

bequeath as followeth viz: The whole of my  
Land and Estate of Cattle, horse, and hogs Tools and  
furniture I Leave to my wife Elizabeth until  
during her life in widowhood and at her decease  
or at the expiration of her widowhood my will  
is that the whole of my Estate Land cattle horse  
and hogs and tools and house furniture fall  
to my son William Merrill after paying my just  
Debts and necessary Expenses. Lastly I constitute  
and appoint my wife Elizabeth my and my brother  
in law Thomas Garrison Executors to this my last  
will and testament Given under my hand and  
seal in the year of our Lord and Saviour the  
thousand seven hundred and ninety four. On the  
twentyeth Day of December. Signed, Sealed, and Delivered  
in presence of us: - Jos. William Farrow, Daniel Southwell

Joseph Merrill. Seal

State of N<sup>c</sup> Carolina } January Term 1795.  
Duplin County }

There was the within will proved in open Court by  
the oath of William Farrow one of the subscribing  
witnesses thereto. and at the same time Thomas Garrison  
one of the Executors named in the said will came  
before the Court and qualified according to law. Orders  
that letters issue accordingly.

W<sup>m</sup> Dickson C. C.

I in the name of God Amen. I Sarah Matchett widow  
of the county of Duplin and state of North Carolina.  
being sick on bed but of sound mind and memory  
and calling to mind the mortality of man kind  
and knowing that it is appointed to all persons once  
to die do make ordains Ratify and declare this to  
be my last will and testament. that is to say  
first of all I recommend my soul into the hand  
of all mighty God who gave it and my body to the  
Earth to be buried in a Christian like manner at  
the discretion of my Executors. In witness. And as for

my worldly Estate that it hath been pleased God  
to bestow on me with I give demise and Dispose of  
as follows that is to say first to pay all my  
just debts and funeral charges which I wish to  
be come out of the rent corn that is due from  
Nathan Gray and William Gray for the years Rent.  
Last of that not being of nuff to discharge all  
them the rest of it to be made up out of my crop  
Itorn, and as for the rest of my worldly Estate I  
give and bequeath it all to my dearly beloved son  
William Matchett. Now I make and ordain of  
joint Executor with James Parnell of this my last  
will in testament Signed, Sealed, and pronounced this  
my last will testament. This twenty fourth day of  
September 1794. in presence of. J<sup>r</sup> Nathan Waller John  
Chambers.

Sarah Matchett Seal

State of N<sup>c</sup> Carolina } October Term 1795.  
Duplin County }

There was the within will proved in open Court in  
due form of Law by the oath of Nathan Waller  
one of the subscribing witnesses thereto. And at the  
same time William Matchett and James Parnell  
the Executors therein named came before the Court  
and qualified as such according to law. Orders  
that letters do issue accordingly.

W<sup>m</sup> Dickson C. C.

I in the name of God Amen. I William M<sup>c</sup> Gowan  
of the State of North Carolina and county of Duplin  
being sick and weak in body but of sound and  
perfect memory blessed be God do this fifth Day of  
October in the year of our Lord 1792. make and  
publish this my Last will and Testament in manner  
and form following viz: 1<sup>st</sup> my will and Desire is  
that all my just debts and funeral expenses be  
paid by my Executors, and in order that the same  
may be done with the best advantage to my

Estate. I do will and ordain that the Estate be kept  
together undivided and that my children together with  
the slave belonging to me be kept at the making  
naval store of my lands untill a sufficient time  
made to pay said debts, except such time as may  
be necessary for the said lands to work in the  
crops for the support of the family. 2<sup>nd</sup> I will and  
ordain that as soon as all my just debts be  
paid that my son John M<sup>c</sup> Gown do receive into  
his possession my negro man slave named will to  
him and his heirs forever which said slave I set  
and the Lands I have given to him by Dec<sup>r</sup> is to be  
his full share of all my Estate Real and personal.  
Except four thousand weight of good pork which I  
am in Debt to him, and my Executors hereby resigned to  
pay at thirty shillings each hundred weight and Spanish  
milled Dollars at twelve shillings. 3<sup>rd</sup> I give and  
bequeath to my son William M<sup>c</sup> Gown all that  
parcel of Land on the Goose Swamp join Audinver  
M<sup>c</sup> Intire and John M<sup>c</sup> Gowns Land below James  
Gillipies Land computed to be about one hundred and  
fifty acres to him and his heirs forever which said  
land when red is to be considered as his full share  
of all my Lands Estate. - 4<sup>th</sup> I give and bequeath to  
my son Robert M<sup>c</sup> Gown all that parcel of land on  
Perrinon Branch which I bought from James Conn  
and twenty five acres which I bought from Richard  
Williams and one hundred acres to be laid off to him  
by my Executors laid out the lands for which I have  
the State patent to him and his heirs forever which  
said Lands are to be considered to him as his full  
share of my Estate in Lands. - 5<sup>th</sup> I give and  
bequeath to my son Edward M<sup>c</sup> Gown a certain part  
of my manner plantation bounded as follows viz<sup>t</sup>  
to begin at the Run of Fredericks Hill Branch  
at the mouth of a branch that runs on the  
upper side of my oldest field following the middle  
of St Branch up the mouth of a small drain

