In the name of God Amen. I Dorcas Highsmith of the county of Pentlanover, North Carolina, being weak in body, but perfect mind and memory (blessed be god for the same) and knowing that it is appointed unto all people to die, do make and ordain this my last Will & Testament, in manner and form following

First I give and bequeath to the children of my daughter Elizabeth Johnson, the heirs of her body lawfully begotten, the following negroes Viz, Lilan and her Children, Ellen, Hogwood & Elizabeth, and Lucy Jane My daughter Elizabeth Johnson aforesaid to have the use and benefit of them during her natural life they to belong to the children aforesaid

I hereby constitute and appoint my Grand Son Jacob Lee executor of to this my last Will & Testament, In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twelfth day of October 1854

Signed Sealed in presence of

Geo Pegnell
Joseph Stringfield

Dorcas her mark Highsmith (Seal)

State of North Carolina
Pentlanover County Court March Term A.D. 1855

The foregoing paper writing purporting to be the last Will & Testament of Dorcas Highsmith is exhibited in open Court & offered for probate. And the due execution of the same is proven by the oath of Joseph Stringfield one of the subscribing witnesses thereto. And it being considered by the court to be the last will & Testament of said Dorcas Highsmith in every respect, and sufficient to convey the bequeath therein made. At the same time Jacob Lee the executor therein named, appeared in open Court and declined qualifying as such. Whereupon Enoch Johnson appeared in open Court & was duly qualified as administrator with the Will annexed.

Teste

Saml W Dunning Clerk