

James Cronkleton
Will
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I James Cronkleton of Catawba County North Carolina being of sound mind and memory but considering uncertainty of my earthly existence do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say, First—that my Executress 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 her hands as a part and parcel of my Estate. Item first I Will is that my Beloved Wife Mary have that parcel of Land lying in the fork of the Creek beginning at the Shelton or Stroup line on the Shelton Creek thence down said Creek to the fork thence up the South prong to the Barn lot branch thence up said Branch to the garden thence East to a hollow back of Barn field thence up said hollow South and East of a tenament house known as the Starns House thence two hundred yards South of said House thence West to the Frank Beatty line thence with said line to W & A Hens line thence to the Shelton line thence with said line to the Creek the beginning to have and to hold during her Natural life or widowhood together with a chise horse mule and one wagon and farming tools and all my Cows and hogs and household and kitchen furniture. Item second I Will Wm H. Sigmer a Colt that I gave him and bridle and saddle. The remainder of my Lands I Will to my daughter Martha Ann White and to the heirs of her body and that she rent the lands publicly or privately for her necessary support and for the use of her children by way of Education or otherwise so that all surplus be taken care of for the children and that my Executress with the consent of my Beloved wife sell any personal property that they may chose for the purpose of settling my Estate at a private sale. I do appoint my daughter Martha Ann White Executress of this my last Will and Testament Also at the death of my wife Mary I Will the Lands

and personal property that may be on hand to my daughter Martha Ann White and to the heirs of her body as above described. In witness whereof I the said James Cronkleton do hereunto set my hand and seal this 26 February A.D. 1886

Witness J. A. Sherrill

James Cronkleton (Seal)

Witness J. T. Beatty

Whereas I James Cronkleton have made my last Will and testament in writing bearing date April 7th 1886 and have thereby give and bequeath to my daughter Martha Ann White all my property both present and real Estate after my wife Marys death to her and her bodily heirs whitt out any incumbrance by her husband or any other person and all the proceeds of the said real Estate after the said Martha Ann White support and that of her children be kept for the benefit of the said Martha Ann White both heirs and lastly it is my desire that that my present Codicil be annexed to and made a part of my last Will and testament to all intents and purposes in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 7th day of April 1886

Attest

James Cronkleton (Seal)

J. M. Beatty

J. T. Beatty

State of North Carolina in the Superior Court
Catawba County

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of James Cronkleton deceased, is exhibited before me, the undersigned J. A. Hoyle, Clerk of the Superior Court in and for said County, by Martha Ann White the executrix therein named, and the due execution thereof by the said James Cronkleton is proven by the oath and examination of J. T. Beatty & J. A. Sherrill to the will and J. T. Beatty & J. M. Beatty to the Codicil the subscribing witnesses thereto; who being duly sworn, doth depose and say, and each for himself that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last will and testament of James Cronkleton that the said James Cronkleton in the presence of his deponent subscribed his name at the end of said paper writing which is now shown as aforesaid, and which bears date on the 26 day of Feb 1886.

State of North Carolina Catawba County.
Nov the 9th 1885-

In the name of God Amen.

I John Heerman of the County and State aforesaid being old and feeble of body but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding Considering the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the time thereof to the end that I may be the better prepared to leave this world when it shall please my God to call me hence have now determined to direct what disposition shall be made of my property after my decease; and after maturity considering the circumstances and conditions of all those among whom as my heirs at law of the objects of my gratitude or affection in my judgment my estate should be distributed. I do make publish and declare this to be my last will and testament hereby revoking and making null and void all former last wills and testaments and writings in the nature of last wills and testaments by me heretofore made.

And my will is just that after my decease my body shall be decently buried without ostentation or unnecessary expense and that my funeral charges and just debts shall be first paid by my executor hereafter named.

Item second I will and bequeath to my beloved wife Hannah all my property consisting of land and personal property of all description that may be on hand at my death all the land that I may own or at the time of my death to her own use as long as she may live and after the death of her my said wife my executor is to furnish her a decent burial and pay all such expenses that may be due for her support and burial charges.

Item 3rd After the death of myself and my beloved wife first the necessary expenses all my personal the remainder of my estate consisting of land and personal property shall go and belong to my Brother Wm Heerman except he dies my land on the west end of my plantation. Item 4th The land on the east end of my plantation is to go and belong to my Brother Abner Whitcomb.

Item 5th And I do nominate and appoint my beloved & true Brother Wm Heerman to be the sole executor of this my last will & testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal.

The day & year first above written.

Signed, sealed in the presence of - J. L. Smith & B. L. Heston

John Heerman

The Codicil bears date of Apr 7th 1886 acknowledges the signing the said paper writing.

And the deponent further saith, that the said James Cronkleton the testator aforesaid, died 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 said 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 James Cronkleton 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 this deponent say not.

Reverally sworn and
subscribed, this 3 day
of Aug¹⁸⁸⁵ before me
P. A. Hoyle
Clerk Sup. Court.

J. T. Beatty (seal)
J. A. Sherrill (seal)
G. M. Beatty

See Book of Appointments of Executors &c.
for other record.

Sworn to by
John Heerman

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