1881 - 09 Southampton County - Chancery Sprey, O. H. et al vs Sledge, Lucy et als

"In Said Estate"

O. H. Sprey +
Alice Sprey his wife

Ezekeldrid J. Hart +
Achelia Hart, his wife

John N. Prisson +
Mollie L. Prisson his wife

Lucy Sledge
D. O. Sledge same
Est Sterling Sledge
James A. Sledge +
Jinny A. Sledge his wife

To the Honorable George Blow judge of the Circuit Court of Southampton County in Chancery sitting

Humbly complaining your Orators P. H. Ivey and Alice his wife, E Thulonia I. Hart and Athulia his wife and John N Parson and Mollie L his wife shew unto your Honor That in the year 1873 Sterling Sludge of Southampton County departed this life leaving considerable estate both real and personal and having first duly made and published his last will and testament which was proved in the county Court of Southampton and an authenticated copy of which is herewith filed marked A and prayed to be taken as a part of this bill and George A Sludge qualified as administrator with the will annexed, That he left his widow Lucy Sludge and children Jimmy Sludge George A. Sludge, Alice, Ophelia, and Mollie L Sludge his legatees and devisees and that since the execution of his will all three of the younger daughters have married

That the testator by his will directs his whole estate to be kept together as it now is so long as his wife remains a widow and she should receive a support from the

whole farm

By the third clause of the will he gave a certain tract of land to his son Otho, He also directs that after the Shoop tract of land was paid for fifty dollars a year was to be paid to Jimmy Sludge for ten years

By the fourth clause he left to his daughters Alice and Ophelia during their natural lives all the land west of the land given to Otho and if either of them should die leaving no issue then that the survivor should have the whole of it during her natural life and at her death to her issue, and that whichever of the two should marry first should live at the place upon which Evelina Shoop lives at present but further that if either marries she should not have more than five years from the date of the will

By the fifth clause he left to his daughter Mollie L the tract of land known as the "Pumpkin tract" during her natural life and at her death to her issue in fee but if she dies without issue or under age to Otho Sludge in fee simple

By the sixth clause he directs G. M. Hughes to remain on the land devised to Alice and Ophelia for five years from 1871 paying the same rent he had been paying

By the eighth clause he directs N. L. Harrison to remain on the place he was then living paying the same rent until his daughter marries or comes of age

Your Orator shows further that this will was so ambiguous that a suit was instituted for its construction and for the guidance of the administrator, and at the November term 1871 of the Circuit Court of Southampton. The judge presiding as chancellor by his decree a copy of which is herewith filed marked B and prayed to be taken as a part of this bill among other things decreed as follows, That the administrator is to keep the whole of the estate real and personal (except what is given to Jimmy Sludge wife of J. A Sludge and the bequest of personal property in remainder to Otho Sludge) under his control and management subject to the finances of George M Hughes and N. L. Harrison from whom he is to receive the rents that fall due during the widowhood of Sterling Sludge's widow, and also the rents that fall due the year of the widowhood being terminated or so

much thereof as shall be necessary towards paying ~~Thompson~~ for the land formerly belonging to E. B. Thorp. That the administrator with the will annexed may employ the necessary assistance for immediate superintendence of the different farms at the expense of the estate, or if he should render that superintendence himself he shall be allowed as a legitimate charge against the estate a reasonable compensation therefor.

That the administrator with the will annexed shall furnish to the widow of the said Sterling Thorp during her widowhood and to her remaining children living with her the net income of the farm upon which the testator resided due regard being had to the payment of expenses of curatorship, taxes and debts. That should either of the tenants George M Hughes or N. L. Harrison refuse to occupy the premises indicated by the testator when upon the terms thereby imposed it shall be his duty to rent or dispose of the same upon such terms as he may think most advantageous for the interests of all parties concerned except that he shall make no lease or disposition of the same for more than one year continuously,

Your Orators show further that when this suit was instituted to wit in September 1873 that Ophelia and Mollie Sledge were minors of age and remained and that Mollie Payson thought Mamie is still under age, and that there is no steps taken by the law providing infants on coming of age to show cause against any judgement or erroneous decree affecting their rights, and they now proceed to show cause why this decree should be modified as to them.

Your Orators herewith file with this bill as exhibits and ask that they may be considered as parts of the same five accounts of J. A. Sledge administration on the estate of Sterling Sledge marked C. D. E. F. & G. The court will see from an examination of these accounts commencing April 1st 1873 and ending April 1st 1878 a period of five years the administrator has received $1106.72 cts and expended it all and brought the estate in debt to him $1432.78 cts which he claims is a charge on the estate so far from preserving the estate and keeping it together these accounts show a most lavish expenditure of money and waste, but your orators can well afford he cannot go beyond

the profits and that he cannot charge
that estate with any debts he may
contract

Your Orators nevertheless that the
administrator claims to have paid off
$2500 in debts of the estate, granting
this to be true yet these accounts
would still show he has expended
some two thousand dollars a year
to support the widow and pay
the working expenses of a small
farm for most of the land is
rented out nor does these accounts
show how much of this sum was
applied to the support of the widow
if any

But there is another reason this
decree should be modified not only so
as to save the estate from waste but to
protect the just rights of your Orators
The testator after providing for the
payment of his debts directs that his
estate should kept together so long as
his wife remained a widow and that
she should receive support from the
whole, He did not give her a life
estate in the whole, he did not give
her the control of it but he evidently
intended after supporting his widow
his children should receive some
benefit from his estate when he made
his will his wife was some fifty
five years old she is in vigorous life
and might live thirty years more he
had three daughters young and
helpless one not more than ten years
old and that it was necessary that they
should have something from his estate
for their support, so thereupon he directed
that whichever of his daughters Alice
or Ophelia married first should live
at the place at which Evelina then
there lives but not to go there before
1876 and he directed that N. L. Hamner
should live at the place upon which
he then lives until his daughter
Mollie attained the age of twenty one
or married evidently intending she
should have a home subject to the
support of the widow

But as it stands now under the
construction of the will as rendered by the
court in 1871, with the light there
before, That the administrator George
C Sledge and as such superintendent
is living on the farm with his
mother paying no rent that he is
drawing a salary of $1500 a year and
supporting himself, a wife, three
children and a nurse, that Jimmy
Sledge is drawing the annuity of
fifty dollars per annum and his
three youngest daughters for whom
he intended to provide are out in

the cold and not receive any aid from the state towards their support they are satisfied that the court with their new facts before it and changed circumstances of the parties will so modify its former order as to more effectually carry out the will of the testator

In Tender consideration whereof and inasmuch as your Orators are without relief at law and only entitled to relief in a court of equity where such matters are properly cognizable they therefore pray that Lucy Sledge J. C. Sledge both in his own right and as administrator of Sterling Sledge dec'd James A Sledge and Jenny his wife may be made parties defendant to this bill and that the court would compel them as full and perfect answer make to the allegation therein contained as if they had been thereto more fully and specially interrogated and as the administrators reports show he is sinking money in working the estate that the court after retaining a home for the widow to reside in with garden and curtilage would direct all the lands else to be rented out and after selling such as that it considers a reasonable support for the widow Lucy Sledge.

have the residue of the annual rental after paying Jenny Hodge $1-0 a year divide the residue between A.W. Hodge, Ivey v. wife, Hall is wife and Pinson v. wife or to invest the same to await division at the widows death and that the court enjoin J. A. Hodge to report his proceedings to it copy you in this case in order to its further order, and that the Court would grant such other and general relief the premises considered as equity may dictate and the nature of this case may require and as in duty bound your Orators will ever pray &c

Shands J.Q.

List of the Personal Property of G. Sledge dcsd. Sold this 23rd of Decbr 1879 by G. O. Sledge Admr: with the will annexed Terms of Sale, All sums under $30 Cash all Sums over on a credit of eight months, purchaser to give bond with approved Security, Interest from day of Sale

				$	cts
No	1/2	Dozen Cane bottom Chairs	Nat McGee		70
"	1/2	Do Walnut Chairs	G. O. Sledge	3	30
"	1/2	Do Do	Do	1	75
"	1	Arm Rocking Chair	Paul Sykes		60
"	1	Small Do Do	E. J. Hart		25
"	1	Do Do	E. R. Hart		40
"	2	Small Do	G. O. Sledge		20
"	1	Axe	G. O. Sledge		50
"	1	Do	G. O. Sledge		70
"	1	Do	G. O. Sledge		40
"	1	Pair Sad Irons & Goose	Winson Glover		50
"	1	Pair And Irons	G. O. Sledge		50
"	1	Do Do	G. O. Sledge		55
"	1	Lot of old iron & pot	B. F. Hill		60
"	1	Pot	G. O. Sledge		85
"	1	Do	G. O. Sledge	1	45
"	1	Do	G. O. Sledge	1	80
"	"	Small pot	J. F. Brantley		30
"	"	Long oven	B. H. Dorey		35
"	"	Oven and lid	Willie Jackson		35
"	"	Lot of old looking things	B. H. Dorey		45
"	"	Kettle & Trivet	Joby Lucas		25
"	"	Pot Rack No 1	Paul Sykes	1	05
"	"	Pot Do " "	Winson Glover		10
"	"	old Stove & appurtenances	Joby Lucas		50

"	"	Old Shovel & tongues	Willie Jackson		15
"	"	Bed Quilt frame	Arthur Jackson		10
"	"	Spinning Wheel No 1	Reuben Allen		50
"	"	Do Do " 2	Joby Lucas	2	00
"	"	Do Do " 3	Joby Lucas		10
"	"	Hanking Reel	Reuben Allen		10
"	3	old coffee pots & Mil	Paul Sykes		25
"	"	Lot of old Tins	Joby Lucas		10
"	1	Old Stand & contents	Willie Ivey		45
"	2	10 gal. Runlets	J. E. Prince		30
"		Lot of old Jugs	Arthur Jackson		05
"	1	Still Pitcher	G. O. Sledge		10
"	2	Earthen Jars	Ben Ford		35
"	1	Do Do & contents	Alfred Cole		65
"	2	Do Jugs	G. O. Sledge		25
"	1	Meal Stand	B. F. Hill		05
"	1	Salt Do	B. F. Hill		05
				23	95
No.					
"		Amts brot forward (from page) 1		$23	95
"	1	Lard Stand	G. O. Sledge		55
	1	Do & Paddle	G. O. Sledge		25
"	1	Souse Stand	G. O. Sledge		25
"	1	Do Do	G. O. Sledge		70
"	1	Meal Tub	G. O. Sledge		25
"	1	Do Do	G. O. Sledge		15
"	1	Peck Measure	G. O. Sledge		25
"	2	Trays	G. O. Sledge		25
"	1	Waiter & Tray	G. O. Sledge		05
"	1	Cradle	Reuben Allen		10
"	1	Hair Trunk	E. J. Hart		25
"	1	Chest No 1	Laban Harrison		65
"	1	Do " 2	E. J. Hart		95

