

Will of Solomon Rainwater Jr., 1793-1858, Hancock Co, GA

transcription from scan of original on Ancestry.com, #1053

In the name of God, Amen.

I, **Solomon Rainwater**, of said State and County, being of advanced age and knowing that I must shortly depart this life decree it right proper both as it respects my family and myself that I should make a disposition of the property with which a kind Provider has blessed me with do therefore make this my last will and testament hereby revoking all others heretofore made by me.

1st Item – I desire and direct that my body be buried in a decent and Christian-like manner suitable to my circumstances and condition in life. My soul I trust shall return to rest with God who gave it as I hope for eternal – salvation through the merits and atonement of the blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ whose religion I have professed and I humbly trust enjoyed many years.

2nd Item – I desire and direct that all my just debts be paid by my Executrix herein and hereafter appoint as soon after my decease as convenient – according to her ability or as the law directs in such cases made and provided.

3rd Item – I give and bequeath and devise to **my beloved wife Nancy Rainwater** (with whom I have lived in the sweetest quiet upward of thirty years for and during her natural life or widowhood, all my landed estate which I am now possessed of containing about six hundred acres more or less with all the rights members and appurtenances to said lot or parcel of land in any wise appertaining or belonging to with the privilege of setting either of her children on said premises during her life as she may desire. Also nine negroes – To wit Lewis, Belinda, Lewis wife Jasper, William, Phillis, Cherry, Bradford, Frances, and Benjamin, with the future increase of the females, also all my stock of horses, mules, oxen, cattle, sheep, hogs etc. and household and kitchen furniture farming utensils, riding carriages, wagons, or carts, smiths

tools, cotton gin, gin gear and wheat thrasher, together with all other things or things not herein enumerated, belonging to said farm and premises likewise the growing crop of every description standing in the fields or otherwise as the case may be. All of which lands, negroes and together with the negro given and bequeathed to my children to be kept together on said farm and worked until said child or children shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years the net proceeds of which to be applied to the use and benefit of her my said wife Nancy and education and maintenance of my minor children and other purposes herein and here after mentioned.

4th Item – I give and bequeath on to **my daughter Levina Holmes** in addition to what she has heretofore received one negro boy Harry about fourteen years of age to her and her children forever and my Executrix is hereby directed to deliver said negro after my decease.

5th Item – I give bequeath to **my daughter Amanda Oliphant** in addition to what she has heretofore received one negro boy Asa about eleven years of age to her and her children forever which she is to receive at my decease.

6th Item – I give bequeath and devise to **my daughter Samantha Staser** in addition to what she has already received one negro girl Emily about five years of age with the future increase of said girl to her and her children forever.

7th Item – I give bequeath to **my daughter Nancy Jones** in addition to what she has heretofore received one negro girl about four years of age and increase to her and children forever.

8th Item – I give bequeath to **my daughter Charity Rainwater** one negro girl Amanda about one and half years of age and increase of said girl to her and her children forever.

9th Item – I give and bequeath to **my son Cicero Rainwater** one negro boy Seaborn about eighteen years of age to him and his heirs forever.

10th Item – I give and bequeath to **my son Virgil Rainwater** one negro boy Joseph about sixteen years of age to him and his heirs forever.

11th Item – I give bequeath on to **my son Horace Rainwater** one negro boy Arthur about fourteen years of age to him and his heirs forever.

12th Item – I give bequeath to **my daughter Naomi Freeny** three hundred dollars to be paid to her by my Executrix as soon after my decease as convenient for my Executrix to pay it.

13th Item – I desire and direct that as each of my said children arrive to the age of twenty one years that my Executrix herein named deliver to him or her as the case may be the negroes or other property herein bequeathed taking a receipt in full for the same before delivering.

14th Item – I desire and direct that my minor children be supported and receive the advantage of a good English education out of the proceeds of the farm and that no expenses incurred be charged for the same in the division and further that **my three sons to wit, Cicero, Virgil and Horace Rainwater** be furnished in like manner out of said proceeds one horse, bridle and saddle valued at one hundred dollars cash. Also to **my daughter Charity** in the same manner one good feather bed, bedding stead. One good cow half and other house hold furniture equal to the fitting out for house keeping as my other daughters received.

15th Item – I direct that in the event of the marriage of my wife Nancy Rainwater that she relinquish her Executrixship and management of the estate herein bequeathed during life – nevertheless retain a lien on said estate – so far as a comfortable support, good dwelling house or houses, garden during her natural life.

16th Item – I desire that in case either of the negroes herein bequeathed to my children and retained in the possession of my Exceutrix during minority should die before such child or legatee becomes of age that he or she as the case may be receive at the final division after the decease of my wife, five-hundred dollars over and above the other legatees as a renunciation for such loss.

17th Item – After the decease of my wife Nancy, Her life estate being over, I direct that **my son Leander Rainwater** receive out of said deceased estate three-hundred dollars as a full share of said estate. Likewise **my daughter Naomi Freeny**, three-hundred dollars over and above what she received in the twelfth item, the rest and residue of said estate I desire to be sold and equally divided between the following children to wit **Levina Holmes** and hundred in the Seventeenth Item interlined before assigned. **Amanda Oliphant, Samantha Staser, Nancy Jones, Charity Rainwater, Cicero Rainwater, Virgil Rainwater, and Horace Rainwater.**

18th Item – I hereby constitute and appoint my beloved wife Nancy Rainwater–Executrix of this my last will and testament and in case of her marriage I appoint my three sons to wit, **Cicero, Virgil and Horace Rainwater** Executors to this my last will and testament. The latter to Act as Exts in case of such marriage and not otherwise. **This 16th day of September 1856.**

Signed, sealed, declared, and published

Solomon Rainwater his {+} mark {seal}

by Solomon Rainwater as his Last Will and Testament in presence of us the subscribers who subscribed our names hereto in the presence of said testator (at his special instance and request and of each other this **16th day of September 1856.**

The underline words and increase of said girl in the Eighth item and hundred in the Seventeenth Item interlined before assigned.

J. T. Andrews

James Bell

J. N. Bledsoe

J. J. Cooper

Richmond Burnley

Note: Letters of administration were applied for on 3 Aug 1858 by H. D. Smith.