

Georgia

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Newton County

In the name of God Amen

I John A. Melton of said County & State

knowing the uncertainty of life and the propriety both as regards myself & family that I should make a disposition of the property with which a benevolent Providence has blessed me in my own way do therefore make this as my last will & testament hereby revoking all others heretofore made by me.

Item 1st It is my will that all my just debts be paid by my Executors as soon after my death as possible.

Item 2nd I hereby loan to my beloved Wife during her lifetime or widowhood all of my estate both real and personal of whatever kind it may be and she is hereby invested with full power to sell any part of the same & to reinvest the same again.

Item 3rd It is my will that if my Wife should marry again that my estate be equally divided by three and the person to be appointed by the Court and I hereby give her one equal part or child's share of the same it being one fifth part thereof, this to be in lieu of Dower in any real estate I may own at my death.

Item 4th It is my will that the remainder of my estate after the division contemplated in the foregoing Item be kept together & worked for the use of my children, and whenever any one of them arrives at legal age or marries it is my will that each one so arriving of age or marries shall have his or her share set off to them in the same manner as provided for in the 3rd Item of this instrument.

Item 5th It is my will that if my Wife should remain unmarried that she shall give to each one of my children on their arriving of age or marries one equal portion of my estate in such manner and way as she may think best for all the children & my estate.

Item 6th I hereby appoint my friend Richard F. Jett & my Wife Elizabeth Melton Executors of this my last will & testament this 2^d day of May 1869

J. A. Melton *Test*

Signed sealed published & declared by John A. Melton to be and contain his last will & testament

who subscribed the same in the presence of us the undersigned who subscribe our names hereto in the presence of the testator & of each other
 J. M. Dabney
 Giles S. Whittier
 A. M. Evans

State of Georgia Court of Ordinary
 Newton County October Term 1869

In open Court personally A. M. Evans one of the undersigned witnesses to the foregoing instrument who being duly sworn depose and swear that he saw Ethan S. Melton sign and publish and declare the foregoing instrument to be his last will and testament - and that at the time of said signing & publication he was of sound disposing mind & memory that he executed the same freely & without compulsion so far as he knows & believes that he signed the same as a witness in the presence of the testator & that he saw J. M. Dabney & Giles S. Whittier sign the same as witnesses & that they all signed the same in the presence of the testator and of each other. Sworn to & subscribed before me this 5th day of October 1869
 A. M. Evans

Mrs D. Luckie Ordinary

I do solemnly swear that this writing contains the true last will of the within named Ethan S. Melton deceased so far as I know or believe and that I will well and truly execute the same in accordance with the laws of this State. So help me God

Mrs D. Luckie
 Ordinary

Elizabeth M. Melton
 Richard H. Hestwell

Admitted to record October Term 1869

Mrs D. Luckie Ordinary