

In the Name of God Amen I Arthur Whiteley of Dorchester County
in the State of Maryland being in full strength of Body and of perfect Memory
calling to mind the Mortality of the Body and knowing that all men once must die
I do therefore make and frame this my last Will and Testament first and principal-
ly I recommend my Soul into the hands of God that gave it and my Body I recom-
mend to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors or Executors
and in lastings such worldly Estate as it hath pleased God to bestow on me I give
as followeth. Item I give and bequath unto my beloved wife Nancy Whiteley
Six Negroes viz Oliver, Sam, Jack, Rose, Jenned & Priss, and all my Houses and
Lands that belong to me on Albemarle Island viz Abner's Lot and Johnson's Chance
Paddles Adventure and Addition to Whistler's Island and all the Plantation that is
called my dwelling Plantation, with all the Houses Orchards Trees and Fences down
as low as the Beginning of a Regulation to Orphan's Relief it being a marked pine
& Oak and Cedar Post with the Letters Cut on the said Cedar Post the first Bounder
of Regulation to Orphan's Relief and the Beginning of Hatfield's Chance from thence
running as a Division betwixt my dwelling Plantation and the Part that my
Father and I bought of Edward White North 13 West to the East end of my Land
into the Woods and the Use of my Still with her Son Arthur all the above men-
tioned Articles to be her property during her Widowhood and no longer excepting
the above mentioned six Negroes to be her property and at her disposal with
my Chariot and Sha Horse & Harness my best Bed and furniture and when those
and all other Legacies hereafter mentioned are paid of and all my just Debts
settled she shall have and equal Part of the Remainder of my moveable Estate
Item I give and bequath unto my daughter Sarah Whiteley all my Part of
Lower Purchase joining to my Brother William Whiteley laid out for five hun-
dred and thirty Acres with all Houses Orchards Trees and Fences to her and her
Heirs lawfully begotten of her Body to her and thers for ever, and for want of
such Heirs to go to her Brother Arthur Whiteley to him and his Heirs lawfully beg-
otten of his Body, and for want of such Heirs to go to Thomas M. Graham Son of my
Sister Nancy to him and his Heirs lawfully begotten of his Body and for want of
such Heirs to go to the next nearest in Blood my said Daughter Sarah is to enjoy
and possess her Estate at the age of eighteen or day of Marriage, with six Negroes viz
Jacob, Caesar, Fortune, Roda, Poll & Ginny is known by being a daughter of Negro
Mollis likewise I give my Daughter Sally my largest Silver Candlesticks with two
good Beds and furniture six Leather Bottom Chairs with my smallest Beer Glass
and the above Negroes that are mentioned to her I give to my Daughter Sally
and the Increase of the said Negroes to her and her Heirs lawfully begotten of
her Body as she shall see fit to dispose of them and when those and all other
Legacies mentioned in this my Will are paid of and all my just Debts settled
she shall have and equal Part of the Remainder of my moveable Estate
Item I give and bequath unto my Son Arthur Whiteley my dwelling Plantation
was on I now live now called by the Name of Arthur's Seat containing one thousand

