

State of Georgia
Bibb County

In the name of God Amen
I John T. Paterson of said State and
County being of advanced age & knowing that I must soon
depart this life deem it right and proper both as regards my
family & myself that I should make a disposition of the property
with which a kind Providence has blessed me do therefore make
this my last Will & Testament hereby revoking all others heretofore
made by me

Item 1st

I desire & direct that my body be buried in a decent Christian
like manner suitable to my circumstances and condition in
Life my soul I trust will return to rest with God who gave
as I hope for eternal salvation through the merits & atonement
of the blessed Lord & saviour Jesus Christ

Item 2nd

I desire & direct that all my just debts be paid without delay
by my executor hereinafter appointed as I am unwilling that my
creditors should be delayed in their rights especially as there
is no necessity for delay

Item 3rd

I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Mary with whom
I have lived forty four years for and during her natural
Life only one Lot of land number (7) seven in Vineville
containing one half acre with all the rights and appurtenances
to said lot of land in any wise belonging from all charges or
limitations whatever to her own proper use & benefit & behalf I also give & bequeath to my
beloved wife in like manner the farming utensils of
every description whatever & one mule & two horses one cow
and calf and one two horse wagon & a one horse wagon
also I give to my beloved wife Mary in like manner
for and during her natural life six negro slaves
(to wit) Maburia a woman about twenty years old & her
three children Rody a girl about six years old & Bling
girl about four years old & Sally a girl about two years
old & Morrae a yellow boy about fifteen years old &
Henry a boy about twelve years old & all my house hold
& kitchen furniture & after the rent of the farm in the
swamp is paid which my adopted Son is tending with the
balance of the proceeds of said farm to be brought here
for the support of the Family, I also give and bequeath my
beloved wife Mary a Land warrant for one hundred and
twenty acres of land which I expect to get or is coming
to me, this I wish her to dispose of for the use of herself
& family as she may think best

Item 4th

I also desire is that after the death of my wife that
Morrae the yellow boy named above shall be the
property of William Thomas Taylor Paterson Son of my
adopted Son, also I desire that the yellow girl named
Sally to belong to Sarah Taylor Paterson daughter
of my adopted Son J. S. Paterson & the

a woman by the name of ~~Martha~~ her two children Roddy & Mary & their increase & Henry shall be equally divided betwixt Francis Paterson Mary Elizabeth Martha Jane Alexander & Stephens Paterson Children of my adopted son J. S. Paterson & his present wife & should they have any more children while living together as man & wife my desire is that they also may come in for an equal share with the last named three children and should either of the negroes willed away to William Thomas Taylor or Sarah Ann Sappley Paterson die before they are of age then I wish for either or both to come in for a equal share with their other brothers & sisters

Item 5th I give and bequath to Jefferson S. Paterson my adopted son Lot of Land No 499 four hundred & ninety nine in the (1st Dist) Eleventh & (1st) first section in Cherokee containing forty acres with all the rights members of pertannance to said Lot of Land belonging free from all charges or limitations whatever to his own proper use & benefit & behoof forever with full power to dispose of the same at any time he may think proper

Item 6th I hereby appoint my beloved wife Mary my executrix & Jefferson S. Paterson my executor of this my last Will & Testament and also wish the whole of the property kept together until the youngest child is fourteen years old & in case J. S. Paterson dies & leaves his present wife a widow for her to be kept out of the property as long as she lives a widow

J. S. Paterson

Sign seal declared & Published by John S. Paterson as his last will & testament in the presence of us the subscribers who subscribed our names here in the presence of said testator at his special Instance and request & of each other
this April 21st 1855

James Knight
Ann Maria Riddle
John H. Brantley J. P.

Georgia
Bibb County Court of Ordinary March Term 1859
Before me William S. Mapey Ordinary of said County Personally came Mary Paterson & Jefferson S. Paterson executor of the last will & testament of John S. Paterson deceased late of said County & produced the last will & testament of said John S. Paterson and John H. Brantley & Ann Maria Riddle two witnesses to said will which witnesses being duly sworn depose & say that they saw John S. Paterson the testator sign seal declare & publish the said instrument as his last will & testament

1851-1865

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compulsion or influence that at the time of executing said will said testator was of sound & disposing mind & memory that said deponents signed said will as witnesses in the presence of the testator & at his special instance & request & in the presence of each other and that they saw James Knight sign the same as witness thereto Sworn to & subscribed before me this the 3^d march 1856

William J. Mapes
Ordinary

Ann Maria Riddle
John W. Brantley

Georgia }
Bibb County } I know all men by these presents that
aforesaid being of & disposing mind and memory But
being weak in body and knowing the uncertainty of the
duration of this present life do make and publish
this my last will and testament

Item 1st I nominate and appoint my friend ^{Anderson} Andrew Corner the
executor and my beloved wife Harriet B. Freeman the executrix
of this my last will and testament

Item 2^d Commending my soul in the hands of a merciful God I desire
that my body be buried in a manner suitable to my circumstances
and at the discretion of my executors

Item 3^d I will that all my just debts be paid and for this purpose I give
my executors with power in their discretion to sell such portion
of my estate real or personal as may be deemed by them necessary
for this purpose either at public or private sale as may be best
for the interest of my estate

Item 4th I will and desire that all my estate except such portion as may
be sold for the payment of my debts be kept together and
managed by my executors for the support and maintenance
of my family and for the support and ^{education} of my children
for and during the life or widowhood of my beloved wife, & if
my wife should again marry then on the happening of that
event my will is that my estate real and personal be equally divided
between my wife and children share & share alike and this for

for my wife is made in lieu of dower in my real estate should my
wife continue in widowhood during her life then at her death
my will is that my estate be equally divided among my children
share & share alike and on the division of my estate on either of
the above events happening should any of my children then be
deceased, children then living such child or children shall stand
in the place & status of the deceased parent and take

Item 5th share that would if living be coming to him or her in the
event the distribution of my estate by either of the
above mentioned should take place among my children
any living children I have at the time of my death