

State of Georgia } In the name of God I, Sarah Mason of said State and County being
1st Item } Both sound & of advanced age and knowing that I must shortly depart this life leave 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 do therefore make this my last will and
testament hereby revoking all other testaments made by me.

2nd Item } I desire and direct that my body be buried in a decent and Christian like manner according to
my circumstances and condition in life.

3rd Item } I give bequests and devise to William St. York my negro woman servant about twenty five years
of age

4th Item } I give bequests and devise to my beloved brother Richard Mason the sum of Twenty Five Cents
also my beloved brother John Mason the sum of twenty five cents also to my beloved brother
Larkins, Mason the sum of twenty five cents also to my beloved brother John Mason the sum
of twenty five cents also to my beloved Leonard Mason the sum of twenty five cents also to my
beloved sister Nancy Ray, the sum of Twenty five cents also to my beloved Sister Elizabeth
Fay and the sum of Twenty five cents

5th Item } I desire and direct that all the balance of my effects after disposing and discharging as
above directed be divided equally amongst my brother Larkins, B. Mason & children to wit
Mathilda & M. York, Elizabeth Ann York, Jasper H. S., John Eaton, William J., Mary, James
Lucy, Judith R., Larkins Jr. and Andrew Jackson Mason.

6th Item } I hereby constitute William St. York Executor of this my last will and Testament. This the
Twentieth day of September in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and
fifty eight.

Sarah ⁱⁿ Mason (SD)

Signed sealed delivered and published by Sarah Mason as her last will and testament
in the presence of us The Subscribers who subscribe our names unto it in the presence of said
testator at her special instance and request and of each other this September the 15th
1858. - Last Ed.

Elias D. Nightingale

Joseph C. Morgan

H. Miller

Court of Ordinary October Term 1858.

Georgia } Came into Court at this regular Term of the said Joseph C. Morgan and
Polk County } though Miller and being duly sworn deposed that they saw Sarah Mason sign
and publish the aforesaid as her last will and testament while of sound and disposing mind
and that they witnessed the same for her at her request and in her presence and of each other on the day
it purports to have been executed.

Joseph C. Morgan

H. Miller

Stamps and subscribed in Open Court October Term 1858

Stephen A. Borders Ordinary

Georgia } I William St. York do solemnly swear that the aforesaid writing contains the true last
will and testament of Sarah Mason so far as I know or believe and that I will
will and truly execute the same by first paying the debts and then the legacies contained in said
will so far as the property will extend and the law requires me and that I will make a true and
just inventory of said Estate and a just valuation thereof when the same required to be done in said
Court to and laid before you in
October October Term 1858 } (592 words)

William St. York

Stephen A. Borders Ordinary

1st will } State of Georgia } In the name of God I, John St. York, of said County and State being in
both sound & of sound and disposing mind and memory and being desirous
of disposing of what worldly goods a kind Providence has blessed me after my death do make this
my last will and testament hereby revoking all former wills herebefore made by me first committing
my soul to God who gave it and my body to earth from whence it came.
It is my will and desire that all my just debts should be paid by my Representatives herein after
named and for the better discharge my obligation is that they appropriate what money is coming in during

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Item 2nd

To give when collected & Sell first A Negro fellow named Austin and appropriate the sum arising from this sale, and if that should be insufficient & my Executrix should demand at least That to Sell another Negro fellow named Anderson & appropriate the goods of his sale to the same purpose or so much as shall be necessary.

It is my will and desire that after the payment of my debts as before stated that the remainder of my property shall be kept together and managed by my Livingsten named Representatives for the Benefit of all my legatees for and during the natural life or widowhood of my beloved wife Mrs. H. C. Merrill, subject to the Service after named supervision. But should my said wife Marry then it is my will that my said property should be equally divided between my wife and all my children their & their a like. My wife to have a child's part only, and that portion that shall fall to my children to be thrown and kept together in common. And if Marry by my friend William H. Withings as their Guardian until my children shall arrive at age. Or Marry where each child shall at such time have his or her portion from the common whole, and should my wife die without ever again marrying then it is my will that after her death my said friend shall manage the entire property as in this item is directed for that portion that would belong to the children after my wife dies shall be taken from it. And should my said friend from death or other cause be prevented from discharging the trust by this item imposed upon him relative to my children, that then the same shall be accomplished by such suitable person or persons as shall be appointed by the Court of Ordinary after giving first hand & hearing for the execution of the trust.

Item 3rd

It is my will and desire that my representatives shall so do as they shall think it advisable to purchase a suitable place on which to keep my said Negro and property together & on which to work them for the joint Benefit of all my legatees during the life time or widowhood of my wife selling the property remain in the immediate possession of my wife and should my wife not Marry or die before my children shall marry or arrive at age. Then it is my will as they shall respectively marry or arrive at age that they shall receive a suitable advancement according to an equal division pro rata among them.

