

28  
Pigs and Ten dollars in money one Bed  
Sixty I gave to my son Robert Reavis wife  
one horse one Bed, one cow and calf  
one sow and pigs and Ten dollars in money  
Seventy I gave to my son Edward E. Parkham  
one horse all Ready received, when they married,  
Eighty I gave to my daughter Emilene Parkham  
one horse one Bed one Cow and calf one  
sow and pigs and Ten dollars in money  
Ninety I gave to my daughter Unity M. Parkham  
one horse one cow and calf one sow and  
pigs one Bed, and Ten dollars in money  
Tenthly I gave to my daughter Mary Ann Parkham  
one horse one Bed, one Cow and calf  
one sow and pigs and Ten dollars in money  
Emilene Unity M. and Mary Ann Parkham  
is to have their ands allotted to them hereafter  
to make them Equal with the Rest of my  
children that has had allotted to them all Ready  
Elevently I gave to my Grandson James C. McKelly  
one hundred acres of land, it being the  
East part of the Two hundred acres Tract  
whereon I now live and it is my will that my  
Grandson J. C. McKelly is to have the rent of  
the hundred acres of land, from the death of my wife  
12 I gave to my Grand children Caroline Ray  
and John Harmon it is my will that  
Caroline Ray shall have one hundred dollars  
out of my Estate and that John Harmon  
shall have one hundred and fifty dollars out  
of my Estate It is my will that my Grandson

29  
James C. McKelly <sup>is not to have</sup>  
the hundred acres of land that I have  
gave him untill he become of age, and  
if he should die before that time or  
without any lawful Issues of his Body  
then for it to go Back, to my Children  
It is my will that all the Residue of my  
Estate shall be disposed of at my wife's  
death as follows It is my will that  
all of my Estate shall be Equally divided  
among my children but if my dau-  
-ghter Lissa Spann should marry  
then in that Case her part is to be  
equally divided between her two children  
Elizabeth M. and Mahaly F. Spanns  
Namely Saml. Steel and wife Francis  
Edward E. Parkham W. R. Reavis  
and wife Elizabeth Alfred L. King &  
wife Harrel C. Emilene Parkham Unity  
M. Parkham Mary Ann Parkham,  
Lastly I do nominate and appoint  
my Executors Saml. Steel and Edu-  
-ard E. Parkham and W. R. Reavis in  
writing whereof I do this my will set my  
hand and seal this 20 day of October  
A D 1849 Sign seal and published  
in our presents, and we have subscribed  
our names thereto in the presents  
of the Testator this 20<sup>th</sup> day  
of October 1849  
C. P. Bonarant  
Isaac Kilrough  
Thos. Parkham

302  
December Term County Court 1831

This day, the foregoing instrument of writing was established as the last will and testament of Thomas Parham Deceased, and ordered by the Court to be recorded.  
Witness C. P. Bondurant, Clerk of Weakly County Court at office this 10th day of July 1831

C. P. Bondurant Clerk  
By R. H. Scott Deputy Clerk

301  
Nathan Adams Will 1831

I Nathan Adams of the County of Weakly and State of Tennessee, being sound and disposing mind and memory, but calling to mind the uncertainty of life, do make and publish this my last will and Testament hereby revoking all former wills or codicils by me at any time heretofore made and published.

It is my will That all my just debts including my funeral expenses be paid by my executors out of the first money belonging to my estate, which which may come into their hands—

I give and bequeath absolutely to my beloved Wife Nancy P. Adams my Slaves Jenny, Elizabeth, Alfred, and Mary and all their future increase— also all my personal property of all kind whatever including stock of every kind, farming implements household and Kitchen furniture, together with all my estate not herein otherwise appropriated of whatsoever ever kind or description, Also eight hundred Dollars to be paid to her by my executors, as soon as that amount may come into their hands.

All the rest and residue of my estate, consisting of two hundred and forty acres of land upon which I now live, also the following slaves Tourist Jack, Charlotte, George and Martha I give to my beloved wife Nancy P. Adams during her life and at her death or as soon thereafter as convenient it is my will and pleasure that my executors — over



I, The slave mentioned in this clause  
 on a credit of Twelve months and that they  
 sell the land on a credit of one and two  
 years giving them eighteen months after  
 the death of my wife to sell the same, so as  
 to consult the most appropriate time for  
 doing so for the interest of those concerned,  
 and so soon as the proceeds of the sale of  
 said negro and land shall be received,  
 It is my will that the proceeds thereof be  
 distributed as follows - That is to say to my  
 nephews & nieces, Hiram Adams, Minna  
 C. Adams, Elijah Adams, Elizabeth Jones,  
 Nancy Ditto, and Sarah Jordan, children  
 of Jacob Adams, and Kendall and Nathan  
 Dayzee, children of Jasper and Mary Dayzee  
 if living or to their heirs, at law, in equal  
 shares or proportions, That is to say to each  
 of said nephews and nieces or their heirs one  
 eighth of the money arising from said sale -  
 Fourthly After paying all my just debts and the legacy  
 of eight hundred dollars to my wife The balance  
 of the money, which may come into the hands  
 of my executors, I give to my said nephews and  
 nieces above named or their heirs share and  
 share alike as provided in the foregoing clause  
 Lastly I hereby appoint my esteemed friends Alexander  
 Ruelston and Alfred Garman my executors  
 to this my last will and testament.  
 In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed  
 my name and seal the 26<sup>th</sup> day of

September A D 1850  
 Signed sealed in  
 Presence of us  
 Orren Vincent Nathan Adams  
 Woodson Roff

State of Tennessee  
 Weakly County  
 Her on County Court 1851  
 This day the foregoing paper writing was  
 established as the last will and Testament  
 of Nathan Adams Deceased, and was  
 ordered by the Court to be recorded,  
 Witness C. B. Bonduant Clerk of Weakly  
 County Court at office this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July  
 1 A D 1851

C. B. Bonduant Clerk  
 By H. F. Scott Deft. clerk

# James Old's Will

State of Tennessee  
Weakley County, September the 5<sup>th</sup> 1857  
This my last will and testament  
I do give and bequeath my soul to God who  
gave it.

2<sup>nd</sup> I will to my son Edwin, one hundred acres  
of the tract of land, which I now live on  
known as follows by George M. Wharton  
Gas. M. Wharton B. W. Hart land the balance  
of my land all of <sup>my</sup> other property to be sold  
and divided equally among my children  
and I do hereby make and appoint my son  
William Old and Edwin A. Old Executors  
of this my last will and testament in  
witness whereof James Old the testator do set  
my hand and fix my seal this the date  
above written

Witness <sup>his</sup> James Old Seal  
James M. Wharton  
W. H. M. Wharton

State of Tennessee  
Weakley County, October Term Court  
County 1857. This day the foregoing proper  
writing was established in open Court as  
the last Will and Testament of James Old  
deceased, and ordered by the Court to be  
recorded

Witness C. P. Bondurant, Clerk of  
said Court at office this 6<sup>th</sup> day  
of October 1857. C. P. Bondurant Clerk  
Copying will \$1.00 Paid By his deputy R. H. Scott

# William Capps' Will

In the of God Amen, I William Capps,  
Planter of Carroll County Tennessee, Being very  
sick but of sound mind and memory, do  
make and ordain this my last will.

