

Know all men by this I John Peele of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina, being in perfect mind thanks be to God Calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for men once to die do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following viz: first I give and recommend my soul into the hand of God who gave it and my body I recommend to the earth to be buried in decent and christian manner by my friends and neighbours and as to this worldly estate which God hath been pleased to bless me with in this life I give and dispose of the same in the following manner and form. I give to my son Nathan Peele all the tract of land whereon I now live containing 448 acres according to my rights with the exceptions of my wife Edith Peele to have here third her life time if they do not agree to live together. I likewise give to them together all the corn and pork or bacon which shall be in my possession at my death I give all the hogs that I am in possession at that time and I give him one horse one cow and calf and my desk one bed and furniture one pine table and all the salt in the house and all the kitchen furniture to him and my wife together all to be his at her death I likewise give him 100 dollars and Edith one hundred one bed and furniture and after her death my desire is for him to have all she leaves.

I give and bequeath unto my daughter Patience Peele the sum of 300 dollars in money to be raised out of my estate. I give and bequeath to my daughter Martha Peele the sum of 300 dollars. I likewise give unto my daughter Rebecca Bell 300 dollars. I likewise give and bequeath unto my son David Peele all the tracts of land in Johnston County and State aforesaid known by the name of the holland tract and the other the Richard Pierce and Charkey Pierce tract joining each other containing by estimation 670 acres likewise my shot gun and one bed and furniture one cow and calf and one hundred dollars and five head of sheep. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Sarah Peele one bed and furniture and my large chest and my walnut table one cow and calf and three hundred dollars. after giving the within legacies I want no sale on my property my will is that there be no sale I want all the stock not mentioned in this will except one cow and calf I want my wife to have but all both cattle and sheep to be equally divided among my six children, likewise all the house furniture not mentioned in this will be equally divided among my legatees in this will and after paying legacies if any left I want that equally divided among my six children mentioned in this will be it remembered that I have lent my daughter Anne P. Williams in Ohio her portion and have got her receipt in a letter from her.

And I do nominate constitute and appoint my two sons in laws John Peele and John Bell executors to this my last will and testament. I do hereby revoke and disannul all and every other wills and testament ratifying

and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this the 10th day of July in the year of our lord, 1846.

John Peele (Seal)

Be it remembered I want the land where Amos Johnston lives in Edgecombe County sold and the money equally divided among my six children mentioned in this will I do likewise want them to divide all the property not mentioned in this will as equally as possible and if any money left after paying legacies equally divided among my six children mentioned in this will the property paid off in lots and drawn for. I want no confusion over my little property.

John Peele.

Whereas I John Peele have made my last will and testament in writing bearing date on the 10th day of July in the year of our lord 1846 and have thereby made sundry devises and bequests according to the then existing circumstances of my estate but which circumstances having now materially changed I do by this my writing which I hereby declare to be a codicil to my said will to be taken and construed as a part thereof will and direct that I give to my son David Peele the tract of land I lately bought of Zadoc Peacock formerly owned by Henry Priggen near the fork of Turkey Creek and McCosken and in the county of Nash for the line as dead from Zadoc Peacock to me executed, in lieu of the tracts to him given in the above will namely the holland and the Peacock tracts in the county of Johnston to have and to hold in fee simple to him and his heirs forever, and I do further desire that my executors do sell to the best advantage the two tracts of land above named lying in the county of Johnston, to help make up the legacies named above in my will and I declare this to be a portion of my last will and testament whereunto I have set my hand and seal this the 26th day of January in the year of our lord, 1847.

John Peele (Seal)

Signed, sealed and published by the above John Peele to be a codicil or a part of his last will and testament and at the same to declaring the remainder part of his will to be as he desired with the alterations made in this codicil in presence of us who at his request and his presence and in the presence of each other do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

James Fulghum
Hardy H. Williamson
Nathan Stott
Henry Stott

State of North Carolina, court of pleas and quarter session
Nash county May term 1847

The foregoing paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament and codicil of John Peele is offered for probate and duly proven by the oath of James Fulghum and Hardy H. Williamson two of the subscribing witnesses thereto and is ordered to be registered.

Attest F.M. Taylor, C.C.C.
Attest F.M. Taylor, C.C.C.

and is registered.

In the Name of God Amen. I Mourning Hilliard of the county of Nash and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and memory do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following.

Item 1st. After paying my funeral expenses and just debts, I give and devise to my daughters Topsy Williams and Leah Perry my cloths and bed cloths to be equally divided between them. Item 2 I give to my son James Hilliard my carriage horses, and my carriage. Item 3. I give to my grand son Eliaz Carr ten dollars in gold. Item 4 I give to my grand daughter Ella Hilliard ten dollars in gold. Item 5 I give to my grand daughter Mary B. Hilliard ten dollars in gold. Item 6. I give to my grand children Mourning Betsey M., Samuel and Jonas Hilliard two bonds which I hold against John B. Williams, one bond for four hundred and ninety dollars and the other for five hundred and ten dollars with the interest on said bonds. Item 7th. It is my desire that all my property and effects nother in before disposed of should be equally divided between all of my children share and share alike. Item 8th. I hereby appoint my son Eliaz B. Hilliard executor to this my last will and testament and guardian for my four grand children viz: Mourning Betsey, Samuel and Jonas Hilliard. In witness whereof I have set my hand and affixed my seal this 10th day of February, 1847.