that divides my little new ground field from my  
Little old ground field then up said little drain  
to the head thereof thence like same direction to  
William Fredericks line thence his line to the mill  
Run and down the same as it meanders to the  
first Station. Also Seventy acres of fine Land joining  
the same to begin at or near the head of the mill  
Branch thence along Fredericks line southerly - and  
to run easterly in such proportion as not to  
affect the front of the manner plantation to be  
laid off to him by my Executors which said Lands are  
to be considered to him as his full share of my  
Landed Estate. - 6<sup>th</sup> I will that a parcel of land  
in Hinchman County which I purchased from Francis  
Price be offered to my Brother George M<sup>c</sup> Gown at  
Twenty pounds current money, which if he accepts  
of and pays in two years from this date. My  
Executors or any one of them and to sign him a  
Deed for the same and the money to apply to my other  
children to whom no Lands are left by this will.  
and should my S<sup>r</sup> Brother not comply with the above  
terms the said land to be sold or divided for the  
Benefit of the children as aforesaid. 7<sup>th</sup> I will  
and ordain that my beloved wife Mary M<sup>c</sup> Gown  
do have Quite and Peaceable possession of my manner  
plantation and all the lands joining thereto of my  
Estate not already willed During her natural life  
and that at her Decease it be the property of  
my son David M<sup>c</sup> Gown and the lawfull heirs  
heirs of his body and should the S<sup>r</sup> David Die with  
no lawfull Issue the said lands to be the property  
of the next youngest Brother of my children and of  
their heirs forever. 8<sup>th</sup> I give and bequeath to my beloved  
wife one negro woman named Rose with two good  
Furniture beds and furniture to her and her heirs for  
ever. 9<sup>th</sup> I lend to my said wife During her natural  
life one negro Boy named Dick and one negro girl  
named Nancy and at her Decease to be divided

Estate. I do will and ordain that the Estate be kept  
together undivided and that my children together with  
the slave belonging to me be kept at the making  
naval store of my lands untill a sufficient sum  
made to pay said debts. Except such time as may  
be necessary for the said lands to work in the  
crops for the support of the family. 2<sup>nd</sup> I will and  
ordain that as soon as all my just debts be  
paid that my son John M<sup>c</sup> Gown do receive into  
his possession my negro man slave named Will to  
him and his heirs forever which said slave I set  
and the Lands I have given to him by Deed is to be  
his full share of all my Estate Real and personal  
Except four thousand weight of good pork which I  
am in Debt to him, and my Executors hereby agreed to  
pay at thirty shillings each hundred weight and Spanish  
milled Dollars at twelve shillings. 3<sup>rd</sup> I give and  
bequeath to my son William M<sup>c</sup> Gown all that  
parcel of Land on the Gown Swamp join Audinor  
M<sup>c</sup> Inters and John M<sup>c</sup> Gown's Land below James  
Gillipies Land computed to be about one hundred and  
fifty acres, to him and his heirs forever which said  
land when set is to be considered as his full share  
of all my Lands Estate. - 4<sup>th</sup> I give and bequeath to  
my son Robert M<sup>c</sup> Gown all that parcel of land on  
Resurrection Branch which I bought from James Coan  
and twenty five acres which I bought from Richard  
Williams and one hundred acres to be laid off to him  
by my Executors found out the lands for which I have  
the State patent to him and his heirs forever which  
said Lands are to be considered to him as his full  
share of my Estate in Lands. - 5<sup>th</sup> I give and  
bequeath to my son Edward M<sup>c</sup> Gown a certain part  
of my manner plantation bounded as follows viz:  
to begin at the Run of Fredericks Mill Branch  
at the mouth of a marsh that runs on the  
upper side of my oldest field following the mill  
of St Branch up the mouth of a small drain

