

State of North Carolina) In the Superior Court
Gruen County)

A paper purporting to be the last will and testament of James H. Merrill deceased is exhibited before me, the undersigned Clerk of the Superior Court for said County by S. E. Merrill the executor herein mentioned, and the due execution thereof by the said Jas H. Merrill by the oath and examination of F. L. Carr and Charles Harper the subscribing witnesses thereto: who being duly sworn each depose and say, and each for himself depose and saith, that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last will and testament of Jas H. Merrill, that the said Jas H. Merrill 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 27th day of April 1901.

And the deponent further saith that the said Jas H. Merrill the testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing 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 thereof, and at the request and in the presence of said testator.

And this deponent further saith, that at the same time when said testator subscribed his name to the said last will and testament, and at the time of the deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto, as aforesaid, the said Jas H. Merrill was of sound mind and 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 that the deponent is a signat.

F. L. Carr
Surveyor sworn & subscribed } Charles Harper
this 10th day of January 1902.

John R. Dail Clerk Superior Court.

North Carolina,) In the Superior Court
Gruen 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 James H. Merrill deceased.

And the said will together with the probate be recorded and filed.

This 10th day of January 1902

John R. Dail
Clerk Superior Court

North Carolina)
Gruen County)

I, John S. Sylvant of the County and State aforesaid being of sound mind, but considering the uncertainty of my life do make and declare this my last will and testament:-

First

My executors, hereinafter named shall give to my body a decent burial and pay all funeral expenses, together with all my just debts as hereinafter directed.

Second

I, give and devise to my beloved wife Ida E. Sylvant for the term of her natural life the following described real estate, Beginning at a cedar tree on Hog Creek Canal at the corner of the hog lot and rabbit patch near the mouth of a small ditch emptying into said Canal, and thence in a straight line in a southerly direction to a white oak with a bump at the bottom, on the hill side in peach orchard, thence in a straight line in a westerly direction to a large white oak near the hog house near the road leading across the said Canal to the cattle ground place, thence in a straight line in a westerly direction to a small persimmon tree marked a corner in the persimmon orchard near the watering hole, thence in a straight line in a southerly direction to a hickory tree near Simpson's house on the road leading to the North side and thence

Road at W. W. Ormond's place, thence with said road in an easterly direction to the road leading out between my tobacco barns by the M & Dail place to the North-
 western road, thence with said road to M & Dail's line thence with my line to Dog Trap Canal, thence with the various courses of said Canal between the Ormond and J. J. Ormond lands and mine to the Cedar tree at the beginning together with all the wooded lands and of-
 fshmentments thereto belonging, in satisfaction of her dower and thirds in all my lands.

Third

I give and devise to my son John and his heirs in fee simple, all the tract of land on which I now live or which may adjoin the same subject to the life estate of my said wife Ida & Sylvant

Fourth

I give and devise to my daughter, Nellie White, all of tract of land in old Township on Sandy Run adjoining the Edmund Bridger and Martha Miller lands and known as the Adams place, containing eighty acres more or less, to have and to hold to her and her heirs in fee simple forever.

Fifth

I give and bequeath to my said wife Ida & Sylvant on half of my household furniture including the organ and sewing machine and all my kitchen and dining room furniture except the sideboard. Also all the fixtures and one horse and buggy and carriage and calf of her choice and one pair of mules and wagon of her second choice.

I also give and bequeath to my said wife a Life Insurance Policy No 151896 for \$2000 in the Knights of Honor, and three hundred dollars in money or other personal property

Sixth

I give and bequeath to my son John all the balance of my line. I leave not other wise disposed of in my will, also all my farming utensils, including wagons, carts, plows, mowers, &c and all the balance of my household and kitchen and dining room furniture not otherwise disposed of

Seventh

It is my will and desire that all the balance of my personal property be (and I do hereby so will and bequeath the same) divided equally between my son John and my daughter, Nellie White after first paying therefrom all my funeral expenses and just debts and the costs of the execution of this my last will and testament and the administration of my estate.

Eighth

I hereby constitute and appoint my wife Ida & Sylvant, and my son John, my lawful executors to this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof.

Ninth

It is my will and desire that if I should be and he hereby is constituted the legal adviser of my said executors and that he be paid a reasonable compensation for his services.

In witness whereof I the said John Sylvant do hereunto set my hand and seal, this 1st day of December 1899

John Sylvant Seal

Signed sealed published and delivered by the said John Sylvant 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.

Witnesses: - At W. Ormond.

Elias Tarnage,

North Carolina

Greene County

I, John Sylvant of said County and State make this Codicil to my last will and testament, published by me, and dated the 1st day of December 1899, and witnessed by W. W. Ormond and Elias Tarnage, which I read, and confirm, except as the same shall be changed hereby.

