

I Thomas Ferguson of the County of Gaston and State of North Carolina, 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 my Executor herein after named shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my relatives and friends and furnish grave stones and place them to my grave and pay all funeral expenses together with my just debts howsoever and to whomsoever owing out of the moneys that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate. I will and bequeath to my beloved wife Mary Ferguson all my real estate during ^{the term of} her natural life, also to my wife all the stock of horses, cows, sheep, hogs, poultry of every kind, all the farming utensils, household and kitchen furniture and library of books, also my negro boy Harry during the term of her natural life. I will and bequeath to my wife my negro woman Hannah absolutely and forever at her disposal. I will and devise to my grand son Thomas F. Ferguson he being the son of my Daughter Susannah F. Ferguson who is deceased the sum of two hundred dollars. but if he should die without body heirs the above devise to revert back as a part and parcel of my estate and be divided equally amongst my other heirs at law the foregoing devise not to take effect until after the decease of Mary Ferguson

who is deceased the sum of two hundred dollars. but if he
should die without body heirs the above devise to revert
back as a part and parcel of my estate and be divided
equally amongst my other heirs at law the foregoing devise
not to take effect until after the decease of Mary Ferguson
my wife. I will and bequeath to my son John M. Ferguson
and to my son Thomas W. Ferguson. also to my grand
children heirs of my son Robert A. Ferguson deceased that
is to say John G. Elizabeth A. James G. Pink. Robert A. and
Alexander W. Ferguson. and that the above John M. Ferguson
is willed one third of the proceeds of my estate after the
decease of my wife Mary Ferguson. also the above named
Thomas W. Ferguson is willed one third part of my estate
provided he pays an Note of one hundred and eighty
dollars in which I stand surety to Wm M. Ferguson and if
failing ~~to~~ to do that principal and interest be taken out of
his third of my estate. this bequest not to take effect
until after the decease of my wife Mary Ferguson
I will to the above named children of Robert A.
Ferguson deceased the remaining third part of my estate
equally share and share alike after the decease of my wife
Mary Ferguson

I will and bequeath to my son Thomas W. Ferguson my negro boy Harry after
the decease of my wife the boy Harry to be provided at a fair
Appraisement and that my son Thomas W. Ferguson pay
one third of the appraisement to John W. Ferguson and
the other third to the Children of Robert A. Ferguson the son
who is deceased I will and bequeath to my wife Mary
Ferguson my two slave women and harness my Ring
and Harness and all the remainder of and residue
of my Estate both personal and real for the use
of her natural life

And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint
Alexander J. Ward my lawful Executor to and in
and to execute this my last will and
Testament according to the true intent and meaning
of the same and every part thereof I have
hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other
Wills and Testaments by me heretofore made
In Witness Whereof I the said Thomas Ferguson do
hereunto set my hand and seal this 1st day of October
A.D. 1866

Signed Sealed published and in presence of Thomas Ferguson (Executor)
declared to be his last will
Therefore to be his last will
and Testament in the presence of