

Camp Fisher N.C.

March 13th 1863

Dear Brother

I presume the Ball is in motion, I was up all night, moving about to fix up to give the enemy the best I could fix up for him. At 5 o'clock, we learned positively that the enemy was just below our lowest Battery. It is now near 8 o'clock and the enemy is not yet in sight, but we hear the firing of Cannon supposed to be on Great Battery. Badly prepared as we are I see there is not much inclination to surrender or retreat on the part of our leaders or men. I have just sent off Mira and the two Captains Wives 18 miles in the country when she will be safe I presume, I want you to do for me the very best you can whether I am living or dead if the latter, I want Mira to have and hold all I ~~possess~~ in my own & her right during her life. Remainder to our little niece Miras but always subject to my disposition. She may want to make of any of our Negroes, particularly her own or those her father once owned and their offspring now or hereafter I want no Negroes sold except for a fault to be judged of by her or you. I give you the right to sell all my property to pay my debts or for any other purpose. I expect both the Miras to be liberal in any want to all our other relations and especially my several Sisters.

You may think from my hurried way of writing, that I am excited, I am not, nor will I be. I am in a hurry because the Boy is waiting & I fear the mail will leave me. The increased roar of Cannon since I began writing warns me too that I must be among our men. My affectionate regards to all and very especially to our aged parents.

I am affectionately Yours
J. W. Woodfin

J. W. Woodfin Esqr.
Asheville
N.C.

For Probate of the above will see Minute Booklet, Court Clerk
Quartermaster's Office Nov. Term 1863, page 214

July Term 1864

This is the last Will and Testament of Myly M Jones of the County of Buncombe in the State of North Carolina, that is to say,

First, I direct my Executor and Executrix herein after named to pay all debts justly due and owing from me, secondly I direct that my wife shall live upon my home stead place and keep together my children and all my personal property of every kind whatsoever, including money, rights and ~~credits~~ to the end, that she may support herself and my children and educate my said children in a manner suitable to their condition in life, until my eldest son, to wit, Charles Bascomb, shall attain the age of twenty one year and at any rate, in the event of the death of my said eldest son before he attains the age of twenty one year, then the said division of property as herein after provided for is to take place and be made, at the time when my said son would arrive at that age if he had survived so long, I have full confidence in the integrity and discretion of my Executor and Executrix herein after named, and I hereby vest in them the legal title to my home stead tract of land, until the time above indicated, and give them the legal title to all my personal property of every kind whatsoever, including rights and credits, to the end, they may cultivate said tract of land and said personal property and said rights and credits, with a view to the comfortable support of my said wife and children and the education of my said children, and in further aid of this purpose I hereby invest my said Executor and Executrix with full power to sell any portion of said personal property, or all of it and turn the same in to other property or cash, and to rent and receive any money or monies they from time to time have or collect for the purpose aforesaid and with the further view, to increase if possible my estate and enhance its value, until the time above indicated,

Thirdly: When my said Charles Bascomb, shall attain the said age of twenty one year, or would attain that age, if he should survive so long, then at ^{and} that time, I direct that my home stead land (and by this expression in this Will I mean all the land I own on Hominy Creek and its water) shall be divided as nearly as may be into two equal parts, the division