

State of North Carolina
 New Hanover County

I Major J. Croom of said State & County being feeble in body but of perfect mind and memory and considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this instrument of writing my last Will & Testament in manner of form following.

First that my Executor (hereafter named) shall provide for my body a decent burial and pay all funeral expenses together with all my just debts, out of the first moneys that may come into his hands from my Estate.

2^d. I give and devise to my beloved wife Margaret A. Croom all the property I possess consisting of lands negroes stock of all kinds, household & kitchen furniture plantation tools money notes and any other property I may possess at my decease after the payment of my debts as above stated.

Lastly, I do hereby constitute & appoint my particular friend William S. Jenkins Executor to this my last Will and Testament and it is my will that he be amply remunerated for all trouble & expenses.

In witness whereof I the said Major J. Croom do hereunto set my hands & seal this 20th day of October, A.D. 1861.

Signed, sealed, published & declared by the said Major J. Croom to be his last Will & Testament in presence of us, who at his request & in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses.

M. J. Croom Seal

James W. Johnston
 R. J. Saunders

State of North Carolina

New Hanover County Court, March Term 1862.

This paper writing purporting to be the last Will & Testament of M. J. Croom is propounded in open Court for probate and was duly proved by the oath of James W. Johnston and R. J. Saunders, both the subscribing witnesses thereto; and it is considered by the Court that the same is the last Will and Testament of M. J. Croom, in every respect, and sufficient to convey the bequests therein made; at the same time Wm. S. Jenkins the Executor therein named appeared in Court, and was duly qualified as such.

Teste Samuel R. Smoothing Clerk
 J. R. Wood & Dy. Clerk