

James Branch Jones In the name of God Amen. I Branch Jones of the County
Will of Lunenburg, being weak of body, but of sound and dis-
-song mind do make and publish this my last Will
and testament—

Item 1 I lend to my beloved wife Dorothy C Jones during
her natural life or widowhood the use of the tract of land
on which I at present reside & I lend to her during her natural
life the following slaves, to wit, Kate, Patsy, Calico, Polydon,
Ned, Eliza, Patrick Lewis & Henry, also all my household
and kitchen furniture and one third of my stock of every
description, & one third of my plantation utensils—

Item 2 It is my will and desire, that the whole of my Estate
be kept together, under the management of my executors
for the Education and maintenance of my wife and
children, and that all the property that I have herein be-
lent to my beloved wife together with the rest of my Negroes
shall be kept together, and worked on the tract of land I have
herein before lent to my beloved wife during her natural
life or widowhood and if the profits arising therefrom,
are more than sufficient for that purpose the overplus
is to constitute a part of that portion of my Estate
herein devised to my children and to be divided
amongst them as hereinafter mentioned—

Item 3 I

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children, and that all the property that I have herein before
lent to my beloved wife together with the rest of my Negroes
shall be kept together, and worked on the tract of land I have
herein before lent to my beloved wife during her natural
life or widowhood and if the profits arising therefrom,
are more than sufficient for that purpose the overplus
is to constitute a part of that portion of my Estate
herein devised to my children and to be divided
amongst them as hereinafter mentioned.

Item 3^d It is my Will and desire that all my Estate
except that part lent to my beloved wife, be equally
divided between all my children as they marry or come
to lawful age and if either of them die before they
come to lawful age or marry, then I will their portion
to be divided amongst the survivors of them, and their heirs
at law of those that may hereafter to marry and die
leaving children, my meaning and intention is that
as each child may marry or become of age his portion
is to be settled to him or her and the remainder to
continue undivided in the hands and under the manage-
ment of my Executor hereafter named until the
marriage of him or her or of another of our children
shall make another equal share, which share

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until the last of them shall become of age or marry.
Item 4th. And whereas it appears to me that I have too
many Negroes to be kept together and worked to advantage
in as much as I have more Negroes than are necessary to
cultivate my Land. I therefore authorize my executor to sell
or hire out such of them as they may think proper and the
money arising from the sale or hire to be put out on interest for
the benefit of my Children.

Item 5th. And I authorize my Executor to sell my Land if
they shall be of the opinion that it will promote to the interest
of my Estate by so doing and purchase another Tract of Land
with the proceeds arising from the sale of said the Tract so
purchased shall substitute in every respect, the one in which
I live, and my beloved wife shall have the same interest therein,
and if they shall be of opinion that the situation of my Estate
will permit they are at liberty to purchase one of more Value
Item 6th. Should my beloved wife be caused to marry after
my death then and in that case it is my will & desire that my
executor sell my Land, and the money arising from it be
equally divided amongst all my Children, and at the death of
my beloved wife that the Negroes herein before lent to her be
equally divided amongst all my Children.

Item 7th. I hereby appoint my brother Lovell J. Jones and my

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my death then and in that case it is my will I desire that my
executors sell my land, and the money arising from it be
equally divided amongst all my children, and at the death of
my beloved wife that the negroes herein before lent to her be
equally divided amongst all my children.

Item ^{1st} I hereby appoint my brother Lovell L. Jones and my
brother in law William H. Overton my executors.

Item ^{2^d} It is my will and desire that there be no appraisement
of my Estate.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and seal this ninth day of September in the
Year of our Lord Eighteen Hundred and Twenty Two
Signed sealed and

Delivered in presence of

S. Keblett Jr
Rich. May

Geo. Stokes

In Lunsburg County Court the 13th day of December 1824
The within written last will and testament of Branch Jones
deceased was presented into Court and proved by the
oaths of two of the witnesses thereto subscribed and ordered
to be recorded.

Wm. H. May Jr