

Georgia

Bibb County

{ In the name of God Amen

Knowing that it is  
apporition to all men to die, and mindful thereof  
weak in body but of sound mind and disposing mem-  
ory, I make and publish the following as my last will  
and testament stating what I wish and will to be done  
after my decease with the worldly goods which I may  
possess whether real or personal of any kinds or  
descriptions.

Item 1<sup>st</sup> I bequeath my soul to God who gave it and my  
body to the earth from whence it was taken - desiring  
my executors to cause my body to be decently buried  
as soon as convenient and proper after my death.

Item 2<sup>d</sup> I desire my executors to pay my funeral expenses  
and such debts as I may justly owe, as soon as practicable  
after my decease.

Item 3<sup>d</sup> The rest and residue of my property I will be-  
queath to my beloved wife and children share and share  
alike only subject to the restrictions and provisos herein  
after mentioned.

Item 4<sup>th</sup> It is my will and desire that my beloved wife Maria  
A Franklin shall retain possession and control of our  
present residence or homestead our House servants  
carriage and horses and all things appertaining to  
our present domestic establishment for and during her  
natural life, and such estate I bequeath and devise to her  
after her death the property bequeathed in this Item to be equally  
divided between my children or their descendants the same  
whether one or more standing in the stead of the parent.  
Should my beloved wife Mary A Franklin first incli-  
ned to give up our present residence and establishment  
in order to sell our dwelling less care and attention  
it is my particular desire that she do not take this  
step until she has considered that matters for the pro-  
tection should she think fit for the interest of herself  
and the children. She can dispose of the same for  
the interest of all and in all matters of difficulty I  
desire her to seek very much the advice of my wife  
and my Brothers Benjamin and Lionidas.

Item 5<sup>th</sup> It is my will and desire wish that my de-  
ceased I have received his portion of my Estate

This Marriage, occurring at the age of Twenty  
 one years of ~~the time of this marriage~~  
 one year before my Son his portion, on arriving at the age of  
 Twenty One year, or so soon thereafter as my Executive  
 shall be able to make arrangements to settle up or  
 pay over to each Child that she shall

Item 6th The prospects being originated to my  
 Daughter is not to rest in their Husband, or  
 Marriage - and I will, and desire that whatever  
 prospect my daughter may inherit from me be  
 made over and settled upon them, in legal form before  
 the consummation of this Marriage, so that the same  
 may be enjoyed by them and their Children after  
 them -

Item 7th I desire that my Children shall be  
 educated well and thoroughly, in the Scientific  
 useful, and ornamental department, in such manner  
 as to bestow upon them the full advantage of a  
 perfect Education

Item 8th I do not include my library in the  
 disposition of my prospectus being before mentioned,  
 My Library I give to my Son Cleveland holding  
 that he will make good use of it and carefully  
 preserve it, in order that he may give it after his  
 to the Oldest Member of his family, and endeavor to  
 instill in the mind, of such Member of the importance  
 of following the same advice

Item 9th It is my will and desire, and I hereby  
 vest my Executive power after named with full  
 power to sell and dispose of any part, or portion, of  
 my Estate, either at public, or private sale, when  
 the same may be for the interest of himself and the Chil-  
 dren, and to execute sufficient title therefor to the  
 Purchaser, my said Executive, according to the Children  
 for their respective portions, of the proceeds of such  
 sale, And do hereby vest with full power in  
 making partition between the Children, to set apart  
 to each of my Children, their portion and to collect  
 conveyances to them, for their respective portions.

Item 10th I appoint my wife Mary ~~my~~ <sup>as</sup> ~~my~~ <sup>as</sup> ~~my~~ <sup>as</sup>  
 sole Executor of this my last will and testament  
 I desire that no security shall be required from her

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for the Management of my Estate. I except my Estate from the Direction and Control of the Courts of Ordinary, and Every Court having Probate Power in all things the law permits. Assuring that my Executor shall be in no wise responsible to the Court of Ordinary but that she shall execute this my last Will and Testament according to her best Discretion, for the benefit of herself and my Children. On the Event of the Second Marriage, the Control of the Property, is in no wise to pass from her, to her husband, but she retains Control the same, free from his agency or interference with the Management of the same, and his portion of my Estate, is to be denied held and regarded as her Separate Property, and my wish is, should she again, that she by the Marriage Contract, provide for the same, so that my wishes, in this matter may in no way be interfered with by reason of any Law or pretended Law, that might be introduced to interfere with my wishes, and I hereby direct her with the Power of disposing, of her portion, by will, deed or otherwise, to appoint a trustee on her Marriage, to carry this my Will into Effect.

