

# Martha Bancroft's Will

Washington County State of Tennessee.

I know all men by these presents that I Martha Bancroft of the above named County and State being weak in body, but of sound mind and memory, doth make this my last will and testament, in manner and form as follows viz,

After all my just debts and funeral expenses are paid, after my decease, I will to Home Mission Board of the United Presbyterian Church, the sum of fifty dollars, to be paid by my Executors.

I will and bequeath to my sister Mary Cowan, and to my Nephew Ambrose P. Bell Twenty dollars each to be paid by my Executors.

I will and bequeath to my two sisters Jane Bancroft and Elizabeth Bancroft, all the remainder of my estate, both personal and real, of whatever kind I am possessed, to be equally divided between them.

I constitute and appoint my two sisters Jane and Elizabeth to be my lawful Executrixes, or agents to settle up my estate, and having confidence in the honesty and integrity of my sisters above named, I request that they be allowed to settle up my estate, without being required by court to give security, for the faithful performance of the same. In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name and affixed my seal this 10<sup>th</sup> of July 1842.

In presence of us.

S. E. Lyon

Amanda Lyon

her  
Martha X Bancroft (seal.)

Wm. Marshall

The fore going will was proven in open Court at the July term 1843 by the oaths of S. E. Lyon and Amanda Lyon, the two subscribing witnesses thereto, and the Court being satisfied with the probate ordered the same to be recorded.

J. F. Grisham  
Clk

# George E. Grisham's Will

about words 150 words

In the name of God Amen. I George E Grisham, being weak in body, but of sound mind and memory in view of the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death, do make and publish this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all former wills by me made.

First After my funeral expenses and just debts are paid. It is my will and bequest that my dear wife Margaret Jane Grisham have my homestead, during her natural life that is the house in which I live, and all belonging to the original lot out houses, fixtures tenements and hereditaments. At her death I desire it should go to my adopted daughter Louisa Belle Grisham, and the heirs male of her body, in case she has male heirs, and if she dies without male issue, then to be divided between her other children equally, should she have any, should she die without issue, male or female then the two children Mary H. and Blanch B. Grisham, minors of Wm. Grisham shall have a fee simple title to come at her death, said children being his only heirs, if he has in the future male heirs of his body, the oldest male heir is to have the remainder in fee after the termination of the life estates hereby created. I also give and bequeath to my beloved wife M. J. Grisham during her natural life all the use, control, and benefit, of the storehouse opposite the Court on Main Street Jonesboro, Tennessee, & after her death the same is to vest in and be the property of the oldest male heir of Wm. Grisham, provided he shall name him George Edgar; but the same is to be held by said son not transferable in his life time, but to go to his heirs or the heirs of Wm. Grisham

2<sup>d</sup> I will and bequeath to my beloved niece Fannie C. Barrett the house, and known as the one in which Wm. Overton now lives, during her natural life, at her death to her oldest male heir if any, if none to her other heirs equally, if no heirs of her body then to the oldest male heir of Wm. Grisham, if none to his children equally.

3<sup>d</sup> I will and bequeath to my friend Edna C. Lloyd during her natural life all the right title interest and claim I have in and to the property now occupied by Mrs. Caroline Hodges, after her death the same to go to the oldest male heir of her body, and the male heirs of her body, then equally to her other children, if she dies without issue, then to the oldest male child of Wm. Grisham if any, if none to his other children equally;

4<sup>d</sup> I will and bequeath to George E Brown my young friend and apprentice during his life time not to be transferred by him that vacant lot or parcel of land lying between John Grisham's two lots on Cherokee road or street adjoining the lot now occupied by Silas L. Shipler, at his death the same is to go to his heirs.

5<sup>d</sup> I will and bequeath to George E Brown's son of sister Mary of Arkansas, and to George E Clark son of sister Elizabeth equally during their life time, and then to their heirs to their heirs of their body, all my right title claim and interest in and to the old homestead land near Buffalo Ridge Meeting house, adjoining Wm. Grisham and others, to be divided equally between them by my executors.

