

In the name of God Amen I Stephen Bates of the of the
State of Georgia and County of Cherokee being very sick and weak
in body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto
God calling unto mind the mortality of my body and knowing
that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain
this my last will and Testament that is to say principally
and first of all I Give and bequeath my Soul to God into
the hands of almighty God that give it, and my body recom-
end to the Earth to be buried in a decent and Christian like
manner at the discretion of my Executors nothing doubting
but at the general resurrection I shall remain the same
by the Mighty Power of God and as touching such
worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless
me in this life I give devised and dispose of the same in
the following manner and form. First I give and bequeath
to Sarah my dearly beloved wife all my house hold and
kitchen furniture also what land I possess during
her natural life then after her death to be sold
and the proceeds to be equally divided among my four
children and I allow with for my poor man for her own
use and also what I have at home
and also what wheat I have made and the growing
crop that there is now on the land

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and also my other property to be sold to the highest
bidder on a twelve months credit and as my son
George V Bates has not had an equal share with the
rest of my sons it is my will that he should have
forty of the proceeds of the sale then after my just
debts are paid the balance to be equally divided
amongst my ~~four~~ sons & I allow amongst my sons
William V Bates and George V Bates my certain ex-
ecutors to see that this will is executed

In witness whereof I have signed my hand
and seal this fourteenth day of July
in the year of our Lord one thousand
eight hundred and fifty one
witnessed and declared by the } Stephen Bates
said Stephen Bates as his last }
will and testament in the presence
of us who herunto subscribed our names

Over

Continued

Just
Edmond Coffey }
John R. Bates }
S. C. Bates }

Georgia }
Cherokee County } Court of ordinary

September Term 1851

The within last will and Testament of Stephen Bates late of this County deceased having duly proved in open Court at this regular term by and upon the oath of Edmond Coffey John R. Bates and S. C. Bates it is ordered by the Court that the same be admitted to record

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John C. Maddox cc
Recorded Sept 1 1851
J. C. Maddox clerk