

Nash County North Carolina

court of pleas and quarter sessions
May term 1854
A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Basford Boon is exhibited in open court and is duly proven by the oaths of Joseph A Drake and William T Arrington two subscribing witnesses thereto and is ordered to be recorded.

Attest G.W.Wood, C.C.C.
Attest G.W.Wood, C.C.C.

522

In the Name of God Amen. I Lazarus Cook of Nash County and North Carolina being in proper health of body mind and memory having thought proper to form following viz:
My will and desire is that as much of my perishable property be sold as will satisfy my just debts unto which I lend unto my beloved wife Sally Cook the use of my land and other property during her natural life and after her death my perishable property be sold and equally divided between all my children viz: Andrew Cook, Lucy Mary Martha Levison, Nancy and Celina Cook also my two grandchildren Edwin and Marthena Cook to both have a part as one of the part of my children my will and desire is that Martha Levison and Celina Cook to have the use of my land after their mother's death during the time they live a single life and after their death or marriage to be sold and equally divided between all my above named children. I give unto my son Andrews Cook one chest of drawers. I give unto Martha Cook one bed and furniture. I give unto Levison Cook one bed and furniture I give unto Celina Cook one bed and furniture. And lastly I constitute nominate and appoint Andrew's Cook executor to this my last will and testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 8th day of January. 1849.

James P Mercer
Thomas Mercer

Lazarus Cook (Seal)

State of North Carolina, court of pleas and quarter sessions
May term 1854

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Lazarus Cook is offered for probate on oath by the testimony of Jos P Mercer and Thomas Mercer the subscribing witnesses thereto and is duly proven whereupon Andrew S Cook the executor therein named is duly qualified according to law and is ordered to be recorded. Attest G.W.Wood, C.C.C.
G.W.Wood, C.C.C.

523

I Peter Arrington of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina, being of sound and disposing mind and memory and knowing the uncertainty of my earthly existence at publish this as my last will and testament in manner and form as follows. I give to my wife Sarah Cook Arrington during her lifetime or widowhood the tract of lands whereon I now reside together with all the house and kitchen furniture plantation utensils all my stock of every description horses, mules, cattle, hogs and sheep crop and produce and all produce on hand of every description and my carriage and buggy with the understanding and upon condition that she is to make no charge against any one of my children for board or any necessary she may furnish and if there should not be a sufficiency raised on the plantation for the support and maintenance of the family my executor hereinafter named is authorized to supply such deficiency out of my monies that may be in his hands belonging to my estate and whatever any one of my children shall arrive at the age of one and twenty years or should marry, such child shall have allotted off if desired a fair share of my estate and in the event of the death or marriage of my wife in that case I will and desire that the tract of land on which I now reside be sold and all the above mentioned property with the exception of the negroes to wit household and kitchen furniture, plantation utensils, all the stock or its increase of every description horses mules, cattle, hogs and sheep crop and provisions and all produce that may be on hand of every description and carriage and buggy or such vehicles as may be on hand for the use and convenience of the family. It is my will and desire that my negroes that are in the state of Alabama should continue to be hired out annually and should any one of my negroes either in the state of Alabama or here in this state become disobedient or ungovernable in such case my executor is hereby authorized to sell or dispose of such negro or negroes I will and desire that the tract of land I own in the county of Franklin known as the Helma tract be sold by my executor either publicly or privately as in his discretion he may think most advisable. It is my will and desire that if my wife should marry in that case she shall have allotted to her a fair distributive share of my personal and proceeds of my real estate and the residue of my estate of every description both real and personal I give and bequeath to my children namely Susan Ann, Harriett Eliza, Peter, William, Burt, Kearney Williams and Lucy Jones, to them and their heirs and assigns to be equally divided share and share alike. I devise all claims due me either by bond note account or otherwise be collected and my just debts paid and I do hereby constitute and appoint my nephew Dr Thomas C. Arrington executor to this my last will and tes-

tament this the 24th September. A.D. 1851. Signed sealed and acknowledged by the Peter Arrington to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto in words and proceeds of my real in the seventh line 2 page were interlined before signing. Peter Arrington (Seal)

Test. Robert C Hart

Arch. H Arrington

State of North Carolina, court of pleas and quarter session
Nash County May term, 1854

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of the late Peter Arrington of this county bearing date the 24th day of September 1851 and propounding for probate heretofore to wit: at November term of the county court of this county 1852 is now again propounded for probate it being suggested the same was info mally proven and now at this term of the court of pleas and quarter sessions the said paper writing is duly proven by the subscribing witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded at the last will and testament of the said Peter Arrington.

Attest G.W.Wood, C.C.C.

Attest G.W.Wood, C.C.C.

and is recorded.

