

September Term 1860

I James Bourdeau of the County of New Hanover and State of North Carolina being of Sound Mind and Memory, but ~~considering~~ ^{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 Carriage 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 Buie 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 advancements 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 F. Bourdeau 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 Polifox 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. Bridgen and my son Richard
C. M. 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 I the said James 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
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

John W. Bridgen
J. S. Bridgen

State of North Carolina

Superior Court County Court Sept Term 1860.

This paper writing purporting to be the last will & testament
of James Bourdeau was exhibited in open Court &
offered for probate and is duly proved by the Oaths
of John W. Bridgen and J. S. Bridgen 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 convey the bequests therein made. At the same
time Wm S. Bridgen one of the executors therein
named in oaths, and was duly qualified
as such. It is therefore Ordered that the same
be registered and filed.

Test

James R. Beantone Clk
for R. B. Hood for Deft. Clk