

March Sessions 1847

John D. Graham's Will.

Calling to mind the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death; I John D. Graham of Lincoln County North Carolina do make, ordain, and publish this as my last Will and Testament. I request my just debts to be all paid.

I give and devise to my beloved wife Jane, all my Home, or little land on the Catawba River during her natural life: but when my youngest Son Robert Blay comes to be twenty one years old, then he is to have one half of said little land until his mothers death when he is to have the whole of said little land, or home place. Also all the House hold & Kitchen furniture, crop, provisions, stock, Tools and vehicles which may be on my home place at my death, I give and bequeath to my wife Jane; except three horses worth not less than seventy five dollars each & six Cows and Calves to be given, to my three youngest daughters. The above gift is made more ample, because I expect and

and the certainty of death; I John D. Graham
of Lincoln County North Carolina do make,
ordain, and publish this as my last Will
and Testament. I request my just debts
to be all paid.

I give and devise to my beloved wife
Jane, all my House, or little land on
the Catawba River during her natural life;
but when my youngest son Robert Blay
comes to be twenty one years old, then he
is to have one half of said little lands
until his mothers death when he is to
have the whole of said little land, or home
place. Also all the Household Kitchen
furniture, crop, provisions, stock, Tools
and vehicles which may be on my home
place at my death, I give and bequeath to
my wife Jane; except three horses worth
not less than Seventy five dollars each &
six Cows and Calves to be given to my three
youngest daughters. The above gift is
made more ample, because I expect and
intend my younger children all to live
at the Home place with my wife.

I give and bequeath to my beloved wife
Jane the following Negroes Ebb, Haley, and her children

Sue and her children, Sab, Dover and another.

I give to my Son Robert Clay, the following negroes; Sarah (wife of old Isaac) Mose, Albert, Vice, Lott, Ephraim, Monroe, George, Bill and Samco.

I give and bequeath my daughter, Anna Anna, one negro girl named Mary in addition to the negroes heretofore given. I also give her eight thousand pounds of Iron and the same quantity of Castings.

I have already, by Deeds and Bill of Sale, given my Son Charles his full Share of my Real Estate, Negroes and other property at the Forge.

I give and bequeath to my Son Joseph R one half of all my Furnace Land, including one half of my Share in the ore Bank and limestone quarry near Kings Mountain: also one half of all the Patterns, Flasks, Tools and Stock of Cattle & Hogs at the Furnace; his Saddle horse and one waggon and team, and the half of all the house hold furniture and bedding that I left at Furnace.

I have given Joseph his full share of negroes and made him a Deed of Gift to them.

Albert, Vice, Lott, Ephraim, Monroe, George,
Gill andanco.

I give and bequeath my daughter, Mary
Ann, one negro girl named Mary in addition
to the negroes heretofore given. I also give
her eight thousand pounds of Iron and
the same quantity of Casting.

I have already, by Deeds and Bill of
Sale, given my Son Charles his full share
of my Real Estate, Negroes and other property
at the Forge

I give and bequeath to my Son Joseph
one half of all my Furnace Land, including
one half of my Share in the one Bank and
limestone quarry near Kings Mountain: also
one half of all the Patterns, Flasks, Tools and
Stock of Cattle & Hogs at the Furnace; his
Saddle horse and one wagon and team, and
the half of all the house hold furniture and
bedding that I left at Furnace.

I have given Joseph his full share of
of negroes and made him a Deed of gift
to them

I give and bequeath to my Son James
Franklin the other half of all my lands
at and around the Furnace, including
one half of my Share in the one Bank

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and limestone quarry also one half of all
the Patterns, Flasks, Tools, Stock of Cattle
and hogs at the Furnace: one good Saddle
horse, one wagon and Team. The half of
all the household furniture and bedding
that I left at the Furnace.

I give and bequeath to my son James
Franklin the following negroes, Isaac
(the potter) and Part his wife, Harry, Charity,
Miles, Millie and old Isaac; I give him
Julius and two hundred dollars besides, to
place him equal in division with those
that have expended more money than he at
School.

I give and bequeath to my son Henry
my half of the Canceller Mill land and
Sixteen hundred Dollars in money. I
give him two horses worth one hundred
dollars each, and one good Saddle and
bridle. I also give him Twenty Eight hun-
dred & fifty dollars worth of negroes, the
value of which to be ascertained by refer-
ence to my family book.

