

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 thereupon the said John Howell Executor or Administrators duly qualified 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 thereupon the said John Howell Executor or Administrators duly qualified 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 black chest one marble wheel also one loom. 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 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.

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 I do hereby certify and declare that all my debt to God which I owe it is my will and desire that all my just debts be paid and I do give to my sister Nancy Gardner one cow and 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 widowhood to her to my sister Gardner if she is not to her son said said son to her or him and a third share forever. I do give and bequeath to my sister said Gardner one cow and calf and one bag of all the land I may be said and bequeath of to her in fee simple forever. I do give to my nephew said 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

Edmund S. Gardner Exr
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 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 said Edward Gardner and the same is ordered to be received and filed.

S. Johnson Clerk C.C.