

233

Know all men by these presents that I Hugh Edwards of the County of Chatham & State of North Carolina being of sound mind & memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this my last will & Testament in manner & form the following First that my Executor hereinafter named shall provide for my body a decent burial & pay all my funeral expenses together with my just debts howsoever & to whomsoever owing out of the money that may first come into his hands as part and parcel of my Estate -

Item - I give & devise to my son Allen Edwards fifty acres of land in the County of Chatham - It being the tract on which he now lives to be held on by ^{himself} ~~himself~~ and heirs to have & to hold to him his heirs Executors Administrators & assigns forever

Item - I give and devise to my sons Edward Edwards & James Edwards the tract of land on which I now live with the exception of that fifty acres above devised to Allen Edwards it being in Chatham County and containing about 500 acres To have & hold to them & each and every of them their heirs Executors Administrators & assigns in fee simple & forever -

It. I give and bequeath to my son Allen Edwards the following negro Slaves Viz. Polly Aster Charles Janette Julia Cornelia & Francis to have & to hold to him his heirs Executors Administrators & assigns forever

Item - I give & bequeath to Edward Edwards & Melsey Edwards my sons-in Trust for my daughter Elizabeth Durham wife of John Durham for and during the term of her natural life following negro Slaves - Henry Miley Parker Isaac Epsom - for her support & maintenance while she lives & at her death to be equally divided among her children - The Slaves to be subject to no claim debt or demand incumbrance of said John Durham with in her debts

Item I give & bequeath to my son James Edwards the following negro Slaves Viz. Rose Anna Benjamin Peter Lucy Elizabeth Mary - Fida Fanny Sally Martha Keziah To have & to hold to him the said James Edwards his heirs Executors & assigns forever

Item - I give & bequeath to my son Edward Edwards the following negro Slaves Viz. Miley & her children albert atlas George Polina Margaret and my negro children To have & to hold the above named Negroes to him his heirs & assigns forever -

Item. I give & bequeath to my son Melsey Edwards the following negro Slaves Viz. Henry Birkin Wash

234
 I now Renew Fletcher Doctor to have & to hold the above
 named negroes to him his heirs Executors & assigns forever.
 I now I give & bequeath unto my four sons Allen Edwards,
 Eleyed Edwards, Edward Edwards & James Edward,
 the following negro & slave - Reuben Price, Jane Nancy,
 Eliza Maurice, Hayward Fletcher, John Semper, Simon
 Jack David & Lightfoot to be equally divided between
 them at my death share and share alike To have & to hold
 to them and each and every of them their heirs, Executors
 Administrators and assigns forever.
 I now I give & bequeath unto my son James Edwards &
 Edward Edwards, all my crop stock farming tools
 Household & Kitchen furniture Blacksmith tools Wagon & cart
 to be equally divided between them at my death share
 share alike To have & to hold to them and each of them
 their heirs Executors Administrators & assigns forever.
 Lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my two sons
 Eleyed Edwards and Edward Edwards Executors of this
 my last will & Testament hereby revoking and declaring
 utterly null and void all other wills & Testaments by me
 heretofore made In Witness Whereof I the said Hugh
 Edwards do hereunto set my hand & seal this the tenth
 day of October A.D. 1848

signed sealed in presence
 of us

Edmund Smith
 J. J. Smith

Hugh Edwards, Test

Chatham County, February Term 1849.
 This certifies that the foregoing last will & Testa-
 ment of Hugh Edwards dec'd. was proven in open
 court by the oath of Edmundo Smith one of the
 subscribing witnesses thereto & ordered to be recorded.
 Whereupon Wesley Edwards, one of the Executors therein
 named, appeared in open court & was duly
 qualified - And Edward Edwards, the other Executor
 therein named, appeared in open court & was
 duly qualified his rights to qualify as such -

Attest A. A. Medman Clerk

235
 In the name of God Amen I Kate Riddle of the
 County of Chatham & State of North Carolina being
 in good health and sound in mind & memory I
 do hereby make & appoint this my last will and
 Testament & desiring that it is appointed to a com-
 mittee to die I do hereby give & bequeath my soul to God
 who gives it and my body to the earth to be decently
 buried at the expense of my Executors and as touching
 my worldly goods it is my will that they be disposed
 of as follows. Namely after paying all just debts I
 first give and bequeath to my beloved wife Mary
 Riddle my negro Phoebe & two brown mules even and
 one of my chain horses & wagon my household
 and Kitchen furniture & after her death the property
 of all belong to my children that live single & with
 her until her death I also give & bequeath to my
 beloved wife Mary Riddle all my land & tenements
 except all on the North side of my Spring branch
 all for her to use to her own interest so long as
 she lives or during her widowhood I give & bequeath
 to my beloved son Nathaniel Riddle all of my land
 on the North side of my Spring branch from leading
 him up the remainder of said branch to Thomas Riddle
 line to him & to his heirs I give & bequeath to my
 beloved son Joseph Riddle all my land except
 that on the North side of my Spring branch but shall
 not come in possession until after the death of my
 wife Mary Riddle altho' he shall have the right of
 a home on said land from the time of my death &
 shall have the right to cut & clear and of woodlot land
 and cultivate it to his own interest but after he comes
 in possession provided any of my just pecuniary rights
 he shall not have the power to dispose therein of a home
 on the land particularly the houses where I now live
 I give & bequeath to my daughter Mary Riddle One sixth
 part of the land with which she now claims - it is
 my will that the remainder of my property shall be
 equally divided between my wife Mary Riddle my
 daughter Annamiah Edwards my daughter Mary
 Riddle my son Nathaniel Riddle my son Joseph
 Riddle my daughter Martha Riddle my daughter
 Frances Stranahan my daughter Patsy Riddle my
 daughter Lydia Riddle my daughter Eliza Riddle