and do Aros of Land and set in Case his mother should not stand to this my last Will and Testament my Desier is that the said Land should be rent out for the use of my son Arthur till he Arrives to the Age of twenty years old I likewise give him all my Land on Askemo Island likewise give him a Tract of Land I bought of Charles Murr call'd Chance containing three hundred and sixty Acres of Land likewise give him seven Negroes, James Joseph, Jameson Moses & Harry Leah and Fan I give my Son Arthur in the stead of Negro Woman call'd Easter left him by his Grandfather, I give my Son Arthur Whiteley my Still Cap and Worn, my Blacksmiths Tools the Choice of all my Horses excepting the Carago Horse four Cows & Calves. In the Hall two Tier Glasses and Chimney Glass one large oval Table one Walnut Desk, Hand Iron Two Tonges and Shovel, six Chairs, one eight day Clock my two Silver Cans my Silver Shoe and three Buckles the largest set my washed Candlesticks, the above mentioned Land I give to him and his Heirs lawfully begotten of his Body to him and them for ever and for want of such Heirs to go to my daughter Sally Whiteley to her and her Heirs lawfully begotten of her Body for ever it is my Desier that my Son Arthur ^{Whiteley} should have the Rents that due from my Tenements on my Rait of Sows Purchase yearly and every year till he shall arrive to the Age of Twenty years old to help to pay for his Education and then my Son Arthur Whiteley shall enjoy and possess all his Estate and after there and all other Legacies are paid of he shall have and equal Part of the Remainder of my Moveable Estate I give him my Silver Watch all my Books & my young Sore Mare, I then I do appoint my loving Brother William Whiteley and my loving Brother in Law Stevons Woolford my two Overseers or Trustees to help my Executia to settle my Estate and to see that every thing is fairly don and performed according to the true Intent and meaning in this my last Will and Testament and it is my Will and Desier that all my Land and Houses next to the Inspecting House down below the Division Line of the Part that I left to my Wife during her Widowhood shall be immediately after my Deathe with the Land that I bought of Charles Murr call'd Chance shall be rented out to the best Advantage for the Use of my Son Arthur and three of his Negroes James Joseph and Moses to be hired out for the Benefit of my Son Arthur and it is my Desier that my Son Arthur shall continue to live with the Rev^d Mr Alexander Houston till he gets his Latin and Greek Education then to the College then to study either Law Divinity or Divinity and it is my Desier that my Executia or my Overseers shall see to it that there is as much of the Rents of his Land as will pay for his Boarding and Scholing and keep him in a sufficiency of good Cloathes it is my Desier that my Man Ned and Negro Woman Easter shall be sold to the best Advantage and

the Money and Sally U Money should see any was tell my two bequath imls and furniture I do hereby and Sole En nuling all this only to day of Jan Signod said Arthur in the pre our Mamos said Testat Tho^s Nich Ezechiel Na Dorchester Nemoay Wt Almightly who will that hate Dorchester Nichans is to es to the ter County God that that they Will and their Appr ing and the respectively and at the

the Money to be equally divided between my two Children Arthur Whitoley
and Sally Whitoley when they come to age as is mentioned set in Case the Said
Money should not be wanting to pay of Debt: set in Case my two Overseers should
see any Want in my Estate, then it is my desire that they shall see it taken Care of
till my two Children comes of age agreeable to this my Will. Item I give and
bequeath unto my Cousin Mary Travers Daughter of my Sister Mary Travers in Bed
and furniture valued to five pounds lawful Money of the State of Maryland
I do hereby appoint Adam and Constatute my loving wife Nancy Whitoley full
and Sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament wholly revoking and de-
nuling all other Wills and Testaments by me heretofore made, and declaring
this only to be my last Will and Testament I set my Hand and Seal this thirtieth
day of January one thousand seven hundred and eighty four
Signed Sealed published and delivered by the
said Arthur Whitoley as for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have hereto subscribed
our Names as Witnesses thereto, in the presence of the
said Testator and in the presence of each other
Thos. Nickars of 4th William Nickars D.
Ezekiel Nickars, Thomas Nickars J. C.

Arthur Whitoley Seal

Dorchester County Jc^{ts} On the 15th day of April Anno Domini 1784
Nancy Whitoley the appointed Executrix made Oath on the Holy Evangel of
Almighty God that the aforesaid Instrument of Writing is the true and
whole Will and Testament of Arthur Whitoley late of Dorchester County (Dec^d)
that hath come to her Hand or Possession and that she doth not know of any other