First I give my body to the dust from whence  
it came, to the burial at the discretion of  
my dearly beloved friends and my spirit to  
God who gave it, and as touching my  
worldly goods, wherewith it has pleased God  
to bless me with.

First, I direct that my funeral expenses and  
all my debts be paid as soon after my  
death as possible out of any moneys that  
I may be possessed of or that may first  
come into the hands of my administrator or  
my Executor, Elisha Capps;

Secondly, I give to Francis Rodolphus Capps one  
horse to be worth forty dollars;

Thirdly, I give to my son John W. Capps the  
fine Colt, which has been called his by the  
family;

Fourthly, I wish and will to my son Pleasant B.  
Robison Capps, one horse Bridle and saddle  
to be worth fifty five dollars, when he shall  
have reached the age of eighteen years old;

Fifthly, I give and bequeath to my daughter,  
Penelope Poyer Capps, one horse bridle and  
saddle; to be worth fifty five dollars, when she  
shall have reached the age of eighteen years  
or married;

Sixthly, I give to my son William Alexander



William Capps Will continued  
 Capps, one horse, bridle and saddle to be worth fifty-five dollars, when he shall have reached the age of twenty-one years;  
 Seven, I give to my daughter Sarah Ann Capps one horse, bridle and saddle to be worth fifty-five dollars, when she shall have reached the age of twenty-one, or married;  
 Eight, I give to my son Lafayette Adam Capps one horse, bridle and saddle to be worth fifty-five dollars, when he shall have reached the age of twenty-one years old;  
 Ninth, It is my wish and will that all my lands be equally divided between my sons, viz Henry W. Capps, James M. Capps, E. H. Capps, John W. Capps, J. W. Capps, Pleasant B. Capps, William A. Capps and Lafayette Adam Capps according to quantity and quality;  
 Tenth, I wish and will that my negro property with all my stock of all kinds, whatever with all my household and kitchen furniture and all my farming tools of every description be sold apart times, and also all the grain of every description that belongs to the place; lastly I do hereby nominate and appoint my son E. H. Capps my Executor, In Witness whereof I do to this my will set my hand and seal.  
 This the 24<sup>th</sup> day of December 1849.

Wm Capps (Seal)  
 Signed sealed and published in our presence and we have subscribed our names

William Capps Will continued  
 herts in the presence of the Testators  
 This 24<sup>th</sup> day of Decr. 1849  
 Bright Simons,  
 Henry W. H. Capps  
 marks

I, William Capps, having heretofore made and published my last will and testament, do make and declare this a Codicil thereto, to wit, I wish the whole of the money that may arise from the sale of the above named property and all the debts now due me, that can be collected, to be equally divided among my children named in my former will and my daughter Mary Capps to share in this last division; and I wish the five youngest of my children to have a good feather bed and good furniture furnished them when they arrive to the age of twenty-one years in addition to what I have left to them heretofore.

Wm Capps (Seal)  
 Bright Simons  
 Henry W. H. Capps  
 marks

State of Tennessee  
 Weakley County

This day the foregoing paper writing was established in open Court as the last will and testament of William Capps deceased, and ordered by the Court to be

# William Capps Will enclosed

recorded.

Witness

Court at office. This the day of

18

Copying will \$1.00

## Naoma Seabrooks Will

State of Tennessee } know all persons  
Weakley County } by these presents  
Giveth, — That I Naoma Seabrooks doth  
will and bequeath my body to the Earth  
in decency and my soul to God, the  
author of all good and I further will  
and bequeath for the love of my children  
the following property, (to wit) My B.  
Seabrooks, my youngest daughter one  
Bed and furniture also and other Bed  
and furniture; also one side saddle,  
one horse now five years old, one  
red cow and calf, one set of plates and  
knives and forks, set of cups and sauc-  
ers, one water Bucket, one small  
shillet and bed, one Black sow,  
one new good Pitcher, also the re-  
mainder of my crop of Tobacco after  
all my debts are paid, also my crop  
of corn, also Eleven Barrels of hush corn,  
and all the fodder and oats on hand  
and a sufficient amount of Pork and

## Naoma Seabrooks Will

other provision to last her one year, and all  
the wheat on hand, also all of my property  
I will and bequeath that is to say the re-  
mainder of what is left after A. B. Seabrooks  
has his out, to be Economically divided  
all of my children, I also will that I S.  
Seabrooks is appointed Executor to this  
my last will and testimony. Given this  
December 30<sup>th</sup> 1851.

In conformity of which I do in these  
presents set my name and affix my  
hand.

Attest.

Naoma Seabrooks }  
D. W. Ingleas }  
George Newton }

Naoma Seabrooks  
mark

State of Tennessee }  
Weakley County }

This day the foregoing paper writing was  
established in open Court as the last will  
and testament of Naoma Seabrooks decreed  
and ordered by the Court to be recorded.

Witness

Court at office this the day of

18

Copying will \$1.00



## John Heale's Will

I, John Heale of the County of Wreckley and State of Tennessee, do hereby make this my last will and testament. Nothing and annulling all other wills which may have been made by me.

In the first place I will that all my just debts be paid out of any monies or other or other property that I may die possessed of. — Secondly after paying all my just debts as aforesaid, I will and bequeath to my Brothers James Heale and William S Heale all of my estate both real and personal of which I am now in possession or which may be coming to me from any source whatever, to them and their heirs forever, to be equally and jointly divided between them after my death. It is my will that my said Brothers, James Heale and William S. Heale provide for my Father, Brattle Heale a decent and comfortable support out of my estate bequeathed to them as aforesaid during his life. I do hereby nominate & appoint my Brothers James Heale & William S Heale my Executors to carry out and perform my aforesaid will in all and every case, as witnesses my hand and seal. This 12<sup>th</sup> July 1853.

Witness my hand  
W. L. Higgs

John Heale

## John Heale's Will concluded

State of Tennessee  
Wreckley County

This day the foregoing paper writing was established in open court as the last will and testament of John Heale deceased, and ordered by the Court to be recorded.

Witnesses Clerk of said  
Court at office this the day of 18  
Copying Will \$1.00

## Jonathan Stephensons Will

State of Tennessee  
Wreckley County

In the name of God Amen  
I, Jonathan Stephenson of the County of Wreckley and State of Tennessee, planter, being in perfect health of body and of mind sound and memory, thanks be given unto Almighty God, but calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowledge that it is appointed for all men once to die,

do make and ordain this my last will and testament, in manner and form following, to wit;

I give and bequeath my body to the Earth to be buried in a decent Christian like manner, my soul I commend into the hands of Almighty God that gave it, not doubting but I shall receive the same again by the mighty

312  
Jonathan Stephens will continue  
of God, and as touching such worldly  
estate as it hath pleased God to bless  
me with in this life, I give and  
dispose of the same in the manner  
and form following, Viz;

I leave to my wife Nancy Stephens  
all of my land property that is there  
now so long as she lives, all of my  
stock of all kind, and all of my  
household and kitchen furniture so  
long as she lives;

After the death of my wife, Nancy  
Stephens, I give to Oscar V. Stephens thirty  
Acres of land, on the North boundary of  
the land I now live on; also the wag-  
gon and gear that he now has now in  
possession;

I give and bequeath to my  
son William B. Stephens all of the  
land that lies north from the offset  
of one, Vincenz corner on the south  
boundary of said land, also one horse  
Bridle, and saddle, one Bed and  
furniture, and all of my hogs after  
the death of my wife;

I give and bequeath to my Grand  
daughter, Nancy Ann Parsons, I give to  
her two Beds, and furniture and mirror  
and one Church.