1	Do " 3	G. A. Sledge		50
1	Table & Contents No 1	G. A. Sledge		75
1	Do " 2	Alfred Cole		35
1	Do " 3	C. C Seaton		80
1	Do " 4	Henry Cloud		90
1	Slop tin & table	G. A. Sledge		05
1	Old Table	Lewis Parham		05
1	Walnut Do & Cover	G. A. Sledge	3	10
"	Lot of Books	G. A. Sledge	1	00
1	Folding Table	Alfred Cole	2	90
1	Coffee Mill	Charles Harris		25
1	Brass Morter & Pestle	Edwin Scott		30
	Lot of Knives & Forks	Willis Manning		45
1/2	Doz. large Spoons	Arthur Jackson		60
2	Dishes	Paul Sykes		15
"	Tin Measures	G. A. Sledge		05
1	Spice Mill	Reuben Allen		10
2	Yellow dishes	Reuben Allen		10
1	White Do	Tom Tennessee		15
1	Blue edge Do	Reuben Allen		95
1	Dish	Thom: Lucas		90
2	Do	Paul Sykes		75
1	Waiter & Contents	Arthur Jackson		95
2	Small White Bowls	Paul Sykes		15
1	Large Do	Jas. Broadnax		30
1	Pr Candle Moulds	Peter Hill		05
2	Small boxes & Contents	Peter Hill		15
11	Small Tumblers	Louis Parham		25
3	Do wine Do	Henry Cloud		15
2	Tin Waiters	Alfred Cole		03
1/2	Dozen White plate	John Parker		35
			45	28

No		Amts brot forward from Page 2		$ 45	28
	1/2	Doz. Blue Plates	Bew Ford		75
	1	Waiter & Contents	W. E. Ivey		40
	4	Small Tea Spoons	J. H. Pinner		40
	5	Do Do Do	G. A. Sledge	2	15
	1	Cupboard	Louis Parham		10
	1	Safe	G. A. Sledge		25
	1	Press	E. J. Hart		60
	1	Pr Balances	G. A. Sledge		15
	1	Clothes Basket	P. H. Ivey		25
	1	Bedstead & Mat	C. C. Seaton		50
	1	Do	G. A Sledge	1	05
	1	Bed Tick Bolster	Stark Mason	10	05
	1	Do	G. A. Sledge	7	00
	1	Old Rug	Pond & Broadnax		25
	1	Bureau	Alfred Cole	3	15
	1	Hand Mop	T. B. Powell		40
	1	Bag Wool	Paul Sykes	1	15
	50	Bbls. long corn @ $2.95	G. A. Sledge	147	50
	40	Do Do @ 2.90	G. A. Sledge	116	00
	11½	Do Short Do " 1.50	G. A. Sledge	1	50
		Residue long corn	G. A. Sledge	2	50
	5	Stacks fodder	G. A. Sledge 1/2	37	37
	5	Do Do	G. A. Sledge @ 1/2	37	20
	4	Do Do	G. A. Sledge @ 1/2	32	33
		Lot Shucks	G. A. Sledge	2	50
	5	First choice Hogs	G. A. Sledge	14	00
	5	2nd do do	G. A. Sledge	10	25
	5	3rd do do	G. A. Sledge	10	25
	5	4th do do	G. A. Sledge	8	25
2d Pen	5	First do do	G. A. Sledge	14	50
	5	2nd do do	G. A. Sledge	15	50

5	3rd do do	G. O. Sledge	13	25
7	last do	G. O. Sledge	15	25
1	Spotted Sow	Ben Ford	2	40
1	White Do	G. O. Sledge	1	50
1	Black Shoat	G. O. Sledge	1	50
5	Shoats @ $1.85	J. A. Williams	9	25
1	Blue Sow & two Shoats	G. O. Sledge	6	00
1	Black Do	G. O. Sledge	4	50
1	Red Do	E. J. Hart	2	00
1	White Do	G. O. Sledge	3	00
1	White Do	Laban Harrison	2	60
1	White Do & 3 Pigs	G. O. Sledge	1	75
1	Pr Ox Wheels	C. C. Seaborn	6	25
1	Horse Cart	G. O. Sledge	11	75
			$620	28
	Amts brot forward	from page 3	$620	28
1	Ox Cart	G. O. Sledge	12	00
1	Wagon	G. O. Sledge	15	00
1	Do	J. E. Prince	29	00
1	Arirow wedges	B. F. Hill		55
2	Ded forks	G. O. Sledge		05
4	Pitch forks	G. O. Sledge		165
1	Spade & two Shovels	G. O. Sledge		100
4	Weed Hoes	G. O. Sledge		75
4	Do Do	G. O. Sledge		50
3	Grub Do	G. O. Sledge		150
1	Turn plow No 1	Paul Sykes		25
1	Do Do " 2	G. O. Sledge		50
1	Do Do " 3	G. O. Sledge		100
1	Do Do " 4	G. O. Sledge		250
3	~~Ridge Do~~ Do	G. O. Sledge		900
1	Wagon Trough	G. O. Sledge		10
	Lot of Bbls.	W. E. Dorey		10

7	Cotton Baskets	G. O. Sledge	1 50
1	Corn Fork	G. O. Sledge	1 30
1	Half Bus. Measure	G. O. Sledge	60
1	Wagon Tilt	G. O. Sledge	05
1	Sorrel Horse (Tunnion)	G. O. Sledge	115 00
1	Bay Mare (Betsy)	G. O. Sledge	65 00
1	Bay Do (Mary)	W. E. Ivey	25 00
"	Colt (Dixie)	G. O. Sledge	25 50
1	yoke Oxen	G. O. Sledge	20 00
5	First Choice Sheep	G. O. Sledge	5 00
5	2nd do do	C. B. Seabon	4 50
6	3rd do do	E. J. Hart	4 50
1	Milch Cow	G. O. Sledge	6 50
1	Yerling	G. O. Sledge	2 00
3	Setts Plow gear	G. O. Sledge	4 00
	Lot Cotton seed	G. O. Sledge	50 00
1	Clock	G. O. Sledge	1 50
1	Farm Bell	G. O. Sledge	3 25
1	Set Buggy Harness	G. O. Sledge	3 00
1	Basket & Contents	Ben Ford	80
2	Top Stacks fodder @ 2.00	W. E. Ivey	4 00
			$ 1039 23

Geo: O. Sledge Admr. with the Will annexed of Sterling Sledge decd.

Office of Comr of Accts.
Jany 7th: 1880

Suspected, approved & referred to the Clerk of the County Court of Southampton County

Jno. J. Kindred
Comr of Accts

Southampton County: In the Clerk's Office January 7th: 1880. This account of Sales of the Personal Property belonging to the estate of Sterling Sledge decd. was received and together with the Certificate thereto annexed of the Approval of the Commissioner of accounts, admitted to record.

Teste:

L. R. Edwards C.C.

A Copy Teste:

L. R. Edwards C.C.

Clerk et al
v
Sledge

Exhibit with
amended title
B

Fee for Copy $2.24

Exhibit "B".

To wife's board for 5 years.	@ $100			500.00
" 1 Child's " "	4 "	@ 10		40.00
" " " " "	2 "	10		20.00
" " " " "	1 "	10		10.00
				$570.00
Cr.				
By year 1873 - Services -		150		
" Services hire for 5 years	@ $25	125		
" " Gin " " "	@ $20	100		
" deduction on services				
of $50. for four years -		200		575.00
Bal in favor of Adm'r				$25.00

Exhibit A

1873					
Nov	5	Paid Taxes & tickets	$ 78 72		
Dec	1	" pd Attorney fee about bill	50 00		
		" pd Price & Powell (mdse	35 34		
		" Commission on $1396 — @ 5%	69 80		
			$ 234 06	234 06	
1874					
Jan		" pd tuition & board	147 81		
		" pd Md bill	13 00		
		" pd Merchandise for family & Childr	75 00		
		" pd Land bond & Int:	477 56		
		" pd Execution & tax Case	139 67		
		" pd Commissioner & Clerk fees	12 00		
		" Commission on $899 — @ 5%	44 95		
		" pd Turner & Bro (mdse	13 92		
		" pd R. Coleman on Note	30 00		
		" pd Cotton planter	12 00		
Dec		" pd Taxes & tickets	129 98		
		" pd P. S. Thomas Mdse	31 38		
		" pd G. M. Hughes on Mule	30 27	1157 61	
1875		"			
		" pd Dr Sykes Md bill	8 00		
		" pd On Land bond	200 00		
		" pd Thos Pond tuition & board	117 10		
		" pd On Land bond	100 00		
		" Commission on $2010.00 @ 5%	100 50		
		" Allowance to adm. to attending to farm	200 00		
		" pd Commissioner & Clerk	7 00		
Aug		" pd Merchandise for family	14 78		
		" pd Price & Powell Case	110 94		
		" pd Bland Alexander & Co	35 92		
		" pd C. Martin for Mdse	12 70		
		" pd Taxes & tickets	102 21		
			$ 1009 15	1391 72	

