

Georgia Bryan County

In the Name of God So let it be

Simon Banks of said State and County being of advanced Age and Knowing that I must shortly depart from this world deem it right and proper both as respects myself and and family that I should make a disposition of the property with which a kind providence has blessed me I therefore make this my last will and testament written with my own hand and hereby revoking and annulling all others heretofore made by me

Item 1st I devise and direct that my body be buried in a Christianlike manner suitable to my circumstance and Condition I commit my Soul to God who gave it with hope of Salvation through the merits of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ whose religion I have professed and as I hope have enjoyed for the last fifty years
Item 2nd I direct that all my just debts be paid without delay as there is no necessity for my creditors to be delayed of their rights

Item 3rd I give to my beloved wife Matilda with whom I have lived in the strictest quiet and love the last Twenty years my house and plantation whereon I live during her natural life or so long as she may see proper to remain on it reserving to my Daughter Belinda S. Banks the right to live on said place with her Step Mother so long as she may remain single or until her mother relinquishes her claim and they to share equal in the products of the place, I also give to my wife one horse the one she shall chose of my horses and as much of my farming tools as she may think necessary for her use and also one small waggon

Item 4th I give to my wife and Daughter all my Stock of Cattle and hogs except two Cows and calves which I give to my Grand daughter Sullivan Banks, said cattle and hogs to be equally divided between them, the money I have in hand at the time of my decease after paying all my burial expenses I give also to my wife and daughter to be equally divided between them,

Item 5th I give to my wife one Bedstead and as much Bedding and furniture as she may chose together with as much of my House hold and Kitchen furniture as she may chose I also give to my Daughter one Bedstead and Bed and furniture

Item 6th I direct that all my perishable property that is not pointed out in the foregoing items to be sold and the money arising by such Sales shall be divided amongst my heirs in manner hereinafter pointed out

Item 7th after my wifes decease or when she thinks it best for her interest to relinquish the right I have given her to my plantation I direct that all my lands be sold by my Executor either at public auction or by private contracts and in such lots or settlements as they may see best for the advancement of my Estate and benefit of my heirs,

Item 8th the money arising from the Sales of my property both real and personal I direct to be divided amongst in manner following to wit: first Two hundred dollars shall be paid to my orphan Grand children the Sons and daughters of my Son Simon Banks deceased

And one hundred dollars to my Son

Whom I have named in the remaining

amount whatever it may be shall be divided into five equal ~~parts~~ shares first paid to my Son Guyler Banks second to my Son Thomas F Banks third to my Daughter Belinda S Banks fourth to my Orphan Grand Children the Sons and daughters of my Son Simeon C Banks fifth to my other Grand Children the Sons and daughters of my Son Elisha Banks deceased and also my Grand Son Robert W. Cone to share equal in the fifth division

Item ninth I constitute and appoint my trusty Son Thomas F Banks and my faithful friend Andrew J Wilson Executors to this my last Will and Testament this February the 10th 1870

Simeon Banks 

Signed Sealed declared and published by Simeon Banks as his last will and Testament in the presence of us the Subscribers who subscribed our names hereto in the presence of Said Testator and of each other October 29th 1871

W. J. Dugger
Matthew Patrick
C. W. Clanton

filed in office November 7th 1872

W. H. Hayman O B & Co

Recorded December the 5th 1872

W H Hayman Ordinary

State of Georgia

Bryan County

Present W. H. Hoffman Ordinary for the County of Bryan Personally N. J. Dugger one of the Subscribing witnesses to the annexed instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of Simeon Banks late of Bryan County deceased who being duly sworn deposeth and Saith that he was present and did see the Said instrument of writing duly executed by the Said Simeon Banks and deponent further Saith that the Said Simeon Banks at the at the time of executing the Said instrument of writing was to the best of deponents knowledge and belief of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding and that he N. J. Dugger the deponent and Matthew Patrick and G. W. Clanton in the presence of each other and of the Said Simeon Banks and at his request signed their names as witnesses to the due execution of the same

N. J. Dugger

Sworn and Subscribed to
before me this Seventh day
of November in the year of our Lord
One Thousand Eight hundred and
Seventy two Not Notary Public Ordinary B.C.

I, A. J. Wilson do solemnly swear that this writing contains the Last Will and Testament of the within named Simeon Banks deceased so far as I know or believe and that I will well and truly execute the same by paying first the debts and then the legacies contained in the Said will as far as his goods and chattels will thereto extend and the law charge me and that I will make a true and perfect Inventory of all such goods and chattels to help me God Sworn and Subscribed before me
This the Second day of December 1872 A. J. Wilson

State of Georgia Bryan County

By the Honorable Court of Ordinary for Bryan County
in the State of Georgia To all whom these presents shall come
greeting whereas at the December Term 1872 of the Court of Ordinary
of Bryan County on the second day of December in the year of our Lord
one Thousand ~~and~~ eight hundred and Seventy two the last will and testament
of Simon Banks late of Bryan County in this State deceased was proved
approved and allowed of the Said deceased whilst he lived and
at the time of his death having been possessed of divers goods and chattels
and credits within the County and State aforesaid the approbation and
allowing of his Testament and the power of granting the administration
of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the Said deceased
to the Said Court belong, Now know ye that the administration
of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the Said decd
and of his Testament any manner of way concerning is hereby
granted and committed unto Andrew J. Wilson

named Executor in the ^{said} Last Will and Testament being first
sworn on the Holy Evangelist of All mighty God ^{well} faithfully
to administer and to make a full and perfect Inventory
of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the
Said deceased and to exhibit the Same in the Court of Ordinary
^{of said Co} in order to be recorded on or before the second day of Febru-

ary next ensuing and to render a just and true account
calculation and reckoning thereof when thereunto required
Witness W. H. Hayman Ordinary for Bryan County
Second day December in the year of our Lord one
Thousand eight hundred and Seventy two

Given under my hand and private Seal being my
Seal of office December 2nd 1872

(L.S.) W. H. Hayman Ordinary B.C.

Recorded December the 5th 1872

W. H. Hayman