

County of Gaston.
State of North Carolina. Sept. 10th 1883.
Last Will & Testament of Sarah Counsel.

In the Name of God Amen; I Sarah Counsel formerly Sarah Ward
do this 10th day of September 1883. Make this my Last Will & Testament,
in manner and form as follows. Viz:

1 I Will that my body at my death shall be decently attired, ^{coffined}
and buried at Whity Church, at the expense of my estate.

2nd I Will and bequeath to my good & faithful friend Richard Ward
All my Property of every description which I own Consisting of 27½
Acres of land on which I now live. Household & Kitchen furniture.
Beds, Bed Steads & Bed Coverings, Bureau, Tables, Chairs & all other things,
Fowls & Pigs & growing Crops. Provided he build a House for himself
on this place & maintain and take care of me the balance of my life.
(this includes boarding, Clothing & Attention in sickness.)

And lastly I Appoint Mr Wm Howell my Executor.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal.

Test, W A Howell

J. M. Howell

Sarah^{her} Ward^{mark}

State of North Carolina } In the Superior Court.
Gaston County }

A paper purporting to be the Last Will & Testament of Sarah Ward, deceased,
is exhibited before me the undersigned, & I have read the same.

State of North Carolina } In The Superior Court.
Gaston County }

A paper purporting to be the Last Will & Testament of Sarah Hart, deceased, is exhibited before me, the undersigned Clerk of the Superior Court for said County, by Ricard Hart the devise therein mentioned. And the due execution thereof by the said Sarah Hart, was proven, by the oath & examination of W. A. Howell & F. M. Howell, the subscribing witnesses thereto; Who being duly sworn, doth depose, and say, And each for himself deposeth & saith, that he is a subscribing Witness to the paper-writing now shown him, purporting to be the Last Will & Testament of Sarah Hart, that the said Sarah Hart, in the presence of this deponent subscribed her name at the end of said paper-writing, which was shown as aforesaid, and which bears date of the 10th day of Sept. 1883.

And the deponent further saith, That the said Sarah Hart, the testatrix aforesaid, did, at the time of subscribing her name as aforesaid, declare the said paper-writing so subscribed by her & exhibited, to be her last Will and Testament. And this deponent did thereupon his name at the end of said Will as an attesting witness thereto. And at the request and in the presence of the said testatrix. And this deponent further saith, that at the said time when the said testatrix subscribed her name to the said last Will as aforesaid. And at the time of deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto as aforesaid, the said Sarah Hart was of sound mind & memory, of full age to execute a Will, and was not under any restraint to the knowledge, information or belief of this deponent: And further these deponents say not severally sworn & subscribed, this 5th day of December 1885;

Before me, J. B. White C. S. C.

W. A. Howell Seal
F. M. Howell Seal

North Carolina } In the Superior Court.
 Gaston County }

It is therefore considered and adjudged by the Court,
 that the said paper-writing and every part thereof, is the Last Will and Testament
 of Sarah Wark deceased. And the same, with the foregoing examination and this Certificate,
 are Ordered to be recorded and filed. This 5th day of December 1885.
 J. B. White, Clerk Superior Court

Gaston County:— In the Superior Court
 In the Matter of the Administration } Before.
 of the estate of Sarah Wark. Deed } J. B. White, C. S. C.
 Richard Wark being sworn doth say: That Sarah Wark, late of said
 County is dead, leaving a last Will and Testament; And W. A. Howell the
 Executor therein named, has renounced his Office of Executor in writing.
 The said Richard Wark therefore Applies for Letters of Administration
 with the Will Annexed, on the estate of the said Sarah Wark deceased.
 Further, that the Value of said estate, so far as can be ascertained at
 the date of this Application, is about \$300. And that Affiant
 Richard Wark of full age and a resident of Gaston County, N. C.
 is entitled as heir and distributee thereof.

Richard ^{his} _{mark} Wark
 Sworn and Subscribed before me. this 5th day of December 1885.
 J. B. White, C. S. C.