

1851-1865

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Bibb County Wills
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 The State of Georgia
 Bibb County
 George W. Sears of the County and State
 aforesaid, being of sound and disposing mind and memory, do hereby make and
 publish this my last Will and Testament:

Item 1st I give and bequeath to my beloved Wife Mary W. French my residence in the city of Macon known as lot number three of the western range of the town lots of Macon town Common also a parcel of land fronting on South street there containing about one quarter of an acre granted to Charles H. Beall also about one acre and a quarter joining this above described lot on the south and east side though all of which is more fully described on the conveyance of the same from John D. Gray to myself with all the improvements thereon and all my household and kitchen furniture to her her heirs and assigns forever in fee simple.

3^d I give and bequeath to my said wife Mary M. Toms, the following named negroes (and their increase), to wit: Ann, Ellen, and her child Mary, little Edward, Maria, William, Dany, Winder, all of whom at the date hereof are in the State of Georgia, and the following named negroes, who are now in the State of Virginia to wit: Nancy, Lilly and her three children, to wit: George, and

300 I will and direct that my plantation in Taylor County, being and being in the first district on and near the Flint River be kept by my Executors and after my death hereinafter named and that the same be cultivated until it may be disposed of by my Executors and Executors in accordance with directions hereinafter given. Wm. W. W. I will and direct that all my slaves except those hereinafter or after specially bequeathed, be kept together, with such as may be purchased by my Executors and Executors and worked on my said plantation under the direction of my Executors and Executors. Who are hereby authorized and empowered to sell such as they may decide to be necessary and to purchase others in their places.

Item: 5th I Shew, will and direct, that all my real Estate except that herein before specifically bequeathed, and my said Plantation, that is the said lands lying in the County of Esq. Carroll, and in the seventh and Eighth districts of Orange Co. Apppling County, those lots of land in the fifteenth district of Taylor County known as the "Fly & Place" and the stock of cattle on the same, all my right and interest in the lot number sixty three in the fourteenth district of Taylor County, and my right and interest in and to the lot of land number two thousand and seventy four in the first district in Taylor County, and my interest and right in the lot of land sold in said last mentioned lot, all my share interest and right in and to the said six mile corner by Mitchell and Evans and the land attached to the same, and the stock employed there may be sold by my Executors and Executors at such time and in such manner either privately or publicly, and on such terms as they may deem most to the interest and best for my Estate.

Now let me state, that my Executive and Executors, kept in constant
contact, or sell my water saw and grist mill and the following lands com-
mited and lying near said Mills. that is to say one hundred and thirty acres first
numbered two hundred and fifty five on which said Mills are situated secondly
lot numbered two hundred and fifty six, lot numbered in hundred thirty
these fourth of lot numbered in hundred and twenty three, all in the
of originally Mendocino County and lot numbered two hundred and
two hundred and fifty five in the same.

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discretion may seem most proper for my Estate
 Item 7th I will and direct, that all my property not herein specifically bequeathed or directed to be sold, be kept together the proceeds of which with the profits arising from the sale of property herein directed to be sold, be applied, first to the payment of my just debts and secondly to the support of my Wife and the support and Education of my Children, until a distribution thereof shall be made according to the provisions of the Eighth Clause of this my Will. but if my Wife shall marry, before said distribution is made, her right to be supported from my Estate under the provisions of this clause shall from the time of said marriage cease and determine
 Item 8th I will and direct that my Executors and Executors shall pay to my Children the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars Each, Either in money or property, at fair Valuation as they respectively attain the age of twenty one years or marry, to be charged to the said Children's distributive share upon a division of my Estate as hereinafter directed and I direct that when my youngest living Child shall attain the age of sixteen years, it shall be the duty of my Executors and Executors to distribute all of the property of every kind then in their hands, belonging to my Estate, between my Wife and Children their living share and share alike and the child or Children of such as may have died leaving issue, said child or child deemed to take the share to which the parent would have been entitled if living - the share assigned to my Wife to be held by her during the term of her natural life or widowhood and upon her death or marriage I desire the same to be equally divided between my Children then living and the child or children of such as may have died leaving issue said child or children to take the share to which the parent would have been entitled if living, and if my Wife should marry, I will and direct, that all right and authority to exercise the office or discharge the functions of executor under the provisions of this my will shall from the time of said marriage cease and determine

Item 9th I will and direct, that my Executors and Executors herein named shall hold and manage for their education and support, the distributive share or shares assigned to such of my children as may be under age and unmarried at the time a distribution of my Estate is made under the eighth clause of this my will until they respectively arrive at the age of twenty one years or marry, and should either both of my sons desire to engage in a learned profession I hereby authorize and direct, my Executors and Executors to furnish them respectively the necessary means for that object, to be charged to them, respectively as so much of their distributive shares of my Estate.

but, if in the opinion of my Executors and Executors the distributive share of my Estate to which my said son will be entitled will be insufficient to qualify him to engage in a learned profession, I direct that they receive the sum of One thousand Dollars out of my Estate before distributing the same as herein before directed and apply said amount to that object.

Item 10th I will and direct, that my Executors and Executors have authority to sell my said plantation lying on Flint River in Taylor County whenever they may deem it to be best, to do so either for the interest or benefit of my estate or for the purpose of making the distribution of my Estate herein directed and they are further authorized and empowered to invest such portion of the proceeds of the sale of the same in such other lands as may be necessary to be cultivated

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by the decedent belongs to the Estate and one of them to any surplus from the sale of said plantation after paying said debts. The said surplus may be invested in negroes or securities at my Executors and Executors may deem best and the same distributed under the provisions of the Eighth Clause of this my Will.

Item 11th In as much as my other children each have a specific legacy from their late Father and my son George W. Towns had none & therefore will and bequeath to my said son George W. Towns a Negro Boy named Robert, a child of my negro woman Helen to him and his heirs forever.

Item 12th I give and bequeath to my son John my gold Watch and to my son George my Libram.

Item 13th I will and direct that fifteen acres of land a part of lot numbered one hundred and ninety in the fourteenth district in Taylor County be sold by my Executors and Executors.

Item 14th I give and bequeath to my beloved Wife Mary W. Towns my family Cuirass and Honeys.

Item 15th I hereby nominate Comptroller and appoint My beloved Wife Mary W. Towns Executor and James B. Towns and Alexander Towns and Levi B. Smith Executors of this my last will and Testament.

Geo W Towns

Signed, Sealed, Declared and published in presence of us. We have each signed the same as Witnesses in the presence of the Testator and in the presence of each other this twenty sixth day of April 1853

P L Holt
T B Brown
E A Wilcox



In Vacation

Georgia
Bibb County Ordinary Office 14th day October 1854
Before me J Tracy Ordinary for the County aforesaid personally came Pulaski S Holt and Newton R B Brown who being sworn say they saw George W Towns sign seal declare and publish the foregoing as his last will and testament that he signed the same freely and of his own will without coercion and at the time of signing and publishing the same said Testator was of sound and disposing mind and memory and that deponents signed their names as witnesses in the presence of said Testator and deponents saw Emma Towns do so likewise.

P L Holt
T B Brown

Came to Court before me this day signed above mentioned J Tracy Ordinary



The last Will and Testament of George W Towns deceased having been presented in the affidavit of Pulaski S Holt & Newton R B Brown and certified to the same it is therefore ordered by this Court that said Will be admitted to probate and letters Testamentary be issued to Levi B Smith executor named therein.