

# R. Gafford's Will

In the name of God Amen: I Reuben Gafford of the County of Dallas State of Alabama being in usual health and of sound mind and disposing memory, for which I am to be greatly thankful; but being also mindful of my mortality Do make and publish this my last will & testament, directing & disposing of all the earthly goods & estate with which God has been pleased to reward my exertions, in manner & form following. That is to say: First Being yet subject to a considerable amount after much reduction of my liabilities within the last four years and being the rightful owner of property Real & Personal, which I trust may prove sufficient to pay all my just debts and leave a comfortable for my family I desire to prescribe & direct the authority, mode & manner of disposing of my said Estate the better to enable, under the most adverse circumstances, just & equitable payments of all my said debts, entire if practicable, and if not ratably in manner due to this intent herein after mentioned, and also to dispose of any residue if such there be among the different members of my family, and particularly to provide as effectually as I can for the protection of my daughters whatsoever may be their destiny in life: Now therefore in view of the above objects I do by these presents, give grant, devise and bequeath to all my heirs who may survive me, That is to say Joseph P., Asaean J. Reuben W., Benjamin H., and Walter G., or the survivors of them as aforesaid (to take effect in respect to the two latter when they respectively attain their majority of age, should they live to so long) all my Estate and property Real & personal of what ever nature, form or description including all Chads in action and equity of habitation, as well all other equities and all legal Rights & interests & Claims whatsoever in said State of Alabama & elsewhere to have and to hold the same and every part and parcel thereof with the improvements & appurtenances to the said Estate belonging and growing thereby incident: To all the personalty and other Rights and interest aforesaid and particularly unto both & evidences of Right or title and other necessary documents & writings touching or relating to the same, unto them my said Sons & also Survivors of them being of full age for the time being aforesaid and then according for ever & forever hereafter to & for the uses and purposes herein after mentioned provided & directed that is to say my said Sons as aforesaid as aforesaid or a Majority made of them who may accept and continue to

Exercise this Trust are by these presents sustained to the  
Reverence and Return, & payment of all my said Estate & property  
Real & Personal & all my Rights & Interest Claimed or demanded legal  
& equitable of whatever nature or description of affinities  
of which I may be possessed or to which I may be  
entitled as the legal or equitable proprietor or owner at  
the time of my Death and to use, enjoy & apply the same  
equitably for the best interest of all my Children and ~~Heirs~~  
as far as these respective interest are concerned in the man-  
ner before mentioned & directed also for the greatest  
benefit of the surviving members of my family in respect  
to any residue that may remain of my said Estate after paying  
all my just debts & all expenses incident to the execution  
of this trust but the exec administration of my Estate by my  
representatives if any other administration after the execution  
of this trust being necessary ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> to be left to the aforesaid trustees  
or a majority of them at any time acting as such  
whereupon we the said Jacob & if for the time  
being alone & in the exercise of the trust otherwise a majority until  
next time) or the survivors or survivor of them, or the executors  
& administrators of such survivor I do by these presents desire  
authorise & request to renew & extend, if practicable, as  
by these presents made, all or any part or portion of the  
trusts for notes or debts of whatever natures which may at  
any time after my decease justly exist against my Estate in  
favor of 10th or either of the Banks, or any other Corporation  
in the City of Mobile or elsewhere, or of any individual  
or individuals what ever, also to extend any such debt or  
liabilities on mortgage or other securities then existing, paying  
any such certificates as may from time to time be reque-  
sted; & leaving such securities in full force & virtue for the  
remaining balances. And they the said Trustees, or such  
majority of them as aforesaid, or the survivors or survivor of  
them as aforesaid, are also by these presents, desire, authorise  
and request, at any time after my decease when they or he  
(as the case may be) shall find it necessary, or deem it adi-  
cable & consistent with the best interest of my creditors, and others  
interested therein, to bargain, sell, grant, alien and convey  
in fee simple or otherwise, all or any requisite portion of  
my said Estate Real & Personal, or of either as captain only  
where ever the same may be situated, lying or being the same to  
bargain, sell, grant, alien & convey by such proportion  
of Conveyance & other instruments as may be found  
necessary & most appropriate to each particular case  
either at public sale on reasonable notice given, or by  
private contract, and in either case for cash or an

