

J. F. Fleming

March 16<sup>th</sup> 1877

In the name of God Amen, I David F. Fleming  
of the County of Rockin and State of North Carolina  
being of sound and perfect mind also memory do  
this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March in the Year of our Lord  
1877 make and publish this my last will and  
testament in manner following That is to say,  
That first of all, I will that all of my just debt  
be paid

I will devise and bequeath to my beloved wife  
Eliza D. Fleming all of my real estate that relates  
to Thomas tract of land together with all the houses  
and out buildings and appurtenance thereunto  
belonging; also all of the personal property of  
every kind and description including all kinds of  
all kind farming implements. Household and  
kitchen furniture. Books and other evidence  
of debt money on hand and in fact every  
article of property or estate of every kind that  
I may have at my death, to have and to hold  
during her natural life to use and enjoy the  
same as if it was her own in fee simple and  
without accountability to any one, except the  
right of alienation of the real estate.

I will devise and bequeath a certain tract of land  
or the proceeds of the same to my beloved children  
that is to say, To my three grand children to wit:  
Eliza Jane, David Arthur, and John Franklin Rivers,  
heirs of my beloved daughter Mary Francis Rivers,  
Samuel F. Fleming, John C. Fleming, Elizabeth T. Mason,  
Catherine R. Fleming, Martha M. May, Nancy S. Carter  
Sarah A. Gaugh and Hannah L. Fleming each to share  
alike equal in the proceeds of the above named certain tract  
of land, provided however that Samuel F. Fleming, John  
C. Fleming, Elizabeth T. Mason and Nancy S. Carter  
shall, to account the notes I held on them severally  
for advancements made by me to them, provided  
further that there shall be no interest counted on  
any of said notes. The certain tract of land herein  
referred to is situated and laying in the County  
of Iredell State of North Carolina on the waters  
of Duck Creek adjoining the lands of James A. Heathcock  
and others; which tract of land I have sold to C. M.

Humphreys on the following conditions to wit; he has agreed to give me five dollars per acre for whatever number of acres the tract may be when measured, and I give him a bond for a deed to the same when paid for, the said to cover money raised from the acts thereof... conditions as set forth in the paper writing relating to the tract. Now therefore it is my will that if the executors of Mr. Humphreys shall faithfully comply with and carry out the conditions of the above named sale as set forth in the paper writing relating thereto it hereby empowers and designates my Executor who may be hereafter named in this my last will and testament, to make to the wife of Mr. Humphreys a just and lawfull sum but if the executors of Mr. Humphreys shall fail or neglect to comply with the conditions of the tract.

Then and in that case, it is my will that my Executor shall sell the above named tract of land either privately or publicly as it may be the most conducive to the interest of my estate and in either case the proceeds arising from the said sale of said tract of land to be divided among my beloved children so named and conditioned in the forepart of the item.

4 My will is that in consequence of advice rendered to me by my two sons Samuel S. Fleming, and John C. Fleming often they were of age there shall be no account taken in the distribution of my estate under the my last will and testament of a fact that my said Son Samuel S. Fleming has had over of a horse and two Mules that my said John C. Fleming has heretofore had

5 My will further is that after the death of my beloved wife Eliza S. Fleming all of the personal property belonging to my estate that has not been by her consumed or used shall be sold at public sale according to the law of the land, and the proceeds of the same equally divided between all of my beloved children whose names are above mentioned in this my last will and testament. Also all my real estate that has not been otherwise disposed off in this my last will and testament, shall be equally divided between all of my beloved children whose hands have been herein above mentioned either by being cut up into lots of equal value as near as may be, or by selling the land and dividing the proceeds as the legatees may elect.

6 My will further is that my executors hereinafter named pay all of my debts if any out of any money on hand at my death,

Item 7 I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint my beloved Sons Samuel J. Fleming and John C. Fleming  
of the County of Rockingham and the other the County  
of Caswell as executors of this my last Will & Testament  
with all power necessary for the execution of the  
same. In witness whereof I have hereunder set  
my hand this the day and date above written  
2nd Andrew Freeland  
2nd Thomas A. Nicholson David J. Fleming  
<sup>his</sup>  
mark

State of North Carolina } In the Probate Court  
(Rockingham County) April 20<sup>th</sup> 1874

A paper purporting to be the last Will and Testament  
of S. J. Fleming deceased, is exhibited before me the  
undersigned Judge of Probate for said County by  
S. J. Fleming & J. C. Fleming the executors. Therein named,  
and the due execution thereof by the said S. J. Fleming  
by the oath and examination of Andrew Freeland &  
T. A. Nicholson the subscribing witnesses who being duly  
sworn, doth affirm and say and each for himself  
affirms and saith, that he is a subscribing witness  
to the paper so they now shew him purporting to  
be the last Will and Testament of S. J. Fleming that  
the said S. J. Fleming in the presence of this defendant  
subscribed his name at the end of said paper writing  
which is now shown as aforesaid, and which bears  
date of the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March 1877.

And the defendant further saith, that the said S. J.  
Fleming the testator aforesaid, did at the time of  
subscribing his name as aforesaid, deliver the said  
paper writing so subscribed by him, and exhibited  
to be his last Will and Testament, and this defendant  
did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of said  
will, as an attesting witness thereto, and at the request, and  
in the presence of the said testator, And this defendant further  
saith that at the said time when the said testator subscribed  
his name to the said last Will as aforesaid and at the time  
of the defendant's subscribing his name as an attesting witness  
thereto as aforesaid.