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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 but sound 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 Consideration 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 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 Catawba in the State of North Carolina Being weak in body but 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

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give each one herefor as equally as I could taken into
 Consideration the Circumstances in which my children were
 placed

I hereby nominate and appoint my two sons Andrew Ramsom
 Jacob Ramsom my Executors to execute this will

And I do hereby revoke disannul and disallow all other
 former wills, by me executed published and declaring this
 and this only to be my last Will and Testament

I testimony whereof I John Ramsom have hereunto set my hand
 and affixed my seal the 2^d day of December in the year of our
 Lord 1843

signed sealed published
 & declared in the presence of

John South
 John Ray

John Ramsom test

I John Ramsom last having executed the foregoing will & Testament
 dated the 2^d day of December 1843 do annex the following as a
 Codicil thereto viz I have devised an equal division of the residue
 of my property after the special bequest to be made between my
 children that are living and the children of those of my children
 that are deceased But taking into consideration the situation of
 my grand children Jacob Corry John Corry & Jane & Corry
 children of my daughter Mary Carpenter It is my will & I hereby
 direct my executor to pay over to the guardians of my said grand
 children Jacob Corry & Jane & Corry or to them individually if
 they shall have arrived at full age to receive the fifty dollars
 each out of the residue of my estate the same to be deducted
 out of their mother Mary Carpenter share of my estate & should
 she die before the division ought to be made the balance of
 her share is to descend to her other children the said Jacob Corry
 John Corry & Jane & Corry are to have no more of my estate

I hereby publish & declare the foregoing Codicil to be a part of the
 foregoing Will in witness whereof I John Ramsom last have here
 unto set my hand & affixed my seal the 27 day of December A.D. 1843
 signed sealed published
 & declared in the presence of
 John Ramsom test

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State of North Carolina
 Catawba County

We the undersigned being the legal heirs and
 Representatives of those that are minors of the Estate of John Ramsom
 last deceased Being fully satisfied that the Codicil annexed to the
 last will & Testament of said deceased is & ought to be considered
 & taken as part of said deceaseds Will But owing to their being but
 one subscribing witness to it and that one somewhat interested as
 guardian we have been advised & think it necessary in order to
 establish the same to set forth that we fully believe that it was his will
 and hereby express our desire that it should be taken as part
 of the same

In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names the
 10th day of September 1844

Henry F Ramsom
 W. M. Hemmick

John South guardian of the said Jacob
 John F. B. Corry
 James Ramsom
 S. Ramsom
 Henry Hoke
 Jacob Ramsom as individual
 Executor John Ramsom last deceased
 Aug - Milgong
 Polly Carpenter
 Jacob Carpenter
 Daniel Ramsom