

Feb Jan 1858

State of North Carolina } This will certify the
 Chatham County } the last will and tes-

tament of Isaac Hartson
 was duly proved in open Court by the oaths of
 Pudding Hatley & Phillip Hartson two of the
 subscribing witnesses thereto and ordered to be ac-
 cepted upon C Hartson & C Hartson the executor.
 Therein named appeared in open Court & are duly
 qualified as such Juste

W. Paylor C. C. C.

I Henry Medick of the County of Chatham
 and State of North Carolina being of sound mind
 and memory but considering the uncertainty of my
 earthly existence do make and declare this my
 last will and testament in the manner and form follow-
 ing that is to say, That my Executor herein after named shall
 provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the
 wishes of my relations and friends and pay all funeral
 expenses together with my just debts howsoever and
 to whomsoever owing out of the moneys that my just
 come into his hands as a part or parcel of my Estate
 2^d Item I give and devise to my beloved wife Polly the
 Plantation wherein I now live during her natural life
 widow-hood and in like manner I leave her two cho-
 lars ten head of cattle & ten head of sheep all my
 stock of hogs and a sufficiency of grain for one year
 support for her family and stock to be laid off by
 a committee chosen by her and the children one
 wayman siffer cover fire trap and gear one Caary
 and harrow with the Smith tools and as many of the

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 farming Tools as she sees proper to keep also all
 the household and kitchen furniture by her giving
 my four boys Gran Manly Henry & only a bed
 and furniture a piece when they need them and
 also I leave her three negroes viz Malindy, Lane and
 Mariah as long as she sees proper to keep them
 but if she cannot control them or gets dissatisfied
 with them they shall be sold at public sale by my
 Executor and leave her one hundred dollars in cash

3^d Item I give and devise to eldest son John
 the tract of land wherein he now lives known by
 the name of the Peter place valued at four hundred
 dollars to have & to hold to him & his heirs forever
 & one by house fire which I have already ad-
 vanced valued at fifty dollars & one bed & furniture
 which he has got & one cow and other advances
 ment that I have made him valued at ten dollars

4th Item I give and devise to my son Ben one tract
 of land containing three hundred and thirty seven
 & a half acres as by reference to the deed made to me
 by Robert Hardin will more fully show it being the
 same tract to have & to hold to him & his heirs
 forever in fee simple for ever valued at two hundred &
 ninety dollars also one mare named Blaze valued
 at fifty dollars one bed weighing thirty pounds and
 furniture and ten dollars in money

5th Item I give and devise to my son Manly one
 tract of land known by the name of the Isaac place
 valued at one hundred & ninety five dollars to have
 & to hold to him and his heirs in fee simple forever
 also one bed weighing thirty pounds & furniture and
 sixty dollars in money 6th Item I give & devise to

my Henry one tract of land known by the name of the
 Eli Place valued at one hundred and fifty dollars
 to have and to hold to him and his heirs in fee simple
 forever also one bed weighing thirty pounds & furniture and sixty dollars
 in money

7th Item I give & devise to my daughter Martha single roomer two hundred & fifty dollars also on bed & furniture that she claims & one Bureau valued at eight dollars one place wheel valued at one dollar & twenty five cents and if there is enough at present to make her up equal with my sons she is to have it if not when the balance of my property is sold she is to be made up equal

8th Item I give & devise to my youngest son Mel the tract that I now live on at the death of his mother valued at two hundred & fifty dollars to have & to hold to him & his heirs in fee simple forever also one bed weighing thirty pounds & furniture and one saddle & twenty dollars in money

9th Item it my will & desire that all the balance of my property that is not otherwise devised shall be sold & the debts owing collected & all my children made up even with what I have given them if enough if not enough the youngest to wait until the death of their mother then all to be sold and after all have been up equal all to share & share alike so that an equal division of all property shall be made amongst all my children and their legal representatives

10th and lastly I do hereby appoint my son Brown my lawful Executor to all intents and purposes to execute this my last will & testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part & clause thereof In witness whereof I the said Henry Melch do hereunto set my hand & seal this 7th of August A.D. 1852

John Drayton
William Melch

Henry Melch

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas & Sessions
Chatham County } begun Feb. Term 1855

This will certify that the Last will & Testament
of Henry Welch he was duly proved by the
 oath of John Strong one of the subscribers writing
 true to in open Court whereon Oran Welch the
 executor therein named appeared in open Court and
 as duly qualified as such

Teste Wm. Strong J. C. 666