

In the Name of God, Amen! This 17th day of December 1807, I, Samuel Bell of Brunswick County in State of North Carolina, Planter, calling to mind the mortality of my body, and knowing I am appointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament. Principally and first of all, I give & recommend my soul to God who gave it and my body to the dust, whenever it may please God to call, and as touching such worldly estate which with all heart pleased God to bless me with in this life I give, demise and dispose in the following manner and form. — In presence, I give and bequeath to my son John Bell the lower part of my land including the place whereon he now lives, beginning at my lower corner on Deepwoodfully River, running thence up with the various courses of the bank of said River to Bell's Rockfish Hole, thence out to deep point, thence with the out edge of the River Swamp up to the rear of Ricefield Branch, and up the meanders of the same to the back line of my old survey, thence round with the lines of said survey to the beginning. Also eleven head of cattle, one feather bed and furniture (now in his possession) to him the said John Bell and his heirs forever. Item, I give and bequeath to my son James Bell the upper part of my land, beginning at the mouth of Mill Branch running up the meanders of the said branch to my back line, including all my land above said branch. Also one feather bed and furniture, one rifle gun, also one negro boy named Alexander, to him & his heirs forever, said negro not to be taken in possession by said James until after the death or second marriage of my beloved wife. Item, (after the death or second marriage of my beloved wife) I give and bequeath to my son Elias Bell the land and plantation whereon I now live, including all between the lines of his brothers John and James, as also one negro boy named John and one feather bed and furniture, one shot gun and hand mill to him and his heirs forever. Item, I lend unto my daughter Margaret Standland one negro girl named Judith, as also eleven head of cattle, one feather bed and furniture, during her natural life, and after the death of the said Margaret the above demised property and the increase thereof to be equally divided among her children if any she has, and if she leaves no children to return to my lawful heirs. N.B. the said cattle and bed already in the possession of said Margaret, and the said negro girl not to be put in her possession until after the death or second marriage of my beloved wife. Item, I lend my daughter Lydia Bell one negro girl named Phillis during her natural life, to be put in her possession after the death or marriage of my wife as above, also one feather bed and furniture, eleven head of cattle (to be put in her possession immediately) the above land property and the increase thereof to be equally divided and descend to the children of the said Lydia if she leaves any, if not, to return to my lawful heirs. Item, I lend to my daughter Mary after the death or second marriage of my wife one negro girl named Sarah, one feather

bed and furniture for her use and maintenance during life and at her death to descend to her children, if any she leaves, if not to be equally divided among my lawful heirs. Item, I lend to my beloved wife Lydia the plantation where I now live, with all the land demised to my son Elias, as also my three horses, and all my plantation utensils and household & kitchen furniture, not already demised, and my logs, during her natural life or widowhood. Item, my will and desire is that my cattle remain in the possession of my beloved wife; and as my children to whom I have given no cattle to, come to age or marry that my cattle be collected and equally divided among them, and the child so come to age to take their proportionable part of my stock, and if my stock at the time be insufficient to afford them their part a share equal to those I have given cattle to, the deficiency to be made up out of my estate, and should there be a sufficiency and any remainder at the death or marriage of my beloved wife, I wish that remainder together with my negro woman Nancy and increase to be equally divided into three parts and first into the possession of my three daughters on the same terms and under the same restrictions of the property I have before allotted to them. Item, my will and desire is that if one or more of my sons should decrease leaving no heir lawfully begotten of his body, that the son or sons that survive be the sole heirs or heirs of the land I have demised to them, and if two of the three survive it be equally divided between them. Lastly, I make, ordain, constitute and appoint my beloved wife and my two sons John & James Bell to execute and carry into effect this my last Will and Testament, ratifying & confirming this and no other to be and contain my last Will and Testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and date above written
Samuel Bell. *(Sd)*

N.B. the words "to him & his heirs forever" in the 3rd line, and the words "and increase" in the 7th line interlined before assigned. Signed, sealed, and published in presence of us, A. Baker, John B. Baker, State of North Carolina, } Court of Mag. & J. Sessions } That the execution of this last Will and Testament was proved in open Court by the oath of John B. Baker, Esq. and was ordered to be recorded. Recorded in Record Book No. 51, 1811.

John Julius Boman, Clerk
Recorded agreeably to a writ of this Court, Official Session, 1908.
Ratified July 1. 1908. Copied from Old Record Book No. 51, p. 51 & 52.