

Howell Edmunds's Will

In the Name of God Amen. I Howell Edmunds of the County of Northampton & State of North Carolina being in good Health and perfect memory thank God for the same do make and ordain this my last Will & Testament in manner & form following

I give unto my beloved Wife Elizabeth Edmunds the whole of my Lands & Tenements & House & outbuildings that I now own & possess with during the term of seven Years. Provided she upon the receiving of my aforesaid property into her hands assigns my Executors hereafter named a clear title & deed upon the aforesaid property in order to be conveyed to them that she with such or others to be taught the whole of my Children (viz) that they be not of Reading Writing & Arithmetic as far as the negroes and Colored People & the Girls Children through the different Rules from Education be concerned. But if my said Wife Elizabeth should die in the aforesaid term of seven Years, I desire that the whole of my property may be sold by my Executors say a C^o of twelve members and for my Wife to have her portion in the two thirds where there is no Will left by the dec^d.

If my said Wife after the aforesaid seven Years, remains unmarried I desire that as long as she remains unmarried that she may have a granted maintenance paid her out of my Estate during her widowhood.

My further Will and desire is that if any Negro or Negroes belonging to me does not believe themselves an dutiful Servant that my Estate should pay at any time I will with Negroes that we hire and the money arising from such sale to be put out on Interest or laid out in the Purchase of other Negroes at the direction of my Executors.

I further desire that as soon as my Sons has got their Education & a reasonable amount that my Executors may lend them out to some Profitable trade or as far from it as they shall judge longer than five years, as for my Daughters I will and desire them to be under the

direction of my Wife in case of her death my Executors
I give of the body of my said Wife Elizabeth Edmunds to the my last Will and Testament. I further
ordain that I have made and my last Will and Testament my last Will & Testament
Jan 3 1805

Acknowledged
in Presence of
Jame Bond 1810 this will was passed
Council

My desire is that when my Son Henry comes to the age of twenty one
years it is in the Year of one thousand eight hundred & fourteen. That the whole of
my Estate be equally divided between all my Children during my life
a granted maintenance, my Executors to act for the Children that no man
will until they naturally die.

State of North Carolina
Northampton County Jan 3 1810

On application of Elizabeth Edmunds, the Executrix of the last Will
and Testament of the late Howell Edmunds, dec^d by her Council.
The last Will and Testament of the said Howell Edmunds, dec^d and
proved in the following manner, first it was proved by the Oath of George
Edmunds that the said last Will & Testament of the said Howell Edmunds
just dec^d was found among the Valuable Papers of the said dec^d and
and is now further proved by the Oath of William James, John White
law & John A. Cook, that the said witnesses that the said Will &
Testament was subscribed in the hand writing of the said Howell
Edmunds just dec^d and that they sincerely believe that the said Will & Testament
is every Part thereof is in the hand writing of the said Howell Edmunds
just dec^d & that upon the said Will was subscribed to be his last Will &
Testament.

Test. J. J. Haynes