

18/4
December session 1844

I do hereby constitute & appoint Executors of this my last will & Testament my Brother Miriam & Theophilus Pharis In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of November A.D. one thousand eight hundred & forty four (1844)
in presence of
Henry B. Connor
Isaac Pharis J.T.
Adam Pharis

In the name of God Amen I John Drum of the County of Lincoln & State of North Carolina Being weak in Body & in mind and knowing it appointed for all men to die But in perfect mind & memory I first recommend my soul to God that gave it to me & commend my body to dust from whence it came to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors knowing that I shall receive the same again at the General Resurrection of the deceased by the mighty power of God as touching my worldly Estate that has pleased God to give to me I dispose of in the following manner
Item first I bequeath and give unto my beloved wife Mary Drum the plantation & every other thing therein to be long in Consisting of Stock of horses Cattle hogs & sheep household & kitchen furniture for the use of my beloved wife Mary Drum during her widowhood & the children hereafter named my son Eli Drum & my daughter Mary Drum & my son Williams Drum & my son Philip Drum & my son David Drum & five shilling to the heir of my son of my son Peter Drum & after the death of my wife Mary Drum the whole of my Estate Real & personal to be sold at public sale or divided amongst themselves as they can best agree except the heirs of my son Peter Drum I also appoint my two sons John & Eli Drum my Executors & no other I also revoke or disclaim all former wills or in any wise any form of a will or Testament & acknowledge this to be my last will & Testament which I hereunto set my hand & affix my seal this ninth day of Feb: 1843.
In presence of
John D. Warrath
Robert McCreary

John & Drum his mark

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14 In the name of God Amen

I John Ramsour (son) of the County of Cataula in the State of North Carolina Being weak in body but of sound & disposing mind & memory and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make this my last will and Testament in the manner & form following Viz I wish my body buried in a decent & Christian like manner and my Spirit to rise into the hands of my Creator who gave it Trusting that through the merits of my Blood Saviour my soul & Body will be again united to enjoy a happy Eternity and as the worldly Estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me it is my will that it be disposed of in the following manner.

Item 1st I give & bequeath to my son Daniel Ramsour his heirs or assigns the plantation I now live on I reserve my old plantation & my cutting box. Item 2^d I give & bequeath to my son Jacob Ramsour five acres of meadow land that I reserved out of that tract he lives on when I made him the deed of Conveyance for said tract.

Item 3^d It is my will that all the Balance of my lands be sold and the proceeds of the sale be equally divided or if my Executors should deem it most expedient to divide the land without selling it they are hereby authorized use their own discretion then the same to be equally divided amongst all my Children & grand Children that is my son John Ramsours Children & my daughter Susannah Stokes Children are to have to have the share their Father & Mother would be entitled to were they still living.

Item 4th It is my will that all my negroes be kept in the family and as equally divided as possible they are to be valued by two disinterested men selected by my Executors for that purpose by the said Commissioners laid off into lots as equally as may be and then drawn for by the Legates and those getting negroes of less value are to have the deficiency made up to them out of the other funds belonging to my Estate so as to make them all equal.

Item 5th All the balance of my property to be sold on a reasonable Credit at public sale and the proceeds thereof together with all other funds belonging to my Estate after paying all my just debts & the necessary expenses attending the execution of this will, to be equally divided amongst my Children & grand Children viz my son John & my daughter Susannah, Children to have the same share that their Father & Mother would be entitled to were they still living.

Item 6th It is my will that in the division of my Estate as directed in this will no gift or conveyance of Land or any other property that I have heretofore made to any of my Children shall be taken into Consideration or any account taken thereof be cause I have