

Last Will and Testament of Walter C. West, late of Harris County, Texas

In the name of God, Amen:

I, Walter C. West of Harris County, & State of Georgia, being of sound and disposing mind & memory, & desirous of providing for my certain & decent burial as well as of settling the little property I have upon my mother during her natural life before leaving home, having already enlisted for the War in the Service of the Confederate States of America & being subject to all the Casualties of a Soldier in regular service do make & publish this my Last Will and Testament

First- If I should fall in Battle, from disease or otherwise before my Term of enlistment expires, I desire my friends to search diligently for my body & convey it in a plain metallic Coffin if one can be had, and if not in such a manner as they may think best, to the public burying ground on the Holston & Union Roads on the premises of Mrs. Mary Ann West & there deposit it. I hereby give to one of my friends who will see that this request is properly made, a sufficient sum of money to be realized out of the sale of my property, if necessary to pay all reasonable expenses of traveling, transportation, or otherwise, that may be incurred by such friend in discharging this (in my my mind) sacred trust.

Second- After expenses stated in first Item are fully paid & all other debts (if any) I shall all the balance of my property to my Mother Jane West, for her sole & separate use & from the date of delivery & habitation & control of my husband she may have, for & during her natural life & after her death to my brothers & sisters & their representatives share and share alike.

In Witness Whereof I the said Walter C. West to this my Will consisting of the foregoing two sheets of paper have set my hand & Seal this August fourteenth 1861.

Walter C. West

Signa Seal, publication & declaration by the above named Walter C. West as his Last Will & Testament in presence of us who at his request in presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto James M. Russell, of Harris County, Thos. C. Ross, J. D. A. Hodge,

Wm. H. Thompson.

George } Before me came on the 3rd day of May 1864 at Chambers, Harris County, } for the purpose of proving the Last Will and Testament of Walter C. West. One witness to said Will viz: Thos. C. Ross, and the Will being brought before me for Probate by Robert W. West son of the said Walter C. West, who having taken the Oath for the Probate of the same, - he the said witness deposed and swore of the same - that he saw said Walter C. West, sign, seal and declare and publish the same as his Last Will and Testament, on the day and year then stated, as executed by him, freely, voluntarily of his own accord without any compulsion or undue influence, that he signed the same at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other, and he was of sound and disposing mind and memory, when he executed the same - that he saw James M. Russell, A. Hodge, and William H. Thompson the other subscribing witnesses sign the same in the presence of each other and the said Testator and at his request.

Seen to and subscribed before me this May 3rd 1864
Geo. W. Mullins
Clerk

Thomas, C. Ross