I also give and bequeath to my  
daughter Charity Powell five dollars;

313  
Jonathan Stephens Will enclosed

I also give to my daughter, Elizabeth Ann  
Burgin five dollars;

I also give to my daughter, Mandy mar-  
rina Austin one horse;

I also give and bequeath to my son  
Mear A. Stephens all of the balance of  
my land, and all the balance of the prop-  
erty that I have after the death of my  
wife;

I also nominate and appoint my  
son, Mear A. Stephens Esq., to this  
my last will and Testament, resolving  
all other wills be me heretofore made  
signed sealed and acknowledged by the  
said Jonathan Stephens to be his last  
will and Testament in the presence of us.  
This the Eight day of January One thou-  
sand Eight hundred and fifty-one.

Alexander W. Sprunt J. Stephens  
Olin Vincent

State of Tennessee; November Term County  
Wentley County; Court, 1851

This day the foregoing paper writing  
was established in open Court as the  
last will and Testament of <sup>Jonathan Stephens</sup> deceased, and entered by the Court to  
be recorded. Witnesses Clerk of  
said Court at office this the day of  
18

Copying will \$1.00



## Alexander Sprouts Will

In the name of God Amen,  
 I, Alexander Sprout of the County of Winkley  
 and State of Tennessee, being in a fair  
 state of health and advanced age in  
 life, but sound in mind, blessed be  
 God, do this day the twenty fourth of  
 September in the year of our Lord, One  
 thousand Eight hundred and fifty six,  
 make and advise this my last will  
 and Testament.

First, I Bequeath my soul to the hands of  
 all mighty God, that gave it, & my body  
 to be buried in a Christian like man-  
 ner at the discretion of my family, and  
 as for all my worldly Estate, wherewith  
 God has blessed me with in this life.

I give and Bequeath as follows, to wit:  
 Sum, I lend unto my beloved wife, Ann Sprout  
 after all my just debts are paid, all my  
 Real hold and personal property, during her  
 natural life or widowhood, except such  
 perishable property as she, my wife, may  
 deem unnecessary to her happiness,  
 and the neat sales of such property,  
 if any, to be appropriated at the will  
 of my wife, and after the death or  
 marriage of my wife, it is my will  
 and desire and I do hereby positively  
 order that my Executors, all the balance  
 and residue of my estate to be disposed  
 of after the following manner,

## Alexander Sprouts Will continued

First, To my Grand son Basy Sprout, being  
 the only son of my dearly beloved John Sprout  
 deceased, I give and Bequeath Two hundred  
 Dollars to be paid to him, when he arrives  
 to age of Twenty-one years, with Interest from  
 and after two years after the death of my  
 wife, and if he, my Grand son, shall die  
 before he shall arrive to the age of Twenty-  
 one, then in that case, it is my will and  
 desire that the said sum of Two hundred dol-  
 lars shall be divided equally between my  
 Daughters, Lermy Myrick and Matilda  
 Henderson;

Second, to my Grand daughter, Sady Matilda  
 Lerina Sprout, I give and Bequeath One  
 hundred dollars when she arrives to  
 the age of Eighteen years, with Interest from  
 and after two years after the death of my  
 wife and further it is my will and desire  
 that if my said Grand daughter, before she  
 arrives to the age of Eighteen, that the said  
 One hundred dollars be equally divided between  
 my two Daughters, Lermy Myrick & Matilda  
 Henderson;

Thirdly, It is my will and desire that all the  
 residue both of my Real hold and Personal  
 property, I give and Bequeath and be  
 equally divided between my two Daughters  
 Lermy Myrick and Matilda Henderson  
 to them and their Heirs & assigns for  
 Ever: I do hereby

Alexander Sprouts Will enclosed  
 nominate and appoint A. H. Collier &  
 Vincent Braun as lawful Executors to this  
 my last will and testament, hereby re-  
 voking and disannulling all former wills  
 or will by me made heretofore, ratify-  
 ing this to be my last will and  
 testament. In witness whereof  
 I have hereunto set my hand and  
 affix my seal the day and date afore-  
 said. Signed sealed and delivered  
 in presence of.

P. H. Miles 3 Alexander Sprouts  
 Vincent Braun 3 his mark

State of Tennessee, October Term  
 Hickory County 3 County Court 1851

This day the foregoing paper writing  
 was established in open court as  
 the last will and testament of  
 Alexander Sprouts deceased, and  
 ordered by the Court to be recorded.

Witness Clerk of  
 said Court at office, this the  
 day of 18

Copied will \$1.00

## Martin Lawler's Will.

I Martin Lawler considering the uncertain-  
 ty of this mortal life and being being sound  
 in body and mind, Blessed be Almighty  
 God for the same. Do make and  
 publish this my last will and testament  
 in manner and as follows, that is to say  
 1st I do hereby give and Bequeath to my beloved  
 wife Mary A. Lawler all my property that  
 is to say, my goods and purchasable property  
 which I may be possessed of at my death,  
 after my just debts are paid, and the  
 plantation whereon I now reside to have  
 the use and benefit of during her natural  
 lifetime or widow-hood and if there should  
 be any surplus property or land more than  
 my wife stands in need of, I wish it to  
 be advertised and sold to the highest  
 and best bidder on a credit of Twelve  
 months, the purchaser giving bond with  
 good security and the balance of the mon-  
 ey when collected, after all my just debts  
 are paid, I wish my wife to use in  
 educating my youngest children to make  
 them equal with my oldest children (viz)  
 Martha Jane Gay, Mary Ann Leaster, Lucy  
 Leatharine Lawler, Virginia Rebecca and  
 Sarah Leana Lawler, one negro a piece at  
 valuation, which shall be decreed for if can-  
 not agree in the division otherwise, which  
 I will to them to have the use of during  
 their lifetime, then to their bodily heirs,



# Martin Lawlers Will contained

If they or either of them die without bodily heirs, then I wish them to belong to my three sons Nicholas D. Thomas Benton and William Briggs.

<sup>3rd</sup> I give and bequeath to my three sons, M. D. Lawler, Thomas Benton and William Briggs my tract wherein I now live containing three hundred and fifty three acres more or less to be valued and divided by disinterested men, William owning the plantation wherein I now reside and Thomas Benton owning the North West corner and M. D. owning the South West corner wherein he is now sitting, all to be divided by disinterested men of their own choosing, to be divided to suit themselves and valued as wooling land.

<sup>4th</sup> I give to all my children or common name, saddle and bridle, one cow and calf and one and pigs, one bed and furniture & bedstead so as to make them all equal.

