

many within nine months after my decease all my lands in Carroll County and our old Spotted Leopard mare and her two youngest fillies our Sorrel horse and our mare and her colt, (out of sugar) during her natural life and at her death to descend unto her three children the fruits of our marriage. All my other Estates of whatever name and description in which the same does exist except here, I direct to be sold by my Executor and the proceeds thereof to constitute a fund for the payment of all my just debts and legal liabilities. And if the same shall not be all exhausted in that way the same to be Equally divided between my wife and ten children. The bed and bedding is already known by distinctions such as are known as my present wife I give to her and her children and such as are now known in the family as belonging to my first ten children I give to them and need not be sold under any consideration. I nominate and appoint Nathan E. Dugg to be Executor to this my last will and Testament. In testifying whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 11 day of October 1834.

William Wofford, Will Wingo,  
C. J. Reece, St. L. Pinson,

Solomon Reece

recorded 6<sup>th</sup> Decr 1834.

William A. Davis

Last Will and Testament of William A. Davis of the County of Lincoln and State of Tennessee do hereby make my last will & Testament in manner and form following that is:

1. I desire that all my perishable property not otherwise disposed of to be immediately sold after my decease and out of the monies arising therefrom all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid. Should the perishable part of my estate prove insufficient for the above purpose, then I desire that my executors hereafter named may sell some part of my real estate and out of the proceeds of the monies arising therefrom pay and satisfy such of my just debts as remain unpaid out of the sales of the perishable part of my estate. 2. After the payments of my debts and funeral expenses I give to my wife Polly Davis all my possession of lands, for the purpose of supporting the family and educating my children until my youngest child becomes twenty one years old provided my wife remains a widow, but if she marries then no

longer shall be entitled to any part of my landed estate. And further it is my desire that my wife Polly shall have possession of all that part of my premises except that part bought of William Jones during her widowhood or until my son Newton C. Davis arrives at the age of twenty one years then my said son Newton C. to have two thirds of the above named premises and my wife Polly the other one third part during her natural life or widowhood and at her death or marriage her  $\frac{1}{3}$  part to descend to my said son Newton C. Davis. The balance of my lands namely the tract bought of William Jones I give and bequeath unto my two sons namely Coville C. Davis and Rufus Columbus Davis to take possession of the same at the age of twenty one years without however to be sold. 4. I command my son Coville C. Davis to sell that part of the tract which said son owned to be divided between my long by persons descended as soon said son Coville C. Davis shall arrive at 21 years. I also give to my wife Polly Davis a certain negro woman named Mary during her natural life or widowhood and at her death or marriage the said negro or the value thereof to be equally divided amongst my said children to be enjoyed by them and their heirs forever.

5. I give to my daughter Adeline Davis a negro girl named Susan to be enjoyed by her and her heirs forever. 6. I give unto my Daughter Eliza Ann Davis a negro girl named Harris to be enjoyed by her and her heirs forever. 7. I give unto Daughter Narcissa P. Davis a negro boy named Joe to be enjoyed by her and her heirs forever. 8. I give unto my daughter Theodore H. Davis a negro boy named Lewis to be enjoyed by her and her heirs forever. 9. I give unto my Daughter Margaret Elizabeth Francis Davis a negro boy named Henry to be enjoyed by her and her heirs forever. 10. I give unto my Daughter Aretha Caroline Davis a negro girl child named Anne to be enjoyed by her and her heirs forever. 11. I require that my two negro men namely Prince and Sam remain in the family to labor for the support of my children that continue in the family or are minors until my youngest son Rufus C. Davis is twenty one years of age, then I wish the said negro men to belong to my above named three sons, that is I wish my son Newton C. Davis to have Sam, and pay over an amount in money so that my said sons shall have them or the value thereof equally amongst them; And further as my said negro man Prince is of turbulent and unruly disposition should he

