

Transcription of ORIGINAL will of Jesse Connell, Sr., Gallatin County, Kentucky

The Commonwealth of Kentucky,¹

Gallatin County [Sct?]. I Jesse Connell of the County & Commonwealth afore[said] being aged, & infirm, but of sound and disposing mind & memory, do hereby make & constitute this my last will & Testament, in manner & form following, to wit – First, It is my will & desire, that all my just debts be paid by my Executors, out of my personal estate, and after my debts are paid, the residue of my property I give & bequeath in manner following, First I give & bequeath to my beloved wife, for & during her natural life, the Mansion house wherein I now live, with all the improved and unimproved land of the tract whereon I now reside lying west of the dwelling house, and of a line passing through the [said] plantation North & South, so as to include the yard to the east of the house, in the part devised to my wife, and also it is my will, that my [said] wife have free access to, and the use of the Spring, most contiguous to the dwelling house and that she have the right and privilege to use so much timber, as may from time to time be necessary for fire wood, and keeping the [said] house, and out houses, & fencing on the land in compleat & good repair. I also give to my wife, a Negro man Jim, a Negro woman named Letty, for and during her natural life, also a Negro boy son of the [said] woman named Squire, for and during the same time; I also give to my wife, her choice of two milch cows, out of my stock, also two feather beds & furniture, one riding horse worth fifty dollars, and her Saddle —

Item — I give and bequeath to my son William Connell, all my Land or real estate in the County afore[said] except that already bequeath'd to my wife; and after the death of my [said] wife, I give and bequeath that part of my real estate to my son William, herein before devis'd to my wife, to enjoy the same to him & his heirs for ever; I also give to my son William one Negro woman nam'd Sylvia, & her two Sons Lewis & Hiram, untill each of the [said] Negroes shall arrive to the age of Forty — at which time [said] Lewis & Hiram shall be free — Also I give to my [said] son William two other Negro children of [said] Sylvia's namely Lucinda, & Alfred, which two last mentioned children, my Will is, shall also be free, when they shall arrive to the age of Forty — And it is also my will that my son William

¹ This transcription is from photographs taken on 25 April 2017 of the pages of the original will, viewed in the office of the Gallatin County Clerk, Warsaw, Kentucky; the original punctuation and spelling have been retained as nearly as possible, with very minor edits for ease of reading.

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shall be entitled to all the future increase of the [said] Sylvia, but the [said] increase are also to be free at the age afore[said]. —

—

Item, I give to my Son Jesse Connell, half a dozen silver table spoons, in token of my paternal regard for him, having fully provided for him heretofore —

—

Item, I give to my Daughter Elizabeth Coleman, my Bible, in token of my Parental respect & affection, having heretofore made reasonable provision for her.

—

Item — I give and devise unto my daughter Nancy Nicholson, my two Volumes of Benedictes [?] history of the Baptists, having heretofore given her a reasonable portion of my property —

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Item — I give unto my daughter Polly Duncan, my book, entitled Gill's Divinity, in token of my parental affection, having heretofore given her a reasonable portion of my property —

—

Item — I give unto my Daughter Catharine Gray, Robinson's history of Baptists — having also given her heretofore an ample share of my property — And, I further give to [said] Catharine, my Clock —

—

I give unto my Daughter Charlotte Nicholson, half a dozen silver table spoons, in token of my affection for her, she having receiv'd heretofore a reasonable portion of my estate —

—

Item — I given unto my Daughter Jane Connell, a Negro woman nam'd Nan, and her two oldest children, Lydia & Lucinda, to have and to hold the [said] Negroes as Slaves, untill they shall severally arrive to the age of forty years, and then it is my will that [said] Negro woman and her two Children as above nam'd be free, I also

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give to my [said] Daughter Jane, One bed & furniture, one cow & calf, her Saddle, bridle, and a horse worth Sixty dollars. —

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Item – I give & Bequeath to my Daughter Cynthia Connell, a Negro woman nam'd Phillis, and her child Perlina, and their future increase, to have and to hold the [said] Negroes and their increase as Slaves, untill they and each of them shall severally arrive to the age of forty years – then it is my will that they and each of them shall be free – as they severally arrive at the age afore[said]. —

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Item – ~~I give to my Grand Daughter Cynthia Connell, daughter of my Son Francis dec'd [deceased], a female Negro child named Sinza [?], One feather bed & furniture, a horse worth forty dollars, and her Saddle & bridle, & One cow & calf.~~

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~~Item – I give to my Grand Daughter Elizabeth Connell, daughter of my [? said?] son Francis, One hundred dollars in money, a feather bed & furniture, a horse worth fifty dollars, and a cow & calf. —~~

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Item – It is my special will & desire that my Negro man Jim, be free, and for ever discharg'd from slavery, at the death of my [said] wife. —

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Item – My will and desire is that my Negro boy George, my Negro woman Letty, and her son Squire, be free, as they may severally arrive to the age of forty years.

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And Lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my Sons Jesse and William Connell, Executors of this my last will & testament, and inasmuch as I possess the utmost confidence, in the ability & integrity of my [said] Sons, I do hereby direct that no Security be required of them by the Court, In Testimony that the above, & foregoing, is my last will and Testament, I have hereunto set my hand and Affix'd my seal this — third day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight

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hundred and twenty one — 1821 — Note: the words “at which time sd. Lewis & Hiram be free” being interlin’d before sign’d - - - - -

[*signed*] Jesse Connell

[*seal*]

Sign’d, Seal’d & Acknowledg’d

in the presence of - - - -

[*signed*] Wm Ford.

Note – Those three lines eras’d in this will, which contain’d a Legacy to my Grand Daughter Elizabeth Connell – I have caus’d to be stricken out, in Consequence of her disobedience to me —

[*signed*] Jesse Connell