1875			Brot forw		1009	15	1391	72	1877		Brot forw					3829 02
	To	pd	Prince & Powell (note)		40	00				To	pd	Green & Jones good family		10	30	
	"	pd	J.B. Prince on Land bond		210	95	1260	10		"	pd	Cash for Mother		10	00	
1876	"	pd	W.H. Dreury & Co		52	25				"	pd	Sharpning gin saws		5	00	
	"	pd	Same for note		17	80				"	pd	T.J. Garrett		1	98	
	"	pd	B. Alexander & Co		31	80				"	pd	J.C. Slack		2	40	
	"	pd	J.R. Pond. Board 4 for M Sledge		72	35				"	pd	Taxes & tickets		75	23	
	"	pd	W.T. Stubbard for note		25	40				"	pd	Mollie wedding clothes		81	00	
	"	pd	Adm for services for 1875		150	00				"	pd	I.A. Sledge for wife		50	00	
	"	pd	Commission on $2552.37 @ 5%		127	61			1878	"	pd	goods for Mother		15	44	
	"	pd	Commissioner & Clerk		25	00				"	pd	D.H. & J.B. Prince for goods		50	00	
May	"	pd	Note for family		5	00				"	pd	adm for services on farm &c		150	00	
	"	pd	J.B. Prince atty fee		32	00				"	pd	W.T. Stubbs for Store		60	00	
	"	pd	Bland & Bro for note		12	40				"	pd	Comms on $1932.56 @ 5%		96	62	
	"	pd	goods for family		5	00				"	pd	Clerk & Commissioner		13	00	620 97
	"	pd	" " do		4	56										$ 4449 99
	"	pd	Taxes		73	68										
	"	pd	goods		40	00										
	"	pd	I.A. Sledge for wife		50	00	724	87								
1877	"	pd	work on Gin		9	75										
1877	"	pd	G.W. Hughes bal: on Note		49	00										
	"	pd	T.J. Garret for goods		34	00										
		pd	Davis Drake & Co		4	50										
	"	pd	Trunk for Sister		5	50										
	"	pd	Buggy Harness		16	50										
	"	pd	Shoes for Sister		1	15										
	"	pd	Dr Powell medicine		37	30										
	"	pd	Dr Sykes " "		12	50										
	"	pd	adm for Labor & Services on farm	3/4	150	00										
	"	pd	Commission on $2362.79 @ 5%		118	13										
	"	pd	Commissioner & Clerk		14	00	452	38								
							$ 3829	02								

Receipts

Recd from Sales on farm for 1873	$	1396
" " " " " 1873		899 02
" " " " " 1874		2010 09
" " " " " 1875		2552 37
" " " " " 1876		2362
" " " " " 1877		1932 56
	$	11152 04

Presson & als — Plaintiffs.
v
Sledge & als — Defendants } In Chancery.

The separate answer of Lucy Sledge in her own right & as widow of Sterling Sledge, dec'd to a bill of complaint exhibited against her & others in the Circuit Court of Southampton County by John N. Presson & als.

The respondent, saving to herself all just exceptions to the said bill, for answer thereto, or so much thereof as she is advised it is material she should answer, answers & says;

That true it is Sterling Sledge died at the time alleged in the bill, testate, and leaving his heirs and distributees the parties therein named, and the respondent his widow that the respondent has, as directed by the will of her deceased husband, received a support from his estate, but that in order to avoid any future difficulty or trouble she would willingly and gladly receive a stated sum: that considering the age and economical habits of your respondent, she would take as her future support the sum of Two hundred and Twenty ($220.00) Dollars secured to be paid annually and assessed equally upon the heirs and distributees of her deceased

husband, or in any manner as may seem to this court just. Your respondent would further state, that by this arrangement the intent of her husband would be carried into effect, as she believes and here charges that the said Sterling Sledge intended that his daughters to whom he devised real and personal property should receive the same free of rent or any charges beyond the support of your respondent; that as the estate is now managed, none of the female heirs or distributees receive any benefit, contrary to the intent of the said Sterling Sledge

And your respondent prays that a decree, settling matters as set forth in this answer may be given, if the same can be done according to equity and good conscience.

And now, having fully answered your respondent prays to be dismissed with her costs in this case.

Lucy Sledge

Reese & Tredway, Attys

State of Virginia

County of Southampton, to wit:

I, Geo. M. Hughes, a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid in the state of Virginia, do certify that Lucy Sledge whose name is signed to this answer has this day personally appeared before me and made oath that the statements in this answer as of her own knowledge are true, and as derived from the statements of others she believes to be true

Given under my hand this 2d day of November 1878

~~Justice of the Peace.~~

G. M. Hughes J.P.

& Mollie his wife
by Wm B. Shands
his Attorney

At a Court held for the County of Southampton, on the 21st day of May 1879. This Administration account of Jos. A. Sledge as administrator of Sterling Sledge ~~dec'd~~ with the exceptions thereto, came on this day to be heard, and the Exceptions being withdrawn, it is considered by the Court that the said account be confirmed and recorded.

Teste: T. W. Edwards C.C.

A Copy. Teste
T. A. Edwards C.C.

Sledge Adm'r
Exhibit D
with amended bill

Sledge Et als
vs

Filed May 21st 1879.

The Estate of Sterling Sledge decd.
In account with Geo. D. Sledge. Admr.

1878								
April	1	To balance due Admr. by last report			1413	78		
		" Int: on $1342.75 1 year			80	56		
	5	" Cash paid Freight on 1 yearn			1	80		
May	6	By " received for Goods Sold					4	02
"	22	To " paid L. D. Jackson				60		
June	24	" " " Isaac Thomas			5	00		
July	20	By " received for Goods sold						47
Dec	8	To " paid E. J. Hart			6	80		
"	28	" " " " Green & Burton for Salt			3	90		
"	"	" " " " Clerk City Market				30		
"	"	" " " " Davis Drake & Co a/c			1	00		
"	"	By " received for Lambs					7	00
Oct	7	To " paid out for Goods for Mother				90		
"	15	By " received from D. A. Sledge					1	62
Nov	4	" " " " " T. J. Jarratt (Cotton)					37	09
"	"	To " paid T. J. Jarratt a/c			20	53		
"	"	" " " " Dr J. A. Field Med Bill			25	50		
"	9	" " " " J. H. Moody, difference in horse			10	00		
"	"	" " " " Taxes & Clerk's Tickets 1878			73	88		
"	"	" " " " W. T. Hubbard a/c			48	35		
"	"	" " " " Green & Burton a/c			159	28		
"	"	By " rec'd from Green & Burton (Cotton)					293	33
"	"	" " " " " W. T. Hubbard "					87	56
"	"	" " " " " C. M. Hughes, Rent					100	00
"	12	To " paid Musgrave & Pope, Yarns			55	60		
Dec	2	" " " D. A. Sledge for wife			50	00		
"	"	" " " C. C. Seaborne for fodder			8	62		
"	"	" " " T. J. Jarratt a/c			12	18		
"	"	By Cash rec'd from T. J. Jarratt for Cotton Sold					68	22
"	"	" Cash rec'd from Hubbard (Cotton)					69	55
		Amts carried over			1977	98	1668	86

		Amounts brought over		1977	98	668	86			Amts: brought forward		2791 60	1878 41
Dec	2	By amo: from Green & Burton (Cotton				127	08	Mar	10	By Int: on $225.65 for three years			40 61
"	"	" " " J. N. Presson, Rent				100	00	"	28	To Com'n on $1919.02 5 prct		95 95	
"	"	" " " E. J. Hart for ginning Cotton				12	80			" Com'n fee for this acct			
"	10	" " " Corn Sold				34	50			& Copy retained		10 00	
"	"	To paid W. Glover a/c		42	05					" Clerks fee for recording			
"	13	" " Joseph Turner "		5	92					this account		3 00	
"	"	By amo: from Joseph Turner				10	50			By Bal: due Admr			981 53
"	"	To " paid for Goods for Mother		5	25			1879				2900 55	2900 55
"	21	" " " Jim Parker for digging Well		3	00			April	1	Balance due Admr brought down with			981 53
"	"	By " recd for Lumber Sold				3	00			Interest on $860.36 part			
"	25	" " " from Hands for Goods Sold				120	00			thereof till paid.			
"	"	To Cash paid Hands on Farm		510	00								
"	"	" " " Prince & Prince a/c		69	25								
1879 Jany	11	By amo: recd: for Goods sold				15	17						
Feby	3	" " " from G. M. Hughes Rent				70	00						
"	"	" " " Green & Burton, Cotton				85	96						
"	"	" " " P. H. Ivey for Goods				8	63						
"	"	To paid Green & Burton a/c		14	60								
"	8	By amo recd from C. Claud				4	00						
"	14	" " " " Hubbard for Cotton				105	86						
"	"	" " " " Green & Burton "				92	80						
"	"	" " " " B. J. Jarratt "				83	58						
"	"	To " paid Davis Drake & Co. a/c		1	87								
"	"	" " " D. Rabily "		2	00								
"	"	" " " Tapp & Steel for castings		7	50								
"	17	" " " Freight on Goods		1	49								
"	18	" " " " " "			69								
Mch	5	By " recd from G. M. Hughes for rent & ginning				84	62						
"	"	" amo: recd. from Hughes for bagging & ties				25	50						
		To paid Admr: for Labor & Services on farm		150	00								
"	10	By mistake in a/c of 1878				225	65						
		Amts: carried forward		2791	60	1878	41						

Respectfully Submitted
James A. Tyler
Commissioner in Chancery

At a Court held for the County of Southampton on the 21st day of May 1879 This administrations account of Geo. O. Sledge,

To which account the following exceptions were filed to wit:

John N. Presson and Mollie his wife appear by Thos. B. Shands their attorney and except to the within account because the administrator George O. Sledge has not filed itemized accounts with the Commissioner so that they can judge of its correctness, to wit they want the amount paid to each of the Laborers and itemized accounts of the amount paid the Merchants, and they except for other and many errors apparent on the face of the said report.

John N. Presson
(one)

In the name of God, Amen, I Sterling Sledge, being of sound mind, do make this my last will and testament.

Item I. It is my desire that all my just debts be paid.

Item II. It is my will that my whole Estate be kept together as it now is, as long as my wife shall remain a widow, and that she shall receive a support from the proceeds of the whole farm.

Item III. I give to my son Otho, and his heirs forever the following portion of the tract of land upon which my family now lives Viz: All of the land north of the public road leading from Belfield to Jerusalem to a Jerry Row in the field west of the dwelling House, which term now goes to a washed gully, which runs to a mash, then a straight line to a ditch, then down the ditch across the mash to a dread to the line of the Lewis Thorp land. The corner tree is an overcup Oak close to the road. The whole tract given him contains between four and five hundred acres and includes all the buildings. I also give him the Black Horse, the gin and all the running works my guns and shooting irons of every description and my desk, and at the death or marriage of my wife, I give him one bed and bedstead, which is to be first choice.

Item IV. I loan to my daughters Alice and Phelia during their natural lives all the land west of the land given to Otho. If either one of them should die, leaving no issue living, it is my will that the survivor should have the whole of the land during her natural life, and at her death, it is to descend to her issue. It is my will that which ever one of these two shall marry first shall live at the place upon which Miss Evaline Thorp lives at present; but I do not will wise should either of these two marry, that she shall live upon the said place, until five years after the present year.

