

Will of Riddick Spell

I Riddick Spell 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 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 pay all expenses together with my just debts however and whomever owing out of the monies that first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

Item I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Elizabeth Spell all my land.
I also give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Elizabeth Spell all my perishable property including every article and chatty I do hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend Gideon Price my lawful executor to all intents and purposes to execute this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other will and testament by me heretofore made in witness whereof I the said Riddick Spell do hereunto set my hands and seal this the 22nd day of January 1855. Signed sealed published and declared by the said Riddick Spell 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.

Thomas Hoix
Powell Parker

Riddick Spell *mark*

Johnston County Court May Term 1855-

Then was the foregoing paper writing exhibited in open court for probate and duly proven by the oath of the subscribing witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded whereupon Gideon Price qualified as executor.

J. H. Keneday clk

Will of George McCullen

In the name of God Amen I George McCullen 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 publish and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following to wit:

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 pay all funeral expenses together with all my just debts however and whomever owing out of the monies that may first come into her hands as a part and parcel of my estate.

Item I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Jennett McCullen all my lands which I am or may be possessed of at my death during her natural life.

Item I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Jennett McCullen all of my negroes which I am or may be possessed of at my death during her natural life also all of my household and kitchen furniture all of my stock of every description horses, hogs, cattle & sheep crops, & provisions farming tools one buggy and harness and all of my other property of every description which I have not herein mentioned during her natural life.

Item I give and bequeath to my beloved grandson George Washington Buckhannon all my other property which I have loaned to my wife Jennett McCullen during her natural life to him and his heirs forever except a certain negro girl named Sally.

Item I give and bequeath to my granddaughter Jane Elizabeth Buckhannon a certain negro girl named Sally which I loaned to my wife Jennett McCullen during her natural life to her and her heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Jennett McCullen all of my notes account and money which I may be possessed of at my death to her and her heirs forever.

And lastly I do hereby constitute & appoint my beloved wife Jennett McCullen executor to this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other wills & testaments by me heretofore made. In witness whereof I the said George McCullen do hereunto set my hand and seal this the 11th day of October in the year of our Lord 1844.

George McCullen *mark*

Signed sealed published and declared 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 thereof.

B. Sanders
Willis H. Sanders

Johnston County Court - November Term 1854

Then was this paper writing produced in open court and propounded for probate and upon the oaths and examination of Baldy Sanders was duly proven and ordered to be recorded whereupon Jennett McCullen was then qualified as executrix

J. H. Kennedy clk

Will of Matthew Avera

Know all men by these presents that I Matthew Avera being sick of body but of sound and disposing mind and knowing that I am appointed unto all men once to die and not knowing the day nor hour when that time may come and having the interest and welfare of my family more at heart than all other things left behind and being desirous that all my property be kept together for the mutual benefit of my family, therefore having the utmost confidence in my worthy friend Needham Barnes I constitute and appoint him with full power to act as he may deem most prudent for the welfare of my family in all matters and that he take possession of my whole estate and keep in trust for the use and benefit of my family until the youngest child becomes of age say 21 years and then what may be on hand when my youngest child becomes of age to be equally divided between all of my family who may be living at that time together with all lawful heirs of any body. In testimony whereof I set my hand and affix my seal December the 27th 1853.

Signed & sealed in
the presence of
Stephenson Godwin
Wm H. Cullum
H. Mearns Strickland

M. Avera (Seal)

Johnston County Court

February Term 1855

Then was this paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Matthew Avera deed produced in open court and duly admitted to probate by the oaths of Stephenson Godwin & W. H. Cullum two of the subscribing witnesses thereto whereupon it was considered by the said court to be and contain the last will and testament of Matthew Avera deceased and the same is ordered to be recorded
Needham Barnes qualified executrix

J. H. Kennedy clk

Lucinda Avera widow of Matthew Avera comes into open court and dissent from the will and all the provisions of the last will and testament of her husband & desires that her dissent may be entered of record whereof it is ordered by the court that the same be recorded.