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to this my last Will & Testament, making or atta  
cally by me made and acknowledge this to this only  
to be my last Will & Testament in manner and  
form as above stated. In witness hereunto I have  
Elijah Bell doth hereunto set my hand and seal  
the Twenty eighth day of November in the year  
of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and  
forty three. The words a certain copy girl by  
the name of Loring entered before signed

Thomas Slatter  
John Neal

Elijah Bell Seal

Chatham County May Session 1849  
By obedience to a writ of proceedings issuing from the  
Superior Court of Chatham County in the suit of the  
Bell Et al vs William Clark Sooley which was a cause to  
the paper writing proffered as the last Will & Testament of Elijah  
Bell decd and an issue to try whether said paper writing was his last  
Will & Testament in this Court it carried by appeal to the said Superior  
Court the Court here according to the said writ of the Superior  
Court proceed to order the said paper writing to be entered on the  
ministry of this Court & recorded as the last Will & Testament of  
Elijah Bell decd. The same having been duly proven and  
pronounced & declared to be & contain his last Will & Testament  
and Henry Bell the Executor herein named appear in open  
Court taking the oath of an Executor & is duly qualified as the  
Executor of the last Will & Testament of Elijah Bell decd.

Test. A. McNease and C.C.B.

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I David Edwards of the County of Chatham  
& State of North Carolina being of sound mind  
and perfect memory, do make this my last will  
and testament in manner as follows viz I will  
and bequeath to my son John M Edwards one  
tract of land containing one hundred acres  
situated in the County of Guilford and  
State aforesaid on which I formerly lived adja-  
cining the lands of Samuel West Brooks and oth-  
ers to him and his heirs in fee simple.

To my son Thomas Edwards I give one hundred  
and a acre off of the south part of the planta-  
tion on which I now live to him and his heirs  
in fee simple To my beloved wife Margaret  
I give the balance or remainder of my home  
plantation supposed to be about one hundred  
and thirty three acres to her her lifetime or  
widowhood and at her death or marriage my  
will is that the last named tract shall be sold  
at public sale by my Executor and the pro-  
ceeds equally divided between my three daughters  
Emily Walker Margaret Edwards & Martha Ed-  
wards, or their lawful heirs To my Margaret I  
give one bureau one bed and furniture which  
it is understood by the family she now claims  
and to my daughter Martha I also give one  
bureau one bed and furniture of equal value  
To my son John M I give one bay mare and  
her two colts which it is understood he now  
claims also to my son Thomas I give one some  
mare and her colt which it is understood  
he now claims I give the balance of my whole  
estate not otherwise disposed of in this my last  
will together with all the possessions of every

Description now on hand and all the growing  
crop to my beloved wife Margaret her lifetime  
or widowhood and then if any be remaining my  
will is that it shall be sold at public sale by  
my executor and the proceeds thereof equally  
divided between my lawful heirs

And lastly I do appoint my son John  
Edwards my Executor of this my last will  
made this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 1849

Signed sealed sealed &  
in the presence of us  
who at his request  
subscribe our names

John C White

M F C Iddings

David Edwards

Chatham County August Term 1849

This certifies that the foregoing last will & testament  
of David Edwards dec<sup>d</sup> was proven in open court  
the oath of John C White one of the subscribing witnesses  
thereto ordered to be recorded whereupon John  
M Edwards the Executor therein named appeared in  
open court & was duly qualified

Teste W P Day Jr bcc