

Last Will and Testament of William Johnston
In the name of God Amen
I William Johnston of the County of Bibb and State of Georgia, Planter, being of full age and sound mind and memory, do make and declare this my last will and Testament, revoking all other wills by me heretofore made

Item 1st
Item 2nd

I Give and bequeath to my beloved wife William Johnston for the term of her natural life two lots of land lying and situated in the Fourth District of originally Houston now Bibb County and known in the plan of said District as lots number two hundred and thirty one and two hundred and thirty one together with the houses and improvements thereon also lots of Land number three in square twenty four in the City of Macon with the improvements thereon, also four negroes one girl named Bess and her increase a negro woman named Venus, and a man named Robert, and a boy named Squire, also ten head of horses and fifteen head of Sheep, such as she may select out of the stock of Cows, horses and Sheep I may have on hand at the time of my death also all my stock of Hogs, all my household and Kitchen furniture of every description all my plantation tools, together with the Corn and Cotton crop that may be in my possession at the time of my death, all which at the time of the death of my wife shall be sold and equally divided among all my children, but whatever she shall receive and hold property during her life shall be absolutely hers and subject to be disposed of by her by will or otherwise I also give my beloved wife William Johnston the free use of two lots of land viz number one hundred and eighty three in the fifth District of originally Houston now Bibb County until my son Luther B Johnston is eighteen years of age and number two hundred and thirty one in the fourth District of originally Houston now Bibb County until my son George W Johnston is eighteen years of age

Item 3rd

I Give to my son Eiden Johnston all the property that I have heretofore given him including the negro man Jerry which he has received except a negro woman named Bess and her son, Children, which I have designated to him with the understanding that he should divide them equally between himself and his Brother, I need suggest it very rarely that the distance between them in being divided between brother and brother unless they shall divide it among themselves

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and his said brothers and upon the making of
said division a note of one thousand Dollars here's.
I hold on the said Eideon Johnston is to be given up
to him if the said division should not be made
it is my will and desire that the said Eideon shall
pay into the hands of my Executor two thirds of the
amount of said note to be by them immediately
paid in equal proportions to the said Asa & Caleb
Johnston and the balance of said note to be given
up to the said Eideon. If however the said Eideon
should have made or shall hereafter make any
arrangement with the said Asa and Caleb in regard
to their portion of said property it is then my will
and that the said note should be given up to him.

Item 4th I will to my son Caleb Johnston all the property I
have heretofore given him including five hundred
and fifty dollars handed him by me.

Item 5th I will to my daughter Mary Ann Turk all the
property that I have heretofore given her including
the negro woman Amelia with her present &
future increase which she has received

Item 6th I will to my daughter Rebecca Turk all the property
that I have heretofore given her including the
negro man Jim which she has received.

Item 7th I will to the wife and child of my deceased son
John May Johnston all the property which I gave
him & he carried off with him in his life time.

Item 8th I will to my son Asa Johnson all the property that
I have heretofore given him including negro
man May which he has received.

Item 9th I will to my son Loyd Johnston all the property
that I have heretofore given him including
Land which he has received.

Item 10th I will to my son Albert Johnston all the property
that I have heretofore given him including five
hundred & fifty dollars handed to him by me.

Item 11th I will to my son William D. Johnston a negro man
named Sam, a girl named Sal with her
increase also the land on which he now
lives in Bibb County being the same conveyed
to him by deed from Dr. Collins & now on
Georgetown one feather bed and bed
furniture, three cows & calves and one yellow
bay horse, saddle & bridle all of which he has
received except the negro girl Sal.

Item 12th I will to my daughter Susan Clark three negro
viz Allen, Peggy, & Nancy with their increase
including all the property I have heretofore
given her which she has received.

Item 13th I will to my daughter Eliza Harrington three
negro viz Maria, Harriet & Caroline one horse
saddle & bridle, one cow & calf and a feather
bed & furniture which she has received.

