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April Session 1863

139 In the name of God Amen: I Shophelus Gant of the County of Catawba & State of North Carolina being of Perfect sound mind and memory blessed be God, do this twentieth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & eighty three make publick & ordain this my last will & Testament in the following form and manner Viz:

First I Give & bequeath unto my beloved wife Elizabeth the use and benefit of my land situate to live and Cultivate during her widowhood & until my two sons become of age & if she marries she is to leave it and have no more claim on it & also give my wife Elizabeth three bolls all the fat ware & Cooking stoves all of my household ware all of my Stone ware kettles & forks six Chriss two tables and chest one clock one wheel one iron saddle & all my Potatoes also all the wheat that I have & meat one Scythe & Cradle & also give her my small mare one horse also my Cat & best or balls Creek Camp Ground & two sheep two places of bees two Cows & all the hogs that I have in my place & three axes one washing tub one half bushel three boxes & what salt I have on hand one iron fork two boxes one side of upper Leather & all of my old Leather also one side that Miles Witherspoon is tanning for me one pair horse gears & one pair of britch bands one Cutting knife & bar & a lot of empty bu gurns one mattress & three water buckets & one keg all of the above named articles & property I give unto my wife Elizabeth to do with as she thinks proper

The following Property I wish my executor to put to sale on a Credit of Six months Viz all of my wagon wright tools all of my wagon wood & lumber also running gear of a two horse wagon three head of cattle one Corn Planter and two lots in balls Creek Camp Ground together with all the property that may be found belonging to the said named above of what ever name or nature it may be I wish to be put to sale as above directed & the proceeds to pay my debts.

I hereby constitute & authorize my worthy friend Eray Hamilton my sole executor of this my last will & Testament Given under my hand & seal

Testament before signed
Signed in the presence of
James Reynolds
Susan Reynolds

Shophelus Gant

177
July Session 1863

170 I know of the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death & do make this my last will & Testament

First I will bequeath my negro boy Will (Stephen) to my Brother David B. Gaither upon conditions that he pays to my estate five hundred dollars

Second The above mentioned five hundred dollars and all my money now on hand all my notes which my executor shall collect & the proceeds from the sale of my clothes and all other personal effects after paying my burial expenses & any debts I may owe & will & bequeath to be equally divided amongst my sister & the children of my sister Sophia knowing their mothers part the same as if she was living

I do hereby appoint my brother David B. Gaither the executor of this my last will & Testament

May 27th 1863
J. L. Gaither
J. L. Gaither
J. L. Gaither

171 State of North Carolina Catawba County

In the name of God Amen: I David Weaver concerning the uncertainty of this mortal life being of a sound & perfect disposing mind & memory do make & publish this my last will & Testament in manner & form following that is to say

First I Give & bequeath unto my beloved wife Eliza Weaver all my stock of cattle sheep & hogs all my house hold and kitchen furniture my clothing Bedding and all my property after my decess to have to share to her use & behoof ever and do constitute her my sole executor of this my last will and Testament hereby revoking all former wills by me made in writing whereof I have hereto set my hand & seal the 13th day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & eighty three

Signed sealed published and declared by the above named David Weaver to be his last will & Testament in the presence of us who have hereto subscribed our names as witnesses in the presence of the Notary

David B. Weaver

J. A. Whitman
Solomon Weaver
Ephraim Weaver