

State of Georgia,

County of Liberty

In the name of God Amos, Have all men by these presents that Joseph McGowan of aforesaid State and County of Liberty, being in the health, full of sound mind and memory, calling to mind the shortness and uncertainty of life, and that it is appointed unto all men once to die and after death the judgement do make and ordain this my last will and testament.

First, I commend my soul to the God who gave it, and my body to the earth to be buried in a decent and christian like manner at the direction of my executors.

Second, I leave to my beloved wife Emily McGowan, during her natural life, one half of all my real estate situate lying and being in the County of Liberty aforesaid to be considered in lieu of her dower in said lands, I also leave to her during her natural life, one half of all my personal property for her use and benefit, upon condition that no part thereof be removed from the County of Liberty without the written consent of my Nephew Gideon McGowan.

Third, I give and bequeath to my nephew Gideon McGowan, the remaining one half of all my real estate lying and being in the County of Liberty and State of Georgia, and also the remaining one half of all my personal estate to him his heirs administrators and assigns forever.

Fourth, It is my will and I hereby authorize my Executor to sell all or any of my lands lying out of the County of Liberty, at such times and place and on such terms, and at such prices as he may see fit in his discretion, and hereby authorize him to make full and complete title to the same, without going through the forms of advertising and obtaining leave of Court, to sell, and it is my will that his title to any of said land or all of them be considered good and perfect both in law & equity.

Fifth, It is my will that the moneys arising from the sale of said lands be disposed of as follows viz, One half to be put to interest with and paid, secured, and the said interest paid annually to my beloved wife Emily McGowan during her life for her own benefit and behoof and this must be considered in lieu of her dower in said lands. The other one half of said moneys, I will and bequeath to my Nephew Gideon McGowan, his heirs administrators and assigns forever for his own use, profit and behoof.

Sixth, It is my will that all the provisions made for my wife Emily McGowan in this my last will and testament be considered in lieu of her dower, and should she claim and insist upon her dower, then, and then case it is my will that she forfeit at once the provisions made for her in item second and fifth of this my last will and testament, and that all my property as aforesaid, both real and personal be placed in my nephew Gideon McGowan excepting the dower to which my said wife Emily McGowan would be legally entitled during her natural life, and at her death it is my will that said dower shall belong to my Nephew Gideon McGowan.

Seventh, It is my will that on the death of my beloved wife Emily McGowan, all the property both real and personal bequeathed during her natural life in item second and also the money put to interest as in item fifth, become the property of my Nephew Gideon McGowan his heirs & assigns forever.

Eighth, I will and bequeath to my niece Mary Spencer as a special

legacy the sum of five hundred dollars to be paid her by my executors as soon as convenient as follows by one half the amount to be paid her from the property bequeathed my wife Emily all Gorman and the other half to be paid her out of the property bequeathed to my nephew Gideon all Gorman. To prevent all litigation I state the object of this my last will and testament to be, to make a suitable provision for the maintenance of my beloved wife Emily all Gorman during her natural life and then to bequeath all my property to my nephew Gideon all Gorman with the exception of the legacy left my niece Mary Spencer in item eighth.

And lastly; I appoint my nephew Gideon all Gorman sole Executor of this my last will and testament, and do hereby revoke all former wills both sole made by me. As witness my hand and seal this twenty third day of October in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred forty four.

Signed, sealed and published
on the day and year above written
by Joseph M^r Gower in his last will
and testament. In presence of
E H Bacon J^r Fleming
Jas. M^r Cutting
Henry J. Fleming

For Mr. Gowan

Personally appeared E W Bacon who being duly sworn deposes and swears that he was a subscribing witness, and saw the within will duly signed, and that the testator was in his right mind and of disposing memory.

Given to a poor Child
the 13th January 1845

C H Bacon

Attest. J. S. Brant, Clerk

Received this 1st February 1845

Admittance to record from day

L. Bonolunato Clerk

My dear George
I have been thinking of you very much lately and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy.