

I, Samuel Black of the County of New Hanover  
in the State of North Carolina, do make, publish and declare  
this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking and making  
void all former Wills by me at any time here to fore made.

I hereby constitute and appoint my daughter Mary E. Watters  
executrix of this my last will and testament.

I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary E. Watters, the profits  
derived from the services of all my slaves, the dividends arising from  
my Bank Stock, and the interest accruing on all bonds and notes  
belonging to my estate, excepting however the bond herein after  
referred to, to be held and enjoyed by my said daughter for the  
use maintenance & support of herself and the maintaining  
support and education of my two grand children Samuel Fox  
son Watters and Sarah Ann Lillington Watters, until the said  
Sarah Ann Lillington Watters shall have attained the  
age of twenty one years.

I give and bequeath to my sister Elizabeth Black, the interest accruing on a certain bond made  
by St John Lodge and Concord Chapter of Wilmington now  
held by me, said interest to be held and enjoyed by my said sister  
during her life, and it is to be collected by my executrix and  
remitted to her semi annually.

I give and bequeath to my  
aforesaid daughter Mary E. Watters all my slaves, to be  
held by her during the minority of my grand children  
herein before named, and they may be worked or hired  
out as my said daughter may consider most beneficial  
to the interest of my estate, and I hereby authorise and  
empower my said daughter to sell and dispose of any  
one or more of said slaves should she deem it advisable  
so to do, and should it become necessary and manifestly  
to the interest of all interested in my estate, from the happening  
of any unforeseen circumstances, connected with slave prop-  
erty. That the whole of my slaves should be sold, I hereby  
authorise and empower my said daughter to sell and dispose  
of all of my slaves. It is however my wish and I so direct that  
my Driver Moses & his wife Phillis and her child should not  
be sold, but they must be kept together and should it become  
necessary sufficiently provided for during the life of said Moses.

Upon the arrival of my aforesaid grand daughter at the  
age of twenty one years, it is my will and I direct that the  
following division and distribution of my slaves, together with  
the Bank Stock, bonds and notes held by executrix as belonging  
to my estate be made, that is to say one third part of my slaves  
shall become the absolute property of my said daughter Mary.

Watters, and the remaining two thirds of my slaves, together with all such bonds and notes as then constitute a part of my estate, be distributed between my two grand children Samuel Paxton Watters and Sarah Ann Ellington Watters, in such share and proportions as my daughter Mary E<sup>t</sup> Watters shall by any paper writing whether in the nature of a deed or last will and testament have designated, appropriated or limited; and should my said daughter either by deed or by last will and testament fail to make such designation, appropriation or limitation as aforesaid, then and in that event said two thirds of my slaves, together with the bonds and notes belonging to my estate, shall be equally divided between my said two grand children, the legal representatives of either of my said grand children who may have died, to be entitled to the same share which his or her parent would have been, if then living. My Bank Stock with the dividends arising therefrom to be held by my said daughter during her life to her exclusive use and benefit and upon her death is to be divided and distributed between my grand children aforesaid, or the legal representative of either of both of them should they or either of them be dead, in such shares and proportions as my said daughter by her last will & testament shall direct and declare, and upon her failure to make such disposition of said Bank Stock by her last will and testament that the same be in that event equally divided between my said grand children or their legal representatives as aforesaid, and I hereby authorize and empower my said daughter should she deem it advisable and prudent so to do, to convey the share or portion of my slaves, bonds and notes, and Bank Stock which she may designate and appropriate as aforesaid to my grand daughter Sarah Ann, or any part thereof, to a trustee or trustees to be held by him or them for the sole separate and exclusive use of my said grand daughter during her life and upon such other and further uses and limitations as my said daughter may desire proper.

Should my daughter under the previous provisions of this my last will, make sale of any one or more of all of my slaves, or should it be deemed by her advisable to collect any of my notes or bonds, she is hereby authorized and directed to invest the proceeds derived from the sale of slaves, and the proceeds of such notes and bonds as may be collected by her, together with such monies derived from the profits of my slaves, dividends from Bank Stock and interest accruing on bonds and notes which shall not have been expended by her as provided in the first clause of this my will, in the purchase of Real Estate, Bank Stock and in loans upon sufficient security, and all such investments in the division and distribution of my estate are to be considered as belonging to the respective funds or kind of property from which said investments have been respectively made,

and the same are to be divided and distributed according to  
 It is my will and I do declare, that my daughter Mary E. Watt-  
 ers shall not be held accountable for the profits derived from the  
 services of my slaves, the dividends received from my Bank Stock  
 or the interest accruing on notes and bonds, during the minority of  
 my said grand children, beyond what shall be necessary for the  
 maintenance and education of my said grand children, but  
 it is my wish that the sum derived from these different sources  
 beyond the amount expended by her for her own maintenance  
 and support and the maintenance and education of my  
 aforesaid grand children, should be invested by her for the  
 benefit of those interested in my estate.