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- Item 14th I will to my daughter Fannie Johnston four negroes viz Fanny, Mouning, Viney & Orange & their increase one horse saddle and bridle one feather bed & bed furniture and three cows & calves with their increase
- Item 15th I will to my son Luther B. Johnston three negroes viz Spencer, Tom and Matilda with their increase one horse saddle and bridle, one feather bed & bed furniture & three cows & calves with their increase also one lot of land in the fifth district of originally Houston now Bibb County, known as number one Hun and eighty three, the said Luther B. to go into possession of said land or receive the rents, issues & profits from the time he arrives at the age of eighteen years.
- Item 16th I will to my son Morgan B. Johnston four negroes Jacy, Maria & her two children with their increase one horse saddle and bridle, one feather bed and furniture & three cows and calves with their increase also from the time he arrives at the age of eighteen years, lot of land number two Hun and and thirty two in the fourth district of originally Houston now Bibb County.
- Item 17th I will to my daughter Melissa B. Johnston four negroes viz young Ben, Daniel, Mary & Jean with their increase, one horse saddle and bridle one feather bed & bed furniture and three cows & calves with their increase.
- Item 18th I will to my daughter Ann Miriam Johnston four negroes viz Wiley Powell, Julius and Sophia with their increase, one horse saddle and bridle one bed and bed furniture & three cows & calves with their increase.
- Item 19th I will to my sons and daughter all and every species of property not mentioned heretofore to be sold and disposed of in the best possible manner and after being sold the due me collected and all my just debts paid to be equally divided amongst all my children ^{alive} at the time of my death, but the portion to which my daughter Martha Holloman shall be entitled under this clause of my will as well as under the second clause of my will to be invested in some productive property and settled in trust for her sole and separate use not to be disposed of even with her consent for the purpose of being given in other property to be settled in her in like manner and with like conditions.
- Item 20th I desire that my negro John and Mary be hired out and that the proceeds of the sale be appropriated to the maintenance and education of my youngest children until the youngest shall be 21 years of age.
- John County Wills 1823-40

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and at that time he sold and the proceeds to be
equally divided amongst all my children alive
at the time of my decease.

Item 20th It is my will that my beloved wife shall retain
in her hands all the property of my children
which I have by her until they become of age
or marry or she may deem them capable of
taking charge of it except the other executors
should have reason to believe that she was
wasting the said property & what she makes
of said property is to be absolutely hers, but
she is to make no charge for the maintenance
clothing support or education of said children

Item 21st I appoint my beloved wife William Johnston
Executive and Peter Stubbs and my son Eideon
Johnston Executors of this my last will &
Testament, signed and sealed this 2nd March
A.D. 1837

Signed & sealed in
presence of
Charles J. McDonald
Alex^r E. Patton
Abner P. Powers

William Johnston 

Georgia } Bibb Court of Ordinary November Term 1838
Bibb County } Personally appeared in open Court
before Asa E. Ernest, Myron Bartlett and
Frederick Sims Justices of the said Court, Charles
J. McDonald & Abner P. Powers two of the subscribing
witnesses to the last will & testament of William
Johnston late of said County deceased and who
being duly sworn depose and say that they
saw William Johnston sign and seal and
declare the said last will and Testament
and that deponents subscribed the same as
witnesses in the presence of each other and
in the presence of the Testator and that they saw
Alexander E. Patton sign the same as a witness at the
same time with deponents. Deponents further say
that the said William Johnston was at the time of
the execution of said last will and Testament of
sound disposing mind & memory

Subscribed & sworn to before us
the day and year aforesaid.

Myron Bartlett J.C.
Frederick Sims J.C.
Asa Ernest J.C.

Charles J. McDonald
Abner P. Powers

The last will and testament of William Johnston deceased and having
been proven in open Court and William S. Johnston late
of Bibb County Johnston the Executive & Executor therein named
having been duly qualified this order of the Court is hereby
granted that the said last will and Testament be
executed according to its tenor.