Item V. I loan to my daughter Mollie, the tract of land known as Pumpkin, during her natural life, and at her death to her issue in fee. But if she should die without living issue or under twenty one, I devise the said tract of land to my son Otho in fee simple.

VI. After the land that I bought, formerly belonging to C. B Thorp, is paid for, it is my will that my Estate shall pay to Jinny Sledge the wife of J. A. Sledge, the sum of Fifty dollars annually for two years,

I also give her the interest I own in the dower land of Thomas Williamson's Estate.

Item VII. It is my will and desire that Geo. M. Hughs shall live at the place he is now living on and cultivate the lands devised to Alice and Ophelia, for five years after the present year for the same rent he is now paying- which is one fifth of all the crops he makes.

Item VIII. It is my will that N. S. Harrison shall live upon the place he is now living upon until my daughter Mollie attains the age of twenty one or marries- and that he shall pay the same rent he is now paying Viz- I find the horse & feed him; he finds the hands and feeds them, and I take half of the gross proceeds. The yoke of oxen that he now has can remain on the place if he stays there, and the cart wheels- He can have half of the Apple Crop- and the garden extra.

Item IX. The year that my wife dies, it is my will that each one of the children shall have the crops grown on the lands given them, after paying the expenses of making the crop. But if my wife should die before the land I bought, formerly belonging to C. B. Thorp, is paid for, then it is my will that the proceeds of the farms shall be applied to that debt first, and after that debt is paid, then each one is to have what remains out of their portions. At the death or marriage of my wife, I give to each of my daughters, a bed & stead,

Item X. At the death or marriage of my wife, it is my will that all of my Estate not disposed of, shall be divided among my children equally- and should any of them die leaving children, their children are to take per stirpes.

Witness my hand and seal this 3rd day of June 1871-

Sterling his X mark Sledge (Seal)

Signed, sealed and acknowledged in presence of.

John E. Reese

Wm J. Robinson

At a Court held for the County of Southampton on the 21st day of April A.D. 75
This last Will and Testament of Sterling Sledge dec'd was proved by the oaths of John E. Reese and Wm J. Robinson, the two subscribing witness thereto, and Ordered to be recorded- And thereupon an Executor named therein, on the motion of George O. Sledge, (who made oath according to law) and together with Joseph H. Prince and Joseph B. Prince, his securities, (who justified on oath as to their sufficiency) entered into and acknowledged a Bond in the penalty of Two Thousand dollars, Conditioned according to law, which bond is ordered to be recorded. Certificate is granted the said George O. Sledge for obtaining letters of administration on the Estate of the said Sterling Sledge dec'd with his will aforesaid annexed in due form.

Teste,

S.R. Edwards Clk

A Copy

Teste S.R. Edwards Clk

Sterling Sledge's

Will

Exhibit "W"

Fee 75¢

"Exhibit A"

In the name of God, Amen, I, Sterling Sledge being of Sound mind, do make this my last will and testament.

Item I. It is my desire that all my just debts be paid.

Item II. It is my will that my whole estate be kept together as it now is - as long as my wife shall remain a widow, and that She shall receive a support from the proceeds of the whole farm.

Item III I give, to my son Otho & his heirs forever the following portion of the tract of land upon which my family now lives viz: All the land north of the public road leading from Belfield to Jerusalem to a Turn Row in the field west of the Dwelling House, which turn row goes to a washed gully, which runs to a mash, then a straight line to a ditch, then down the ditch across the mash to a drain to the line of the Lewis Thorp land. The corner tree is an over cup oak close to the run. The whole tract given him contains between four & five hundred acres - and includes all the buildings - I also give him the Black Horse, the gin and all the running works my gun & shooting irons of every description and my duck, and at the death or marriage of my wife, I give him one bed & bedstead.

which is to be first choice.
Item IV I loan to my daughter Alice & Ophelia during their natural lives all the land west of the land given to Otho= If either one of them should die having no issue living, it is my will that the survivor should have the whole of the land during her natural life, and at her death, it is to descend to her issue. It is my will that which ever one of these two shall marry first shall live at the place upon which Miss Evaline Thorp lives at present; but I do not will it so as should either of these two marry, that she shall live upon the said place, until five years after the present year.
Item V I loan to my daughter Mollie the tract of land known as Pumpkin, during her natural life, and at her death to her issue in fee. But if she should die without living issue, or un- der twenty one, I desire the said tract of land to my son Otho in fee simple.
Item VI After the land that I bought formaly belonging to R.B. Thorp is paid for it is my will that my estate shall pay to Jimmy Sledge the wife of J.A. Sledge, the sum of Fifty dollars annually for two years. I also give her the interest I own in the Downland of Thomas Williamson's estate.

Item VII. It is my will and desire that Geo. M. Hughes shall live at the place he is now living on & cultivate the lands devised to Alice & Ophelia, for five years after the present year, for the same rent he is now paying - which is one fifth of all the crops he makes -

Item VIII It is my will that N. L. Harrison shall live upon the place he is now living upon until my daughter Mollie attains the age of twenty one or marries - and that he shall pay the same rent he is now paying viz: I find the horse & feed him, he finds the hands and feeds them and I take half of the gross proceeds The yoke of oxen that he now has can remain on the place if he stays there, and the cart wheels. He can have half of the apple crop - and the garden extra.

Item IX. The year that my wife dies, it is my will that each one of the children shall have the crops grown on the land given them, After paying the expenses of making the crop. But if my wife should die before the land I bought, formerly belonging to E. B. Thorp, is paid for, then I will that the proceeds of the farms shall be applied to that debt first, and after that debt is paid, then each one is to have what remains out of their portions At the death or marriage of my wife, I give to each of my daughters, a bed &

Stead.

Item X At the death or marriage of my wife it is my will that all of my Estate not disposed of, shall be divided among my Children Equally - and should any of them die leaving Children, their children are to take per Stripes -

Witness my hand and seal this 3rd day of June 1871,

Sterling his + mark Sledge (Seal)

Signed, sealed & acknowledged in presence of

John E. Ruse

Wm J. Robinson

At a Court held for the County of Southampton on the 21st day of April A.D 1873. This last Will and Testament of Sterling Sledge dec'd was proved by the Oaths of Jno. E. Ruse and Wm J. Robinson the two Subscribing witnesses thereto, and ordered to be recorded - And there being no executor named therein, on the motion of Geo. O. Sledge (who made Oaths according to law) and together with Joseph H. Trimer and Joseph B. Trimer his securities (who justified on Oath as to their sufficiency) entered into and acknowledged a Bond in the penalty of Two thousand dollars, Conditioned according to law, which Bond is ordered to be recorded. Certificate is granted the said George O. Sledge for obtaining letters of administration on the estate of the said Sterling Sledge dec'd with his

wills aforesaid annexed in due form.
Testo. T. R. Edwards Clk.

"Exhibit B"

Southampton Circuit Court November
term 1876

Sludge, Plff
vs
Sludge's Exors, Dfts } In Chancery

This day this Cause came on to be
heard on the bill of the Complainants
which has been taken for confessed as
to the defendants, Exhibits filed therewith
and was argued by Counsel. On Consider a
tion whereof, the Court construing the
true intention & meaning of the last will
and testament of Sterling Sludge dec'd
So far as that meaning & intention is
asked for by the bill of the Complainants
doth adjudge ordain & decree, that the fol-
lowing is the true construction of said
will to wit: The Court is of opinion,
1st That the Administrator with the will an
nexed of Sterling Sludge is the person who
is to keep his estate, personal & real together
giving proper bond-
(2nd) That the Administrator with the will an
nexed is to keep the whole of said estate,
personal & real, (except what is given to
Jinny Sludge, wife of J. A. Sludge, and
the bequest of personal property, in

pursuit to Otho Sludge) under his control & management, subject to the tenancies of Geo. M. Hughes & N. L. Harrison from whom he is to receive the rents that fall due during the widowhood of Sterling Sludge's widow and also the rents that fall due the year of her widowhood's being terminated or so much thereof as shall be necessary towards paying for the land formerly belonging to A. B. Thorp.

(3rd) That the Admr with the will annexed may employ the necessary assistance for immediate superintendance of the different farms at the expense of the estate: or if he should render that superintendance himself, he shall be allowed, as a legitimate Charge, against the estate, a reasonable compensation therefor, x

(4th) That the Admr with the will annexed shall furnish to the widow of the said Sterling Sludge, during her widowhood and to her unmarried children living with her, the rent income of the farm upon which the testator resided, due regard being had to the payment of expenses of Curatorship, taxes and debts.

(5th) That should either of the tenants, Geo: M. Hughes, or N. L. Harrison refuse to occupy the premises indicated by the testators will upon the terms thereby imposed, it shall be his duty to rent or dispose of the same upon such terms

as he may think most advantageous for the interest of all parties Concerned. Except that he shall make no lease or disposition of the same for more than one year continuously

(6th) That when the widow of the said testator dies or is married, the Estate shall cease, at the end of that year to be kept together, and then the devisees shall have their lands (subject to such rights as Geo. McHughes & N. L. Harrison may still have or to such rights as any other tenant may have, under the ~~provisions~~ contained by the fifth clause of this order.) and then the residuary estate, remaining after payment of all debts and charges and after providing out of the same for all installments then unpaid of the annuity to Jimmy Sledge, shall be divided Equally among the testator's five children, if all of them be then living: but should any of them die before that time, having children, their children are to take per stirpes:

"Exhibit C"

The Estate of Sterling Sledge deceased
In account with Geo. O. Sledge Administrator

1873		D.				Cr.	
Aug.	25	By cash for Corn				7	50
Nov.	3	" " of Geo. M. Hughes, Rent.				86	12
Dec.	1	" " " N. L. Harrison "				13	79
		" " " P. N. Long "				39	04