<sup>5th</sup> I wish my son William Briggs to live with his mother and mine for her as long as she lives.

<sup>6th</sup> I again say that the property (viz) the negroes and their increase falls to my daughters as above named, shall go to them and their bodily heirs and should they die having no bodily heirs, then to go to the rest of their brothers and sisters and their

# Martin Lawlers Will enclosed

bodily heirs as above stated, and if my daughters leave heirs and their heirs die and have no heirs then the property and income of the same to go to their Brothers and sisters.

<sup>7th</sup> My will and desire is that all my children share equal in my estate.

<sup>8th</sup> I also do hereby appoint my beloved wife Nancy A. Lawler my Executor to this my last will and testament. I also appoint my son Nicholas D. Lawler with my wife my Executor to my last will and testament and wish them to act without giving bond and security for their performance.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal. Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> 1851.

Wit  
W. H. Wray }  
Jane Millhigh }

State of Tennessee } November Term  
Weakly County } County Court 1851  
This day the foregoing paper writing was established in open Court as the last will and testament of Martin Lawler deceased, and ordered by the Court to be recorded.

Witness  
Court at office this the day of  
1851  
Copying will \$1.00

## John Peck's Will

I John Peck now in good health of body and perfect mind and warmed by many occurrences, do now make this my, and publish this my will and Testament and before I proceed I will state in what my estate consists, say 1068 acres of land which I now live, a piece of ground 35½ feet on Cherry street in the Town of Nashville, also an undivided fourth of a piece of ground with a brick house thereon on Market Street in the Town of Nashville, formerly known by the name of the M. V. estate property, the title of all the above is of record in the appropriate places, also fourteen slaves, six Wilcox, Milly, Mary, Sally, Alfred, Monah, Anthony, Isaac, Shadrach and his 4 children, to wit: Ann, Green, John and William, 16 head of horses and mules, forty-eight head of cattle besides sheep and hogs, tools, furniture &c. &c. &c. about 3000 dollars in cash and cash liabilities, besides other claims, one on Samuel Elam Bond another on John C. Claiborne which will appear of the County of Davidson County Circuit Court and another on Enock Willborn in the hands of W. L. & R. C. Foster for collection amount not known.

First, It is my wish that all my just

## John Peck's Will Continued

debts shall be paid, which at this time \$5 dollars will pay. It is my wish that six and Wilcox be sold when they will bring 1500 dollars and Milly, Mary and Monah be sold when they will fetch 1100 dollars and to my youngest daughter, Temperance Amanda one fourth of my land on which I now live, one fourth part of the land that I leave and to be so laid off as to cover the houses and the Grave yard where her Mother, Sister and Brother is buried, to her I give and bequeath the aforesaid one fourth of my land, to my daughter Cynthia Ann and after her decease to the heirs of her Body if any, if she dies without Issue it is to descend to my daughter Sarah Caroline and to her heirs if any, and if she dies without Issue to my daughter Julia Elizabeth and to her Issue and the balance of my land to be equally divided between my daughters Julia Elizabeth and Sarah Caroline, and as to the residue of my estate I wish equally divided between my three children and Ephraim H. Foster of Nashville is hereby appointed Executor of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all former wills by me made and the aforesaid E. H. Foster is hereby appointed Guardian of my children with request that they shall be educated and supported out of my estate. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and



John Puck's Will concluded

affixed my seal this twenty-fourth day of July in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and forty-three.

John Puck

State of Tennessee, January Term  
Weakley County } County Court 1852

This day the foregoing paper writing, was established in open court as the last will and testament of John Puck deceased, and ordered by the Court to be recorded.

Witness

Clerk of said Court at office. This the day of 185

Copping with photo.

Thomas Paulinson's Will

In the name of God Amen.

I Thomas Paulinson of the County of Weakley and State of Tennessee being sound in mind and of a disposing memory do make this my last will and testament.

To my son Henry Paulinson I give two dollars;

To my son Elias Paulinson I give two dollars;

To my son Uriah Paulinson I give two dollars;

To my daughter Sarah Thomas,

Thomas Paulinson's Will continued

wife of David Thomas, I give two dollars;

To my daughter Angelica Chapman, wife of Benjamin Chapman, I give two dollars;

To my daughter Elizabeth Smith, wife of George Smith, I give two dollars;

To my daughter Keanna Paulinson, I give two dollars;

To my wife Keanna, for the love and affection I have for her, I give all of my land during her life, and after her death to be equally divided between my son Uriah Paulinson and my daughter Keanna Paulinson, and after paying my just debts and paying the amount given above to each of my children and all other property that may be remaining I give to my wife Keanna.

I do hereby nominate and appoint Albert D. Thomas, as my Executor together with my wife Keanna as Co-Executor with full power to carry out the object and intent of this my last will and testament.

Whereunto I have set my hand and affixed my seal this the 15th day of October 1846.

In presence of

J. B. Leggett

A. W. Thomas

Thomas Paulinson

State of Tennessee, November Term County Court 1852. This day the foregoing paper writing was established in open court, as the last will and testament of Thomas Paulinson deceased and ordered by the

324  
Thomas Van Linsens Will concluded

Consent to be recorded,

Witness  
court at office this the  
185

Clerk of said  
day of

Copying will \$1.00

Samuel Taylor's Will

I, Samuel Taylor of the County of Wrentham and State of Massachusetts, being of sound mind and viewing the uncertainty of life, do make, ordain, and publish this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all former wills or codicils by me at any time made or published.

It is my first wish and desire that my Executor, hereinafter named, cause to be paid out of any monies of which I may die possessed or out of the proceeds of the sale of my personal property not herein after bequeathed and specified, all my funeral expenses, and just debts, as soon thereafter as practicable.

I wish my Executor to give out all my negroes which I may own at my death except one to serve and wait upon my beloved wife Mary Taylor - should she be living - during her natural life or widowhood, such negro to be selected by her -

325  
Samuel Taylor's Will continued

and further that my Executor shall rent out my farm (excluding my dwelling house and out houses, Garden &c. which may be occupied, free of rent by my wife, should she continue to keep house,) and the proceeds of such hire and rent to apply to the comfortable maintenance of my wife Mary during her life, or Widowhood - and of my daughter Sarah Ann Orrell, so long as she may remain single and live with her mother - such bequest to cease at her mother's death, or when, (if ever) said Sarah shall marry again.

3<sup>rd</sup> I give to my wife, (Mary) me (her choice) of my stock of horses, for her use during her life or Widowhood and at her death or marriage to revert to my estate.

4<sup>th</sup> I wish my Executor to sell the balance of the personal property of which I may die possessed as soon after my demise as possible and out of the proceeds of such sale, to pay to my daughters Amelia M. Baudouant and Mary O. Rice or their agents fifty dollars each, which I give them in lieu of a horse I have heretofore given to my daughter Elizabeth Wrentham.

