

Last Will of Josiah Gibson

Know all men by these presents that I Josiah Gibson do make this as my last Will and Testament revoking all other Wills by me at any time made — I Will and bequeath my Negro Man Peter and my Negro Woman Lina to my Father Thomas Gibson and Mahala Gibson my children during their life time, and at his death to Thomas Gibson my Brother. — I give my Mare called Lymbrough to my Sister Margaret M. Gibson, my Pennsylvania Jilly to Thomas M. Gibson, my Chickasaw Jilly to James L. Gibson and my sucking Cows to Thomas Gibson. — I direct that all the rest of my Horse, my Cattle, Hogs and Corn be sold to the highest bidder. — I wish that Sarah Smith be paid for the rent of the Wheat ground which I rent of her out of the proceeds of the Wheat which I direct to be sold for that purpose. — I further direct that my Land and all my other effects not otherwise bestowed in this Will be sold to the highest bidder.

Last Will of Jackson Luttrell

This being my last Will and Testament — I want my debts paid out of my perishable property the first thing and all the balance of my property to go into my Wife's hands her life time Newton Luttrell appointed Executor this Oct 3rd 1856

P. R. Whitaker

Wm Gibson our test

Proven in open Court

the 11th Oct 1856

Ch. L. Hoag Clerk

Last Will & Testament of W. S. Rags

I William S. Rags do make and publish this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking and making void all other Wills by me at any time made

First — I direct that my personal expenses and all my debts be paid as soon after my death as soon as possible out of any money that I may die possessed of, or may hereafter come into the hands of my Executors and to effect this object I wish my executor to sell any property that I may die or possess of at private or public sale as they may deem best for that purpose — and collect all debts due me of every kind. — Second — I direct that my Office & Office furniture be sold upon such terms as my Executors may think proper.

Third — I own a tract of land containing about one half Section situated in the State of Alabama — I also own a tract of land lying in Lincoln County Tennessee containing about one hundred and thirty or seventy acres, be the same more or less — Now I do authorize my Executors to sell said land upon such terms as they may think proper — The 1st and 2nd tract lying in Lincoln County I have traded one half of it to George M. White — When White pays to my Wife Eighty Dollars with Interest thereon from the 1st day of January 1852 then my Executors will convey to said White an undivided half of said land. — I also own by contract with John A. Bright about three acres of land adjoining the house and lot in which I now live in the Town of Fayetteville in the North side of said lot — I hereby authorize my Executors to lay off said lot into three or four lots and sell one or more of the same either for cash or on a credit and convey the same to the purchaser — The which shall be laid off adjoining the lot wherein I now live in the North shall be attached to and form a part of the said lot upon which I now live and shall be disposed of with the said lot as hereinafter directed

Fourth — As soon after my death as convenient I wish my Executors to collect my books together and if either one or more of my sons are reading Law I hereby give to such son or sons all my elementary books including the Tennessee Reports — The balance of my books I desire shall be sold with the my Office furniture as provided in clause second — At my death I give my Watch to my son William S. Rags. — Fifth — After all my debts are paid and the special bequests before provided shall be delivered, then my Will and desire that my Wife Martha C. Rags have all my property absolutely to dispose of as she pleases except my Slaves, and my house and lot in the Town of Fayetteville

including that portion of ground attached to said lot by the latter part of second clause. — Said house and lot upon which I now live with the portion attached and all class of which I may die possessed or have a right by possession of, I give and bequeath to my wife Martha C. Ross for and during her natural life and at her death to be equally divided among my children. — Seventh. — It is my Will and desire that should my wife Martha C. Ross wish to sell my home and lot in Fayetteville and West, the means in any other property she may and with the assets of my executor hereinafter named she is hereby fully authorized to sell the same, and West the means in any other property she may feel disposed to do, and keep the same during her life time and at her death to be equally divided between my children. — And should my wife Martha C. Ross desire to change or swap any property I may seized or possessed of she is hereby fully authorized to do so and hold the property received in exchange on the same way as she holds the property given for it. — Eighth. — All the property that I am entitled to from my mother's estate I do hereby authorize and empower my executor to collect, receive and they are hereby further authorized and empowered to sell, with or compromised with the heirs or distributees of the said Mary Stiles in any way that my said Martha C. Ross my executor may deem best, and whatever I am entitled to out of said estate I hereby give and bequeath to my wife Martha C. Ross during her life time and at her death to be equally divided between my children. — Ninth. — Should my wife after my death and during her life time find that she has any property to divide out among the children after the payment of all my debts. — I do hereby authorize and empower her at any time to give to any one of my children their share or portion of my property under this Will. — Each one to be charged with the fair value of the same, and whatever portion of the said property my daughter Mary M. Ross and Martha S. Ross may receive during the life time of my wife or after her death, I hereby give the same to them to their sole and separate use to be absolutely free from the debts or contracts of their husbands if they should ever marry, whether said property be real or personal or mixed. Tenth. — It is my Will and desire that in the education of my children my executors shall ^{charge} the estate with a sufficient amount to pay for the education of any younger children, or to make them equal with the elder. In witness whereof my Will that the same be spent for the education of each one of my sons, and that my daughters shall receive an education suitable to their sex in proportion to that of my sons.

and lastly. — I hereby nominate and appoint my friends William H. Marshall and Robert Hargreaves Executors and my wife Martha C. Ross Executrix to act in conjunction in executing this Will. — and it is intended that whenever the word Executor is used in the foregoing clauses, the same shall include and comprehend my said Executrix. This 7th day of July 1856 Witness my hand and seal signed sealed & published in
W. S. Ross
our presence and us hand
subscribed our names here in
the presence of the Testator this
7th day of July 1856
Abraham Marshall, John Gilliland & proved 2nd Sept 1856
Matthew Gilliland, Abner Marshall & Clerk 1856
Eli F. Hooge Clerk

Last Will & Testament of Henry M. Elroy

I Henry M. Elroy do make and publish this my last Will and Testament. — First, I will that if there is any thing lacking to pay the bequests made by my husband's last Will to be paid out of that my Estate makes up the deficiency. — Second, I Will that my daughter Mary Jane Crawford Oguthier Smith and Elizabeth Ellis have each twenty two hundred Dollars worth of my Negroes the same to be set a part by her or more disinterested men and said Negroes so set a part are to be theirs for their sole and separate use during their natural lives and then go to their children when of their body. — 3rd I Will to my son Thomas six hundred Dollars to be paid him in cash or Negro property set a part and valued to him at cash valuation by the disinterested men; I also Will him my Dear Horse. 4th I Will to my daughter Oguthier Smith my Bay Horse. 5th I Will to my sons Alexander, Elieajah, Jackson, Thomas & John each a Bed and furniture. — 6th I Will that my son Jackson have the use and control of all my property of every description the present year except my Negro man Bob & Anthony; my said son Jackson is to make a crop and go his service after payment for his part of the land, he is to have one third part of all the crop raised. — 7th I Will all the balance of my property not herebefore Will'd to be equally divided between my sons Sam and Jackson, Thomas & John, if it should consist in Negroes I wish them valued and divided if not susceptible of division, I wish some one or more of my sons to take them at valuation and pay the others or others for their share. I do not want any of my Negroes sold out of the farm. I appoint my sons Sanford and Elieajah my Executors.