Witness, I did on the 3rd day of June 1901 before the last and highest judges and Justices of

Road at H. H. Ormond's place, thence with said Road in an easterly direction to the Road leading out between my Tobacco barns by the M & Dail place to the North-iron road, thence with said Road to M & Dail's line thence with my line to Day's trap Canal, thence with the various courses of said Canal between the Ormond and J. J. Ormond lands and mine to the Cedar tree at the beginning together with all the woodlands and improvements there belonging, in satisfaction of her dower and thirds in all my lands.

Third

I give and devise to my son John and his heirs in fee simple, all the tract of land on which I now live or which may adjoin the same subject to the life estate of my said wife Ida & Tylerant.

Fourth

I give and devise to my daughter Nettie White, all of tract of land in old Township on Sandy Run adjoining the Edmund Bridger and Martha Miller lands and known as the Adams place, containing eighty acres more or less, to have and to hold to her and her heirs in fee simple forever.

Fifth

I give and bequeath to my said wife Ida & Tylerant one half of my household furniture including the organ and sewing machine and all my kitchen and dining room furniture except the sideboard. Also all the poultry and one horse and buggy and carriage and calf of her choice and one pair of mules and wagon of her second choice.

I also give and bequeath to my said wife a Life Insurance Policy No 151896 for \$2000 in the Knights of Honor, and three hundred dollars in money or other personal property.

Sixth

I give and bequeath to my son John all the balance of my line. I also not otherwise disposed of in my will, also all my farming utensils, including wagons, Carl's plows, mowers, &c and all the balance of my household and kitchen and dining room furniture not otherwise disposed

Seventh

It is my will and desire that all the balance of my personal property be (and I do hereby so will and bequeath the same) divided equally between my son John and my daughter, Nettie White after first paying therefrom all my funeral expenses and just debts and the cost of the execution of this my last will and testament and the administration of my estate.

Eighth

I hereby constitute and appoint my wife Ida & Tylerant, and my son John, my lawful executors to this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof.

Ninth

It is my will and desire that if I Ormond be and he hereby is constituted the legal adviser of my said executors and that he be paid a reasonable compensation for his services.

In witness whereof I the said John Tylerant do hereunto set my hand and seal, this 1st day of December 1899

John Tylerant (Seal)

Signed, sealed, published and delivered by the said John Tylerant 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.

Witness: St. H. Ormond.
Elias Turnage.

North Carolina
Brunswick County

I, John Tylerant of said County and State make this Codicil to my last will and testament, published by me, and dated the 1st day of December 1899, and witnessed by W. H. Ormond and Elias Turnage, which I read, and confirm, except as the same shall be changed hereby.

Witness, I did on the 3rd day of June 1901 before the last and highest judges and Justices of

The above Sylva-land known as the Williams place, and being the lands of which said John Sylva did die and being more fully described in the petition of the Plaintiff in an action entitled John Sylva et al. vs. Asa Jones and wife Mary Jones et al. to make assets for payment of debts, the same being said under a judgment in said action.

Now in the event said sale is confirmed and title to said land is conveyed to me, I do hereby instruct and fully empower and authorize my Executor hereinafter named, should ~~then~~ ^{he} be dead, to convey said land to Asa Jones and wife Mary Jones or either of them as they may wish on or before the 1st day of December 1901 provided the said Asa Jones and wife Mary Jones shall pay or cause to be paid to my said Executor on or before the said first day of December 1901 the full amount of said judgment (\$2250.00) with interest at 4 per cent on same from the time of rendition of said judgment to the time of payment together with all costs of said action and sale with interest on same from date of payment thereof, and the said money thus paid my said Executor shall become a part of my personalty to be distributed as such, and as herein and herebefore directed.

Should said sale be confirmed and said title be conveyed to me, and said Asa Jones and wife Mary Jones should not make said payment on or before said 1st day of December 1901 then and in that event, I do hereby devise the said land to my son John and daughter Hattie while their heirs in fee simple, provided that should said Hattie while die not leaving living heirs of her body then this devise shall operate only as a life estate to said Hattie and after her death vest in my son John and his heirs in fee simple.

It is my further will and desire that should my daughter Hattie while die without leaving heirs of her body, that the land devised to her in the fourth paragraph of my last will and testament should at her death vest in my son John, and I do hereby devise the same in the said event, to him and his heirs in fee.

In the event that I should here said or otherwise

disposed of my mules at the time of my death, it is my will and desire that my executor hereinafter named shall pay to my wife Ida E. Sylva the sum of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) in addition to any other sum herein before bequeathed her, out of any money coming into his hands before the distribution of the surplus of my estate.

Instead of the Executor named in the eighth paragraph of my last will and testament, I hereby constitute and appoint my friend G. T. Ormond my sole and lawful executor to this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof.

In witness whereof I the said John Sylva do hereunto set my hand and seal this 4th day of June 1901

John Sylva ^{his} ~~Sylva~~ ^{mark}

Signed, sealed and published by the said John Sylva as a codicil to his last will and testament in our presence, and in the presence of each other, at his request: hereunto subscribe our names as witnesses.

