

In the name of my Heavenly Father, I, JOHN EDWARDS, SR., being weak in body, but of sound memory, do constitute this my last will and testament in manner and form following, to wit.

In the first place, it is my will and desire that all my just debts should be paid out of the debts due me, and the remainder out of such perishable property as my wife and Executors may judge can best be spared.

The balance of my estate I lend to my beloved wife LUCY EDWARDS, during her widowhood or natural life, except I give and bequeath unto my son YOUNG EDWARDS, at my death, sixty acres of land lying in Ash County, and all my mill utensils that are on that tract of land on Dead Creek. And at my wife's death I wish the whole of my landed personal and perishable estate to be sold at public sale to the highest bidder, and after all necessary expenses and debts paid, the balance to be divided in the following matter.

Item, I give to my son YOUNG EDWARDS one sixth part of my estate, extra of the sixty acres.

Item, I give and bequeath to my son ALLEN EDWARDS, one sixth of this my estate.

Item, I give and bequeath to all and each of my son STOKES EDWARDS' lawful children by his first wife, to wit: to RICHARD, ISAAC, and ALLEN, thirty dollars each; to JOHN, one hundred dollars; to NANCY, SARAH, LUCY, and CATHERY, twenty-five dollars each.

Item, also I give to my great grandchildren RHODA, WILLIAM, and MARY, children of RICHARD RICKETTS and REBECCA, his wife, ten dollars each.

Item, I give and bequeath to my son STOKES EDWARDS, the balance of one sixth part of my estate after these legacies to his children and grandchildren, shall be taken out of the sixth part that would otherwise have fallen to him.

Item, I give and bequeath to my son JOHN EDWARDS, five hundred dollars, and extra of this the sixth part of my estate.

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter ELIZABETH and her lawful children eight hundred dollars to be paid by my Executors in eight annual payments.

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter RODA BALL one sixth part of my estate.

And finally, I appoint my dear and well beloved wife LUCY EDWARDS Executrix, and my son ALLEN EDWARDS, brother BARNEY CATE, and my friend REUBEN SMITH, Executors to this my last will and testament. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 1st day of December 1817.

JOHN EDWARDS

Test:
Elijah GRAVES
Ariana GRAVES