with undoubted security as they. Said Trustees, may deem  
most beneficial to the several objects contemplated by  
these presents: also to negotiate, arrange & equitably ad-  
just, without litigation if practicable, any controversial  
claims or demands against or relating to my said Estate  
+ as they may deem expedient; and out of the proceeds of  
all such sales and negotiations, as well as from the  
Draft arising from my said Estate and any means at their  
Command (as such Trustees) said Trustees or such majority  
survivors or survivor of them as aforesaid, are authorized  
& required to, arrange and pay or satisfy in full of the  
means prove sufficient, if not ratable or pari passu,  
all the debts justly due & owing by or from my Estate to all  
any individual creditors, also to the Plaster & mercantile Bank  
according to an existing contract between it & myself  
regulating the remittances, and that entitling me to a further  
credit for professional services, and claiming a garnet &  
a just credit for my stock in the Capital of said Bank  
also the Branch of the Bank of the State of Alabama at  
Mobile, claiming against it also a just credit for important  
professional services rendered, and for which or allow-  
ance has yet been given or entered to me, also to the  
ala Life Insurance & Trust Co Mobile, three debts due on  
notes & mortgages the largest being in my own name, and  
the other two in the name of my sons respectively Joseph P  
aforesaid & William B Soc<sup>t</sup> but all three of which are my  
own proper debts & have been treated as such since  
they were contracted and the stock in said Co for which they  
were created has been disposed of by me. Third I  
further will advise & request that the trustees aforesaid shall  
be allowed a reasonable compensation or commission for  
their services in the execution of this Trust, out of the said  
trust funds, which compensation they are hereby authorized  
to retain out of any part of the trust proceeds which  
may come to their hands, any thing contained herein apparent  
by to the contrary not with standing. Fourth I do further by this  
present will and desire or advise & direct that if any residue  
of my Estate, real or personal money or effects of any kind,  
nature or description shall remain in the hands or subject  
to the control or direction of said Trustees, or the majority  
or survivors or survivor of them or of his executors or adminis-  
trators after all the other duties & objects of this trust being discharged  
as are above particularly prescribed & allowed to and  
have been complied with & performed then that all such  
residue remainders or except of whatever nature or de-  
scription real or personal, legal or equitable, shall,

be remitted inure to & for the proper use benefit & help of the  
members of my family in manner following that to say of  
other means he deemed sufficient for the comfortable sup-  
port & habitation of my beloved wife Lucy & each of our  
children as may remain unmarried & continue to reside with  
her and that it shall be made sufficient for this purpose if  
practicable I hereby release to the primary right of my wife &  
beauty then I will and direct that said Trustee next  
provide & set apart sufficient funds for the purpose & from time  
to time when necessary apply the same towards the comple-  
tion of my dear children's Collegiate course of education  
paying the expenses thereof also that from the same sum  
alway the reasonable expenses necessary to enable my son Benj.  
& And said children to undergo an regular course of legal or  
other professional studies as they are said Trustees may deems  
most advisable & sufficient also to pay the necessary expen-  
ses of each for one year after the expiration of their respective  
terms of professional study I also will & direct that said  
Trustees under like circumstances provide & set apart  
sufficient funds for the purpose now from time to time when  
necessary apply the same towards completing the Education  
of my two youngest daughters Caroline & and Elizabeth  
and from the same pay the expenses of each until their  
regular graduation in such female Seminary in this  
State as said Trustees may select as best & most safe  
I further will & desire that all other necessary & proper expenses of  
my said two youngest daughters until they respectively attain  
the age of twenty one years or many be defrayed by said  
Trustees out of my Estate my desire all education respecting  
the education of my said four younger children as  
hereby further declared & explained to be that their expenses  
as above said shall make no charge against either of them  
but that the above provisions are in the use to place them  
in an equality in this respect with their elder brothers and  
sisters or which no charge is to be made or account  
taken at against any But I further will & direct  
that if either of my said two younger sons should  
incurred the expense in addition to the said ordina-  
ry course of attending Law lectures or of receiving  
other similar benefits after passing the usual Collegiate course  
therefor those latter only in they to be charged as in  
the case of their elder brothers and I also will & direct the  
same in respects to my said two younger daughters in  
the event the education of both or either be expended  
at greater rate beyond the course as above can be justified  
and it is my further desire if my Estate prove sufficient

3 that each or either of my said four younger Children  
may have the privilege of extending his or her education  
as above alluded to if they desire the same  
and said Trustees shall think it advisable.