5<sup>th</sup> At the death or second marriage of my wife, Mary, it is my wish for my Executor to sell the personal property that I have herein bequeathed to her and that the proceeds be equally divided among all my children, or their representatives with the following exceptions and under



## Samuel Taylor's Will continued

the following restrictions. That is to say, that which would be due under such provision to my daughter Elizabeth Wescott to be set apart for her use and benefit during her natural life or matrimonial connection with her present husband, William Wescott, or during her widow-hood, should be due before her, and upon her death or second marriage it is to be equally divided between the heirs of her body by said Wescott; further that portion which would be due to my daughter Mary C. Heile is to be given her under the same restrictions, as above stated, substituting the name of Wm. P. Heile for that of Wm. Wescott; providing however to the allowance being made to said Mary C. I wish two hundred dollars be deducted from her equal portion and divided amongst my other children, as I have heretofore given her that amount above the rest, and further that the portion which would be due to my son Job Taylor be paid to the heirs of said Job, which he may have had by his first wife, formerly Madeline Hillebrun - and should they have no legal Guardian at my death, I wish the same kept in the hands of said son's Guardian shall be appointed by a competent Court, or until they lawfully arrive at lawful

## Samuel Taylor's Will continued

- age, at which time the money or their proportional amounts shall be paid to them;
- 6<sup>th</sup> I hereby appoint and request my son Joseph R. Taylor to act as Trustee for my daughter Elizabeth Wescott, and the heirs of her body above specified, and that Wm. P. Heile act as the Trustee for my daughter Mary C. - and that each of said Trustees be authorized to administer to the necessities and wants of their respective charges;
- 7<sup>th</sup> Previous also to the division requested to be made in the fifth clause of this will, I wish my Executor to deduct the several sums due from my son Job, to James E. Bordenant, Wm. P. Heile and Joseph R. Taylor out of the proportional amount which would be due otherwise to his said children as enumerated in said fifth clause, and the remainder apply as directed in said clause;
- 8<sup>th</sup> I wish all my property to be equally divided amongst my children, under the restrictions heretofore enumerated, and hereby request my Executor to carry out in good faith the intentions of the above bequests, giving them an equitable and fair construction.
- 9<sup>th</sup> Lastly, I hereby nominate and appoint my son-in-law James E. Bordenant the Executor of this my last will and testament and vest in him full power

Samuel Taylors Will concluded  
to discharge the duties thereof and pursue  
my wishes heretofore expressed;  
On Testimony whereof I the said  
Samuel Taylor have hereunto set my hand  
and affixed my seal to this my last  
will and testament, written on one  
sheet of paper, on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of  
December 1850.

Signed sealed and acknowledged  
in presence of us at the request of the testator  
H. P. Burdumant  
P. O. Waters

State of Tennessee  
Weakley County

This day the foregoing paper writing  
was exhibited in open Court as the  
last will and testament of Samuel  
Taylor deceased, and ordered by the  
Court to be recorded.

Witness  
Court at office. This the day of  
1851

Copying 100 \$1.00

## Elizabeth A. Jones Will

I Elizabeth A. Jones of the County of Weakley  
& State of Tennessee, do make & ordain this  
my last will & testament in manner &  
form following.

1<sup>st</sup> My will & desire is that all my just &  
lawful debts & funeral expenses be paid  
out of any money that may come into the  
hands of my Executor hereafter mentioned.  
2<sup>nd</sup> I do hereby give to my sister Frances C.  
Peter one negro girl named Rebecca &  
one negro girl named Filda & their  
future Increase during her natural life  
& at her decease I give them all to the  
children Born of her Body, which I  
give to them & their heirs forever.

3<sup>rd</sup> I will that my riding mare be sold  
& all the debts due my estate of money  
collected and put out at interest until  
my niece Elizabeth A. Jones Harris &  
if she has any children I give all the  
said money to the said Elizabeth A.  
Jones after paying my just & lawful debts  
but if my said niece Elizabeth A. Jones  
should have no children born of her  
body I then loan the said money to my  
sister Frances C. Peter during her natural  
life and at her decease I give the said  
money to the children Born of the  
body of my sister Frances C. Jones to  
be equally divided among them, which  
I gave to them and their heirs forever.



Elizabeth A. Jones Will enclosed  
 I constitute and appoint Robert E.  
 Peter Executor of this my last will  
 & testament making all other wills  
 heretofore made by me at any time,  
 nullifying this and no other to be my  
 last will & testament.

Signed sealed & delivered by the  
 testator in the presence of us that  
 was present at the time of signing  
 the same this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of  
 July, 1853.

Let  
 J. Parks &  
 Jubilee Rogers

E. A. Jones Seal

State of Tennessee, Spivey Tenn.  
 Wabley County } County Court, 1853

This day the foregoing paper writing was  
 established in aforesaid Court as the last  
 will and testament of Elizabeth A.  
 Jones deceased, and ordered by the  
 Court to be recorded.

Witness Rufus H. Leath Clerk of  
 said Court at office this the . day  
 of N. 20. 1853.

Elizabeth A. Jones Narrative  
 I Jubilee Rogers was called on by Eliza-  
 beth A. Jones on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, past  
 to write her a will & after she assigned  
 the same the will was read over by  
 those acquainted with all the property  
 she possessed and it was discovered that  
 there was one half of a carriage & gear  
 she had not named in her will,  
 she said she gave her part of the  
 carriage and gear to her sister Frances  
 C. Peter. Given under my hand this  
 the 9<sup>th</sup> day of March 1853  
 Jubilee Rogers

### Martha Russell Will

State of Tennessee, where I Martha Russell of the State and  
 Wabley County } County aforesaid have made my last will  
 and testament in writing which I hereby declare to  
 be my last will and bequeath to my son Wm.  
 Russell the following property to wit, three fether  
 Beds and furniture - One Side Saddle one chest and  
 my kitchen furniture and six head of cattle and  
 three head of Baw to have and to hold as his own property  
 provided he the said Wm Russell never marries Nancy  
 Putman and if he does marry said Nancy Putman  
 want my property to be equally divided between my  
 grand children I want my property to be valued  
 by disinterested men and lastly it is my desire that  
 this my present be announced to and made my last  
 will and testament to all intended and purposes

# Martha Russell Will

in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 20 day of March 1854

Wm McCarter  
G R Howard

Martha <sup>her</sup> Russell  
ma

State of Tennessee, Apne Summ County  
Marney County, 3 Court 1854

This day the foregoing paper written was established in Open Court as the Last Will and Testament of Martha Russell deceased and ordered by the Court to be Recorded. Witness E J Herring Clerk of said County at office the -  
4 1854

## Thru Last Will & Testament of James E Carter Deed

It is my will that my wife Catherine E Carter has all my property both real and Personal to dispose of as long as she remains a widow but if she should marry it is my will that the property should be equally divided between her and my two children Eldridge J and Elizabeth E Carter Signed in our presence this the 30th day of September 1853

James E Carter

Sub

Bradford Edwards  
J H Caldwell

State of Tennessee, May Term County Court 1854  
Marney County 3 This day the foregoing paper written was established in Open Court as the Last Will and Testament of James E Carter deceased and ordered to be recorded and filed by said Court. Witness E J Herring Clerk of said County at office in presence this the 3 day of May A D 1854

