

except the part that is going to the heirs of my daughter Elizabeth
 which was divided and I have raised one of said Elizabeth's daughters
 to wit James Robert New James Prince & Mark the said James
 Prince to have one half of what may be coming to said
 Elizabeth's heirs And the balance of said Elizabeth's part of my estate
 to be equally divided among them the said Elizabeth's heirs
 jointly & appoint my son John Bygones & Thomas Bygones Executors
 of this my last will and Testament this 19 of July AD 1851
 signed & sealed day and date above written.

Witness James R. Bygones
 John Bygones

Henry Bygones

Sanctus Spirit James my Son 1854: then the last will and
 Testament of Henry Bygones dec. was presented to Court for
 probate and was duly proven by the Oaths of James R. Bygones
 & John Bygones the Subscribing Witnesses thereto. Which was
 ordered to be recorded. Witness my hand at office Jan'y
 18/85.

Wm. E. Taylor cler.

John Denson's Deeds are men by these premises that I John Denson of the
 County of Transylvania State of Tennessee for and Consideration
 of the Natural love and affection I have and do to my beloved
 daughter James Oliver wife of James Oliver of the County of Transylvania
 aforesaid do give & my said daughter James Oliver of said
 County aforesaid during her Natural life a negro boy whose name
 is Alfred for her separate use and benefit the said negro boy
 Alfred to be employed for the support and maintenance of
 my said daughter James & her family but the said James Oliver
 is not to anticipate the profits of the said negro boy nor
 contract debts to become a charge on said negro. And the said
 James Oliver is not to have any ownership over said negro
 boy nor is he to be liable for his debts heretofore existing
 or hereafter contracted. And at the death of the said James
 Oliver, I give the said negro Alfred to all the children of the
 said James that may be then living to the issue of any
 child of the said James that may hereafter die. And I do hereby
 make these premises to represent their several portions to them and
 their heirs forever. And I have signed these premises
 whereof I have written the Subscribed my name and affixed
 my seal this 25th day of April 1851. This deed of Gift and to take
 effect until my death.

Witness Solomon Bawin & John Denson

I John Denson of the County of Transylvania in Tennessee in consideration
 of the love which I have for my son Henry Denson hereby

give unto my said Son Thelby Denson a slave named Elijah or
Lige aged about twenty three years & of yellow complexion. To
have and to hold said slave Elijah after my death to my said
son Thelby & his heirs & assigns forever. Given under my hand &
seal this 25th of April 1857

Executed in the presence of as witnesses this 25th of April 1857

John L Morris

Robert L Morris

In the name of God Amen, I John Denson of the County of
Franklin State of Tennessee being of sound disposing mind
& memory but knowing the frailty & uncertainty of life do make
known this my last Will & Testament: I do commend my
Soul to God who gave it in the hope of a blessed immortality
through Jesus Christ my Saviour and declare that my body
be buried in a decent Christian burial without parade
or ostentation & all bills heretofore made or gifts are revoked
except a gift made unto my Son Thelby Denson a boy of the
name of Elijah on the 25th day of April Eighteen hundred & fifty
one executed in the presence of John L Morris & Robert
L Morris also one made to Jane Denson giving her a negro
boy of the name of Alfred and at his death to belong to
his heirs this gift made on the 25th day of April Eighteen
hundred & fifty one witnessed by John L Morris & Robert L
Denson & I do make a gift made by me to my three
Granddaughters Catherine Denson Martha Denson & Lavinia a
Black Girl as of said Denson in District No 5, bounded
by L Morris North East by Richard Smith by Robinson
East by Morris made. I give hundred & fifty or six to my
son Thelby is to the Exec. & Left (2) at my death I bequeath
unto Dorcas Denson widow of John Denson Dec'd
sum of \$1000 in cash and a cash of Cash to the benefit of the
children & this being the whole amount that I intended
her to have. I appoint my Son Thelby Denson to hold &
retain the money going to Dorcas Denson in his hands
& to disburse of it for such manner & at such times when in
his judgment they must need it & all other money on hand
shall be equally divided between my Son Thelby only daughter
Jane for the benefit of her & her children & I should any other
money come to hand for my restoration my Successor at
shall be divided equally among the children of my daughter
Elizabeth Surber after expenses being paid by her & her
I have given her I intend her to have & I do hereby
appoint my Son Thelby Sole Executor of this my last Will
& Testament and I charge it that he shall not be required
to give any security for his faithful execution thereof.
In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name
& affixed my Seal this fourth day of November A.D. 1857
Signed Sealed & published in our presence

except the fact that is going to the ruin of my daughter Elizabeth
she would and I have raised one of said Elizabeth's daughter
which Jane lost now Jane Prince & wish for this said Jane
Prince

