



April Session 1858

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In the name of God Amuse  
I Ambrose Miller of the County of Catawba and State of North  
Carolina being in God's health but of perfect sound mind and memory  
and considering the 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 Executors herein after named shall provide for my body a decent  
funeral suitable to the wishes of my friends and relations and pay all funeral  
expenses together with all my just debts out of the money that may first  
come to his hands as part of my Estate

Item First I will and bequeath to my beloved wife Amanda the tract  
of land I now live on containing one hundred and fifty four acres together  
with all the buildings and improvements appertaining thereto also first  
choice of my stock of horses also first choice of my stock of cattle that is  
horn cattle and one cow horn also all my flock of sheep also six hogs  
choice of the stock also all my house and kitchen furniture to have  
and to hold the said property during her natural life as a widowhood but  
in case she should marry again this devise is to be null and void and  
of no effect from the time she marries

Item I also will and bequeath to my five sons that is to say  
William J. Thomas H. C. Vasserson M. Emanuel W. Ambrose J. all the residues  
of my land not disposed of to be equally divided among my five sons  
to have and to hold the same as their absolute property

Item I also will and bequeath to my daughter Harriet H. one dollar  
in money I also will and bequeath to my daughter Catharine  
H. one bed a spinning wheel one cow a pair of cards a set of flairs  
and forks a set of cups and saucers also a wash pot and a wash tub also  
a cooking pot It is further my will that my Executors put all my  
personal property to public sale and if there should be any surplus of  
money left after paying all just debts and demands it is my will  
that the same be equally divided among my said wife Amanda  
and my five sons and my daughter Catharine H.

It is further my will that in addition to what I have divided to  
my said wife that she shall receive for a years allowance twenty eight  
bushels of wheat and fifty bushels of corn and that I would advise and  
feel gratified to her to remain unmarried

and lastly I do hereby nominate and appoint my beloved brother Abel Miller  
and Paul Miller my Carefull Executors to all intents and purposes to execute  
this my last will and Testament according to the true intent and meaning  
of the same. In witness whereof the said Ambrose Miller has hereunto set my  
hand and seal this the 9 day of September A.D. 1858

Signed Sealed and acknowledged in the presence of

of Test  
Ambrose Miller

Ambrose Miller Dealy



July Session 1858

The last will and testament of Sarah Shirell of the County of Catawba  
and State of North Carolina I Sarah Shirell considering the uncertainty of this world  
life and being of sound mind and memory do make and publish this my last will and  
testament in manner and form following Wt. I wish all my just debts to be paid  
I give and bequeath unto my son Silas Woodford Shirell one negro boy named Dick  
he H. Silas H. to pay me note that I owe to Edmund Shirell of two hundred and fifty seven  
dollars and the interest of the same I also give my road wagon to my two sons John  
H. and Silas H. I also give my son Silas H. one Bay horse full named pigeon also one cow and  
calf one bull and heifer also one bed and bed clothes I also give my farming tools to  
my two sons John H. and Silas H. to have equal part in them I also give my dogs to my  
two sons Woodford also I give my black horse I also give my three daughters Ludmina  
Mahala and Litta Epps Shirell my cubbed household and kitchen furniture I also give  
my shop to my six sons Edmund H. Nelson Elisha J. James W. John H. Silas H. Shirell  
also give the growing crop to my two sons John H. and Silas H. and three daughters  
Ludmina Mahala Litta Epps Shirell my son Silas H. Shirell to pay Ludmina  
Shirell fifty dollars I also give to my son John H. one black horse named Cock and  
one social fully named but also one cow and calf one bed and bed clothing I also  
give to my four daughters one cow and calf back Lovina Edwards has had haws  
the wheat must and corn on hand at this time I give to my two sons John H.  
and Silas H. and three daughters Ludmina Mahala and Litta Epps I also  
give my four sons Edmund H. Nelson Elisha J. James W. Shirell one Bay horse  
named Top I also give my daughter Litta Epps one side saddle to  
be paid for out of the growing crop the remainder of the growing crop I give  
to my two sons John H. and Silas H. and three daughters Ludmina Mahala  
Litta Epps Shirell It is my will that Ludmina and Silas H. Shirell do take  
charge of the old negro woman Nancy and take good care of her  
I hereby appoint my son Edmund H. Shirell Executor of this my last will and  
testament hereby revoking all former wills by me made in witness whereof  
I have set my hand and seal this 16 day of June in the year of our Lord  
one thousand eight hundred and fifty eight

The above instrument consisting of one sheet was now here subscribed by  
Sarah Shirell the Testator in the presence of each of us and was at the  
same time delivered by her to be her last will and Testament we at her  
request sign our names here to as attesting witnesses

Test  
Lewis Holmclaw Seal  
Nathan Shirell

Sarah Shirell Seal