Fourth - my further will & desire is that all such  
medical books as I may possess at the time of my  
death, be allotted to my Son Reuben H. and I  
bequeath them to him accordingly. All the Law Books  
which I may at the same time own I give and bequeath  
to my three Sons Addison J. Benjamin H. and Milton J.  
to be equally distributed between them, so as to  
make the allotments to each equal in value, in  
cluding such as I may have previously given  
to either; but exceeding all such as either  
may have purchased for him self. All other Books  
Pamphlets maps &c which may remain on hand I desire  
may be equally distributed between my wife & all our  
Sons & daughters and I further direct that said  
Trustees make the distribution of Books &c as aforesaid  
and take an account of the same to be regarded in  
the further distribution of my Estate.

Fifth. After payment of all my just debts as aforesaid  
which is the more necessary before any division of my  
Estate for the reason that a large portion of the same are  
under mortgage and after defraying the expences of  
my four younger Children as aforesaid if the littlement of  
land comprising my present or other last residence shall  
not have been disposed of by me or under the authority hereby  
given to said Trustees, and if they shall not deem it ne-  
cessary, or expedient to sell the same or so much as to prevent  
their being taken out of the same, in that event I will  
& desire that said Trustees allot and set apart to my said  
wife a part of said littlement including the dwelling  
House & other improvements necessary to her use, not  
exceeding in Value (having reference to quantity & quality of  
improvements) One third of the whole of said littlement  
which shall constitute her entire owner interest in  
my Real Estate, and which shall be & insure to her proper  
use & benefit as such during the terms of her natural  
life. But if said Trustees shall find it necessary or deem  
it most expedient to sell & shall dispose of all or some  
of my said littlement as not to leave a sufficiency  
for the owner as aforesaid, in that event I will de-  
sign & direct that said Trustees shall purchase some  
other suitable residence for my said wife with  
a sufficient quantity of land for her cultivation & other

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value and such as shall be satisfactory to her in case of any other claim  
of owner than they pay for the same out of my estate and leave it to  
her at her owner's estate. I also will desire and direct that said  
Trustees distribute and allot to my said wife ~~one fifth part~~  
according to just valuation (including such slaves and other  
articles as she may prefer) of all the residue remainder, or except  
of my personal property of whatever kind or nature after pay-  
ing all my just debts, & discharging the expenses of my said four  
younger children as aforesaid, which portion of said personally  
shall be added more to the proper use benefit and behoof of herself  
her heirs and assigns for ever. Provided however that said portion  
or interest in my Real Estate hereby given and provided to and for  
the use of my said wife, and allotted to her above intellit herein  
and said portion or distribution share of my said personally here  
in above directed to be allotted to her, are by their presents  
so given, bequeathed & declared subject to the restrictions and  
qualifications, that in the improbable event that my said  
wife shall again intermarry with any other in that  
event all her said Estate property & interest in said Realty as  
well as personally as herein by execusa to be so far restricted  
& qualified that the aforesaid gifts devised and legacy shall  
be construed to be and shall operate only as an Estate proper-  
ty & interest to and for her sole separate & exclusive use & pos-  
sessor during the term of her natural life only, and free & except  
from all contracts responsibility and control of any future husband  
she may have; and that in such event of her future marriage thereon  
her death all such personal property and interests as shall have  
been allotted to her as aforesaid and all the net profits thereof  
& natural increase of the female slaves, shall revert and  
return to my Estate and constitute a part of the residue there-  
of, subject to distribution among all my children, and the  
representatives of any that may have accessions to be born &  
enjoyed by each of my sons or their representatives as herein pro-  
vided in respect to their other portion of my Estate, and by law  
distributed in respect to the portions of my daughters for the use of  
them selves and their representatives, in the same manner as herein  
after provided in respect to their other respective portions.  
But if my said wife shall continue to live and shall  
die my widow, then all said personally of every kind di-  
rected to be distributed & allotted to her as aforesaid shall  
be & is hereby declared subject to such voluntary dis-  
position as she may choose to make them of by her last  
will and testament duly proved and recorded.

