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State of North Carolina,

Gaston County.

I, John B. Smith, of the County and State aforesaid, being of sound mind and memory, but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence, do make and declare this my last will and testament, in manner and form following, that is to say:-

First- That I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved wife, Sarah Ann Smith, my lawful Executrix to all intents and purposes, to execute this my last Will and Testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same, and every part and clause thereof, hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made.

I do hereby devise to my beloved wife, Sarah Ann Smith, all my property, real, personal and mixed, of what nature or kind soever, for and during the term of her natural life, so long as she remains my widow; Provided: That my eldest son, John Sidney Smith, shall be allowed to live upon and keep the taxes paid thereon, the forty acre tract on which he now lives, this proviso not to apply, nor in any manner to effect in the final just and equal division and disposition of my property, to be mentioned in the succeeding items of this my will.

manner to effect in the final just and equal division and disposition of my property, to be mentioned in the succeeding items of this my will.

Item: My will and desire is that all of my property, real and personal, after taking out the devise to my wife, mentioned in the first item of this my will, shall be equally divided, share and share alike, among my four children, viz: John Sidney Smith, Benjamin Franklin Smith, Ida Cynthia Smith and Walter Valentine Smith, except in the following item of this my will.

Item: I give and bequeath to my Grandsons, Robert Suggs, Lloyd Suggs and Lawrence Suggs the sum of Twenty five dollars (\$25.00) to be paid by my Executrix within two years from the time of my death, to each and every of them; and my will and desire is that my executrix sell whatever property, real or personal, that she may deem most suitable to pay these mentioned legacies, as well as my just debts and funeral expenses; as also she is empowered to collect and receive any notes or accounts due me at the time of my death.

In Witness whereof, I, the said John B. Smith, do hereunto set my hand and seal, this twenty second day of December, A. D. 1898.

J. B. Smith, (Seal)

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said John B. Smith to be his last will and testament, in the presence of us, who at his request,

and in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

J.M. Skidmore.

Amme A. Wilson.

State of North Carolina)

Gaston County. ) In the Superior Court.  
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IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL OF J.B. SMITH:

It appearing to the Court by the oath and examination of J.M. Skidmore, one of the subscribing witnesses thereto and the oath and examination of A.J. Smith witness to the hand-writing of the said J.B. Smith and the oath and examination of P.M. Rhyme witness to the hand-writing of Amme A. Wilson one of the subscribing witnesses to the will of the said J.B. Smith, that the paper-writing propounded by the executrix therein named, is the last Will and Testament of J.B. Smith and that the same was duly executed by the said J.B. Smith in the presence of said witness and at the time of signing the same, the said J.B. Smith was of sound mind.

It is thereupon adjudged that the said paper-writing be admitted to probate as the last Will and Testament of the said J.B. Smith, and that the Executrix therein named qualify as such.

This the 1st day of June, 1903.

C.C. Cornwell, Clerk Superior Court, Gaston Co., N.C.