

State of Georgia. In the name of God, amen.

Burke County, 3d of March, 1855, I, John W. Morris, citizen of the County of Burke and State of Georgia,  
being of sound and disposing mind and memory do make this my last will and  
testament, hereby revoking all others heretofore made by me.

I commit my body to the dust and my soul to God Almighty in his hands and forever  
through the atonement of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for my resurrection  
and salvation.

I make the following disposition of my property:

First. I desire and direct that as early as possible after my decease all the property I  
shall die possessed of, or entitled to, except my negroes and the property bequeathed  
to my wife in the sixth item of this will, be sold by my executors publicly or pri-  
ately upon such terms as they may deem most beneficial to my estate. If my said  
wife does not survive me, I desire that the property bequeathed to her in the  
said sixth item be sold likewise by my executors as aforesaid.

Second. With the proceeds of the sale of my property and what money, accounts from  
my notes or other evidences of debt on hand at my death, I direct first  
that all my debts be paid by my executors; secondly that a legacy of two-hu-  
ndred dollars be paid to my wife, if she survive me, which amount I give  
to her in view of the twelve months support she would be entitled to by law  
out of my estate. She to make her election within one year after my decease and  
thirdly if the payment of my debts aforesaid, the expenses of administration and  
the legacy aforesaid do not exhaust the assets mentioned in this item, I direct  
that the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars be received by my executors and  
of said surplus if sufficient, and if not, then with said surplus of any and  
the hire of my negroes be brought up to what may be necessary to raise that sum to be ap-  
propriated according to the Burke Co. GA Wills 1855-1858  
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Third. I appoint my beloved son Remond Chance and my friend John R. Thompson  
of the said County, trustees to carry into effect the provisions of this item  
and to apply the said fund of twenty-five hundred <sup>dollars</sup>, according to the best of  
their judgment and discretion towards paying the expenses including house-  
rent, books, stationery and clothing which may be actually incurred in  
educating my hereinafter named children and any hereafter born, for such  
length of time after my decease as will with the time that they can respect-  
ably from this date go to school before my death, make up six months' schooling  
for Abraham; two years schooling for Florence; five years schooling for Lewis  
Duncaw Jones; six years schooling for each of my hereafter born children, and to a  
sum paying for the support of each such after born child, until it is eight years  
old. Of this fund, I direct, that a sum not exceeding twenty-five dollars be  
applied toward the payment of Abrahams Schooling; a sum not over three  
hundred dollars to that of Florence, a sum not over Seven hundred and fifty dol-  
lars to that of Lewis Duncaw Jones; for the support of each of said after born chil-  
dren a sum not exceeding what would amount to fifty dollars per annum  
and for the education of each such after born child a sum not exceeding nine  
hundred dollars. These several sums I do not give to my children absolutely  
nor to become a part of their Estates but to be paid out by the said trustees  
and their successors in office according to the actual expenses and require-  
ments of each child, in obtaining the aforesaid education, and in the support  
of each after born child as aforesaid, I leave it to the discretion of the said  
trustees whether the several parts of the aforesaid education of each

of my children shall be completed in successive years or at intervals allotted  
to the mental improvement of my children, that is to say, of my said  
children except Abraham, which is to have completed by end of said  
educational period as above assigned before the end of his or her second  
twelfth year or age, such child shall make thereof afterwards have any  
of his or her educational or other expenses paid out of said fund  
and during the time that either of said children (being over eight years  
old) shall not be attending school (vacations excepted) such child shall  
not enjoy the benefit of said fund.

As it may happen that my wife may, after the date of this will, bear  
me more than one child, who may survive me, in which event there  
may not be a sufficient surplus of said educational fund to support  
and educate all of said after born children according to the provi-  
sions aforesaid, I therefore, desire and direct that if the several maxi-  
mum sums mentioned be not wholly consumed in the manner aforesaid,  
that the balance of each of said sums shall form and constitute a  
part of the residuary fund for the support and education (as before  
directed) of all my said after born children but no larger sum expended  
in each than the amount already specified.