Seventh. Then my further will & desire is that  
the entire residue or remainder of my said Estate  
and property of what ever nature or kind shall

be equally divided & allotted to and for the use of all  
my said and daughters and the legal representatives of  
any that may here accede as aforesaid; except that  
an equal it to be had to any & all advancements hereby  
prohibited or heretofore made & received by any, so that  
the distribution shall of such as shall have received the  
same shall be reduced or stand this side as the justice &  
equity of each case may require, and provided that the aforesaid  
legacies and bequests hereby created & intended for all my daughters  
are and shall be subject to the restraints and qualifications  
herein after declared & prescribed; and provided also that the  
extra provision herein after declared in favour of my said  
son Adison I be duly observed by said Trustees & others  
and also special directions respecting any of my other Children  
fully executed by them. Eighth I further will & desire that  
to my said son Adison Jr. portion of my Estate real  
& personal, which would otherwise be only equal to those of  
his brothers and sisters, there shall be added in consequence of  
his affliction and physical disability fifty per cent on the  
Value of an equal share to be also allotted to him at least  
of his increased portion; and I also direct that he be permitted  
by his said Co. Trustees, to take and receive in to his exclu-  
sive possession & control, at any time he may choose, as  
an advancement, the negro boy called Moose (son of  
Abby) or any other he may prefer, at the price of Six hundred  
dollars; or that the Trustees allow him to have an other boy for said  
boy while he continues to work on my plantation, as I am  
now doing; and that he be charged with the price of said  
boy from the first of January 1845. And I having con-  
veyed by Bill of Sale to said son Adison in con-  
sideration of our professional profits as partners in the law  
the two negro boys Bill (or Bucks) & Daniel (son of Lydia)  
and the former having been afterwards worked on my  
plantation since January 1845, said Trustees are  
also desired to recognize his title as purchaser to both said  
last named boys, and also his claim to hire <sup>for</sup> the same as often  
while he continues to employ, except so far as I may  
make the payment. Ninth It is further my will & des-  
ire that my son Joseph P. shall not be over  
one with the lands (about four hundred acres part of  
my present settlement), in which long since & before I  
was born emigrated, I conveyed to him as an advance-  
ment, until he shall receive the actual possession  
or profits of the lands, as I have continued in the use  
and occupancy thereof; and that then he be charged for  
the same only according to its just valuation at that

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time; nor that any of my children be charged with any debt or  
or contumplative advancement unless such a actually received  
the same, or the profits thereof, and then only from the time  
to receive same. In the event my said Son Reuben W. shall  
shall marry before any distribution of my estate is apportioned  
thus it is my will and desire that said Trustee advance to him  
some two likely young negroes, including one that he may  
have previously received and five hundred dollars in money and  
articles necessary to his use, also that previous to his marriage  
said Trustee shall from time to time advance to him such small  
sums of money for the purchase of meausures and other necessaries as  
he may need, not exceeding One hundred dollars annually;  
and also One of the two negroes above alluded to whenever he  
may remove from the family residence Clementine I also will and  
desire that in addition to a per diem pension above mentioned  
for the education & necessaries of my four younger children.  
Begin At utter, I Caroline S. and Cega C., said trustees  
shall whenever any of said younger children shall marry  
or otherwise have special use for more, make to each or either  
such just & equitable advancements, or drawings as nearly as  
may be with those previously made to their elder brothers and sisters  
under like circumstances, as they may deem proper.  
Twelfth. In the event my daughter Lbie B. Remey shall  
by any means be deprived of the requisite means for her comfortable  
support from the provision I have already made for her and  
otherwise, in drawing the resources of her husband, and become  
a widow, before any further distribution of my Estate as aforesaid  
then and in that event I will & do direct that said Trustee  
advance to her from time to time, at her request and my requirement  
for her support & subsistence, and not to go in to the hands of her  
present husband, no money and necessary articles such as she  
may require, not exceeding One hundred dollars annually for  
her help, and twenty five dollars more annually, to be in like  
manner advanced to her for & on account of each of her children  
then surviving and for the time being residing with her, and should  
she at any time become a widow and be a widow as aforesaid  
said Trustees are in that event authorized & required made  
able to increase the aforesaid advances to her at her situation  
may demand. Provided that all the foregoing provisions for  
the advancements to my said several children are subject  
to the corrections in respect to the ability of my Estate to make  
them at herein before prescribed. Thirteenth. I further will  
& desire that the accounts which have been & may be charged  
by me in a Blank Book kept among my papers entitled  
"C. M. & Family account Book," and which may be found  
all in my hand Writing be regarded by said Trustees as

