

In the name of God. Amen. I, William F. Bell, of Carteret County and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and memory, and considering the uncertainty of this frail and transitory life, do therefore make, ordain, publish and declare this to be my last will and testament; that is to say, I give, bequeath and dispose of my property as follows, to wit: To my beloved wife Mary F. Bell, I give all of my household and kitchen furniture, and the following named slaves, to wit: Old Able, John, Lemmy, Moses Jr., Samer and unnamed child, Spencer, Able Jr., Rose, Curtis, Cicero, Cesar, and all their increase, during her natural life, and at her death I give to my son David W. Bell negroes John and Moses Jr. and a note I hold against him for fifteen hundred and thirty-two dollars and sixty-nine cents, given at Beaufort N.C. March the 20th eighteen hundred and fifty-six, interest included.

And to my son William F. Bell I give the sum of ten dollars to be paid to him by my Executor.

And to my son Jaber W. Bell I give the sum of ten dollars to be paid to him likewise.

And the balance of the above negroes and property after the death of my wife, I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary F. Gillet and the heirs of her body.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal this the first day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five (April 1st 1865)

Wm F. Bell (Seal)

Signed in the presence of

Cyprian

Thomas C. Wood.

I make, constitute and appoint my son-in-law Thomas F. Gillet to be executor to this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my seal the day and date above written, in the presence of two witnesses

Cyprian

Thomas C. Wood.

Carteret County Court, May Term 1868

The foregoing will is proved in open Court by the oath and examination of Cyrus Fovee, one of the subscribing witnesses thereto. And thereupon, Thomas F. Gillet, the Executor herein named, qualifies as such by taking the oath required by law.

Jas. Rumley C. C.

(See Minutes, page 419)

In the name of God. Amen, I, Jane Ward, being old and weak of body, but of sound mind, memory and understanding, and considering the certainty of death, and the uncertainty of the time thereof; and to the end I may be the better prepared to leave this world, whenever it shall please God to call me hence, do therefore make and declare this my last will and testament, in manner following, that is to say:

1st It is my will and desire that my executor procure for my body a decent burial, and the expenses to be paid out of my estate.

2nd I lend unto my nephew, Durant H. L. Bell, and to his wife Fannie V. Bell, during their lives, part of Lot number one hundred and thirty-seven, being the lot I bought of the said D. H. L. Bell, and after their deaths I give it to their children, Church Bell, Frances D. Bell, Ann M. Bell, and Julia H. Bell, to them, their heirs and assigns forever.

3rd I lend unto my nephew, Durant H. L. Bell, all of my household and kitchen furniture, and all other property belonging to me, or which I may have, real or personal estate, of any kind, whatever, and after his death I give all of the same unto his children, Church Bell, Fannie D. Bell, Ann M. Bell, and Julia H. Bell, their heirs and assigns forever.

Lastly: Revoking all other and former wills I do hereby appoint my friend and nephew, Durant H. L. Bell, executor of my said will to all intents and purposes to execute the

same, according to its true intent and meaning.

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the above named Jane Ward, as and for her last will and testament, in the presence of us, who, at her request, and in her presence, have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto, on this the second day of September one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven.

In presence of
Wm. H. Rogerson
L. C. Howland

Jane Ward (decd)

State of North Carolina } Court of Probate.
Carteret County } Sept. 14th. 1868.

The foregoing paper, writing, purporting to be the last will and testament of Jane Ward deceased, is offered for probate, and the execution thereof, by the said Jane Ward, is proved by the oaths and examination of William H. Rogerson, and L. C. Howland, the subscribing witnesses thereto, who swear that they saw the said Jane Ward execute the said paper writing as her last will and testament; that they attested it in her presence and at her request, and that at the time of its execution, she was in their opinion, of sound mind and disposing memory. It is therefore considered that the said paper writing, and every part thereof, is the last will and testament of the said Jane Ward. And thereupon Durant H. L. Bell, the executor therein named, qualifies as such, by taking the oath required by law.

Jas. Rumley, Judge of Probate.

The following is the affidavit filed in the matter of the probate of the last will and testament of Jane Ward decd.

State of North Carolina } Court of Probate
Carteret County } Sept. 14th. 1868.

In the matter of the probate of the last will and testament of Jane Ward deceased.

Durant H. L. Bell maketh oath, that he is the executor of Jane Ward deceased, named in the will of said deceased.

That the property of the testatrix consists of real estate, being half of lot of ground No. 137, Sit. in Beaufort, & improvements and household and kitchen furniture; the value of the whole being fifteen hundred dollars;

That the names of the parties entitled to the said property are Durant H. L. Bell and wife Fannie T. Bell, who have an estate for life therein, and their children, who are minors, without guardians, as follows: Church Bell, Fannie T. Bell, Ann Maria Bell, and John H. Bell. All reside in the town of Beaufort, Carteret County N. C.

D. H. L. Bell

Shewn to and subscribed before me.

Jas. Rumley

Judge of Probate.

I, Charles J. Foreman of the County of Carteret and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and memory, but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence, do make and declare my last will and testament in a manner and form following, that is to say, First, That my executor hereinafter named, shall provide for my body a decent burial, suitable to the wishes of my relations and friends, and pay all funeral expenses, together with my just debts howsoever and to whomsoever owing, out of the moneys that may first come into his hand as a part or parcel of my estate.

Now I give and devise to my beloved wife ten acres of land, being the tract whereon I now live, to be laid off so as to include my present house and all out houses and other improvements, to have and to hold to the said wife or tophine W. Foreman, for and during the term of her natural life in satisfaction for and in lieu of her dower and thirds of and in and my real estate. I also leave to the use of my beloved wife during her natural life, one bed and furniture, one table, one chair, one clock, cooking utensils, and a chair.