The Last Will and Testament of Jethro Rittrell Deed

State of North Carolina Pitt County

I Jethro Rittrell of the County & State aforesaid being in bad health but of sound mind and of disposing memory do make this my last Will & Testament in manner and form following

Item 1st I lone unto my beloved Wife Anna Rittrell all of my property during her natural life or widowhood that I may be possest of at my desse provided she shal pay all of my just debts and rase and school my childreny to my desire that my wife Anna shal keep all of my childreny and rase them out of the proceeds of my farm the property that I lone to my wife is as follows one tract of land where on I now live one other tract of land none as the gald berry land all of my house hold & kitchen furniture stock of all kinds all of my slaves namely Mike, Susan, & Flora all of my crop that may be on hand all of my farming tools if my wife should marr at any time then the above items null and void

Errors

Item 2nd after the desse of my wife I give and bequeath unto my two youngest daughters all of my lands to be equally devided between them the daughters that I allude to is Lucasta & Susan Margaret

Item 3rd let my wish & desire that my other children shal receive and amount equit to one half of the value of my land out of my other property not disposed of the childreny that I allude to is Mary Jane Nancy and Sallyann Rittrell and if there shal be any ballance either way it shal be equally devided between all of my heirs above named hereunto I set my hand & seale

In presence of — Sept 25 1854

S A Rittrell

Sandy Rittrell

Alfred Moye Admr with the will annexed of Elizabeth Phillips

agst

Eliz E Phillips
Robt E Phillips
Thos Phillips
Lefee Gregard & wife Priscilla

County Court November Term 1860

This cause is taken as confessed against the defendants and is heard ex parte upon the petition and testimony in the cause and the court adjudges and declares that Elizabeth Phillips departed this life leaving a last will & testament and that said will is in substance and effect as follows to wit; "That said Elizabeth Phillips devised and bequeathed to her daughter Elizabeth E Phillips all her estate both real and personal in fee absolutely" and the court further declares that said will was admitted to probate at August Term 1858 of this court and at the same time letters of administration with the will annexed were granted to the Petr who duly qualified and that on that on the 8 January 1858 the said original will & the record thereof and of the qualification and appointment of said admr were destroyed by fire in the burning of the Court House of this County and the court directs the foregoing to be recorded as the will of the said Elizabeth Phillips in the Will Book with this decree. The Clerk is allowed Five dollars for all his services in this cause and the cost of the court to be paid by the Petr out of any fund belonging to the estate of his intestate in his hands and if he has settled said estate and paid over the same to the legate then the court orders that said legate pay the same

Caleb Cannon Admr. de bonis non of Jethro Rittrell Decd

vs

Anna Rittrell
Nancy Rittrell
Louisa Rittrell
Mary Jane Rittrell
H Shepperd Guardian ad litem to infant Defts

County Court November Term 1860

This cause coming on to be heard upon petition and the testimony in said cause taken and no exceptions being taken the same is taken as confessed by the defendants and is heard ex parte and the court doth adjudge and declare that the said Jethro Rittrell died leaving a last will & testament and said last will & testament to be in form and substance as follows to wit; State of North Carolina Pitt County

I Jethro Rittrell of the County & State aforesaid being in bad health but of sound mind and of disposing memory do make this my last Will & Testament in manner and form following

Item 1st I lone unto my beloved wife Anna Rittrell all of my property during her natural life or widdowhood that I may be possessed of at my desease provided she shall pay all of my just debts and rase and school my children to my desire that my wife Anna shall keep all of my children and rase them out of the proceeds of my farm the property that I lone to my wife is as follows one tract of land whereon I now live one other tract of land known as the gald berry land all of my house hold & kitchen furniture stock of all kind all of my slaves namely Mike Charles Susan & Flora all of my crop that may be on hand all of my farming tools if my wife should marry at any time then the above items is null and void

Item 2nd after the decease of my wife I give and bequeath unto my two youngest daughters all of my lands to be equally devided between then the daughters that I allude to is Louisa and Susan Margaret

Item 3rd let my wish & desire that my other children shall receive an amount equal to one half of the value of my land out of my other property not disposed of the children that I allude to is Mary Jane Nancy and Sally ann Rittrell and if there shall be any ballance either way it shal be equally devided between all of my heirs above named here unto I set my hand & seal Sept 25 1854

Jethro Rittrell (Seal)

In presence of

S A Rittrell

Sandy Rittrell

And that the said will was duly admitted to probate in this court and the original filed with the records of the court and that to Sandy Rittrell said letters of administration with said will annexed were granted at the same and further declares that said original will and the record & probate thereof was destroyed by fire at the burning of the Court House on 8 January 1858 The court further decrees & orders that the foregoing be recorded in the will book of this court as the last will & testament of the said Jethro Rittrell decd with this decree that the Clerk be allowed Five Dollars for taking testimony and that the cost be paid by the Petr out of any funds belonging to the estate of his intestate

