

State of Georgia? In the name of God Amen.

Group County I Thomas W Ashford of the County and State aforesaid Calling to mind the uncertainty of life and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, being and indisposed in body but of a sound and disposing mind and memory do make and ordain this my last will and Testament in manner and form following, to wit:

- First It is my will that my soul shall return to god who gave it and that my body shall be decently interred
- Second I give and bequeath to my beloved son William R Ashford a Negro man named Pleasant a woman name Amy one name Majoah and her child name Charles and a girl name Georgian which negros have been delivered and a girl name Lotty and one name Biddy which have not been delivered to have and to hold
- Third I give and bequeath to my son James W Ashford a man name Tim a woman name Margaret and her child a Mary and a boy name Joe, which named negros have been delivered and the woman name Tony a girl and a girl name Jane which have not been delivered to have and to hold
- Fourth I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah C Ashford a Negro woman name Emiline and her two children name George and a woman name Eliza and a girl name Ella which named negros have been delivered and a Negro man name John that has not been delivered together with their future ~~increase~~ increase during her natural life for her sole & separate benefit and behoof and after her death to be equally divided between her children or if she has no children to be disposed of as ~~they~~ she may see proper
- Fifth I give and bequeath to my beloved son Thomas R Ashford a Negro man name Bob a boy name Sernow a woman name Nancy and her child name Tom to have and to hold
- Sixth I give and bequeath to my beloved son George R Ashford a Negro man name Sam one name Louis a woman name Ann and her child name Penny a woman name Fells and a girl name Dolly to have and to hold
- Seventh I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Mary W Ashford a Negro man name Sam a woman name Mary a girl name Alice a boy name Adams a woman name Dolly and a girl name Lotty together with their future increase during her natural life for her sole and separate use benefit and behoof and after her death to be equally divided between her heirs or if she has no heirs to be disposed of by her executors proper
- Eighth I give and bequeath to my beloved wife F Biddy R Ashford all of the balance or residue of my estate during her natural life (subject to be reversed on the Contingency Contained in the next or ninth bequest) to have to ~~hold~~ Controll and to use as she may see proper to promote her Comfort or the value of the property and after her death to be equally divided between my children which residue of property is as follows, the house and lot upon which I now live together with the household and kitchen furniture two horses a carriage waggan buggy Cows and hogs and the following named negros a man named Billy one name Prince one name Dave a woman name Grace a woman name Mairret

193 - Name Cely one wame Perrydy and a boy name Jim and a wamaw name Mary. I also wish my beloved wife to take in hand the note and apsd in my paperian and that they be collected and appropriated to the payment of debts against my estate.

Ninth It is my will that if my beloved wife Libby shall ever again marry that the above or eighth bequest be set aside and in lieu thereof she shall receive one seventh of my whole estate of which I may be in possession of at my death or an equal portion or distribution with my aforesaid children.

Tenth It is my will that in the event that my beloved wife Libby or Ashford shall deem it prudent and most advantageous to my estate or to the promotion of her comfort to sell any of the property mentioned in eighth bequest that she have full power to do so and that any purchase made by her from sale of such property be considered part and parcel of my estate also. That my beloved daughters receiving their distributive share of the property mentioned in eighth bequest subject to contingency in ninth bequest shall have it for their own separate use benefit and behoof to be divided between their heirs at their death or if they have no heirs to be disposed of as they may see proper.

Eleventh I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved wife Libby R Ashford my sole executrix to this my last will and testament revoking all other wills heretofore by me made. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this sixth day of September Eighteen hundred and fifty nine. Signed sealed delivered and published by Thomas W Ashford to be his last will and testament and we have signed this in presence of each other as witnesses Wiley O Burks Thos W Ashford

Deke McLendon
J A Reid

Georgia Court of Ordinary January term 1860
In and for South County I your Deke McLendon and J A Reid do solemnly swear that you were present and saw Thomas W Ashford sign seal publish and declare the paper writing now propounded in open Court to be his last will and testament. That you each attested the same as witnesses in the presence of the Testator the said Thomas W Ashford and in the presence of each other and that you saw Wiley O Burks also sign the same as witness that you believe the said Thomas W Ashford was at the time of sound and disposing mind and memory and that he executed said will freely and voluntarily and of his own accord. Sworn to and Subscribed in open Court this 9th day of Jan 1860
J A Reid
Saml Courtwright Clerk

The following paper writing being propounded in open Court for probate as the last will and testament of Thomas W Ashford late of said County decd by Libby Ashford the Executrix nominated therein and two of the attesting witnesses thereto to wit Deke McLendon and J A Reid being sworn in above Court and being -

- duly sworn and after examination and due inspection
of said paper writing did depose and say upon oath that they
were present and saw the said Thomas W Ashford sign
seal publish and declare the said paper writing as his last
will and testament that they attested the same at his request
as witnesses in the presence of the said Thomas W Ashford
and in the presence of each other and they saw Wiley P Burke
sign the same as witness and that the said Thomas W Ashford
was at the time of sound and disposing mind and memory and
executed the same freely and voluntarily and the said witnesses
also having subscribed the foregoing oath in writing. It is
therefore ordered by the Court that said paper writing is duly
proven to be the last Will and Testament of Thomas W Ashford
decd and that the same be and is hereby admitted to record as such
and that letters Testamentary do issue to Abby Ashford the
Executrix thereof on her taking the oath prescribed by law
and said oath being taken in Open Court letters accordingly
issued
Samuel Centright Ordinary

Recorded Jan'y 12th 1860 Samuel Centright Ordy