

July Term 1857

Open Court by John Howell one of the Executors herein named and the due execution thereof by the said said Howell is proved by the oath and Examination of Thomas Jones one of the subscribing witnesses. 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 said John Howell and the same is ordered to be received and filed. And therefore the said John Howell Executor or Assignee duly qualifies as such by taking the oath required by Law.

S. Johnson Clerk C.C.

Martin County, State of North Carolina. I, John Howell, one of the Executors herein named and the due execution thereof by the said said Howell is proved by the oath and Examination of Thomas Jones one of the subscribing witnesses. 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 said John Howell and the same is ordered to be received and filed. And therefore the said John Howell Executor or Assignee duly qualifies as such by taking the oath required by Law.

The above mentioned estate, goods & chattels is to remain in the possession of my beloved wife during her widowhood. After the death of my beloved wife the above mentioned property to be transferred to Eli B. Bruce, also I do give and bequeath unto the said Mary Bruce, one brother and furniture also one large blue check one marble wheel also one Locomotive. The residue of my home hold and kitchen furniture and all other estate that is not specified within this my last will and Testament I do give and bequeath unto my beloved wife during her life time. And I do hereby certify and declare in the presence of the undersigned that the eighth day of October 1857 one thousand eight hundred and fifty seven

Eli B. Bruce
Mary Bruce

John Howell
John Howell

North Carolina } County of Plow & Quarter Superior
Martin County } July Term 1857

The foregoing and within proper writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of John Howell is exhibited for perusal in open Court by Eli B. Bruce and the due execution thereof by the said John Howell is proved by the oath and Examination of Thomas Jones one of the subscribing witnesses. 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 John Howell and the same is ordered to be received and filed.

S. Johnson Clerk C.C.

July Term 1857

State of North Carolina

Martin County } In the name of God Amen I Edward
Gardner of the State and County above said being indisposed but
of sound Mind and Memory do this the 30th day of October 1857
make this my last will and Testament and do hereby certify and
declare to God who give it to my will and desire that all my
just debts be first paid

Then I give to my sister Nancy Gardner one cow and a calf and
all my home hold and kitchen furniture of all description also
one bag of the land I do give and bequeath of during her widow
life then to my son Lewis Gardner if he is not to him I do give and bequeath
to him or him or a third here forever

Then I give and bequeath to my sister Lewis Gardner one cow and calf
and one bag of all the land I do give and bequeath of
to her in fee simple forever

Then I give to my nephew Isaac Gardner my black and white
deer and all my Cooper Tools

I do hereby constitute and appoint Samuel S. Shepherd my Executor
to this my last will and Testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal

Witness
James Henderson
Lewis Henderson

Edward Gardner
Mark

North Carolina } County of Plow & Quarter Superior
Martin County } July Term 1857

The foregoing and within proper writing purporting to be the last will and
Testament of Edward Gardner is exhibited in open Court by
J. S. Shepherd the Executor herein named and the due execution thereof
by the said Edward Gardner is proved by the oath and Examination
of James Henderson and Lewis Henderson the two subscribing witnesses. 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 Edward
Gardner and the same is ordered to be received and filed

S. Johnson Clerk