"	"	By cash of Barkly & Machin, Lessees			56	56
Dec	19	" " " Wm I. Fisher Com &c			41	14
	22	" " " Geo. M. Hughes, Rent,			8	42
		" " " Wm K Drewry & Co. Proceeds			656	40
	23	" " " Jos. Turner, Corn			5	00
	25	" " " Tenants on Farm			482	03
Nov. ✓	5	To paid Taxes & Tickets	78	72		
✓ Dec,	1	" " Lawyer's fee for opinion				
		concerning S. Sloge's will	50	00		
	✓	" " Labor on Farm	2	50		
		" " Barkly & Machin a/c	51	85		
	19	" " Wm K Drewry & Co "	604	77		
	23	" " Prince & Powell "	35	54		
		" " Wm I. Holt. Shop "	11	30		
	24	" " Carpenter's a/c	15	00		
	25	" " " "	26	59		
		" " Laborers on Farm	605	30		
		" " for Picking Cotton	7	65		
		" Commissions on $1396 00	69	80		
Dec,	31	" Balance due Admr			163	00
1874			1559	00	1559	00
Jany	1	To amo: due Admr brot. down	163	00		
	19	By " recived on open accts,			100	00
Feby	2	" " of Wm K Drewry & Co. Cotton			342	68
		" " " W. T. Hubbard "			95	76
		" " " A. L. Harrison's Rent &c			59	37
Mar	3	" " " Geo. M Hughes Rent,			200	91
		Amount Carried over	$163	00	$798	72
Mar	3	amounts brought over	163	00	798	72
	4	By amo: of P. H. Drewry, Rent			14	98
		" " " W. T. Drewry Ginning			56	32
		" " " Wm I. Fisher "			13	50

		By amo: of P.N. Ivey, Cust			15	50
Jany	8	To paid for Brick Work	10	00		
Feby	6	" " Tuition of Children	147	81		
		" " Dr. J.W.M. Sykes Med. Bill	13	00		
Mar	4	" " Mose & Labor	103	16		
		" " Mose of L & W	60	00		
		" " Plow Casting	13	33		
	16	" " Land, Bond & Int.,	477	56		
		" " W. W. Briggs Executors	132	00		
		" " Tax a/c.	7	67		
	31	" " Interest on 163.00 3 mos	2	44		
		" Commissions on 899.02 5 pr. ct.	45	95		
		" Commissioner's fee for this a/c & copy, returned	10	00		
		" Clerks fee for recording this a/c, retained	2	00		
		Balance due Admr			288	90
			$1187	92	$1187	92

1874
Mar 31 To amo: due Admr with Int,
from date till paid $288 90

Respectfully Submitted
Jno: I. Kivett
Comr of Accts,

Southampton County, In the Clerks Office
April the 13th 1874. This account of
Geo. O. Sludge's administrators on the es-
tate of Sterling Sludge dec'd was
this day returned and filed for

exceptions. And at a Court held for the said County on the 18th day of May 1874 the said account having lain one month and upwards in the Clerks office & no Exceptions being filed thereto it was Examined, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded. Teste.

T. L. Edwards C.C.

"Exhebit D"

"

The Estate of Sterling Sledge

In account with Geo. O. Sledge Administrator

1874			Dr		Cr	
Mar	1	To balance due Admr by last report	$288	90	$	
"	"	" Int. on same to March 1st 1875. 14yr	17	33		
"	10	By Cash on account			55	00
Ap'l	6	To " paid for labor on farm	2	25		
"	18	" " " " do do	6	13		
May	5	By " from D. A. Sledge for Cotton			26	84
"	"	To " paid Turner & Bro.	13	92		
"	"	" " " R. Coleman	30	00		
"	6	By " from D. M. Hill a/c.			3.	50
July	29	To " paid for labor on farm	2	25		
"	"	" " " for Cotton Planter	12	00		
Aug	20	" " " " labor on farm	9	44		
"	26	By " for Sheep and Lambs			30	00
"	27	To " paid for ~~meal~~	12	00		
Sept.	4	" " " for labor	7	38		
Nov.	7	By " from N. L. Harrison Pat.			47	95
"	7	To " paid for labor on farm	3	70		
"	13	By " from Patterson, Madison & Co for Cotton			25	23
"	"	" " " J. W. Burton			59	44
"	"	" " " W. D. Hubbard			119	88

"	"	By " " W.H. Drewry & Co			512	75
"	"	To " paid W.H. Drewry & Co	579	64		
Dec	7	" " " W.T. Hubbard	10	15		
"	"	By " from G. M. Hughes for rent			233	49
"	9	" " " W.T. Hubbard			31	16
"	"	To " paid G. M. Hughes	30	27		
"	"	" " " P.S. Thomas for a/c	31	50		
"	"	" " " J.N. Prince "	34	00		
"	11	" " " N.L. Harrison	7	55		
"	17	" " " Taxes & tickets	129	98		
"	25	" " " labor on farm	339	66		
"	"	By " from articles sold laborers			219	37
1875		"	$ 1567	93	$ 1364	64
"	"	" Amt brot over	$ 1567	93	$ 1364	64
Jany	2	" Cash paid W.T. Holt on a/c	2	60		
"	4	" " " for Fodder	29	13		
"	"	By " from Geo: Drewry			39	65
"	21	" " " Green and Ryland for Cotton			47	33
"	23	To " paid J.E. Harris	18	50		
"	"	" " " Prince & Powell	241	05		
"	"	By " from W.D. Fisher			56	05
"	29	" " " J. Turner			26	28
"	"	To " paid same	16	86		
Feby	1	" " " W.H. Drewry & Co	98	78		
"	"	By " from W.H. Drewry & Co			98	96
"	"	To " paid for labor on farm	20	96		
"	"	By " from one Land			3	75
"	"	" " " J.N. Burton for Cotton			53	00
"	5	" " " W.T. Hubbard			55	13
"	17	To " paid Dr. J.A.M. Sykes	8	00		
"	13	By " from G. M. Hughes for rent			208	84
"	"	To " paid on Land Bond	200	00		

"	"	"	"	" Thomas Pond for tuition of 2 children	117	10		
"	15	By	"	from P. A. Ivey			14	32
"	24	To	"	paid for Vinegar	1	20		
Mch	1	By	"	from W. T. Stubbard (for Allen)			52	05
"	15	To	"	paid on Land Bond	100	00		
April	1		"	Commissions on $2010.19 @ 5%	100	50		
"	"		"	Amt retained for services of the admr in attending to farms	200	00		
"	"		"	Commissioners fee for this a/c retained	5	00		
			"	Clerks fee for recording this a/c "	2	00		
"	1		"	Bal: due admr:			719	52
					$2729	61	2729	61
Apl	1	To	Bal. due Admr brot down with interest on $702.19 part thereof this paid		719	52		

Office of Comr of Accts
April 12th 1895

The foregoing account of the transaction of George C. Sledge Admr of Sterling Sledge deceased is respectfully submitted to the County Court of Southampton County.

Jno. I. Kindred
Comm'r of Accts,

Southampton County. In the Clerk's Office April the 18th 1895. This account of Geo. C Sledge administrator

on the estate of Sterling Sledge
dec'd was returned and filed for exceptions.
And at a Court held for said County
on the 9th day of May 1875, the said
account having lain one month and up-
wards in the Clerks Office and no exception
being filed thereto it was examined
Confirmed and Ordered to be recorded

Teste,
L. R. Edwards C.C.C

"Exhibit E"

The Estate of Sterling Sledge dec'd
In account with Geo. D. Sledge his Admr
with the will annexed in due form

1875			$	cts	$	cts
Apl	1	To Balance due the Administrator as per the last report	719	52		
		Int. on $703.19 part thereof to Apl 1st 1876 one year	42	13		
Aug	2	To paid for labor on farm	1	00		
"	20	By cash rec'd for lambs			21	00
"	31	To paid for goods	14	78		
"	"	" " " labor on farm	5	62		
"	"	By cash received for wool			3	15
Oct	4	To paid for Lumber	3	74		
"	"	" " J. R. Person for Corn	10	00		
		" " Store a/c to B. D. T.	1	38		
"	13	By cash from B. D. T. for 2 B. Cotton			112	39
"	15	To paid Prince & Powell Store acct	112	39		
"	18	By cash from B. D. T. for 2 Bales Cotton			110	94

on the estate of Sterling Sledge
dec'd was returned and filed for exceptions.
And at a Court held for said County
on the 17 day of May 1875, the said
account having lain one month and up-
wards in the Clerks Office and no exception
being filed thereto it was examined
Confirmed and Ordered to be recorded

Teste,
S. R. Edwards C.C.C

"Exhibit E"

The Estate of Sterling Sledge dec'd
In account with Geo. D. Sledge his Admr
with the will annexed in due form

1875			Dr $	Dr cts	Cr $	Cr cts
Apl	1	To Balance due the Administrator as per the last report	719	52		
		Int. on $703.09 part thereof to Apl 1st 1876 one year	47	13		
Aug	2	To paid for labor on farm	1	00		
"	20	By cash rec'd for lambs			21	00
"	31	To paid for goods	14	78		
"	"	" " " labor on farm	5	62		
"	"	By cash received for wool			3	15
Oct	4	To paid for Lumber	3	74		
"	"	" " J. R. Person for Corn	10	00		
		" " Store a/c to B. D. T.	1	38		
"	13	By cash from B. D. T. for 2 B. Cotton			117	39
"	15	To paid Prince & Powell Store acct	117	39		
"	18	By cash from B. D. T. for 2 Bales Cotton			110	94

Nov	2	To paid Prince & Powell, Store acct	110	94		
"	24	" " Drewry & Co, " " "	569	58		
"	"	By Cash from same for 11 Bales Cotton			575	44
"	"	To paid Bland, Alexander & Co acct	35	92		
"	"	By Cash from same for 3 Bales Cotton			161	45
"	"	To paid T. J. Jarratt for goods &c	111	50		
"	"	By Cash from same for five B/c			260	70
"	"	To paid W. T. Hubbard acct	155	94		
"	"	By Cash from same for Cotton &c			89	42
"	"	To paid W. T. Hubbard acct	22	47		
"	"	By Cash from same for 2 Bales Cotton			105	90
"	"	To paid W. L & Co, acct	9	85		
"	"	" " C. Martin "	12	70		
"	25	" " for hat for Sister	2	00		
"	26	" " Taxes & Tickets	10	21		
"	"	" " for labor on farm	10	00		
"	29	" " Prince & Powell Store acct	40	00		
Dec,	1	" " Geo. W. Warrington (Bond)	21	05		
"	"	" " for goods &c	4	00		
"	"	By Cash from W. A. Price			3	00
"	2	" " " B. Alexander & Co 2 B/cotton			97	72
"	6	" " " Geo. M. Hughes (Rent)			200	00
"	"	To paid B. Alexander & Co, acct	38	66		
		Amount Carried forward	$2157	39	1741	11
1875						
Dec,	6	Amount Brought forward	$2157	39	1741	11
"	"	To paid J. B. Prince (Bond for land)	210	95		
"	"	" " for Fodder	5	00		
"	"	" " for Labor	1	30		
"	"	" " D. A. Collum acct	8	81		
"	"	" " Prince & Powell "	10	00		
"	"	" " Prince & Powell for I. Parkers, wages	72	66		

