

Smith Cotton's Will — Recorded.

Georgia Harris County

In the name of God Amen I Smith Cotton of the said State and County being of advanced age and knowing that I must shortly depart from this World deem it right and proper both as regards myself and my family that I should make a disposition of the property with which a kind Providence has blessed me therefore make this my last will and Testament revoking and annulling all others heretofore made by me

Item first I desire and direct that my body be buried in a decent and Christian manner suitable to circumstances and condition, My Soul I trust shall rest to rest with God who gave it as I hope for eternal Salvation through the blood and precious Jesus Christ whose religion I have professed and as I humbly trust enjoyed for sixty five years

Item second I desire and direct that all my just be paid without delay by my Executors hereinafter named as I am indebted that my Creditors should be delayed of their rights especially as there is no necessity for delay

Item third I give and devise to my beloved wife Elizabeth E. the use of my lovely Place Situated in the Village of Whitesville containing eighty Acres of Land More or Less with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging during her natural life or Widowhood, Also a negro Man Isaac about fifty years of age a Negro Girl Juliana about twelve years of age my Horse and Buggy a bed and furniture and such an amount of my household and Kitchen furniture as she will need for housekeeping One Cow and calf such as she may select of all my stock my entire set of Charles Commentaries on the Holy Bible and one years provisions with all the poultry &c. during her life or Widowhood and at her death or marriage I will all that I have devised her the use of be divided by my Executors equally among my legates whose amount of my estate is not particularly specified in this Will I also that in the event of my disposing or losing any of the property herein devised to my wife that my Executors shall appertain to her such other property or money of my estate as will of equal value to that thus disposed of

Item fourth I give and devise to my Grand Daughter Anna Maria Hunter a Negro boy by the name of Africa about twenty five years of age to her and her children free from the disposal of her present or any future husband

Item fifth I give and devise to the children of my Daughter Sourany Stables and if there should be any such children living Six Hundred Dollars to be paid by my Executors in twelve months after my death

Item sixth I give and devise to my Grand Children Pleasant Sadler James Sadler Augustus Sadler Three Hundred dollars to each of them to be paid by my Executors within twelve months after my death

Item seventh I give and devise to my Grand Children Leonora Burfara James Burfara and Celestia Burfara each three Hundred dollars to be paid also by my Executors in twelve months after my death; Also I give and devise to my Daughter Martha Burfara in the event that she should be abandoned by her husband and left in a destitute situation before my death to have been distributed five Hundred dollars to be paid as above specified to the paying of others

Item eighth I give and devise to my Grand Daughter Jane Thomas five Hundred dollars and my Grand Son Joseph Thomas two hundred and fifty dollars extra of the amount he now has both the above to be paid by my Executors in twelve months after my death

Smith Cotton's Will - Continued

Item ninth I will and devise to my Son William G. and my Son Stephen G. and Son James G. their children and the children of my daughter Lucy Nell Kennon deceased, if any of said children should be living all the remainder of my estate to be equally divided among the four specific legatees consisting of both real and personal property money notes or any other effects whatever; and as I have given to my children at sundry times the use of property and money and taken their receipts or notes therefor the notes bearing interests the receipts not I desire my Executors in the Settlement with the legatees set forth in this Item that that they should cause the notes and receipts that I hold against the four last named legatees to be settled by them as a part of each one distributive share

Item tenth I constitute and appoint my beloved son James G. and my worthy friends John G. Little and John G. Andrews to this my last will and Testament this June 12th 1834

Smith Cotton

Signia, Sealed, declared and published by Smith Cotton as his last will and Testament in the presence of us the subscribers who subscribed our names hereunto in the presence of said Testator and of each other this June 12th 1834

W. H. H. H.

M. G. Andrews

J. G. Little

Court of Ordinary April Term 1835
State of Georgia No. 1000 County
Personally appeared in open Court Martin H. H. H. William A. Andrews and J. G. Little Witnesses to a paper writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of Smith Cotton late of said County deceased which witnesses being duly sworn depose and say that they saw Smith Cotton the Testator Sign Seal declare 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 signing said will said Testator was of sound and disposing mind and memory; that deponents 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

Sworn to & Subscribed in open Court this April 3rd 1835

W. A. Andrews

M. G. Andrews

J. G. Little