

Last Will and Testament of Reps J. Davis, Exhibit A, in Case Thomas C. Brabson Exec. of Reps J. Davis Estate vs. Widow and Heirs of sd. Estate, filed in Sevier County Chancery Court Office, 24 Sept. 1855; copied by J.A. Sharp, July 28, 1951.

I Reps J. Davis do make and publish this as my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking and making void all other wills by me at any other time made.

First. I direct that my funeral expences and all my debts be paid as soon after my death as possible and of any monies that I may die seized and possessed of as may first come into the hands of my Executor.

Secondly. I give and bequeath to my wife Isabella J. Davis my carry all and harness and also the following slaves for and during the term of her natural life towit: Edmond, Mary, Fair and Isam and at her death to be disposed of as herein after directed.

Thirdly. I give and bequeath to my daughter Ann Eligabeth the bursu and looking Glass the set of silver spoons and her choice of two out of the beds that belonged to her Mother in her life time.

Fourthly. I direct that all the monies that I may die seized and possessed of together with such as may be owing to me and such as may be received from the sales of property as herein after provided shall be put and kept at Interest and the Interest alone used for the suport of my wife and for the support maintainince and education of my children as herein after provided.

Fifthly. It is my will and desire that my wife and all my children live together on my farm and that all my Negroes as well as those herein before given to my wife during her life as also the rest of my negroes together with all my horses, cattle, sheep and stock of every kind together with all my household and Kitchen furniture and all my personal property of every named Kind and description be kept on the farm for the common use and benefit of my wife and for the support raising and educating of my children and if at any time any of said stock or personal property or the produce of the farm can be spared conveniently by my wife and family then my executor herein after named may sell such produce stock or property with the consent of my wife and the proceeds if needed shall be applied to the common use and support of my wife and to the support and education of all my children, and if not needed, that it be put at Interest as herein before provided and the interest only applied in that way and in the event it should become necessary for my family to separate before my children come of age or my wife should die or marry, then and in that case I direct that all my personal property and stock of every kind, if my Executor herein after named thinks advisable, may be sold except such as may herein after otherwise disposed of, and the proceeds placed at interest for the benefit of my children, and in the event it should become necessary for my wife to have and enjoy her property separate and apart from all my children, then and in that case, I give and bequeath to her two head of choice horeses, three beds bedsteads and bedding, two cows & calves, china (sic) and furniture two looking glasses, one set of Tables, one dozen chairs, all the Kitchen furniture, twenty head of hogs, ten head of sheep, one seventh part of all the grain and provender on hand at the time and one third of all the Gearing, ploughs and other farming impliments on hand, all to be furnish-out of the stock and property on hand on the farm and also fifty acres of land in the Island and all that part of my farm lying below the mouth

of the spring branch towit: the spring branch running from David McCroskey's land through my farm and uniting with the chlybiate spring branch before it empties into the sluice, said branch to form the line from its mouth to its source, except that my timbered land lying below said branch shall be used to keep up and support both divisions of said farm and the orchard above said branch shall be used and enjoyed in common by the occupants of both divisions of said farm. To have and to hold the same for and during the term of her natural life, and I direct that the ballance of my farm, in that event, shall be rented out for the benefit of all my children.

Sixthly. It is my will and desire that all my lands at the death of my wife, provided my children should be of age, should be equally divided between them, towit : Benjamin Singleton, Reps Alexander, Ann Elizabeth, John Ephraim, Joseph Birdwell and Priscella Jane, but if they or any of them should be of young and tender age, then I direct that my land s be rented out untill they come of age, and the rents and proffits equally divided amongst them and divided on their coming of age.

Seventhly- It is my will and desire that all the rest of my slaves together with ftheir future increase and all my money, stock and property of every kind remaining at the time shall be equally divided between my said six children and that said negroes and their increase be and remain to said children in common until such time as they may respectively marry, or come of age and ~~and they may~~ then such child so marrying or coming of age shall have his or her share of said negroes and also his share of the moneys & belonging to my Estate and so on until they all respectively marry or come of age and also the negroes herein before given to my wife during her life shall at her death be divided and disposed of among and between my said children in the same way and manner and if at any time any of said slaves as their increase should become refractory or unmanageble in the hands of my said wife or those having the control and management of them, then and in that case, I direct that my executor sell such slave or slaves, for the highest price they will bring and the proceeds be put at interest and divided amongst my said children as before directed.

Eightly- I give and bequeath to my present wife's children Robert C. Bogle and Mary B. Bogle, each a horse, saddle and Bridle worth ~~and~~ one hundred dollars each on their marrying or coming of age, and I further direct that said children may if they choose live with my wife and family freee of charge, as long as they choose so to do, and my wife is authorized to send them to School in the neighborhood with my children at the expence of my estate.

Ninthly. In the event my said wife should have and enjoy her estate separate and apart from my said children, I give and bequesath to her during her lifetime one seventh part of the interest accruing on the moneys directed by the fourth article of this Will to be loaned out in addition to what I have allredy given to her.

Tenthly- I give and bequeath to my son Benjamin S. my Shot gun and to my son Reps A. I give and bequeath my Rifle gun.

Lastly- I hereby nominate and appoint Thomas C. Brabson Executor of this my last will and Testament. This 14th day of January 1853

Signed sealed and published in our presence and we have subscribed our names hereto in the presence and by the request of the Testator June 11th 1853. Witness, W.A. McNutt, Jno. S. McNutt, M. McCroskey.

State of Tennessee)
Sevier County) I P.H. Toomey, clerk of the County Court of said
County do hereby certify that the foregoing is a copy of the original
Will now on file in my Office. Given under my hand at office in Sevier-
ville the 10th day of March 1853.

P.H. Toomey, Clerk