

In the name of God known. I James Becket of the State of North Carolina & County of Mecklenburg being in a sick & feeble state of body & of perfect mind & memory willing to make this my last will & testament in writing that it is appointed unto all men to die. I do make & ordain this my will to be my last will & testament, and for it to commence & my soul into the hand of God who gave it, and my body to be buried in a decent & Christian like manner, nothing so contrary thereto to be done in the time of the General Resurrection by the mighty power of God — and as touching such worldly property as it hath pleased the Lord to bless me with, I dispose of it in the following manner & form, and first desiring all my just debts to be paid — I give & bequeath to my beloved wife Sarah S. Ruggles the worldly property the wife profits of whatever kind during her life of her husband, but at her marriage or death I direct all to be equally divided among all my children and in case any of them should be taken away by death in this world before I do fall in death to be equally divided among the surviving ones, also dividing they well beloved wife Sarah S. Ruggles an equal share in case she does mercy & And lastly I do nominate & appoint my Trusty & beloved friend Col. John Davidson to be the whole & sole executor of this my last will & testament In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal this 16 day of October 1827 —

Signed sealed & acknowledged

in presence of

Abner Darden
Robert Carr —

John Ruggles

In the name of God known. I Samuel Beckel
Mecklenburg County & State of North Carolina being at
present weak & infirm & of sound & disposing min.