

mat

Stone

of my

living

estate

executors

to this

that

for any

on

then

and

Wells

Will

In the name of God Amen I Matthew Wells of sound
and perfect mind and memory but low in health and much
afflicted in Body and advanced in years have thought proper
to make and Ordain this my last Will and Testament in
and form following (Viz.) I give to my Four Daughters Namely
Clary Ray, Mary Betty, Judith Mitchell, and Martha Walker, Four
Hundred Acres of Land lying in the County of Pittsylvania
on the Waters of Sandy River and adjoining the lines of my
sons John Joseph & Joel Wells to them during their Natural
Life and at thoir decease to thoir Heirs in the following
manner It is my wish and desire that at the decease of my
Daughter Clary Ray that two Children by a former Husband
shall inherit that proportion of the above named Four Hundred
Acres of Land which may fall in division of the same to

the Mother the names of these two Children are Matthew R
 Allen and John S. Allen the only surviving Children of my
 Daughter Mary by William Allen a former Husband. It is
 my further Will and desire that at my decease whatever
 proportion of my personal Estate would in Division have
 fallen to my Daughter Mary shall remain in the hands
 of my Executors and by them be fully accounted for to the above
 named two Children of my Daughter Mary Matthew R
 and John S. Allen when they shall arrive to the age of 21 years.
 It is further my Will and desire that my Daughter
 Mary Polly shall ^{enjoyment and full} have the benefit of one eighth part and
 fourth of the above named Four Hundred Acres of Land
 during her natural life and at her decease to go to the
 heirs of her Body lawfully begotten and I further wish and
 desire that at my decease whatever proportion of my personal
 Estate would have fallen to my Daughter Polly Polly shall remain

in the hands of my Executors for her Special Benefit du-
ring Life to be distributed as may be necessary for her
Support and Children while she lives and at her decease
whatever remains to her Children as they may come to full
age or Marry but my Executors are to have ^{the} Control and
management of the whole matter during my Daughter Polly's
Life but honestly and fully accounted as above required
to her Children afterwards. It is further my wish and desire
that One Hundred and fifty Six acres of Land which
I hold in the County of Henry On the waters of
Turkey Creek and adjoining the Lands of Henry Harrison
James Johnson & others shall be inherited by three Grand Chil-
dren Nandy George B Wells the only Child of my Daughter
Jubtha who Intermarried with my Nephew Benjamin
Wells also Jubtha Ennis & Joel S. Ennis the only children

of my Daughter Catharine who intermarried with Abraham Cairns
my will and desire is that the aforesaid named One Hundred
and fifty six acres of Land shall be equally allotted into two parts
to my three grand Children above named (viz) the only Child of
my Daughter Tabitha to receive One half and the only two Children
of my Daughter Catharine to receive the other half. It is further
my wish and desire that whatever proportion of Personal Estate
would have fallen to my two Daughters Tabitha and
Catharine Cairns shall remain in the hands of my Executors
and by them be honestly accounted for with legal interest to
the Child and Children of my two Daughters Tabitha and Catharine
when these Children shall many or arrive to full age. It is further
my will and desire that if it should for the Interest of my
above named three grand Children be thought most advisable by my
Executors it shall be their privilege to sell the aforesaid One
Hundred and fifty six acres of Land on the most judicious

177
to my above named three grand Children as they marry or come
to full age I further devise to my three Sons John Joseph
& Joel the following Lands (Viz.) to my son John I give one
Hundred and ninety two acres at the upper part of my Plan-
tation to my son Joseph I give two Hundred and twelve acres
at the lower end of my plantation to my son Joel I give
the middle part of my Land of two hundred and eight acres
including my mansions House & all of which tracts of Land
I have conveyed by Deed to the respective parties and wish them
to stand precisely as Deeded it is further my will & desire
that my Son Joel should receive a small Negro Boy named
Benedict to make him every way equal with the rest of my
Children exclusive of the general distribution to be afterwards made
and it is further my will and desire that the said

24

that the residue of my estate after all my just debts
are paid shall be equally divided among my Children sub-
ject however to the Control and Management of my exec-
utors in regard to a part of them as above particularly ex-
posed and identified. It is further my wish and desire that
I should rather of my three Grand children who before they inherit
what I have devised to them in their hands (and at the Control
of my executors that such decedents proportion of estate shall
return into general estimation and be equally divided among
my surviving Sons

I hereby moreover Ordain and appoint my beloved Sons John
Wells and Joseph Wells Executors to this my last will and
Testament hereby revoking all former wills by me made
in Testimony of which I have before witnesses signed and
acknowledged this to be my last will and Testament this

8th day of April Anno Domini 1828

25

Wells
Jr

John
James Morton
John Carter
Stephen Austin
William W. Dearing
John Gardner
Josiah Austin

his
Matthew Wells (head)
Mary

Subscribed before signed

At a Superior Court of Law held for the County of Pittsburg
the 28th day of April 1898 This said Will and Testament
of Matthew Wells Dec^d was proved by three of the subscribing witnesses
of said Will named who made oath according to Law
and with Thomas S. Jones, James S. Mitchell, Samuel Brook
Thomas Wagsdale and Jabez Smith his depositories entered into and
acknowledged bond in the penalty of Four Thousand Dollars Conditional
as the Law directs Certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate of said
will in due form - Likely being reserved to the other executor in said will
named to join in the probat when he shall think fit
J. W. Install. C. L.