

In the name of God Amen, I Richard Dowd
of the County of Chatham and State of North
Carolina, knowing that it is appointed for all men
once to die, do make ordain publish and declare
this to be my last will and Testament hereby revok-
ing all other wills and testaments by me at any
other time heretofore made and first of all I
commend my soul to the holy Suffering of the
being who created it, and my body to be buried
in a decent Christianlike manner and as to my
worldly estate I give and devise as follows
1st I lend to my daughter Mary Bright a negro
girl name Patsy during her natural life and
her lawful issue if she should have any living
at her death and if not, said negro and her
increase to return to my estate
2^d I give and devise all my lands to my children
namely Mary, Alexander Alfred John & Sally Jenkins
children or their representatives to receive the share
which said Sally Jenkins were she alive now
be entitled to (my son Leamon having already be-
provided for) to be equally divided between them
as to value and if any of my said children shall
settle on any of my lands in my lifetime and
make improvements thereon, his or her part
shall be laid off so as to include said improve-
ments and the value of said improvements shall not
be taken into consideration in valuing the land
It is my will that if any of my said children
should die without leaving them surviving
any lawful issue of their body, or the representa-
tives of such then the lands hereby devised I give to
my own right heirs and their representatives
God, I give and devise all my negroes including
Patsy to all my children including Leamon to be
equally divided between them share and share
alike as even as the same may be convenient

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for my death. It is my will that if any
of my said children should die without
leaving any lawful issue or the repre-
sentatives of such; that such negro or negroes
may be acquired by them by virtue of
this my will, shall return to my estate
and be divided amongst my other children
or their representatives as the case may be
all being dead and not being provided
on as well as the rest heretofore. It is my
will that her children should have
their mothers part and one hundred
dollars besides to be received from the
executors as each comes of age.

3^d All the balance of my estate after the
payment of my just debts and funeral ex-
penses I wish to be disposed of according
to the presents statutes now in force for
the distribution of intestates estates and
hereby make and ordain my worthy son
Alexander Dowd and John Dowd Executors
of this my last will and Testament in wit-
ness whereof I the said Richard Dowd have
signed this my last will and Testament at my hand
and the May 6th 1857 Richard Dowd (seal)

Signed sealed published and declared by the
said Richard Dowd the testator as his last will
and Testament in the presence of us who were present
at the time of signing & sealing thereof
witness D. Baker Samuel Caggins