

In the name of God Amen

I Samuel H. Simmons of the County of Jones and State of North Carolina being of sound and disposing mind and memory do make publish and declare my last will and Testament in manner & form following
 I give unto my beloved wife Maria Simmons two horses, four cows all my household and kitchen furniture. One year Provision for herself and family; and after my debts are paid an equal share with my children of my personal estate to hold the same to her and her executors administrators and assigns the one third part of all my cleared and wooded land including the dwelling and other improvements

I give to my son in law William P. Ward the Negro Slaves now in his possession heretofore loaned him by me I desire that said Slaves may be fairly valued and as many more Slaves may be added as to make this share equal to the share of my other children (except Emily Simmons) I also give and devise unto my said son in law all my lands purchased of John Marret to have and to hold said Slaves and the said lands to the said William

P. Ward my said son in law until his children (the children of said William P. Ward & my daughter Eliabeth his wife lately deceased) respectively attain the age of twenty one years or marry at the arrival of each of my said grand children (the children of my said daughter Eliabeth) to the twenty first year of his or her age or at the marriage of each of my said grand children it is my will and I do hereby devise & direct that there shall be allotted & set off to said grand children respectively as they marry or arrive at age one share and dividend of said Slaves & their increase and said lands devised to them said father in this clause in proportion to the number of my said grand children (the issue of my said deceased daughter Eliabeth Ward) who may be then living to be held by said grand children respectively who may receive said share on their arrival at age or day of marriage in absolute property the residue of said Slaves & lands to remain in their father's possession until the whole shall be allotted to said grand children on their marriage or arrival at age and if any one or more of my said grand children should die under age and unmarried my will is that said share or shares which should have been allotted to said child or children of said lands & Slaves on their marriage or arrival at the age of twenty one years under this clause of my will shall become the property in absolute estate of ^{my} surviving brother & sisters of said deceased (the children of my said daughter Eliabeth) as may be then under the age of twenty one years or unmarried but should all my said grand children die and leave no legal descendant or brother or sister or their issue living at their deaths then I give said lands & Slaves to my aunt Maria at law and most of her the lands to be held by my said aunt in fee simple & the Slaves by my most of her in absolute property but moreover I do expressly authorize each and every of my said grand children devise as aforesaid on arriving at the age of twenty one years whether having a legal descendant or not by will or deed to appoint give devise or sell absolutely or otherwise any part or parts or the whole of the devised premises whereof he or she at the time of the execution of said will or deed may be seized;

I give unto my daughter Mary Ann Simmons all my right interest and share in the Buckner Hatch mill & helia in common with John Oliver the beds and furniture and an equal share with my children of my slaves & a share of my perishable estate after my debts are paid and on the marriage of my said daughter Mary Ann Simmons said property mentioned in this clause of my will to be held by my said daughter and her husband during their joint lives & the life of the survivor and at the decease of the said Mary Ann & her said husband to be equally divided between the children of my said daughter who may survive their said parents and be living at their death but should my said daughter Mary Ann & her husband die and leave no child or children of the said Mary Ann living at the death of said Mary Ann & her husband then I give said lands to my own heirs at law & said slaves and their increase to my next of kin but I do moreover authorize & empower each & every of my said grand children devisees as afore said at the age of twenty one years whether having a legal descendant or not by will or deed to appoint give devise or sell absolutely or otherwise any part or parts of the whole of the devised premises whereof he or she at the time of executing said will or deed may be seized

Item - I give to my daughter Emily Simmons an equal share in my slaves with my other children & as I have given the said Emily no part of my lands in lieu thereof I give unto said Emily Simmons in addition to her share of slaves fifteen hundred dollars worth of slaves & should my said daughter Emily marry the said slaves & their increase to be held by said Emily and her husband & the child or children of said Emily who may survive their parents upon the same terms and subject to the same conditions & limitations mentioned in the devise to her sister Mary Ann Simmons

Item - I give and devise unto my son Benjamin Franklin Simmons all my lands not already given away and devised in this will also an equal share of my slaves with my other children and a share of my perishable estate after my debts are paid & should my said son marry the said lands & other property to be held by my said son Benjamin & his wife & the child or children of said Benjamin surviving their parents upon the same terms and subject to the same uses conditions and limitations mentioned in the devise to his sister Mary Ann Simmons

Item - That I may not be misunderstood it is my will that after my debts are paid the balance of my perishable estate shall be equally divided between my wife & all my children (except my daughter Eliza Ann Warr).

Item - I give to my sister Mary wife of George C. Hatch one hundred dollars and to Samuel G. Hatch son of said Mary Hatch I give one hundred dollars

I constitute and appoint Jacob Gooding Amos L. Simmons and William P. More my Executors in testimony whereof I have unto set my hand and seal this 15th day of June A.D. 1844

John Stan Lay

Notary Caroline, Clerk of Peace & Justice of the Peace for Jones County Georgia
 I here certify of the last will & Testament of Lemuel H. Simmons deceased as proved in due form of law by the oaths of Nathan Farnes & John Stanly the subscribers witnesses and the oaths of the said last will & Testament of the said Lemuel H. Simmons and the said last will & Testament was ordered to be registered

Lemuel H. Simmons 

ATTOMMOND & Coe