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advancements of so much to each of my children to whom may  
concerning the items to my dear deceased son and that any further  
advances which I may make during my lifetime to either of the same  
or others of my children, and be entered by me in said Family Account  
Book, or which from their nature must be presumed to have been ex-  
tentia to be so entered or otherwise charged shall by said Trustees  
be also regarded and charged in like manner; but it is hereby ex-  
plicitly provided & declared that all future advancements which may  
be made under the authority of this will to or for the use of either of my  
daughters, shall be & remain subject to all the conditions and restrictions  
in respect to their sole & separate use of the property and interest so advanced  
as are here in prescribed in reference to their respective portions, pur-  
tions and distributions shares of any Estate under the division to be  
made as herein provided. And I also by these presents declare  
for the information of all whom it may concern, that all notes  
& other liabilities heretofore executed or contracted and negotiated to  
any corporations, or individuals bearing my name, and those  
of my lands or either, (as near as the two hours before mentioned at having  
been made payable to the Alabama Life Insurance & Trust Co., Mobile,  
to which my name does not appear,) are my individual debts to  
which my funds are only securities or in deposit (or their names used  
for my accommodation) and that all the same, and any others which  
may be here in after executed & negotiated for the renewal or exten-  
tion thereof, are by said Trustees to be regard & paid according to  
Fifteenth. All the shares, portions, advancements and distribu-  
tions interests in or of my Estate real and personal, which each  
of my heirs may receive or be entitled to as here in provided  
I do by these presents give devise and bequeath to them respectively  
their heirs and assigns for ever. Fiftieth By these presents I further will  
provide and declare as restrictions, limitations, and qualifications  
to and explanations of the several gifts, advancements and  
advancements, here in provided for each of my said four daugh-  
ters, the following, That it to say - That all the said shares or  
portions real & personal, which may be allotted in the portions  
and distributions of my Estate, or otherwise accrue from the  
same, to each or either of my said daughters, and all the rents  
and uses here of the slaves & other profits which may arise from the  
same, shall be, remain and accrue to them respectively, for their  
sole & separate & exclusive use benefit and behoof, and for the  
use of their legitimate issue respectively; and subject to the  
further condition, that in the event they or either of them should  
die leaving no such issue, or descendants of such their  
surviving, then immediately the residue & remainder of  
all such Estate, and property, or the equitable and beneficial  
interest therein, shall accrue to and vest in my then surviving  
daughter and the legitimate issue of any that may have

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then deceased (spouse where be) all the issue of any such deceased  
daughter to represent their deceased mother. I also will & direct that each  
of the said portions or shares to every said daughter and all their de-  
ceased bequests and distribution made or interests of my estate to whomsoever  
each or either may become entitled, directly or indirectly under this  
will, or otherwise shall at all times be & remain utterly excepted  
& free from & every cumbrance by any conveyances or releases whatever  
for or on account of any husband which has or may at any time of  
have. And I further will & direct that said Trustee or the mayes  
only or successors or survivor of them as aforesaid shall by virtue  
of these presents, at all times here retain & possess all the registered  
legal title, power and authority to superintend and protect the said  
several interests of their said Testators whether they be married or single  
from all molestation, unlawful possession, or unjust use of  
the same, or any part thereof by or from any and all persons what-  
ever, and I moreover will, desire & direct that said Trustees  
or some one of them (by the consent of a majority of others) take view  
and retain all the portion aforesaid and redistribute there-in & pay  
any estate, real & personal, and all interests of every kind which  
shall accrue or arise under this will to or for the use of my said  
daughter Jane C. Roney, until his or their actual possession can and  
manage must, and rent, hire & in all respects control the same for  
for the most beneficial use & permanent advantage of my said daughter  
mentioned daughter, during the term of her natural life, and afterwards  
as to & for the use & benefit of each of her children, as she may best  
surviving her, and to the survivor of such children, to be equally and  
divided between them when the youngest attains the age of twenty  
one year or marries; Provided however, that if my said daughter is  
Jane C. Roney shall survive her present husband, and become a widow  
she shall have the full right, power and discretion and the con-  
same are hereby expressly reserved & declared and secured to her,  
at any and all times, after the death of her said present husband, to receive &  
the possession over & management of all or any part of her said property, to  
and interest of every kind nature and description (if said said said  
Shall in their discretion deem it safe and advisable) but in any  
event they are to retain the Trusteeship of said property & interests above  
the case of other other trusts; And it is by these presents also provided  
and declared, that in the event aforesaid, that my said daughter Jane C.  
Roney shall become a widow, or in any way entitled to the rights  
& privileges of a free dealer, then & at times thereafter the right power  
& discretion is hereby expressly declared, reserved & directed  
to her, to dispose of all or any part of her aforesaid portion,  
aforesaid and distribution share of my said estate real  
& personal, and of all her interest in the same of any  
nature or description, by her last will and testament  
only executed and published, any thing herein —

