

State of North Carolina

New Hanover County Court December term 1855

This paper writing purporting to be the last will & testament of John D. Jones is exhibited in Court and is offered for probate, and is duly proved by the oath of J. W. Pierce one of the subscribing witnesses thereto, and as such considered by the Court to be and contain the last will and testament of said J. D. Jones, and sufficient to convey the property therein bequeathed, at the same time Caroline D. Jones the executrix therein named was duly qualified according to law.

Teste

J. W. Pierce clerk

In the of God amen, I John Williams of Wilmington County of New Hanover & State of N. Carolina being of sound mind and memory, now being for advanced in years, and daily expecting to be summoned from time into eternity, do make publicly this my last will & testament in manner and form following, viz.

1st at my decease I wish my body to be placed in a plain-fine coffin painted black and laid alongside of my departed wife & her, and that my doctors bill and other funeral expenses, be paid as soon as convenient.

2nd My will is that after my decease that my executor herein-after named, shall take into his possession all my estate which consists chiefly in my houses & lots between third & fourth Streets & all other property which I own, for my heirs herein-after named I will, also that he rent out my houses by the year, beginning 1st of October payable Quarterly, giving notes with security. He will also pay from the proceeds, first, the Taxes, Insurance and repairs regularly, and do balance arising from said property, be applied to the payment of my own lawful debts first, which are but few, then all my other debts, for which, I am security and bound to pay for W. A. Williams.

3rd When all these lawful debts are paid and settled up, then I do hereby will give bequeath and devise unto my grand children (John F. Robert D. Ellen Isabella & William A. with any others which may come, the children of my son William Augustus Williams) all my real & personal estate to them their heirs & assigns forever, as tenants in common in fee simple, which property consists chiefly of my houses & lots, with my five slaves & their increase, being Anne & her son John, Lany & her 2 children, Brouder

and my will further is that this estate & negroes shall not be sold or disposed of or mortgaged until the youngest child arrives at the age of twenty five years of age. And further my will is that my said William & his wife shall enjoy the use & income of those houses & services of the five slaves as long as they live, he William paying taxes & all other repairs and expenses which may arise on said property. And should my son William depart this life before his wife then she shall in like manner possess and enjoy all the said last named estate & property so long as she shall remain single, should my said son or his wife die or remarry before said children arrives at the age above named, then my will is that the property bequeathed & devised to them shall be retaken back and the proceeds after paying taxes and repairs be applied to the support of said children until the youngest shall attain to the full age aforementioned, Where all the premises may be disposed of as they may or shall determine, unless their said father or his wife should be living, and the latter single, in which event the premises shall not be disposed of except with their or his or her consent until their death.

I hereby nominate, institute and appoint my said son William Augustus Williams to be the sole executor of this my last will & testament, hereby revoking all other wills and declaring this only as my and for my last will & testament.

Witness my hand & Seal this ninth day of October, 1852

Witness
Wm. G. Lippitt
John J. Conolly

John William [Seal]

State of North Carolina

Wm. Warrner County Court December Term 1855

This paper uniting purporting to be the last will & testament of John Williams is exhibited in open Court, and offered for probate, and is duly proved by the oaths of both the subscribing witnesses thereto ~~to be true~~ and as such considered by the Court to be and contain the last will & testament of said John Williams, and sufficient to carry the bequests therein made & at the same time Wm. A. Williams the executor therein named appeared in open Court and was duly qualified according to law.

Teste
Saml W. Warrner Clerk