If after the education of my children as aforesaid is completed, there  
should be any surplus of said educational fund in the hands of the  
said trustees or their successors, I desire and direct that it shall be  
equally divided among my children surviving me, and the lineal repre-  
sentatives of any who are dead at my decease, and to be held by them  
subject to the same rate <sup>Burke Co., GA Wills 1855-1859</sup> at which they respectively take in their shares  
mentioned in the eighth <sup>www.georgiapioneers.com</sup> article of this will.

Sixth To my dearly beloved wife, should she survive me, I give and bequeath  
one house and buggy, household and kitchen furniture (including  
bedsteads bed and bedding) sufficient for her use and the family, four  
cows and calves, two hogs and their pigs, all to be selected by her, and the  
use and occupancy of the dwelling and land attached to my residence  
in the village of Habersham in said county of Burke, together with my  
interest in the tract of land adjoining said village bought from the  
the estate of Isaiah Sapp late of said county, deceased, to have and to  
hold all of said personal and real property, for and during the  
of her natural life only. The bequests in this item to my wife, and the share  
given her in the next succeeding item, I intend to be in lieu of her down  
and desire that she will make her election as early as possible after my  
death, so that my executors may not be impeded in the execution of  
other parts of my will.

Seventh After the selection by my wife of the perishable articles mentioned in  
the sixth item the sales mentioned in the first item, the payment of my  
debts, and the reservation of the said Educational fund I direct a division  
of all the negro property I do possess of, be and their after increase be  
given my wife (should she survive me) she to take a child past and my chil-  
dren whether now or hereafter born, living at the time of my death, and  
the lineal representatives of any deceased child, such lineal representatives to  
take per stirpes, the share of my wife in this division, together with the bequests to  
her in the sixth item of this will I give and bequeath to her to have and to hold  
during the term of her natural life, remainder over to such of my children as may  
be living at my death, and the lineal representatives of any deceased child

the shares in said division falling to such lineal representatives and to my male child  
deemed to be held by them severally and severally in fee simple; but the shares therein  
falling to my daughters to be held by the said Trustee Reuben Chance in severally for the uses  
and subject to the life estate restrictions, limitations over, and remainders as are imposed  
in ninth item of this will upon the respective shares of my daughters derived originally  
and directly from my estate in the division thereof.

Ninth The shares falling in said division of my estate to my male children and the lineal  
representatives of any deceased child, I give and bequeath to them respectively and  
severally in fee simple, the said lineal representatives to take per Stirpes.

Tenth The shares falling in said division to my daughters, and the remainders over  
to them mentioned in this will, I give and bequeath to my son Reuben Ch-  
ance as Trustee, and his successors in office to be and form the separate property of  
each of my said daughters respectively during the several terms of their natural  
lives, free from the debts, liabilities, and contracts of their present or any future hus-  
band; each of said husbands however to have, during the continuance of either of my  
said daughters with him, the use, management and control of her said share  
and her share in either of said contingent remainders, should it not be for the joint  
support of their natural family. Upon the death of either of my said daugh-  
ters, whether having been married or not, leaving no lawful husband, first a  
child, then his said share, and her share in either of said contingent rem-  
ainders mentioned in this will if vested in her life time, is to go to my Children  
living at her death, and the lineal representatives of any of my Children  
who may be then deceased, the latter to take per Stirpes, and their shares of  
said remainder and those of my male children to be held severally in fee  
simple, but the shares thereof falling to my daughters to be held by their  
said Trustee Reuben Chance, and his successors in office upon such uses  
and subject to such restrictions, limitations, life estates, and remainders  
over as are attached in this will to their shares derived originally and