Stew 11th Having in the foregoing Stew expressed my wishes, and my will, in order that they may be carried more fully into Effect, I will bequeath and devise and singular my Estate Real and Personal, to my beloved wife Mary G. Brown here, in trust for herself and my Children, vesting her rights the same power to carry the several provisions into Effect, as she might be caused to do, during her living, and executing Conveyancy, and alienating property, to carry into Effect, my wishes namely "Expressed" my said Executor to be account to my Daughters, when they arrive at age, or marry, and to my son, on attaining twenty one years of age, my Executor paying particular attention to my wishes as to the property my daughters may be entitled to, at and before Consideration of this Marriage, my beloved wife Mary the Estate for the benefit of herself and Children, and account to each Child, as I have directed, and do will and desire, and on her Marriage she is hereby vested with full power to appoint a trustee to carry this will into Effect.

Stew 12th She shall take my beloved wife Mary before my formal Child attains the age

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Then & Appointing my Daughter Ellen Franklin  
 My Executrix to Carry this Will into Effect  
 Visiting her with the same Power, and Substituting  
 her as, and for my Executrix in the same terms as  
 I hereby appoint my beloved wife, and in Case the  
 Homestead has not been disposed of by my Executrix  
 as herein before provided, & desire that my said  
 Daughter Ellen, shall keep up the Homestead, without  
 Partition, until my Son Cleveland arrives at, and  
 full age, and then & desire my Children to  
 consult together, with regard to the propriety  
 of a Partition of the same, and if they can so agree  
 it would be for one or more of them to retain  
 it as a Homestead, as they may agree, but as they  
 will then be of full age - they must act for their  
 mutual interest in the manner, time and mode of  
 Partition.

Signed, Sealed, and Declared and Published  
 in presence of the Subscribing Witnesses, Called by  
 me to Witness this my last Will written in the  
 foregoing twelve lines written on this and the preceding  
 two pages my Name signed at the top of the  
 first page, and at the foot of, we all sign in  
 presence of each other

Marcus A Franklin (Sc)

Witnesses

Bruj C Franklin  
 L J Whittle  
 George Payne  
 Robt Collins  
 Eliza Smith

State of Georgia  
 Bibb County

Before me now Massy  
 Ordinary in and for said County per  
 sonately George, Robert Collins, George Payne and  
 Lemil J Whittle, who each being duly informed  
 and say that, they each saw, or Marcus Franklin  
 the Testator, sign, Seal, Declare, and publish the  
 instrument now presented, as, and for his last Will  
 and testament, freely, voluntarily, and of his own accord  
 without any compulsion, or influence whatever he  
 having first made the same, that at the time of  
 the Execution of said Will, said Testator was of sound  
 and disposing mind and memory that defendant  
 each signed said Will as witness in presence  
 of the Testator at his special instance and request

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and in the [www.georgiapioneers.com](http://www.georgiapioneers.com) with others  
 Brown to be published before  
 me this 28<sup>th</sup> April A.D. 1858

L. A. Whittle  
 George Payne  
 W. T. Massie  
 R. L. Collins  
 Ordinary

## Last Will & Testament of Mrs Ann Wiley

Georgia }  
 Bibb County } In the Name of God, Amen.

I, Ann Wiley of said County, being aged, and  
 infirm, in body, but of sound mind, and memory  
 do make, publish and declare this to be my last  
 will and testament

First = I give and bequeath to Leroy M. Wiley  
 and John B. Wiley the following negroes  
 to wit: Saucie a mulatto woman of age - I think  
 a woman about forty five years old. and Sarah  
 a woman about fifty eight years old. to have and  
 to hold the said negroes to the said Leroy M. Wiley  
 and the said John B. Wiley. during their joint life  
 and upon the death of either of them, then to the  
 survivor, with my expressed wish that they the said  
 negroes should always be taken care of and  
 well treated.

Second = It is my will and desire that the  
 negro woman Maria shall have the sum of