W i l l
of
WILLIAM SKINNER

Book E, page 92,
Dated August 15, 1797,
Probated February Term 1798.

I, William Skinner of Perquimans County & State of North Carolina, Commissioner of Loand within the said State, being af this time in health, & expecting I must shortly depart this life, am moved to commit my last will & testament to writing in the following manner & form (to wit)

1st. I give & beqyeath unto my wife Dorothy Skinner, & to her heirs forever, all that part of the estate of William M. Donald deceased given to her by his will, also my right of the negroes devised to her as part of that estate (to wit) Olympia given by will & negroes Hance, Jack, Peter, Polly, Bess & Sall & Flora, Stephen & Annette, and all the household furniture which she is now possessed of- of every kind. I say I give all my right of the said negroes & furniture to my said wife, on conditions that she does not endeavor to come in for any part of my estate. It is therefore on them conditions & no other that I make this bequest.

2nd. I give & bequeath unto William Skinner & Caroline Skinner, son & daughter of my wife Dorothy Skinner born on the 29th day of March last I say to them two unfortunate children I give the sum of fifty silver dollars to be equally divided between them, as their full share of my estate, & it is my will that the said fifty dollars may be deposited in the hands of my wife for them children, that if she is inclined to cheat her own children let her do it & she and the children dispute it.

3rd. I give unto my daughter Penelope Creecy and to her heirs forever my negro girl named Amy now in her possession.

Boxtelum of Skinner

4th. And as it is well known that I have given to my grand-daughter Nancy Cotton a negro girl by the name of Thole and to my grand-daughter Dolly Cotton, now Dolly Blount, a negro girl by the name of Hagar, I bequest that my executors may not consider them two negroes as any part of my estate.

5th. I give unto my son-in-law Lemuel Creecy my Best Gun, my Pistols & my sword & Belt which are in his possession.

6th. I give unto Nephew John Skinner Esquire, my four volumes of Blackstons Commentaries & my gold headed cane.

7th. I give unto my daughter Elizabeth Cotten my horse called Thoughtless & my horse called Red Bird, these two horses are in her possession by virtue of verbal gift, and that all my china, glass & earthen ware, now in the house are to be considered as her property at my death, & that sundry articles of plate which are known to be her property, & such are not to be considered as any part of my estate by my executors.

8th. It is to be remembered that the principal part of my estate is conveyed by deeds bearing date May 13th,1795, to my daughter Elizabeth Cotten and my daughter Lavenia Skinner (now Lavenia Harvey) with some reservations. It is therefore to be considered by my executors, that each article contained in such deeds, are the property of my said daughter, only subject to the payment of such debts as are mentioned in the said deeds, and that the several articles therein mentioned are not to be inventoried as my estate.

The remainder part of my estate not disposed of by deeds nor by this will, which is very little,it is my will & desire that the same may be sold by my executors, either at public or private sale, on such credit as they shall think best, to be sold immediately after my death at their discretion, & the money arising therefrom is to be applied to the payment of all my just debts which I may owe the United States & for no other purpose whatever.

10th. It is my will & desire that my wife Dorothy Skinner may be treated by my executors with every mark of respect which they may think she merits, but not to give up to her one shilling of my estate more than what is mentioned in this will, as by my intermarriage with her my estate is more than Two Thousand pounds the worse.

11th. It is my will & desire to be buried in the County of Perquimans alongside of my worthy deceased wife whose memory I cannot to much respect. I would wish to be burned in a plain pine coffin without any pomp or parade, as I merit none, & it is further my will & desire that this will may be proved in the county court of Perquimans & all the proceedings thereon shall be recorded in that county as what small estate I have which is very small is in that county.

LASTLY, I nominate constitute & appoint my friends, Joshua Skinner John Skinner John Harvey Lemuel Creecy William Creecy William Wheaton Charles Blount & William Blount executors to this my last will to see it fulfilled in every part, and I earnestly request of my executors (as it is the last favor I can ask) that they use every exertion in their power to see strict justice done to my children in keeping them in possession of that part of my estate allotted to them by this will as well as that part conveyed to them deeds ratifying this & none other to be my will.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 15th day of August 1797.

W. SKINNER (SEAL)

Signed, sealed & acknowledged by the said William Skinner as his last will in the presence of W. NEWBOULD
STEPHEN SKINNER
CHARLES MOORE (jurat)

NORTH CAROLINA
PERQUIMANS COUNTY

FEBRUARY TERM AT HERTFORD A.D. 1798.

This may certify that the last will & testament of William Skinner Esq. Decd. was exhibited into court & proved by the oath of Charles Moore one of the subscribing witnesses thereto.

at the same time appeared William Wheaton, William Blount and John Harvey and qualified as executors thereto, agreable to law.

Test JNO. HARVEY, Clk.

Recorded the 10th day of April, 1798.

JNO. HARVEY, Clk.