

Josiah Brandons Last Will

In the name of God Amen I Josiah Brandon of the County of Lincoln in the State of Tennessee, being of sound mind and disposing memory, but fully aware that it is appointed for all men once to die do make this my last will and testament hereby revoking all others and former wills by me made

Item 1st It is my will and desire that at my death my body be decently interred in a plain decent manner my immortal soul being constantly dedicated to God who gave it me

Item 2nd It is my will and desire that the expenses of my burial be immediately paid by my Executors with all my just debts

Item 3rd It is my will and desire that my wife Rachael Brandon be supported and have full and absolute control of all my effects both real and personal during her natural life should she survive me and at her death and her remains are disposed of in a decent manner it is my will and desire that my son Samuel Brandon have all my lands and the hereditaments thereto belonging forever

Item 4th It is my will and desire that my son Logan D. Brandon keep the money of mine due from Judge William Smith and all he may owe me until my death and the death of his mother my wife and pay me annually 8 percent interest on the amount and should my wife survive me he must pay the interest to her or deposit of it to her benefit and then it is my will and desire that the amount that may be in my son Logan D.'s hands due me. My Executors after the said son Logan is fully satisfied for all his trouble about my estate, shall divide the residue among my daughters that are living and the children of those that may be dead my sons Thomas and William Brandon are sufficiently wealthy without my aid I presume would not desire any part of my estate.

It is specifically understood that it is my will and desire that my Executor shall exercise their own judgment as to the division of my residue of money above mentioned among my indigent daughters

Item 5th It is my will and desire that my Executor, whenever it is convenient to them to give my grand son Samuel D. Woodward one hundred dollars to be raised out of my effects not to be given until after the death of both my wife and myself as a special legacy. And I now hereby appoint my son Samuel Brandon and Logan D. Brandon Executors of this my last will and testament

Witness under my hand and seal this 15th day of January 1840
 Josiah Brandon (Seal)
 Daniel Seivally
 William Straker

Proven and admitted to record at the December Term 1842 of the Lincoln County Court.

Joseph Woesters Last Will

I Joseph Woester of the County of Lincoln and State of Tennessee do make and publish the following as my last will and testament having made no other or former wills

First I give and bequeath to my son Nelson W. Woester, my negro boy Sary, a black smith, three choice mules & bay horse which he is to have possession of on the first day of January next which is intended to be a full of his proportion of my estate it is also my will that the expenses & the schooling of the present session also the expenses of his return to this Country is to be paid out of my personal estate exclusive of the above named bequests

Secondly I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Mary Woester my Negro man named Steel. I also give to her during her natural life and widowhood the sole management and control of all my personal property of every description consisting of negroes, stock of every kind, house hold and kitchen furniture and farming utensils of every description to be used and disposed of by her as she may think best for the use and benefit of her and my children except as hereinafter mentioned, that is to say it is my will, that as my children shall severally arrive at the age of twenty one years, that they shall have a negro that shall be of about an average value of the negroes then in hand and that such one shall be put in possession of the

Thirdly It is my will that my children receive a liberal education and that an equal portion out of my estate be applied to each of my children for that purpose unless it should be discovered that any one or more of my children were not disposed to receive such education, then and in that case such portions as intended for that purpose shall be otherwise set apart to such as may not be disposed to receive such education. And it is my will that all the surplus proceeds of my estate after the support of my family shall be applied towards the education of my children as aforesaid; but if there should not be a sufficiency for that purpose, then it is my will that such negro or negroes as can be best spared, be sold for that purpose: It is my will that the tract of land whereon I now live shall be subject to the control and management of my wife, and the proceeds arising from the cultivation thereof, be applied to the support of my family; And that said land remain so subject to the control and management of my wife for the purpose aforesaid so long as she may desire to live on the same; And if ~~ever~~ she should ever desire to leave said tract of land, and should desire it to be sold, it is my will that said land be sold, and that my friend John F. Whitaker (who is hereby requested and empowered so to do) sell the same at private sale on such terms as he shall deem most beneficial to the interest of my family. It is further my will that if my land should be sold as herein before stated that the proceeds arising from such sale of my tract of land be laid out in the purchase of another tract or tracts of land lying North of the thirty fifth degree of North latitude, and that my said wife is hereby authorized to purchase said lands, and it is my request that my son Nelson, with such others of my friends as my wife shall request and assist her in making an advantageous and judicious purchase, and that the said John F. Whitaker or such other person as shall hold the proceeds of my said tract of land shall pay the same over to the person from whom said land shall be so purchased. And it is my will and desire that in case my said tract of land be sold that the title be retained until the purchase money is paid. It is further my will that if my said tract of land shall not be sold during the lifetime or widowhood of my wife

that upon the happening of either that the same be sold upon a credit of one two and three years, and the proceeds together with all other estate shall be sold and the proceeds equally divided amongst my heirs, share and share alike, except my son Nelson as herein before stated.

It is also my will and desire that if it should be desired by my wife that said tract of land be sold, that it shall be at her option whether said tract of land be sold upon a credit or for cash. It is my request that James Bright Esq. shall be guardian for my children so long as they shall remain in this Country, and if they should remove then it is my request, that my son Nelson shall be their guardian.

It is also my request, that said James Bright Esq. do and assist my wife in the execution of this my last will and testament.

It is also my will that all debts due and owing me be collected and the same be applied as herein before stated.

It is my will that at the marriage or upon the death of my wife, the negroes, which shall remain and not herein before divided shall be equally divided amongst my children, except my son Nelson as herein before stated.

Lastly I hereby nominate and appoint my wife Mary Eliza sole Executrix of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty fifth day of October in the year 1842 signed, sealed and acknowledged in the presence of us

J. Bright
M. H. Downer
Jacob Broyles

Born by the oaths of J. Bright and Jacob Broyles and attested to record at the December Term 1842 of the Lincoln County Court
G. W. Davis Clerk