

Will and Testament, hereby revoking all other Wills and Testaments by me ~~now~~ heretofore made. In witness whereof I the said Jesse Hardison here to this my last will and testament Set my hand and Seal this the 25th day of August One thousand eight hundred & fifty Seven

David J. Nixon
A. M. McKimmon

Jesse Hardison Seal

State of North Carolina

New Hanover County Court. September Term 1858.

This paper purporting to be the last will and Testament of Jesse Hardison is exhibited in open Court and offered for probate and is duly proved by the oaths of David J. Nixon and A. M. McKimmon the Subscribing witnesses thereto and as such considered by the Court to be and contain the last will and Testament of said Jesse Hardison in every respect and sufficient to carry the bequests therein made. Let the same be registered & filed. At the same time Will King one of the executors therein named appeared in open Court and was duly qualified as such according to Law. and John Bishop the other executor, came into Court and renounced his executorship.

Test

Samuel Bunting Clerk

State of North Carolina

of Wilmington State aforesaid. being of sound mind and memory. but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make publish and declare this my last will and Testament in manner & form following hereby revoking and making void all former wills by me at any time heretofore made.

It is my will and I hereby direct that my Executors, herein after named shall pay all my just debts out of the moneys that shall first come into their hands as part and parcel of my estate, and after the said debts shall have been paid. I desire that my executors shall erect a Tomb or monument over my grave with an iron fence around the same. The Costs of which Tomb or monument and fence shall not exceed the sum of five hundred dollars. I give and bequeath to my Sister Harriett wife of Josiah

Smith. My Slaves Washington, Molly, and James and Alfred
Children of said Molly and also all her future increase
I give and bequeath to my brother Peter Rouse. My Slaves
Ben Howard, Eveline and Ben and Richard Children of said
Eveline and also all her future increase.

I Give and bequeath to my brother Adonijah Rouse my Slave
Bella and Salaria and also the four Children of the said Salaria
together with all her future increase.

I give and bequeath to each of the two Children of my Sister
Sophia Cunningham the Sum of one hundred dollars.

I Give and bequeath to each of the four Children of my
brother Moses W. Rouse the Sum of one hundred dollars.

I give and bequeath to the Child~~ren~~ of my Sister Elizabeth
Although the Sum of one hundred dollars, and I also give
and bequeath to the Child of my Sister Clara Chadwick the
Sum of one hundred dollars.

I give and bequeath to Shadrack M. West James P.
Killer and Thomas P. Robinson my executors hereof
Agreed, or to such of them as may qualify my Slaves
Joan, Gamaliel and Fred. In Trust, nevertheless,
that they shall remove the said Slaves beyond the limits
of this State to Some ^{other} State or Country where emancipation
is unrestricted and allowed by law, there to remain
and become free. And I direct that my executors shall
as soon as possible after my death, do all that is neces-
sary to effect removal & emancipation of my said Slaves,
whom I hereby leave entirely and absolutely free. And in
furtherance of this my will and purpose touching the
emancipation and removal of my said Slaves, I give
and bequeath to my said Executors the Sum of Six thousand
dollars, to be raised and received out of the Sale of my
real and personal estate and out of such Stocks bonds
Notes and Money as I may die possessed of and may
remain and be in their hands after the my debts and
the several legacies herebefore mentioned shall have
been ~~settled~~ and paid. The Trust nevertheless that
the said Sum of Six thousand dollars shall be used
and applied to the removal of the said Slaves Joan,
Gamaliel and Fred, to Some State or Country where they
shall remain and enjoy their freedom; and after
such removal shall have been made, and the expenses
attending thereon paid out of the said Sum of that
the remaining balance of the Six thousand dollars
shall be equally divided between my two Slaves Joan &
Gamaliel, to them I hereby give the said balance in

equal shares of one half each. I also give and bequeath to the said Joan and Carnaliet all my ^{kind of} furniture of every description whatsoever, to be equally divided between them.

I also will and direct that after the debts specific legacies legacies and charges upon my estate herein before recited shall have been satisfied, and the said sum of six thousand dollars shall have been disbursed and paid as herein before directed, then my executors shall retain and appropriate to their own use the sum of fifteen percent on the remaining balance or residue of my estate in compensation for their services, which sum shall be equally divided between them, and the residue of my estate remaining in their hands after they shall have received and paid themselves the said sum of fifteen percent. I give and bequeath to my Sisters Harriett Smith and my brother Peter Rourke and Adelineus Rourke to be equally divided among them ~~there~~ each taking one third part thereof.

I hereby constitute and appoint my friends Shadrack Mc Wesh, James Dickson and Thomas F. Robeson and the survivor of them or survivors of them, my lawful executors to execute this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same.

I the said William A Rourke do hereunto set my hand and seal this 3rd day of April A D 1858 In witness whereof
Signed Sealed published and declared by the said William A Rourke be his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto

Land Dickson
Miles Castin
W Sullivan
W A Peden

State of North Carolina

New Hanover County Court September Term 1858

This paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of William A. Rouse is exhibited in open court and offered for probate, and is duly proved by the oaths of Miles Gaston William A. Peden and Uriah Sullivan three of the subscribing witnesses thereto, and as such considered by the Court to be and contain the last will and testament of said William A. Rouse in every respect, and as such sufficient to convey the bequests therein made, Let the same be registered and filed, At the same time James D. Miller and Shadrack McWick two of the executors therein named, appeared in open Court and were duly qualified according to law.

Test Samuel Bunting Clerk

State of North Carolina

New Hanover County

I William H. McCoy of the State and County aforesaid being of Sound and disposing mind and memory (by the blessing of a kind providence) do solemnly make publish and declare this paper writing to be my last Will and Testament in manner & form following, hereby revoking any ~~other~~ Will heretofore made by me.

It is my will and desire that my remains be decently buried, and that my executor be authorized to expend as much of my estate (in reason) thereof as he may deem much and expedient.

It is my will and desire that my executor hereinafter named do pay my just debts to the uttermost of the same.

It is my will and desire that all my real and personal estate which may remain after the payment of my just debts may be and belong to my wife Francisca E. McCoy to have and to hold during her life or widowhood and that my beloved wife shall out of the property will to her for her life or widowhood provide for maintain and educate my two beloved sons William and Robert and such other child or children as may be the offspring of our marriage, and for this purpose she is to have the contrall of all my property until said William or Robert or such other shall arrive at the age of twenty one and in that case each child shall draw from my estate an Child's part leaving still an equal share in the hands of my beloved wife Francisca E.