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Contained to the contrary notwithstanding; especially anything  
in this Document contained. Leisurely And I do also by these  
present, invest said Trustee, or the majority of them, or  
the survivor or survivors (as the case may be) with sufficient  
power and authority at any time when they are either of their  
said Sisters, or her representatives, as aforesaid or their Guar-  
dian if minor, to whom the particular property or equitable  
interest may belong, shall occur in the property of making  
any sale or exchange of any portion of said Estate or property  
of either of my said Daughters, or their representatives, then they  
the said Trustees and such beneficiary, whether at the time  
married or single, or the Guardian in the case of a minor estate  
que trust by entering in the requisite deeds of conveyance  
may and are hereby authorised and empowered to bargain, sell, exchange  
and convey, the said property and estate real & personal, or any  
part thereof, to the proper purchaser absolutely in fee simple or other  
wise as they may deem advisable. And they the said Trustees  
in any such events or transaction, shall receive the proceeds  
of any and all such sales or exchanges, and apply the same to  
the purchase of other Estate or property, or receive other estate or prop-  
erty in exchange, deemed more beneficial, also to receive all  
the rents issues her and other profits, arising and occurring from  
any of the said property of either of said beneficiaries and to com-  
municate the same by loans on interest, and by renewing the  
same in the purchase of other property real or personal, for the  
use of said respective beneficiaries, or the surplus thereof after  
paying the necessary expenses of such beneficiary; and to make  
all such new acquisitions to be duly and legally granted  
conveyed & allotted to them or either one of them (or more than one)  
as Trustee or Trustee as aforesaid, for all or any of said  
beneficiaries, from the sale or profits of whose Estate or property  
said proceeds may have arisen, having the tenures and interest  
thereof in all respects the same as that from which it proceed  
effectually securing the person or persons duly entitled (then or  
afterwards) to such Estate property and interest as when in its  
previous state or condition, and said Trustees are required  
to have all deed or conveyance or other written evidence  
of title which may be so taken, whether for real personal  
property only recorded in the proper offices, said Trustees are  
also further authorised & directed in their discretion in respect  
to the best interest & greatest safety of said respective bene-  
ficiaries, either to rent and hire the said Estate and property  
in each particular cases, and collect and account as  
aforesaid for the proceeds or to place said Estate and property  
or part thereof, temporarily in the possession & use of  
the particular beneficiary, but then for her or those

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dispossession & exclusion rule as aforesaid, and in the latter case to retain  
the possession and particular control & management of the same to  
at pleasure, according to they may deem most prudent, economical  
& safe, and most beneficial to the respective ~~estates~~ <sup>trusts</sup> ~~que~~ <sup>307</sup> ~~trusts~~  
with the exception however of the case of my said daughter ~~Caroline~~  
~~C. Baring~~, whose husband is so unprovided that no part of her money  
property or interests of any kind is liable to become subject to his exec-  
-<sup>307</sup> ~~test~~ <sup>307</sup> ~~control~~ or management in any respect whatsoever but if  
by Legislature an actment or other change of circumstances  
she should acquire the privileges of a female in respects to  
her property and interests generally then and at all times thereafter her  
right of disposal, power privileges and control of & over all her  
husband's property, rights and interests are by said Trustees to be enlarged and  
extended as herein before provided. Nineteenth I do by these  
present further will ordain & direct, that if either of my said  
- test. Mary A. Baring wife of J. W. Roring or younger daughter  
Caroline Eliza etc (both unmarried) should by their last  
will & testament duly executed & attested despatches of all or any  
part of the Estate property or interests legal & equitable interest  
by this will to be provided or bequeath to her or for the use and be-  
nefit of herself, issue, or others, as in aid by the fifteenth Item,  
or any other part of this will, exceptive or otherwise, then & in that  
event, any & all such Testamentary dispositions by each or either  
of my said last mentioned daughters shall be valid and fully oper-  
ative, and shall pass and become the Estate, property or interest  
legal & equitable of such Testator to her or their respective daugh-  
ters, or legatees according to the true intent & meaning of my  
such last will & testament; and that such shall be the effect  
of any & all such Testamentary provisions & dispositions of both  
or either of my last named daughters whether at the time of their decease  
respectively they be married or single or with or without issue  
then surviving. And I further declare and provide that this  
Item shall operate as a qualification & modification to  
the extent above mentioned only, of any and every thing in  
the said fifteenth Item or other parts of this will exceptive  
or otherwise to the contrary. Eighteenth Lastly I do by  
these presents constitute and appoint my said sons Joseph  
P. & Adelbert J. Reuben W. Benjamin H. and either of them  
or such of them as may qualify and act the authority and  
responsibility of the two latter to well and answerable until  
they respectively attain their majority of age executors  
of this my last Will and Testament with full author-  
ity to act as such if at any time any other administration  
of any Estate be found necessary than the execution of  
the various trusts by said trustees acting at such times  
before provided and direction. This my said last will

