

James Rutledge
Will

In the Name of God, Amen.

I, James Rutledge of the State of North Carolina Gaston County, being in weak State of health but through the Mercy of God, of sound mind, bearing in mind the uncertainty of life and Certainty of death. I do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form as follows.

My body I Commit to the dust from whence it came to be buried with a decent Christian burial and my soul I freely surrender to God that gave it me in full assurance of a reunion of soul and body again at the general resurrection. As to such worldly goods as it has pleased God to bless me with. I Will and bequeath unto my beloved Wife Belinda, D. Rutledge all my estate both Real and personal with the exception of what is hereafter named.

I Will and bequeath to my three Children, Roxanna R. Henderson, Sarah W. L. Withers and William G. Rutledge One hundred dollars a piece to be paid out of my estate the reason why I give them no more we have helped them along as much as we could before.

I Will and bequeath unto my beloved Wife Belinda, D. Rutledge all the balance of my estate the lands and Crop that may be on them at time of my death. the lands is as follows. the home place that I now live on and all the lands that

all the balance of my estate. the same will stop that may
be on them at time of my death. the lands is as follows.
the home place that I now live on and all the lands that
I have that joins it a tract that my Father gave me joining
lands with J. F. Carpenter. J. H. Derr and others. One tract known
as the M. Rhyme land joining land with Susan Abernathy
J. F. Carpenter and others. a tract known as the Bulinger lands
joining lands with Joel Blominger. D. Blominger and others. it
being where Joel Blominger now lives. a house and lot in the town
of Lincoln. a house and lot at Brewood Station. a tract
of land on the Rail Road joining lands with Robert Rutledge
R. B. Tappin and others my divide of my Father's land and all
the Farming tools Blacksmith tools. Waggons. Buggy. Harness all
the live stock of Horses. Mules. cows. Sheep. Hogs. Household and Kitchen
furniture. Corn. Beans. Meat. Wheat. Oats. Hay. Fodder or whatever
else I may have in my possession at the time of death whether
named or not. The reason why I have given my beloved Wife
some more property than my Children is because she worked
and helped to make it. I don't want her to be dependent on her
Children nor on one else for a support if my Wife was of
rather ordinary mind or energy or if she had not taken more
than common interest in my affairs we never could have made
the property that we did make. And I do disannul all former
Wills and Appoint my beloved Wife J. F. Rutledge my whole

and Sole Executrix to see that this my last Will and Testament be executed agreeable to my true intent and meaning. And I do hereby ratify and confirm this to be my last Will and Testament. Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal, this 25 of September 1882.

(signed) James Rutledge (Seal)

Signed, Sealed, Published and delivered by the said James Rutledge to be his last Will and Testament in presence of us who at his request in his presence and the presence of each other do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

If any one of the heirs undertakes to set my Will aside they shall ~~be~~ out of a equal divide and to get but twenty five dollars

Attest Oct 28th

B. F. Carpenter

W. C. Sherrill

(signed) James Rutledge

State of North Carolina } In the Probate Court
Gaston County } August 7th 1883

State of North Carolina } In the Probate Court
Gaston County } August 7th 1883

A paper writing purporting to be the last Will and Testament of James Rutledge, deceased, is exhibited before me the undersigned Judge of Probate for said County, by Belinda T. Rutledge the Executrix therein mentioned, And the due execution thereof by the said James Rutledge was proven by the Oath & examination of J. F. Carpenter & W. B. Sherrill the subscribing witnesses thereto, who being sworn, doth depose and say, And each for himself deposeth and says that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last Will and Testament of James Rutledge that the said James 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 23rd day of September 1882, And this deponent further says that the said James Rutledge the Testator aforesaid, did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper-writing so 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 says, 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 subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto.

as aforesaid the said James Rutledge was of sound mind and memory of full age to execute a Will and was not under under any restraint to the knowledge information or belief of this deponent.

It is therefore Considered by the Court that the said Pap. writing and every part thereof is the last Will and Testament of the said James Rutledge deceased. And the same is ordered to be recorded and filed.

And thereupon Zelinda D. Rutledge the Executrix therein mentioned as aforesaid duly qualifies as such by Taking and Subscribing to the Oath required by law. And Taking Letters Testamentary thereon.

J. B. White. Probate Judge

Gaston County: In the Probate Court
In the Matter of the Will } Before J B White
of James Rutledge }
Z. D. Rutledge being sworn. doth say, That James Rutledge late of said County, is dead. having first made and published his last Will and Testament: And Z. D. Rutledge is the Executrix named therein. Further, that the property of the said James Rutledge consisting of Seven hundred & Twenty acres of land and

Gaston County: In the Probate Court
In the Matter of the Will } Before J B White
of James Rutledge }
J. B. Rutledge being sworn, doth say, That James Rutledge
late of said County, is dead, having first made & published
his last Will & Testament: And J. B. Rutledge is the Executor named
therein. Further, That the property of the said James Rutledge
Consisting of Seven hundred & Twenty acres of land And
personal property, is worth about \$8000, so far as can be ascertained
at the date of this Application; And That J. B. Rutledge,
Roxana R. Henderson, S. W. L. Withers & W. B. Rutledge, all
residents of Gaston County, except S. W. L. Withers who resides
in Mecklenburg County; And all of full age,
are the parties entitled under said Will to ~~the~~ said property.
Belinda B. Rutledge

Sworn to And Subscribed before me.
this 7th day of August 1883.
J B White. Probate Judge }