

The last Will and Testament of Peter Ashby of Lincoln
County & State of Tennessee
I Peter Ashby considering the uncertainty of this
mortal life and being of sound mind and memory
do make and publish this my last will and
Testament in manner and form following
I then first I Will that my upper tract of land be sold on
one two and three years time the proceeds thereof to go
to pay the balance I owe on said land I will that my
funeral and debts be paid I Will and bequeath to my
beloved wife Mary Jane Ashby the Tract of land on
which I now live ~~for~~ to have and to hold during her
natural life or widowhood to raise and educate my
children should my wife Mary Jane marry again
I will that she have a child's part of all my lands and
other property I also will to her Isaac my man ~~house~~
servant to have and to hold as long as she can control
the same should he become unmanageable I will
that he be sold and the proceeds go to my wife her life
time I will that my wife select and keep such stock as
she may need the balance to be sold I further will that
at the death of my wife that the proceeds of my lands
and other property be equally divided between my three
children, (viz, Rebecca Elzora, Travis David and
Sarah Harriet and lastly as to all the rest, residue
and remainder of my personal estate goods and chattles
of what kind and nature soever I give and bequeath
the same to my said beloved wife Mary Jane and
I hereby appoint Simon M. Gough Executor of this my
last will and Testament hereby revoking all former
wills by me made I so witness whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and seal this the sixth day of September in
the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and
fifty seven
Attest
P. M. Ashby

William A. Brown

George S. Carty

Sworn to in open court

this 4th January 1858 Norris Leatherwood,
Clerk,

I John Cole of the County of Lincoln and State of Tennessee
Knowing that it is appointed for all men to die and being
by the blessing of God of sound mind and memory do make
publish and declare this my last will and testament in
form following that is to say 1st It is my will and desire
that all my just debts ~~be paid~~ and funeral expences
be paid by my executors hereafter mentioned out of the
Notes money and other claims I may have on hand and
if that proves to be inadequate for said purpose then
I direct the sale of so much of my stock and crop as can
be spared to profit and if that should not prove sufficient
I wish my Executors to hire or sell so many of my slaves
as will be sufficient to pay just debts &c
2nd All the balance of my estate both real and personal of every
description I give to my beloved wife Nancy A. Cole to have
the use and control of the same during her natural life term
or widowhood and at the death of my said wife Nancy
A. Cole it is my will and desire that my said estate
be equally divided between all my Children. But if my
wife Nancy A. should at any time intermarry with
any other man then and in that case it is my will
that that my Negro boy George be given to my said wife
Nancy A. to her use and I wish the balance of my
property to be equally divided between my said wife
Nancy A. and my Children, and lastly I constitute
and appoint George Stewart and J. P. Finney my my
executors to this my last will and testament before
closing this my will I provide that all my minor
Children be educated clothed and and supported out of
my said estate during their minority In Witness
whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 15th day
of September 1857

John Cole Seal

Witness
T. H. Hughes
J. P. Finney