"	"	By " Prince & Powell Store act for farm &c	177	42		
"	25	" " for labor on farm for 1875	208	03		
"	"	By cash from Laborers on farm			115	15
"	"	To paid Prince & Glover act,	19	30		
"	"	" " Taxes &c	2	43		
"	"	" " T. J. Jarratt "	28	59		
"	"	By cash from same for 1 Bale Cotton			40	76
"	"	To paid Prince & Powell (Bond & Int)	71	10		
		" " Same act	66	42		
		" " " for Benja Hicks in part wages	41	47		
		" " " " Chs. Lundy " " "	42	85		
		" " " " Lucinda Lundy " "	23	25		
		" " " " Willy J. Ivey " "	77	69		
		" " " " Stark Mason " "	64	98		
1876 Jany	3	" " W. H. Drewry & Co. act	50	00		
"	15	" " for Labor "	1	05		
"	16	" " W. H. Drewry & Co. "	1	75		
"	28	" " W. H. Drewry & Co. "		50		
Feby	2	By cash from Same for Cotton			33	96
"	"	To paid Same act,	17	80		
		" " for labor on farm		40		
		" " " Vinegar	1	00		
		" " T. J. Jarratt for P. H. Ivey	14	50		
		By cash from B. Alexander & Co. & Bro,			163	10
		To paid Same act	31	80		
		" " J. C. Chambliss "	4	90		
"	8	" " J. R. Pond for Board &c of Mollie Sledge	72	35		
		" " B. F. Hill act	2	00		
		" " for Labor on farm	52	63		
"	18	" " W. H. Drewry & Co. "	95	00		
"	"	" " Bland, Alexander & Co "	27	04		

"	"	By Cash from Same for Corn			154	90
		" " " N. E. Prince			9	71
		" " " N. P. Hubbard			3	94
		To paid Same for dry goods	25	40		
			$368	74	$2312	63
1876		Amounts Brought forward	$ 368	74	$2312	63
Feby	24	To paid Clerks ticket	1	08		
"	28	By Cash from J. A. Sledge (for rent)			29	24
March	6	" " " Geo. M. Hughes " "			127	28
"	"	To paid Geo. M. Hughes act	35	69		
		" " Asp Harris "	7	31		
		By Cash from Same for Corn			5	00
		To paid G. C. Stark act		41		
		" " N. N. Drewry & Co for meat	28	25		
	8	" " J. N. Prince freight on guano	8	50		
	14	" " G. N. Sebrell for Corn	21	00		
"	18	By Cash from N. E. Ivey			78	22
Apl	1	To this amt retained to pay the Services of the Administrator for attending to the farm for the year 1875	150	00		
		To Commissions on $2552.37 cts @ 5 p ct	127	61		
		" Commissions fee for this and former act. & Copies of the Same (retained)	20	00		
		To this amount retained to pay Clerk for recording this act &c	5	00		
		By Balance due the Administrator			1542	22
			$4094	59	$4094	59
1876						
Apl	1	To Balance due the Amr $	1542	22		
		Brought down with Int. on $1500.00 Part thereof, from this				

day, till paid.

Respectfully Submitted
James R. Tyler
Commissioner.

Southampton County Court August term 1896

On the motion of Geo. O. Sledge, it is ordered that the account current of Geo. O. Sledge as Admr with the will annexed of Sterling Sledge dec'd be recommitted to a Commissioner of this Court, to restate the same, and make report to Court.

Teste, L. R. Edwards C.C.

A Copy
Teste
James R. Tyler D.C.

Southampton County, In the Clerks Office September 9th 1896.
This account of Geo. O. Sledge's, Admr on the estate of Sterling Sledge dec'd was returned and filed for exceptions, And at a Court held for the said County on the 16th day of October 1896, the said account having lain one month and upwards in the Clerks Office and no exceptions being filed thereto it was Examined, Confirmed and Ordered to be recorded.

Teste
L. R. Edwards C.C.

"Exhibit H"

The Estate of Sterling Sledge Dec'd
In account with Geo. O. Sledge Adm'r

187			$	cts	$	cts
Apl	1	To Balance due Com'r by last report	1542	22		
"	"	" Interest on $1500 " 9 part thereof from				
"	"	date to 31st mar, 1877	90	00		
"	4	" Cash paid P. T. Coles for A. S. Mann	10	65		
"	"	" " " for labor		80		
"	"	By " rec'd from Leon Sled			1	50
	24	To " paid for labor	5	00		
	"	By " rec'd of W. E. Ivey			49	00
May	4	To " pd for goods	1	25		
"	5	" " " Int on goods		40		
	8	" " " for Plow gear	1	50		
	"	" " " " goods		45		
	17	" " " " ds	2	00		
June	5	" " " to J. B. Prince	32	05		
	"	By " rec'd from W. E. Ivey			29	87
		To " paid for Int on goods		44		
	13	" " " " " ds		10		
	30	" " " for fish	1	20		
July	3	" " " for Goods to Bland & Boo	12	40		
"	"	" " " to N. L. Harrison for fodder		50		
Aug	7	" " " for labor	1	20		
"	14	By " rec'd from E. J. Hart for Corn			3	75
	30	" " " " Sheep Sold			21	00
	"	To " Paid for Sack to Jarratt	3	50		
	"	" " " " to Bland for goods	2	20		
	"	" " " " for goods	1	75		
Sept	4	" " " for lumber R. P. Pace	6	62		
"	23	" " " " Logging & ties to P. Powell	66	37		
Oct	2	" " " " goods	6	20		

	20	" " " fish on goods		27		
"	"	" " " to A.T. Hill for labor	66	01		
Nov	1	By " recd from B.G. Hill in part pay for mule			75	00
"	13	" " " " T.J.J. for Cotton			129	41
	"	" " " " P.E.B. for Cotton			39	64
	"	" " " " G.+J. " do			205	89
	"	" " " " P.N.B. " do			148	08
	"	" " " " J.N. Sons " do			71	99
	"	" " " " W.E. Drury for rent			26	18
	"	" " " " G. Drury " do			58	47
	"	" " " " T. Lucas, Ginning Cotton			6	53
			$1850	08	$866	34
1877		To & By amts brot forwd	$1850	08	$866	34
Nov.	12	To Cash paid for goods to Jarratt	72	30		
	"	" " " " " " " Grum & Jones	86	12		
	"	" " " " " " " R.C. Bland	7	34		
	"	" " " " " " " G.W.B.	1	10		
	"	" " " " " " " Mother & Sister	4	58		
	"	" " " " " One Lock	1	"		
	15	" " " " Irish on goods		53		
	16	" " " " Labor	7	64		
	18	" " " " Cotton to J. Turner	14	64		
	"	By " recd from J. Turner for quinine &c.			11	06
	20	To " pd for Guano to M & P.	101	70		
	"	" " " " Taxes to J.E. Sebrell	73	68		
Dec.	4	By " recd from G. Drury for rent & Gin			23	46
	"	" " " " T. Lucas " "			43	97
	"	" " " " W.E. Jury " "			11	24
	"	To " pd for goods to G. + J.	34	35		
	"	" " " " " " R.L. B. & Co.	6	64		
	"	" " " " " Potatoes planting to L. Jury	1	50		
	17	By " recd from G.M. Hughes rent & Gin			200	00

	13	" " " " E. J. Hart " "			2	25	
	"	" " " " E. A. Ivey			1	14	
	16	" " " " P. H. Booth for Cotton			173	74	
	18	To " pd. for labor	5	00			
	20	" " " to J. A. Sledge amount due his wife under the will of S. Sledge	50	00			
	25	" " pd. for labor on farm	544	04			
	27	" " " to P. & Glover Shop a/c,		50			
		By " rec'd from labors on farm for goods			104	29	
	"	" " " " " Jim Rice for goods			12	90	
1874 July	5	To " paid for seed to P. & Powell	2	00			
	10	By " rec'd from goods saved			3	30	
	13	To " paid for Cleaning out well	3	25			
	18	" " " " Land Stand	2	00			
	19	" " " to Henry Turner work on gin	9	75			
Feby	6	" " " G. M. Hughes balance on mule	49	00			
	"	" " " " " " for Guano	15	40			
	"	By " rec'd from G. M. H. for rent & ginning			121	72	
	7	" " " " T. J. Jarratt for Cotton			91	04	
	"	" " " " Grum & Jones "			234	69	
	"	" " " " Geo. Drury rent & ginning			24	79	
	"	" " " " W. E. Ivey " "			11	21	
	"	To " pd. for Goods to T. J. Jarratt	33	99			
	"	" " " " " to Grum & Jones	78	15			
			$ 3056	29	$ 1940	34	
1877		To Bal. brot fow'd	$ 3056	29	$ 1940	34	
Feby	7	To Cash paid for goods to Davis Drake & Co	4	50			
	"	" " " " " Trunk to F. Parker for sister	5	50			
	"	" " " " " Buggie Harness to P. M. Stewart	16	50			
	"	" " " " " plow casting to Tapp & Steel	3	15			
	"	" " " " " Gaiters to A. Wright for sister	1	15			
	8	" " " " Pad Lock to C. Leonard	2	00			

	10	" " " " to P.T. Powell Storage a/c	145	96		
	14	" " " " to Sip Harris Stop a/c	9	27		
	"	" " " " to Dr. T.B. Powell med Bill for Mrs	37	30		
	"	" " " " for Potatoes planting	3	18		
	17	By " rec'd from T. Lucas for rent			37	24
	"	" " " " W. E. Jones " "			9	37
	"	" " " " " " Bagging & ties			7	38
	"	" " " " J. A. & Sons for Cotton			265	24
	22	To " paid to J. N. McLyas med Bill	12	50		
Mar	5	" " " for goods to Grum & Jones	41	42		
	"	By " rec'd from Grum & Jones for Cot & Sausage			97	07
1876 Oct	17	To " paid to A. L. Blow & Co for whiskey	7	34		
1877 Mar	17	By " rec'd from Med Assn			6	20
	"	To " paid a/c'n for Labor &c on farm	150	00		
	"	" " " for Lumber to I. A. Smith	5	00		
	17	" " " " Barrel Tar	3	50		
"	31	" Commissions on $2362,79 @ 5%	118	13		
	"	" Clerks fee for recording this acct rendered.	4	00		
		" Commissioners fee for making up & copy this a/c rendered	10	00		
		By Balance due adm,			1273	90
			$3636	69	$3636	69
March	31	To Balance due adm, brot down with Int on $1180.90/100 part thereof	$1273	90		
		this paid.				

