

Last Will of R. J. Hardin

In the name of God Amen

I R. J. Hardin of the County of Ashe and State of North Carolina being in perfect health both in body and mind Thanks be to God Calling unto mind the mutability of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die. Do make and ordain this my last will and testament that is to say principally and first of all I give and commend my soul into the hand of Almighty God that give it and my body I commend to the earth to be buried in a decent Christian burial at the discretion of my relatives without scrupling that at the general resurrection I shall receive the again by the mighty Power of God. And as touching such worldly effects wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life I dispose of the same in the following manner and from to I My will is for my executors to pay all of my debts that has been made since the rebellion of 1861 and no other debts. My will is my wife Lettie to have her maintenance on my Land during her life time & her widowhood and no longer and as much household furniture as will be sufficient for her ^{use} also one cow and calf My will is for William R. Hardin two girls Eveline Wells and Martha Gummy to have an equal share of one child's part of my estate after all debts and settlements are made. And my will is for Frank Hardin to have an equal share and my buying instruments And my son Henry H. Hardin to have an equal share of the balance of my Land that is not deeded to John G. Hardin and household furniture as the rest has had. And also Catharine Graybeal to have an equal share of my estate except what she has received. And George Hardin to have an equal share of my estate as the rest has received. And my will is for John G. Hardin to have an equal share of my real estate besides the lands I have deeded to him when he was

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lines of ten acres and twenty acres on the south side of the Shingle Knob on Bush Beaver Creek also twenty five acres on the west side of Bush Mountain on Buffalo Creek all of which he has deeded for and his full share of all the rest of my lands and all my farming tools that may be on hand. My will is for Ida to have her share of my Land that is not deeded. According to this my will is for all my debts to be paid out of my personal property that is all of my debts contracted since the rebellion and all debts before 1861. is out of date I therefore direct my executors not to pay my debts contracted before 1861 and also for some of my lands to be sold outside of my family. To which I appoint Frank Hardin and John G. Hardin my executors to this my will This the 20th day of July 1881.

R. J. Hardin (Sigs)

North Carolina } In Superior Court March 25th 1890
Ashe County }

Frank Hardin & John G. Hardin
affix a proper writing for probate as the last will of
R. J. Hardin so who died in said County
and the following evidence was given before me in
support of the paper writing

G. M. Graybeal being duly sworn and examined says
that the said will was found among the valuable
papers and effects of the said R. J. Hardin after his death
It is further proved by the oath and examination of W. H.
Gentry J. H. Neal & G. M. Graybeal that they are acquainted
with the hand writing of the said R. J. Hardin having
often seen him write and truly believe that the name
of the said R. J. Hardin subscribed to the said will
and the said will itself and every part thereof is in
the hand writing of the said R. J. Hardin And it is
further proved by the evidence of the three last
mentioned witnesses that the said hand writing
is generally known to the acquaintance of the said
R. J. Hardin It is therefore considered by the Court
that the said paper writing is the last will and
testament of R. J. Hardin and the same is ordered
to be recorded & filed W. H. Gentry