

Last Will and Testament of James L. Edwards, Decd.

I, James L. Edwards, of the County of Catawba and State of North Carolina, being in a sound state of mind and memory and being duly aware of the uncertainty of life and of death, do make this my last Will and Testament in words and forms as follows, to wit:

First: that my Executrix herein after named do provide for me a decent burial in accordance with the wishes of my friends and relations.

Second: To my beloved wife Martha E. Edwards, for the faithful love and affection I have for her, I do will and bequeath unto her, during her life, all my land, being the Home tract of land, on which I now reside, and adjoining the lands of G. Dutton, Dandy Barringer and others. Third: I also bequeath unto her, all my house hold and kitchen furniture, all my sheep, Cattle, Hogs, I now have or may have, also one or two mares, now aged 2 years, also one or two horse wagon, all my farming implements, also, all my bed and furniture and any residue herein not mentioned, also all notes or credits that may be due me.

Fourth: It is my will and desire that this my Last Will and Testament do take effect from the day and year on which is written and all my bills, claims &c. to the above named Real and Personal Property comes for to day.

Having entire confidence in my wife Martha my Executrix, with full power to carry out this my Last Will and Testament, written and sealed the seventeenth day of August, Eighteen Hundred and seventy four.

In witness, hereunto, my hand and seal.

Signed and sealed in presence of
J. L. Hunt
G. C. McNeil

J. L. Edwards (Seal)

Probate of Will.

State of North Carolina } In the Superior Court
Catawba County }

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of J. L. Edwards, deceased, is exhibited before me, the undersigned, J. F. Therman, Clerk of the Superior Court in and for said County, by Martha E. Edwards, the Executrix therein named, and the due execution thereof by the said J. L. Edwards is proven by the oath of examination of J. L. Hunt the subscribing witness thereto; who being duly sworn, doth depose and say, of 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 J. L. Edwards. That the said J. L. Edwards 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 on the 17th day of August, 1874. And the deponent further saith, that the said J. L. Edwards 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 that the deponent did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of the 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, the said J. L. Edwards was of sound mind, of 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.

J. L. Hunt (Seal)
Severally sworn and subscribed
this 30th day of Dec. 1874 before me
J. F. Therman, Clerk Sup. Court.

North Carolina }
Catawba County }

Jos. W. Lockman being sworn says that he is well acquainted with the handwriting of Geo. C. McKell one of the witnesses to the foregoing will, & that the foregoing is in his own proper handwriting and the signature thereto is genuine.

Last Will & Testament of Jesse McKellian Dead.

In the name of God Amen.

I Jesse McKellian of the County of Catawba & State of North Carolina being of a sound and disposing mind but feeling the uncertainty of my existence do hereby make & declare the following to be my last Will & Testament in the following form to wit:

Item first that it is my will and desire that my executor hereafter named to prepare a decent burial for me, & my wife at our deaths & pay all the necessary expenses so incurred out of the first moneys that may come into his hands and also to pay all debt that I may owe at my death, also of the first moneys that may come into his hands.

Item second, I give & bequeath unto my beloved wife all of my lands with the meadows and enclosures as described in the said deed of the said deed whereby the same are so conveyed also all my personal property of every description during her natural life.

Item third, And after the death of myself and wife my daughter Bell is to have one half of all my lands which shall include the dwelling house and all the out ^{buildings} ~~houses~~ as a remuneration for her service so rendered during our natural lives and that the other half of my lands

shall be equally divided among all my children including Bell as one of them, after our debts are paid for.

Item fourth that all my personal property remaining at my death including money and notes, shall be sold at public sale by my said executor and after all expenses are paid shall be equally divided among all my children.

Item Fifth and lastly I do hereby appoint my worthy and trusty friend A. Q. Yoder to be my lawful executor to this my last will and Testament and I do hereby revoke all former wills by me made heretofore to be null & void. In testimony whereof I have set my hand & seal this 16th day of February, 1891.

Signed sealed and published
in the presence
D. A. Abernethy
J. M. Yoder

Jesse McKellian (Seal)

Probate of Will

State of North Carolina } In the Superior Court
Catawba County }

A paper purporting to be the Last Will & Testament of Jesse McKellian, deceased, is exhibited before me, the undersigned, Clerk of Court for said County, by A. Q. Yoder, the executor therein mentioned, and the due execution thereof by the said Jesse McKellian by the oath of affirmation, of D. A. Abernethy & J. M. Yoder the subscribing witnesses thereto, who, being duly sworn, both depose & 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 & Testament of Jesse McKellian; that the said Jesse McKellian, in the presence of this deponent, subscribed his name at the end of said