

**Will, NC, Mecklenburg, John McDowell, 1844**

Last Will and Testament  
of **JOHN MCDOWELL**

Recorded January term 1844  
in book H page 148

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State of North Carolina ]  
Mecklenburg County ]

The last Will and Testament of **JOHN MCDOWELL**.

In the name of God Amen!

I **JOHN MCDOWELL** considering the uncertainty of this mortal life being of sound mind and memory do make and publish this my last will and testament in the manner following:

first, I will and bequeath to my beloved wife **REBECCA** my negro man LEMON and his wife FANNY with her youngest children BRUCE, EMELINE, ROBERT and ESTHER to be hers during her life and finally to be given to Heirs agreeable so her will or direction also my negro man GEORGE and negro woman KATY and negro girl MARY to be hers only while she remains my widow, also my negro woman RACHEL. I further will and bequeath to my beloved wife **REBECCA** the plantation on which I now live for her maintenance and support as long as she remains my widow also so much of the stock as will be necessary for her farm consisting of Horses, three at least, cows, hogs and sheep. Also Wagon and gear, farming tools of every description. Household and kitchen furniture.

I grant and bequeath to my oldest daughter **JANE REID** my negro woman GLORY and other goods and chattels she has received to her and her heirs forever.

I grant and bequeath to my grandson **WATSON REID** my negro boy ZEDDOCK and two hundred dollars.

I grant and bequeath to my second daughter **ELIZA R. SIMREL** my negro woman SUSAN and other goods and chattles she has received to be hers forever.

I further will to my three grand daughters **REBECCA, MARY** and **EMILINE SIMREL** my negro boy AMSY and negro woman ELIZA to be theirs forever.

I will and bequeath to my third daughter **ESTHER Y. PRICE** and to her heirs born of her own body my negro woman HARRIET and other goods and chattles she has received. Also I and bequeath to my two grand daughters **REBECCA** and **PERMELA PRICE** my two negro girls ANN and SUSAN.

I grant and bequeath to my oldest son **JOHN D.** my negro man ADAM and all the goods and chattels he has received to be his forever.

I will and bequeath to the children of my fourth daughter **MARGARET** .. my two negro girls MARTHA and PEGGY and my negro boy SAM and other goods and chattels my daughter **MARGARET** has received to be theirs forever, also one hundred acres of land situated and lying .. Tennessee:

Beginning at a stake with three post oak pointers southwest corner of my five hundred acre tract bought of **NEEL**.

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To be theirs forever, yet under the following provision restricted that my daughter **MARGARET** has the use of said property only and for the sole purpose of educating and raising or supporting her children that said property shall not be subject to attachment or execution or exposed to sale to satisfy and debt that is now or may be hereafter ... or appropriated to any other purpose than above mentioned.

I will and bequeath to my fifth daughter **CAROLINE P. IRWIN** my negro boy girl **SALLY** and her children **MARGARET** and **LUCY**, also my negro boy **LEVY** .. to be hers forever with this provision that should my daughter .. die without heir or heirs born of her own body then **LEVY** is to .. back to my heirs.

I grant and bequeath to my second son **WILLIAM** three hundred acres of land to be layed off my five hundred acre tract so as to include all his improvements with all its way roads, waters and appurtenances thereunto pertaining, also my negro man **ALISON** and negro boy **BILL** and .. hundred dollars to hold to be his forever.

I will and bequeath to my third son **Robert** all the land I hold in this .. the plantation on which I now live at the end of his mother's widowhood .. the maintenance of his mother also my Williamson field and plantation know as my black Jack .. joining the land of **J. H. MCDOWELL** and others with all the ways, roads, waters and appurtenances thereunto pertaining also my negro man **Jacob** and negro boy **AINSLY** and **LARKIN** to hold to be his forever. I further will to my son **ROBERT** a horse and saddle worth eighty dollars, my blacksmith tooools, dulch fan, cotton gin and screw, also my straw cutter.

I further will and bequeath that after all my just debts are paid the residue of my property to be divided among my heirs, share and share alike, under this provision that **KATY** is to fall to the children of my daughters, **JANE**, **ELIZA**, **ESTHER** and **PERMELA** at the end of their mother's widowhood.

I hereby appoint and ordain **JONATHON REID**, and my son **ROBERT** Executors of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August on thousand eight hundred and forty three.

**JOHN MCDOWELL** {seal}

Witness

**ROBERT J MCDOWELL** Senr.  
**JOHN PORTER**