

In the name of God Amen!

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I Williamson Bird of the State of Georgia and County of Taliaferro being in full health of body, full of sound and disposing mind and memory; and considering the great uncertainty of life; to the end that I may be the better prepared to leave this world as it regards the Settlement of my temporal affairs; do make declare and publish this my last will & Testament -

Item First, I will and bequeath unto my beloved wife Harlow Bird the House & lot in the Town of Crawfordville wherein I now live and my tract of Land in the vicinity of Crawfordville wherein Chesley Bristow now lives together with the Household and Kitchen furniture and the following Negroes to wit - Rose Jim Louisa and Lewis for and during her Natural life or widowhood, subject to the joint use benefit and support of her my said wife and daughters Sarah and Francis, during their singleness - And in case of the marriage or death of my said wife before the marriage or death of my said daughter or either of them, then & in that case the Negroes above named to continue for the use and support of my said daughters during their said singleness or that of either of them in case of the marriage, or death unmarried, of the other and upon the death of my said wife the House & lot, and Land Household & Kitchen furniture herein bequeathed to be divided amongst all my children or their representatives (except my Grand son Williamson B. Dawson) allowing first all my children a bed & furniture who have not had one - and upon the happening of the other contingencies in this item contained to wit, the marriage of both my said

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Negro in this Item mentioned to be divided
as above expressed & directed in relation to the
other property. —

Item the Second It is my will in case of my
death after the Commencement of a Crop on the
plantation that all my property until the close
of that Year be kept together and the Crop gathered
and then out of the proceeds of the Crop and
the Money or on hand all my debts and the expen-
ses of the family for that Year be paid and then
the balance of all my property not heretofore
or otherwise disposed to be equally divided
between my said wife and my Children
Now living strictly in accordance with the
Statute of distribution of this State taking in
account advancements heretofore made —

Item the Third I wish it distinctly understood
that the woman Sally & her Children heretofore given
to my grandson Williamson B. Carson is all his
part or share in right of his mother dec'd in
my Estate — and that nothing herein contained
be construed in variance thereto —

Item the Fourth I wish it also understood that
I do not consider the old woman Katy and
the girl Betsey as belonging to my Estate
or as such to be subject to distribution as
before directed, my control or right over them
being intended to be in the nature of Guardianship
and as far as the same is subject to my control by
Deed or will my wish is that the same be vested
in my executors and by them exercised in such
way as they may think would be agreeable
to my wishes —

Item the Fifth I nominate and appoint my
son Williamson Bird Jr my wife Harlow Bird
and Alexander M. Stephens Executors of this

my last will and Testament-

In testimony whereof I have hereto set my hand and affixed my seal this the second day of May in the Year 1843-

Signed sealed acknowledged
and declared in our presence
the words Marritt & George being
crossed and Louisa & Lewis
inserted first -

Wm. Williamson Bird *Teste*

Thomas Chaffin
Quinn O'Neal
A. S. Stephens

Crawfordville January 2nd 1843

Georgia Taliaferro County

The Justices of the Superior Court
sitting for Ordinary purposes January Term 1843-
Present their Honors Thomas T. Towns William Evans
& Arch. D. Gresham. Personally appeared before us in
Open Court Thomas Chaffin Quinn O'Neal & A. S. Stephens
the subscribing witnesses to the within will who
being, duly sworn depose & say that they saw
Williamson Bird sign seal publish, and declare this
writing to be and contain his last will and
testament, that at the time thereof, he was of
sound disposing mind and memory and
that he did it freely, without compulsion
to the best of their knowledge, sworn to
and subscribed in Open Court this 2nd
day of January 1843

Attest

Charles S. Stephens C. C. C.

Thomas Chaffin
Quinn O'Neal
A. S. Stephens

Recorded the 5th day of January 1843

Charles S. Stephens C. C. C.