

In the name of God Amen I Matilda
Brown of the County of Burke and State
of North Carolina, being of sound mind
and disposing memory (Blessed be God
for his infinite mercies) do, on this the
Seventeenth day of November in the year
of our Lord one thousand eight hundred
and forty two, make ordain & publish
this my last Will Testament in the
manner following to wit:—
First, My Will is, and I do give and bequeath
unto my beloved son Alexander Hamilton
Brown one Negro Boy, The same to be chosen
by himself, from such Negro Slaves as
may be in my possession at my decease
it being my intention that he shall have
my most valuable Negro at my death.
I do further give and bequeath unto my
son Alexander Hamilton Brown, two Mules,
my eight day clock, one Slat, my best
Crock case, two Beds and furniture and one
bedstead, half a dozen Silver Tea Spoons
also the Portraits of myself and my beloved
husband now no more, with the express
injunction that he keep them at Belvidere
the place of my present residence;

also The Pictures or Paintings and Picture
Frames now hanging in the House wherein
I now live and The window curtains therein.
I do further give unto my son A. H. Erwin
two waggons, all my farming utensils
Plows Hoes &c; and my entire Stock of
Cattle Hogs and Sheep, saving & excepting
therefrom, such portion of them, as I shall
herein after specifically otherwise bequeath.
I do further give and bequeath unto my
son A. H. Erwin all the corn, provisions &c.
all the Family Stores and provisions that
may be on hand, and the crop of all kinds
that may be growing, if any, on the Farm
whereon I now live, at the time of my
 demise - upon the condition however, That
he support and maintain thereout, my
Daughters and other Family up to the period
of the Sale of the property herein after
directed to be sold; - to have and to hold
the above bequeathed property to him and
his heirs forever -

Secondly; I give and bequeath unto my
beloved son Adolphus. L. Erwin my negro
woman Easter, to him and his heirs forever.
Thirdly; I give and bequeath unto my beloved
son Edward Jones, Erwin my negro woman

close to him and his heirs forever—
Fourthly; I give and bequeath unto my beloved
Daughter Catherine R. Gathers one Mule
and one Cow and calf to him & his heirs—

Fifthly; I give and bequeath unto my beloved
Daughter Mary E. Erwin, one Mule, one Cow
and calf, ~~one~~^{two} beds and furniture and my
best Bedstead to her and her heirs forever—

Sixthly; I give and bequeath unto my beloved
Daughter Cecelia M. Erwin one Mule
one cow and calf, and two Beds & furniture
to her and her heirs forever—

Seventhly, I give and bequeath unto my son
William A. Erwin a half dozen Silver
Table Spoons and one Silver Soup Spoon,
the same heretofore given by him to me.

Eighthly, I give and bequeath unto my son
A. H. Erwin and my Daughter C. M. Erwin
jointly, two negro Slaves to wit Jacob, and
his wife Sophia, to them and their heirs forever.

Ninthly; I give and bequeath unto my sons
A. H. Erwin and C. J. Erwin, my Library
including my Books of every description
to be equally divided between them.

Tenthly, I give and bequeath unto my Grand
daughter Catherine Mcowell one Bed

and Furniture; and to my Grand daughter
Margaret McGowell one Bed & furniture
to them and their heirs forever —

11th My will and desire is, That all the
residue of my Estate real and personal
including my negroes &c, after the payment
of the Specific Legacies herein be ^{after} ~~before~~
bequeathed, shall be sold, by my Executor
herein after named, for cash or on a credit
at his discretion, and out of the proceeds
my just debts are to be paid —

The balance remaining in the hands
of my Executor after the satisfaction of
my debts, I will desire to be divided
equally share and share alike among
the following persons being my beloved
children and heirs at Law to wit: —

Adolphus L. Erwin, William A. Erwin
Harriet E. Avery, Leander A. Erwin, Sydney
S. Erwin, Mary E. Erwin, Catherine R.
Guthrie, Elizabeth S. Guthrie & Edward
J. Erwin, Alexander Hamilton Erwin,
Cecelia M. Erwin, Delia H. Hardy, and
Catherine and Margaret McGowell repre-
sentatives of my daughter Margaret deceased
it being my wish and desire that the said
Catherine and Margaret should receive

and enjoy jointly the share to which this
deceased Mother Mary Ann McEowell
would have been entitled as one of my
children, had she been living -

My will and desire is further that my
Executor shall collect all debts that may
be owing to me at my death, & divide
it equally among my children as above
directed -

My will and desire is further
that all my household & kitchen fur-
niture not herein before specifically be-
queathed, shall not be included in the
residuary mass of property herein directed
to be sold, but I do give and bequeath the
same, together with my extra Bed furniture, my
Table Cloths, Towels, Crochery & wardrobe unto
my son A. H. Erwin and my Daughters Mary E.
Catherine R. and Cecelia M. Erwin to be held
and possessed by them jointly, or to be equally
divided among them if they should pre-
fer a division -

I do further give and bequeath unto my
beloved daughter Delia H. Hardy one cow
and calf to be selected by herself from
the stock on hand at my decease -

I commit my Grand daughter

Catherine McGowall of whom I took
charge on the death of her Mother Margaret
To the care and protection of my beloved
Son William A. Erwin and request that
he shall extend to her protection and
support until she is married or settled
in life -

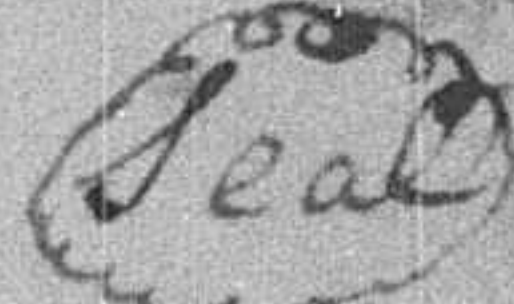
Lastly my will is, and I do hereby nominate
and appoint my beloved Son Alexander
Hamilton Erwin, Sole Executor of This
my last will and Testament.

Again it is my will and I do hereby give
and bequeath unto my beloved Grand
daughter Julia Matilda Gaither one Bed
and Furniture to her and her heirs.

In the view of my property I will and
desire should be sold and divided as
hereinbefore directed, and I wish the
shares to which each of my Daughters may
be entitled, to be paid to each of them
individually or their legal representatives -

In Testimony Whereof I have
hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal
day and date above

Test

Matilda Erwin 

Wm W Avery. Junr
John C McDowell

My last will
and Testament of
Matilda Brown.

Burke Co. NC Wills 1793-1868
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Oct 1874.3