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Gaston County--In the Probate Court.

In the Matter of the will of } Before J B White.
of A. R. Rutledge dec'd }

Judge of Probate

Robert, P. Rutledge being duly sworn, doth say:

That A. R. Rutledge, late of said County, is dead, having first made and published his last Will and Testament. And that your Affiant is the executor named therein.

Further, that the property of the said A. R. Rutledge Consisting of One hundred & sixty Acres of Land, 1 Mule, 1 Cow, 2 Head of Hogs, 1 Wagon, 1 buggy, Farming Tools, Household and Kitchen Furniture &c is worth about \$1750, so far as can be ascertained at the date of this Application; And that Ann Rutledge, widow of said deceased, and Robert P. Rutledge your Affiant, are the parties entitled under said Will to the said property.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, }
this 6th day of March 1882.
J B White Probate Judge }

(Signed) R. P. Rutledge

I, Alexander Rutledge of the County of Gaston and 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 following.

- on manner & form following.
- 1st That my executor hereafter named, shall provide for ~~my~~ body a decent burial, & pay all funeral expenses, together with my just debts, and if necessary to sell a portion of the undivided personal & real estate to pay said debts.
- 2nd I give & devise to my beloved wife Ann One half of my plantation, so as to include my dwelling house, all out houses & other improvements to have & to hold during the term of her natural life, also one half of my personal property.
- 3rd I give & devise to my youngest son Robert the remaining half of my personal & real estate, to have & to hold to him & his heirs forever.
- 4th I give & devise to my son Robert at the death of my wife her part of my real estate, my eldest son Mrs Blair, having received his distributive share of my estate.
- 5th I appoint my son Robert my lawful executor, to execute this my last will & testament.
- In witness whereof, I, Alexander Rutledge do hereunto set my hand and seal, this 27th day of Dec. AD 1881.

(Signed) A. R. Rutledge Seal

Signed, Seal, published and declared by the said Alexander Rutledge, to be his last will & testament, in the presence of us, who at his request & in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

B. Rankin, B. A. Rankin, E. S. Rankin.

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State of North Carolina } In the Probate Court
Gaston County } March 6th 1882.

A Paper Writing purporting to be the last Will and Testament of A. R. Rutledge deceased is exhibited before me, the undersigned Judge of Probate for said County by R. P. Rutledge. The executor therein mentioned. And the due execution thereof by the said A. R. Rutledge was duly proven by the Oath and examination of R. Rankin, and J. A. Rankin two of the subscribing witnesses thereto; who being duly sworn doth depose and say, And each for himself deposeth and saith that he is a subscribing witness to the paper-writing now shown him purporting to be the last Will and Testament of A. R. Rutledge, that he the said A. R. Rutledge in the presence of this deponent subscribed his name at the end of said paper writing, which is now shown as aforesaid. And which bears date of the 27th day of December 1881.

And the deponent further saith, that the said A. R. Rutledge the testator aforesaid, did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing to be subscribed by him and exhibited to be his last Will and Testament. And this deponent did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of said Will as an attesting witness thereto. And at the request and in the presence of the said testator. And this deponent further saith that at the said time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last Will as aforesaid. And at the time of the deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto.

name at the end of said paper writing, which is now shown as aforesaid, and which bears date of the 27th day of December 1881.

And the deponent further saith, that the said A. R. Rutledge the testator aforesaid, did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing to be subscribed by him and exhibited to be his last Will and Testament. And this deponent did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of said Will as an attesting witness thereto. And at the request and in the presence of the said testator. And this deponent further saith that at the said time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last Will as aforesaid. And at the time of the deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto, as aforesaid. The said A. R. Rutledge was of sound mind and memory, of full age to execute a Will. And was not under any restraint to the knowledge, information or belief of this deponent.

It is therefore considered by the court, that the said paper-writing and every part thereof is the last Will and Testament of the said A. R. Rutledge decd. And the same is ordered to be recorded and filed. And thereupon R. P. Rutledge the executor therein named as aforesaid, duly qualifies as such by taking and subscribing to the oath required by law, and took the oaths required therefor.

J. White Probate Judge