

Last Will and Testament of James W. Bennett

State of Georgia, Clay County, In the name of God Amen, I James W. Bennett of said State and County, being of sound & disposing mind and memory, fearing the uncertainty of life, especially as I am about to go into the service of my Country as a soldier in the war between the United States and the Confederate States, do deem it right and proper that I should make a disposition of the property with which a kind Providence has blessed me, I do therefore make this my last will & testament hereby revoking and annulling all others by me hitherto made.

First I desire and direct that all my just debts be paid as soon as possible by my Executor herein after named.

Secondly I give bequests and devise to my beloved Brother Martin G. Bennett all my interest in and to the lands & tenements constituting the farm that I and said Martin G. Bennett occupying together - with all the rights - numbers and appurtenances thereto in any wise belonging, free from all charges and limitations whatever I also give and bequeath to my said Brother Martin G. Bennett in the same manner, the following negro slaves to wit; Elijah, Harris, Wiley Margaret, and her two children Eliza and her two children, Martha and Grace with all issue and increase present & future also all my farmy utensils, household sketches furniture. And all of my mules horses, cattle - hogs, & all stock of every description, I also will and bequeath to my Brother Martin G. Bennett all my interest that I have or may have in and to my Father's estate, yet undivided, also all the property both real & personal whencesoever & whatever it may be that I now have or may have or be entitled to at the time of my death in to have & to hold in manner aforesaid.

Thirdly Should my Brother Martin G. Bennett depart this life before me, and consequently before this will goes into effect, then I will bequeath devise and direct that all and every kind and part of property herein devised to said Martin G. Bennett shall go to and rest in my beloved Brother John, Bennett free from all charges and limitations.

Fourthly I hereby constitute and appoint my friend Captain R. Holt Executor of this my last will and testament this December the 11th 1861.

J. W. Bennett

Signed sealed delivered and published by James W. Bennett as his last will and testament in the presence of us the undersigned, who subscribe our names hereunto in the presence of said Testator at his special residence and request and in the presence of each other, the word "estate" having been substituted in the second line of the second page, R. S. Bennett
of this will before it was signed and witnessed the December 11th 1861. J. W. G. Bennett
Henry Lair

Clay County Wills
1851-1870

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Georgia Clay County. Before me G. A. McEndow Ordinary of said County personally came Pyston R. Holt Executor of the last will and testament of James W Bennett deceased late of said County also two of the witnesses to said will to wit; B F Barnett and J M S Barnett, who being duly sworn deposes and says that that they saw the said James W Bennett sign seal publish and declare the said instrument as his last will and testament, voluntarily and freely without compulsion and that they signed said will as witnesses, in the presence of said James W Bennett and in the presence of each other.

P R Holt

B F Barnett

J M S Barnett

Sworn to and subscribed before me this July the 6th day 1863

S. A. McEndow Ord Clay County