

Will, NC, Mecklenburg, John McDowell, 1792

JOHN MCDOWELL

Will

Registered in Book B page 139

October Term 1795

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In the name of God, Amen.

The twelfth day of May 1792, I, **JOHN MCDOWELL** of Mecklenburg County & state of North Carolina, being of perfect mind & memory, thanks be unto God, therefore calling unto mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain this, my last will and testament, that is to say, principally and first of all, I give & recommend my soul unto the hands of almighty God that gave it, and my body I recommend to the earth to be buried in decent Christian Burial, at the discretion of my executors, nothing doubting but at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God. And as touching such worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life. I give, demise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form.

1st I will that all my lawful debts be duly paid.

2nd I give and bequeath to my dearly beloved wife **JEAN MCDOWELL** the privilege of having the maintenance or living off my plantation whereon I now live with the buildings during her widowhood with her horse and saddle and bridle. Her bed and furniture with a negro wench exclusive of a child's part as the law directs to be wholly at her disposal at her death only to the use of my children then surviving.

3rd I give and bequeath to my son **JOHN MCDOWELL** the plantation that I purchased of Thomas Barnett to be wholly his own property when come of age.

4th I give and bequeath to my sons **JAMES MCDOWELL** and **HUGH MCDOWELL** whereon I now live to be divided in the following manner.

Beginning at a Pine tree, being the third corner to strike a Hickory tree being a line tree of said plantation and a corner tree of **THOMAS BARNETT**'s plantation, on the west side of the Ferry Road. Also fifty acres of patent land within the old marked lines to belong to the east end of the plantation.

5th I will and desire that in case my son **JOHN MCDOWELL** be removed by death before he become of age, that the plantation left to him be given to my son **HUGH MCDOWELL** and the plantation I now live on be wholly my some **JAMES MCDOWELL**'s. Also that if either **JAMES MCDOWELL** or **HUGH MCDOWELL** make their exit by death then the survivor inherit the part of the deceased provided also that if both **JAMES MCDOWELL** and **HUGH MCDOWELL** decease before they become of age I will the plantation be equally divided among my children then surviving.

6th I will that my three daughters, viz. **MARGARET**, **MARY** and **JEAN** have each of them a horse & saddle.

7th I will that the plantation on Tyger River, sold to **EPHRAIM RICE** that my executors make him a right according to our agreement.

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8th I will and desire that the remainder of my personal estate be left in the hands of my beloved wife **JEAN MCDOWELL** while she remains my widow to be disposed of to my children when of age as the executor shall think most the advantage of my children.

And Lastly authorize and ordain my beloved wife **JEAN MCDOWELL** executrix and **SAMUEL WATSON**, my brother-in-law executor of this my last will and testament. And I hereby utterly disallow, revoke and disanull all and every other testament, will, bequests, legacies and executors ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

JOHN MCDOWELL {seal}

Signed, sealed, published & pronounced in presence of us.

JOHN PORTER
JAMES REID