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I, Robert S. Gibson of the County of Chatham
and State of Georgia being of sound and disposing mind
and memory. do make publish and declare this my last
will and testament. first I give devise and bequeath
to my wife Sarah Gibson Two thousand dollars to be paid
out of the profits of my estate one half of that sum to
be paid her at the expiration of two years after my
decease and the other half at the expiration of three
years after my decease without interest. Item I give
and devise to my said wife the following negro slaves
viz Delia, Frank, Elzy, and Harriet with the future in-
crease of the female slaves but should my said wife marry
a second husband before the expiration of two years after
my decease then the sum herein devised to her shall be
paid one half on the day of marriage and the other
half in one year thereafter. I further devise that my
said wife Sarah receive a competent and decent main-
tenance from my estate until the bequests herein de-
vised to her be paid with the privilege of residing
at my plantation on Whitmarsh Islands, the side
of one half of the plantation and my plantation with
fruit and garden stuff for her use; without waste;
(the overplus to be sold for the benefit of my estate)
during her widowhood. Nothing herein contained shall
be construed to extend to the debarring my wife from
claiming a child's part of whatever property may
be devised to me or my heirs by Mr. Richard Turner
my wife's father, or in case the said Richard Turner
should die intestate whatever myself or my heirs
may be entitled to by law in right of my marriage
provided and it is expressly devised & declared
that the said bequests and devises to my wife shall
be and shall be in lieu of dower and that her ac-
ceptance of the said devises, or either of them, shall
bar and preclude her (except as before stated) from
all and every claim of dower in my estate or any
part thereof. Item. I give and bequeath all my
property I shall die possessed of (except such as
I have devised to my wife) both real and personal
of every description unto my children.

Robert S. Gibson

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Catharine Gibson, Joseph Robert Gibson Richards Turner Gibson and Robert Stuart Gibson, and in case my wife Sarah shall be delivered in proper time, of a child or children whereof she may have been pregnant at the time of my decease, that then and in such case the lawful issue so born alive shall be entitled to and receive an equal portion of my real and personal estate with my children herein before named. I devise that as soon as my oldest child shall attain the age of twenty one years or day of marriage my estate shall be divided into as many equal parts as there are children by my executors together with the guardians of my children herein after named and lots shall be drawn by each and every child and they shall receive their portions as they and each of them shall attain the age of 21 years or day of marriage the lots first drawn shall remain and the increase if any shall be divided as each receives his lot or portion. My will further is and I do hereby devise that in case either of my children should depart this life before attaining the age of 21 years or day of marriage, or after having arrived at the age of twenty one years shall die intestate and without lawful issue that then the lot or portion of such deceased child shall go to and be vested in the survivor or survivors. Lastly I do hereby constitute & appoint John Bolton James Barnard, George Herb and my son Joseph Robert Gibson, as soon as he arrives at the age of eighteen years executors of this my last will. I do further appoint Richards Turner, Solomon Shad sent Lewis Turner and David Bell guardians of my children during their minority. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this fifteenth day of April in the year eighteen hundred & twelve

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Robert S. Gibson J.S.

Signed sealed, published and declared by the Testator to be his last will and testament in our presence, who in his presence, at his request and in the presence of each other subscribe our names as witnesses

John Giffinger
Sam. Giffinger
Edmund J. J. J.

20 With regard to the education of my children
I hereby solemnly and in the most positive manner en-
join my sons herein below named as likewise the guardians
of my children to have them educated for the following pro-
fessions. First, I desire that my son Joseph T. Gibson be
well read in law, for if his situation should be such
that he may dispense with his profession yet he may be
enabled to solve many difficulties that his father had
to encounter and be able to counsel and advise his
brothers which cannot be effected from a mere
lawyer. My second son Richard T. Gibson I desire
may be educated for the pulpit and of that religious
set which at this day may be in greatest repute as
the most likely means of becoming useful for the formed
character of mankind is nothing. If by that means, true prin-
ciples of Christianity may be instilled. It has always
been found necessary to give heed to the folly of the
moment for by so doing we shall have leisure to
carry convictions to the minds of those who have gone
astray. By using force we shall only increase opposi-
tion. Therefore Chatham Co. Wills, Book G, 1808-1817
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portunity let us be zealous for the general
good of mankind. My third son Robert T. Gibson
I desire may receive a decent English education and
while at school be suffered to read books on agricul-
ture, so that when his education is finished he may put
in practice what he had before only known in theory.
I think it highly essential that any one whose fortune
depends on his knowledge of planting should early be
instructed in the theory and practice thereof. I do there-
fore recommend a few years practice under an able
planter. For, believe me it requires as much foresight
and experience to manage well the concerns of a plan-
tation as to govern an empire. The only difference is
one is confined to a narrower compass. And to collect
it requires as much judgment to make a small pair
of scales as a pair of larger dimensions. The above ar-
rangement is made from the knowledge I have of
the different dispositions of my children. It cannot
33 should one fail another may succeed. With regard

to my daughters I request they may be taught what
is useful rather than that which is only fashionable
their mother I hope & do not doubt will set them
a proper example.

