

are the parties entitled under said Will to the said property
 sworn to and subscribed before me this the day 1881
 J. W. Herndon
 Judge of Probate

State of North Carolina } ss In the Magistrate Court
 Buncombe County

A paper purporting to be the last Will and testament of Robert J. Taylor deceased is exhibited before me the undersigned Justice of the Peace for said County no executor being named or therein mentioned and the due execution thereof by the said Robert J. Taylor by the oath & examination of John D. Gillespie & B. G. Gudgeon the subscribing witnesses who being duly sworn, doth depose and swear 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 Robert J. Taylor that the said Robert J. Taylor 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 Eight day of June 1876, And the deponent further saith that the said Robert J. Taylor the testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing so subscribed by him and exhibited, 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 Robert J. Taylor was of sound mind and memory of full age to execute a will, and was not under any restraint to the knowledge, information & belief of this deponent. And further these deponents say not.

John D. Gillespie
 B. G. Gudgeon

sworn and subscribed this 11 day of February 1881 before me
 H. Bluder J. P.

Will

Buncombe County State of N. C.
 Know all men by these presents that I Robert J. Taylor being in my right mind do make this my last will and testament viz: I hereby bequeath give and grant all the land & real estate I may be possessed of unto my Brother Thomas J. Gillespie & sisters Mary E. Gillespie Laura J. Gillespie to be divided equally between those three upon this condition that these three Thomas J. Gillespie & Mary E. Gillespie Laura J. Gillespie pay to my sister Lou G. Gudgeon or her heirs the sum of ten dollars or there one third dollars apiece I do further bequeath all my personal property whatsoever it may be to my Mother Elizabeth Gillespie she first paying all my just liabilities out of the same the over plus to be hers. made and signed this 8th day of June A.D. 1876
 attested
 John D. Gillespie
 B. G. Gudgeon
 Witnesses signed in my presence
 R. J. Taylor

North Carolina } Probate Court
 Buncombe County
 To the Honorable the Probate Judge of Buncombe County
 The application of Mrs J. E. Hawley the executrix named in the last Will & testament of Levi Hawley does respectfully shew to the court the following
 I That Levi Hawley late of the County & State aforesaid died sometime during the month of February 1881 leaving a last Will & testament (which is herewith filed with the applicant & John V. Hawley as Executors & Executor of the same
 II That the value of the testator's property as near as the applicant can tell at the date of this application is about Six Thousand Dollars & consists of the house & lot on which & now live the farm on the Mountain household & kitchen furniture &c &c
 III That the names & residences of those entitled as heirs & distributees of said estate are your applicant Mrs Annette Banks wife Mary J. Hawley residence of Buncombe County N. C. and John V. Hawley a resident of Antioch State of

California upon this your applicant prays
to have said Will admitted to Probate according to
the course & practice of the court

J E Hawley
subscribed & sworn to before me this April 4th 1881
E W Herndon
Probate Judge

North Carolina

Buncombe County

Know all men by these presents that I Levi
Hawley of the Town of Asheville County of Buncombe
and State of North Carolina knowing the uncertainty of
life and wishing to make while an opportunity
presents itself & while I am as I believe of sound mind
& memory what I believe to be a just disposal of my
Worldly effects do make publish and declare this
as my last Will and Testament

First I give devise and bequeath unto my beloved wife
Elizabeth all my property of every kind & character
consisting of the house and lot on which I now live
the farm on the mountain my household & kitchen
furniture &c to be hers forever (except for the
purpose hereinafter mentioned) for and during the
term of her natural life only but if my executors
hereafter to be named should at any time during
during my said wife's life time deem it expedient or
for the best interest of my estate to sell any or
all of the same & to in any way change the nature
of my estate, then and in that case I authorize
and empower my wife with the joint consent of my
executors to make an absolute disposal of the same
giving my wife after such disposal or conveyance
the right to use just so much of said property
as may be necessary for the comfortable support
of herself during her lifetime

Second It is my will that my beloved son
John who has been at various so kind as to lend
me money shall after my wife's death or after
the conversion herein provided for be paid all such
sums loaned me together with the legal rate
of interest

Third It is my desire that after my wife's
death and after the payments due my son John

that all the rest residue & remainder of my estate shall
be divided equally between my three children to wit:
John Mary F. and Annette to go to them and
their heirs forever

IV Fourth As Executor & Executor to carry out the
intention & purpose of this my last will and testament
I hereby nominate, constitute and appoint my beloved wife
Elizabeth & son John as such
Witness my hand & seal this January 17th A.D. 1881

Levi Hawley Esq?
Signed sealed published & declared to be his last
Will & Testament in the presence of us who at his request
& in his presence & in the presence of each other subscribe
our names as attesting witnesses thereto
attest

Wm R Whitson
A S Carter

The subscriptions & oaths made in the above before signing
Levi Hawley Esq?

