

In the name of God Amen. I Reubin J. Morgan of the county of Nash and State of North Carolina being of sound and disposing memory & mind do make this my last will and testament in the manner and form following that is to say First that my executors herein after mentioned shall provide a decent burial for my body and pay all my just debts with the burial and funeral expenses thereof as may be necessary then I leave to my dear Mother and my Sister Cornelia Ann all my right title and interest in the lands upon which I now reside & adjoining the lands of Burdett Coon and others during their single life and after their death or marriage to remain to the State of North Carolina for the benefit of the Deaf Ann and Blind Asylum in fee simple for ever then it is my will and desire that my executors herein after named shall after my death collect what money is due me and also to take what money I may have on hand and after paying whatever amount may be required in the first part of my will to deposit and keep on deposit in a National Bank to be taken out for the purposes hereafter mentioned in another item of my will then I am of the opinion the lands loaned to my Mother and Sister in a former item will support them but if said land should be ~~not~~ insufficient for a support during their single life then and in such case I desire my executors to draw out of the said Bank if deposit a sufficient amount to afford such support then I leave to my Mother and Sister Cornelia during their single life all of my personal property not heretofore mentioned consisting of one horse buggy and harness one yoke of oxen's cart two head of Cattle fifteen or twenty head of sheep fifteen or twenty heads of hogs farming implements one half of the household and kitchen furniture and various other articles too tedious to mention to list and use and after their death or marriage to be sold and the proceeds to go to the State of North Carolina for the benefit of

the Deaf Ann and Blind Asylum then it is my will and desire that whatever amount of money may be left on deposit after affording support to my Mother and Sister described above in a former item shall go to the State of North Carolina for the benefit of the Deaf Ann and Blind Asylum and lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend

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 In witness where of I the said Reubin J. Morgan do hereunto set my hand and seal this the 22nd day of January 1879

R. J. Morgan (Seal)

Signed Sealed and declared by the said R. J. Morgan to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses

J. Brantley
William Chamberlin

690

State of North Carolina } In the Probate Court
Nash County } July 14th 1879

A paper purporting to be the last will and testament of R. J. Morgan deceased is exhibited before me the undersigned Judge of Probate for said County by the executor there in named and the due execution thereof by the said R. J. Morgan by the oath and examination of Jacob Brantley and William Chamberlin the subscribing witnesses thereto who being duly sworn do depose and say and each for himself depose and say that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last will and testament of R. J. Morgan that the said R. J. Morgan in the presence of this deponent subscribed his name at the end of said paper writing which is now shown as aforesaid and which bears date of 22nd day of January 1879 and the deponent further saith that the said R. J. Morgan the testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name

690
aforesaid, declare the said paper writing so
subscribed by him and exhibited to be his last
will and testament and this deponent did
thereupon subscribe his name at the end of said
will as an attesting witness thereto and at the
request and in the presence of the said tes-
tator and this deponent further saith that at the
said time when the said testator subscribed
his name to the said last will as aforesaid
and at the time of the deponent's subscribing his
name as an attesting witness thereto as aforesaid the
said R. J. Morgan was of sound mind and memory
of full age to execute a will and was not
under any restraint to the knowledge, informa-
tion or belief of this deponent and further these
deponents say not

Signed Sealed and
delivered in the presence of

Jacob Brantly (Seal)
William Chambers (Seal)

Benj. H. Gorsby

Probate Judge

691
In the name of God Amen I Jess H. Drake
of the County of Nash and State of North
Carolina being of sound mind in firm health
but of sound mind memory and understanding
considering the certainty of death and the uncer-
tainty of the time thereof do make publish and
declare this my last will and testament in manner
and form following viz. I give and bequeath
unto Calvin Drake Aaron Drake Judah Drake
and Ellen Drake all colored, and formerly slaves
belonging to me the whole of my estate both
real and personal and mixed to them during
their natural life and at their death to
their children forever I then say it is my
will and desire that no part of my personal
property perishable property be sold but be
divided by my executors herein after named
or by such person or persons as they may

select, and whereas the aforesaid Calvin Drake
Aaron Drake Judah Drake and Ellen Drake have
since their emancipation continued to reside on my
premises and have performed many acts of kindness
for me in sickness and old age thereby proving
themselves to be my best friends as slaves they were
obedient and respectful and it is my express will
and desire that they have hold occupy possess
and enjoy the whole of my estate real personal and
mixed and I do here by nominate constitute and
appoint my friends Calvin Drake and Aaron Drake
Executors to this my last will and testament and I
do forever discharge them from any and all legal
liability in and about the settlement of my estate
that they retain in their hands such an amount
in cash as they may deem ample compensation
for their trouble that they retain in their hands
the amount in cash to which Ellen Drake is entitled
paying over to her from time to time such
an amount as she may need until she arrives
to the age of twenty one years In testimony where-
of I the said Jess H. Drake have hereunto set
my hand and seal this the 29th day of March
in the year of our lord one thousand eight
hundred and twenty seven.

Signed Sealed and
acknowledge in the
presence of us
Saml. D. Marshborn
John H. Griffie
H. A. Whitehead

691

State of North Carolina } In the Probate Court
Nash County } August the 5th 1879

A paper purporting to be the last will and testament
of Jess H. Drake beamed is exhibited before me the
undersigned Judge of Probate for said County
by Aaron Drake Calvin Drake the executors thereof
and the due execution thereof by the said Jess H.
Drake by the oath and examination of Samuel
D. Marshborn and John H. Griffie the sub-
scribing witnesses thereto who being duly sworn