

highest plantation. and should it so turn out that that the property be agreed for the  
payment of my just debts should be sufficient the balance to be paid from the prop-  
erty after given to my son Joseph B Branch and that given to my wife  
Item 6<sup>th</sup> I have and bequeath unto my son Joseph B Branch the following  
Slaves to wit: Thomas Furdy Betty Cady Robert Will. Pat Sam Bond Truck over  
Albert Edmund Simon Marsilla Denny with their share Sam Malvinat Harriet Ann  
Selmont Simon Ann Charity Malvinat Betty Dore and Carter also the slaves loaned  
to my wife during her Natural life or widowhood them and their increase to him and  
his heirs forever also the Land on the South side of Malvinat river and other shares  
properly loaned to my said wife either at her death or marriage I have unto my  
said son to him and his heirs forever my Town fifty and Simon heret two beds  
furniture

Item 6<sup>th</sup> my Will and desire is for my son Joseph B should continue at  
School until he arrives to the age of twenty one years then remain with and take  
care of his Mother: and in case my said son Joseph B should die before he arrives  
to the age of twenty one years I hereby give it discretion with him to make as will and  
leave all the property given him to any person or persons he may think proper  
Item 7<sup>th</sup> my Will and desire is for the Negroes bond and given to my wife and  
the Negroes given to my son Joseph B should remain at the plantation and sufficient  
to make them a general support and the balance to be made out for their per-  
sonal until my said son arrives to the age of twenty one years

Item 8<sup>th</sup> I have and bequeath unto my son John B Branch the balance of my  
estate both real and personal to him and his heirs forever

Lastly I nominate and appoint my respected friend James W Jordan and  
Henry W Sney my Executors in this my last will and testament hereby testifying  
others: In Witness Whereof I have set my hand and seal the 15<sup>th</sup> day of my  
righteous hundred and forty six

Signed sealed and acknowledged

Thos Branch

In presence of

John Ramsey

J H Dore

Wm S Sney

### Northampton County Term Court 1847

The foregoing last will and testament of Thomas Branch dec'd was exhibited in open  
Court proved by the oaths of John Ramsey and William S Sney two of the subscribing  
Witnesses thereto and was ordered by the Court to be certified and Recorded: And  
thereupon James W Jordan came into Court and announced his right to qualify as one of  
the Executors to the said Will and Henry W Sney the other Thomas Branch is duly  
qualified as such according to Law

State of North Carolina Northampton County: I John B Odum Clerk of the  
Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions for the County aforesaid certify that the foregoing  
are true full and perfect copies of the last will and testament of Thomas Branch dec'd  
of the probate of the same and of the proceedings had in relation to its probate

In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed  
the seal of my Office as Clerk in Execution this 12<sup>th</sup> day  
of January A D 1848

John B Odum c.c.c.