. You said for me not to forget to pray. I will do the best I can and I want you all to remember me in your prayers. We are now without tents and I dont know whether we will get any more or not And I need some clothes mighty bad I have not but one suit and it not very good. I would be glad if you could send me some if it was only one shirt and a pair of Slips for I dont know when we will draw any more clothes. You said for me to tell you what to do with my cats. I cant tell you what to do. If Lee Semmonds cant do it I want you to do the best you can. If Lee cant do it try uncle Washington. he will I think if he can. I will go home about

could send me some if it was only one shirt and a pair of Slips
for I don't know when we will draw any more clothes. You
said for me to tell you what to do with my oats. I cant tell
you what to do. If Lee Semmonds cant do it I want you
to do the best you can. If Lee cant do it try uncle Wash-
ington. he will I think if he can. I will go home about
harvest if I can get a furlough. but that will be doubtful
But get some body to cut the oats if you can and I will
pay them the worth of it in oats or the money, and if I
should never get home I want you to have my estate and
all I have got as long as you live. But I hope I will live
to get home. So write to me if you can get paper and I
will do the same. I was sorrow to hear of Stel a
Volunteering, but it was better than to stand a draft. So no
more at this time. but remains your son until death
To Penelope Kitch
James M. Kitch

State of North Carolina) Court of pleas and quarter sessions
 Watauga County) July Term 1862
Then the foregoing was admitted to Probate in due form of
law as containing the last will and testament of James
M. Kitch decd (Widc the minutes.

D. C. Hoby clk