I give to my son Alfred T. Hamilton
my Cathey plantation with all the
Crop, provisions, Stock of all kinds and
every thing that may be on that place

all the money and property
that I left at the Furnace.
I give and bequeath to my son
Franklin the following negroes, Isaac
(the potter) and Part his wife, Haney, Charity,
Miller, Millie and old Slave. I give him
Julius and two hundred dollars besides to
place him equal in division with those
that have expended more money than I did at
School.

I give and bequeath to my son Henry
my half of the Cancellor Mill land and
Sixteen hundred Dollars in money. I
give him two horses worth one hundred
dollars each, and one good Saddle and
bridle. I also give him Twenty Eight hun-
dred & fifty dollars worth of negroes, the
value of which to be ascertained by refer-
ence to my family book.

I give to my son Alfred C. Hamilton
my Cathay plantation with all the
Crop, provisions, Stock of all kinds and
every thing that may be on that place
at my death. I also give him Twenty
Eight hundred and fifty dollars worth
of negroes, the value to be ascertained by
reference to my family book.

I have given my daughter Melinda, her full share of negroes and she has a Deed of gift for them.

I give now to Melinda Three thousand dollars worth of Bron and Castings at four cents each, and half of each deducting what she has already received.

I give and bequeath to my Daughter Martha Twenty eight hundred and fifty dollars worth of negroes, the value to be ascertained by reference to my family Book. I also give her three thousand dollars worth of Bron and Castings at four cents each and ^{one} half of each, deducting out what money she has received more than the rest of my daughters.

I give and bequeath to my Daughter Eliza P. Twenty eight hundred and fifty dollars worth of negroes the value to be ascertained by reference to my family book. I give ^{her} one bridle and saddle. Three thousand dollars worth of Bron and Castings at four cents each and one half of each.

I give and bequeath the same amount and kind of property to my Daughter Julia that I have just given to Eliza.

I will and direct that my dredged plantations on the Patanha River (near 1000 acres)

cents each, and half of each deducting what she has already received.

I give and bequeath to my Daughter, Martha Twenty Eight hundred and fifty dollars worth of negroes, the value to be ascertained by reference to my family Book. I also give her three thousand dollars worth of Iron and Castings at four cents each and ^{one} half of each, deducting out what Money she has received more than the rest of my daughters.

I give and bequeath to my Daughter Eliza P. Twenty Eight hundred and fifty dollars worth of negroes, the value to be ascertained by reference to my family book. I give, ^{her} one bridle and saddle. Three thousand dollars worth of Iron and Castings at four cents each and one half of each.

I give and bequeath the same amount and kind of property to my Daughter Julia that I have just given to Eliza.

I will and direct that my Briddell plantation on the Catawba River (near 1000 acres) be sold and the money equally divided among all my children by my first wife who owned about 900 acres of said land.

and limestone quarry also one half of all
the Patterns, Flasks, Tools, Stock of cattle
and hogs at the Furnace: one good Saddle
horse, one wagon and Team. The half of
all the household furniture and bedding
that I left at the Furnace.

I give and bequeath to my son
Franklin the following negroes, Isaac
(the potter) and Part his wife, Harry, Charity,
Milie, Millie and old Slave; I give him
Julius and two hundred dollars besides to
place him equal in division with those
that have expended more money than I did at
Schools.

I give and bequeath to my son Henry
my half of the Casquelle Mill land and
sixteen hundred dollars in money. I
give him two horses worth one hundred
dollars each, and one good Saddle and
bridle. I also give him Twenty Eight hun-
dred & fifty dollars worth of negroes, the
value of which to be ascertained by refer-
ence to my family book.

I give to my son Alfred C. Hamilton
my Cathey plantation with all the
Crop, provisions, Stock of all kinds and
every thing that may be on that place
at the death. I also give him Twenty

all the household furniture and bedding
that I left at the furnace.

I give and bequeath to my ^{late} Father
Franklin the following negroes, Isaac
(the potter) and Part his wife, Harry, Charity,
Miles, Millie and old Isaac; I give him
Julius and two hundred dollars besides to
place him equal in division with those
that have expended more money than I do at
School.

I give and bequeath to my son Henry
my half of the Caneclerk Mill land and
Sixteen hundred Dollars in money. I
give him two horses worth one hundred
dollars each, and one good saddle and
bridle. I also give him Twenty Eight hun-
= dred & fifty dollars worth of negroes, the
value of which to be ascertained by refer-
ence to my family books.