State of North Carolina } ss In the Probate Court
Buncombe County }
A paper purporting to be the last Will and Testament
of Levi Hawley deceased is exhibited before me the undersigned
Judge of Probate for said County by Mrs J E Hawley
the Executrix therein mentioned, and the due execution
thereof by the said Levi Hawley by the oath and
examination of A S Carter & William R Whitson
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 Levi Hawley that the said
Levi Hawley 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
day of 1881

And the deponent further saith, that the said Levi
Hawley the testator aforesaid did at the time of
subscribing his name as aforesaid, declare the said
paper writing so subscribed by him and exhibited 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

And this deponent further said 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 subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto, as aforesaid, the said Sir Hawley 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

Wm R Whitson
A L Corler

Personally sworn and subscribed this 14th day of
April 1881 before me

O W Herndon
Probate Judge

I Peter Miller of the County of Brunswick State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory but considering the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death to hereby make public and declare this to be my last will and testament hereby revoking all other wills by me at any time heretofore by me made

- 1st First, I appoint my dear friends Cananda Gowan and James Battish of Asheville Executors of this my last Will and testament
- 2nd Second I direct that my said Executors shall bury my body beside that of my deceased and beloved wife and that they shall have tombstones with appropriate inscriptions placed at our graves
- 3rd Third, I direct that out of any money or property on hands at my death my funeral expenses and all my just debts shall be paid by my said Executors
- 4th Fourth, I give devise and bequeath to my sister Billy Smathers and her daughter Mary Ann Cook each one hundred dollars to Nelson Smathers one hundred dollars and to the widow of Manson Smathers fifty Dollars
- 5th Fifth I give and devise to Adeline Miller Joseph Miller John Miller Julia Smathers Piggie Morgan Mary Ann Morgan and Bettie Miller all children of my deceased brother Henry Miller each one hundred dollars

- 6th Sixth I give and devise to George Miller Mary C. Susan James Miller and Lewis Miller children of my deceased brother George Miller each one hundred dollars
- 7th Seventh I give and devise to Rufus Miller son of my deceased brother Ambrose Miller one hundred dollars
- 8th Eighth I give and devise to Essey Miller widow of my deceased half brother David Miller and to her children Thomas Miller James Miller and John Miller each fifty dollars and to the wife of the said Thomas Miller fifty dollars
- 9th Ninth I give and devise to Aray Alexander and Beatrice Hobbs each one hundred dollars to Betsy Brown fifty dollars to Willie Alexander ten dollars and to Joseph Wright a small sum, not to exceed in all fifty dollars to be paid him from time to time as my Executors may think proper, but any part of said fifty dollars not paid to him in his lifetime shall go to the residuary, hereinafter mentioned it being my true intent that my Executors shall have full discretion as to the amount he shall receive inside of said sum of fifty dollars
- 10th Tenth I give, devise and bequeath to the trustees of Balsam Grove Methodist Episcopal Church within the small lot of one acre of land adjoining the said church property being the lot purchased by me from Sam Hawkins to have and to hold to them and their successors forever
- 11th Eleventh I direct that my said Executors shall invest one hundred dollars in the purchase of a Library for the use of the Balsam Grove Sunday School of the Methodist Episcopal Church South I make this gift in the hope that it may result in good to the children of my neighbors and friends
- 12th Twelfth It is my will that any debts due me from either or any of the persons hereinbefore named shall be treated as so much paid on the sums herein devised to them respectively but this shall not be construed to release any one of said persons from payment of any sum he may be due me in excess of the amount devised to him or her
- 13th Thirteenth I direct that the sole receipt of the devisees hereinbefore named for any sums paid by my said Executors shall be a full and complete discharge and acquittance of my said Executors for the amount so paid by them and the fixing expiration of the female devisees shall not be necessary to their protection