

George Thomas in the manner of God send
Caused by sudden Prostration of the body
and while appearing being sick and weak in
body but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding
thinks he is good for nothing and fearing the uncertainty
of this mortal life and desiring the disposal of his earthly property
it has pleased almighty God to bless me with in this life
do make constitute Publish and declare this my true and
last will & testament hereby revoking and annulling all
former wills made by me

In the first Place therefore I will and desire that after my
death that my executors hereinafter appointed cause my body
to be in a decent and Christian like manner committed to the
earth and my spirit I commend to a gracious and Merciful
God who gave it
Item first I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Mary Atkinson
her heirs executors and administrators and assigns a certain negro
woman named Chavis and her two children viz. Perry a boy and
Abraham an infant and two other negroes to be selected
by her from amongst them in which she has a life estate as herein
after provided and in case either of the above named three negroes
should depart this life before the death of my said wife then
their place is to be supplied from those assigns in which she my said
wife has a life estate as hereinafter mentioned so that my said
wife shall have the number of five negroes at her own disposal
at her death

Item and I do hereby give to my wife Mary Atkinson the use of the
following Property to wit &c. Real and viz. lots of land Number
two hundred and thirty six (236) two hundred and thirty four
seven (247) two hundred and forty eight (248) two hundred
and fifty one (251) and two hundred and fifty two (252)

Henry A. Atkinson's last will & testament

in the twenty third (23) district of originally early now Thomas
County with all the household goods and furniture thereof
together with following named negro slaves to wit
Perry Caroline Lucet Liza John Henry George Mary and her five
children Socky Margaret Susan Henry Sarah and Eliza
and also all and singular the live stock of which I am now
possessed also the house hold and kitchen furniture of which
I am now possessed the present growing crop and of pleasure
lodge and every accession also the following interests or shares
of ^{land} ~~land~~ ^{personal} property as the said Mary Atkinson my
present wife may deem necessary and right for her to
perform for the purpose of carrying on her farming interest to hold
use and occupy and possess the same during her natural life
and from and immediately after her death said real estate
at property is to be disposed of as herein after directed
Item 9 I give and bequeath to my three sisters viz Elizabeth
Montgomery Macbeth Font and Saphrona C. Anderson each a
sum of one thousand dollars to be paid out of the money due
when collected to hold to them and their heirs forever
Item 10 I give and bequeath to my nephew John Montgomery
a negro man by the name of Hall to hold to him his heirs
executors administrators and assigns forever
Item 11 I give and bequeath to my nephew Daniel Atkinson
who is now unmarried and consequently not blessed with
children the use and benefit of the following named prop-
erty and during the time of his natural life to wit a certain
tract of Parcel of land known as lot number two hundred and
twenty four (24) in the twenty third (23) district of origi-
nally now Thomas County known as the tract of land I pur-
chased from Am. David Cooper also a negro man named and
known as little Ben and at his death said property is to return
to my estate and be divided between my natural children
as herein after directed provided nevertheless should the said
Daniel Atkinson marry and have issue born it is then my
will and desire that at the birth of said issue that the said
property in this item named should vest in said child
him the said Daniel Atkinson

Henry Robinson's last will & testament

Then I give and bequeath to my executors herein after named the sum of four thousand dollars in trust for and to be equally divided among my four nephews viz Henry Dicky son of Shadrach Dicky, Henry Mitchell son of Michael Mitchell, Henry Atkinson son of my Brother Shadrach Atkinson and Henry Atkinson grand of my Brother Hiram Atkinson to be applied by my said executors in educating said named legatees if they the said executors see proper to expend said sum of money in such manner and if not then it is my wish and desire that they the said executors should invest the money out at interest taking good and sufficient security for the same and pay it over to said legatees when they respectively arrive at the age of twenty one years.

Then I give and bequeath to my executors herein after named all that tract and parcel of land known as number thirteen (13) in the twenty third (23) district of ^{the county} new Thomas County also the sum of eight hundred dollars to be expended in the purchase of two negro girls in trust for my niece Mary Ann Hardy wife of Lewis Hardy allowing her the keep possession of her property as she so desires to do and all her other land and property is to be disposed of in such manner as she my said niece may appoint by her last will & testament Then I give and bequeath to my niece Emily Longmeyer wife of William Longmeyer and Sarah McCloy wife of Elias McCloy now residents of Mississippi each the sum of one thousand dollars and if they or either of them are dead or dies before their will goes into operation then the sum of money are to be applied to the sole and exclusive use and benefit of their children and if they or either of them should depart this life without leaving any children living then the money herein given is to return to my estate and be divided among my necessary legatees as herein after directed and whenever same grows poor or embarrassed because McCloy above mentioned to take possession of it no girl or girl named here who is sold alone but who I find in former left some children now if this be the case I hereby give unto the said Sarah McCloy the issue of her negro girl to rest in her own hands and assigns forever

