

Will of Berry Woodell

I Berry Woodell of the County of Johnston and State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say

First That my executor herein after named pay all my just debts hereunto and to whomsoever owing out of the moneys that first comes into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

- Item 1st I give to my half brother Benjamin Strickland one dollar in cash.
- Item 2nd I give to my half brother Levi Strickland one dollar in cash.
- Item 3rd I give to my half brother Moses Strickland one dollar in cash.
- Item 4th I give to my half brother David Strickland one dollar in cash.
- Item 5th I give to my half sister Sarah Mitchell wife of John Mitchell one dollar in cash.
- Item 6th I give to my half sister Polly Howell wife of David Howell one dollar in cash.
- Item 7th I give to my half sister Diana Brady wife of Robert Brady one dollar in cash.
- Item 8th I give to my half sister Anna one dollar in cash.
- Item 9th I give to Amy Oliver one feather bed bedstead and furniture.
- Item 10th I give to Berry and Edith Oliver one feather bed bedstead and furniture apiece. I also give to them thirty acres of land more or less. I also give to them all my stock of every kind. I also give to them house hold and kitchen furniture. I also give to them all the provisions on hand if any at my death. I give and devise to them all my cash and their contents.

Item 11th My will is after all my just debts are paid and after the above legacies is paid and if there is any thing left to be equally divided between them Edith & Benjamin Oliver.

And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint West & John Massey my lawful executors to all intents and purposes to execute this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same & every part and clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made. In witness whereof I the said Berry Woodell do hereunto set my hand and seal this the 3rd day of September 1855. Signed sealed published and declared by the said Berry Woodell to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request & in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

Charles C. Massey
John J. Massey

Berry Woodell Seal

Will of Mary Avera

I Mary Avera of the County of Johnston and the 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 That my executor (herein after named) shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my friends and relatives and pay all funeral expenses together with my just debts also a plain neat and suitable enclosure around my grave of good hightwood posts and heart-piling out of the moneys that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

Item After paying the above I give to my beloved mother Rebecca Avera all of my property real and personal her lifetime and after her death to be equally divided among all my brothers and sisters except a negro boy named Julius I give to my sister Caroline Avera for her kindness and attention to me in my afflictions to her and the lawful heirs of her body and in the event she should die without a lawful heir of her body said negro Julius to be equally divided between my brothers and sisters.

And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint John W. Avera executor to this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same. In witness whereof I the said Mary Ann Avera do hereunto set my hand and seal this the 22nd of December 1855 Signed & sealed in the presence of

N. Sanders
Henry B. Tharp.

Mary Ann Avera Seal

Johnston County Court February Term 1856.

Then was this paper writing exhibited in open court and offered for probate which said paper writing was duly proven by the oath of N. Sanders one of the subscribing witnesses thereto and adjudged to be recorded whereupon John W. Avera duly qualified as executor thereto.

J. H. Kennedy clk

This is the original of the will of Berry Woodell as shown in open court by the oath of Charles C. Massey and John J. Massey as of the subscribing witnesses and sealed as filed.