

The Last Will & Testament
Richard E. Parker
Dec. 2

In the Name of God Amen I Richard E. Parker being weak of Body but of sound and disposing Mind do make this last Will & Testament.

If my Property was properly susceptible of Division especially my Land I should not consider a Will necessary as the Law following the natural Affections makes a just one.

Amongst my dear children I have no Favourite or Preference that could induce me to make a Difference They have all been equally affectionately beloved & have performed their Duties in the most exemplary Manner.

To my dear Wife too I can pay the same sincere Tribute of Love & affection & more than Thirty Years so that my only Object in making this Instrument is to empower her to provide for their greater comfort.

For this Purpose I direct that all my Estate Real & Personal that is to say the Land & Tenements shall be kept together & I bequeath the same to my dear Wife for her Life & a Widowhood to be used by her for her own Support and that of the children living with her.

Many many I could have her to assist them as much Assistance as possible. All the Single Children must be entitled to a Room in the House which she inhabits belonging to me or acquired by my Property.

After my Wife's Death & Marriage I leave the whole of my Estate to be equally divided amongst my surviving Children & their Representatives taking Per Stirpes. The Event of her Marriage is so uncertain that I have not thought it worth while to make a Provision for it.

I give and bequeath to my dear Wife all my Household & Kitchen Furniture during her Life & Widowhood and I direct that this Part of my Estate shall not be mentioned or appraised.

Witness my hand & seal this 11th day of Dec. 1802

Since One must be entitled to a Home in the House which the inhabitants belonging to me
acquire by my Property.

After my Wife's death a Manager I leave the whole of my Estate to be equally divided
amongst my surviving Children & their Representatives taking Down Shippos. The Event of
her Manager is so improbable that I have not thought it worth while to make Provision
for it.

I give and bequeath to my dear Wife all my Household & Kitchen Furniture
during her Life of Widdowhood and I direct that this Part of my Estate shall not be
inventoried or appraised.

As it may very probably happen that the Estate when worked together may not af-
ford a comfortable support to my Family, I hereby authorize & empower my Executors here after
named to rent the Land & hire the Servants serving the Dwelling House & Lots of my Wife
with it. And moreover to take more if providing a Fund for their Support be esteemed
the most eligible. I authorize my Executors to sell my Land & to pay as soon as the Times
are favourable to vest the Proceeds in State Stock & to pay my Wife the Interest for
Life on the purchase for the use of herself and of the Estate. The remainder to my dear children
as before.

To my Brother John an Annuity of \$50 is due from my Estate which I wish
to be regularly paid. I dare say I owe him One, Two or Three Hundred Dollars. Can
Accounts have been kept in such a Way that it would be next to impossible to state it
so as to ascertain a Balance. I wish however strict Justice to be done him. I am
that he may always find a Home with my Family. If the Estate is worked together he
may if he chooses superintend & receive such moderate compensation as he
can afford to pay.

I hereby nominate and appoint my dear Son Richard Parker my Executor

and together with my friend Mr. French of that my last Will and Testament to whom I have
and my friend and Mr. French of that my last Will and Testament to whom I have
from attending to his own Business. I desire that my Executors should not be required to give security for the performance of their duties, that they should not be answerable for each other Acts.
I earnestly intend my friend Mr. French to accept this Trust. He will have but very little trouble. My debt are few and perfectly plain and these Richard might principally attend to. I hope with the time that may be left, and a sale of all my wife's stock of Hens, fowls, sheep &c. that they may be paid. There are also many valuable Books some in Richmond & some at home that may be sold and ought to purchase a large sum.

My son Richard however may select any moderate number of the Law Books particularly the V. Reports and keep them for his own use. And my wife and daughter may have their own little mine & Religion Library to be selected by them.

I should have many other directions to give of Friends to mention but for my bodily weakness but I must abstain.

In Testimony that this is my last Will I hereby affix my Hand &
and this 30th day of August 1840

All the above written in my own Hand Writing.

Richard C. Parker

Clarke County etc

At a Court held for the County aforesaid on Monday the 28th day of September 1840 The Last Will and Testament of Richard C. Parker Dec. with a few exceptions were perused and read and the Last Will and Testament there being no subscribing witnesses present proved by the Oaths of John A. French, Hugh A. Lee, David A. McQuinn & Thomas M. French who deposed that they were well acquainted with the Hand writing of the Testator and readily believed to be wholly in the Hand Writing of the said decedent and the same should be entered also in his Hand writing. The said Will was thereupon ordered to be Recorded. And on the motion of Richard C. Parker and Charles M. French of the Executors in this case.

October 31st Day of August 1840.

Richard B. Parker

All the above written in my own Hand Writing.

Clarke County etc

At a Court held for the County aforesaid on Monday the 28th Day of September 1840. The Last Will and Testament of Richard B. Parker dec^d with a special annex were produced in Court and the Last Will and Testament there being no subscribing Witnesses thereto were proved by the Oaths of John Y. Jones and Hugh H. Lee Jurors and John M. Quinn and James M. French who depose that they were well acquainted with the Hand Writing of the Testator and truly believe it to be wholly in the Hand Writing of the said Decedent and at the same time thereto subscribed also in his Hand Writing. The said Will was thereupon ordered to be Read. And on the Motion of Richard B. Parker and Charles M. French the Executors in the said Will named who by the Terms of the same were well required to give Security, who made Oaths and entered into separate Bonds in the Penalty of Fifty Thousand Dollars each conditioned as the Law directs for a fee to be granted them for obtaining Probate of said Will and for execution in due Form.

Certified that William B. McQuinn James Garrison Joseph Shepley and Samuel B. T. Fells were any three of whom to act having been first duly sworn do appraise the Real and any and other Personal Estate of Richard B. Parker dec^d and make Report to this Court.

Teste

Johns Day 1st of the Court of
Clarke County