

shall descend to and be equally divided among the survivors or survivor.

Minch. my will and desire is and I hereby nominate and appoint my wife Ann Riddell Guardian of my children who I wish to have an opportunity to have as good an education as my estate & their abilities will admit of.

Finch. I hereby authorize and empower my executors hereafter to be named, to manage all the concerns of my estate both real & personal, to make sales of such of my personal as they may think proper to attend to the renting & leasing of all my lands and houses & to receiving the rents and further to attend to having all my contracts which I have entered into executed and fully carried into effect. And for this purpose I hereby authorize them to sign & acknowledge any deed or other conveyance which may be in pursuance of any contract entered into by me, and also to attend to receiving conveyances for any property which I may have purchased & not yet have obtained a deed for and I further authorize my Executors should they think it proper to sell either or any of my slaves and further to do & transact all of my business of every description until the same is closed and a distribution of my estate is made in pursuance of foregoing provisions of this my will.

Eleventh. It is my wish in relation to the second Item of this will that each of my other children should have a sum equal to that advanced to my daughter Melisabel Ratt, advanced to them before a final distribution of my estate is made and it is also my wish that the third of my estate herein before devised to my wife should not be assigned and laid off to her until all of my children arrive at lawful age or marry and a final division is made among them.

It is also my wish will and desire in relation to the fourth Item of this my will that in case of the marriage of my wife Ann Riddell the third part of my estate therein bequeathed to her should be held and the title thereof vested in my other executors hereinafter named during the natural life of my said wife Ann Riddell to and for the separate use and maintenance of my

said wife in such a manner that her husband (should she marry) can neither control or use either the s^d property or the use reserved thereon to my said wife.

Twelfth. I hereby nominate constitute and appoint my wife Ann Riddell Executrix & my son in law John Ratt and brother in law Charles Chambers Executors of this my last will and Testament.

In Witness whereof I do hereunto set my hand & seal to this my last will & Testament written on seven pages at my house in Burlington this 15th day of November A.D. 1827.

signed sealed and acknowledged in presence of

Levia Riddell

Jos M. Pustow
Edmond H. Vawter
John ^{his} Rep
mark

Boone County Court,

January Term, 1828.

This last will and Testament of Levia Riddell deceased was produced in Court examined and proven by the Oaths of Edmond H. Vawter and John Rep two subscribing Witnesses thereto and Ordered to be recorded whereupon the same is duly recorded.

Wm. Willis Francis Clerk

In the name of God Amen. I Thomas Hawkins of the County of Boone and State of Kentucky being at this time of sound mind and in my proper senses but knowing the uncertainty of life do make and appoint this my last will and Testament being my will and desire is that all my just debts be first paid after which I give and bequeath to my two nephews Benjamin F. Farmer and George H. Farmer all my Estate both real and personal to them and their heirs forever and I further appoint my sister Sally Farmer and Benjamin Stephens Executrix and Executors to this my said will given under my hand and seal this 26th day of November 1827.

Test
John S. Carter
Richard Stephens

Thomas Hawkins

Boone County Court February Term 1828.

This last will and testament of Thomas Hawkins deceased was this day produced in Court examined & proved by the Oaths of M. J. Carter and Richard Stephens two subscribing Witnesses and thereupon ordered to be recorded whereupon the same is duly recorded.

Attest *Wm. H. Jones* Clerk

We whose names are hereunto subscribed were present in the dwelling house of Williams M. Clapton lately deceased in the County of Boone State of Kentucky and during his last illness very shortly before his death say within six hours before he died, that the said Williams M. Clapton being in his perfect senses or in other words of sound disposing mind and memory (and conscious that he would shortly die, die then and there verbatim) make the following disposition of his property & Estate both real and personal to wit:

1st He wished and directed that the lands on which he then lived to be sold and out of the proceeds of said sale he wished a debt of about Eleven hundred dollars which he had contracted as security for John S. Hamilton to John Alloway and which by John Alloway had been transferred to a Mr. Haines of Cincinnati and by said Haines to Thos D. Corneal should be paid to said Corneal.

He further directed that whatever sum the said tract of land should sell for over and above the amount of said debt that said surplus should be appropriated in the purchase of a farm. To be given as a home to his widow Mary M. Clapton to be and continue her property for and during her natural life, and that Williams M. Clapton Junior his eldest son living at home with him should live with his mother and manage said farm for her. And at the death of his said widow Mary the said tract of land so purchased should descend to and be equally divided betwixt his five youngest children then living at home with him.

2^d The said William M. Clapton deceased also directed that all his negroes should be equally divided betwixt his five youngest children. It being understood that his said widow was to have her support out of the use and services of said negroes during her natural life.

3^d He further directed that all the stock then on the farm household goods farming utensils and in fact all the residue of his personal estate was to remain in the possession of his said widow and subject to her control alone as a fund for her support and for the education and support of his five youngest children aforesaid &c. The said William M. Clapton also stated that he had a bond for three hundred dollars on John Leathers and said Leathers had a demand on him for about forty dollars which he got of George Carlier Esq. of Cincinnati. He directed that his sons George and Maurice M. Clapton should settle said demand with said Leathers by giving a Credit on said Leathers Bond for the said forty dollars and that the balance of said bond should be by them collected of said Leathers and the amount collected appropriated towards the purchase of the aforesaid farm as a home for his widow in addition to the fund before set apart and appropriated for that purpose.

4th The said William M. Clapton also stated that he made this disposition of his property and Estate now in his hands because he had hitherto given to his elder children to wit Sally Cary and George and Maurice M. Clapton each a greater portion of his estate than his by thus dividing his property could now give to each of the five younger children who were then living with him.

The said William M. Clapton further said in substance that he wished his two Elder Sons George and Maurice M. Clapton to manage his business after his death and see that his will in the foregoing matters should be carried into execution &c. from which we inferred he wished them to administer upon his estate after his death.

The said William M. Clapton died on the 4th day of July 1827 about 2 O'clock in the afternoon, and before his death repeatedly called on all present to