Witness. Martha H. Sargent Mourning Hilliard (Seal)
Elizabeth Williford

State of North Carolina, court of pleas and quarter session
Nash county May term, 1847

The foregoing paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Mourning Hilliard deceased is offered for probate and duly proven by the oath of Martha H. Sargent and Elizabeth Williford the subscribing witnesses thereto and is ordered to be recorded. Attest F.M. Taylor, C.C.C. and is recorded Attest F.M. Taylor, C.C.C.

I David Hopkins of the county of Nash and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say:

First: That my executor hereinafter named shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my relations and friends and pay all funeral expenses together with my just debts howsoever and whensoever owing out of the moneys that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

Item: I give and devise to my beloved wife Wiley two hundred and forty acres of land to be set out by metes and bounds (more or less) the tract of land whereon I now live to have and to hold to her the said Wiley for and during the term of her natural life or widowhood in satisfaction for and in lieu of dower and third of said land in all my real estate.

Item: I give and devise to my only son Alsey all that tract of land known as the Hales now resides known by the name of the Brickland land two hundred and eighty four acres to have and to hold to him his heirs and assigns forever. Item: I give and devise to my only daughter Susan two hundred forty acres of land all of the tract whereon I now live except the life or widowhood estate of my wife devised in former item of this my will to have and to hold to her and to her heirs in fee simple forever.

Item: I give and devise to my said son and daughter to have and to hold to him and his heirs forever in fee simple forever. Item: My will and desire is that all the residue of my estate if any after taking out the debts and legacies above mentioned shall be sold and the proceeds arising to me all collected and if there should be any surplus over and above the payment of debts and legacies that such surplus shall be equally divided and paid over to my said wife and both of my children in equal portions share and share alike then and each and every of them there executors and administrators and assigns absolutely forever. Item: And whereas my two children is not twenty one years of age my son etc. said Alsey is a minor of the age of about five years and will not be of the full age of twenty one until 1863 and my daughter will not arrive at the full age of twenty one years until 1857 now therefore my will and desire is that my friends A. I. Taylor is hereby constituted and appointed guardian of the said two children to have and hold the custody and guardianship both of their respective persons and estates until they the said Alsey and Susan severally arrive at the full age twenty one years and I do hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend A. I. Taylor my lawful executor to all intents and purposes to execute this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and every clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made. In witness whereof I the said David Hopkins do hereunto set my hand and seal this 6th day of March, A.D. 1847.

David Hopkins (Seal)

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said David Hopkins to be his last will and testament in presence of us who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

James H. Hare
Billiard M. Hopkins.
State of North Carolina

court of pleas and quarter session
May term, 1847

The foregoing paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of David Hopkins deceased, is offered for probate and duly proven by the oath of Billiard M. Hopkins one of the subscribing witnesses thereto and is ordered to be recorded.
Attest F.M. Taylor, C.C.C.
Attest F.M. Taylor, C.C.C.

In the Name of God Amen I John Ricks of the County of Nash in the State of North Carolina, do this the sixth day of January in the year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and 43. do make publish and declare the following paper writing to be and contain my last will and testament revoking all other wills by me made and declaring this paper writing to be the only one in manner and form following that is to say:

1st. I have already made advances to my daughter Sidney S.B. Harper and her husband Wm. J.B. Harper for money paid to Alfred Joyner and his wife Primmy Joyner Bennett Atkinson and his wife Mary Atkinson for land, for building a house for cattle hogs, bad saddle cart pork, and o. which I value to five hundred and eighty five dollars \$585. which is a part of my daughter Sidney S.B. Harper's legacy now I give and bequeath to my said daughter Sidney S.B. Harper my tract of land with all improvements called the Philander Tisdale land that I bought of Samuel W.M. Vick trustee containing 97 or 98 acres valued at \$160 also my tract of land lying on Sargony swamp containing 97 acres which land I drew in the division of the lands of the late David Ricks valued at \$175 also my right title and interest that I have in the lower land of Alsey Ricks where James Bunting now lives valued to \$225. also a negro named Randolph usually called Bunt valued to \$250. also a negro girl named Fanny valued \$375. also a negro woman named Milly valued to \$400.

also a negro boy Bryant valued to \$300, also my negro woman named Vilet valued to \$250, with all their increase and the further sum of twelve hundred and eighty dollars in good notes which makes her legacy of \$4000. this bequest is to my daughter Sidney S. B. Harper and all the children that she now has or hereafter may have and to no other person or persons else. I appoint my son in law William S. B. Harper Trustee to take charge of the property given to my daughter Sidney S. B. Harper and use the same for the benefit of my said daughter Sidney S. B. Harper and all the children that she now has or hereafter may have and for no other purpose in any way whatever.

