

I, Avis Ward of Carteret County, and state of North Carolina, being of sound mind and memory, but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence, do make and declare this my last will and testament, in manner and form following, that is to say, — I first of all commend my soul to God who gave it, knowing, that I must appear before him, at the great day of Judgment, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed. My body I give, to be decently buried, according to the discretion of my friends and neighbors. Secondly, I give my executor or executors hereinafter mentioned, shall pay all my funeral expenses, together, with my just debts, howsoever and to whomsoever owing, out of the moneys that may first come into his or their hands, as a part or parcel of my estate.

Item, I give and bequeath, to my youngest son William R. Ward five dollars, to be paid out of my estate by my executor or executors. I also give and bequeath, to my daughter Elizabeth C. Ward five dollars, to be paid out of my estate, by my executor or executors.

Item, I give and bequeath, to my eldest daughter Julia F. Ward, David S. Ward and Cicero H. Ward their heirs, and assigns, forever, all my share of my estate that I inherit by the death of my husband John Ward, now undivided, all of my perishable property consisting of horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs, that is to say, my live stock, with my canoe, house and kitchen furniture, to be equally divided between them, after paying all my just debts, and five dollars apiece to my youngest son, and youngest daughter, first above mentioned. If Julia, Cicero or Cicero, dies; without any lawful heirs, it shall go to the next two, or one, of them, and lastly I do

constitute and appoint William S. Ward and Rufus W. Bell 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 my parts, and clause, thereof. hereby revoking and annulling utterly, void; all other wills, and Testaments, by me, heretofore made. In witness whereof, I the said Avis Ward, do hereunto, set my hand and seal. This February the 24th. 1855.

Avis ^{her} Ward (Seal)
mark

Witnessed, sealed, published and signed by the said Avis Ward to her last will and testament, in presence of us who at her request in her presence do subscribe as follows, to-wit: Joseph Haskett
Elijah Garner Jr.

Carteret County Court, February Term A.D. 1856.
The foregoing paper writing is exhibited for probate in open Court, by Rufus W. Bell, one of the executors therein named, and the due execution thereof by the testator, Avis Ward, is proved by the oaths and examination of Elijah Garner Jr., one of the subscribers thereto. It is therefore considered by said Court that said paper writing, and every part thereof, is the last will and testament of the said Avis Ward, and the same is ordered to be recorded and filed.

And thereupon the said Rufus W. Bell, as aforesaid, qualifies as such by taking the oath required by law.

Jas. Rumley C. C.
(See pages 201, 202 & 203)