

I William Melch of the County of Latham
 & State of North Carolina being of sound mind and
 memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly
 existence do make and declare thus my last will
 and Testament in manner and form following that
 is say first my Executor hereinafter named shall pro-
 vide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes
 of my relatives and friends and pay all funeral expen-
 ses together with my just debts howsoever and to
 whomsoever owing out of the moneys that may first
 come into their hand as a part or parcel of my
 Estate. I then I give and devise to my beloved wife
 Anna Melch the tract of land that I now live on
 containing about one hundred & eighty seven acres
 be the same more or less to have & to hold during her
 life time or widowhood but if my beloved wife Anna
 Melch considers that she can better herself & children by
 selling the land here & moving to some other place I then
 authorize her to sell the premises and make title to
 said land and it is to be as good and valid as tho I
 were present and signed said title in either law or
 equity, I then give to my beloved wife Anna Melch
 my waggon then head of horses all my stock of
 hogs and sheep all the stock of cattle all the plows
 & gears all the head stead and furniture all the
 shut block and loom and all the household and
 kitchen furniture all the crop of corn and wheat &
 all other crops that are on hand and all other
 property belonging to me not named as well as my
 name and lastly I do hereby constitute and
 appoint my beloved wife Anna Melch my
 lawful Executor to all intents & purposes

to Execute this my last will and Testament according to true intent and meaning of the same and every and clause thereof and that she as my Executrix is authorized to sell so much of the property either private or public as may be proper to pay all my just debts and that to be used properly as she can best spare and the balance to keep for the purpose of raising the children upon for them to be kept together and to help to support each other and for her to have the control of them until they become free by law for writing whereof I the said Wm Welch do her unto set my hand and seal this 26th day of July 1849

signed sealed published and
declared by the said William
Welch to be his last will and
testament in presence of us
who at his request & in the presence
& in presence of each other do subscribe
our names as witnesses thereto
Henry Welch
Robt M. Stinson
} May Term 1849

The execution of the foregoing last will and testament of Wm Welch has been duly proved in open court by the oath of Robt M. Stinson a subscribing witness thereto & ordered to be recorded as of legal force
J. W. Taylor C. C. 6

I Susan Jones of the County of Chatham and State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly exist, do make and declare this my last and Testament in manner and form following that is to say First That my executrix hereafter named shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my relations and friends to pay all funeral expenses together with my just debts horosow and to whomsoever owing out of the money that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate

Item 1st I give and devise to my daughter Martha Scott one hundred dollars to be paid by the executrix Item 2^d I give and devise to my youngest son Miller one young man to be valued at Thirty dollars also one hundred ~~acres~~ of land to commence at which corner of my land that he chooses to run the comp. line to be valued at two hundred dollars to have and to hold to him and his heirs in fee simple forever Item 3rd I give and devise to my youngest daughter Catharine one beneval value at ten dollars also one hundred acres of land joining Miller's tract to be valued at two hundred dollars to have and to hold to her heirs in fee simple forever Item 4th I give and devise to my beloved wife Susan all the balance of my land, horses, cattle and dogs, corn & wheat and all other property and three hundred dollars in money to have and to hold or dispose of as she may prefer