Witness

Robert S. Gibson

David Bell

Marshall. }

3^d Those children remaining at home & too young
to go to school shall pay board at a reasonable
rate to their mother - my Exors will see to this -
whenever my executors think proper to board my
children out I desire they may be boarded at the
Academy rather than a private house. Item -
over and above my former bequests to my wife I
now give and bequeath my Jersey Waggon and
pair of horses to her and her heirs for ever. Neverthe-
less should my wife be dissatisfied with the above
bequests I desire, rather than to have my plantations
curtailed that she receive what the law allows
from the lot No. 16 Sit in Savannah, either by sel-
ling the same or by division may be agreed on.

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June 16. 1814.

Robert S. Gibson
[S.S.]

4th To my Executors.

I desire that William Barnard
should be possessed of my pistols but hope that he may
make no other use of them than for self defence my
wearing apparel to be equally divided between
Edward & William Barnard

June 10 1814.

Robert S. Gibson

Georgia Chatham County. In the Court of Ordin-
ary. June Term 1815. present the honourable George
Woods Moses Sheftall, John T. Williamson & Robert
Mackay Esquires, Justices of the Inferior Court of
said County. personally appeared John Eppinger of Sa-
vannah gentleman a subscribing witness to the last will
and testament of Robert S. Gibson, late of said County
deceased who being duly sworn, saith he was present
and did see the annexed instrument of writing pur-
porting

reporting to be the last will and testament of the said
Robert S. Gibson signed, sealed, published and declared
by the said Robert S. Gibson as and for his last will
and testament that the said testator was at the time
of the execution thereof of sound and disposing mind
and memory to the best of the deponents knowledge
and belief that the deponent and James Eppinger & Ed-
mund Jarvis subscribed their names as witnesses
thereto in the presence of the said testator at his request
and in the presence of each other.

Sworn in open Court

this 5 June 1815

Jno. Eppinger

Geo. Jones

Jno. Williamson

Moses Sheftall

Georgia Chatham County In the Court of Ordinary.

June Term 1815. present their honours George Jones, John
Williamson, & Moses Sheftall Esquires Justices of the
Inferior Court of said County personally appeared Da-
vid Bell of Savannah merchant a subscribing wit-
ness to the said Codicil of the last will and testa-
ment of Robert S. Gibson, late of said County dec'd
who being duly sworn saith he was present and
did see the said Codicil annexed to the said last
will and testament of the said Robert S. Gibson
and annexed hereto, signed, sealed, published &
declared by the said Robert S. Gibson as and for a
codicil to, and a further part of his said last will
& testament. That the said testator was at the time
of the execution thereof of sound and disposing mind
& memory to the best of the deponents knowledge
and belief that the deponent subscribed his name as
a witness thereto in the presence of the said testator
& at his request

Sworn in open Court

this 5th June 1815

David Bell

Geo. Jones

Jno. Williamson

Moses Sheftall

David Bell further saith that he thinks it proper

that James Marshall did sign the said Codicil in his presence, but of this, dependent is not certain and hence the erasure made in the (original) affidavit above.

David Bell

Georgia

Chatham County } In the Court of Ordinary. June Term 1815. Present their honours George Jones Mos- ses Sheftall & John P. Williamson Esquires. Justices of the Inferior Court of said County Personally appeared John Eppinger of Savannah gentleman and David Bell of Savannah merchant, who being both duly sworn depose and say that they believe the signature to the second and third codicils of the last will and testament of Robert S. Gibson dec^d and annexed to the same (and hereto annexed) to be the proper hand writing of Robert S. Gibson they having been long acquainted with his hand writing.

Sworn in open Court

this 5th June 1815.

John Eppinger
David Bell

Geo. Jones & Chatham Co. Wills, Book G, 1808-1817

John P. Williamson www.georgiapioneers.com

Moses Sheftall.

1 January 1816 James Barnard qualified as Ex^r of R. S. Gibson's will —

5th June 1815 qualified George Herb as Executor of the foregoing will & Codicil of R. S. Gibson dec^d

Will of Zachariah Stiller deceased

My dear George.

Being about to embark for America, I do request should ^{you} hear of my death you will act as executor to this my last will and testament, being of sound & disposing mind and believing in God. I do bequeath the residue of my property, after payment of my just debts, in the manner following — one hundred pounds to my nephew & grandson Albert, your son & the remainder to be equally divided amongst my — sisters but should they be independent I empower you to apply the proportion now named for them amongst
Moses