"and Testament being all in my own hand writing, and  
having my signature duly subscribed by me in the  
margin of each half sheet, this being the twentieth  
page, and which last will and Testament is also signed  
and sealed in the usual place & manner at the conclusion  
being on the twenty ninth page. And I do by these presents  
revoke and annul all former Wills and Testaments & executors  
by me at any time heretofore made & else omitted.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand &  
seal this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December A.D. 1845 (the word "of"  
my daughter's on the 13<sup>th</sup> page between the words "portion" &  
"for" interlined, and several words of repetition and mis-  
take crossed with the pen before signed & sealed)

Reuben Sappold

The above instrument of twenty nine pages is bearing this (an  
letter paper) and to which our names are hereunto subscribed  
as witnesses was on the day of the date thereof duly published  
& declared to us by Reuben Sappold the above named testa-  
tor, to be his last will and Testament; and he then and  
now signs to us and each off us that he signed, sealed  
and published the same for the purpose therein expressed  
and we at his request, & in his presence subscribe  
our names severally hereto on this the thirteenth page  
of said instrument as attestings and seals thereto  
Witnessed to said last Will & Testament this 15<sup>th</sup> day  
of December A.D. 1845 - aforesaid

Matt Gayle of Cahawha Dallas County  
Sanford Blount of Cahawha Dallas County

Levi D. Wimmon of Cahawha Dallas County

James H. Headrick of Cahawha Dallas County  
State of Alabama & I Reuben Sappold of the  
Dallas County --- County and State aforesaid, do now  
publish and declare the following as a Codicil to my last  
will and Testament which bears date the 15<sup>th</sup> day of  
December A.D. 1845 duly signed and sealed by me on  
the twenty ninth page thereof, and duly published as and  
accorded on the same day in the presence of Matt Gayle  
of Cahawha Dallas County, and others as subscriber witness  
thereto which Will and Testament I by this Codicil  
intend in no manner to revoke or alter, but to con-  
firm the same in all particulars; except so far as  
herein expressly varies and alteria. By this Codicil  
I will and desire to modify & alter said Will and Testa-  
ment so far only as relates to the provisions theron  
made for the use and benefit of my daughter Jas. B. Bony

309 301 27

and her children, and only to the extent herein expressly <sup>309 301 27</sup> declared.  
That is to say I here provide and direct that the right and title to  
the Share or portion Real and personal which may be allotted  
in any and each partition & distribution of my Estate, or otherwise  
arising from the same to or for the use of my said daughter Jane  
she and to all the rents, issues, hire of the slaves and other  
profits which may arise from the same, shall rest in my said  
said Trustee as trustee in my said Will and Testament and  
that the beneficial interest therein shall rest in my said daughter  
Jane & she shall be remain and come to her sole separate  
& exclusive use benefit and behoof insomuch as her issue  
during the term of her natural life & subject to the further condition  
and qualifications, that in the event the said said daughter  
no issue or descendants of her surviving, then immediately  
the residue and remainder of all such Estate & profits, or the  
equitable & beneficial interest therein shall come to and  
rest in my other surviving daughters & the legitimate issue of  
any that may have then living all the issue of any such  
descended daughter to represent their mother, but should  
my said daughter Jane & die before issue her  
her surviving, then her said share, portion or dividend  
of my Estate of any kind together with all profits &  
Trusts & savings therefrom to be held appropriated and  
directly applied by the said Trustee or one of them to and  
for the benefit of such issue and the survivor or  
survivors thereof until the year when shall have attain-  
ed the age of twenty one years and as much longer  
as said Trustee may then think having regard  
to their disposition, habit and qualifications & the proba-  
bility in place of of their father and their proper  
portion and prudence require for the preservation of all  
such property and interests & and should all the issue of  
my said daughter die without lawful issue of their  
own, then the remainder of said share, portion or property  
to rest in my said other daughter or their representa-  
tive in the same manner as if my said daughter Jane &  
had died without issue surviving her as aforesaid  
It is however hereby further excepted provided and re-  
dicted that if my said daughter Jane & should  
survive her present husband Mr James Birney, or be  
be absolutely divorced from him a non causa matrimonii  
that then and from the date thereof said Trustee shall  
hold and apply her said share portion or dividend of  
my Estate to and for her own separate and exclusive  
use for ever or in the event of my said daughter  
becoming incapable by either of the means above

