“Feeling a great sympathy for the farmers of this State, and the difficulties with which they have had to contend in their efforts to establish the business of agriculture upon a prosperous basis, and believing that there can be no permanent improvement in agriculture without a knowledge of those sciences which pertain particularly thereto ...”

“... it should combine, if practicable, physical and intellectual education, and should be a high seminary of learning ...”

“... to provide for the establishment of a scientific institution upon the Fort Hill place ...”

“... I desire to state plainly that I wish the trustees of said institution to have full authority and power to regulate all matters pertaining to said institution ...”

“... intended to benefit agricultural and mechanical industries.”
The WILLS That started it all

"... eight hundred and fourteen acres ..."

"... as a donation from me, for the purpose of founding an agricultural college ..."

"The name of this institution shall be the "Clemson Agricultural College of South Carolina.""
The WILLS
That started it all

"It is my desire that the dwelling house on Fort Hill shall never be torn down or altered, but shall be kept in repair, with all the articles of furniture and vesture which I hereinafter give for that purpose, and shall always be open for the inspection of visitors ..."

"... the antique entaglio Marcus Aurelius Antonius sealing which I habitually wear, and also such one of my pictures as he may select, if the same is not selected by myself."

Thos. G. Clemson
... all of my permanent furniture, relics and articles of vesture, pictures and paintings, including the large painting or picture of John C. Calhoun, now hanging in my sitting room, and not otherwise disposed of herein, and all of my books."

... the 6th day of November, A. D. 1886.

... and I now do nominate and appoint my trusted friend, Richard W. Simpson, of Pendleton, South Carolina, my executor of my said last will ...
The WILLS That started it all

“I authorize my executor to purchase that portion of the original Fort Hill tract of land which set off to Gideon Lee, guardian of Floride Isabella Lee, and the same if so purchased shall become part of the Fort Hill tract of land, and shall go with and be disposed of as I have in my said will disposed of the Fort Hill tract.”

“... executor to employ such persons he may deem necessary to take charge of the Fort Hill dwelling house and the articles therein donated, and to manage the farm and to pay the said persons such a sum of money for their service as he may deem right and proper.”

“The desire to establish such a school or college as I have provided for in my said last will and testament, has existed with me for many years past, and many years ago I determined to devote the bulk of my property to the establishment of an agricultural school or college. To accomplish this purpose is now the one great desire of my life.”

Thos. C. Clemson
The WILLS That started it all

“I authorize and empower my executor to expend such sums of money as he may deem necessary to keep the Fort Hill dwelling house and premises in repair, and the Fort Hill farm in good condition.”

Thos. G. Clemson
“Whereas I am entitled to legacies under the last will of my deceased Mother Floride Calhoun ...”

“... I Anna Calhoun Clemson the wife of Thomas G. Clemson of the town of Pendleton in the county of Anderson ...”

“I will devise and bequeath the entire property and estate to which I am now, in anywise entitled and which I may hereafter acquire of whatever the same may consist, to my beloved husband Thomas G. Clemson ...”
"my grand daughter Isabelle Lee, the child of Gideon Lee of the State of New York ..."

"... twenty-ninth day of September in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight-hundred and seventy-one ..."