Exhibited
to the
Court
of this
County
this 18th
day of
April

Sanctity
of the
Court
and
John
Denson
18/854

John Denson's Will

Know all men by these presents that I John Denson of the
County of Franklin and State of Tennessee for and consideration
of the Natural love and affection I have and bear to my beloved
daughter Jane Oliver wife of James Oliver of the County and
State aforesaid do give to my said daughter Jane Oliver aforesaid
for and during her natural life a negro boy slave named Alfred
for his separate use and benefit the said negro boy Alfred to be
employed for the support and maintenance of my said daughter
Jane & her family but the said Jane Oliver is not to anticipate
the profits of the said negro boy nor continual debts to become a
charge on said negro and the said James Oliver is not to have any
ownership over said negro boy nor is he to be liable for his debts
heretofore existing or hereafter contracted and at the death of
the said James Oliver. I give the said negro Alfred to all the
children of the said Jane that may die there living and to the
issue of any child of the said Jane that may have died before her
death such issue to represent their decedent portion to them and
their heirs forever share and share alike. In witness whereof
I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal this 25 day
of April 1851. This deed of Gift shall be taken effect until my
death.

Assigned and acknowledged in the presence of witness Solomon
Bowin S. A. Denson.

I John Denson of the County of Franklin in Tennessee in
consideration of the love which I have for my son Wiley Denson
hereby give unto my said son Wiley Denson a slave named Elisah
or Liza aged about twenty three years & of yellow complexion.
To have and to hold said slave Elisah after my death to my said
son Wiley & his heirs & assigns forever. Give and under my hand
and seal this 25th of April 1851

Executed in the presence of as witnesses this 25th of April
1851.

John H. Morris Robert T. Morris

In the name of God Amen. I John Denson of the County of
Franklin & State of Tennessee being of sound disposing mind and
memory but knowing the frailty of human life do make and
ordain this my last will and testament. I recommend my soul to
God who gave it in the hope of a Blessed immortality through Jesus
Christ my Savior and I desire that my body be buried in a decent
Christian burial without parade or ostentation & all Wills hereto-
fore made as gifts are revoked except a gift made unto my son
Wiley Denson a boy by the name of Elisah on the 25th day of April
Eighteen hundred & fifty one executed in the presence of John H.
Morris & Robert T. Morris also one made to Jane Oliver giving her
a negro boy by the name of Alfred and at her death to belong to
his heirs this gift made on the 25th day of April Eighteen hundred
& fifty one & witnessed by Solomon Bowins & S. A. Denson" Further-
more a gift made by me to my three Granddaughters Catharin Denson
Martha Denson & Levena Black a parcel of land lying in district
No 5 Bounded by T Garner North East by A Dechard South by J
Robinson West by Mrs Morris made ten hundred fifty or Milton Farris
and S Wiley is to be exact. Gift 3 at my death I bequeath unto
Dorcas Denson widow of John Denson dec'd seventy dollars in cash
and a cow and calf to the benefit of his children. This being
the whole amount that I intend them to have. I appoint my son
Wiley Denson to hold & retain the money going to Dorcas Denson in
his hands & to dispose of it in such manner and at such times
wherein his judgment they must kneed it with All of his money
on hand shall be equally divided between my son Wiley my daughter
Jane for the benefit of his & her children 5 Should any other
money come to hand for my revolutionary services it shall be
divided equally among the children of my daughter Elizabeth Hurley
after expenses being paid if not gain. I have given her all I
intend her to have &c. I do hereby appoint my son Wiley S be
Executor of this my Last Will and Testament and I direct that he
shall not be required to give and security for his faithful execu-
tion thereof"

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Witness Solomon Bowin S. A. Denson

I John Denson of the County of Franklin in Tennessee in consideration
of the love which I have for my son Wiley Denson hereby

except the part that is going to the heirs of my daughter Elizabeth
 that I have raised one of my said Elizabeth's daughter
 to wit James Scott now James Prince & Mark for the said James
 Prince I have one half of what may be coming to said
 Elizabeth's heirs. And the balance of said Elizabeth's part of my estate
 to be equally divided among the said Elizabeth's heirs
 jointly & appoint my son John Bygones & Thomas Bygones Executors
 of this my last will and Testament this 19 of July AD 1851
 signed & sealed day and date above written

Wt. James M. Bygones
 John Bygones

Henry Bygones

Surety Bond James M. Bygones 1854: This the last will and
 Testament of Henry Bygones dec. as presented to Court for
 Probate the same was duly proven by the Oaths of James M. Bygones
 & John Bygones the Jurors and the Witnesses thereto. Whereof
 a true and correct copy is recorded. Witness my hand at Office Jan'y
 18/54

W. E. Taylor Secy

John Denson's Know all men by these presents that I John Denson of the
 County of Transylvania in the State of Tennessee for and Consideration
 of the Natural Love and affection I have and do to my beloved
 daughter Jane Denson wife of James Oliver of the County of Davidson
 aforesaid do give & my said daughter Jane Oliver of my said
 for and dividing her Natural life a negro boy slave named
 Alfred for her separate use & benefit the said negro boy
 Alfred to be employed for the support and maintenance of
 my said daughter Jane & her family but the said Jane Oliver
 is not to anticipate the profits of the said negro boy nor
 contract debts to become a charge on said negro & the said
 James Oliver is not to have any ownership over said negro
 boy nor is he to be liable for his debts therefore in writing
 the day hereafter contracted that at the death of the said Jane
 Oliver, I give the said negro Alfred to all the children of the
 said Jane that may be then living & to the issue of any
 child of the said Jane that may hereafter die before the death
 such issue to represent their deceased parents to them and
 their heirs forever & I have done. In witness
 whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed
 my seal this 25th day of April 1851. This deed of Gift and to be
 effect until my death.

