

Last Will & Testament of Abner P. Powers Deceased

State of Georgia, County of Bibb In the City of Macon

I Abner Parrotth Powers being a Citizen of said State, County, & City Under the Authority of the Laws of the said State do make and publish this my last Will & Testament:-

I Constitute and appoint my wife Francis Lumpkin Powers my sole Executrix without accountability to any Court or obligation to make returns of her acts or compulsion to give security

I give & bequeath to her the said Francis Lumpkin Powers all of my property of every kind & description to have and use and enjoy during her Widowhood requesting her to keep the lands & negroes together, as I shall leave them, and work them for her benefit and profit as I am sure she would do best by following this advice

In case the said Francis Lumpkin Powers should think to marry again from her said marriage her office of executrix is hereby revoked, and my son Nathan Beal Powers is appointed executor in her place if in life if dead then the next of my sons according to survivorship and in default of any of them living to my daughters or their Husbands according to ~~the same~~ rule of Priority

On the marriage of my wife - I desire my son or whoever may then be my executor under the clause above to give to my wife the following negroes, to wit, Samd about 35 years old his Sisters Caroline & Eliza and their children & William sometimes called John also Owen and Anna and also a negro Woman named Rose and her children also all the house furniture of every kind & description including ware & plates & Jewelry of all sorts - Also I wish my said Executrix after ^{the} said marriage to raise from the annual products of my farm or other property, the sum of Ten thousand dollars which I give to the said Francis Lumpkin Powers - But I desire my executor to have all the property included in this bequest settled strictly, on my wife with the power of disposal of the same by her or her husband except by her last Will & Testament -

I also further desire when these bequests have been complied with that the balance of my property be divided between my wife and children equally my said wife not being entitled to more as the bequest above are intended and given in lieu thereof -

Signed, sealed and delivered and published by Abner P. Powers as his last will and testament }
in the presence of us the subscribers who } Abner P. Powers
subscribed our names hereto in the }

presence of said ~~notary~~ and
at his special ~~request~~ and
request, and of each other
this May 3rd 1855

Benj H Rutherford
Wm F Anderson
Joseph McAlpin

Georgia }
Bibb County } Ordinary's Office November
A.D. 1859

Before me William F Massey Ordinary
in & for said County came Francis L Powers the widow & ex-
ecutrix of the last will & testament of the Hon Abner P Powers late
said County deceased & also one of the Witnesses to said Will &
said County deceased & also one of the Witnesses to said Will &

William F Anderson said Wm F Anderson being duly sworn
deposeth & saith that he saw said Abner P Powers the testator
sign, seal, declare, & publish the instrument now presented as
his last will & testament, freely voluntarily & of his own accord
any compulsion or influence whatever, that at the time of the
execution of said will, said testator was of sound and disposing
& memory, that this document signed, said will as a witnesses & saw the
other two witnesses viz: Benj H Rutherford & Jos McAlpin do so
wise, in the presence of said testator & at his special request & reg-
in the presence of each other -

Sworn to & subscribed before
me November A.D. 1859

W. F. Anderson

Ordinary

Georgia }
Bibb County } The foregoing last will & testament of Abner
P. Powers having been presented & proved to
the Court by the testimony of W. F. Anderson one of the subscr-
ibing witnesses to said will & Mrs Francis L Powers the executrix
named & appointed by & in said will & testament having come
into Court & qualified as said Executrix - It is ordered by the
Court that said last will & testament be admitted to record & a
written testimony do issue to the said Francis L Powers duly
have accordingly issued

W. F. Massey
Ordinary

Last Will & Testament of John Caatten

State of Georgia } In the name of God; Amen-
 County of Bibb } I, John Caatten, of said State
 and County, being of sound & disposing mind
 and memory, but of advanced age & infirm
 health, deem it prudent that I should make this
 as my last Will & Testament, hereby disposing of
 all the property, of every kind, with which
 I kind providence has blessed me in this life,
 hereby revoking ^{and cancelling} all former Will or Wills
 heretofore made by me -

1st I desire that my body shall have the rite
 of Christian burial, suited to my condition
 in life; my soul, I trust shall have eternal
 happiness & repose, through the atonement and
 mercies of a Crucified Redeemer -

2nd I desire any debts I may leave unpaid at
 at my death, may be discharged by my Executors
 as soon after that event, as the same can with
 convenience be done -

3rd To my Son John B Caatten I give bequeath
 & devise, the four hundred & twenty (420) Acres
 of land in Upson County, on which he now resides
 the same I bought from Thomas Revier & which I
 value at four thousand (\$4000) dollars which with
 a negro man named William heretofore given
 to him by me & valued at one thousand (\$1000)
 dollars makes five thousand (\$5000) dollars advanced
 him, he is to pay no rent for the land during my life

For my Daughter Sarah E. Caatten, wife of
 Thomas Caatten, I make no provision in this my
 Will, for the following reasons; I have already
 given her property valued at three thousand one
 hundred & eighty-four (\$3184) dollars which has
 been wasted by her said husband & I have also this
 day made a deed of Gift, conveying property
 of the value of twenty-eight hundred (\$2800) dollars
 for her use & benefit, making five thousand nine
 hundred & eighty-four (\$5984) dollars, I have ad-
 vanced for her