## Nancy P Adams Will

I Nancy P Adams do make & publish this as my last Will & Testament hereby revoking and making void all other Wills by me at any time made. First I direct that my funeral expenses and all my debts be paid as soon after my death as possible out of any money that I may be possessed of or may first come into the hands of my Executors. Secondly I give and bequeath to my Son William C. Adams Fiftyan Hundred Dollars in Cash One negro Boy named Africa one negro Girl named Mary my Horse & Buggy Thirdly I give and bequeath to my Son Harland P Adams five Dollars Fourthly I give & bequeath to my Grand Son William C. Adams the hundred dollars in Cash Fifthly I give & bequeath to my Daughter Mary Ann Gardner one negro woman named Nancy and the balance of money that may be in the hands of my Executor after the above mentioned bequest have been paid over. Lastly I do hereby nominate & appoint Alpha Carter my Executor in witness whereof I do to this my will set my hand & seal July 1853. Nancy P Adams

signed sealed & published in our presence and we have subscribed our names here to in the presence of the witnesses the 13th July 1853. John B. Boykin  
John B. Boykin  
John B. Boykin



## Nancy P. Adams will

State of Tennessee, May Term County Court  
Winkley County, 3<sup>rd</sup> day the foregoing paper  
writing was established in open court as the  
last will and testament of Nancy P. Adams  
decd and was by said court ordered to be  
recorded and filed among the records of said  
County Court at office in session  
on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 1854

## Henry Doubelen Will

State Tennessee In the name of God amen  
Winkley County, Henry Doubelen of the County  
of Winkley and State of Tennessee I planter, in  
perfect health of Body and of sound mind and  
memory thanks be given unto almighty God but  
calling to mind the mortality of body and knowing  
that it is appointed for all men once to die do  
make and ordain this my last will and testament  
in manner and form following to wit:  
I Give and bequeath to my son Andrew all my  
Myonard Tools, I Give and bequeath to my son James  
all my maring apparal, I Give and bequeath to my son Isaac  
Machinon call my shot Gun and powder I Give  
bequeath to daughter Minnie one year and lamb  
I Give and bequeath to my son Thomas all of my shoe  
tools and plow and gear, I Give and bequeath  
to my daughter Mary one yough and one sow pig  
I Give and bequeath to my daughter Jan one bed and  
furniture and two hogs and one white pig and  
three sheep and one yearling I Give and bequeath  
to my daughter Mary Ann one cow and one  
pig

## Henry Doubelen Will continued

I Give and bequeath to my wife Lucy one cow and calf  
and one heffer and four head of sheep and two chine  
killing hogs and one sow pig

And the balance to be sold and the balance of  
the house and furniture to be equally divided between  
Lucy my wife and Ann my daughter, I Give to my  
wife Lucy two beds and furniture, and the waggon  
and oxen to be sold to pay my debt, and one big kettle  
and my tobacco to be sold, and I Give to Lucy my wife  
and Ann my daughter to have the present year provision  
out of my estate and after my debt is paid if there is any  
money left I want it to go to my wife Lucy and one  
part of year to Mother more cattle and one part to be sold and  
one cropent saw to be sold and I want Lucy my wife  
to have her room and where she wants (Sells) furniture  
and appoint Mortimer Odle Sec<sup>y</sup> to this my last will and  
testament nothing all other wills be me heretofore made signed  
written and acknowledged by those Henry Doubelen to be his  
last will and testament in the presence of us this the twenty first  
day of April one thousand eight hundred and fifty four  
Isidore Dyke Henry Dublin

H. P. Stephenson

State of Tennessee, May Term County Court 1854  
Winkley County, 3<sup>rd</sup> day the foregoing paper  
writing was established in open court as the  
last will and testament of Henry Dublin  
decd and was by said court ordered to be  
recorded and filed among the records of said  
County Court at office  
in session on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 1854

# William Stafford's Will

I Wm Stafford being of sound mind and Limb in health body do constitute the following my last Will and testament (viz) I wish all my just debts paid as soon as possible and in order to do so I wish my Land and Estate to be divided north and south so as to include fifty acres of, of the Eastern end and the land to be sold for that purpose I wish the balance of my Land and Estate together with all my other property of every kind to remain in the hands and being to my beloved wife Phyllis Stafford during her natural life or marriage and at her death or marriage I wish my youngest Son Peter Elmer Stafford James Nathan Stafford George Boyce Stafford and Mrs Pennington Stafford to have fifty dollars each more than the balance of my heirs and the balance to be divided equally between all my children and lastly I wish and request that my friends John Thompson White and my beloved wife Phyllis to execute this my last will and testament and it is my paternal Request and wish that all my Land and Estate except the fifty acres first named remain undivided until my youngest Son Peter Elmer Stafford be twenty years of age in witness my hand and seal this 24th day of April 1854. forth went of mine I do subscribe my name for the want of time I do subscribe my name for the want of time I have subscribed my name on the foregoing page and in presence of Wm McBride Joshua A. Worn and Alfred Haggard and do wish them to witness the same

Attest A Haggard  
Wm McBride  
J A Worn

Wm Stafford (L)

# State of Tennessee June Term Court House Weakley County 1854

This day the foregoing paper writing was exhibited in open Court as the last will and testament of Wm Stafford deceased and was by said Court ordered to be Recorded and filed Notary C J Loring at office in Oneida on this the 3 day of June A.D. 1854  
C J Loring Clerk of said County Court

# James Hall will

In the name of God amen  
I James Hall a Citizen of Weakley County Tennessee being in full health but of sound mind and disposing memory do make and declare this to be my last will and testament hereby revoking any and all wills heretofore made by me

Item 1st I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife all the property that she owned at the time of our marriage whether the same be real or personal estate whether the same has been received or not to have and to hold to her and her heirs forever  
Item 2nd It is my wish and desire that my Executor hereafter mentioned as soon after my death as possible sell all my lands for cash or on time as he may think proper and all of my personal property to be sold except such as I have given to my beloved wife and out of the proceeds thereof together with what



# James Hall's Will

monies I may have on hand, and what shall be due me at that time from other persons to pay all my just debts and my said Executor is hereby fully authorized and empowered upon a Sale of my Land to convey the same to the purchaser or purchasers by deed with general Covenants of Warranty

Item 3 After my just debts have been paid the remainder of my estate excepting the property given to my beloved wife I leave to my brother William & Hall for the purpose of supporting my beloved father in his declining years, and the same is not to be taken for any debts my father may owe. But my Brother William & Hall is to apply it to his use & for his support during the natural life of my Brother Hall, at the death of my Brother Hall, what portion that may remain to be the absolute property of my said Brother William & Hall

Item 4 I hereby nominate and appoint my friend Andrew Malone Executor to this my last will & Testament, and I Request that he settle up my estate as speedily as possible, and not let any of my heirs suffer unless my name and Seal this the 8th day of June 1854  
Signed sealed and acknowledged in our presence  
Me & Harwood  
A D W. Butler

James Hall Decd

State of Tennessee August Term 1854

Weakley County } This day the foregoing paper writing was established in open court as the last will and testament of James Hall Decd and was by said Court ordered to be recorded and filed  
Witness E J Loney Clerk of office in Susan on this 7 day of August 1854

