

The last Will and Testament of James Hoggins, Deceased  
Knox Creek, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> 1857

I James Hoggan, was born in Caroline County, State of Virginia Anno Domini 1772 and although I still enjoy my usual good health and sound mind, yet feeling unable to admonish, nor to set my house in order, I therefore constitute ordain and declare this instrument of writing to be my last will & testament & all other wills written by me are hereby revoked & declared of no effect—

Stim<sup>ts</sup>. In regard, my body, my Children Care do  
with it as they see proper only I desire to be buried  
in a plain style

I desire the tract of land upon which I live to be sold to the highest bidder on a credit of one, two & three years, and all my stock & house hold & kitchen furniture, Farming Utensils and whatever amount of Grain, Hay &c that may be on hand at the time of my death to be sold on a credit of twelve months.

1. I do bequeath to my Daughter Sally Castleman my Negro man & Albert his wife & they and her two Children Charles & George being valued by three disinterested men should the valuation of said negroes exceed my Daughter Sally equal portion of my Estate then she (Sally) is to pay back the excess to my Estate.

1<sup>st</sup> I bequeath to my Son Owen ~~the~~<sup>4/4</sup> ~~four~~<sup>four</sup> my negro  
Woman Catharine and her third Child, w<sup>ch</sup> also my neg<sup>ro</sup>  
Woman Sally & her Child being valued by the same in-  
terested men, should the valuation of said negroes  
exceed my Son Owen's equal portion of my estate,  
then he (Owen) is to pay back the excess to my Estate -

5<sup>th</sup> I bequeath to my faithful nurse Eliza Howard  
fifty dollars-

6. I bequeath my Daughter Sally & my Son Owen a Set  
 of large Silver Shooes that I purchased for this Mother  
 that <sup>they</sup> may keep them in remembrance of her.

7. I desire my property divided equally among my children Sally, <sup>Emily</sup> Owen and George and also the hair of her body but when I saw children John Jr. Higgins the son of my son John A. Higgins die is accepted he having received his full share of my

Property in my acting as his Guardian for many years, in the  
 place of said I gave his father and my purchase of his mother's  
 Dower in said, to which I hereby relinquish all my Right & title  
 to said Dower. I add nothing more whatever to his portion of my estate  
 I desire to do justice to all my Children & in order so to do I have  
 kept a note of all the Charges I hold against them,

The following are the Charges, viz:  
 To my daughter Sally I have given  
 " " Son Owen " "  
 " daughter Emily before her death

|            |
|------------|
| \$ 5110.00 |
| 2600.00    |
| 1200.00    |
| 1900.00    |

|                                     |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Since                               | 141, 00 |
| Paid Westman for "Miriam Buchanan", | 336, 00 |
| "Miriam Buchanan at various times,  | 549, 00 |
| "Falkner for "                      | 25, 00  |
| "L. H. Higgins "                    | 13, 62  |

I have given to my Daughter Nancy Jane \$100.00  
I wish my Daughter Nancy Jane to receive of the first money  
of my estate (after all outside debts are paid) enough  
to make her equal with the rest of my Children.  
I will here remark that if George the other Claims Two  
hundred and forty dollars or the land to that amount it is  
to be taken off of his wife's portion of my property as  
this Two hundred & forty dollars is for the interest on  
\$2000 for Two years which he justly owes me.

I do hereby appoint Owen W. Higgins Guardian for the children of my Daughter Emily, who Higgins shall take charge of all the money coming to them from my estate and shall pay over to them their respective portion as they become of lawful age. - Should any of my children think they have not Justice done them, I hope they will believe me - when I tell them I am willing to meet my Judge in that respect. I have made this will according to my notions of Justice and without consulting any one & I do hope it may be carried out to the letter and I do appoint George W. Higgins the Sole Executor thereof. I subscribe to this in the presence of three Witnesses, with a full knowledge of its contents.

James Higgins

attest  
J. G. Stone  
C. A. Johnson  
Subscribed before me  
J. G. Stone  
3<sup>rd</sup> Maj 1858  
David J. Worthington Clerk