

35

James Sherling

State of Georgia

Washington County, In the name of God Amen

I James Sherling of the County and State aforesaid, being weak in body but of sound and disposing mind and memory, knowing that I am appointed by God for all men to die, and in preparing my worldly matters before that event shall take place with me, do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following to wit,

First It is my will and desire, that my body be buried after my death in a decent and Christian like manner.

Second— It is my will and desire that all my just debts be paid as soon as practicable, after my death by my Executors hereinafter named.

Third— I give and bequeath to my son James B. Sherling the tract of land whereon he now lives, on the South prong of Williamson Swamp known as the old Cutha tract of land containing about one hundred and fifty acres be the same more or less, the said tract of land was marked off to him by myself sometime since, with the Exception of three acres of said land, I now take off and place it to the Creek field, which is divided off by a line made through it by myself and Knorrle Mayo.

Fourth— I give and bequeath to my son in law John B. Elton, the tract of land whereon he now lives, on the South prong of Williamson Swamp in the County and State aforesaid, Commencing at a Hickory and running to a pine corner and thence as it has been laid off to him heretofore containing about one hundred and forty acres more or less to him and his heirs forever.

Fifth— I give and bequeath to my son William B. Sherling that tract of land whereon he now lives, on the waters of Williamson Swamp in the County and State aforesaid, it being a part of the Swamp Survey which I purchased from Edward S. Langmuir, and fifty acres taken from my own tract containing about one hundred and twenty two acres more or less, said tract of land I have heretofore marked off to him, the boundaries of which is well understood by all of my oldest children, to have and to hold the said tract of land unto him the said William B. and his heirs forever.

Sixth— I give and bequeath to my two youngest children Malachi Washington and Mary Jane Sherling, born unto me by my present Wife Sally Sherling, all the residue of my land embracing the Creek Field, and the premises whereon I now live, to be equally divided between them, but that Mother is to have the right of living and making a home upon the said premises, during her natural life for maintaining her support, I also give and bequeath to my two youngest children named in this item all of my personal property and ready money, (except so much of it may be laid off by five Commissioners to be appointed by the Court of Ordinary for the use of my wife and them) to be sold and the proceeds of said sale to be placed but not interest by my Executor for the said two youngest children and to be equally divided between them when the oldest one arrives to the age of twenty one years. Also what of my household and kitchen furniture that may be left to my said Wife, at her death to be sold and the proceeds to be equally divided in like manner, between

the said two children or go to the survivor of them, But my will is that if the said children mentioned in this item should die before they shall arrive to the age of twenty one years, then that portion of my estate that falls to them by virtue of this my Will, shall be distributed according to law regulating intestate estates, but my wife is not to be disturbed from a house in, therefore pointed out in the foregoing part of this item of my last will and testament, I further desire that my two youngest children be educated as their means may be adequate to afford them, without disturbing the land that I leave them, further than what proceeds may arise from the rents and profits thereof over and above their support &c.

Lastly I do hereby nominate and appoint my beloved son William F. Shering Executor to this my last Will and testament, hereby revoking all former Wills by me made.

I testamonny whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this ninth day of July 1857.

James F. Shering

Wm

Signed Sealed acknowledged and declared by James Shering to be his last Will and testament in the presence of us the subscribing Witnesses, who hath hereunto subscribed our Names in the presence of said testator and in the presence of each other this Ninth day of July 1857.

Stephen Purdie
Benjamin Adams
David Bailey