

State of North Carolina
New Hanover County

In the name of God amen
I Jethro Ballard of the county and State aforesaid
being of Sound Mind & Memory doth make and ordain
this my last will and Testament, I give and bequeath
my beloved wife Martha P Ballard after all my Just
debts shall have been paid, & all my personal and
Real property of every kind and nature, as well
as forty Shares of Commercial Bank Stock, together
with Ten thousand insured on my life in the
National Loan fund Society of London & Messrs
Brown being agents, Now in the hands of my best-
friend John Dawson, to have and to hold
for her use and benefit & to assist in raising and
educating my children, until the youngest Boy Robt
shall attain the age of twenty ~~one~~ years and at that
period the property to be equally divided, that that
is to say one half of the whole to my wife and the
balance to be equally divided among my children.
And I further appoint and request my friend
John Dawson to act as Executor to this my last
will & Testament

Witnesses
Geo Harris
A J Howell

Jethro Ballard

State of North Carolina

New Hanover County Court December term 1853

This paper writing purporting to be the last will and
testament of Jethro Ballard is exhibited in open
court for probate, and is duly proven by the oath
of George Harris & A J Howell the subscribing
witnesses thereto, and is considered by the Court
to be the last will & Testament of the said Jethro
Ballard, and is sufficient to convey the property
therein bequeathed. At the same time John
Dawson the Executor therein named comes into
Court, and relinquishes his Executor ship, and
Martha P Ballard the widow comes into Court
and duly administers on said estate with
the will annexed. Let the same with this certifi-
cate be recorded in the will books of New
Hanover County and filed
Teste Saml V. Bunting clk