

Will
Britton
Willis

In the Name of God. Amen -

I Britton Willis of the County of Mublenberg
and Commonwealth of Kentucky, being in good health
and of sound mind and disposing memory, but knowing
that it is appointed for all men to die, do make and co-
-tain this my last Will and Testament -

In the first place I will that all my just debts
be paid. 2nd I give and bequeath unto my daughter
Jane Wright the sum of five hundred dollars, and it
is my will and desire that this sum as well as such
further part of my Estate as I may hereinafter bequeath
to her, be paid by my Executors in to her own hands, or if
they shall see reason to believe that it will best promote the
interest of her Children, it is my will and desire that my
said Executors loan out the same at interest, and pay
the same over to the Children of said Jane as they re-
-spectively become of age - 3rd I give and bequeath

unto my daughter Ann Wright the sum of three hundred
and twenty dollars - 4th I give and bequeath unto
my son James Willis three hundred & fifty dollars -

5th I give and bequeath unto my son Matthew Willis
one hundred dollars - 6th I consider that my
daughters Minerva Garrit and my son David G. Willis,
have therefore been sufficiently provided for, and I do
not give and bequeath any thing to them except my
blessing - 7th It is my will and desire that my
slaves Philip Chaney and Peter be free and have and

enjoy all the rights of free persons of Color in this Common-
-wealth - and I desire that my Executors take all necessary
and proper measures for their emancipation -

8th It is my will and desire that my Executors pay
one hundred dollars to said Philip, and one hundred dollars
to said Chaney, and one hundred dollars to said Peter, and
I hereby give and bequeath three hundred dollars for
this purpose - It is further my will and desire

that if at the time of my death, said Chaney should
have a child under one year of age, that such child
shall be free and go with its mother - 9th I give
and bequeath the sum of three thousand dollars to Hannah's
five children, whose names are as follows, to wit
Rose, John Brant, Hendley Dupell, Polly Ann & Ned. -

I have heretofore emancipated the Mother Hannah, and her
two children: Rose and John Brank, and the other children
have been born since Hannah's liberation. I will and desire
that my Executors - whom I hereby appoint Trustees to carry in to
effect this provision of my Will - Retain the said sum of Three
Thousand dollars in their hands paying ever the accruing interest
thereon from time to time for the benefit and support of
said five children in such way as they shall believe most
likely to avail and be of service to them. and as ^{said} children Rose
John Brank, Hendley Rupell, Polly Ann & Ned become of age,
I desire that my said Executors pay each of them their respective
portions of said Three thousand dollars. But if from their
conduct and habits, my Executors should believe that they or
any of them should be likely to waste or misuse it, then I
wish them to pay them or such of them as they shall judge
likely to misuse it, in such proportions and in such times and
manners, as they my said Executors shall think best -
I hereby give my said Executors a full & broad discretion,
to Control the aforesaid fund and dispose of the same for
the benefit of said children in such way as they may think
and judge most prudent & beneficial to said children -
I wish the said children bound out to good & careful
persons, as each of them attains the age of eleven years, or
sooner if my Executors shall judge it best - If John Brank
continues with his Mother and does well I do not wish him
bound out - and I give to said John a Sorrel Filly named
Sall, hereby authorising my said Executors to sell said
Filly and give said John another horse, if the Filly
would not in their judgment suit him - I have
heretofore conveyed to said John Brank & Hendley Rupell
the land on which I live and if the same produces any
rents they are to go and enure to the benefit of said John
Brank and Hendley Rupell under the direction of my
Executors - 11th I will and desire that all the residue
of my Slaves and all my Stock of Horses, Cattle, Hogs and
Furniture excepting such Cattle & or q. head and such
Furniture as are in the negro house and which belong
to them - be sold by my Executors in twelve months
Credit, and after setting apart a sufficient amount for
the discharge of all the aforesaid sums bequeathed to my
children, and the said five children of Hannah, and
the said Philip, Charney & Peter, then I bequeath and
will all the residue of my Estate to my said children,
Matthew Willis, Jane Wright, Ann Wright, James Willis
and the children of my son Thomas Willis deceased,
giving to the latter the part their father would have
received if alive, and I desire my Executors to pay
the said residue over in five equal parts to them
I desire my Executors to exempt from sale and

and leave on the place for the use of the Negroes provisions for one year — 11th I have heretofore made provision for my wife Ann by giving up for her benefit three Negroes, and suppose if she survives me she will claim one or more in my estate, but if she does and succeeds in obtaining it, my estate may be unable to meet and discharge all the aforesaid specific legacies, and if any of them should go unpaid or wish them to be those in favour of my children, and I will and desire that the Three Thousand dollars given to Hannah's five children and the three hundred to Philip's Charney and Peter be first provided for by my executors, even though nothing should be left for the other legacies —

