

In the name of God amen I, John Sheffield of the
County of Jefferson, being of sound mind, able memory, do make and
confirm this my last will and testament, in manner and form
following: That first I give, devise and bequeath unto my grand
son Samuel Sheffield, and his mother Polly Sheffield, the following
negro to wit: Barbara Cato and ~~Collier~~ to be kept by the
said Polly Sheffield, for her support, and the raising and educating
and supporting, he sends son Samuel Sheffield, until he arrives
to Lanesburg age, and no longer, and then to be delivered to the said
Samuel Sheffield, who, to him use his own power, but if the said
son Samuel Sheffield should die under age, and without Lanesburg issue
then and in that case, the said negro to return to my estate and
be equally divided between all my children, who are alive, and
the issue of such as may be dead. I also give to my said grand son
two hundred pounds, to be raised from the sale of one half of my
tracts of land in Surry County, but should he die under age and
without Lanesburg issue, the same shall return to my estate and be
divided, as above mentioned, the interest on the said two hundred
pounds, in the meantime to be appropriated to the raising and

... as above mentioned, the interest on the said two hundred
pounds, in the meantime to be appropriated to the raising and
educating him the said Saml. Sheffield the support of himself
and mother; I give and bequeath unto my son Nicholas Sheffield
and his heirs forever the following property to wit: Some negroes
for whom he has a bill of sale, and the five following negroes
to wit: Hannah, Billa, Phoebe, John, and Mary, and one horse of
the value of one hundred ad. and buck and saddle, axes, bed and
furniture, my desk & bookcase, and a suit of Broad Cloth
Clothes. I give devise and bequeath unto my son Leonard
Sheffield, one half of my tract of Land in Surry County some
negro named Willis for whom he has a bill of sale to him and
his heirs forever; I give devise and bequeath unto my son Joseph
Sheffield and his heirs forever one negro named Stott, and one
horse and furniture. I give devise and bequeath unto my son
Saml Sheffield and his heirs forever one negro named Pelly, of
the value of one hundred ad. and buck and saddle and bed
and furniture and a suit of Broad Cloth Clothes. I
give and bequeath unto my son William Sheffield and
his heirs forever one negro named Mary and her value

five hundred dollars, a saddle and bridle, a bed and furniture
and a chest of drawers. I give devise and bequeath unto my
son Joseph Messamah Sheffield the land and plantation, whereon
I live purchased of Joseph Wells and containing by estimation three
hundred acres, to hold the same during his natural life or until he dies, and
thereupon to be in bar of her dower, also an equal third part of all my
household and kitchen furniture, stocks of all kinds and plantation
internals, and one sixth part of all the rest and residue of my real estate to
hold the said purchased property and rights during her natural life
with the power of disposing of the same, to see on any of my children
as she may think proper. I give devise and bequeath unto
my son Nicholas Sheffield, after the death or marriage of his mother
the tract of land, on which I now live, containing by estimation
three hundred acres, to hold to him and his heirs forever. I give
devise and bequeath unto my sons Joseph Sheffield and John
Sheffield, all the rest of my land, purchased of Peter Heath, John
Heath, Mr. Royall and James Basebick, to be equally divided between
them, to them and their heirs forever. I give devise and bequeath unto
my household and kitchen furniture, stocks of all kinds and plantation
internals, not before ~~and~~ or given away to bequeath, divided between

my household and kitchen furniture, stocks of all kinds and plantation
interests, not before ~~and~~ ^{or} given away to be equally divided between
my four sons and daughters to wit Leonard Joseph & Nicholas, John
~~and~~ and Nancy, to them and their heirs forever — I give
and bequeath all the rest and residue of my negroes, not before
given away, to be equally divided between my sons Leonard & Joseph
Joseph Sheffield, John Sheffield, and Nancy Sheffield my daughter
to them and their heirs forever — It is my will and desire, that if
either of my children should, die under age, and without lawful
issue that their property should be divided equally between the survivors
and the issue of such that may be dead leaving issue — And
Lastly I nominate and appoint my loving wife Susanna
Sheffield executrix and my son Leonard Sheffield and my son
John Sheffield Executors to the my last will & testament being
witnessed all done by me and my ~~and~~ ⁱⁿ testimony whereof I have
hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this twenty third

Sept. 1807

day of July in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand eight hundred and Six

By which said Subscribed & declared in presence of

James Williams
Robert Williams
Paul Blund

J. Shepherd Clerk
month 1

In testimony whereof Sept. 3rd 1807

This Last Will & Testament of John Sheffield decd was
affixed for probate, was presented by the Oath of two Witnesses &
Ordered To be Recorded