

Will of  
Daniel Johnson

The last will of Daniel Johnson of the county of Bladen in the State of North Carolina.

Daniel Johnson of the County of Bladen in the State of North Carolina considering the uncertainty of this mortal life and being of sound mind and memory (Blessed be Almighty God for the same) do make and publish 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 expences together with my just debts howsoever and to whomsoever owing out of the moneys that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

Item 2nd

I give and devise to my beloved wife Margaret Johnson all of my earthly substance after paying my just debts and necessary expences to have and to hold to her the said Margaret Johnson for and during the term of her natural life or widowhood.

Item 3rd

My will and desire is that after the death of my beloved wife, Margaret, Catharine West shall have the house and premises I now occupy together with the survey of land upon they parcel now situated to have and to hold unto her, with all and singular the privileges appurtenances thereunto belonging during the term of her natural life, and at the expiration of her natural life the said premises and everything thereunto belonging to be equally divided among the parties to whom I bequeath the remainder of my lands hereinafter.

mentioned  
Item 4th I desire that at the death of my beloved wife Margaret all the lands owned by her (except that bequeathed to Catharine West hereinafter) be equally divided between the following named persons, formerly the slaves of me the said Daniel Johnson, viz: Sandy, Nancy, Samuel, Henry, James, Amos, Elijah and Stephen. Each to share and its share alike conditioned that <sup>all</sup> the above named persons do assist and take care of my said beloved wife during her natural life, but if any or all of them shall neglect or refuse to assist or take care of my said wife Margaret then in that case he, she or they shall be disinherited.

Item 5th I give and bequeath to Joshua Johnson one feather bed (his choice).

Item 6th My will and desire is that all the residue of my estate after taking out the devises ~~as~~ above mentioned shall be sold and the debts owing collected one hundred dollars be paid to the trustees of Waverly Church which is to be kept on interest and ten dollars paid per year to the support of the pastor in charge of said church and the surplus if any shall be equally divided and paid out to my worthy friends Joshua Johnson and James Johnson and Catharine West if she be then living but if she is not then living then such surplus shall be divided between said Joshua Johnson and James Johnson share and share alike to them, their heirs administrators, executors, and assigns absolutely forever. And lastly I hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend Taylor Johnson my lawful executor to all intents and purposes to execute this my last will and testament according to the true meaning and intents of the same and every part and clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other wills & testaments heretofore made. In witness whereof I, the said Daniel Johnson do hereunto set my hand & seal this the twenty-fourth day of February 1842.

Signed, sealed and published

in presence of us,

Joshua Johnson  
Robert L. Bryan

Daniel Johnson (seal)  
mark

State of North Carolina } Probate of Wills  
Bladen County }

A paper purporting to be the last will and testament of Daniel Johnson, decd., is exhibited before me the undersigned Judge of Probate for Bladen county by Sandy Johnson, L. W. Johnson the executor therein named, the executor having renounced and the due execution thereof by the said Daniel Johnson by the oath and examination of Joshua Johnson and Robert L. Bryan who being duly sworn doth depose and say band each for himself deposeth and saith that he a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last will and testament of Daniel Johnson, that the said Daniel Johnson in 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 24th day of February 1872. And the deponent further saith that the said Daniel Johnson the testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name aforesaid declare the said paper writing so subscribed by him and exhibited to be his last will and testament, and this deponent did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of said will as an attesting witness thereto and at his request and in the presence of the said testator. And this deponent further saith, at the <sup>said</sup> time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last will as aforesaid and the time of the deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereunto as aforesaid the said Daniel Johnson was of sound mind and memory, of full age to execute a will and was not under any restraint to the knowledge, information or belief of this deponent. And further these deponents say not.

Sworn and subscribed  
before me this 9th day of  
September 1880  
E. Singletary  
Judge of Probate

Joshua Johnson  
Robert L. Bryan