6<sup>d</sup> I desire a lot to be cut off on each side of the Academy lot fronting each

# George E. Grishams Will Cont'd

60 feet on the Cherokee road or street, leaving the building lot of the Academy in the center, said two lots to be sold by my executor and the proceeds to purchase tomb stones for the graves of myself and my beloved wife, and the remainder to be used in enclosing in a substantial manner the old family grave yard at the old home near Buffalo Ridge.

✓ 7<sup>th</sup> I will and bequeath the remainder of the Academy lot and building thereon to the Christian Church of Jonesboro Washington County Tennessee, lately organized without any creed but the Bible, to be for the benefit of said church in educating the young men of said Church for the Ministry, the same to be vested in a board of trustees in trust for that purpose, and I name Col Munday, W. H. Barker and Wm Grisham as trustees and request the last named to act as chairman of the board, and in case of the death of either of them without naming a successor then the said Church will name a successor to fill any vacancy, but in no case shall said property be used only for the purposes designated.

8<sup>th</sup> I will and bequeath to my beloved wife all my interest in the Stone of Munday Grisham, which may be disposed of by my executor or his agent to the best advantage and appropriated to her use, after deducting amount deposited by my father George Grisham 130\$ to purchase tomb stones, for my father and Mother George and Mary D. Grisham.

9<sup>th</sup> I desire my interest in the Simpson Saw-mill, and all my surplus personal property not needed by my wife, who shall select what she desires most to keep, and turn over the remainder to my executor to be sold on six months credit and the proceeds be used in the payment of my just debts, the remainder with all money and note collected, to be put out on interest with good security, the interest to be devoted 1st to the education of my own child Lula B. Gaile Barrett and George C. Button four years each, but to be further educated as my means will admit; and I desire my father to make my wife's house his home, as long as he lives. To Lula after the death of my wife, I give my Piano to my niece Sammie C. Barrett I give my sewing machine after my wife's death. To Edna I give and bequeath my looking glass and center table, the remainder of my furniture to be disposed of as my beloved wife thinks best.

10<sup>th</sup> I desire Mrs Sarah C. Abney to live in the house she now occupies three years free of rent, and after that time the Trustees named for the old Martin Academy shall take charge of same for the benefit of the Church.

11<sup>th</sup> I further will that a lot be cut off of the large lot in the rear of Jeff Grisham's residence to have 60 feet front near a large cucumber tree which shall be vested in the said Mrs Sarah C. Abney, and I empower my executor to make all necessary deeds to carry out this will. The remainder of said last named lot of land to be vested in David Campbell daughter of my sister Edina and the heirs of his body.

# Col George E. Grishams Will Cont'd

I further appoint Wm Grisham by esteemed brother my executor to carry this my last will into effect, and who will I trust in God perform his duty faithfully.

Signed and delivered on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August A.D. 1873.

George E. Grisham

W R Service  
Col D. Academy

The foregoing will was presented to the Court for probate by W. L. Brainerd and proven by the oaths of Dr W. R. Service & Dr E. L. Dade, the two subscribing witnesses at the September term 1873. The Court being satisfied with the probate ordered the same to be recorded and Wm Grisham gave bond & qualified as executor.

J. Gilpinsham

Clerk

# Barbara Harmonis Will

I Barbara Harmon living of sound mind and reasonable memory for which I thank God and calling to mind the uncertainty of human life and being desirous to dispose of such worldly substance it pleases God to bless me with I gear and bequeath the same as follows 1. I desire that Elizabeth Jane Broyles wife of Mr. W. Broyles shall have all of my personal effects that I may be possessed of at my death by paying a reasonable price for them for taking care of me 2. I desire that all my funeral expenses be paid and all my other debts be paid out of the notes and money that I may be in possession at my death 3. I desire that the balance of my effects that may be left after my debts is paid I desire that the remainder of my effects equally divided among my daughters that may be living at my death if not then to my grand daughters so that they may receive their mother's part being one fourth, to each of my daughters now living the remainder to my grand daughters as before stated to be equally divided between them 4. In Philibet Harmonis over due \$20. in gold I desire that her expense be paid in placing Tomb Stones over the grave of