

Barren County, 1st May Term 1817

The foregoing writing purporting to be the last will of Barnett Smith last was produced in Court and proved in due form of law by the oath of James Eldridge and William O. Shurden witnesses thereto. Whereupon the same was ordered to be recorded as the true last will of said Barnett Smith dead.

Attest Tho. S. Helms Clerk

John Owen
Will

I, John Owen of the County of Barren and State of Kentucky, do make, ordain and establish this instrument to be my last will and testament. In the first place I ~~desire~~ and desire my Executor hereinafter appointed, to sell all ^{my} estate real and personal and out of the proceeds thereof to pay all my just debts and funeral expenses. In the next place I will mention that at the October Term 1816 of the Barren County Court I emancipated the following negroes, to wit, Christopher Kinney, and her nine children Fanny, Eliza, Edwin, Andrew Jackson, Charles, America, Mary Ann, Martha and James and Sarah, the daughter of Fanny; Now should said negroes desire, after my death, to remove to a free State, it is my will and desire that my executor hereinafter appointed shall make all necessary provisions for their comfortable removal, and aid and assist them in their removal, and pay the whole expense of ~~the~~ said removal, out of the proceeds of the sale of my estate. In the third place, attempts have already been made to prevent and defeat the emancipation of said negroes, and it has been threatened, as I have learned, that efforts will be made, after my death, to defeat my emancipation of said negroes; Now should any attempt be made after my death to set aside my said emancipation of said negroes or in any way to enslave them, it is my will and desire that my said Executor shall defend them against any such attempt, and pay all the expense attending such defense, out of the proceeds of the sale of my estate. I have already spoken to B. Mills Crenshaw as an attorney to defend said negroes against any such attempt and have given him twenty dollars as a retainer fee for that purpose and should such attempt be made I desire my said Executor to pay him upon that subject and request his services as an Attorney, and pay him whatever fee may be reasonable. In the fourth place, I desire that my said executor shall return out of the proceeds of my estate a reasonable compensation for his services. In the fifth place, after all the expenses attending the execution of this my will, I desire that all the remainder of the proceeds of the sale of my estate shall be equally divided among my children that may be alive and my grandchildren of either

may be dead; such grandchildren receiving the portion their parents would have been entitled to if alive. In the last place I constitute and appoint Peter Owen of Barren County executor of this my last will and testament. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 15th day of December 1816.

Teste Geo. Middleton

John Owen

Walter Owen

Barren County 1st May Term 1817

The foregoing writing purporting to be the last will of John Owen and having been filed at the last January Term for proof and being continued until the present Term was taken up and proven in due form of law by the oath of George Middleton and Walter Owen witnesses thereto. Whereupon the same was ordered to be recorded as the true last will of said John Owen dead.

Attest Tho. S. Helms Clerk

I Jonathan Bybee of Barren County Kentucky, being in bed & by the health but in my perfect mind do constitute and make this my last will and testament in the following manner -

Will

1st I desire that all lawful debts be paid after my death. 2nd It is my will that after my death that my dear wife Mary Bybee shall inherit all my estate both real and personal during her life or widowhood. And after the death of my wife Mary Bybee my will is that the remainder of my estate be equally divided between John Hyman Bybee and Julia Bybee, son and daughter of Richard Bybee, and Mary Susan Button daughter of Jordan Button. 3rd It is my will that my bonds, ~~removable~~ ^{movable} executor manage my estate both real and personal to best advantage for the benefit of my wife and the three children above named. 4th It is my will, and desire that Jordan Button execute this my last will and testament, April 18 19 1817.

Test James Wade

Jonathan Bybee

Jordan Button

Barren County 1st July Term 1817

The foregoing writing purporting to be the last will of Jonathan Bybee last was produced in Court at the last May Term and partially proven by the oath of Jordan Button and at this Term was fully proven by the oath of James Wade both witnesses thereto. Whereupon the same was ordered to be recorded as the true last will of said Jonathan Bybee dead.

Attest Tho. S. Helms Clerk