

State of Georgia } In the name of God Amen!!  
 Group County } I William Wilkes of the County of Group and  
 State of Georgia being of sound and disposing  
 mind and memory, and being desirous of disposing of my and  
 settling my worldly affairs while I have strength to do so do make  
 this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all Wills heretofore  
 made by me at any time and first I commit my soul to God who  
 gave it and my body to be buried in a decent manner and my  
 worldly ~~effects~~ I dispose of as follows  
 1<sup>st</sup> All of my just debts to be paid out of my effects  
 2<sup>nd</sup> The remainder of my property I this day bequeath to my beloved wife  
 Rebecca Wilkes to have and to hold the entire control of my effects  
 during her natural lifetime or widowhood for her the said Rebecca  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Wilkes to have and control at her pleasure  
 should she at any time see fit to do so at any time during her  
 lifetime to give of to either one or several of them any portion of  
 4<sup>th</sup> the effects such as she could spare at sundry times so as to make  
 the thing equal among them all in a final division  
 and further of the said Rebecca Wilkes that she have full power and  
 control the said effects and also to dispose of by Will or any way she  
 may see proper at or before her death  
 5<sup>th</sup> and I do by these presents recommend and appoint R. H. Strong  
 Seno Executor and Rebecca Wilkes my beloved wife Executrix of this  
 my last Will and Testament in witness whereof I the said William  
 Wilkes have to this my last Will and Testament consisting of two sheets  
 of paper set my hand and seal this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 1856 Wm Wilkes L.S.  
 signed sealed published and declared by the above named William Wilkes  
 as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request  
 in presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses herunto  
 L. H. Clarke Group Co. Ga  
 R. H. Johnson " " "  
 W. H. Clarke

Georgia } County of Group, Oct Term 1856  
 Group County } The within paper writing being propounded by Rebecca  
 Wilkes the Executrix nominated therein as the last  
 Will and Testament of William Wilkes late of said County deceased and  
 the sanity and validity of the Testator having been clearly and fully proven  
 on the oath of R. H. Johnson and W. H. Clarke two of the subscribing witnesses  
 to the same, It is therefore Ordered by the Court that the same be admitted  
 to Record as the last Will and Testament of William Wilkes Decd and  
 that Letters Testamentary do issue to Rebecca Wilkes as Executrix of  
 the same she taking the oath prescribed by Law It is further Ordered  
 that John Henderson L. H. Clarke R. H. Johnson L. Pitts and Robert H. Strong  
 Jno be appointed to appraise said Estate and make Return of the  
 same to this Court in Terms of the Law

Thomas C Evans Acting

Recorded 7<sup>th</sup> October 1856 Thomas C Evans, Acting