E J Loney Clerk  
of said County Court

# Isabella O Rogers Will

State of Tennessee } We and  
Weakley County } being called upon to take  
Special notice by Isabella O Rogers on the 26th of July 1854 who at the time was weak in body but of sound mind and disposing memory stated that her will was as follows (viz) Item 1st that she give to Frances Rogers her Mother all of the money that was due her including her interest in Martin O Rogers Estate

Item 2nd that she leave to Susan A Rogers her Grand Child Mother & all other beathing

Item 3rd her will was that the balance of her interest in the estate of her Father Jonathan T Rogers Decd shall be equally divided between her Mother Frances Rogers her son William M Rogers and her two Sisters Susan A T Rogers and Sarah J Rogers

Given under hands and Seals this the 10 day of August 1854

this the 2 day of August Allen M Rogers

340 Sabella C Rogers will Continued

The above noncupated will was made in our presence by the said Sabella C Rogers in the presence of <sup>the first</sup> witnesses in the house of his regular abode on the the said 26th day of July 1854

Given under our hands and seals this 4th day of August 1854

Susan & L. C. Rogers

State of Tennessee September Term County Court 1854  
Weakley County 3 This day the above and foregoing paper writing was established in the last will and testament in open Court of Sabella C Rogers deceased and was ordered by said Court to be Recorded and filed

Given under my hand at open this the 1st Monday in September 1854

John H. Blair, J.  
Said County Court

Elizabeth Cobb Will

In the name of God Amen I Elizabeth Cobb of the County of Weakley and State of Tennessee being of sound mind and memory, but considering the uncertainty of Life do make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following (viz); that my Executor (whom after named) shall provide for my body a decent burial and pay all funeral expences together with with my just debts known and unknown due out of the money that may first come into his hands as a part and parcel of my Estate

341 Elizabeth Cobb Will

My will and desire is that all my negro my house hold & kitchen furniture together with my crop of every kind be sold by my Executor for the purpose of Raising and educating of my children untill they shall become of age or marry and then if they request it it shall be equally divided so as to give the one of, age or marriage in her portion and the rest to be held by my executor in common for the rest of the children and when the rest shall become of age or marry and request it the proper life in the Executors hands shall be a Gain Value and those asking shall have or her parts and be in with the balance of the in like manner untill all receive their portion and if either of them should die leaving no lawful issue of them to day then his or her part shall return to the surviving and be equally divided among them I also appoint my Brother Hugh Masfoll of Obion County my Executor and Guardian for my Children untill they become of age or marry in witness whereof I the said Elizabeth Cobb do hereunto set my hand and seal this 24th aught 1854

Elizabeth Cobb

Witness my hand

State of Tennessee October Term County Court 1854

Weakley County 3 This day the above and foregoing paper writing was established as the last will and testament of Elizabeth Cobb and was ordered by said Court to be Recorded and filed Given under my hand at open in session on the first Monday in October 1854

John H. Blair, J.  
Said County Court



# Le J. Moore Will

Summit Wesley County March the 25 1854  
 this is to certify that will and Request of Le J.  
 Moore the said Le J. Moore has appointed J. H. Moore his  
 administrator to settle his business and goods for his children  
 and the said J. H. Moore is to keep and pass the bill as  
 a father as the child has no mother the said J. H. Moore  
 is to give the child good and sufficient schooling so as  
 to be capable to do any kind of business and the Request  
 of the said Le J. Moore is that if the said J. H. Moore was  
 to depend that the child should be bound to a good  
 profitable trade in sum or town or city and if the  
 child should die the Request of the said Le J. Moore  
 is that after the said J. H. Moore is paid for his  
 trouble and expenses the remainder is to be  
 equally divided with his brothers & sisters and the  
 Request of the said Le J. Moore is that if any garden  
 should be growing up get so that he is not willing  
 to be governed by the said J. H. Moore without being bound  
 that he would have him bound to himself and the said  
 J. H. Moore is to have the best clothing that is at  
 Joseph White and the clothing of his wife except two dresses  
 and one shall the dresses is for Mary Helen and the shall  
 is for Nancy White and the balance to be made in new  
 clothing all to the said J. H. Moore is to make a deed to  
 a tract of land in Gibson County containing fourteen acres  
 more or less as the said Le J. Moore has told a testimony  
 the said the said the said the said to James Helen the  
 being the same and testimony and not allowing him  
 to be in his right mind this March the 25 1854

Test

W. M. Yernia

Wm. M. Yernia

Wm. M. Yernia

Le J. Moore  
 Mark

State of Tennessee, County of Shelby, October 1854

This day the foregoing paper writing was presented  
 in open for Probate and it was ordered that the  
 said paper writing be established as the last  
 last will and testament of Le J. Moore and  
 and ordered to be Recorded and filed  
 William E. Stronge Clerk of said County  
 Court at office in London on the 18th the  
 first Monday in October 1854

Glory Bless

## Edmond Stotters Will

July the 27 1854 Wesley Co Tenn  
 Know all men by these witnesses that I Edmond  
 Stotter do this day make and give my wife all  
 of my property after all debts are paid during  
 her life or widow hood and after either living  
 or death it is to be equally divided with my children  
 signed Sealed in presence

Edmond Stotter

Edmond Stotter

Robert M. Pop

State of Tennessee 3 November Term 1854

Wesley County } This day the above paper  
 writing was presented in open Court for Probate  
 and it was ordered by the Court that said  
 paper writing be established as the last will and  
 testament of Edmond Stotter deceased and  
 that the same be Recorded and filed

Given under my hand and  
 office in London on the 6 day  
 of Nov a. d. 1854

Glory Bless of  
 Wesley County Court

# Gilford D Sims' will

I Gilford D Sims of the County of Wadley and State of Tennessee, considering the uncertainty of this mortal life and the certainty of Death and being of sound mind and memory do this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March one thousand eight hundred and fifty four make and Publish this my last will and Testament in maner and form following that is to say 1<sup>st</sup> I leave to my wife Sackey M Sims my Tract of Land on which I now live containing two hundred and one acres all the stock of mules horses with the exception of one mule by the name Jerry Lou that I give to my son William D Sims also I leave to my wife Sackey M Sims all of my stock cattle Hogs Farming tools House hold and Kitchen furniture also I leave to my wife Sackey M Sims the following Negroes to wit Sam Keady George John Charles Sunday Read Charlotte during her natural life or as long as she Remains my widow and if she should marry then in that case she is only to keep Keady on Sunday during her life time and at her death their said Negroes to be Equally divided between my two children Wm V Sims and Ann C Peter and I Bequest to my son William V Sims my tract of Land on which I now live at his mother's death containing two hundred and one acres more or less provided she should not marry and if she should marry then for my son Wm V Sims to take possession of the tract of Land also I Bequest to Wm V Sims one Bed and furniture also the following Negroes to wit Sam Keady and George and their increase to him and his heirs for ever I Bequest to my daughter Ann C Peter the following Negroes to wit Peter and Maney

and her increase to her and her heirs for ever and at my wife's death all the property belonging to my estate that is not disposed of in my will to be sold or divided between my two children Wm V Sims and Ann C Peter equally and it is my will if any of my Negroes should be guilty of any misdemeanor so that it becomes necessary that they should be sold for the benefit of my estate my Executors hereafter named shall have power to sell said Negro or Negroes and make use and the proceeds of such sale shall be put out at interest for the benefit of my estate provided it be not of the Negroes loaned to her in that case my wife Sackey M Sims receive the interest of such sale I hereby nominate and appoint John M Peter my sole Executor to this my last will and Testament hereby Revoking and making void all other Wills by me at any time made intestate Whom I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 18<sup>th</sup> day and date when Peter 1854

