

State of North Carolina
Duplin County

January Term 1791

There was the within proved in open Court in due form of Law by
the oath of Charles Hard on of the subscribing witnesses Thinks +
at the same time Catharine Best + William Fredrick two of
the Exrs named in the said came into open Court and Confessed
according to Law- Ordered that Letters issue accordingly - me
Best Hickson C.C. In the name of God Amen I William Best
of Duplin County State of North Carolina - being of sound mind
and memory Thanks be to God Almighty and calling to my mind
the mortality of my body and knowing it is appointed once for all
men to die do make and ordain this my last will and testament
That is to say Principally and first of all I give and recommend
my soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it + my body
I recommend to the earth to be buried in a Christian manner
at the discretion of my Exrs hereafter to be named, nothing
doubting but at the general resurrection I shall receive the same
again by the power of Almighty God - and as touching such worldly
estate as it has pleased God to bless me within this life I give
and dispose of in manner and form following. That is to say -
I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Catharine Best - the use of all my
estate until my son John becomes to the age of twenty one years
or more and then my estate to be valued and be und his
equal part of the whole estate real and personal property and the
remaining part of my estate to remain with my beloved wife to
raise and school my children at the discretion of my Exrs +
so and the rest of my children arrive at full age of maturity
so as each child arriving to age or more shall his part of my estate
I also constitute and appoint my beloved wife Catharine Best Jus-
tices W & William Fredrick Exrs to this my last will and testament
hereby revoking + disannulling all any other wills I have made heretofore
before and this alone I do publish and pronounce to be my last
will and testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand
+ seal this the 20th day of ~~may~~ October 1790 Thomas William
Estlin before signing signed sealed + published + delivered in presence
of O Mummy Cha Hard - Felix Fredrick - William Best (Seal)