

Georgia { In the name of God Amen  
Pierce County } I James R Thomas being of sound mind  
and memory do hereby make ordain and pub-  
lish this my last will and testament hereby  
making all others by me at any time made  
null and void. It is my will and desire that I may be  
decently interred according to my circumstances  
in life and that my spirit may return to God  
who gave it

Item 1<sup>st</sup> It is my will and desire that all my just  
debts be speedily paid.

Item 2<sup>nd</sup> It is my will and desire and I hereby give  
and bequeath at my death all of my property  
real personal or mixed of every description to  
my beloved adopted son James S. Thomas to be  
used and enjoyed by him in as free and ample  
manner as I have or may enjoy it during my  
life

Item 3<sup>rd</sup> I hereby appoint my said adopted  
son James S. Thomas sole executor of  
this my last will and testament without  
the formality of giving bond or security  
as said executor

And lastly I hereby ordain declare and publish  
this my last will and testament  
Signed Sealed ordained declared and pub-  
lished This December the 4<sup>th</sup> day  
in the year 1875

James R Thomas 

In witness whereof we have signed the  
 foregoing will and testament of James R  
 Thomas as witnesses at his request  
 and in his presence and in the presence  
 of each other the day and year  
 above mentioned

W. R. Herrie  
Wm. Robinson  
Samuel McCallum

At the Court of Ordinary of Prince County  
in vacation on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of Sept. 1876  
personally came Wmly. Robinson who  
being duly sworn deposes and says that  
he saw James R. Thomas sign and publish  
the within as his last will and testament  
while of sound mind and disposing memory  
and that he witnessed the same for him  
and at his request and in his presence and  
in the presence of the other witnesses to said  
will and testament and that the same was  
executed voluntarily by him on the day it  
purports to have been executed

Sworn to before me

This Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 1876

Wmly Robinson

Joseph S. Robinson

Ordinary

I do solemnly swear that this writing contains  
the true last will of the within James R. Thomas  
deceased so that I believe and  
that I will well and truly execute the same in  
accordance with the laws of this State -  
So help me God

James S. Thomas

Sworn to and subscribed before me

This Sept 18<sup>th</sup> 1876

Joseph S. Robinson

Ordinary

Whereas upon application of James S. Thomas  
named Executor of the will of James R. Thomas  
was filed in common form in vacation on  
the 11<sup>th</sup> day of Sept 1876 and said James  
S. Thomas having duly qualified as Executor  
it is ordered said will be admitted to record  
and that letters testamentary to said James S.  
Thomas

Witness my official Signature this  
Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 1876

Joseph S. Robinson  
Ordinary

State of Georgia } In the name of God. Amen. I James J. Thompson  
Pierce county } of said State, and County being of advanced  
age, but of sound and disposing mind and  
memory. Knowing that I must shortly depart this life  
deem 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,  
I therefore make this my last will and Testament,  
Revoeking and annulling all others by me heretofore made,  
First - I devise and direct, that my body be buried in a  
decent and Christian like manner, suitable to my  
Circumstances and Condition in life. My Soul  
I trust shall return to rest with God who gave it,  
as I hope for Salvation through the merits and  
attonement of the blessed Lord and Saviour  
Jesus Christ.

Secondly - I devise and direct, that all my just debts be  
paid, without delay, by my Executrix, hereinafter  
named and appointed,

Thirdly - I give bequeath and devise to my beloved wife -  
Mary Ann, Thomas two hundred acres of lot of land  
Number (179) one hundred and seventy nine in  
the (9) ninth district of Pierce county - and said State,  
it being the place, whereon I now live. Also the choice  
horse, that I may have at my death. Household  
and Kitchen furniture, and Farming utencils of all  
kinds. Twenty one Head of Stock Cattle such  
as she may choose from my stock. My stock of  
Hogs - and also the crop and provisions of all  
kinds, that I may leave at my death, and money  
without limitation or reserve, with all the  
rights, members and appertainances to the above  
described, land in any wise belonging free from  
all charge and limitation, whatever to her proper  
use, benefit and behoof forever. with full power  
to dispose of the same by will, or otherwise as  
she may deem proper,

Fourthly - I devise and direct that the cattle heretofore  
given to my wife's children, shall remain  
their property - under said gift already made.

*Fiftly* I devise and direct that the remainder of my Cattle be by my, Executrix equally divided between Children,

*Sixthly* I hereby appoint my trust-worthy and beloved wife Mary Ann Thomas, Executrix. of this my last will and Testament. This May 25<sup>th</sup> 1872.

Witness

B.D. Brantley  
Benjamin M. James  
Benjamin Dixon  
Redin M. Tuten

Signed

James J. Thomas

I do solemnly swear, that this writing contains the true last will of the within named James J. Thomas, Deceased so far as I know, and believe, and that I will well and truly execute the same in accordance, with the Laws of this State - So Help Me God.

Sworn to and subscribed  
before me this Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> 1877

Mary Ann Thomas

A. J. Strickland County Clerk 1872-1885  
www.georgiapioneers.com

Georgia } At a regular term of the Court of Ordinary  
Pierce Co } of Pierce County - on the first day of October - 1877.  
} Came into Court personally - B.D. Brantley - Benjamin  
Dixon - and Redin M. Tuten, each of whom being  
duly sworn, deposes, and, says, that each of them saw  
James J. Thomas, sign and publish, the within as his last  
will, and testament while of sound mind and disposing  
memory - and that each of them, witness the same for  
him, at his request, and in his presents, and in the  
presents of each other, and that the same was executed  
voluntarily by him, on the day it represents to have  
been executed.

Sworn to and subscribed  
before me, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> 1877.

A. J. Strickland

Ordinary -

Signed

B.D. Brantley  
Benjamin Dixon  
Redin M. Tuten.

Proven in solemn form and admitted to  
Record, this October 1<sup>st</sup> 1877.

A. J. Strickland  
Ordinary