

Last Will and Testament of Matthew Brinson
Dougherty County, Georgia

I, Matthew Brinson of said State and Dougherty County, being feeble in body but of sound mind and disposing memory do hereby make this my last Will and Testament thereby revoking all other Wills heretofore made by me.

Item 1st

I desire my Executors hereinafter named as soon after my death as practicable to pay all my just debts.

Item 2d

I give all of my property both of Real and personal to my beloved wife Mary Brinson & my Eight children as follows: Emma Brinson (now Emma Rayan), Isaac Brinson, Sarah Brinson, Jane Brinson, Elizabeth Brinson, William Brinson, Mary Brinson, George Brinson, and any child or children that may be hereafter born unto me from my said wife, to be Equally divided between them at the time of my death. I desire my Executors hereinafter named and they are to be fully and joyously to be subject to the limitations and restrictions as hereinafter particularly set forth and specified in this my Will.

Item 3d

I desire my Executor hereinafter named to keep together my entire Estate both real and personal for the joint use and benefit of my wife and children, in maintenance supporting and educating them, and as my children become of age or marry an equal part of my personal property (this is to say of my Negroes, Mules, Horses stock of all kind, plantation tools Corn fodder Cotton Money Notes &c) shall be set off and given to such child as marries or becomes of age by appointment to be appointed by the Court of Ordinary of Dougherty County.

Item 4th

My plantation whereon I now live, I desire and direct shall be kept by my Executor as a family and home for my wife and children and shall be divided until my youngest child is of age or marries, and then to be equally divided between my wife and of my children.

of such of my children as may be dead, and
to effect such a division of my said plantation
I empower my Executor when my youngest child
arrives of age or marries if they think best to sell
my lands either at public or private sale and
divide the proceeds thereof as above stated

Item 5th

I give to my wife as stated in Item 2^d of this
my Will a child's part of my entire Estate both
real and personal during her widowhood but
in the event she should marry, I only give
to her during her natural life and after her
death to be equally divided between my ^{living} children
and the issue of such as are dead the following
property Linda a negro woman & her four children
Ellen, Ellen Randy & Margaret, and when my
lands are divided at the coming of age or
marriage of my youngest child, I desire & direct
my wife to have a child's part of my lands or
proceeds thereof and such provisions in either case
is intended to be in lieu of dower

Item 6th

The property both real and personal that I have
heretofore bequeathed to my said daughter, I
give to them for their sole and separate use and
benefit and in no event to be liable to the debts
contracts or liabilities of any present or future
husband they may have. Their husbands I
desire to be their Trustees properly appointed by
the Court and to manage and control said
property for their joint benefit and to make such
use of the income arising from it as they may
think proper and upon the death of any of
my said daughter leaving no child or children
then my will and desire is that all their
property given them herein shall be equally
divided between my living children and issue
of such as are dead

Item 7th

As I have given my daughter Emma Reagan
some property I desire this to be considered as
an advance and to be deducted by my
Executor from her share of the property.

It is to be set apart and given

I do hereby appoint my son Isaac Brinson my
nephew Norton P. Brinson my executor of this my
Will and Testament

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my
hand this day of August 1866

Matthew Brinson

Signed Sealed published and declared by
Brinson as his last Will and Testament in
presence of witnesses thereto by his request and
the presence of each other this 25th August 1866

B. D. Keaton

G. E. Kearney

D. J. Brinson

John A. Davis