directly from my estate in said division. But if either of my said  
daughters, (either now or hereafter born) shall die leaving a lawful hus-  
band, or a lawful husband and a child or children, surviving her  
then said husband is still to have the use, control and management  
of her said original share, and if any share in any of said contingent  
remainders which may have vested, for the joint support of himself, and  
such child or children if any, and if none then for his sole support. During  
the term of his natural life, free from his debt, liabilities and contracts and  
at his death remainder over to the child or children of his said deceased  
wife surviving, and the lineal representatives of any such deceased  
child; but if there is living at the death of the said husband no such  
child by his deceased wife, nor the lineal representative of any such  
deceased child, then, in this case remainder over, at the death of said  
husband, to my children who may be living at the death of said husband,  
and to the lineal representatives of any of my deceased children, the shares  
in said remainder falling to such lineal representatives and my male  
children to be held by them in severally and in fee simple, and the shares  
thereof falling to said daughters to be held by their said Trustee Reuben  
Chance and his successors, subject to such uses, life estates, restrictions, limi-  
tations and remainders over as are attached in this will to their respective  
shares derived originally and directly from my estate in the division above  
said.

Eleventh Whereas in any part of this will, it is directed that the lineal representa-

of any deceased child is to take property all in my intention that they  
shall take per Stirpes and not per Capita.

Sixteenth I constitute my son Reuben Chance trustee of my last Will & Testament as  
aforesaid, and his successor in office to sell or exchange with the  
written consent of either of my said daughters any part or all of  
the said trust property of said daughters and unto the proceeds of  
other property according to his discretion, the purchase of land, house  
property not to be held responsible for the proper application of the  
proceeds of such sale or exchange.

Seventeenth I appoint my beloved son Reuben Chance testator of provision  
of the persons and property of all my children, minors at my death,  
whether now or hereafter born.

Eighteenth If my wife does not survive me, I direct that the proceeds of the  
sale mentioned in the last part of the first item of this will, that  
is the sale of the property <sup>Bucks Co GA Wills 1853-1858</sup> [www.georgiapioneers.com](http://www.georgiapioneers.com) be left to her in the sixth item of  
this will, be used in connection with the proceeds of the other sales  
for the purpose of paying my debts and raising the educational fund  
aforesaid, so as to avoid, if possible, the hiring out of my negroes.

Nineteenth If at the time of the division of my Negro property according to the  
seventh item of this will, there be any other property real or personal  
belonging to my estate, undisposed of according to the several direc-  
tions and bequests of this will, and whether mentioned in this will or  
not, I direct that such property be equally divided between the  
parties, mentioned in the said seventh item, and in the same man-  
ner as is specified, in said item, the shares of the said distributees  
to be held by them respectively in the same manner, and subject to  
the same life estates, remainders, uses, limitations and restrictions as  
are attached to each share in the division of said Negroes.

Fifteenth I constitute and appoint my beloved son Reuben Chance, and  
my friend John R. Sturges, both of said County, the Executors of

Georgia  
Burke County, Ga Court of Common Pleas September Term 1858.

Reuben Chance and John H. Stonges, Esq., attorneys for execution to the  
court instrument in writing purporting to be the will of Henry Chance  
as having produced the same in Open Court, now come Seal on 6th day  
of William Morris and John S. Jones and day of July instant say that they  
are Henry Chance late of Burke County deceased, do by seal and publick  
the said instrument as his last will and testament, that at the time of his  
death he was of sound and disposing mind and memory, and that  
they signed the same as witnesses thereto at the special instance and  
request of the said deceased, in his presence and in the presence of each other  
Seal in Open Court this 6th day of September 1858.

J. B. Cooker, O.P.S.C.

Seal on 6th day  
of William Morris  
John S. Jones

Burke Co. GA Wills 1855-1858  
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The will of Henry Chance late of Burke County deceased having been  
produced in Open Court by Reuben Chance and John H. Stonges, Esq., their  
attorneys, and proven in solemn form by the oaths of Seal on 6th  
of William Morris & John S. Jones the subscribing witnesses thereto  
it is ordered that the said instrument in writing be and the same is  
admitted to probate as the last will and testament of the said Henry  
Chance, that the same be recorded & filed in the Office, and that letters  
testamentary be issued to Reuben Chance and John H. Stonges upon  
their taking the usual oath, in terms of the law. It is further ordered  
that Riley Reeves, Jimmon Reeves, James Whitfield, Orren D. Satterlee  
and Barnett Lewis Freeholders of said County be appointed to appraise  
the estate of said deceased in terms of the law.

Recorded 9<sup>th</sup> September 1858.