Respectfully Submitted
James R. Tyler
Asst Com'r of Accounts

Southampton County, In the Clerks Office
Apl 2nd 1877.

This account of Geo: O. Sledge Administrator of the estate of Sterling Sledge dec'd was this day returned and filed for exceptions, and at a Court held for the said County on the 21st day of May 1877 the said account having lain over a month and upwards in the Clerks Office, and no Exceptions being filed thereto it was Examined Confirmed and Ordered to be recorded

Teste.

S. R. Edwards C.C.C.,

"Exhibit G"

The Estate of Sterling Sledge Dec'd
In account with Geo: O. Sledge his Administrator

1877			Dr. $	Dr. cts	Cr. $	Cr. cts
Apl	1	To balance due adm'r by last report	1273	90		
"		" Interest on $1183.90 to apl 1st 1878 "1 yr"	71	03		
"	7	" Cash paid Green & Jones (as per bills)	10	30		
"	"	By " rec'd for goods sold			2	27
"	8	" Cash rec'd for 1 car load sold to J. M. Spiers			8	75
"	"	To do paid for Shod	1	75		
"	"	" do paid freight on goods	1	10		
"	11	" do paid " " do		99		
"	12	" do paid for labor	2	00		
May	5	" do paid for Horse Collar		50		
"	7	" do paid Mrs Gladwell for trimming Colt	3	00		
"	8	By do for goods sold			1	14
"	26	To do paid for groom fee	1	00		
June	7	" do paid mother (Mrs Sledge)	10	00		
"	"	" do paid for Shod	1	75		
"	"	" do paid Green & Jones for goods	65	49		

"	14	" do paid for labor		90		
"	"	" do pd L. Ivey for Potatoes	2	25		
"	21	" do paid for Labor		37		
July	29	" do paid fright on goods		44		
Aug	23	" do paid Browder & Price for salt	4	80		
"	"	By do rec'd. for corn from D. A. Sledge			7	00
"	25	To do paid for labor on Thorp farm	3	04		
"	28	" do paid fright		81		
Sept.	8	" do paid for Tray		65		
"	29	" do paid " Sharpning Gin saws (as p bill)	5	00		
Nov.	5	" do paid D. H. Prince for guano.	110	00		
"	"	" do paid D. H. & D. B. Prince for do.	76	20		
"	"	By do rec'd for Cotton sold by W. J. Hubbard			89	99
"	"	" do " " Cotton sold by A. G. Ryland			44	42
"	"	To do paid for labor	3	70		
"	"	" do paid for Baskets	1	37		
"	9	" do paid Fright on goods	1	28		
"	16	By do rec'd. for Cotton sold by W. B. Hubbard			78	46
"	"	" do " for Cotton sold by T. D. Jarratt			172	47
"	"	" do " for do sold by R. L. Bland			47	63
"	"	To do paid T. D. Jarratt for goods	58	28		
"	"	" do paid for goods for Mother & Sister	1	98		
"	"	" do paid G. L. Stark for goods	2	40		
"		" do pd fright on same		98		
			1666	77	$447	08
1877		To bal acct brot over	$1666	77	$447	08
Nov	17	By Cash rec'd for goods				50
"	21	To do paid taxes	62	71		
"	"	" do paid Clerks ticket	12	52		
Dec.	3	By do rec'd from B. H. Hill note			100	00
"	"	" do " from G. M. Hughes for do			110	00
"	"	" do " " Geo. Drewry "			24	48

"	"	" do paid " " G. & Co	7	50		
"	9	" do paid " " to Same	94	21		
"	"	By Cash rec'd for Cotton sold by S. M. Gee & Co			97	19
"	"	To do paid for goods for Mother	15	44		
		Card forw'd — —	$2722	57	$1483	07
1878		To & by amt's brot over	$2722	57	$1483	07
Feby	9	By Cash received of G. M. Hughes for rent			100	00
"	"	" do " of Tom Lucas for do.			100	00
"	"	To do paid for Fodder to Tom Lucas	13	87		
"	"	" do paid W. Glover for Shop a/c.	51	75		
"	"	" do pd Freight on goods	2	74		
"	"	" do pd do " do	1	85		
"	"	" do paid Tapp & Teel	4	76		
"	12	By do rec'd from Jos. Turner			16	61
"	13	" do " " Geo. Drewry for rent			100	00
"	"	" do " " do for Corn			39	00
"	"	" do " Corn			5	00
"	28	To do paid J. H. & J. B Price a/c	180	50		
Mar	4	" do paid for Mauling Rails &c	5	00		
"	5	" do pd G. M. Hughes	43	68		
"	"	By do rec'd of G. M. Hughes rent & ginning			88	88
"	"	To do paid for labor & Services on Farm	150	00		
"	19	" do pd for Horse to W. J. Hobbs	60	00		
Apl	1	" Commissions on $1932,56 @ 5 %	96	62		
"	"	" Clerks fee for recording this a/c	3	00		
"	"	" Commissioners fee for making up this acct, & Copy rec'd	10	00		
		By balance due Adm'r ~~brot down~~			$1413	98
			$3346	34	$3346	34
1878						
Apl	1	To Bal: due Adm'r brot down			$1413	98

with Int. on $1342,75 part thereof till paid

Respectfully Submitted, Jas. R. Tyler
Commissioner

Southampton County In the Clerk's Office
April 15th 1878,
This account of Geo: D. Sledge's Administration on the Estate of Sterling Sledge dec'd was returned and filed for exceptions And at a Court held for the said County on the 20th day of May 1878 the said account having lain One month and upwards in the Clerks Office and there being no exceptions thereto, it was examined, confirmed and Ordered to be recorded

Teste,
S. R. Edwards C.C.

A Copy
Teste.
S. R. Edwards C.C.

Prince et. als: 143

Fr Stat: Rules

Sledzis Admr

2 Ord. Rules

V. F. Prince & Waverly Prince
her husband. Mrs P. H. Ivey &
P. H. Ivey her husband.
Oshilea Hart & E. J. Hart her
husband. and Mollie L.
Pearson. Pltffs

against } In
Mrs. A. Sledge, Administratrix } Chancery
of Sterling Sledge dec'd. Defts.

1888. Oct. 11. Summ: to 2d. Oct: Rules:

" 2 Oct: Rules: Summ: ret'd Executed. bill & Ex: filed.
Answer Nisi & Defts

" 3 " " Bill taken for confessed and
Cause set for hearing.

Irey

Sledge &c

To } Stat. Rules.

Sledges adm &c

In Southampton Circuit Court

P. H. Ivey and Alice his wife, Ethelred I Hart and Othelia his wife and John A Pretson and Mollie L his wife Plaintiffs

against

Lucy Sledge, G. O. Sledge both in his own right and as administrator of Sterling Sledge dec'd, James A. Sledge and Jinney his wife Defendants

1878. Aug 21st Summons issued

" Sep R. Bill filed Decree Nisi v Defts

" Oct " Bill taken for Confessed & Cause Set for hearing

" Nov T. Amor: G. O Sledge & Lucy Sledge. 3 Rep & leave to amend bill

1879 Nov Leave to amend & Rule to plead amended bill within 90 days

1880 Jany 23d Amended bill filed process issued &c

Feby R. Process returned Executed except on Lucy Sledge She being dead

Decree Nisi v Defts to amended bill

Mar " Amended bill Taken for confessed & Cause Set for hearing

May T. Decree for further acct.

1881

Nov T. Dismissed

The answer of Geo. A. Sledge, in his own right and as executor with the will annexed of Sterling Sledge dec'd. to a bill of complaint exhibited against himself & others in the Circuit Court of Lowndes=ton by P. H. Ivey, wife and others.
This respondent for answer to said bill says. That it is true that Sterling Sledge died in 1873, leaving as his devisees & legatees, the parties as set forth in Complainants bill.
That it is also true that since his death his two daughters, Ophelia & Mollie have married: and that it is also true that respondent for his own guidance & protection did institute a suit in Chancery in this Court for a judicial con=struction of the will of his testator. That Complainants have set forth in their bill the construction put upon said will by the Judge of this Court, after the most deliberate consideration on his part. That it is also true that respondent has rendered before one of the Commissioners of this Court annually a strict account of all his trans

action as Admr with the will annexed of his testator, and that in the last annual settlement, the Estate was found in his debt in the sum of $1432.28 which respondent does most assuredly claim is a charge upon the estate of his testator, unless it can be shown by proper evidence that he has been guilty of waste or misfeasance in the management of his trust.

Respondent offers with his most emphatic denial the inference to be drawn from the charge in said bill that his receipts have been during his administration about $11000. and the debts paid by him only about $2500. and yet the estate is in his debt. The facts of this case do not sustain any such charge. On the contrary whilst the gross receipts of all kinds from all the farms during the whole period of his administration, amount to $11152.04, the accounts filed as Exhibits with said bill, show that after paying all expenses incurred in making crops, stocking up the farm, that respondent has paid

out the sum of $449.29 - which is about 40 per cent on gross receipts. This money has been expended according to the spirit of the decree entered by the Judge of this Court construing the will of his testator and respondent has formulated the same in an account marked Exhibit "A" - & filed herewith, as a part of this answer -.

Respondent submits that in the management of a farm of the size of the one with which he has been entrusted, during the period of five years, that it is no bad showing to produce facts & figures to establish the fact that not only have all the expenses of carrying on the farm been paid, but besides that $449.29 have been also paid -.

Respondent submits to the Court that Exhibit "A" does not show mismanagement, waste, imprudence or lavishness -.

