

State of North Carolina, Nash County. Court of pleas and quarter session  
Feb. term 1866  
A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Jacob Griffin deceased is propounded for probate in open court by John U. Griffin the executor therein named, and the due execution thereof by the said Jacob Griffin by the oath of and examination of J. M. D. Drake and Lawrence Battle two of the subscribing witnesses thereto is therefor considered by the court that the said paper writing and every part thereof is the last will and testament of Jacob Griffin. It is therefore ordered by the court that it be recorded and filed.  
Whereupon I W. Griffin appears in open court and qualifies as executor by taking the oath prescribed by law.  
Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.  
and is recorded. Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.

607.

In the Name of God Amen. I Jesse Braswell of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina, being of sound and perfect mind and memory (blessed be God) do this the 14 day of April in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred fifty nine, make and publish this my last will and testament in the manner as follows, that is to say: First, I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Mary Ann Braswell after all my just debts are paid all my estate including money, bonds, land, and property of every description during her natural life, to be kept together as her estate as near as possible. And after my wife Mary Ann Braswell's death it is my will that out of the estate one hundred and eighty dollars be paid to my grandson William Braswell, he being a son of my son Nicholas Braswell. And I also will that one hundred and eighty dollars be paid out of the said estate to my granddaughter Mary Ann Braswell daughter of my son Nicholas Braswell nevertheless provided that my granddaughters Mary Ann Braswell and my granddaughter Mary Ann Braswell make and convey to my estate the right title and interest they have in six acres of land that belongs to their father's estate, the said six acres a part of the tract of land whereon I now live, now in the event that this interest is not conveyed to my estate it is then my will that they apportion said land amongst Mary Ann Braswell shall have no part of my estate. 4th. I also will and bequeath to my grand daughter Eliza Braswell (a daughter of my son John Braswell) at the death of my beloved wife Mary Ann Braswell one hundred dollars provided the said Eliza Braswell be then living. 5th. After which it is my will that the balance of my estate be equally divided between my sons Edward, Madison and Jefferson and my two daughters Lucy and Louisiana Braswell, each receiving four hundred dollars for the support of my daughter Eliza Braswell which sum is to be placed in the hands of my son William for the above purpose and at her death if any part of the above sum of four hundred dollars shall be unpaid that remaining shall be equally divided between my five youngest children to wit Edward, Madison, Jefferson, Lucy and Louisiana. 6th. Now in the first place I gave to my beloved wife Mary Ann Braswell all of my estate during her natural life be it understood it is upon the condition that she never marries, but in the event that she marries again, it is my will that she receive a child's part and the balance of my estate be then equally divided between my five youngest children to wit Lucy, Edward, Louisiana, Jefferson and Madison now in the second of this my last will and testament I make and ordain my beloved wife Mary Ann Braswell executrix to the same. In witness whereof I the said Jesse Braswell have to this my last will and testament set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

signed, sealed published and declared  
by the said Jesse Braswell the testator as  
his last will and testament in the presence  
of us who were present at the time of signing and sealing thereof the above  
instrument. test. A. Foster, Thomas Davis, Benja. L. Arrington.

State of North Carolina, Nash County. Court of pleas and quarter session  
July term 1866  
A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Jesse Braswell is offered for probate on the testimony of B. L. Arrington one of the subscribing witnesses thereto who duly proves the same and also A. Foster and Thomas Davis the other subscribing witnesses that he saw them subscribe the same in the presence of the testator to said will as witnesses. It is ordered by the court that said will be admitted to probate as the last will and testament of the said Jesse Braswell and is ordered to be recorded whereupon Mary Ann Braswell the executrix named comes into court and duly qualifies as such.  
Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.  
and is recorded in obedience thereto Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.

608

State of North Carolina, Nash County. September 8th, A. D. 1865. In the name of God . . . being of sound mind and good health I Thomas Lewis do dispose of my property in the following way and manner to wit: First I give to my wife Polly all of my property during her widowhood if she marries again she is not to have and hold any of it any longer. Item. And if neither father gives my daughter Sarah his property then she is not to come in and heir in my estate otherwise she is to equally share with the rest of my children in my estate. Thirdly, I declare in this Catherine's share of my estate and good treatment there as I do hereby acknowledge in presence of these witnesses this to be my last will and testament whereunto I set my seal and set my hand.  
Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.  
Thomas Lewis (Seal)  
his mark.