111

soon to remain unmanageable in my family) I request that he be hired  
out annually and the monies arising from the hire to go to the above named  
three sons when the youngest shall be twenty one years old that is, that the  
two negroes or valuers thereof shall be theirs in the manner above suggested  
10<sup>th</sup> I give unto my wife Polly Davis a certain bay mare named Lucy  
to be enjoyed by her and her heirs forever. 11<sup>th</sup> I give unto my Daughter  
Adeline Davis a certain sorrel filly two years old last spring to be  
enjoyed by her and her heirs forever. 12<sup>th</sup> I give to my Daughter Eliza  
Ann Davis a certain bay filly two year old, best to be enjoyed by her  
and her heirs for ever each of the above mares to be valued at twenty  
five dollars. 13<sup>th</sup> I give unto my son Newton C. Davis a certain two  
sorrel mares for which he shall allow fifty dollars and the young  
colt of said mare I give unto my daughter Narcissa P. Davis for  
which she shall be charged thirty dollars, my waggon and large  
Brew I leave with my family for their support and benefit so long  
as they may remain. 14<sup>th</sup> I request my Executors hereinafter  
named to sell all my perishable property that they may think  
not necessary for the immediate benefit of my family and  
the monies arising therefrom to be equally divided among my  
children (one during the value of three horses as part of distribution),  
the reference to a certain negro woman named Mary given to my  
heir unless should then be any shall descend to my children  
and be equally divided among them. And lastly I do hereby  
constitute and appoint my friend Pleasant Bearden of the W. Keys  
executors of this my last will and testament hereby revoking all  
other or former wills or testaments by me heretofore made. In witness  
whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September  
in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty four.  
Signed sealed published and declared to be the last will & testament of the above  
named William A. Davis in presence of  
us who at his request and in his presence  
have hereunto subscribed our names as  
witnesses to the same.

Abiah Pinson  
John P. Davis

Recorded 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 1854.

October 1<sup>st</sup>

Last  
Will & Testament

In the name of God Amen I John Ward of the  
County of Lincoln and State of Tennessee being  
now on a bed of sickness but being bound in mind have thought it proper  
and necessary to arrange my worldly affairs, and dispose of the property  
wherewith God has blessed me in this world, as seems to me right & proper  
therefore I have adopted this as my last will & Testament. I lay underneath my  
body to the grave, with suitable interments, and my soul to God who gave it.  
2<sup>d</sup> I will that all my property both real and personal be sold, except  
such as hereafter occurs, on the following terms, viz, My tract of Land on  
Cane Creek the same whereon I now live containing two hundred and  
sixty acres or there abouts must be sold to the highest bidder on bid, two  
and three years credit, the purchaser securing the payment of the personal  
property in like manner to be sold on twelve months credit to the highest bidder  
the above terms to be completed from the court at which this will shall be proved  
After my decease and accounting ten days after court as a notification of sale  
3<sup>d</sup> All notes, bonds, and accounts, that may be due or owing to me at the time  
of my decease, and such as may fall due thereafter, are to be collected as soon  
as the law will permit. There being, viz, the amount of the sales of my property as  
above and the debts due me as above to others with the ready money money  
I do possess of is to form a capital which is to be laid out in the following  
manner, viz, my debts are first to be paid, after which three thousand dollars  
are to be laid out in purchasing a good negro slave, between the ages of  
fifteen and twenty years the balance whatever it may be is to be laid out  
in purchasing a tract of land at such place as my executors may  
designate, said negro and land to be placed under his sole direction  
and control until my youngest child shall arrive at full age, it is nevertheless  
to be understood, that the profits arising from the  
culture of said tract of land which may be so purchased and the  
labour of said slaves are to be appropriated to the support of the  
family and education of my children or so much as may be necessary  
for that purpose and if there shall remain a surplus, it may  
be loaned out or applied in any other way that my executors may  
think proper to vest it, yet so as not to waste the same. 4<sup>th</sup> I reserve  
the following property from being sold, viz, my negro boy Jim  
two head of horses, two cows and calves, two feather beds, with their fur