Certified J^{ns} Goldborough Reg^r W D C

Dorchester County Jc^{ts} On the 15th day of April Anno Domini 1784 Thomas
Nickars 4th William Nickars D^r and Ezekiel Nickars three of the Subscribers Witnes-
es to the aforesaid last Will and Testament of Arthur Whitoley late of Dorches-
ter County (deceased) severally made Oath on the Holy Evangel of Almighty
God that they saw the Testator thereon named sign and Seal this Will and
that they heard him publish pronounce and declare the same to be his last
Will and Testament that at the Time of his so doing he was to the best of
their Apprehension of sound and disposing Mind Memory and Understand-
ing and that they together with Thomas Nickars the third the other Witnesses
respectively subscribed their Names as Witnesses to this Will in the presence
and at the Request of the Testator and in the presence of each other

Certified J^{ns} Goldborough
Reg^r W D C

Dorchester County ss. On the 26th day of April Anno Domini 1784
came Nancy Whiteley the Widow and Relict of Arthur Whiteley late of Dorchester
County deceased and quitted her Claim to the several Bequests and Devise made
to her in the Will of her said Husband deceased and elected in lieu thereof her
Dower or that Part of the deceased Estate both real and personal —
Before M. Goldborough Reg. W.D.C. —

In Testimony that the aforesaid is a true Copy of
the last Will and Testament of Arthur Whiteley late
of Dorchester County deceased, I hereto set my Hand
and affix the Seal of my Office this 3^d day of
November Anno Domini 1786 —

M. Goldborough
Reg. W.D.C.

Cost of this 87 10007
in money 10/10 1/2
ch. to M. B. 1/2

Copy Arthur Whiteley
affid. under seal

The following is a copy of the entries in the original family Bible of the Whiteley family . The Bible was owned by Judge William Whiteley, of Wilmington, Delaware, the oldest brother to

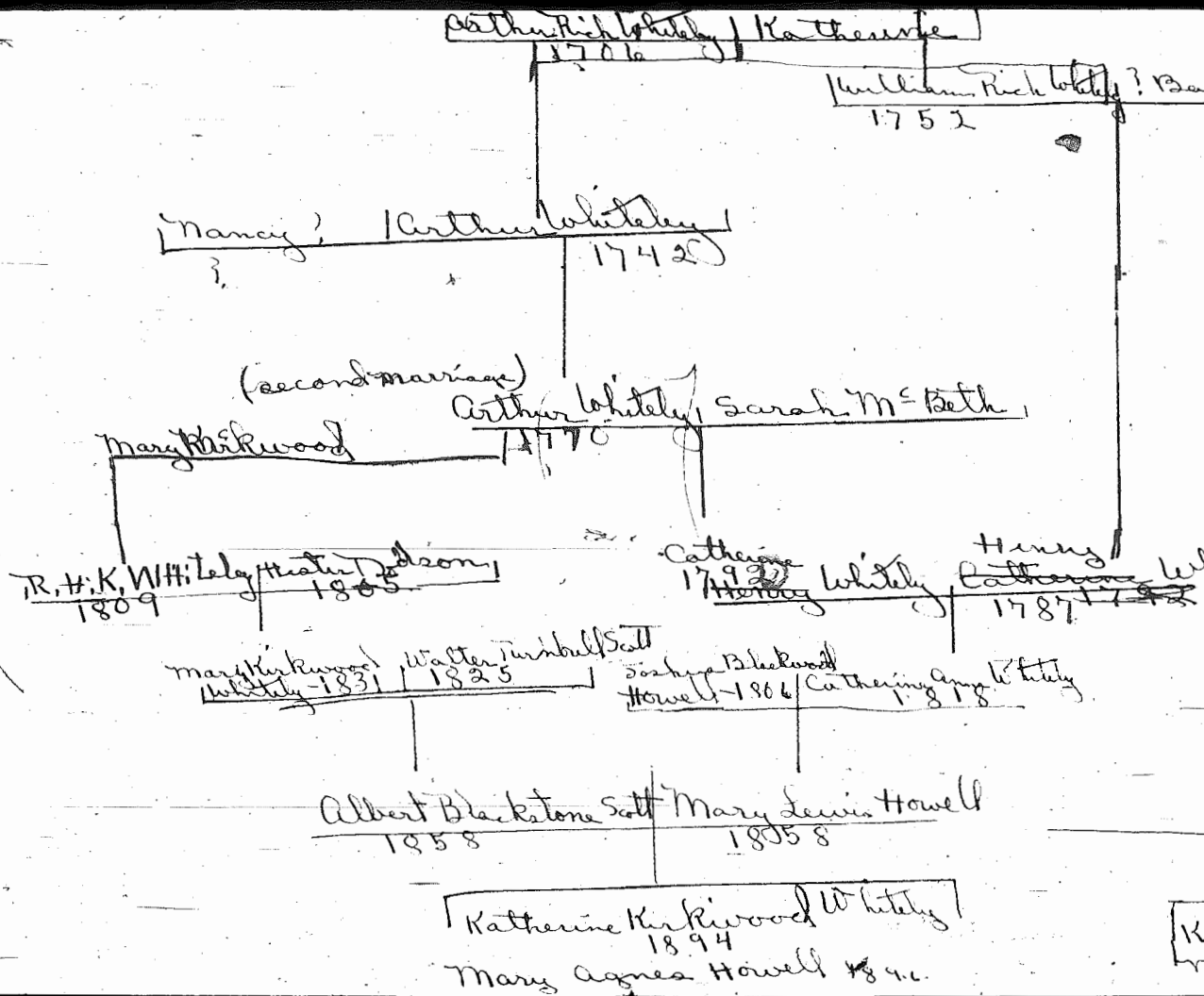
live of my Grandmother, Katherine Whiteley who married Joshua Blackwood Howell. Later I will give the residences and burial places of the family. That is all that I know.

