North Carolina, August Term 1862
Pitt County } of the County Court
Then was this paper writing produced in open court and proved in due form of law to be the last will and testament of Jesse Chapman decd by the oath of Lewis H Smith one of the subscribing witness and by John L Daniel who testified to the hand writing of Jesse F Chapman the other subscribing witness and that he was now in the State of Virginia. It was then ordered by the Court that said paper writing be filed and recorded as the last will and testament of Jesse Chapman decd. At the same time Polly Chapman the executrix named in said will came into Court and duly qualified as such

G. A. Dancy Clk

And thereupon the Court required the said Polly Chapman to enter into bond in the sum of five thousand dollars with Lewis H Smith and Jno L Daniel as her sureties which bond was given and accepted by the Court

In the Name of God amen
I Arden Moore of Pitt County in the State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory. But considering the uncertainty of my earthly do make and declare this my last will and testament in 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 relations and friends and pay all my funeral expenses together with my just debts howsoever and to whomsoever owing out of the monies that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.
Item I leave all my property of every kind and denomination just as it now is during the life or widowhood of my wife, except such property as my wife and Executor may see proper to sell to pay my just debts. I leave my property in this way to support my wife and her family her life or widowhood. And at the death or marriage of my wife I give all my land above my big ditch to my Son John A Moore on conditions that if he the said John A Moore will give his tract of land where he lives to my Son Joshua L Moore. and if he will not I do not give it to my son John A Moore. this tract of land above my big ditch begins as follows. beginning in my big ditch at the lower of my little old place where Reddick Carneys line crosses sd ditch, thence running a line of marked trees into said Carneys field to a white oak. though down. thence runing up the center of the pasture Branch to its head to a dead pine and post oak. But both dead and down. thence runing the west edge of a small dream to a Black gum a corner in the whortleberry branch. thence up the center of said Branch to a pine a corner in said Branch. Thence leaving said branch on the north side and runing across a ridge to a sweet Gum a corner in the Gum branch thence down the center of the said Branch to a maple a corner in said branch. thence leaving said Gum branch

on the north side and runing a small dream the dividing line between Henry Barnhill and Arden Moore to ditch down a small dream called Finches creek. thence down said dream to the Gum Branch. Thence down said branch to my big ditch. thence down said ditch to the begining this. This tract I give to John A Moore if he complies with the conditions above written.
And all my land below my big ditch at the death or marriage of my wife I give to my Son Bethel S Moore his heirs and assigns forever. Begining in said big ditch thence runing up said ditch to its head. thence runing up the Gum branch to Henry Barnhills line in Finches creek. thence leaving the dream on the East side and runing a line of marked trees to a dead pine stump a corner thence runing East to a small dream. thence down said dream to the Great pond. thence through the great Pond to a Black gum a corner in the mouth of a small dream call the little Gout. thence runing said gout to a small dream the dividing between myself and James R Carney. thence with said dream and out on the South side to a Black oak stump in my own line and James R Carneys. thence west into my own field to a Stake. thence a line of marked trees to the Begining in the big ditch where my line and Reddick Carneys line crosses said ditch. At the death or marriage of my wife I leave my negro woman Minta to be sold by my Executor and the money arising from the sale of said negro to be equally divided between all my children except Joshua L Moore John A Moore and Bethel S Moore. and two of these heirs lives out of the State. There share of the money shall be retained in the hands of my executor without interest till he can contrive it to them. And my negro Girl Betty and increase if any I give to my Son Bethel S Moore his heirs and assigns forever. and my Riding Buggy and gear at my wifes death or marriage I give to my Son Bethel S Moore.
And all my property that remains at the death or marriage of my wife which I have not given away I leave to be be sold by my executor and the money equally divided between John A Moore, Joshua L Moore and Bethel S Moore. And I hereby make and ordain my Son Bethel S Moore Executor of this my last will and testament in witness my hand and seal this 21st day of May in the year of our Lord 1861

Arden Moore (Seal)

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Arden Moore decd was produced in open court by Bethel S Moore the person named as executor in said will. when William L Mooring deposed that the said paper writing was found after the death of the said Arden Moore among his valuable papers and effects and he further testified that he was well acquainted with the hand writing of the said Arden Moore and that he believed the said paper writing and signature was all in the genuine hand of the said Arden Moore. Reddick Carney James L Moore and James L Moore all testified that they were well acquainted with the hand writing of the said Arden Moore and that in their opinion every point and clause and signature of the said paper was in the hand writing of the said Arden Moore. The Court then declared that the said paper writing was the last will and testament of the said Arden Moore. so made and executed as to pass both real and personal

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estate when Bittel S Moore gave bond in the sum of $1,000 with Reddick Carney and James Moore as his sureties which was accepted by the Court and the said Bittel S Moore duly qualified in open court as executor to said will when the same was ordered to be recorded & filed