Witness  
He & Heister  
G D Sims  
J B Wallen  
State of Tennessee } November Term Circuit Court 1854  
Wadley County } This day was presented in open Court the above and foregoing paper writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of G D Sims and thereupon it was read by the Clerk and the said paper writing was read and returned by the Court as the last will and Testament of G D Sims and so and so be never and full  
him under my hand at office in Wadley Co Tenn  
of November 1854  
J B Wallen



# Robert Thompson Will

I Robert Thompson of the County of Ramsey and State of Tennessee being in full health and of perfect mind and memory do hereby make and declare this instrument of writing to be my last will & testament hereby revoking all former wills heretofore made by me

Item 1 I desire my executors hereafter mentioned as soon after my death as possible out of any ready monies I may have or any debts due me to pay my funeral expences & any just debts that I may be owing

Item 2<sup>d</sup> I give to my beloved wife for and during the Term of her natural life for the purpose supporting herself and such of my Children unmarried as may live with her my tract of land known as the Byas farm

Item 3<sup>d</sup> all the note of my real Estate in the County of Tennessee unless it may become necessary as hereafter directed to sell for the purpose of paying debts I desire that said lands be rented out or leased at the discretion of my executors or the Survivor of them and the proceeds applied to raising clothing & educating of my younger Children until they come at Lawfull age or marry I desire my Sons to have good Education and my daughters such as I have gear to my three oldest daughters who are married

Item 4<sup>th</sup> I desire my executors to let such of my Slaves as they think prudent remain upon the farm with my wife & Children for the purpose of making support for my wife and these

# Robert Thompson Will cont

Children who may live with her and that my executors at their discretion hire out such portion of my Slaves not necessary for the support of my wife and Children and the proceeds if necessary apply to the maintenance and education of my younger Children until they arrive at Lawfull age or marry or until my youngest child arrives at Lawfull age or marries and should there remain a surplus over and above the support & education of my minor Children then I desire my executors to have the same at interest annuily or invest the same in the purchase of young negroes and should any negroes be purchased with said surplus as they all to be held as the negroes that I may own at the time of my death

Item 5<sup>th</sup> Should my wife marry before my youngest child arrives at Lawfull age or marries then I desire that all my personal property be equally divided between my wife and all my Children then living and then alive and that portion that shall fall to my daughters I leave to them & each of them during the Term of their natural lives for their sole and separate use and benefit and at the death of my daughters or either of them the part falling to the lot of said daughter be equally divided between all the Children of that said daughter then and then alive & then and then hereafter forever

Item 6<sup>th</sup> at the death of my wife I desire that all my Real Estate in the County of Tennessee be sold upon a credit of one and two years and that

348  
349  
350  
Robert <sup>up</sup> Thompson will

the proceeds he equally divided between all my children then and there alive and that that portion going to my daughters I gave to them and each of them for and during their natural lives and for their sole and separate use and benefit and at their deaths to be equally divided between all the children of such daughter then and there alive to them and their heirs forever

Item 7<sup>th</sup> All of my real estate in the State of Arkansas I give and bequeath to my son James H. Thompson in trust for the use and benefit of himself and all of his Brothers and Sisters and assigns and empower him to sell and convey the same whenever he may think best after he arrives at the age of twenty one years and out of the proceeds pay himself a reasonable compensation and the remainder to be equally divided between him and all his Brothers and Sisters to them and their heirs forever

Item 8<sup>th</sup> It is my desire that as each of my children arrives at the age of twenty one years or marries that my Executors give to them 1 horse worth sixty dollars one saddle and bridle worth fifteen dollars one bedstead and furniture worth twenty dollars one cow and calf worth twelve dollars and ten dollars in cash or best of Stock kept also ten dollars in cash

Item 9<sup>th</sup> Should the division provided for in the fifth Item of this will occur then I desire that such of my children as shall not have arrived at the age of twenty one years or married

349  
350  
Robert Thompson will

shall before any division is made have set apart to them and each of them the sum of one hundred and twenty five dollars in cash to make them equal with those who have arrived at the age of twenty one years or married my daughters Lydia Anna and Harriet having already been furnished with articles worth that amount Also that my Executors retain in their hands a sum sufficient to raise and educate any one of my children that has not been raised and educated to make such child or children equal with those who have been raised and educated

Item 10<sup>th</sup> I desire that there shall be no sale of the perishable portion of my estate except such as my Executors may think proper or necessary to pay debts or such portion as may not be necessary for the support and maintenance of my wife and children and they are requested to sell or privately or publicly as they think best and that they return and inventory of every such sale as they may sell and that they return an inventory of the monies chosen in action and claims on hand I may own at the time of my death and should the monies on hand chosen in action and the perishable property they may deem proper to sell be insufficient for the payment of my debts and funeral expenses then I desire that they or the Successors of them sell such of my real estate in reasonably low prices beginning with the Byas farm for the purpose of



paying debts and I hereby invest them or the  
Survivor of them with full power and authority  
to sell and convey the said Land to the  
purchaser

Item 11<sup>th</sup> Should my wife be living "Remained"  
at the time my youngest child arrives at  
Lawfull age or marries then I desire that all my  
negroes & increase up to that time together with  
all my other personal property be divided equally  
between my wife and all my children then and  
now share alike and that part falling to  
my daughters & each of them I loan to  
said daughter and each of them for and  
during their natural lives for them an each  
of them sole and separate use & benefit and  
at the death of such daughter to be  
equally divided between all of the children  
of such daughter

Item 12<sup>th</sup> I desire that my Executors keep my negro  
man Jack now in Arkansas hired out and  
not bring him upon the place with any  
other negroes

Item 13 Should my Executors have need of any  
Legal advice I want them to call on my friend  
Mr. D. Leardwell Esqr if he is living Consultant

Item 14<sup>th</sup> I hereby constitute and appoint my son James D. Simpson  
and my Brother-in-law Mr. H. Robt. Executors to this my Last Will  
and Testament and Request that they shall not ~~be~~ require  
to give any Security for their duties as Executors to this my  
Will Noting my hand and seal this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February  
1853 Signed Sealed and acknowledged Robert Simpson  
in our presence  
Jas. D. Leardwell  
on a loan

# November Term County Court 1854

State of Tennessee } This day the foregoing paper  
Weakley County } writing was presented in open  
Court for Probate whereupon the Court admitted  
said paper writing to Probate and ordered that  
said paper writing be established as the Last  
Will and Testament of Robert Simpson

And said to be Recd. and filed  
Given under my hand at official  
Session this 16<sup>th</sup> day of Novemb  
1854  
J. P. Weakley  
Weakley County Court