Who owns this bible now I do not know, probably one of the grandchildren of Greatuncle William. The entries themselves are given first with the annotations of Grandmother Howell and explanations that Mother gave me in parenthesis.

Arthur Whiteley Senr. was born in Northampton in Great Britian March 6th anno. 1652.

(Grandmother Howell _ "The head of the tribe")

(Arthur Whiteley and his wife Catherine came to Cambridge Md. sometime between 1685-90. He was the first rector of the Church of England church at Duck creek which is about twelve miles from Cambridge. Family tradition tells us that he brought the bricks from England to build his church and rectory and that he had a royal grant to a large tract of land. The grant should be on record and I hope to go some day to Cambridge to look it up. Who his wife, Catherine, was we do not know. She must have been of a wealthy ~~family~~ and refined family for we own her gold and tortoise shell patch box, her pink silk ball dress, her silver coffee pot and sugar tongs, three cups and saucers,



(I couldn't resist adding this letter, which was written to my Grandmother by her brother who was a physician, as it is such a classic description of puerperal sepsis before its cause was discovered. Elizabeth died the 13th day after delivery.)

August 3rd, 1845

Dear Sister

I received your letter of July 24th and am much obliged for the good advice it contains. Brother William I suppose gave the news in his letter to you a few days since. This letter is intended to comply with a request you made which was that I would give you a history of our Sister Elizabeth's last illness. She sent for me on Sunday the 9th of June. I

went down the next day and found her in excellent spirits and doing very well with the exception of some uneasiness from distension of stomach with wind and considerable nervousness. When Sister Caroline left there she was under great anxiety about her left breast which was on the point of gathering but by judicious applications the pain, swelling, and tension were relieved and the danger of its gathering past. About the middle of that week she began to imagine that she had every disease ever woman was troubled with- as fast as I could convince her that she had not the one her mind was then dwelling upon she would contend that she certainly had another and thus it went on till her catalogue of diseases was fairly exhausted.