Elizabeth, Sarah
John Stanly and
Alexander Kittrell
by their Guard & Next friend
Allen Kittrell
agst
Sylvester Garrett
and wife Penelope &
Martha Kittrell &
Elias S Blount admr
Stanly Kittrell dead

County Court of Pitt County November Term 1850
This Cause Comes on upon the petition and testimony in the Cause and the same is taken as confessed against the defendants and is heard ex parte And the Court adjudges and declares that Johnathan Kittrell dead left a last will & testament which was admitted to probate in due form in this Court and duly proven and filed and they further declare the Contents of said will to be as follows, to wit, "That the said Jonathan Kittrell devised "& bequeathed all his estate real personal and mixed to his wife "Rebecca during her life but if his said wife should marry "she should then take her dower and a child's part of the personal "Estate, That his children as they married or became of age "should take the legacies and devises given to them
"He devised to his Sons John Stanly and Alexander all his lands equally to be divided "between them
"He bequeathed to his other children a share to each in the personal estate equal to the "Shares of his Sons John Stanly and Alexander in the lands and that said Shares "should be allotted to the boys as they arrived of age and to the girls as they arrived "of age or married And he directed that all his said property & estate should be "held in common to raise and educate his children until each one became entitled "to his or her share when of age or married." And the Court adjudges & declares that the said will and the records pertaining to the same were destroyed by fire at the burning of the Court House of this County on the 8th January 1858 and that the foregoing be recorded in the Will book of this Court as the last Will & testament of the said Jonathan Kittrell dead and that this decree be recorded; It is ordered that the Clerk be allowed Three Dollars for his services and that the costs be paid equally by the petitioners and the defendants Martha Kittrell

State of North Carolina, Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions
Pitt County } May Term 1859
Sidney H Spain & Drury Spain D O Spain Stanly Spain James A Brown & wife Mary and Charles H Spain
The petition of Sidney H Spain vs Drury Spain D O Spain Stanly Spain James A Brown & wife Mary Charles Spain, respectfully Showeth unto your Worships that some time in the year 1857 James T Spain died leaving the following last will and testament which was duly proven and recorded but together with the record thereof destroyed by fire in the burning of the Court House in Greenville in the year 1858 which said will was in the following words (to wit) Being in sound health but of body and mind and knowing it is ordained by the almighty power of God for all men to die I here proceed to make the following devise of all the property and money or notes which may be found in any wise belonging to me in the name of God amen After paying my debts if any I have I bequeath as follows
1st I give to my beloved brother Sidney H Spain my tract of land and all thereunto belonging at Twelve hundred dollars
Secondly I give to my beloved & youngest brother Charles H Spain my interest in those Negroes now at my Fathers which is one sixth part at Seven hundred & fifty dollars Now my land and Negroes above given to my two above named brothers I want them to have as I have given them but they shall be put in at the above valuation with my other money Note & property and equally divided between my four brothers and my Sister John land and negroes amount to more than the said Sidney & Charles equal they must pay over to the others to make them even amounts alike The amount above given to my brother Stanly S Spain shall be invested in land for a home for the said Stanly S Spain and his children until the said Stanly S Spain's death then it shall be divided among his children The amount above given to my Sister Mary M Brown shall be given to her for her use while she lives and then to her children Both of the aforesaid amounts given to Stanly S Spain and Mary M Brown shall be managed by my brothers Sidney H Spain and Charles H Spain as before specified whome I make here my executors to this my last will and testament and do hereunto set my hand and seal this the 14th day of March A D One Thousand eight hundred and fifty seven My hand writing shall be proof that the foregoing is my will My hand writing can be easily proven
James T Spain

The Last Will and Testament

The Last Will and Testament of Theophilus Slaughter Decd
In the name of God Amen I Theophilus Slaughter of the State of North Carolina and County of Pitt being in perfect and sound disposing mind and memory thanks to God calling to mind the mortality of body and knowing that it is appointed for all men to die do make and ordain this my last will and testament that is I want to be buried in decent and christian form and after paying my just debts I lend to my beloved wife Nancy during her natural life all the estate of which I am possessed both real and personal and to sell privately and of least part or parts either real or personal as she may think necessary for her support or promotion of life and the right of said property goods to the purchaser
Item Naming the property Two Negro Girls Nelly and Jane Four Children Henry, William, Mary & Leah Lucy with all my Lands except one Acre of Land whereon the Meeting House now stands which I give to my beloved brethren & sisters to them and their Successors of the Free Will order from age to age and generation to generation the Meeting House free for other Baptist Preachers to Preach in at other times only the days of our own Meeting but not free to constitute Churches another order in but Free Will only
Item I give unto my beloved Nancy all my Stock consisting of Hogs Cattle and Sheep Poultry & Co farming instruments Also what Letter funds I have on hand, at the death of my beloved wife whatever property remains belonging to my estate to be divided amongst our next of Kin having paid my just debts I leave this my last will and Testament and wife sole executor to this my
Whereunto I have hereunto set my hand and seal this the tenth day of November 1850
Theophilus Slaughter (Seal)
John Stocks
Hadrick Jackson