

Georgia. In the name of God Amen I Dempsey Griffis of the County of Hancock and State aforesaid being in low state of health but in perfect mind and memory do on this third day September in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred & twenty three make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form as follows to wit,

Item 1st. My will and desire is that all my just debts be first paid, and that my present crop of Cotton be sold by my executors to the best advantage, and the money arising from the sales be applied to the discharging of my just debts.

Item 2nd. I give and bequeath unto my son Richard Griffis one negro boy by the name of Willis to him and his heirs forever.

Item 3rd. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Charlotte Griffis one negro girl by the name of Markah during her natural life and at the death of my daughter Charlotte the said negro girl and her increase to be sold by my executors and the money equally divided between the lawful heirs of her body.

Item 4th. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Sarah Lamb one negro woman Cato and her child Matilda and one Cow and Calf to her and her heirs forever.

Item 5th. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Polly Griffis one negro girl Easter one feather bed & furniture & one Cow & Calf to her and her heirs forever.

Item 6th. I give and bequeath unto my son Mathias Griffis two negroes Lewis & Wilson and one feather bed and furniture & one Cow & Calf to him and his heirs forever.

Item 7th. I give and bequeath unto my son Henry Griffis two negroes Charles and Adeline and one feather bed and furniture and one Cow & Calf to him and his heirs forever.

Item 8th. I give and bequeath unto my son William Griffis ^{two negroes} Sady & her increase and George one horse one feather bed and furniture and one Cow and Calf to him and his heirs forever but the said Sady and George to be the property of my wife Matilda during her life and at her death the said negroes to go to William as before expressed.

Item 9th. I give and bequeath unto my wife Matilda all of my real and personal property that have not by this will been

otherwise disposed during her natural life, and after the death of my wife, my lands to be equally divided between my sons Matthew Henry & Williams -

Item 10. I give and bequeath unto my grandson Richard Culwell, one horse, bridle & saddle, to be worth one hundred dollars, and one feather bed and furniture to him and his heirs forever -

Item 11. My will and desire is that after the death of my wife, that all the property and effects belonging to my estate except such as have already been ^{by this will} disposed of, be sold on a credit of twelve months and the proceeds arising from such sale be equally divided amongst all of my children -

And lastly I do nominate constitute and appoint Green E. Lamb and my son Matthews Griffis my executors to this my last will and testament hereby revoking and disannulling all former wills by me made and confirming this my last will and testament.

Signed sealed and acknowledged

Dempsey ^{his} Griffis (Seal)
Matthew

In presence of
Matthew Humphrey
William Humphrey
Thos. L. Salinger

Georgia, Hancock County.

Inferior Court sitting for Ordinary purposes 3rd Nov. 1823

Present their Honors. John Turner

Hatchwell Ham

Anderson McCombs

John Graybill

The last will and testament of Dempsey Griffis was proven in Open Court by the oaths of Matthew Humphrey, William Humphrey & Thomas L. Salinger the subscribing witnesses. Whereupon it is Ordered that this will be admitted to record & that letters testamentary be granted to Matthews Griffis, & Green E. Lamb the nominated executors to whom after being duly qualified letters were granted accordingly