

Christopher Taylor's Will — Record

Harris County Will Book 2 (1850-1875)

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State of Georgia } In the Name of God Amen.

Harris County, } I Christopher Taylor of said State and County, being of advanced age and knowing that I must shortly depart this life, desire it right and proper both as respects my family and myself that I should make a disposition of the property with which a kind Providence has blessed me do therefore make this my last will and Testament hereby, revoking all other heretofore made by me

Item 1st I desire and direct that my body be buried in a decent and a Christian like manner suitable to my circumstances and condition in life My Soul I trust shall return to rest with God who gave; as I hope for eternal salvation through the merits and atonement of the blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ—whose religion I have professed and as I humbly trust enjoy a for several years.

Item 2nd I desire and direct that all my just debts be paid without delay by my Executor herein after appointed as I am unwilling my creditors should be delayed in their rights especially as there is no necessity for delay

Item 3rd I give bequeath and devise to my beloved Mother in Law Elizabeth Holcombe Lot of Land No 135— One hundred and thirty five Except twenty acres off of the North east corner of said Lot with all the appurtenances thereto belonging for and during her natural life

Item 3rd I also give to my Mother in Law Elizabeth Holcombe twenty acres of Land siting the North east corner of Lot No 135— One hundred and thirty five; also thirty acres belonging to Lot No 106 One hundred and six it all being in the nineteenth district of Harris County for and during her Natural life and the Decem of Elizabeth Holcombe to revert back to my children

Item 4th I want my Executor to run a line across my Land commencing at an Elm Apple tree South of Hanks old house running a little South & west to the river; striking the river where the crop fence joins the river dividing my Land in two parcels to be put up and sold separately to the highest bidder; with the reservation of a half acre around the grave yard

Item 5th I want my Executor to put up at the Market-house in Columbus all my Negro property to be sold to the highest bidder

Item 6th I want all of my Stock of Horses, Mules, Cows, Hogs and other perishable property sold on the place to the highest bidder together with the corn and fodder, oats, wheat and Farming utensils

Item 7th I want my present Cotton Crop to be gathered and carried to Columbus and sold as usual by my Executor and to settle my accounts with the proceeds.

Item 8th I give and bequeath to my Son Thomas J. Taylor one share and a half

Item 9th I give and bequeath and devise to my daughter Elizabeth one share and a half

Item 10th I give and bequeath and devise to my daughter Catharine one share and a half

Item 11th I give and bequeath and devise to my Son Christopher Taylor one share and a half

Item 12th I want my Walnut Warehouse to be brought here at the House with the balance of my Furniture and here to remain until the death of Mrs Holcombe and then to be sold with the rest of my Furniture to the highest bidder the Furniture that I claim here in the house two beds one wardrobe, one couch, Stairs set of Chairs and a bedstead

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Continued

I want them all to remain the house for the use of my mother in Law and children

Item 12 I give and bequeath and devise to my sons, James Warren Henry H. Habers M. five hundred dollars a piece over and above the rest of my children

Item 14 I give and bequeath and devise to my daughter Julia Ann Staten's children her part of my property at the plantation and her part to remain in the hands of the Executor until the children become of age

Item 15 I hereby constitute and appoint my worthy friend Lorenzo M. Biggers Executor of this my Last Will and Testament this 24th day 1857 Christopher Taylor

Signified, sealed, declared and published by Christopher Taylor as his last will and Testament in the presence of us, the subscribers who subscribed our names hereunto in the presence of said Testator at his special instance and request and each other this June 24th day 1857

Thos B. Henry
James S. Walker
Andrew J. Hays

SS
SS
SS

State of Georgia } Court of Ordinary August—
Harris County } Term 1857

Personally appeared before me in open Court Lorenzo M. Biggers and produced a paper writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of Christopher Taylor late of said County deceased in which instrument the said Biggers is appointed Executor — and two of the witnesses to wit Andrew J. Hays and Thomas B. Henry which witnesses being duly sworn depose and say that they saw Christopher Taylor the Testator sign seal deliver and publish the instrument now presented as his last will and Testament, freely, voluntarily, and of his own accord and without any compulsion or influence whatever that at the time of the Execution of the said will said Testator was of sound and disposing mind and memory; that defendants signed said will as witnesses in the presence of the Testator and at his special instance and request and in the presence of each other, and that they saw James S. Walker sign the same at the request and in the presence of the said Testator as a witness

Sworn to & Subscribed before me this 3rd day of August 1857
Geo W Mullins
Ordinary

Andrew J. Hays
Thos B. Henry

SS
SS