I give to my son Alfred C. Hamilton
my Cathay plantation with all the
crop, provisions, stock of all kinds and
every thing that may be on that place
at my death. I also give him Twenty
Eight hundred and fifty dollars worth
of negroes, the value to be ascertained by
reference to my family books.

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I have given my daughter Melinda, her full
share of negroes and she has a Deed of gift for
them.

I give now to Melinda Three Thousand
dollars worth of Iron and Castings at four
cents each, and half of each deducting
what she has already received.

I give and bequeath to my Daughter Martha
Twenty Eight hundred and fifty dollars worth
of negroes, the value to be ascertained by ref-
erence to my family Book. I also give her
three thousand dollars worth of Iron and
Castings at four cents each and ^{one} half of
each, deducting out what money she has receiv-
ed more than the rest of my daughters.

I give and bequeath to my Daughter Eliza
P. Twenty Eight hundred and fifty dollars worth
of negroes the value to be ascertained by ref-
erence to my family book. I give ^{her} one bridle
and saddle. Three thousand dollars worth
of Iron and Castings at four cents each and
one half of each.

I give and bequeath the same amount
and kind of property to my Daughter
Julia that I have just given to Eliza.

I will and direct that my freed slaves plan
to the 8th of January 1851

Cents each, and half of each deducting what she has already received.

I give and bequeath to my Daughter Martha Twenty Eight hundred and fifty dollars worth of negroes, the value to be ascertained by reference to my family Book. I also give her Three Thousand dollars worth of Iron and Castings at four cents each and ^{one} half of each, deducting out what money she has received more than the rest of my daughters.

I give and bequeath to my Daughter Eliza P. Twenty Eight hundred and fifty dollars worth of negroes, the value to be ascertained by reference to my family book. I give, ^{her} one bridle and saddle. Three thousand dollars worth of Iron and Castings at four cents each and one half of each.

I give and bequeath the same amount and kind of property to my Daughter Cecilia that I have just given to Eliza.

I will and direct that my Sneedell plantation on the Catawba River (near 1000 acres) be sold and the money equally divided among all my children by my first wife who owned about 900 acres of said land.

I keep a family Book in which I set down and charge each of my children with what I give them, now if any one of them receives any portion of the above legacies between the date of this will and my death, that is to be deducted out of their share.

I will and direct that all my personal property not named and given away in this will specifically shall be sold and the money equally divided among my five daughters and my Henry to make them equal with my other children who have received somewhat more in land.

In the event of the death of my Son Clay before he is twenty one years old, or in case he dies without lawful children then my wife is to hold, use and enjoy the advantages of all the lands and slaves willed to Clay during her life, and after her death then my home place and all the slaves given to Clay are to be sold and the money equally divided among all my children.

In witness whereof

I have this 10th day of September 1845

of the above legacies between the date of
this will and my death, that is to be deducted
out of their shares.

I will and direct that all my per-
sonal property not named and given away
in this will specifically shall be sold
and the money equally divided among
my five daughters and my Henry to make
these equal with my other children who
have received somewhat more land

In the event of the death of my son Clay
before he is twenty one years old, or in case
he dies without lawful children then my
wife is to hold, use and enjoy the advantages
of all the lands and slaves willed to Clay
during her life, and after her death then
my home place and all the slaves given
to Clay are to be sold and the money equally
divided among all my children.

I witness whereof
I have this 10th day of September 1845
set my hand and affixed my seal in the
presence of us

James Graham John D. Graham 
~~John D. Johnston~~
James F. Johnston

January the 1st. 1846

I John D. Graham upon further consideration of the above Will and Testament annex the following Codicil viz. as I have received Eight Negroes from the Estate of my first wife Elizabeth Graham namely, a Dame, Horace, Jacob, Eve, Little and 3 small children of said woman and may on further investigation of said Estate receive others all of which Negroes I desire equally among my first wifes children - Provided however that I intend that these Negroes shall in the first place of before devision indemnify my Estate against a suit now pending in Lincoln Superior Court (the suit of Hall v. S. the Sheriff) for Negroes I have already had sold and divided in the above Will amongst my children. I also hereby constitute and appoint my son Charles B. Graham and William Johnston Attorney my lawful Executors and hereby revoke all other wills by me preceding this. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal.

In the presence of us

Sidney T. Johnston John D. Graham Esq.
James H. Johnston.