Nor is it true that respondent is selling everything & the others devising nothing from the Estate. Whilst respondent has been living with his mother, and whilst it is

also true that he is married & his wife lives with him & they have now three small children, the oldest not over 6 years old. Yet respondent pays full value for the small pittance his wife & children receive. For instance - for the year 1873. respondent made no charge for his services in the management of the farm - in 1874, the Commissioner allowed him $200 - and his board - and it was not unreasonable. In 1875 - and in every year since, he has only charged $150 - and his board - the other $50, going to pay his wife's board. Moreover, respondent has furnished his own horse to work in the farm every year since location - has furnished a good cultivating for of his own, every year - and the use of said horse, the use of said fire & the actual hard labor performed by respondent himself, together with the $50 per year and the services for 1873, are much more than pay for his wife's board & his children's, as will be better explained by Exhibit "B"

herewith filed as a part of this answer. It will thus appear to your Honor that instead of respondents selling every thing "free", he has been paying for all he received.

As to the charge that testator's three youngest daughters are now out in the cold, unprovided for, according to the construction placed upon the will of testator, respondents has to say that by their own act, they put themselves "in the cold". As long as they remained unmarried with their mother, there was comfortable provision made for them.

Respondents believes that the reasoning adduced in complainants bill, why the decree of Nov. Term 1876 should be modified would apply with some force were it in the power of this Court to make a case for Sterling Sledge - but as it is law yet, that a Man's will must be carried out, when properly declared, he cannot acknowledge or receive

that there is any force in the reasons assigned as aforesaid.
Respondent asks that the argument of his counsel filed in the Chancery Papers of Sledge vs Sledge Admr, may be made a part of this answer, and he submits that that argument is a clear & convincing one, why the Estate should be kept together and why the Admr is the proper party to do it.
No one could be more willing than this respondent, could it be done legally, for the Estate of his Testator to be divided and each devisee to take his or her own. but under the will of his testator, he submits that such a proposition is not to be entertained.
Respondent is ready, willing and anxious to render before this Court at such time as he may be directed a full detailed account of all his transactions but he submits that Ex parte accounts rendered before a Commissioner of this Court, are to all intents & purposes as binding as those rendered under decree,

unless properly surcharged or falsified - and that mere vague allegations of wastefulness or mismanagement unsupported by any specific item to prove the charge, do not ~~con~~ constitute such a case as would ~~compel~~ induce a Court to lend the Complainants any of its aid.
And now, unless the Court, should be of opinion that its decree of Nov Term 1876, should be altered, and a different one entered, that respondent having fully answered the whole bill of the Complainants, he prays that the said bill may be dismissed &c.—

Geo. D. Sledge

Southampton County Circuit.

I James R. Tyler, a Comr in Chancery for the Circuit Court of Southampton do certify that G. D. Sledge personally appeared before me in my County aforesaid and made oath that the facts contained in the above answer are true to the best of his knowledge & belief — Given under my hand this day of October 1878.

Jas R Tyler
Comr in Chancery.

To the Honorable George Blow judge of the circuit Court of Southampton County in chancery sitting

Humbly complaining your Orators John H Pierpont and Mollie L his wife and E.A Hart and Othelia his wife by this their amended and supplemental bill shew unto your Honor that at the September rules 1878 they with C.H Gary and Alice his wife whose names at that motion were stricken out and they made defendants file their bill of review asking to reverse and set aside the decree of this court in reconciling a decree construing the will of Sterling Sledge entered at the November term 1876 of this court and amend the same & set forth the circumstances of the legacies and devises of Sterling Sledge changed by the marriage of the two daughters Mollie L and Othelia Sledge your Orators shew that since the filing of their original bill of review Lucy Sledge the widow of Sterling Sledge has departed this life and the whole estate is now ready for distribution under the will

Your Orators shew further that on the 1st of April 1879 J.A. Sledge exhibited another account showing a balance due him of $981.53 cts as will more fully appear by a certified copy of the said account herewith filed marked A and prayed to be taken as a part of this amended bill

and that since the death of the evidence Lucy Sledge the said administrator has sold off the chattle estate and by his account of sales returned in December 1879 and a copy of which is herewith file marked B and prayed to be taken as a part of this bill the said sale brought up wards of $1000 which is now ready for distribution among the legatees

Your Orator do not know whether the said administrator intends to claim the $ 281 out of the estate or not but they must emphatically deny that it is any charge against the same the dem of November 1876 denotes him to pay the estate to settle and support evidence Lucy Sledge and their accounts shows that during some six years he received some $12.000 spending some $2000 a year to pay a farm for some four hundred acres for most of the land was rented out

On Tuesday consideration of all of which Your Orator who are without relief at Law and only entitled to relief in a court of equity where such matters are peculiarly cognizable they therefore pray that G. C. Sledge both in his own right and as administrator of Sterling Sledge dec'd James A Sledge and Jimmy Sledge his wife P. H Key and Alice Key his wife may be made parties defendant to this original and this amended and supplemental bill and that the court would compel them as fully and perfect answer make to the allegations therein contained as if they had been thereunto more fully and specially interrogated that all proper accounts may be taken and that after paying out of the $1000 amount of sales the sum of $150 which is owing G. H. Sledge and wife Jimmy the balance of their two years annuity were having been paid distributed the balance among all the legatees under the will and that the court would grant such other and general relief the premises considered as equity may dictate and the nature of this case may require and as in duty bound your Orator will ever pray etc

Shands p.q.

Memorandum
for
Clerk

Memorandum

The Clerk will please copy and file with the papers. The following papers

1st Sterling Sledge's writ A

2 Copy the decree rendered at November Term 1876 in Circuit Court in Case of Sledge vs Sledge's adm B

3 Copy the first & other accounts of G.R. Sledge on Sterling Sledge's at commencing 1st April 1873 ending 1st April 1878 C.D.E.F. & G. and file the bill

Memo. [illegible]

This day personally appeared before me Saml W Davis and made oath that he delivered Geo O Sledge, P H Ivey, Allice Ivey, Sar A Sledge & Jenny Sledge each a copy of this Summons on the 30th day of January 1880. Lucy Sledge is dead.

J K Tyler
Comm in Ch.

Hart & als:
vs
Sledge & als

1880 To Feby Aules

Cir: Ct.

The Commonwealth of Virginia:

To the Sheriff of Southampton County Greeting:

We command you to summon Lucy Sledge, G. O. Sledge both in his own right and as adms. of Sterling Sledge dec'd: P. H. Ivey & Alice Ivey his wife & James Sledge & Jenny Sledge his wife if they be found within your bailiwick to appear at the Clerks office of our Circuit Court of Southampton County at the Rules to be holden for said Court on the first monday in February next to answer the amended Bill in Chancery exhibited against them by Ethelred J. Hoaty & Ophelia Hart his wife & John M. Prefson & Mollie L. Prefson his wife

and have then there this writ. Witness Littleton R. Edwards Clerk of our said Court at the Courthouse this 23rd day of January 188[illegible] in the 104th year of the Commonwealth. L. R. Edwards C. C.

Subpoena &c.

Issued

for

Sledge's Admr &c.

1878 Sept. Rules.

Executed Aug 24th 1878 by delivering a copy to W.O. Sledge, Lucy Sledge & Jas. A Sledge & his wife.

J. Harris

for H. H. Briggs S.H.

The Commonwealth of Virginia:

To the Sheriff of Southampton County:---*Greeting.*

We command you to summon Geo. D Sledge, both in his own right and as Admr of Sterling Sledge, decd, Lucy Sledge and James A Sledge and Jimmy Sledge, his wife, *if* they *be found within your bailiwick to appear at the Clerk's Office of our Circuit Court of Southampton County, at the Rules to be holden for the said Court on the first Monday in* September *to answer* a bill in Chancery exhibited against them in said Court by P W Davey and Alice, his wife, Edward J Hart and Cordelia, his wife, and John A Pace and Mollie L Pace, his wife

and have then and there this writ. **Witness, LITTLETON R. EDWARDS,** *Clerk of our said Court at the Court House, this* 21st *day of* August *1878 in the* 102nd *year of the Commonwealth.*

L R Edwards C C

I have chancery papers due
Wife & Ch vs Rodger Adams -
decided at New Lenox 1881 -.
Sept 5. 1884

Wm B Shands

Boeystochers
vs 33 Decree
Sledge Admr &

Nov Term 1849

To be entered.

Geo. Bloodworth.

Dey & others
vs
Deane.
Sledge's Adm'r &c.

It appearing to the Court that leave was granted the plaintiffs in this Cause, at the Nov: term 1878, of this Court, to file an amended & supplemental bill - and they having failed to file said bill, this cause is ordered to be dismissed at the costs of the plaintiffs. unless the plaintiffs shall file said amended or supplemental bill within 90 days from the last day of this term.

Ivory scales

& 3 Dozen

Horn scales

To be ordered

Nov. 6th 1878

Geo. T Bloss.

Ivey et als
vs
Decree
Sledge et als

This day this cause came on to be heard on the plaintiffs bill taken for confessed as to James A Sledge and Jinny Sledge his wife the answers of Sarah A Sledge and Lucy Sledge and general replication thereto and exhibits filed and was argued by counsel On consideration whereof and on motion of P. H. Ivey and Alice his wife the Court doth adjudge, order, and decree that their names be struck out of the bill as plaintiffs and that they be made defendants in this cause and it is further ordered that leave be given the plaintiffs to file an amended and supplemental bill in this cause.

Proposals
vs 3
Pledges taken in

To be entered
May term 1880

Geo. Blow.

Person vs als
vs 3 Decree
Sledge's adm'r

This day this cause came on again to be heard on the ~~plaintiff~~ papers formerly read and the plaintiffs amended bill taken for confessed as to all the defendants & the Sledge both in his own right and as administrator of Sterling Sledge's P. H. Ivey and Alice Ivey his wife James Sledge and Fanny Sledge his wife except Lucy Sledge who has departed this life and who is no longer a necessary party to this suit exhibit files and was argued by counsel On consideration whereof the court doth adjudge, order and decree that G. O. Sledge settle an account of his transaction as administrator of Sterling Sledge died before one of the commissioners of this court who will take any accounts touching settled by the said G. O. Sledge before the commissioners of the county court as prima facie correct liable to be surcharged and falsified by any of the parties interested in court who will report the said accounts together with any matters specially stated deemed pertinent by himself or which shall be required to be so stated by any of the parties interested

Presentation
by 3 Heirs
Heirs Admr &c.

Nov Term 1881.

To be entered.

Geo. W Blood.

Presson et al-

vs Decree.

Sledge et Adm'r &c.

This day this cause came on to be further heard on the papers formerly read and was argued by Counsel. On consideration whereof, the Court doth adjudge order & decree that the plaintiffs take nothing by their suit and that the cause be dismissed at their costs.