

# William Clay

State of Georgia Washington County

In the name of God Amen,

I William Clay of the County and State aforesaid being in advanced age and inservient to final strength, but of sound mind and memory, thank be given to Almighty God for his mercies, being desirous to arrange all my worldly matters while enjoying the full strength of mind to do so truly make publick and declare this to be my last Will and Testament in manner and form following by

Item 1<sup>st</sup> It is my will and desire that all my just debts be paid that I may be owing at the time of my death with the least possible delay.

Item 2 I give and bequeath to my beloved Wife Mary Clay, during the term of her natural life all my property both real and personal except to mention of it that I shall dispose of in the third item of this my last Will and Testament.

Item 3 I give and bequeath to my beloved Daughter Sarah Hatchcock at the death of my beloved Wife Mary Clay all that part of my land lying on the West side of Brushy Creek wherein she is now living, to her and her children forever. I also give and bequeath to my daughter Emily Harris, the wife of Joseph Harris, all that part of my "David Clay" tract of land lying on the East side of Brushy Creek, to her and her Children forever. I also give and bequeath to my son Nicholas H. Clay & his heirs and assigns all my tract of land wherein I now live known as the "Navy" tract at the time I purchased it containing about one hundred and fifty more or less, I also give and bequeath to my said Son Nicholas H. Clay in trust for the use and benefit of my daughter Martha Lee Tomcock and her Children, free from the disposition of her present or any future Husband and she may marry a tract of land in said County embracing the "Navy" tract commencing about fifty yards from the corner of "Hills old field" and running a direct line to the corner of the field given in this Will to my son Thomas Clay containing about one hundred and fifty acres, I also give and bequeath to my son Thomas Clay & his heirs and assigns, forever a part of my "Hill tract" of land which I purchased from Franklin Weatherford commencing at a pine corner and running a direct line to a point near Mrs. "Walters Cross" thence by such course as will embrace the house and fence around it, and the spring until it intersects a corner which I am to mark out, thence a South west course until it intersects Joseph Harris line estimated to contain about one hundred and seventy acres more or less. I give and bequeath to my son Adam Clay the balance of the Hill tract as aforesaid estimated to contain about one hundred and sixty acres more or less. I also give and bequeath to my said Son Adam Clay one of my negro boys, to wit, some about four years old, and one feather bed and furniture the negro boy and bed to go into his possession at the time he may arrive to the age of twenty one years. All the above described tracts of land lie in Washington County in the State aforesaid and to be under the control of my wife during her natural life - The balance of my land in said County is a small piece which I reserve for sale either by myself or my executors hereafter named, containing about sixty acres, should I not sell it in my lifetime I doth my executors with full authority to sell without

# William Clay

the necessity of an order from the Court of Ordinary, and to apply the proceeds to the payment of my just debts. I also give and bequeath to my son James N. Clay, and to his heirs and assigns forever all that certain lot of land in the twelve District of Dooley County, known and distinguished as number twenty four which he is to go in possession of at the time of my death.

Item fourth— I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Mary Clay, and to her children if she should have any two negro girls and their issue to wit— Maria about seven years of age and Polly about two years old, Also one Horse bridle and Saddle and one Cow and Calf one bed and furniture, which is to be given off to her whenever she may marry or arrive to the age of twenty one years, this bequest is intended to make her equal in property with those of my children that has already married and left me.

Item 5— I give and bequeath to my daughter Lydia R. Clay and to her children (should she have any) two negro girls and their issue to wit— Peggy about five years old, and Cecilia about two years old, One Horse Bridle and Saddle one Cow and Calf and one bed and furniture which is to be given off to her at the time she may marry or arrive at the age of twenty one years, this bequest is intended to make her equal in property to those of my children that has married and left me.

Item 6— It is my will and desire, and I do hereby direct, that so far as practicable after the death of my wife Mary Clay that all my negro property that may be in remunerate, not herein disposed of together with all the rest of the property of every kind be sold in terms of the law and the proceeds thereof be distributed among my children share and share alike, to wit the children of my daughter Elizabeth Watkins except to take the amount their mother would be entitled to if she was in life. Pearce Clay, Sarah Hitchcock, Emily Harris wife of Joseph Harris Nicholas H. Clay, James N. Clay, Martha Lee Grinnick Thomann & Clay Adam Clay, Mary Clay and Lydia R. Clay, The portion that may fall to my daughter Martha Lee Grinnick to be controlled and be under the same restrictions and limitations, as that part left her by virtue of the third item of this my last Will and Testament.

It will be perceived that I have not given any thing to my beloved daughter— legacy Beck wife of William R. Beck by virtue of this my Will. The reason is I have already done much to her wife and paid out for her the sum William R. Beck more money than would be her equal share of my Estate but it is not for the want of love and affections I have and bear for her, but from a desire to treat all my children alike.

Item 7— I do hereby nominate and appoint my beloved son Nicholas H. Clay my sole Executor to carry out the provisions of this my last Will and Testament according with other wills made by me.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal

17

# William Blay

this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred  
and fifty six

W Blay SS

Signed Sealed published and declared by William Blay the testator in  
the presence of us the subscriber witnesses to the same who have signed the same  
as such in his presence and in the presence of each other,

John Wise  
Alfred H French  
Hollywood Brothers S.

Robert Fletcher Jr.

State of Georgia  
Washington County } In the name of God Amen,

I Robert T Fletcher of the County and State aforesaid, being in  
bad health but of sound and disposing mind and memory, do ordain  
and establish this my last Will and testament in manner and form  
following that is to say

Firstrly It is my will and desire that all my just debts be paid by my exec-  
utors herein named.

Secondly I give and bequeath to my beloved Daughter Susan Ann  
my Bearskin with Book case attached Also unto my beloved Daughter  
Mary Jane I give and bequeath my other Bearskin.

Thirdly I desire that all my property be kept together and  
that the farm wherein I now reside be contained in that all my  
lands lying in the County and State aforesaid on the water of Oconee  
River containing about two thousand eight hundred acres be divided  
between my four Sons viz, Milton W Fletcher Benjamin W Fletcher  
Robert D Fletcher and Joseph W Fletcher, and that each own  
his proportion in attaining the age of twenty one years

Fourthly As it is my will and wish to divide my property equally  
among my children I therefore desire that my two Daughters Susan  
Ann and Mary Jane on attaining at the age of twenty one years or  
marrying receive in Money or other property a sufficient amount  
to make them equal with my sons for their proportion of my lands

Fifthly I hereby nominate and appoint my writing Master and  
friend Joseph A Seipson and my Son Milton W Fletcher Executors  
to this my last Will and Testament

Robert T Fletcher SS

Signed sealed and published  
by Robert T Fletcher as his last  
Will and Testament in the presence  
of us the subscribers who subscribe  
hereunto in the presence of said Testator  
and of each other

Wm. M. Boide

Thomas Barker Mat C Williams