State of North Carolina, Nash County. September 25th, 1866  
In the Name of God Amen. being of sound mind and in good health I Thomas Lewis do dispose of my property to the above named heirs with the exception that Harry Alford shall have anything to do with my part of my property my daughter Sarah who married the said Alford.  
test.  
Thomas Lewis (Seal)  
his mark.

State of North Carolina, August Term 1866  
A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Thomas Lewis is offered for probate on the testimony of T. C. Lewis and W. T. Bryant two of the subscribing witnesses thereto and is duly proved by them. It is ordered by the court that said will be admitted to probate and recorded.  
Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.  
and is recorded. Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.

609

In the Name of God Amen. I Margaret Vick, of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and memory, do make and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following. I give and bequeath to my son W. V. Parker, all my estate of every kind, nature and description whatsoever, that may belong or be due me at my death, and thereby constitute and appoint him executor to this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 27 day of September 1865.

her  
Margaret V. Vick (Seal)  
mark.  
witness.  
Marmaduke Hicks  
Spencer C. Hicks  
State of North Carolina, court of pleas and quarter session  
Nash County. Aug. term 1866  
A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Margaret Vick is offered for probate on the testimony of Marmaduke Hicks one of the subscribing witnesses thereto and is duly proved by him and also it is proved that the other subscribing witness is dead and his hand writing being duly proved the court orders said paper to be admitted to probate as the last will and testament of said Margaret Vick and W. V. Parker the executor therein named is qualified as such.  
Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.  
and is recorded. Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.

610

In the Name of Almighty God Amen, I William J. B. Batchelor, of the County of Nash, being of sound and disposing mind and memory, do hereby make and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following, hereby revoking all others by me heretofore made. Item 1st, It is my will and desire that all my just debts of every kind and description, including my burial expenses, shall be paid by my executors hereafter named. Item 2, After all my debts are paid as mentioned in item 1st, I leave the remainder of my property of every kind and description, both real and personal, in the hands of my friend B. H. Sorby as trustee, for the use and benefit of my two nieces, Quilly Lamon and Ann Batchelor, children of my sister Quilly Batchelor, provided however that if either one of them shall marry contrary to the will and consent of my said trustee, given in writing, then other to receive the whole and in marrying and if both shall marry contrary to the above directions then and in that case I give, and bequeath the whole of my estate to my nephew William Morgan son of William Morgan, Item 3. I nominate and appoint my friend B. H. Sorby, my executor to this my last will and testament. May 18th, 1865.  
witness, T. H. Scott  
B. B. Gripp  
his  
William J. B. Batchelor  
mark.

State of North Carolina, court of pleas and quarter session  
Nash County. August term 1865.  
A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of William J. B. Batchelor is offered for probate by the executor B. H. Sorby, and is duly proved by the oaths of B. H. Griffin and T. H. Scott the subscribing witnesses thereto and is ordered to be recorded and is ordered to be recorded whereupon B. H. Sorby the executor therein mentioned comes into court and duly qualifies as such.  
Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.  
and is recorded in obedience thereto Attest B. H. Sorby, C. C. C. clk.

611

In the Name of God Amen. I Susan Bryant of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and disposing memory upon the tenth day of April one thousand eight hundred and sixty three make publish and ordain this to be my last will and testament in way and manner following: Item 1. After my decease my wish is that my burying expenses together with all my just debts be paid by my executors hereinafter named. Item 2. I give to my daughter Mearns Rice (wife of Nicholas Rice) four hundred dollars out of any money belonging to my estate after my decease. Item 3. I give to my son Gideon B. Bryant three hundred dollars out of any money that may belong to my estate and one day horse money. Item 4th. I give to my daughter Polly Rice, wife of Henderson Rice, one thousand dollars out of any money belonging to my estate after my decease. Item 5th. I give to my son Thomas N. Bryant one hundred dollars out of any money that may belong to my estate after my decease. Item 6th. My will farther is that if after the above gifts is satisfied there shall remain any balance belonging to my estate that it shall be equally divided between William T. Bryant and N.

