Georgia
Stewart County

In the name of God — Amen!

I John Culpepper of said State and County being of advanced age and knowing that I must shortly depart from this world, deem it right and proper both in respects my family and property 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 hereby revoking and annulling all others heretofore made by me

Item first — I desire and direct that my body be buried in a decent and christianlike manner — suitable to my circumstances and condition — my soul I trust, shall return to rest with God who gave it in hope for eternal salvation through the blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in whose religion I firmly believe

Item second — I desire and direct that all my just debts be paid without delay by my Executors hereinafter named as I am sensible my creditors should be delayed of their rights especially as there is no necessity for delay

Item third — I give and devise to my beloved wife Martha with whom I have lived in the strictest guiet and love for fourteen years all my estate both real and personal wherever and whatever it may be for her during her natural life or widowhood and at her death or marriage to be equally divided among my four children, viz. Mark A. Culpepper — Mary Ann Elizabeth Culpepper — Benjamin M. Culpepper and Martha Eleanor Culpepper — provided however that should my wife choose to marry she is to retain one fifth part of my estate for her own proper use benefit and behoof forever with full power to dispose of the same as she may think proper

Item fourth — I desire and direct that my negro man John be sold by my Executors and the money be paid over to my wife with the same restrictions and directions contained in the above bequest made to her — My object for this Item is, I fear the negro would not be controlled by her

Item fifth — I constitute my worthy friends William Kemp and my brother Reuben C. Culpepper my Executors to this my last Will and Testament — with their instructions that should they discover that my wife is making an improper waste of my estate, that they sell the same and make an equal distribution of the same among my wife & children — giving my wife one fifth part — This May 23 — 1853

John Culpepper (Seal)

Signed sealed declared and published by John Culpepper as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us the Subscribers who subscribe our names hereto in the presence of said Testator and of each other — This May 23 — 1853

Nathan Bush
Benj. D. Felder
Joseph Monell
Robt. D. E. Burke

Admitted to Probate August Term of Stewart Court of Ordinary 1853 (See Minutes)
Recorded 8th day of August 1853 — J. H. Whitehurst — Ordinary

Georgia
Stewart County

In the name of God — Amen!

I Josiah A. Hall of said County and State being of feeble health but sound of mind deem it right and proper 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

Item 1st — I desire and direct that all of my just debts be paid without delay by my Executor hereinafter named

Item 2nd — After paying my just debts I give and devise to my wife Frances Hannah the remainder of my property for the purpose of supporting and educating my children and herself without reserve or limitation unless she should marry a case in which case my will and desire is that there be an equal division between her and my children — my son Robert L. H. all excepted, who is otherwise to be provided for

Item 3rd — I give my Executrix full power and authority in my name to transact any business, sell and dispose of any land which I am possessed of, & execute any deed bond or other instrument which may be necessary for the conveyance of the same

Item 4th — I constitute and appoint my wife Frances Hannah Hall Executrix to this my last Will and testament This July 14 A. D. 1853

Josiah A. Hall (Seal)

Signed sealed declared and published by Josiah A. Hall as his last Will and testament in the presence of the subscribers who subscribes our names hereto in the presence of said testator and of each other this July 14th 1853

Benjn. Lee
Wm. J. Perkins
Wm. J. McRee
R. C. Hall

Admitted to Probate in common form at the February Term 1854 of Stewart Court of Ordinary (See minutes of said Court for 8th February Term

Recorded 22nd March 1854
J. H. Whitehurst Ordinary