

In the name of God Amen, I, Franklin M. Houston of the County
of Lincoln and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and
Memory, but not sound in health and 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 I will
and Bequeath my Soul to God who gave it to me & my Body to The
earth from whence it came, with full hope in the blessing of my Saviour
and full belief in the holy scriptures, Second. I will and Bequeath
that my Executor (hereinafter named) shall provide for my Body a
decent Burial suitable to the wishes of my Relations and friends
and pay all funeral expenses together with my just debts out of the
money that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my
Estate. Third. I will and Bequeath that my whole estate be turned
into money as early as possible that is to say to sell off my Negroes and
all other property that may be mine except the store, at Public Auction
my interest in the store to be sold at wholesale or at public Auction as
my Executor (hereinafter named), may think advisable - a decent regard
to be paid by him to the interest of my Brother and Partner in Business
W. G. P. Houston, and all of my debts collected as early as possible -
Fourth. I will and Bequeath to my beloved Brothers, Viz W. G. P. Houston R.
B. Houston, and my little Brother Sydney Houston together with my
two beloved Sisters (Viz, Laura E. Houston and Ann V. S. Houston)
each the sum of Fifty dollars in cash with my equal love and
affection. The reason I leave them no more is they are the largest
recipients of my Father's Estate.

Fourth, I will and bequeath to my beloved Brothers, Viz W. H. P. Houston R
B. Houston, and my little Brother Sydney Houston together with my
two beloved Sisters Viz, Laura E. Houston and Ann V. S. Houston
each the sum of Fifty dollars in cash with my equal love and
affection. the reason I leave them no more is they are the largest
recipients of my Father's Estate.

Fifth, I will and bequeath the whole balance of my Estate to
be equally divided between my remaining Brothers and Sisters not
mentioned above Viz A. H. Houston J. M. M. Houston & Charles H. H.
Houston and Martha C. J. Shuford wife of M. C. Shuford together
with my love and affection. the last named Brothers & Sisters
being the smaller legacies of my Father's Estate. and lastly I do
constitute and appoint my beloved Brother and friend A. H. Houston
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.

In witness whereof I the said J. W. Houston, do hereunto set my
effie my seal the 11th day of February A D 1838

Signed sealed published and declared
by the said J. W. Houston 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. B. Withers Secy
J. F. Houston Secy

J. W. Houston (Seal)