

In the name of God, Amen. I William M. Mask of Cecil County in the State of Maryland, being in perfect health of body, and of sound and disposing mind, memory and understanding, considering the certainty of death [sic] and the uncertainty of the time whereof, and being desirous to settle my worldly affairs, and thereby be the better prepared to leave this world when it shall please God, to call me hence do therefore make and publish my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say,

First and principally, I commit my soul into the hands of Almighty God, and my body to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executor hereinafter named, and after my debts and funeral charges are paid and my wife's thirds taken out, I devise and bequeath as follows:

Item I give and bequeath to my wife the house and lot in south Howard Street in the city of Baltimore, and all emoluments arising from said house and lot, which I consider as an equivalent for her thirds of my estate, she paying the taxes and ground rents thereon.

Item I give and devise unto my youngest son Edward Thomas Mask my plantation whereon I now dwell, known by the name Tortoise lying and being the County and State aforesaid together with lands, tenements, stock, farming utensils, furniture [illegible] likewise my colored woman Susan Bain I bequeath to the said Edward T. Mask, him to pay her six dollars in cash annually during her natural life, which is to be on her own disposal independent of maintenance.

Item I give and devise unto John Mask my third son, a house and lot in South Charles Street in the City of Baltimore and all emoluments arising therefrom he paying taxes and ground rents thereon.

Item I give and bequeath to my niece Josephine Mask one milch cow value \$20, ten sheep value twenty dollars, one feather-bed and bedding value Forty dollars and bedstead value Ten dollars and cash twenty-five dollars, which my son Edward is to pay, whose plantation will stand bound for until paid.

Item I give and bequeath to my grand son William A. Mask one horse, saddle and bridle valued at ninety dollars in cash Twenty-five dollars to be paid in the same manner and by the same person as that of Josephine's.

Item I devise and bequeath, that my house and lot in Burgundy Alley in the city of Baltimore be sold for cash in twelve months after my death and the proceeds together with all money in hand and the residue of my estate both real and personal to be equally divided among my sons, Charles, George, John and Edward and daughters Mary, Hannah and Rosina, in equal portions share and share alike. (what constitutes money in hand)

I wish it to be distinctly understood that should my son Edward die without leaving an heir lawfully begotten, that the property left to him, shall fall into the hands of my son John by his paying the legacies above mentioned which were to have been paid

by Edward. And should John also die without leaving an heir lawfully begotten, all of said property is to be disposed of and equally divided among my surviving children.

And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint _____ [blank line] to be sole Executor of this my last will and testament, revoking and annulling all former wills by me heretofore made, ratifying and confirming this and none other to be my last will and testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affix my seal this 2nd day of September in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty eight.

Wm M. Mask [Seal]

Signed, sealed, published, and declared by William M. Mask the above named testator as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence, and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto. John N. Black Jr., Thos. Cameron, & W.W. Black.

Cecil County Sca., September 12th 1854 then came William W. Black and John N. Black two of the subscribing witnesses to the foregoing last will and testament of William M. Mask deceased and made Oath upon the Holy Evangily of Almighty God; that they did see William M. Mask the Testator therein named sign and seal the said will; that they did hear him publish, pronounce and declare the same to be his last will and testament; that at the time of his so doing, he was to the best of their apprehension of a sound and disposing mind, memory and understanding, and that they and Thomas Cameron the other subscribing witness subscribed their names as witnesses to the said will in the presence and at the request of the said testator, and in the presence of each other.

Test James H. Jamar Reg.

Cecil County Sca., February 12th 1856

I hereby certify that the foregoing instrument of writing is a true copy taken from the original now on file and of record in the Registers of Wills office for Cecil County.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and fix my seal of Office on the day and year aforesaid.

Test James H. Jamar Reg.
of Wills for Cecil County