524

(Same as 521 - page 537)

Basford Boon, of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina being of sound and disposing mind and memory do publish this as my last will and testament in manner and form follows viz: I give and bequeath to my son Philomen Boon forty acres of land to be laid off and allotted to him off of tract of land whereon I now dwell next and adjoining the lands on which he now resides to him his heirs and assigns forever. I give to my granddaughter N Harriett Westrey my bedstead and furniture to her and her heirs forever. I give to my daughter Elizabeth wife of Willis Westrey five dollars to her and her heirs I give to my daughter Catherine wife of Edwin Edwards two cows and yearlings to her and her heirs forever. I also give to my son Philomen Boon five dollars to him and his heirs; I give the residue of my estate of every description both real and personal to my two daughters Mary and Martha and to them their heirs executors administrators and assigns, to be equally divided between them share and share alike. I do hereby constitute and appoint my friend Archibald Arrington executor to this my last will and testament In test many of which I have hereunto affixed my hand and seal this 15th March 1854. Basford Boon (Seal)

signed sealed and acknowledged in the presence of
Joseph A Drake
W.T. Arrington.

525

In the Name of God Amen. I Temperance Hendrick of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina being not in good health but of sound mind and memory do make and constitute this my last will and testament in manner and form following. I give my sole to God who gave it and my body to the dust from whence it came and it to be decently interred and after paying my burial expenses I then dispose of my property in manner following. First I give and bequeath to my beloved son Henderson W. Hendrick all my land lying in the county of Nash and adjoining the lands of William B. Bryant and containing by estimation twenty nine and half acres be the same more or less to him and his heirs forever. Second. I give and bequeath to Elizabeth M Strickland my granddaughter one bed, bedstead and furniture called the big bed and one walnut table to her and her heirs forever. Third. I give and bequeath to Mary W. Strickland my grand daughter one bed, bedstead and furniture, grey chest to her and her heirs forever. Fourth I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Nancy Strickland the residue of my household and kitchen furniture to her and her heirs forever. Fifth I give and bequeath one fourth part of the money that I may have on hand at my death to be equally divided among the children my son Granberry Hendrick deceased to them and their heirs forever. Sixth I give and bequeath one fourth part of the money that I may have on hand at my death to be equally divided among the children of my son Wright B. Hendricks to them and their heirs forever. Seventh I give and bequeath one fourth of the money that I may have on hand at my death to be equally divided among the children of my son John Hendrick to them and their heirs forever. Eighth I give and bequeath one fourth of the money that I may have on hand at my death to be equally divided among the children of my son Redding Hendrick to them and their heirs forever. Lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my friend J. J. Taylor my executor to this my last will and testament and I hereby revoke and disavow all other wills heretofore made by me this 1st of April, A.D. 1848.

signed, sealed, published
and declared in the presence
of us.

Robert D Deane

Guilford H Williams

Temperance H Hendricks (Seal)
mark.

State of North Carolina, court of pleas and quarter session
Nash County Aug. court 1854

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Temperance Hendricks is offered for probate on oath of Guilford H. Williams a subscribing witness thereto and is duly proven whereupon J.J.T. Taylor the

executor therein named is duly qualified according to law, and is ordered to be recorded.
and is recorded.
Attest G. W. Wood, C. C. C.
Attest C. W. Wood, C. C. C.

526

I Charity Whitfield of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina, being of infirm health but 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 and pay all funeral expenses together with my just debts howsoever and to whomsoever owing out of the moneys that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate. Item I lend to my niece Penelope Price all of my estate both personal and real to her use and her children as long as she shall live and at the death of my niece Penelope Price I give all of my property to her children both personal and real estate to be equally divided among them and I do hereby constitute and appoint my friend John E. Thorne my lawful executor to all intents and purposes by signing of this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made in witness whereof I the said Charity Whitfield do hereunto set my hand and seal this 4 day of January A D 1852.
Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Charity Whitfield to be her last will and testament in the presence of us who at her request and in her presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.
Edwin Edwards
Theophilus Thorne
Charity x Whitfield, (Seal)
mark.

State of North Carolina, court of pleas and quarter session
Nash County Aug. term 1854
A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Charity Whitfield is offered for probate on oath by Theophilus Thorne the executor therein named is duly qualified and is ordered to be recorded.
and is recorded.
Attest G. W. Wood, C. C. C.
Attest C. W. Wood, C. C. C.

527

In the Name of God Amen. I Dempsey Beckwith of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and disposing mind and memory and knowing the uncertainty of my earthly existence do publish this as my last will and testament I give to my wife Martha all my property of every kind and quality to be hers absolutely to dispose of in any way she may think proper I do hereby appoint my wife Martha executor to this my last will and testament in testimony whereof which I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 13th day of August A D 1853
Witness
W. T. Arrington
Charles Gay
James B. Elin
his
Dempsey Beckwith (Seal)
mark.

State of North Carolina, court of pleas and quarter session
Nash County August term, 1854
A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Dempsey Beckwith offered for probate on oath of W. T. Arrington Charles Gay and James B. Elin the subscribing witnesses thereto and is duly proven whereupon the executor Martha Beckwith therein named is duly qualified and is ordered to be recorded.
and is recorded.
Attest G. W. Wood, C. C. C.
Attest C. W. Wood, C. C. C.