It is my will and I do direct,  
 that in the division of my slaves to be made upon the maturity of my  
 said grand children as hereinbefore set forth, my daughter may  
 select from the whole number of said slaves any ten she may wish  
 to be taken by her as a part of her share of my slaves.

I give and bequeath during all the rest and residue of my property  
 whether the same be real or personal and wheresoever the same may  
 be, unto my aforesaid daughter Mary E. Wattlers, to her and her  
 heirs executors administrators and assigns forever.

In the event of the death of my said daughter, during the  
 minority of my aforesaid grand children, I constitute and app-  
 oint Mr Joseph Wattlers, the paternal grandfather of my aforesaid  
 grand children, Executor of this my last will and testament.

In testimony whereof I the said Samuel Black have to  
 this my last will and Testament Subscribed my name and  
 affixed my seal this the ninth day of July A D 1847

Signed, Sealed, published and  
 declared to be his last will & testament  
 by the aforesaid Samuel Black, in our  
 presence (the word written on the second  
 page, and the words been added on the  
 third page interlined before the execution  
 hereof) John Wooster  
 Wm A Wright

Sam'l Black. Seal

State of North Carolina  
 New Hanover County Court, June Term 1851

This paper writing was exhibited by Mary E.  
 Wattlers as the last will & testament of Sam'l Black and was in due  
 form of law proved to be such by the oath of Wm A Wright one of the  
 subscribing witnesses thereto, Whereupon it was considered by the court that the  
 same is the last will & testament of the said Sam'l Black and ad-

to probate as such and ordered to be recorded & filed.

Whereupon Mary E Watters the executrix therein named  
came before the Court and was duly qualified as Executrix  
thereof. Ordered that letter testamentary issue to her as Executrix  
aforesaid. L H Mars tellor Clerk  
by Dow Dickson by Clerk

I Labon Peterson ~~Peterson~~ 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 and declare this my last will and testament, in the  
manner and form following, that is to say. First That  
my executor hereinafter named shall provide for my body a  
decent burial, suitable to the wishes of my relatives and friends, and  
pay all funeral expences together with all my just debts out of any  
monies that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of  
my estate.

Item 2<sup>d</sup> I give and devise to my beloved wife Margaret Peterson three  
hundred & two acres of land, it being the tract of land whereon  
I now live, containing my house and plantation, to have and to  
hold to her the said Margaret Peterson for and during her natural  
life in satisfaction for her & in lieu of her dower & third of my lands.  
Also my two negroes Viz Sam & Harriet for & during her natural  
life, and after her death I give Sam to my son Moses Peterson and  
Harriet to my daughter Priscilla Anna Williams and the children born  
of her body, the increase of Harriet I reserve during my life. I also give to  
my wife Margaret three Cows & Calves (her choice) one Yoke of Oxen and  
Carr, one horse, bridle & Saddle, three yews & lambs, two sows and pigs, Six  
year old Hogs, two Stock Bees, one third part of my house hold and kitchen  
furniture for and during her life and after her death to my daughter  
Elizabeth Jane Drew wife of Anthony Drew.

Item 3<sup>d</sup> I give and devise to my daughter Mary Corbets heirs <sup>the sum</sup> one dollar

Item 4<sup>th</sup> I give and devise to my daughter Susan Corbett one feather bed  
and furniture.

Item 5<sup>th</sup> I give and devise to my son William Peterson a negro boy named  
Lawless.

Item 6<sup>th</sup> I give and devise to my son Timothy Hatchett Peterson one  
dollar.

Item 7<sup>th</sup> I give and devise to my son Aaron Peterson One hundred  
acres of land called the reedy Skirt lands, adjoins the lands of R<sup>e</sup>  
Murphy and others, said piece or parcel of lands contains one third  
of my land & was deeded to b<sup>r</sup> some years ago.