G. A. Dancy Clerk

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In the name of God Amen. I Joseph H Laughinghouse of the County of Pitt and State of North Carolina being of a sound and perfect mind and memory (blessed be God) do this 9th day of July In the year of our Lord eighteen hundred & fifty five make and publish this my last will and testament in manner following: that is to say:

Item 1st I give and bequeath unto my sone Wyatt L Laughinghouse all the portion set apart by his Grand father Edward Laughinghouse will several tracts or parcels of land lying in Beaufort County on which James B Dunn and John Bates now lives including the purchases made of Joseph Miller, Nathaniel Harding & Joseph J Hinton containing about 350 acres also 500 dollars in Cash and all the Books and the trunk which belonged to his uncle James E Laughinghouse and negro boys named Andrew & George.

Item 2nd I give unto my beloved wife Mary Ann the sole management of my estate to pay off the debts and raise and educate the children and as they become of age to give them an equal portion with my Sone Wyatt L Laughinghouse and at the death of my said wife the resadue to be equally divided among all of our children & I desire that there shall be an equal distribution without any publick sale

Joseph H Laughinghouse —

Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions
May Term 1863

There was the forgoing & within paper writing without subscribing witnesses purporting to be the last will & testament of Joseph H Laughinghouse deceased exhibited in open court for probate & it is thereupon proved by the oath & examination of Pockey Ann Ennell that the said will was found among the valuable papers of the said Joseph H Laughinghouse after his death & it is further ~~the~~ proved by the oath & examination of three competent & credible witnesses to wit Tenner B Satterthwaite William J Laughinghouse & James Galloway that they are acquainted with the hand writing of the said Joseph H Laughinghouse having often seen him write & verily believe that the name of the said Joseph H Laughinghouse subscribed to the said will & the said will & every part thereof are in the hand writing of the said Joseph H Laughinghouse It is therefore considered by the court that the said paper writing is the last will & testament of the said Joseph H Laughinghouse & the same is ordered to be recorded & filed. On motion letters of Administration with the the said will annexed are granted to

Silman H. Cherry & Wyatt Laughinghouse on their entering into bond in the sum of One hundred & sixty thousand dollars with Churchill Perkins, Wm B. Brown & William Whitehead as sureties. Bond given & admnr. qualified

G. A. Dancy Clerk

I James H. Clark of Greenville North Carolina do make and declare my last will and testament in manner and form as follows to wit.

Item I give and devise to my trusty friend C.C. Perkins in trust equally for my two sons, William E. Clark and James E. Clark, my Stock plantation and lands lying in the County of Pitt on the west Tranters Creek and Grindell Creek; and my Smithwick Whitley tract of land on Grindell Creek and Negro slaves Dinar & his wife Clancy, and Dinar and Stanley their children and the increase of Clancy after the date of this will and Tom and Ben and old Kit & his wife Eliance and Stephen son of old Kit and Adeline and her present child and the increase of Adeline born after the date of this will; and in trust for my son James E. Clark, negro slave Crissy and the Lot in Greenville where Crissy lives, known in the plat of said Town as Lot No eighty one (81); Also in trust for William the sum of five hundred dollars and for James Edgar the sum of One thousand dollars for their education, if the same should be unfinished at my death and to be applied to no other purpose. Item I give and devise to C.C. Perkins aforesaid in trust for my daughter Adelaide wife of S.W. Johnson for her natural life my Fresh Island, Moaring and Smith tracts of land adjoining John G. Brown, Wm Whitehead and others and after her death to her issue and failing to have issue surviving her, then to my other children and their issue. Item I give and devise to C.C. Perkins aforesaid in trust for my daughter Elvira for her natural life all my Lands in Sumpter County Georgia and after her death to her issue and failing to have issue surviving her, then to my other children and their issue. Item I give and devise to C.C. Perkins aforesaid in trust for my daughters Victoria Jones and Della wife of Wm. J. Jenkins equally for their natural lives all my lands in the County of Macon Georgia and after their death the share of each to each ones issue respectively and failing to have issue surviving then to my other children and their issue — Item, I give to my grandchild Helen Jones negro girl Lea and her increase born after the date of this will — Item I give to my grand child Mary Jenkins negro girl Sydney and her increase born after the date of this will. — Item I give and bequeath to C.C. Perkins aforesaid in trust for my children William James Edgar, Adelaide Johnson, Elvira, Della Jenkins and Victoria Jones subject to the same limitations and conditions as the respective legacies to each of them aforesaid, all the balance of my negro slaves that are not sold for the payment of my debts equally to be divided among them. And in said division it is my wish and will that my children be permitted to select any favourite negroes as part of their shares and that the negroes be so allotted and divided if the same be practicable without doing injustice to any particular share or shares as to retain and include in each child's share the negroes that may be living on the Plantation I have given to each of them, and that they be allotted in families

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