

September Term 1860

I James Bourdeaux of the County of New Hanover and State of North Carolina being of Sound Mind and Memory, but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make & declare this my last will & Testament in manner & form following that is to say,

First That my executor (herein after named) Shall Sell (if I should not Sell it my self) my Current Land with such other property as may be required for the payment of my just debts now due and to whomsoever owing.

I give and devise to my beloved wife Rebecca One Hundred acres of Land the tract whereon I now live, including my house, all out houses and other improvements, to have and to hold to her the said Rebecca for and during the term of her widowhood, but if she marries again then it shall be divided between her and my seven youngest children,

I give and bequeath to my eldest daughter Rebecca, wife of Macon Buid the sum of five dollars, to be paid by my executor within two years after my youngest child becomes twenty one years old, which will not be until June the eighteenth hundred and seventy four, which sum together with the advances she had from me at the time of her marriage and sundry small advancements since that time, will make her a fair & equitable portion according to the value of my real and personal estate to be hers, and at her disposal absolutely for ever.

I give and bequeath to my eldest son Arthur the sum of five dollars as his right and property forever, to be paid by my executor in the same manner as the last bequest, and is made under the same views in reference to the former advancements.

I give and bequeath to my daughter Politha wife of Nathan N. Bourdeaux the sum of five dollars as her right and property forever to be paid by my Executor in the manner as my last bequest, and is made under the same views in reference to the former advancements.

I give and bequeath to my daughter Ann Eliza the wife of Saml S. Herring the sum of five dollars as her right and property forever to be paid by my Executor in the same manner as the last bequest, and is made under the same views in reference to the former advancements.

I give and bequeath to my son James Palifox the sum of two hundred & fifty dollars, as his right and property, provided he is living and comes in the proper time.

My will and desire is that all the residue of my estate after taking out the devises and legacies above mentioned, shall remain in the possession of my wife and six youngest children until my youngest son arrives at the full age of twenty one years. Then my will and desire is that it be equally divided to my said wife and seven youngest children now living in equal proportion share and share alike to them and each of and every of them their executors Administrators and assigns absolutely forever—

And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend William S. Pridgen and my son Richard C. W. Bourdeau my lawful executors to all intents and purposes to execute this my last will & testament according to the true intents and meaning of the same and every part & clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring entirely void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made

In witness whereof at the said Parish Bourdeau do hereunto set my hand and seal this eighteenth day of November in the year of our Lord A.D. 1854.

James Bourdeau (seal)

Signed sealed published & declared by the above James Bourdeau to be his last will & testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto

Wm. S. Pridgen  
J. S. Pridgen

State of North Carolina  
 Rowan County Court Sept Term 1860.

This paper writing purporting to be the last will & testament of James Bourdeau subscribed in Open Court & offered for probate and is duly proved by the Oaths of John W. Pridgen and J. S. Pridgen both the subscribing witnesses thereto; (And it is considered by the Court that the same is the last will & testament of James Bourdeau, in every respect, and sufficient to carry the bequests therein made. At the same time Wm. S. Pridgen one of the executors therein named in open court, and was duly qualified as such. It is therefore Ordered that the said be registered and filed.)

Test  
 J. W. Pridgen Clerk  
 for R. B. Wood & J. S. Pridgen