528

State of North Carolina, Nash County. In the name of God Amen. I William G. Freeman of the town of Nashville being of sound and disposing mind and well knowing the uncertainty of the life do make this my last will and testament.
1st. I bequeath my immortal souls to the Lord that gave it and my body to the Father earth to be decently interred with a fine tomb stone over it.
2nd. It is my wish that what few debts if any that I may owe shall be paid.
3rdly. I give and bequeath to my mother and sister Amanda G. Freeman the whole of my estate jointly and upon the death of either the survivor to have the whole of it in fee simple forever. I have now in the hands of ~~William~~ Son and Company, in Petersburg some five thousand dollars and in the hands of Smith Watson and Co. in Philadelphia some thousand or fifteen hundred dollars all of which will more fully appear by reference to my ledger. I suppose I have the sum of eight thousand dollars in bonds which are in my pocket book in my trunk and a statement of which is also upon my ledger. Besides a considerable number of accounts which have been drawn from my book, and also a large number yet to draw.

There will also be found in my pocket book the letters of ~~William~~ Son and Co. and their receipts for the money before mentioned also Smith Watson and Company receipts for deposits with them.

My negroes perhaps they had better keep, and my goods they had better dispose of on as good terms as they can. They were purchased for cash and perhaps can be disposed of with advantage to the purchaser and my estate which disposition can be public or private, but I would not advise the carry on the business as they know nothing about it and would likely be prejudiced in the financial affairs but think my mother and sister might qualify as my executrix and employ W. T. Verich to settle the business up for them as their agent. In consideration of the ~~promise~~ I nominate and appoint my mother Harriet Freeman and sister Amanda G. Freeman my executrices to execute and carry out my will in as full and ample a manner as I could were I personally present. I do not wish for Bryan child to have any part of my estate upon the demise of my mother and sister if that she were Amariah is alive because I believe she killed my brother willfully, knowingly and maliciously and because the child can't possibly be raised by such a brute as to be worthy in my estimation of enjoying my property.

Perhaps it would be best for mother and Amanda to invest the lands, notes accounts and c. in State bonds if you could do so, as it would be a safe investment and you could get the interest semi-annually. I do not know what to advise relative to living, perhaps you prefer going to Raleigh to live or perhaps to Franklin but exercise your own discretion and wish as to that. But recollect that after I am dead my designing fellows will be so desirous of making them selves very agreeable and will be very desirous to have you live they feel much concern for your interest and will next want to marry Amanda, but let them go to the devil and consult your lawyer as to your affairs and contend for your rights. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 3 of July, A.D. 1854. William G. Freeman, (Seal)

State of North Carolina, Court of pleas and quarter sessions
Nash County Nov. term, 1854

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of William G. Freeman is offered for probate on the testimony of Benjamin A. Blount, Jas. Harris and George N. Lewis who are credible witnesses make oath that they are well acquainted with the handwriting of the said William G. Freeman and that the same is generally known among his acquaintances that further appear that they found said paper writing among the valuable papers of the said William G. Freeman on the day of his death. Shortly thereafter and that the same is every part thereof is in his own recent hand writing and is subscribed by him in his own proper hand writing. On said proff the said paper handwriting is admitted to probate. and Harriett Freeman and Amanda Freeman the Executrix therein named are duly qualified
Attest G. W. Wood, C. C. C.
and is recorded.
Attest G. W. Wood, C. C. C.

529

In the Name of God Amen. I Francis Creekmore of the county of Nash and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and disposing memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do publish and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form that is to say, 1st. I lend to my husband Thomas Creekmore my tract of land whereon I now live during his natural life. I also lend him my stock of cattle to make use of them one bed and furniture eight sitting chairs three tables two chest, two pots also my stock of sheep the above last property will be sold by my executor hereinafter named and the money arising from the sale thereof shall be equally divided among the heirs of my sisters Nancy Manning and Susan Boon with provisions that if any of the above heirs shall marry in the family of Willis Warren they shall not receive any part of my estate whatever. I also lend my said husband one large blue chest during his single life as long as he shall and then give it to my nephew Willis B. Manning. In addition to the above distribution I give to my niece Francis B. Manning my wollen wheel. 2. I also give to my brother Warren one Dollar as his distribution share of my estate.

I give to my friend John W. Bryant my large stone Jug.
3. That the residue of my estate if any after taking out the debts and legacies above mentioned shall be sold and the debts owing to me. Collected and if there should be any surplus over and above the payment of debts and expenses shall be equally divided and paid over to the above heirs in equal portions share and share alike to them and each and every of them their executors administrators and assigns absolutely for ever.
And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my friend Benjamin Blibro my lawful executor to all intents and purposes with provisions that there shall be no security required of him to execute this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring and utterly void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made.
In witness whereof I the said Francis Creekmore do hereunto set my hand and seal this 9th day of March, 1854.
Signed, sealed, published and declared in the presence of us.
Francis x Creekmore (Seal)