

In the Name of God Amen  
I Thomas Cowen of the State of Georgia and of  
of Richmond being weak, and diseased in Body, thro-  
ugh the Mercies of God) of sound mind, and in the true  
perfect use & Exercise of Natural Reason, and Me-  
Calling to mind the Mortality of my Body, that it  
pointed for all men once to die; and considering  
the shortness, and uncertainty of Life do hereby Make an  
in, this my Last Will & Testament, in man-  
ner following Viz. Principally and first of all  
I recommend and commit my Soul in to the hands  
of Almighty God, who gave it, in the hope of Forgiveness  
& Acceptance, through the Merits & Satisfaction of his  
only Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and re-  
qu Coastly to the Earth, to be interred in Decent Christian  
Burial, at the Discretion of my Friends & Execu-  
tors, nothing doubting at the General Resurrection,

...and I desire that all my lawful and just Debts together with my  
small expences be fully paid and discharged, and that  
and begeth to my loving wife Margaret Cowen  
his apparel, his Saddle & Bridle all my Household  
furniture and Kitchen ware, also all my Books, & the  
the Tract of Land on which I now live with two work crea-  
res, & all the Implements of Husbandry; Two milch  
cows, with their increase after my Decease; as also all  
lawful Debts due to me together with the Crop now grow-  
ing, to be all and singular at his absolute and proper use  
& disposal during his Widowhood, or while she may  
use to remain in a family Capacity; my part of the  
same and thenceforth only accepted, and in case of his Marri-  
age all the sd articles (except apparel used and furniture  
viz. saddle and one Milch Cow one pot and the pewter  
wooden Kitchen ware, which shall be at his entire and  
disposal) shall be sold to the highest bidder and  
equally divided between my three Daughters Sarah  
Ann and Elizabeth, and in case she may chuse to retire  
from a family Capacity (she remaining in a state of  
lawhood) I do will and ordain that the sd articles as  
above, viz. his apparel used furniture Saddle & bridle  
pot pewter &c one Cow which she may chuse, together  
with the Books and one Horse creature, which she shall  
use be and remain, at his use and disposal during his  
life the sd Tract of Land on which I live, to be let to rent,  
& the profits thence arising to be at his disposal for his  
support during his life, or pleasure, & at his decease  
his movables as may be then in his possession, to be  
sold to the highest bidder and the profits thence aris-  
ing to be equally divided amongst my former three  
Daughters the sd described Land also to be sold in like  
manner and the profits thence arising to be divided as  
before.

Wishes my to each of his children as she  
wishes to live and who shall have the care of  
his life, in case she become decriped or helpless,  
child's will that they receive one half the price of  
Land, and the remaining half be Equally Divided by  
the other two children: & in case of his decease with or  
Reduced to a state of decripedness or helplessness,  
whole price to be Equally divided my four: three Da  
3<sup>rd</sup> I do give and bequeath to my Loving son samuel 1<sup>st</sup>  
my part of wagon and harness. 4<sup>th</sup> I do Will & ordain th  
the decease of my wife my Books be Equally divided  
ong my three Daughters. 5<sup>th</sup> I do Will & ordain, that m  
Wife Abigail do furnish to Benjamin Murray (no  
Living with me as an orphan) when he shall arrive  
the age of Twenty years, Reasonable and decent gra  
Out going) cloths besides his common Weasing app  
a Shaddock, Ox & a weeding Hoe, and Give him one Month  
ooling each winter until he arise at the age of Tw  
years, upon Condition he live with, labour for, and o  
fully under the Command and Direction of my sd<sup>ly</sup>  
Abigail. 6<sup>th</sup> I will and Ordain that all my other pro  
both Real and personal be as soon as my Executors m  
judge prudent after my Decease Exposed to Sale  
Appraised by two or more judicious Men Sworn for  
purpose, which they shall agree upon and be Equale  
divided amongst my Wife and three Daughters, to  
such as is above mentioned, and bequeathed not  
standing any surplus Legacies to my wife above  
I do have an equal portion in all the pro  
particularly bequeathed hereing, with each of my  
I do Will and ordain that in all Divide  
among my children as aforesaid that Respect be h  
amount made of the value of thirty six pounds (in  
Received by or

I do hereby name, Make, Constitute, and appoint My  
Wife Abigail Cowen, and my Loving Son Samuel  
to be Executors of this my Last Will and Testament.  
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signed, Sealed & acknowledged  
in presence

Thos. Cowen 

Ann Torrence }  
John Smith }

Benjamin Gardner Register of Probate for the  
County of Richmond personally appeared  
Ann Torrence one of the subscribing Witnesses to the  
within Last Will and Testament of Thomas Cowen

Cowen late of the County of Effingham Plant  
and being duly sworn according to Law said  
he was personally present and did see the Testator  
Seal publish, pronounce and Declare the said  
his Last Will and Testament; and that he was of a  
Disposing Mind and Memory according to the best  
his knowledge & belief, & that he did sign his Name  
as a Witness to the said will, at the Request and in  
presence of the Testator, and in the presence of  
or Subscribing Witness; and that John Smith with  
his hand and subscribe his Name as the other due  
Evidence.

Sworn to this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year 1785  
J. N. Nissen

Lewis Gardner B. B.

At the twenty second day of February, 1785  
Abigail Cowen and Samuel Blair Names  
Executrix and Executor Qualified  
as such before me

Lewis Gardner B. B.  
Richmond Co., GA Will Book A (1777-1798)  
LWT Thomas Cowen