Item 2nd. I give and bequeath to my two sons David A. T. and Jerome Ricks all the negroes say sixteen in number and there increase, horses wagons and money that they have carried to the State of Alabama, all amounting in value to \$7910, with ninety dollars more to be paid them in money to be equally divided between them which makes there legacies of \$4000. each to them and there heirs forever.

Item 3rd. I give and bequeath to my son George Ricks and all the lawful begotten heirs of his body and to no other person the following property (viz) the tract of land where he now lives on the Back Swamp containing six hundred & fifty acres be the same more or less due regard to be had to the will of George Boddie Senr. and fore deeds proven Novr. term of Nash County Court 1844. also a deed in trust from Nicholas C. Harrison to Jno. G. F. Drake valued to \$1300. all the stock of hogs corn fodder house hold and kitchen furniture that he is now in possession of valued to \$200 one horse bridle and saddle valued to \$100. one average head and furniture valued to \$25. my surveying instruments valued to \$25. my negro man Jordan valued to \$500. my negro woman named Emaline and her two children names not known, that is now at Alford Joyner's valued to \$600. also good notes to the amount of \$1250 which makes his legacy of \$4000.

Item 4th. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Frances Ricks and all the lawful begotten heirs of her body and to no other person or persons the following named property viz: Two tracts of land that I bought of Howell F. Elin and Thomas F. Elin containing one hundred and ten acres each also my interest in the Sneed land say one half of said tract due regard to be had to two deeds one from Harriet Sneed the other from Serina Sneed. All the three tracts valued to \$750. one average head and furniture valued to \$25. one bridle and saddle valued to \$15. negro woman Winney and her child Sesar Jane valued to \$500 negro boy Jno. valued to \$325. negro boy Solomon valued to \$275. negro man Jim Bush valued to \$250 good note or notes to the amount of \$1850 which makes her legacy of \$4000. in case my daughter Francis should marry then and in that case her husband is appointed trustee to take charge of the property for the use and benefit of my said daughter Francis and all the children that she may have, and I want it to be fully understood by all persons that may have the constraining of this paper writing that no part of my estate is to pass to no person or persons unless they are my own blood kin only as trustees which can be called to account for there stewardship at any time.

Item 5th. I give and bequeath to my son William Ricks and all the lawful children that he may have begotten by him and to no other person or persons in any way or manner whatever the follow named property with all the increase viz: one tract of land containing 440 acres be the same more or less called the Sion Beckwith land for courses and distance due regard to be had to a deed from Asael Vick to me which has been duly acknowledged and recorded, valued to \$450. negro boy Nathan valued to \$450 negro girl named Cherry valued to \$375. negro man Worren valued to \$400. little Bob valued to \$300. good notes to the value of \$2025 which makes his legacy of \$4000.

Item 6th. I give and bequeath to my son Buchanan Ricks and all the lawful children that he may have begotten by him and to no other person or persons in any way or manner whatever, the following named property with all the increase viz: one tract of land that I bought of William Drake Esqr. of Thomas Beckwith dec'd. containing 306 acres called the Branch land due regard to be had for courses and distance to a deed from William Drake Esqr. to me which deed has been duly acknowledged and recorded, valued to \$250 negro boy big Bob valued to \$450 negro boy Bill valued to \$400. negro girl Charlot valued to \$300 negro girl Hixey valued to \$500. also good note or notes to the amount of \$2300. which makes his legacy \$4000.

Item 7th. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Indiana, son Nero and son John A. Ricks my bank stock in the Bank of the State of North Carolina amounting to \$10000. also negro boy Madison valued to \$400. also negro boy Harry valued \$350. also Abram valued to \$275. also negro girl Leah valued to \$200. also negro girl Martha valued to \$160 also negro girl Mousmum valued to \$130. also negro woman Patty and her youngest child Isaac valued to \$300. with all there increase also good note or notes to the amount of \$185. which makes there legacy of \$12000 to be equally divided between them, Indiana, Nero and John A. Ricks which makes each of there legacies of \$4000. In case my daughter Indiana should marry then and in that case her husband is appointed trustee to take charge of the property for the use and benefit of my said daughter Indiana and all the children that she may have and it is fully understood by me that her husband who ever he may be is only to take charge of the property as trustee for I declare that it is my main object that no part of my property with the increase of negroes and money is to pass to no person or persons unless they are my own blood kin and I call on all courts of Justice that may have the constraining of this paper writing to decide that no part of my estate with all increases of every kind is to belong to no person or persons unless they are my own blood kin. I make the following proviso- if either of my children should dy leaving no lawful child or children then and in that case that ones legacy is to pass to the survivors or more should dy there estates to pass in the same way and so on agreeable to the decent laws of North Carolina.

Item 8th. I give to my loving wife Anna Ricks one years support for her self and family to be laid off by my Exrs. and Benj. N. Blount or some other worthy man to be chosen by my Exrs.