Item 4th

It is my will and desire should my wife die or marry that then my children property shall be kept and worked on land either purchased or rented for that purpose and not hired out until then shall be land purchased on which to work my property I leave it to the sound discretion of my representatives whether to rent land on which to work them or to hire out land of my Negroes as they shall think best.

Item 5th

I hereby constitute and appoint my Trusty friend William H. Withings Executor and my beloved wife H. C. Merrill Executrix of this my last will and testament with full and ample power & discretion for them to carry out & execute the same In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this the 13th day of September 1857. Joel H. Merrill. (Signed) Signed Sealed Published and declared as the last will and testament of Joel H. Merrill who signed in each of our presence and in the presence of each other and at the request & in the former of the testator on the day & year therein named.

E. D. Wilson

H. C. Battle

J. C. Battle

Georgia Before me Stephen A. Borders Ordinary in and for this County in vacation formerly known as the Park County H. C. Merrill Executrix of the last will and testament of Joel H. Merrill late of this County deceased and produced before me the first will and testament of said dec'd and the writing of said will to wit E. D. Wilson H. C. Battle & Joel C. Battle which witness being duly sworn deposes say that they saw Joel H. Merrill the testator sign seal and declare and publish the instrument 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 the execution of said will he had no way or means of forming and disposing himself and memory that he never signed said will as aforesaid in the presence of the testator and at his instance and request and in the presence

Swear to and Subscribed before me
this January the 3rd 1860

Stephen A. Borders Ordinary

Georgia I, J. C. Herrell do solemnly swear that this writing for them the true last
Polk County will and testament of the writer named, J. C. Herrell deceased. So far as I
know or believe and that it will well and truly execute the same by paying first the
debts and then the legacies contained in said will so far as his goods & chattels will
thereunto extend and the law charge me and that I will make a true and perfect inventory
of all such goods and chattels. So Help me God

C. M. Christian

J. H. Battle

W. H. Battle

W. H. Battle

Sworn to and Subscribed before me

J. C. Herrell

January the 3rd 1860 Stephen A. Borders Ordinary (1075 words)

Georgia My last will and testament is that with my wife my wife Mary Ann
Polk County Smith shall become owner of all my effects after my just debts are paid such
as and effect it will kind. Know, witness and declare this day this 3rd day of January
in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty nine in the County and State
above named, set up & recorded to the office December 11th 1859 George Smith

Witness David H. Chapman

B. D. Chapman

C. D. Elliott

Georgia Before me Stephen A. Borders Ordinary for Swearing in Person came Elizaham R. King
Polk County Executor of the last will and testament of George Smith Deceased late of said County
and also two of the witnesses David H. Chapman and Benjamin H. Chapman who being duly sworn
depose and say that they saw the said George Smith sign said will and declare the said
Instrument as his last will and testament voluntarily and freely without compulsion and
that they signed said will as witnesses and they saw G. W. Young sign said will in the
presence of the testator as a witness at the request of testator and in presence of each other
Sworn to and Subscribed before me this) C. M. Christian

January the 11th 1860 Stephen A. Borders Ordinary

B. D. Chapman

Georgia I, Elizaham R. King Do solemnly swear that this writing contains the true last
will and testament of George Smith deceased so far as I know or believe and that
I will well and truly execute the same by paying first the debts and then the legacies contained
in said will so far as his goods and chattels will thereunto extend and the law require me
and that I will make a true and perfect inventory of all such goods & chattels so Help me God
(Sworn to and Subscribed before me in open Court)

E. P. King

March the 5th 1860 Stephen A. Borders Ordinary (345, 15, 16)

Georgia Hancock County I, Benjamin H. Moody of Luton City Polk County Georgia do publish and declare
this my last will and testament as follows to wit:

I bequeath to my wife Mary Ann Moody the following negroes to wit Cleo, Sarah and her natural
son, Lydia and her natural increase to have and to enjoy forever and the sum of Twelve
Hundred Dollars without restriction with interest from this date

To my children Benjamin H. Moody, Judie, C. Moody and to such others if any that may hereafter be
born to me. I bequeath all my interest and legacy in and by virtue of my Aunt Polly Chapman's will
late of Leatonton deceased to be equally divided between my children above & those alike subject
to the charge and maintenance hereafter mentioned.

To my wife and children that now are or may hereafter be born to me I bequeath all my interest
in land and all lands lying in the states of Mississippi, Tennessee and Alabama, a part of said
lands were entered by me at the land office at Pontotoc in the state of Mississippi said entry
being made upon the name of Andrew James Moore of Luton City Georgia but now deceased
and to such land as may be hereafter purchased by me from Mr. R. H. Moody and by him bequeathed to me

C. M. Christian

J. H. Battle

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