

In the name of God Amen

I Martha Collins widow of Hardy Collins deceased of the County of Jones and State of North Carolina, seriously considering the uncertainty of life and mindful of the obligation upon every person to leave their affairs in order, do make and ordain this my last will and testament as follows

Imprimus It is my desire that all my just debts be liquidated and paid as hereinafter provided for
Item That articles of property I have heretofore advanced to my Children, Benjamin Collins, Mansel Collins, Cassandra Cannon and Thomas Collins on their being married or otherwise commencing business for themselves and which has remained in their possession by my consent, and exclusive of any of the property hereinafter devised or left to be sold is of little value but for the purpose of securing to each whatever they may have received as stated, I give to each of my said Children respectively whatever they may have so received to them, their heirs and assigns forever

Item I give to my son Benjamin Collins, my negro boy Jordan to him his heirs and assigns forever
Item I give to my son Mansel Collins my negro man Edmund conditional that he my said son Mansel, pay all my just debts, to him his heirs and assigns forever

Item I give to my daughter Cassandra Cannon my negro woman India, also one bed, bedstead and furniture to her her heirs and assigns forever

Item I give to my son Thomas Collins one bed, bedstead, and furniture to him his heirs and assigns forever

Item I wish all the residue of my property of whatsoever kind or nature, sold to best advantage by my executor hereinafter named, at Public Sale and the net proceeds equally divided between my sons Mansel and Thomas to them their heirs and assigns forever

And lastly I nominate and appoint my son Mansel Collins executor to this my last will and testament

In testimony whereof I do hereunto set my hand and seal this 20th day of July AD 1848

Signed, sealed and published
 in presence of

Henry Rouse
 Simon Collins
 A. G. Eubanks
 John Nagans

Martha ^{her} Collins ^{mark} (Seal)

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State of North Carolina Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
 Jones County
 November Term AD 1858

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Martha Collins deceased is exhibited for probate in open Court by Mansel Collins the executor therein named and the due execution thereof by the said Martha Collins is proved by the oath and examination of Henry Rouse one of the subscribing witnesses thereto and by the proof of the hand writing of John Nagans another subscribing witness thereto, who is now dead, by the oath and examination of Sumner McDaniel, that he is acquainted with the hand writing of the said John Nagans, having often seen him write and that the name of said John Nagans subscribed as a witness to the said will is in the hand writing of the said John Nagans. It is therefore considered by the Court that the said paper writing and every part thereof is the last will and testament of the said Martha Collins and the same is ordered to be recorded and filed and thereupon the said Mansel Collins executor as aforesaid duly qualifies as such by taking the oath required by law. Ordered that letters testamentary issue to him

Attest Benj. McKee Clerk