

40 Michael Hope's Will

I Michael Hope of the County of Mercer and State of Kentucky, do hereby make my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say: First I desire that all the perishable part of my estate, (if in the estimation of my executors hereafter to be named there is any such perishable or surplus property among my estate) be sold at any or such time as said executors may deem expedient after my decease and that all just debts or claims against my estate be paid as early after my decease as practicable - Secondly, after the payment of my debts and funeral expenses, I desire and hereby direct, that my said executors put into the hands and under the Control and management of my loving wife all my estate both real and personal during her natural life desiring however that said executors will from time to time give my wife any or such advice or Council as she may wish or require in the management of said estate, Thirdly it is my will and desire that my wife should have the entire Control management and raising of my Children viz my daughters Martha and Cynthia, and my son Michael, and to educate them and do for them and with them, until they become of age as may seem good and proper in her estimation, as their mother and that said Children be supported and educated out of the good and property of my estate, be placed into the hands of my said affectionate and loving wife, and that no division be made or any take place, of my estate until all my Children named above or become of age, with this exception however, that my Negro Slave Isaac and his wife Hannah be sold by my executors, after my decease, and the proceeds appropriated as heretofore expressed (viz) for paying off my debts and the support of my wife & minor Children - and that my boy Dick a slave remain in my wife's possession and family so long as she with the advice of my executors may with a desire to retain him and furthermore I wish distinctly understood that it is my wish and request that should my wife be living at or after my Children become of age that all my estate of every description which may then remain in her hands or in the hands of my Executors, shall so remain for the support of my said wife during her life time and after her decease all my estate shall be equally divided among my Children or children's Children in the following manner to wit: to my daughter Ellen Hoagland one moiety, to my daughter Isabella Batterson one moiety - to my daughter Martha one moiety - to my daughter Cynthia one moiety to my son Michael one moiety - to my Grand son James F. Hall one moiety

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and one moiety to be divided among all the children or children's children of my son Robert James Hope if any such be then living, should however none such then be living, my son Robert James if living shall receive out of my estate five Dollars as his portion of my estate and if in the providence of God, my wife should not be spared to live until my Children become of age, in that event, I desire that my Executors make ample provision for such of my Children as are then Minors or improvided for for their support and Education if any further Education they may need, out of my Estate during such minority, and before a distribution as aforesaid is made and which then shall be made - and lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint Mr William H. Batterson my son in law and Alexander Sneed my Brother in law Executors of this my last will and testament - hereby revoking all other and former wills or testaments by me heretofore made and desiring that no security should be required of my friends so named as my executors of this will &c. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this sixteenth day of September in the Year of our Lord 1854 -

Signed, sealed, published and declared, as, and for the last will and testament of the above named Michael Hope in the presence of us &c
M. G. Gonce
R. D. Crutchfield
John F. Warren

Michael Hope Seal

State of Kentucky
Boyle County Court & Sec
County Clerk for the County of Boyle
I Thomas B. Nichols clerk of the County Court for the County aforesaid do certify that this will of Michael Hope decd, was produced to said court on the 1st day of November term 1845 - the same being the 17th day of November 1845 and was proved to have been duly executed by the said Michael Hope as and for his last will and testament by the oath of Michael G. Gonce, a subscribing witness thereto and at the same time the signatures of R. D. Crutchfield and John F. Warren also subscribing witnesses to said will, were proven to be genuine by the oath of said Michael G. Gonce - whereupon said will was ordered to be recorded - which will together with this certificate hath been admitted to record in my office - Given under my hand this 17th day of November 1845 -

Thos B. Nichols Clk Boyle Co