that divides my little new ground field from my  
Little old ground field then up said little drain  
to the head thereof, thence the same direction to  
William Fredericks line thence his line to the mill  
Run and down the same as it meanders to the  
first Station. Also twenty acres of joining Land joining  
the same to begin at or near the head of the mill  
Branch thence along Fredericks line southerly - and  
to run easterly in such proportion as not to  
affect the front of the manner plantation to be  
laid off to him by my Executors which said Lands are  
to be considered to him as his full share of my  
landed Estate. - 6<sup>th</sup> I will that a parcel of land  
in Newhancovers County which I purchased from Francis  
Price be offered to my Brother George M<sup>c</sup> Gown at  
Twenty pounds current money, which if he accepts  
of and pays in two years from this date. My  
Executors or any one of them and to sign him a  
Deed for the same and the money to apply to my other  
children to whom no Lands are left by this will.  
and should my S<sup>r</sup> Brother not comply with the above  
terms the said land to be sold or divided for the  
Benefit of the children as aforesaid. 7<sup>th</sup> I will  
and ordain that my beloved wife Mary M<sup>c</sup> Gown  
do have Quite and Peaceable possession of my manner  
plantation and all the lands joining thereto of my  
Estate not already willed During her natural life -  
and that at her Decease it be the property of  
my son David M<sup>c</sup> Gown and the lawful heirs  
heirs of his body and should the S<sup>r</sup> David Die with  
no lawful issue the said lands to be the property  
of the next youngest Brother of my children and of  
their heirs forever. 8<sup>th</sup> I give and bequeath to my beloved  
wife one negro man named Rose with two good  
Fether beds and furniture to her and her heirs for-  
ever. 9<sup>th</sup> I lend to my said wife During her natural  
life one negro boy named Dick and one negro girl  
named Nancy and at her Decease to be divided

amongst my children (John Greet), 10<sup>th</sup> I will  
and ordain that all my other lands that are  
not already willed be sold or divided for the benefit  
of my children to whom no lands are by this my  
last will as will to my Executor appear to be just.  
11<sup>th</sup> my will is that all the negroes not already  
mentioned in this will together with the stock of all  
kinds and household and kitchen furniture be and  
remain with my wife for the purpose of raising  
and schooling my young children to be under the  
direction and controul of my Executor. And that no  
Division that place untill the Debt be paid and  
then only as the heirs arrive at Law full age (except  
former married) also my will and desire is that  
in Every Division of my Estate a View be had to  
the heirs of my Estate that have lands left to them  
and that a reasonable allowance be kept back  
from them so as to make my other children some  
measure equal to them that has lands. 12<sup>th</sup> I  
hereby constitute and appoint my Beloved wife Mary  
McGowan Executrix and my son John Mc Gowan and  
my brother-in-law James Dickson Executors to this  
my last will and testament. hereby revoking all other  
and former wills by me heretofore made in witness  
whereof I the said William Mc Gowan have hereunto  
set my hand and seal at Duplin this 5<sup>th</sup> Day of  
October 1792. Signed, Sealed, Published, and Declared by  
the S<sup>d</sup> William Mc Gowan to be his Last Will and  
Testament in presence of us James Middleton  
Jas Mc Intire, Joseph Dickson.

W<sup>m</sup> Mc Gowan (Seal)

State of N<sup>c</sup> Carolina } October Term 1792.

Duplin County } There was the within will proved in open Court  
by the oath of James Middleton and Joseph Dickson two of the  
Subscribing witnesses thereto. And at the same time  
John Mc Gowan and James Dickson the Executors named  
in the said will came before the Court and

Qualified according to Law. Ordered that Letter issue  
accordingly. -

Jos W<sup>m</sup> Dickson C. C.

In this the 12 of may and year of our Lord Christ 1832  
Conscious of my frailty and of my approaching dissolution  
and being in my proper sense and right mind and  
thinking it necessary to dispose of my small tenements  
to my heirs do hereby make this my last will  
and Testament. And first of all I comit my feeble  
body to the dust and my soul to God who gave it.  
With a joyfull resurrection in Christ my Saviour.  
Second I order my Executor sell as much of my perishable  
property as will defray all my just Debts and defray  
that and my funeral expenses. Item I give and  
bequeath to my two eldest sons Fitzhugh Mc Camm  
and James Mc Camm a certain tract of Land  
bounded by the old Plain or rudy meadow Land beginning  
on the river bank Rathiff corner running thence as  
his line to Musfany corner thence his line to my  
father corner on the south side of the Little Branch  
thence his line to the Double maple corner thence the  
same along mulberry Branch to the upper end of the Island  
thence commencing and running as that Shappy Branch  
and Big pond to the run of Rely meadow near a  
Deep hole in the run to be sold and divided between  
them Equally. Item. - I give and bequeath to my son  
John apiece of land. Beginning in my fathers old line  
just about twenty yards from the lower corner and  
running parallel to and with the fence up to the head  
of a little bottom about ten steps above his the S<sup>d</sup> John  
Bass and commencing thence a straight line to the pole  
bridge in the road and for Little Branch thence along  
the run of pastor Branch. Item. I leave and bequeath  
to my daughter Polly the land above John cornering  
thence on Johns corner - running thence a straight  
line over the middle of and old hog pen made  
formerly by my B. John in a meadow going right.