Item 9th I give and bequeath to my niece Hannah Marvin wife of William C. Marvin all these tracts and parcels of land known and distinguished as two hundred and fifty four (254) two hundred and fifty four (254) in the twenty third (23) district of originally early now Thomas County and also a young and likely negre boy on man here purchased in manner herein after directed to have and hold to her and her heirs forever

Item 10th Whereas I have in the second disposing item of this will given to my said wife the use of a lot of land known as number two hundred and fifty one (251) in the twenty third (23) district of originally early now Thomas County I do therefore immediately upon the death of my said wife give and bequeath said tract of land to my nephew Shadrach E. Vickrey to hold to him his heirs and assigns forever

Item 11th I do give and bequeath unto my two nieces and two nephews the children of my Brother Hiram Atkinson the following property viz I give the Martha Atkinson a negre woman named Mary to Sarah Atkinson I give a negre woman named Liza immediately upon the death of my wife who has a life estate given her in a negre girl named Eliza I give said girl to my nephew Shadrach Atkinson to my nephew Henry Atkinson I give a negre girl named Liza but is my will and desire that if either of the above named legates depart this life without issue then the surviving legates are to have the property so left by the deceased legates equally divided among them the survivors

Item 12th Whereas in the second disposing item of this my last will & testament I have given to the use of Mary Atkinson my wife for and during her natural life certain tracts of land therein mentioned I do therefore will and desire that immediately upon the death of my said wife that all lands mentioned in said second disposing item and not heretofore disposed of in fee simple be sold by my executors herein after appointed and if any of the legacies heretofore designated to be paid in money remains unpaid then the proceeds of the sales to be applied to the payment of these legacies the same to be distributed among my residuary legates as herein after directed and it is further my wish and

Henry Detkinson's last will & testament

That my executors hereinafter appointed, in the Collection of all debts should study the interest and convenience of my debtors as much as would be consistent with the interest of my estate and in no case unnecessarily distress any debtor where the debt is considered to be properly secured

Item 12th Whereas the laws of this state prevent me from giving slaves their entire freedom and I desiring that one of my slaves herein mentioned should have all the Privileges and immunities of a free Person I do therefore bequeath to my friend Richard Mitchell a negro woman by the name of Betty to have and to hold to him and his heirs forever with the above named Privileges secured to her as far as the law permits and that he sees that she has the necessary food & maintenance and I have such confidence in him that I believe he will carry out my wishes and whereas I have given my wife the use of a negro woman by the name of Rachel during her life time I do therefore immediately upon the death of my said wife give and bequeath to my said executors said negro woman Rachel allowing her to choose with which of said executors she prefers to live and it is my wish and desire that such one of my executors with whom she chooses to live will grant to and allow her such Privileges and immunities as have been requested for Betty in the foregoing Part of this Will

Item 14th The residue of my negroes money money to be collected and balance of my estate not heretofore disposed in the foregoing Items of this will or any subsequent Items together with all the Property given to my wife for and during her natural life and not otherwise disposed of in the foregoing Part of this will immediately upon her death I do give and bequeath to my residuary legatees viz Shadrach Dicky my nephew and my niece Sophronia Mitchell wife of Richard Mitchell in the following Proportions to wit Shadrach & Dicky is to have at the rate of three fifths or three Parts out of five and Sophronia Mitchell at the rate of two fifths or two Parts out of five to have and to hold to them and their heirs forever provided that they the said legatees mentioned in this Item Purchase and Pay for in the same Proportions as they receive in this Item a young and likely negro boy or man to be given to their sister Harriet Harwin wife of William Harwin to hold to her and her heirs forever agreeable to my request in Item nine of this will and it is my wish

and declare that in the division of said negroes as above men-
 tioned that the families shall not be separated and that nephew
 John Mitchell shall take following to wit said thing and
 William at their respective value Lastly for the purpose of
 carrying ~~into~~ into effect this my last will & testament I do
 hereby ordain nominate constitute and appoint my friends
 Mel Bruce & Dickey and Michael Mitchell executors of this
 my last will and Testament In witness whereof I have
 hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this the
 twentieth day of March in the year of our Lord eighteen
 hundred and forty three
 signed and sealed Henry D. Atkinson Esq
 in our presence the last
 two lines stricken out before

signed
 James H. Hill
 David M. ^{his} Lang
 Robert R. Towles

Georgia
 Thomas County) the Superior Court sitting as at Court of ordin-
 - my or Register of Probates for ordinary
 Purposes May Term 1848
 I James H. Hill David M. Lang & Robert R. Towles do solemnly
 swear that I saw Henry D. Atkinson sign and
 Publish and declare this writing to be and contain his last
 will and Testament and that at the time thereof he was
 of sound disposing mind and memory and that he did it
 freely without compulsion so far as I know or believe
 and that I did sign the same as a witness in presence
 of said division or testator to help me God
 sworn to in open Court
 Attest David M. Pinnson Clk
 James H. Hill
 David M. ^{his} Lang
 Robert R. Towles

Ordered That the same be admitted to record
 Duncan Reg. J. & C.
 Thomas M. Galt J. & C.
 Thomas J. J. J.
 John H. H. J. & C.