

In the Name of God Amen I Balsam Bentley
of Lincoln County And State of Georgia Being
Afflicted of Body by a mortal disease that has every
Appearance of Ending in the dissolution of My
Mortal Body And knowing that it is appointed
for All flesh to die, And being of Sound Mind And
Memory, I therefore do Make constitute And Ordain
this My Last Will And Testament In manner
And form As follows to Wit -

- 1st I Will that all My just Debts be paid out
of My Estate -
- 2nd I Will that My beloved Wife Nancy Bentley
hold possess And Enjoy her several Dower
her Natural Life of All My Real Estate And
if She Intermarries Again She shall be at her
Disposal to make her Election according to Law
in Everything of My Estate -
- 3rd I Will that after my death the tract of
Land which I own in Lincoln County be equally divided
between My two Sons to Wit, John Bentley And
Benjamin Bentley -
- 4th I Will that My other tract of Land on Broad
River containing three Hundred And Twenty
Acres be Equally divided between My two
Daughters To Wit, Elizabeth Bentley And Emily
Garnit And Also to Emily I give the Negro girl
Root that is now in her possession And to Eliza-
beth the Negro Boy Peter And to My son John
Bentley - I give My Boy Harry, And My son
Benjamin is to have a share from the Incom-
es of the Estate And Lastly My Will is that
all My surviving Heirs have All their parts
Appraised so that Every one shall have an
Equal portion And Also My other property
George, Jerry, And Polly is to be kept to serve
the

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This plantation, and for the support of my beloved Wife Nancy Bentley during her life, My Other Negro Man Pollard is to be hired but until my youngest son Benjamin becomes of age And then at the Disposal of my Executors either to hire out still or to sell or to work at home as they may think best. — Lastly I appoint my beloved Wife Nancy Bentley, My Garnet And John Bentley my Executors And Executors to carry this Will into Effect And do commit my Soul into the kind hands of my Heavenly Father And Perfect Redemption, Signed And Attested this 21 of January 1816 —

In presence of
 John H. Walker } Natham Bentley
 New Amherst }
 Lincoln County Wills 1800 to 1832
 Nathan Bentley }
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Georgia } personally appeared in the
 Lincoln County } presence of two of the Inferior Court, Acting on Ordinary purposes, John H. Walker William Cordal And Nathan Bessley And being duly sworn according to Law Sayeth they saw Natham Bentley Deceased Sign & Heard him Acknowledge this Instrument of Writing to be his last Will and Testament And at the time of his Signing he was of a Sound disposing Mind & Memory to the best of their knowledge — Sworn to in the presence of two of the Inferior Court Acting on Ordinary purposes this fourth day of March 1896

Continued

Set up
Robert Ware 1816 John H. Walker
Saml. Davis 1816 Mrs. Onial
" " Nathan Bishop
List Mrs. Harper 1816

And the Above Will Examined by a full
Court Agreeable to Law on the Sixth day of
May 1816. & Ordered to Record

William Harper 1816

And now the Last Will and Testament of
Nathan Bishop Sec. - are Recorded this 8th
day of May 1816 -

William Harper 1816

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