Bryant, Gideon B. Bryant, Thomas N. Bryant, Mourain Rice wife N.W. Rice, Polly Rice wife of H. Rice each to share and share alike. Item 7. My will is that all my wearing apparel together with my best clothing be equally divided between my daughters Mourain Rice wife of N.W. Rice, and Polly Rice wife of H. Rice. Lastly I leave Bennett Gay my executor to sell all my property of every kind not disposed of hereinbefore distributed the day and year first above written.

signed and sealed in the presence of

witnesses

Joe. B. Mann

Joe. B. Rice,

State of North Carolina, Court of pleas and quarter session

Nash County

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Susan Bryant is offered for probate it being proved that the subscribing witness Jos B Mann and B. Rice are both dead and their hand writing being duly and legally proved thereon named having announced his right to qualify as such letters of administration with the will annexed are granted to Henry H Bryant who enters into bond of one thousand dollars with N.W. Rice, G.B. Bryant, and W.T. Bryant sureties.

and is recorded in the office of the

612

Richard Short, of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina, being far advanced in years and of feeble health, but of sound mind and disposing memory do on this the 22nd day of April 1863 make and publish this my last will and testament in way and manner following: viz: first I commend my soul to god and my body to the earth from whence it came wishing it to be buried in a decent manner as my friends may direct. Item. 1. I give and bequeath to George I Short's trustee and his survivors his heirs, executors and c. certain negro slaves named Dublin and Easter in trust for the following purposes and for no other use or purpose whatsoever that the said George I Short, allow Matthew to have the services of said slaves during their natural life and all so one tract of land known as the Fuller tract adjoining the land of North Carolina Taylor Kinchen Taylor and others also one horse named Fobe and one buggy and harness in trust to the said George I Short for the benefit of his mother in the same manner as the above named slaves so long as she (his mother) remains unmarried at which time or in the event of either circumstances then I give and bequeath said slaves and land and horse and buggy absolutely and to be equally divided among all my children except George, C Short and Eliza Taylor to them and their heirs forever. Item 2. I give and bequeath to my son Richard Short the following slaves viz: Willie Joe and another child Claude and their increase also one gold watch and also my jewelry and all the drugs and medicine that may be on hand at my death and also the tools worked by the slave Willie Joe and his heirs forever. Item 3. I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary Short the following slaves viz: Reddick and his working tools, Alas Jefferson and Harriett and their increase to her and her lawful heirs forever. Item 4th. I give and bequeath to George C Short and the survivors of his his heirs executors administrators and c. in trust for my daughter Louisiana Short certain negro slaves and all their increase named Jacob Sarah and Milbrey to her and her lawful heirs forever. Item 5th. I give and bequeath to my daughter Madora Short certain slaves to viz: Sampson and Willis Francis and Hannah to her and her lawful heirs forever. Item 6th. I give and bequeath to my daughter Harriett Bryant certain slaves to viz: Sampson Sr. Ann and child Reddick and to her and her lawful heirs forever. Item 7th. I give and bequeath to my son George C Short, five hundred dollars in money to him and his heirs forever. Item 8th. I give and bequeath to my daughter Eliza Taylor five hundred dollars in money to her and her heirs forever. Item: I leave my slave Tom to be sold and the money arising from said sale to be equally divided among all my children. I also leave one tract of land say 100 acres adjoining the lands of Sparling B Lewis, John B Poland and others to be sold and the proceeds of said sale to be equally divided among all my children it is my will and desire that at my death all my judgments and notes and accounts be collected and the amount together with the cash on hand be divided in the following manner viz: Say to George C Short Anna Eliza Taylor and Harriett Bryant one hundred and fifty dollars each and the balance to be equally divided among all the rest of my children except the said George C. Anna Eliza and Harriett Bryant and I do hereby constitute and appoint my two worthy and trusty friends Jesse Taylor and Jesse H Drake, executors to this my last will and testament revoking and making all other wills made by me void and of no effect. Signed, and acknowledged in presents of us who at his request assign as witnesses.

Richard Short. (Seal)

Aug. Term, 1864. North Carolina, Nash County court Pleas and quarter session A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Richard Short deceased to wit copy hereof proposed for probate in open court by George C Short one of the legatees and heirs at law of said deceased and upon motion it is now therefore ordered that the same be recorded.

Witness my hand and the seal of the court this 1st day of September 1864. B.H. Sorsby, C.C.C. and is recorded. This is the same of the original in the office of the clerk of the court.