Witnessed and acknowledged in the presence of
 witnesses Solomon Rawlin & John Denson

I John Denson of the County of Transylvania in Tennessee in consideration
 of the love which I have for my son Henry Denson hereby

give unto my said son Theloy Dunsen a slave named Eliza or
Lige aged about twenty three years & of yellow complexion. To
have and to hold said slave Eliza after my death to my said
son Theloy & his heirs & assigns forever. Given under my hand &
seal this 25th of April 1857

Executed in the presence of as witnesses this 25th of April 1857

John L. Morris Robert L. Morris

In the name of God Amen, I John Dunsen of the County of
Franklin & State of Tennessee being of sound disposing mind
& memory and knowing the contents of the foregoing and
understanding this my last will & Testament, I do hereby give
and bequeath unto my son Theloy Dunsen in the hope of a blessed immortality
through Jesus Christ my son and I desire that my body
be buried in a decent Christian burial without pomp
or ostentation & all debts heretofore made or gifts are ^{rescinded}
except a gift made unto my son Theloy Dunsen a boy by the
name of Eliza on the 25th day of April Eighteen hundred & fifty
one executed in the presence of John L. Morris & Robert
L. Morris also one made to Jane Dunsen giving her a negro
boy by the name of Alfred and at death to belong to
her this gift made on the 25th day of April Eighteen
hundred & fifty one witnessed by Solomon B. B. & A. C.
Dunsen. I do furthermore give and bequeath unto my three
granddaughters Catharine Dunsen Martha Dunsen & Lurana a
Black & parol of land lying in District No 5, bounded
by L. Morris North East by B. B. & A. C. South by Robinson
East by Morris made. Eighteen hundred & fifty one to my son
Theloy is to be exact & left (3) at my death I give and
bequeath unto Dorcas Dunsen widow of John Dunsen Dec'd
sum of \$1000 in cash and a cow & calf to the benefit of the
children & this being the whole amount that I intended
her to have. I appoint my son Theloy Dunsen to hold &
retain the money going to Dorcas Dunsen in his hands
& to dispose of it for such manner & at such times when in
his judgment they must need it & all other money on hand
shall be ^{equally} divided between my son Theloy my daughter
Jane for the benefit of her children & I should any other
money come to hand for my revocation any business it
shall be divided equally among the children of my daughter
Elizabeth Kerley after expenses being paid by her & Brown
I have given to her I intend her to have & I do hereby
appoint my son Theloy to take care of this my last will
& Testament and I hope it that he shall not be required
to give any security for his faithful execution thereof.
In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name
& affixed my seal this fourth day of November A.D. 1857
Signed sealed & published in our presence

C. B. Dunn
 Nathaniel Dunn
 Nathaniel Dunn

County Court ^{Sept.} September Term 1853

When the three papers were being prepared to be the Last Will
of Testament of John Dawson he was again permitted to
cannot for probate & yet appearing that said had been given
to him of his wife one of our residents as requiring they
decree of said Court at August Term 1853 ^{July} Brown
they the heirs of Adm^r Grant Nathan Bushard D. A. Dawson
John H. Moore Robert Williams the Deeds making witnesses
thereof "and ordered to be recorded." Returns my hand at
office Jan 15/54

Jas E. G. L.

Apr. E. Taylor cens

Dear boys, I find there is you and wife have been so kind to me
through adversity as here as prosperity. This time from my
themselves cheerless to you for it is no more to raise my wife
or to say a word in my defense I am condemned by all
for unfaithfulness of friendship there was never any one
more heartily condemned to my best friends I have
my best respects. Except the Board is off you there is about
fifteen hundred dollars in good notes have been collected
for your father's expenses five hundred dollars. Give Ben
Spencer my love and watch the remainder keep yourself
you will pay it by for wearing let Dr. Burroughs look
my tools make it weight with him do not do not over
me anything perhaps I owe him something keep all the
rest of your self. O you must pardon me for this rash
act I cannot suffer the waves any longer - God knows
there is no body to be harder to do right than I do feel
for the distress of his till death do with a you judged
me wrong But I forgive you only recommended me
fair well to all for I am glad that no body God knows it
thinks Spencer as a lost portion of my friendship for you
except the small sum of five hundred dollars from
your unworthy friend I say. I should have made
you a much better present But I burnt it in a
mistake a long with some letters and papers. This
day I am persecuted unquiescently and ungratefully it
has not got the strength of mind resist it any longer.
I am going to the mountains there to wonder the Father in
my days. I give Ben my gun and watch Good Bye
Ben I bid you all good Bye I am met at none of you
God knows it.

then the paper winding purporting to be the last time