

162
The State of Georgia In the name of God Amen
Forsyth County Joel Murdavant 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 as respects myself and family, that
I should make a disposition of the property
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 Christian-
like manner suitable to my circumstances and
condition. My soul I trust, shall return to rest
with God who gave it, as I hope for strong consolation
through a blessed God and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Item second: I desire and direct that all my
last debts be paid without delay, by my executors
herein after named, as I am unwilling my creditors
should be delayed of their rights, especially as there is
no necessity for delay. Item third: I give and
devise to my wife Melinda, lot of land forty five,
whereon my dwellings and other houses are situated,
lying and being in the fourth district of the County
and State aforesaid, containing two hundred two and
half acres, and part of lot No forty four adjoining
lot forty five, on the south side, and bounded by the
things of said containing about twenty acres more
or less, lying and being in the fourth district of
said County and State, with all the rights,
members and appurtenances to said lot and parcel
of lots of land in anywise appertaining, freed from
any charge whatever; to her own proper use,
benefit and behoof, during her natural life
or widowhood, and no longer.

I also give and bequeath to my wife, one cow and
calf, such as she may choose from my stock
cattle on hand, and sow and pigs, such as she
may choose from my stock of hogs on hand, one
mule or horse, such as she may choose from my
stock of mules or horses then on hand, fifty bushels
corn, one thousand pounds fodder, ten barrels wheat,
five hundred pounds Bacon, and such farming
utensils as may be necessary to carry on a farm
one bed, bedstead, and furniture; and set of chairs
and such cooking utensils as necessary for her
use to be selected, out of those on hand.

Item fourth: I give and bequeath to my wife Melinda,
for for and during her natural life or widowhood
and no longer, I am a boy about twenty three years
old, dark complexion, Nedda a mulatto girl about
eleven years old, and Martha a girl about nine years
old of dark complexion, also one chest and all her

Item fifth: I give and bequeath to my daughter, Lucinda Oreal wife of Augustus Oreal, and to her children by her present, or a future husband free from the disposition of her present or any future husband two thousand dollars, which I desire to be applied as follows, one thousand of which to purchase a negro girl, the remainder to be laid out in land for the use and benefit of the said Lucinda Oreal, wife of Augustus Oreal, free from the disposition or control of her present or any future husband, and should there be anything more coming from my estate or from my wife's estate after her death, to the said Lucinda Oreal wife of the said Augustus Oreal, it is my will that said amount whether personal or real property go to my daughter Lucinda Oreal wife of Augustus Oreal, and to her children by her present, or any future husband, free from the disposition or control of her present, or any future husband, said amount whatever it may be, to be laid out and applied, as the trustees herein after appointed, shall think best and most proper. To my said daughter and her children forever. And I appoint my sons Littleton W. Sturdivant and Allen A. Sturdivant, Trustees for the property herein bequeathed to my daughter Lucinda Oreal and her children.

Item sixth: It is my will and request that all my property both personal and real, not otherwise disposed of by bequest or otherwise, shall be sold and the proceeds thereof so divided among my several children that they may have equal shares one with the other, taking into count or valuation the several amounts and sums already given them by bequest, deed of trust or otherwise.

Item the 7th: It is my will and request that nothing in the item above shall be so construed as to prevent Jackson Sturdivant and Littleton W. Sturdivant from taking at a fair valuation, to be valued by five discreet and disinterested persons, all my real Estate, or landed property whereon I now reside, except that portion divided to my wife, Melinda, in an other part of this will.

Item the eight: I constitute and appoint my sons Littleton W. Sturdivant and Allen A. Sturdivant executors to this my last will and testament.

This 15th day of May, A. D. 1832
J. Sturdivant

State of Georgia } Court of Ordinary
Chancery County } September Term 1858

In open Court before me Samuel
Courtright Ordinary for said County personally
came Littleton W. Sturdivant one of the Executors of
The last will & testament of Joel Sturdivant late
of said County deceased & produced before me the
last will & testament of said deceased and the
witnesses to said will to wit Hilliard ONeal
John F. Caldwell William S. Smith & Augustus
McGhee which witnesses being duly sworn depose
say that they saw the said Joel Sturdivant the
Testator sign seal declare & publish the instrument now
being presented as his last will & Testament freely
voluntarily & of his own will & accord & without any
compulsion or influence whatever, that at the time of
the execution of said will said Testator was of sound
mind disposing memory; that deponent signed said
will as witnesses in the presence of the Testator & at his
special instance & request & in the presence of each
other, & deponent further saith that the portion of said
will purporting to be a Codicil is & was a part & parcel
of the original last will & testament of said deceased
that it was attached to said will at the time of signing
said will by Testator & witnesses & intended by said deceased
to be a part of his said will. William S. Smith
sworn to and subscribed in open Hilliard ONeal
Cand. this September 6th 1858 John F. Caldwell
Saml. Courtright. Ordry. A. Mc Ghee

Codicil.

The two thousand mentioned in the foregoing
Will given to Lucinda ONeal wife of Augustus
Neal if that amount should be too large
to make her portion equal with the rest of
my children, then my Executors to have full
power to subtract from the amount so as
to make her amount equal with the amounts
that I have already given to the rest of my children
I give to my daughter Lucretia Duke wife of John
A. Duke a negro woman named Betsey about
Twenty Eight years old of dark complexion, of
good stature and her two children to wit
Celestia a girl about two years old and Thursday
a girl about three months old, said negroes valued
at Fourteen hundred dollars, but if the value of
said negroes should be more than her distribution
share of my Estate then my Executors to have
the full power to subtract therefrom to make
her portion equal with the rest of my children
and all the property of my Estate that is going
to my daughter Lucretia Duke wife of John A. Duke

Husband, free from their disposition or control of her present or any future husband and I appoint my sons G. W. Sturdivant and Allen S. Sturdivant Trustees for the property of my daughter Lavinia Duke wife of John A. Duke and her children

Signed, sealed, delivered and published by Abel Sturdivant as his last will and testament in the presence of us the subscribers who subscribed our names thereto in the presence of said testator and of each other this 15th day of May A. D. 1858

William Aneal
John F. Caldwell
William A. Smith
Augustus McGehee

Georgia)
Frank County) Court of Ordinary
September Term 1858

Gittleton W. Sturdivant Executor of the last will & testament of Abel Sturdivant late of said County deceased having propounded the said will & testament in open Court for probate & said will & testament having been proven to the satisfaction of the Court by the oaths of William Aneal, John F. Caldwell, William A. Smith and Augustus McGehee the subscribing witnesses thereto

It is ordered by the Court that said last will & testament be admitted to record and the said Gittleton W. Sturdivant having applied to the Court to be qualified as Executor to said will, and that Allen S. Sturdivant reside in the State of Missouri It is further ordered that letters testamentary be granted to him & that John Smith Robert Robertson Allen Davidson Reuben C. Butts & Thomas B. Mayo be appointed appraisers to appraise said estate & make return of the same according to law.

Saml. Cartwright Ardy.

Recorded 8th Sept 1858 Saml. Cartwright Ardy.