In the Name of God Amen. I Nicholas V Arrington Sr of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina, being this day of sound and disposing mind, and having before me with fear the uncertainty of this life, do make publish and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form as follows: viz: Item 1st. I will my soul and spirit to god who gave it, and my body to be decently buried in my family burial ground and the expenses of such my funeral rights to be first paid by my hereinafter named executor from any monies of my estate in their hands. Item 2. I lend to my beloved wife Temperance Arrington during her natural life my home plantation to extend from Foxes line on the west to the new road leading to the bridge on the east, and at her death to be as equally divided as the following line will exhibit, viz: beginning at a pine tree on the path at a small branch leading from my pond thence a northerly direction to Harrison's line on the west, and thence splitting the tract in two lots and giving the west lot being east lot to my daughter Josephine Arrington to them and theirs in fee simple forever. Item 3rd. I will and direct my two tracts of land east of said road thence known as the Harper place and the other in front of Daniel Sumners and known as the Deles place containing about one hundred and thirty five acres each, to be sold at my death by my hereinafter named executor, and the proceeds of said sale deposited in bank or kept loaned out by me annually applied to the wants and comforts of my unfortunate son Nicholas W. Arrington during his natural life. Item 4th. My plantation known as the Culpepper place upon which N.W. Harris now lives, I loan to my daughter Tempy Ann Harris during her natural life and after death I will and bequeath the same to be equally divided among their heirs other body, share and share alike, in fee simple forever. Item 5th. My plantation known as my Bynum place, with the mill and all milling rights and equally to be divided to suit their own convenience, the same to them and their heirs in fee simple forever. Item 6th. I will and desire that no part of my estate real, perishable, slave or personal go to my daughter Elizabeth and her husband W. Wright for cause that I have done them by past gifts equal justice with my other children. Item 7. I give and bequeath my beloved wife Temperance Arrington ever and above an equal share in my other negroes, negro woman Martha, a cook, with her increase, and in like manner I give and bequeath to the heirs of the body of Tempy Ann Harris at her death negro slaves Caney (a mule), Hester and Giles, with their increase and the said slaves being now in possession of said Tempy Ann Harris I therefore loan them to her during her natural life. Item 8. I will and direct that all my negroes slaves no where in before mentioned and bequeathed from my home place, Culpepper place, Bynum place and elsewhere, be thence together and by lawful course of appraisal and division allotted in families as near as possible upon equal terms to the following heirs to wit: one share of negroes to my beloved wife Temperance Arrington with their increase to her and her heirs forever, one share of negroes with their increase to my son John G Arrington him and his heirs forever, one share of negroes with their increase to my son Nicholas W Arrington and his heirs forever and one share of negroes with their increase to Josephine Arrington my youngest daughter and of which shares I wish to be kept and worked upon my home plantation say little Hicks share for his ample support and attention and Josephine until she is married upon fore account, or if necessary have a Guardian, also one share of negroes with their increase to the children now and hereafter in their other body of Tempy Ann Harris and to this end, I appoint and hereby make my friend L.M. Conyers executor of the trust for the benefit of a share of the said Tempy Ann's family. Also a share of negroes with their increase to my daughter Mary William Arrington and her heirs in fee simple, and a share of negroes with their increase to my daughter Celestia C. Arrington to her and her heirs forever. And I request and direct the last named two lots of slaves to Mary William and Celestia C. Be worked jointly on their Bynum land. Item 9th. I give and bequeath to my beloved wife my best carriage harness, and a buggy, and let her during her natural life all the house hold and kitchen furniture with plantation stock I may leave on hand including live stock of all kinds and its increase, with provisions, clothing stock and plantation utensils and what so ever else kept on this place by me as a part of its use, except therefrom four of my best mules which I give to Mary William and Celestia C. my daughters to be worked at the Bynum place, with all of the stock as in like manner named above to my wife, to be for them their free use and behoof now and forever, and the property of what so ever kind by this clause loaned my beloved wife Temperance Arrington after death shall be equally divided, share and share alike under the provisions and to the several heirs of this will. Item 10. I will and direct that the property of like kind as specified in above clause such as furniture, stock, utensils of plantation and c. shall remain as it is upon the Culpepper plantation in loan to my daughter Tempy Ann Harris, and at her death to her children in fee simple forever. Item 11th. If the monies due me or may be found due me by contracts, conveyances, notes and accounts, excepting what is due me from John G. Arrington which my executors herein after named will surrender to him, I will and direct shall be appropriated in the following manner: viz: to the payment of all my just debts of what so ever kind, secondly of the balance of money then found in hands of my hereinafter named executors, I will and direct that one fourth of the whole be paid to Mary William Arrington, one fourth to Celestia C. Arrington and the balance being one half to Josephine Arrington, all my daughters and youngest children. Item 12th. I will and direct with the protection of the courts to the same, that if any one of my children to whom I have here bequeathed property should die leaving no issue or heir of their body, then and in such case the heirs of the body of Tempy Ann Harris shall heir from such deceased and not said Tempy Ann Harris. Item 13th. I nominate and appoint my two nephews L.N.B. and L.P. true and lawful executors in my name