

Wills To August Sessions 1854 -

I Robert Johnston of Gaston County North Carolina being muddled ~~Ther~~
in the midst of Life as are in death do make ordain and publish This my
Last will & Testament

In the first place I will and devise to my beloved wife Mary Johnston The
following Negroes viz Polly Silvey Joseph Tom and his wife Sella & Adam
also six hundred dollars in cash and the use of the Plantation or farm on
which I now live during her Life and to have the controul & management
thereof except in the event my son Rufus M. Johnston should desire to
live on The Hamstead or any on a farm then and in That case I
intend that he shall have the use and enjoyment of one half of said
Plantation during his mother's life and live with her if she choose
also I give to my wife Mary Four Horses Ten head of cattle Twenty five
head of Hogs all to be of her own choosing

Also my Carriage & Buggy & Harness A Waggon & Harness One clock &
Piano and such other articles of Household and Kitchen Furniture
as she may think proper to keep also such of the farming Tools as
my Executors consider necessary and that she have one year maintenance
allotted to her by my Executors for herself and those who may be with her

I devise and Bequeath to my son John R. Johnston the Long Abnathy
Tract of Land with a small part of The home Place or Land and
portion of The John Abnathy Plantation including The saw mill Tract
beginning at The mouth of ^{the} Meadow Branch on the Catawba River

portion of the John Abernathy Plantation including the said full tract
Beginning at the mouth of ^{the} Meadow Branch on the Catawba River
Thence with said Branch to a Stake near a Crab Apple Tree
as understood by members of the family Thence to a poplar near the
John Abernathy Barn following the line as run by Thos Williamson
in a Plot marked A Thence as he runs the line around the mill
pond to the Catawba River leaving out the longit & Farming (which
have been sold & John the pay) and throwing a small portion of
of the said John Abernathy tract below with the John Moore
Plantation which is not intended to be included in this above sales
will & Bequeath to my son John R. Johnston five hundred dollars in money
and Negroes Elias & Louisa to have and to hold to him & his heirs forever
I give and devise to my son Robert E. Johnston the proceeds of the
Sale of the Sater or Moore Plantation including that portion of the
John Abernathy tract below the line as run by said Williamson
lying south of John's Land as above indicated and including all
my lands below said line all of which have been sold and the
proceeds given to Robert and already in his possession I also will ^{and}
the said Robert Negroes Eli & Sidney & one hundred dollars cash
I do and devise to my son Rufus M. Johnston my home Plantation on which I now
live after his Mother's death he having the right to live on said homestead with his
Mother during her life and the use of one half of the Plantation Reserving &
excepting the small portion will above to John R. Johnston I also will and
Bequeath to R. M. Johnston Negroes Wells and Albert and the sum of \$100

One Hundred Dollars in cash because he has not had his property given to him as soon as The Test

I will and Bequest to my Son Thomas L. Johnston the Proceeds of The sale of The two Tracts of Land known as The Cobb and The Right Land which Land have been already sold before Edward, & Union & Locke & McGinnis with Thomas consent and The notes or proceeds of sale already given into by the said Thomas L. Johnston possession also I Give and Bequest to the said Thomas L. Johnston Negroes William & Rich and one Hundred Dollars in cash

I will and Bequest to my Daughter Mary Johnston six Negroes viz I free Emily & her ^{four} Children Harriet Ephraim Eliza & Francis Caroline and twenty Seven Hundred & Fifty Dollars Cash to be paid by my Executors also one Bed room and one Bed one Bedstead & Furniture as may be of my Estate

I Give and Bequest unto my Daughter Martha Johnston five Negroes viz Liza and her two Children Amos & George Emaline & Rose also Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Dollars in cash and also one Bed room and one Bed Bedstead & Furniture as may be of my Estate

I have heretofore given off to mostly all of my Children money Negroes and other property at different times and put them in possession of The same as well those mentioned herein as those not mentioned all of which Gifts I hereby Ratify and confirm as Valid my Object in the devises and Bequests herein made being to provide and Equally among them as near as can be I will in addition to The above sent Jane & Harriet Two Hundred and fifty dollars each and to my Sons James Seamy & William One Hundred Dollars each

all the Ballance of my property both Real and Personal comes in action

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All the Balance of my property both Real and Personal I now in action Not yett herein killed or devised or hereafter put in The possession of some one of my Children as a Gift I will and Bequest to all my Children to be divided Equally Among them I hereby Nominate constitute and appoint Leamy & Johnston & John R Johnston Executors of this my Last Will and Testament hereby Revoking all Other wills heretofore made by me In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 25 day of June 1853

Signed sealed Published and Delivered
by the said Robert Johnston to be his
Last Will & Testament in The Presence of
as who at his Request and in his Presence
do Subscribe our names as Witnesses thereto
W. J. Hays Jurat
Catherine Hays

Robert Johnston (Seal)