

North Carolina, Washington County.

The foregoing & annexed will of Isobell Norman, died, was this day proven by M. Ward, M.D., one of the subscribing witnesses thereto, who testified that said testatrix signed said will in his presence & declared the same to be her last will & testament, & was at the time of sound mind & memory & by the testimony of Manda L. Owens, who swears that she is well acquainted with the hand writing of Isobell Norman, the testatrix & of Nona Skillethorpe, one of the subscribing witnesses thereto, who is a now resident of this State & that the signature of Isobell Norman, testatrix, & of said Nona Skillethorpe, said subscribing witness, is in their own proper hand writing. Her knowledge of her hand writing is due to the fact that she has often seen her write.

The said will is therefore declared to be duly proven & the same, with this certificate, & the prop. as taken, recorded in my office.

C. W. Tinsman, C. S. C.

(11)

In the name of God, Amen, I, Martha F. Hodges, of the County of Washington and State of North Carolina, being of lawful age, & of sound mind, memory & understanding, praise be God for the same, do make this my last will and testament, in manner and form following:

Item; 1st. I give, devise and bequeath, unto my beloved daughter, Susan L. Blount, her heirs & assigns forever, One-half of my land on which I now live, beginning at a ditch on the East of what is known as the Horse Field, thence due North from North end of said ditch to Albemarle Sound, thence again South end of said ditch running due South to the line between J. R. Tarsculan & myself, thence along said line to H. R. Chissom's line, along H. R. Chissom's line to a Cypress on Albemarle Sound it being a corner tree between the said H. R. Chissom & myself, thence along the water edge of the Sound to the line which runs from North end of the ditch above mentioned. One bed-chamber bed, One wash-stand, one blue wash-bowl & pitcher, to have and to her and her heirs in fee simple forever.

2nd. Item; I give, devise, bequeath, unto my beloved son Wilson B. Hodges, his heirs and assigns forever, One-half of the tract of land on which I now live, beginning on Albemarle Sound in Susan L. Blount's line it being the dividing line between her & H. B. Hodges, thence along said sound my line running, the center of Chapel Swamp, and following its various courses to S. L. Blount's line to first beginning. One bed & bedstead, One folding table with drawers, one bureau with looking glass, one wash-stand, one gray horse, four big silver spoons, & eight small silver spoons, which I am now using, to have and to hold unto him and his heirs in fee simple forever.

In witness, I the said Martha F. Hodges, have hereunto set my hand and seal this 20 day of April 1898.

Martha F. Hodges, (Seal)

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

H. R. Chissom.

L. H. Chissom.

Whereas, I, Martha F. Hodges, having made my last will & testament in writing, bearing date on the 20 day of April 1898, and thereby made sundry devises and bequests according to the then existing circumstances of my estate, but which circumstances having been materially changed, I do, by this, my writing, which I hereby declare to be a codicil to my said will, to be taken & construed as part thereof, will and direct that in case my daughter S. L. Blount shall die without an heir, then & in such case my son W. B. Hodges, shall be the sole owner absolutely & in fee of all of the land bequeathed her as described in my will.

North Carolina,
Washington County } I, C. W. Tinsman, do hereby certify that the due execution of the foregoing will of Martha F. Hodges was this day proven by the oath and examination of H. R. Chissom and L. H. Chissom the subscribing witnesses, and admitted to probate this 16 day of April 1907,
C. W. Tinsman, C. S. C.

Certificate & will in reference to the will made in case of H. B. Hodges, C. S. C.

I give and bequeath to my sister May E. Dillow, all the interest in lands I inherited from estate of my father, James B. Melson, to be sold to pay off the mortgage on my home, known as the James B. Melson home, which I inherited from my mother, Ann B. Melson. I give my home, known as James A. Melson home, to my sister, May E. Dillow, to be held in trust for benefit of my brother, H. H. Melson, to provide for him during his life, and after his death, to May E. Dillow in fee simple. If there is any balance left from the unsold lands which we hold in common after paying off the mortgage on my home which I leave in trust to her for benefit of H. H. Melson, I give to my sister May E. Dillow. The five hundred acres of swamp land that I bought from J. J. Rea, I leave in trust to May E. Dillow, from which to give to my aunt, Johanna Bogart, one thousand (\$1000) dollars, to Maggie H. Cobb, two hundred & fifty (\$250) dollars, to Charlotte Hallow, two hundred (\$200) dollars, to Sarah Ann Nichols, fifty (\$50.00) dollars, to Mr. J. M. McKinnis two hundred dollars (\$200), to Clance Barden Russell Twenty Five (\$25.00) dollars, and if any residue of money is left from sale of this five hundred acres of land, I want May E. Dillow to use it for benefit of my brother H. H. Melson. I want my sister May E. Dillow to pay from sale of this five hundred acres of land all my debts first, and then to Johanna Bogart one thousand dollars before the other bequests are given off. If Johanna Bogart shall leave any of the bequest of one thousand dollars left at time of her death, I want her to give it to Charlotte Hallow's grand daughter, Fannie Melson Todd. To Johanna Bogart I give four suits of bed room furniture, including mattresses, ^{comferts} counterpanes, sheets, pillow cases, blankets with two carpets, the red wood rockers now in possession of Ann B. White, Norfolk, Va. during her life, and after her death to Fanny Melson Todd. To Elizabeth Dillow I give my old book case, to Fannie Northam my old China Tea set and all my China and all the jewelry, My cousin Sally Cherry

I give my grand mother's table, my mother's mother's and the residue of my estate to May Dillow in fee simple.

Francis C. Melson

Witness:

Mary E. Moore.

Beth W. Moore.

May 11, 1907.

Codicil. I want my earnest paid for first of all & the thirty dollars she & I owed C. H. Sells, sister May is to have full charge of my estate. This F. C. Melson.

State of North Carolina, } ss. In the Superior Court.
Washington County. }
A paper purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Francis C. Melson, deceased, is exhibited before me, the undersigned, Clerk of the Superior Court for said County, by Mary E. Dillow, sister therein mentioned, and she does execution thereof by the said Francis C. Melson by the oath and examination of Mary E. Moore & Beth W. Moore, the subscribing witnesses therein, who being duly sworn, doth depose and say, and each for herself depose and sayeth that she is a subscribing witness to the paper-writing now shown him, purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Francis C. Melson, that the said Francis C. Melson in the presence of this deponent subscribed his name at the end of said paper-writing, which is now shown as aforesaid, and which bears date of the Eleventh day of May, 1907.

And the Deponent further saith, that the said Francis C. Melson, the testatrix aforesaid, did at the time of subscribing her name, as aforesaid declare the said paper-writing as subscribed by her and exhibited to be her last Will and Testament, and this deponent did thereupon subscribe her name at the end of said Will, as an attesting witness thereto, and at the request and in the presence of said testatrix. And this deponent further saith, that at the time when the said testatrix subscribed her name to the said last Will as aforesaid, and at the time of the deponent's subscribing her name