To my Son William H P Caatten I have
 already given property of the value of three
 thousand three hundred & eighty-four (\$3384) dollars
 & I make no further provision for him except that
 he is to be advanced, with my other children
 as herein after provided

5th To my Daughter ^{Elizabeth} ~~Elizabeth~~ wife of Peyton S. Caster
I have already given property of the value of three
thousand seven hundred & twenty three (\$3723) dollars & I make
no further provision for her except that she is to be advanced
as herein after provided -

7th To my Son Fleming G. Caster I have given Eleven hundred
(\$1100) dollars and he is to be advanced as herein after provided

8th To my Sons Edwin S. Caster Bradford G. Caster and
Marcellus Caster and also to my Daughters Catherine
M. Caster & Caroline V. Caster I have as yet given
nothing but I wish them each advanced & made equal
with their Brother John B. Caster say to the amount
of \$5,000, the same to be done ^{soon as} ~~as~~ my Executor thinks
proper in case I do not do so during my life & the
same to be advanced ^{either} in money or property at
a fair valuation, as my Executor may think proper
it being expressly my Will & desire that any money or
property, any of my Daughters may receive under my
Will or from my Estate shall be their & each of their
sole & separate property & estate for & during their natural
lives free from the debts contracts or liabilities of any
husbands they or any of them may now have or may
hereafter marry & at the death of any of my daughters
their interest to descend & go to their Children
Share & Share alike & in case of the death of any of
their Children before their Mother the descendants to
such Child or Children to take the share of her
or their deceased parent -

9th To my beloved Wife Eliza Caster I give
bequeath and devise the whole of my property
of all and every kind whatever whether real
personal or mixed money debts due me & all & every
kind of Claims in action whenever the same
may be situated, for her to use have enjoy
and Control the same & the rents issues & profits
thereof as she may think proper; desiring
her to advance all my Children as soon as
she conveniently can so as to give them all as
much as our son John B. Caster has received
say \$5000 and from time to time as she may
think best & proper, to give & advance to my
Children such amounts as she may think
proper and their wants, in her opinion may
require, keeping the amounts she may from
time to time advance to each as near equal
as she can and as all the circumstances of
each case in her opinion will admit of.

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It being expressly my desire, that anything she shall give any of our Daughters is to be settled on them as herein before provided & I enjoin it on my Wife to see that this is done

10th It is further my Will & desire, that in case my Wife shall die, having all or any part of my said Estate in her possession which she has not distributed or given off, then such part of said property as shall be in her hands, to be Equally divided among all our Children Share & Share alike, taking into account the amount previously advanced to each so as to make them all Equal in the final distribution, & in case any of my Children should, die leaving Child or Children, his her or their Child or Children, to take the share of his, her or their deceased parent, the share or part that may be going to any Daughter to be named & settled as before provided & mentioned particularly the share of my Daughter Sarah & it being my desire that in no event shall her husband Thomas Causton take or have or Control any part of my Estate or any interest under this my Will -

11th As to the twenty-one (21) Dollars received by my Wife, from her Brother Reuben B. Goodwin I hereby relinquish to her, all right, title or interest in & to them or any of them, they being the sole & separate property of my said Wife & I authorize & empower her to use & dispose of them, their increase & profit, in any way she may think best, whether by Will deeds or in any other way she may think proper -

12th I hereby nominate & appoint my beloved Wife, Eliza Causton and my Son William H. P. Causton Executors and Executor of this my last Will and Testament, Requiring them to give Bond & Security in the sum of fifty thousand (\$50,000) dollars; I desire them to make an inventory of my property & file the same away, but do not wish them to have the trouble or expense of making any Returns to the Court of Ordinary, or any other Court, & hereby authorize & empower them to execute this my Will in their discretion, without making any Returns. And I hereby Vest & empower my said Executors to sell, at public or private sale, any part of my property, they may think proper to dispose of & on such terms as they may think best & make the necessary titles & Conveyance thereof as in their discretion they may think best. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my Seal, & executed, declared & published, this as my last Will & Testament this Eighth (8th) day of December A D 1858

John Causton

1851-1865

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The above foregoing, signed, sealed, declared & published by said John Castlen, as his last Will & Testament, in the presence of us, Subscribers, who subscribed our names hereto, in the presence of said Testator, at his special instance and request, and in the presence of each other, this 8th day of December A.D. 1858

N C Munroe

Peter Solomon
S R Whittle

Georgia } Bibb Court of Ordinary February Term 1860
Bibb County } And now at this Term Mrs Eliza Castlen & William
H P Castlen as Executors of John Castlen, late of Bibb
County, now deceased, having appeared before me & produced
the last Will & Testament of John Castlen late of said
County deceased, and Nathan C Munroe & Lewis W
Whittle two of the Witnesses to said Will having also
appeared in open Court before me, which Witnesses after
after being duly sworn, depose & say that they saw John
Castlen the Testator, sign, seal declare & publish, the
instrument now presented, as his last Will & Testament,
freely & voluntarily, & of his own accord without any
Compulsion or influence whatever, that at the time of the
Execution of said Will, said Testator was of sound &
disposing mind & memory, that deponents signed said
Will as Witnesses in the presence of the Testator, at his spe-
cial instance & request, & in the presence of each other
sworn to & subscribed }
before me Feby 8th 1860 }

N C Munroe

Lewis W Whittle

Wm M Riley

Ordinary