intended (but not in the event of her being declared  
free dealer as mentioned in my said original will)  
then said Trustees may in their discretion, permit her  
to receive the possession, use & management of all  
or any part of her said property and interests of  
every kind, but not unless they shall then think such  
a course safe and advisable; but in any event they are  
to retain the Trusteeship as herein above, and in my said  
Will provide, whether for the benefit of my said daugh-  
ter or her children, or the survivors or survivor of them.  
And it is hereby also provided and directed that if my  
said daughter Jane E should become widowed  
or absolutely divorced from her said present husband  
as aforesaid then then and after the happening of such event  
she shall also have the same right and power to buy  
gain and sell and dispose of her said share, portion or  
interest in my Estate with the aid & concurrence of  
said Trustees, and the same right to dispose of the  
same by her last Will and Testament; as provided  
and declared in my said former Will in reference  
to my said other daughter. But this right or power of  
bargain & sale, or exchange, or of Testamentary dis-  
position, is hereby expressly denied to my said daugh-  
ter Jane E so long as she shall remain the wife  
of the wife of her said present husband. I also by these  
present expressly provide & declare that her said hus-  
band James Birney is not to be permitted in any  
event to control, manage or in any way command  
the negroes or either one of them, or any part of the  
property money, or interest of any kind which may  
be purchased or allotted to my said daughter  
Jane E or any other her children, or to which  
she or any of them may be come intituled, that  
she shall never receive or appropriate in any event  
any portion of said interest nor is she, while his  
wife, or either of her children during his life time  
to receive the possession or have the use or approp-  
riation in anymally, of any portion of said  
property money or interest arising therefrom,  
except such small sums from time to time  
as said Trustees may deem it safe and prudent  
to place in her hands or in the hands of her chil-  
dren after they shall have attained sufficient  
age to discretion, and independence of their  
father, to render it in the opinion of said Trustees

safe and prudent & the same to be applied to the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>  
proper purposes as said Trustees may approve of my will  
and desire being that all such possession, use, control  
and appropriation shall be exercised by some one of  
said Trustees in person or by their proper agent,  
Given under my hand & seal this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October A.D.  
1846 (The word "said Trustees")

on 38 page interlined

Reuben Sappala Seal

The above ~~Copy~~ or instrument of six pages (including this) to which  
the our names are hereunto subscribed as witness, was on this 17<sup>th</sup>  
being the day of the date hereof, duly acknowledged with the paper  
signature Seal of the Testator, Reuben Sappala, & published  
& declared to us by the above named Testator to be his last &  
only bequest to his last Will & Testament herein described, and  
we also acknowledged to us & each of us, that he signed, sealed &  
published the same, for the purpose therein expressed, and we at  
his request & in his presence, subscribed our names severally  
thereto on this the 17<sup>th</sup> page therof, as subscribing witnesses  
thereto, this the said 17<sup>th</sup> day of October A.D. 1846

Little Berry Valley

George Goodwin

John Randolph Vasser, William W. Goodwin

The State of Alabama Middle Chancery Division 19<sup>th</sup>  
Chancery District I found I Coats Register in Chancery  
for the nineteenth Chancery District of the State of Alabama  
Complaint of the County of Dallas, do hereby certify that the foregoing  
instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and  
testament and the codicil thereto of Reuben Sappala aforesaid  
late of Limestone County, was at the same term ad 1847 of the  
Court of Chancery for said 19<sup>th</sup> District helden at Cahawka  
proven as the last will and testament of said deceased  
And I further certify that it was ordered and directed  
by said court of chancery that said last will and testa-  
ment and codicil certified by the Register of said Court  
of Chancery to the Orphans' Court of the County of Dallas  
for registration on the record of said Orphans' Court  
which is accordingly done given under my hand and  
Seal private seal having no seal of officiat office  
in Cahawka the 25<sup>th</sup> day of June ad 1847

J. L. Crandall Regt. Seal

Recorded the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July 1847

Prob. G. Morris Clark