

The Last Will and Testament of Willis R. Melan do  
Know all men by these presents that I Willis R. Melan  
being of sound mind, and in the prime of three Witneld  
do make and bequeath this as my last Will and Testament  
1<sup>st</sup> I desire that Just debts and funeral expenses be paid  
2<sup>d</sup> I give & bequeath my two Cows and all my hogs, and  
my house hold & Kitchen furniture to my beloved wife  
Morgort  
3<sup>d</sup> I desire that all the rest of my property be sold at  
Public auction on a twelve months Credit and the proceeds  
thereof placed in the hands of my beloved Brother Wiley G.  
Melan who I hereby make my Executor  
4<sup>th</sup> I wish all my Notes and money on hand placed in Brother  
Wiley G. Melan hands and I want him after paying my  
debts to buy a home and a negro girl for the benefit  
of my beloved wife Morgort & my daughter Betsey  
and Mary and my sons James Wiley & Madison  
Alexander, and in the event my wife Morgort should  
decease or marry then the home & Negro to be sold and  
divided Equally to be sold and divided equally between  
my two daughters Betsey & Mary & my two Sons James Wiley  
and Madison Alexander, if my wife Morgort live  
single until my son Madison Alexander becomes  
of lawful age then I wish the Negro and lands  
sold and the proceeds thereof equally divided between  
my wife Morgort and my daughters Betsey & Mary  
and my sons Madison Alexander & James Wiley Melan  
I want the Negro to work with Brother Wiley G.  
Melan for the support of my wife Morgort and  
my sons and daughters above named This September  
1853. I hereunto affix my hand and seal  
W. Melan

Wm. Lathenwood  
Lockin Smith

Proven and admitted to record County Court  
October Term 1853 Recorded the 31<sup>st</sup> October 1853

William Bright's Last Will and Testament  
I William Bright last of the County of Lincoln and State of Tennessee  
considering the uncertainty of this mortal life, and being of  
sound mind and memory, do make and publish this my  
last Will and Testament, hereby revoking and making void  
all former Wills by me at any time made in manner and  
form as follows  
First I direct that all my Just debts and funeral expenses be paid  
as soon after my death as possible out of any moneys that  
I may be seized of, or may first come into the hands  
of my Executor.  
Secondly, I do hereby give and bequeath to my son William  
D. Bright, all that part of my lands, lying south and  
east of the following named line, including the seven acre  
tract which I bought from William Stephens, to begin  
at a rock standing in the east boundary line of my  
two hundred acre tract, and south west corner of  
William Stephens land, and the north west corner of the  
above named seven acre tract, to run south to a  
Stake standing near a bush, the corner of a twenty  
acre tract that I bought of Butler, thence a south  
west direction, to a Stake, standing in the land leading  
from my house to Mr. Vaughns. At eleven poles said  
direction from Peter Gaben, thence with the center of  
said land to a Stake standing two poles from Sarah  
Vaughns North boundary line, and near a big stone,  
running from thence west, parallel with Sarah Vaughns  
line to a Stake two poles north of Sarah Vaughns  
North West corner, thence south two poles from  
Sarah Vaughns to a Stake near the New turnpike  
place, thence a west direction to a Cherry tree  
standing in Burks field, from thence a straight  
direction to a Bush the south west corner of the  
One hundred and ten acre tract which I bought  
of said Butler.  
Secondly I do hereby give and bequeath to my  
son James Bright all the remainder of my land  
lying north and west of the above designated line  
Also I give and bequeath to my said son James  
my Negro man Peter and Negro woman Rachael  
to be his, with <sup>the</sup> Cautions that he pay back