

In the name of God. Amen. I Eli Joyner of the County of Southampton and State of Virginia, being old and in full health, but of sound mind and memory, thanks to God, for the same. I do now think proper to make this paper writing in manner and form as follows -

Item 1<sup>st</sup>. My will and desire first is that all my just debts shall be paid by my Executor.

Item 2<sup>d</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my daughter in law Jane Joyner widow of Ichabod Joyner one fourth part of my chattel estate at my death to her and her heirs forever. I also leave unto my daughter in law Jane Joyner all my negroes and land during her single life, at her marriage, my will and desire is that my land and negroes shall be sold, and one fourth part of the proceeds of said sale to be given to my daughter in law Jane Joyner. Should she die and not marry, then I wish the said negroes and land to be sold and one fourth part of the proceeds of said sale to be given to the children or child of Jane Joyner, to them and their heirs forever.

Item 3<sup>r</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Nancy Rose Hensley wife of Levy Hensley one fourth part of my chattel estate at my death and one fourth part of the proceeds of sale of negroes and land at the marriage or death of my daughter in law Jane Joyner to her and her heirs forever.

Item 4<sup>t</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Nancy Joyner wife of Edward Joyner one fourth part of my chattel estate at my death, also one fourth part of the proceeds of sale of my negroes and land at the marriage or death of my daughter in law Jane Joyner to her and her heirs forever.

Item 5<sup>th</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my two grandsons, Virg. Nixon E and William F. Rose one fourth part of my chattel estate at my death, also one fourth part of the proceeds of sale of my land and negroes at the marriage or death of my daughter in law Jane Joyner to them and their heirs forever.

I hereby nominate constituted and appoint my son in law Levy Hensley my whole and sole Executor to this my last Will and Testament, thereby revoking all other Wills heretofore made by me. In witness whereof I the said Eli Joyner have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this twenty seventh day of July 1855.

Signed sealed and delivered

Eli Joyner (Signature)

at the presence of

Jeremiah Joyner

Josephus Turner

Ivan Griffin

At a Circuit Court held for the County of Southampton on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May 1859 -

Jane Joyner

Plaintiff

against

Jason E and W. S. Rose, Josephine Joyner & Ichabod Joyner infants by } writing bearing date  
Dr Edwards their guardian ad litem and Margaret Hensley and } the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July  
Edward Joyner and Nancy his wife } Defendants 1855, purporting to  
be the last Will and Testament of Eli Joyner dec'd to probate.

This day came the parties by their attorneys and therupon came a jury to sit. James Cook, Wm J. Cott, John P. Lott, James G. Jones, George W. Lawrence, Marshall Hines, W. H. Nicholson, Carlton W. Scott, Wesley Broadbent, John Charles, Coleman Hines, and Jas W. Hart who being selected by lot, sworn and sworn the truth to speak upon the issue made up in this cause at the May Term 1856 of this Court, to wit, whether or no the said Eli Joyner died testate or intestate and whether the paper writing bearing date the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 1855, purporting to be the last will and testament of said Joyner, be the last will and testament of the said Eli Joyner and upon their oaths returned a verdict in the following words and figures. "We the jury find that the testator Eli Joyner died testate and that the paper writing bearing date the 24<sup>th</sup> July 1855 purporting to be the last will and testament of the said Eli Joyner is the last will and testament of the said