

April Term 1842.

State of North Carolina

Martin County In the name of God Amen  
I Alexander Melley of the State and County aforesaid being at an  
age of health at this time, but in sound mind and perfect memory  
before God for the same, do make and ordain this my last will  
and testament in form and manner as follows:

I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Elissy Melley all my  
Land and plantation lying to the north side of the main road  
with the improvements thereunto belonging to her during her lifetime or  
as long as with all my household & kitchen furniture, with all my  
farming tools of every description, & one small Mule, ten of the other  
Stocks of Bush fowl, Seven Sheep, two Chinc Coats, Ten Chickens, Two  
Piggs, and all my property of every kind, as above stated.

Item I give unto my son William Melley all my best  
of Land, that I bought of W. Melley lying on the south side of the  
main road, to him & his heirs forever.

Item I give unto my son Daniel Melley all the tenth  
of Land that I bought of William Melley joining the W. Melley  
tract, lying on the south side of said tract to him and his heirs forever.

Item I leave my property, tract of Land, to be sold and  
equally divided between all my Children if either of my Daughters should  
die, my will & desire is the one living shall take her part equally amongst  
them.

Item I give all my Lands lying on the south side of the  
main road, to my son Alexander Melley, with all the improvements  
thereunto belonging, after the death of my wife Elissy Melley, to him  
this time forever.

Item I give unto my Daughter Elissy Melley  
the sum of Twenty four Dollars extra.

My will & desire is that all my property that  
named in my will I leave to be sold, and equally divided amongst  
all my Children.

Last I make & ordain my worthy friend Ephraim  
Moore Lawyer, to this my last will and Testament,

To witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand  
and seal, the third day of Augt 1842.

Signed  
The JAMES  
Attest Baldy Rector

State of North Carolina April Term 1842.  
Martin County I, Alexander Melley and husband of James for  
last will and Testament by these presents Melley and husband of James for  
County by the oath of Baldy Rector a Subscribing witness that I intend to be  
recorded - Wherefore I, Alexander Melley and husband of James for  
County, & qualified to execute the same.

Test. Jno St. Rigg's Esq.

April Term 1842

In the name of God Amen I Samuel Rankille of the State of North  
Carolina and County of Martin being in a low state of health at this  
present time, but in perfect mind and memory, before God for the  
same, and calling unto mind that it is appointed for all men to die  
to make this to be my last will and Testament, in manuscript form  
as follows:

First of all I recommend my soul unto the Almighty God  
whose just judgment to my body to be decently buried by my friends  
and for my little property I shall dispose of it in such a manner after  
my death.

Item I bequeath unto my wife Martha Rankille during her  
natural life the negro woman Nancy & all after the death of my  
wife I give the said Negro to all the members of all my Children  
but my Daughter Lucy Rose, to them & their heirs forever.

Item I give unto my wife Martha Rankille my plantation  
and house wherein I now live to her and her heirs forever.

Item This is my will and leaving my Children namely  
Martha Rankille, George Rankille, James C. Rankille and Margaret  
Rankille to have One hundred Dollars each to be raised out of my  
slaves property, comprising my one hundred & forty acres of land, to them and their  
heirs forever.

Item This is my will and desire that enough of my negroes should  
be sold pay my just debts (excluding my negro slave Lucy Rose),  
so as to be equal with none of my other property over the the three  
negro Lucy, Sally & Rose.

Item I send unto my Daughter Lucy Rose, the negro  
girl that she has now in her possession by the name of Rose,  
during her natural life, and after her death, I give the said  
neger Rose & all her increase to Nancy A. Rankille daughter of  
said Lucy Rose and to all the rest of the children that my said  
daughter Lucy may ever hereafter have and to their heirs forever.  
and it is my will that the said negro Rose should not be sold  
to raise the legacy herefore mentioned, nor to pay my debts.

Item I give unto my three sons namely James C. Rankille,  
Elijah W. Rankille, & James C. Rankille all my land that I purchased  
of Richard Johnson lying on the west side of the River Dan about  
40 acres the lands of L. Cherry, John Hobbs & others to them &  
their heirs forever.

Item This is my will and desire after raising the Legacy herefore  
mentioned & paying all my just debts out of my other property worth my  
negro slave Lucy Rose, the balance of my negroes to be equally divided  
between all my children (comprising my Daughter Lucy Rose) to them & their  
heirs forever.

Item I bequeath unto my wife Martha Rankille all my property  
that I have not disposed of hitherto, during her natural life, after  
her death I give the said property to all my Children comprising the  
Daughters Sidney, Hepzibah & Frances Hobbs, to them & their heirs  
forever.

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