

In the matter of the Probate of the
Will of John C. Johnson
It further appearing to the Court that one
of the subscribing witnesses had left the
State to wit - B. F. Wishon
Whereupon M. S. May who being duly
sworn says that he is well acquainted with
the handwriting of B. F. Wishon one of the
subscribing witnesses whose name is
signed at the end of said paperwriting
aforesaid and that he has often times
seen him write, and is well acquainted
with his handwriting, and believed the
signature signed to the paperwriting as
aforesaid to be his genuine signature
to the best of his knowledge and belief
And further this deponent says not.
M. S. May

Sworn and subscribed
This 13th day of July 1896 before me
P. Blevins C.S.C.

North Carolina }
Ashe County } ss- In Superior Court

It is therefore considered and adjudged
by the Court that the said paperwriting
and every part thereof is the last
Will and Testament of John C. Johnson
deceased. Let the said Will together with
the Probate be recorded and filed
This 13th day of July 1896

P. Blevins
Clerk Superior Court

In the name of God Amen I Gentlegar
Brooks of the County of Ashe and State of
North Carolina being of Sound Mind and
Memory and considering the uncertainty of this
frail and transitory life do therefore make
ordain publish and declare this to be my last
Will and Testament that is to say
First- after all my lawful debts are paid
and discharged the residue of my estate real
and personal I give bequeath and dispose of as
follows to my beloved wife Elizabeth Brooks
all of my land and property and every thing
that I possess during her natural life with
the exceptions of one Colt to be given to
William S. Johnson, it is my desire that
when said wife is done with said land for
C. L. Johnson to have all the land adjoining
his land that he now owns down to the fork
of the creek in the meadow making a line
near North and South, and then the remainder
of my land lying on Piney Creek it is my
desire that George S. Brooks and Mary J.
Brooks and Nancy E. Brooks doth have
it equally be twost them being the heirs
of Tho' Brooks - and it is further my desire
that the farm lying on the south of the
ridge road that I had line on doth belong
to the rest of my brothers and Sisters
Children at said wife death.

The foregoing instrument of writing was
interviewed before signed by witnesses
whereof I have set my hand and seal.
This Jan the 24th A. D. 1893

attest
George ^{his strike}
mark
Ellen ^{strike}
M S May

Gentlegar Brooks

State of North Carolina
Ashe County } ss In Superior Court

A paper purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Suttleger Brooks deceased is exhibited before me the undersigned Clerk of the Superior Court for said County by William S. Johnson and the due execution thereof by the said Suttleger Brooks by the oath and examination of George Stike and M. S. May the subscribing witnesses thereto who being duly sworn doth depose and say and each for himself depose and saith, that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Suttleger Brooks, that the said Suttleger Brooks in the presence of this deponent subscribed his name at the end of said paper writing which is now shown him as aforesaid and which bears date of the 26th day of January 1893. Except as to M. S. May who says that he signed the will at the request and in the presence of the said Suttleger Brooks at a later date and the deponent further saith, that the said Suttleger Brooks the testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing to be his last will and Testament, and this deponent did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of said will as an attesting witness thereto and at the request and in the presence of the said testator and this deponent further saith that at the time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last will as aforesaid and at the time of the deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto as aforesaid the said Suttleger Brooks was of sound mind and memory of full age to execute

a will and was not under any restraint to the knowledge information or belief of this deponent and further these deponents say not.

George ^{his} Stike
mark

M. S. May

Solemnly sworn and
subscribed this 15th day
of July 1896 before me
P. Blewins C.S.C.

North Carolina }
Ashe County } ss In Superior Court

It is therefore considered and adjudged by the Court that the said paper writing and every part thereof is the last Will and Testament of Suttleger Brooks deceased. Let the said Will together with the Probate be recorded and filed.
This 15th day July 1896
P. Blewins C.S.C.

State of North Carolina } In Superior Court
Ashe County } ss

A paper purporting to be the last will and Testament of Suttleger Brooks deceased is exhibited before me the undersigned Clerk of the Superior Court for said County by William S. Johnson and the due execution thereof by the said Suttleger Brooks by the oath and examination of Ellen Stike one of the subscribing witnesses thereto who being duly sworn doth depose and say and each for herself depose and saith that she is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown her purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Suttleger Brooks that the said Suttleger Brooks in the presence of this deponent subscribed his name at the

end of said paper writing which is now shown as aforesaid and which bears date of the 26th day of January 1893
 And the deponent further saith that the said Bentley Brooks the testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing as subscribed by him and written to be his last Will and Testament and this deponent did thereupon subscribe her name at the end of said Will, as an attesting witness thereto and at the request and in the presence of said testator. And this deponent further saith that at the said time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last Will as aforesaid and at the time of the deponent's subscribing her name as an attesting witness thereto as aforesaid the said Bentley Brooks was of sound mind and memory of full age to execute a Will and was not under any restraint to the knowledge, information or belief of this deponent. And further this deponent says not.

Ellen Luke

Solemnly sworn and subscribed,
 This 17th day of August 1896
 before me

J. P. Lewis
 Clerk Superior Court

North Carolina Ashe County
 I Melvin Shephard of of the aforesaid County and State being of sound mind but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this my last Will and Testament. First- My Executors hereinafter named shall pay all my just debts out of the first money which may come into their hands belonging to my estate. Second- I give and devise to two of my sons, Gardner and Arthur and their heirs in fee simple a part of the tract of land on which I now live adjoining Ambrose Shepherd land in Horse Creek Township, Ashe Co. North Carolina each part to contain Thirteen acres, and to my younger son Oren Thirteen acres adjoining theirs.

Third- I give and devise to my beloved wife Elizabeth Shepherd the remainder of the tract of land on which I now reside to hold her lifetime then to be equally divided between three daughters to wit Elmira Rebecca and Alice.

Fourth- I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Elizabeth Shepherd all my personal property after my just debts have been paid to hold her lifetime, then to be equally divided between my lawful heirs.

Fifth- and whereas my said sons to wit Gardner Arthur and Oren are minors and not full age, now therefore my desire and will is, that my wife Elizabeth Shepherd be and she is hereby constituted and appointed Guardian of the said land to have hold and use said land until they are of full age if married, one year or married.

Sixth- I hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friends Ambrose Shepherd and Fieldon Shepherd my lawful Executors to all intents and purposes to execute this my last will and Testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof hereby