12th I hereby appoint Charles F. King and Edward Rumney executors of this my last will and Testament, and as I have full confidence in their faithful performance of the duties of executors. I desire that they shall not be required to give any security further than their own Bond

I hereby revoke all former wills made by me and declare this my last will and Testament — written in my hand and seal this 8th day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty eight

Test
Alney Mear
James Weir

Britton^{his} Willis Seal
mark

I Britton Willis being of sound mind & disposing memory do make the following additions and alterations to my aforesaid will, by way of codicil and amendment ordaining the same as part of my said will — In my will aforesaid I have given under certain regulations Three Thousand dollars to five of Hannah's children to wit Rose, John Brant, Standley Dupell, Polly Ann & Ned — and I hereby alter & change said bequest in this particular to wit: I give and bequeath said Three thousand dollars to said named Rose, John Brant, Standley Dupell, Polly Ann & Ned and to John Kinney another child of said Hannah, which John Kinney was omitted to be named in my aforesaid will — said sum of Three thousand dollars is to be applied equally to the benefit of said five children of said Hannah under the regulations & subject to the discretion as set forth in my will aforesaid — I hereby will and bequeath unto Jesse H. Perro in consideration of services rendered me and trouble incurred in my behalf, a Negro boy named John Henry about seven years of age, I give and bequeath said John Henry (who is the child of the aforesaid Charney) to said Jesse H. Perro and his heirs forever — I also will & desire that Eliza Ann the youngest child of said Charney be free & emancipated at the time of my death, and I hereby declare her so, and as stated in my will aforesaid, if said Charney has another child under one year old at the time of my death,

it is my will that such child be free & go with its mother
of mother will and desire that my slaves Bob, Susan &
will all three of whom are children of said Channy, shall
be free & emancipated at the periods following to wit said
Bob shall be free at the expiration of fifteen years from this
date, and said Susan shall be free at the expiration of
sixteen years from this date, and the said Will at the ex-
piration of twenty years from this date, and the said three
negroes are not to be removed from this County without
the consent of my Executors who are desired to see that their
emancipation be duly attended to -

The whole of the provisions of my aforesaid Will ex-
ecuted as aforesaid on the 8th day of September 1838 &
declare in full force as my last Will and Testament,
except so far as the alterations and additions of this Codicil
change the same - I hereby reaffirm and declare the
aforesaid instrument dated as aforesaid the 8th Sept^r 1838 and
this Codicil and addition my last Will and Testament
given under my hand and seal this 25th day of

May 1842
Witnes

Britton ^{his} Willis (red)
mark

S. M. King
Edward P. Peir
J. Edwards. Perro

- Old will Read & Codicil, both acknowledged
and explained & -

As Britton Willis being anxious to make an alteration
in my last Will and Testament by Codicil, thereby making this
addition - I will at my death that my six slaves of the
following names to wit Stewart, Henry, Bob, Will Susan and
Jackson be free and to enjoy all the freedoms of persons of
color either in this State or in the United States - I give
and bequeath to John Brank a boy heretofore liberated by
me a good feather Bed & furniture - Witness my hand and
seal this 6th day of April 1844

Teste
John Campbell
W. M. King
" "

Britton ^{his} Willis (red)
mark

My first Will was vituperated by Almy M'Year
and James Weir - an amendment thereto (say 25th May-
1842) was vituperated by E. P. Peir, S. M. King & J. E. Perro,
they are both enclosed in this Codicil, altogether they
compose my Will - said Brank is to have the Bed
and furniture in addition to former provision -
April 6th 1844

Teste
John Campbell
W. M. King
" "

Britton ^{his} Willis
mark

(70)

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Muhlenberg County Ga
April County Court 1845

The foregoing last Will and Testament of Britton
Willis deceased, was exhibited into Court and proved to be
the act and deed of the said Willis by the oath of John E. Reno
a subscribing witness thereto & ordered to be certified; and there
upon the Codicil to which John Campbell W. William H. Spring
are witnesses was fully proved by the ^{oaths of} said Campbell & Spring
the subscribing witnesses - and at the May County Court
1845 said Will was fully proved to be the act and deed of
said Britton Willis by the oath of Edward R. Davis another
subscribing witness thereto and ordered to be recorded

at
W. H. Spring 1845
" "