Elias Turrage

W. W. Ormond

State of North Carolina,
Greene County } In the Superior Court
A paper purporting to be the last will and testament of John Sylva deceased, is exhibited before me the undersigned, Clerk of the Superior Court, by G. T. Ormond the Executor thereof nominated, and the due execution thereof by the said John Sylva by the oath and affirmation of Elias Turrage & W. W. Ormond the subscribing witnesses thereto, who being duly sworn each depose and say, and each for himself depose and say, that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last will and testament of John Sylva, that the said John Sylva 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 1st day of December 1899.

and the cadical June 4th 1901.

And the deponent further saith that the said John Sycorant the testator aforesaid, did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing to be 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 said testator, and this deponent further saith, that at the same time when the said testator subscribed his 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 John Sycorant was of sound mind and memory, of full age to make a will, and was not under any restraint, to the knowledge, information or belief of this deponent: And further, these deponents say, not

Elias Lunnage,
W. W. Ormond.

Personally known and subscribed this
16th day of January, 1902 before me

John R Dail Clerk Superior Court

North Carolina

Guinn County } In the Superior Court.

It is therefore considered and adjudged by the Court that the said paper writing and my part thereof is the last will and testament of John Sycorant deceased, but the said will together with the probate be recorded and filed.

This 16th day of January 1902.

John R Dail
Clerk Superior Court

North Carolina
Guinn County }

I, John Sycorant of the County and State aforesaid, being of sound mind and memory but mindful of the uncertainty of my death by disease, do make, publish and declare this my last will and testament.

Item 1. I direct my executor herein after named to provide for my body a decent

burial suitable to the wishes of my friends and relatives, and pay all funeral expenses together with all just debts out of the first moneys which may come into his hands belonging to my estate.

Item 2 - I give and devise unto my beloved and joint of wife Mary & Sugg all my real and personal estate of whatsoever kind for the term of her natural life.

Item 3rd. At the death of my said wife or in the event of my survival, I give and devise my personal property of whatsoever kind unto the children of J. H. Harper and Martha & Harper his wife.

Item 4. - At the death of my said wife or in the event of my survival, I give and devise in three equal shares, my real property to my beloved niece, Mary A. Allenton and Martha & Harper, and to my beloved nephew Geo W Sugg in trust for the use and benefit of his children in fee simple.

Item 5 - I hereby appoint and constitute my trusted grand nephews J. A. Allenton Esq. my executor to execute this my last will and testament, hereby declaring void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof I the said John Sycorant hereunto set my hand and seal this 5th day of July 1901.

Geo Sugg Seal

Signed sealed published and declared by the said John Sycorant 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.

W. H. Dail.
L. A. Lassiter.

and the cadical June 4th 1901.

And the deponent further saith that the said John Sycorant the testator aforesaid, did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing to be 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 said testator, and this deponent further saith, that at the same time when the said testator subscribed his 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 John Sycorant was of sound mind and memory, of full age to make a will, and was not under any restraint, to the knowledge, information or belief of this deponent: And further, these deponents say, not

Elias Lunnage,
W. W. Ormond.

Personally known and subscribed this
16th day of January, 1902 before me

John R Dail Clerk Superior Court

North Carolina

Guinn County } In the Superior Court.

It is therefore considered and adjudged by the Court that the said paper writing and my part thereof is the last will and testament of John Sycorant deceased, but the said will together with the probate be recorded and filed.

This 16th day of January 1902.

John R Dail
Clerk Superior Court

North Carolina
Guinn County }

I, John Sycorant of the County and State aforesaid, being of sound mind and memory but mindful of the uncertainty of my death by disease, do make, publish and declare this my last will and testament.

Item 1. I direct my executor herein after named to provide for my body a decent

burial suitable to the wishes of my friends and relatives, and pay all funeral expenses together with all just debts out of the first moneys which may come into his hands belonging to my estate.

Item 2 - I give and devise unto my beloved and joint of wife Mary & Sugg all my real and personal estate of whatsoever kind for the term of her natural life.

Item 3rd. At the death of my said wife or in the event of my survival, I give and devise my personal property of whatsoever kind unto the children of J. H. Harper and Martha & Harper his wife.

Item 4. - At the death of my said wife or in the event of my survival, I give and devise in three equal shares, my real property to my beloved niece, Mary A. Albritton and Martha & Harper, and to my beloved nephew Geo W Sugg in trust for the use and benefit of his children in fee simple.

Item 5 - I hereby appoint and constitute my trusted grand nephews J. H. Albritton Esq. my executor to execute this my last will and testament, hereby declaring void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof I the said John Sycorant hereunto set my hand and seal this 5th day of July 1901.

Geo Sugg Seal

Signed sealed published and declared by the said John Sycorant 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.

W. H. Dail.
L. A. Lassiter.