Court [illegible] Wilkins and pro Counsel the [illegible] subscribing witnesses to the same
Ordered to be recorded and filed

G. A. Dancy Clerk

I Sarah House of the County of Pitt and State of N.C. 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 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 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 give and bequeath to my eldest son Benjamine Briley and my two living daughters Henrietta Fleming and Arsena Stokes one hundred Dollars in gold now on hand to be equally divided between the three said children.

Item – I give and bequeath to my eldest daughter Henrietta Fleming one chest, one tin Trunk, one Feather bed and furniture, first choice to her and her personal representatives forever.

Item – I give and bequeath to my youngest daughter Arsena Stokes one Feather bed and furniture, second choice to her and to her personal representatives forever.

Item – I give and bequeath to my eldest son Benjamine Briley one Feather bed third choice to him and to hold forever.

Item – I give and bequeath to my four grand children Mary Briley, Marsilous Briley, Shadrach Briley and Ann Briley each fifty cents to have and to hold forever.

Item – I give and bequeath to my youngest son Elihu Briley all the rest and residue of my estate not otherwise disposed of to him and his personal representatives forever.

And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend Elihu Briley my lawful Executor to ~~execute~~ all intents and purposes to execute this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same, and every and clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made. In witness whereof I the said Sarah House do hereunto set my hand and seal this 16 day of April A.D. 1866.

Signed sealed published and declared by the said Sarah House to be her last will and testament in presence of us who at her request and in her presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto

Sarah ⊗ House (Seal)
her mark

Wm Shewes
Amy Fleming

County Court –
August Term 1866

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Sarah House decd. was exhibited in open Court by Elihu Briley the Executor therein named and the due execution thereof proved by the oaths and examination of Wm Shewes and Amy Fleming the two subscribing witness thereto – Thereupon the Court doth declare that the said paper writing is the last Will and Testament of Sarah House decd. and sufficient to pass both real and personal estate therein mentioned and it is

ordered by the Court that the same be recorded and filed in the office of the County Court Clerk. Thereupon Elihu Briley the Executor aforesaid came into Court and duly qualified by taking the oath as required by law

G. A. Dancy Clerk

Last Will and Testament of Joel James Senr. decd.

State of North Carolina Pitt County

In the name of God amen. I Joel James Senr. of the State and county aforesaid do this fourteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Sixty Six do make and publish this my last Will and testament in manner foling that is to say first

1 Item I give my body to the dust from whence it came

2 Item I give to my beloved Son Alfred James one feather bead and sted and furniture one other bed sted Six Sellen Chairs. One woolen wheel. one horse bridl and and Saddl. One Cart An Ontena

– the Corn due me for the Hire my horse. All the meat and corn that I have on hand. All the money and notes except the note that I hold which is due me

– I give all my tools of all kinds and all my iron ware of all kinds against to my son Alfred James

Item Elizebeth James that I give to her children at my death

Item I also give to my beloved son Alfred James what Sweet I have on hand at this time. all my earthen ware and Glass ware Knives and forke and half a dozen Spoons one shot gun one Box and contents and wasin apanes of all kinds. all this I give to my beloved Son at my death to him and his ares assins forever also I give all the balance that I have mentioned in my will to the said Alfred James

Item I have my beloved Son Alfred James my exer to this my last will and testament in witness whereof I the said Joel James have set my hand and seal this day and year above written

Assend Seld and acknoledg
in the presents of us
Kinchen Barnhill
Martha ⊗ Barnhill
her mark

Joel ⊗ James Senr
his mark

North Carolina } Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Pitt County } August T. 1866

The within paper writing was exhibited in open Court for probate by Alfred James the Executor therein named and the due execution thereof as the last will and testament of Joel James Senr the testator duly proved by the oaths of Kinchen Barnhill and Martha Barnhill the subscribing witnesses thereto who being sworn testified that they attested the said paper writing in presence of the testator and at his request and at the time of so doing he was of sound and disposing mind & memory Whereupon the Court declares the said paper writing to be the last will and testament of the said Joel James Senr. Let it be recorded and filed

G. A. Dancy, Clerk