On Friday she was not so well from the distressing sensation of distension caused by the accumulation of wind upon her stomach and the obstinacy with which it resisted every means for its removal. On Saturday the 15th old Mr. B-- (Elizabeth's father-in-law) came down. It was on this day about 7 o'clock p. m. that she was taken with a violent hysterical paroxysm

which lasted for two hours. From this time forth until her last breath was drawn she never knew a sane moment. At times she appeared to be afraid that S(her husband) was going to injure her and with a countenance expressive of terror would tell me to send him out, tie him, not let him come in the room etc. She made one remark while he was sitting by her bed and after she had been regarding him fixidly for some time which will brick his conscience, if he has one, till the day of his death. Turning from him in apparent disgust she exclaimed, "Oh, that I should be the wife of a drunken husband!" She talked continually, for the first few days of her Creator, heaven etc. After that her mind ran entirely upon old times. Often she would call out, "Oh my Father come to me my Father". Once Mr B thinking she called him went to her bedside and spoke. She immediately said, "Not you, not you, I want my own Father!". She talked of Mother also and each and every one of her sisters and brothers, would hold conversations with them, at times sessions; occasionally the conversation that she carried on appeared to amuse her as she would laugh by the hour, apparently at something which the person with whom she supposed herself to be conversing had said. She at length became quite unruly, would strike those about her and attempt to get out of bed every opportunity she could get and indeed succeeded several times. Once I remember in particular. Mr. B-- was at one side of the bed, I upon the other. I walked to the fireplace and before I could turn round she was out of her own bed and sitting in the middle of a smaller one that stood in the room. Brother William and Br. L-- came down on the 18th. She commenced to sink on that evening. The first evidence of which was the fact of her limbs becoming cold at their extremities first and extending gradually upwards. Remedy after remedy was given to restore the flagging circulation, but had no effect. For some time before and until within half an hour of her death she would utter scream after scream and throw herself from one side of the bed to the other. Whether this was caused by the disorders of her mind or the agony

of death I cannot tell. After this was over she passed away as calmly as could be.

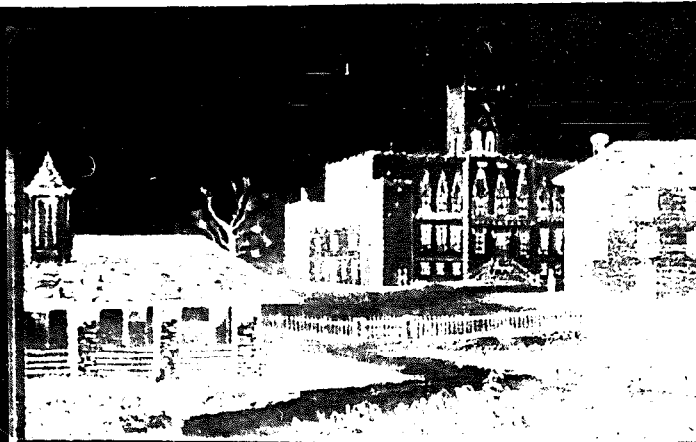
If I was with you perhaps I could tell you more for it would take a quire of paper to hold a perfect history of those eventful ten days. I pray that a merciful God will spare me from ever experiencing another ten of such mortal agony. All was done that medicine could do for her. In my opinion her disease was brought on by mental anxiety and the destruction of some of her brightest hopes, in short she died of a broken heart.

She would take medicine for no other except myself and Dr. L----- when he was there. I was nearly broken down but stuck to it till the last. I do not think Elizabeth slept five hours during the whole time and no narcotic would make her sleep. Mr. B----- says that she slept one morning from 2 until 4 o'clock but I doubt it as he acknowledged that he was asleep himself. I am certain that I never saw her asleep more than once or twice and then only for 20 or 30 minutes. - -----

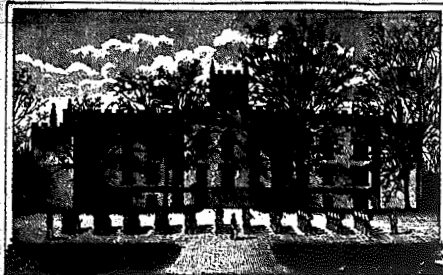
My affection for all of you

Your brother

Henry W---



The Capital at Milledgeville.
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My dearest, dear, precious father; Milledgeville, Ga. 15th April 1895.
Well, dear father, the whirligig of time has now
brought round another as you like best to have it; borrowed birthday.
Another golden milestone, in the yearly circuit of your pilgrimage,
has been left behind you. "You were a day in April came so sweet, to
show how nearly summer was at hand." You are getting, way up yours
in the eighties. You have now climbed up more eighty-six steps of the great
stair way, truly, "A winding stair" - and are mounting fast toward the top
of your long, long life. Do you know it? I mean, do you realise it? I think
you must sometimes, yes, oftentimes, it may be, in the blue distance,
catch shimmering glimpses of the "Promised Land."
And so, we all come, with poor, ragged, dirty Billy Splinters (the typical
Georgian), and his little donkey, at the head of the procession, to offer
our congratulations, warm from the heart, wishing you many happy
returns of the Day, the Easter tide, and many more to follow.
It is my hope, and something more than hope, something like expectation,
you will yet keep your nineteenth birthday - Sorry, dear father, my dearest
father, for your nineteenth birthday party, also, to see and welcome
the advent of the new Century. It is now six months since I left
home, and there are times when I feel almost homesick. I long so to
see you - You must take the greatest care of yourself, and endeavor
to keep well, until the time shall come round, when I may, again, see you.
all the while
see you
with you

I have found the most curious of books, "A Gazetteer of Georgia". Did you ever see it? I am just bursting to tell you about it. It runs all way back through 1828, and there are records of days in the last century. I have now found out all about the winter of 1835; it has gone down like the proverbial snow, as a Teaplain winter, and was followed by an unusually cool, delightful summer, nearly all of September as cool as October is ordinarily; frost the twenty sixth of Sept^r. But the most remarkable thing, about that season, is this fact, that the very days that were so cold during the past winter, were the very same days that were so intensely cold in 1835; - seven and eight of February - that weather being as known here on all hands to be more rigorous than ever before known - In Florida, it was not so severe, until the fourth of March, when most of the orange trees were killed - I mean to try to find a copy of this curious old book, so that I may show it to you. Do you remember the chufas that grow in Middle Georgia? They are sages, and kin folks of the Coo grass, or nut grass, that pest, that everywhere throughout the South, cleaves the gardens - I take it for granted you have eaten chufas; they are a species of nut. And do you remember the Ogarhee times? They grow abundantly in this state, but I think, near the coast, in the neighborhood of Savannah, and in the swamps - And make a delicious sweet treat. The plectonia in Mary's garden, all through Holy Week was in full and perfect bloom, with great flat topped flower clusters, purely white, but very interesting. To my notion, it was prettier when in bud, as then it wore the exquisite rosy bloom of the apple tree - Early in June, Mary expects to go to a lovely country home, in North Georgia, a large plantation (eight hundred acres), about twenty miles from Rome, and remain there until toward the closing days of July, where she will go northward, if the Lord permit, and visit her Mother, in Delaware. She greatly desires to stop, by the way, in Baltimore, and make you a little visit. Mary has set her heart upon introducing little Katharine Kirkwood White to her great grandfather, and is promising herself rare happiness. Who can blame her? I hope their May will be no clouded disappointment for her. She will write to you after awhile herself, and ask you him permission. But it would give me indescribable pleasure if you, my dearest father, would only anticipate her letter, by yourself sending her the invitation, just as liberally, he invariably does, to have Mary here, even for a short week, or, if you cannot spare any place, as to leaving the City, and going into the country, evenings starting away, and is now looking forward to be admitted in July, to the Georgia ball. After that, he too wants to make a little visit home - He says Mr. Howell, and your humble servant, propose to pass the summer in Milledgeville, both after the house, chickens, lot, and little tract. This is the plan, at present. I want you to tell me just what you think of it. Mary is exceedingly run down, in health, and almost dead - Most earnestly desire that this whole summer, she may have the full benefit, entire change, and absolute rest, she greatly needs both. Write to me dear father, when you can. Yours with my dearest love, Maria.