

James G. Jones and William H. Jenkins the subscriber witnesses thereto and therupon ordered to be recorded.  
 And on the motion of George W. Spury the executor herein named who made oath and entered into and acknowledged a bond in the penalty of four hundred dollars conditioned according to law (but without security the will directing that none should be required of him) certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate of the said will in due form.

Teste

P.R. Edwards. b6

In the name of God, Amen. I James Wills of the County of Southampton and State of Virginia do ordain, constitute and appoint this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following:

Item 1<sup>st</sup> To my son James W. Wills I give and devise the tract of land known as the Lawrence tract containing about four hundred acres, to him and his heirs forever.

Item 2<sup>d</sup> To my son Orvin C. Wills I give and devise that part of my land lying on Nottoway River known as the Briggs and Barrott land containing about four hundred acres and divided from the homestead or old place by a line recently chopped by myself, to him and his heirs forever.

Item 3<sup>r</sup> To my wife Edith Wills I give and devise that part of my land known as the homestead or old place to have and to hold during her life or widowhood and after her death or marriage then I give and devise the said homestead or old place to my son Thomas R. Wills to him and his heirs forever.

Item 4<sup>th</sup> To my wife Edith Wills I give and bequeath my slaves Jacob, Ben, Agnes and Winney to have and to hold during her life or widowhood, and after her death or marriage then I give and bequeath the said slaves to be equally divided among all my children.

Item 5<sup>th</sup> I give and bequeath the remainder of my slaves to be equally divided among all my children, notwithstanding being had in such division to any advancement which I may heretofore have made to either of my said children in slaves or money, it not being my intention that such advancement shall be brought into hotchpot or accounted for in the division of any part of my estate.

Item 6<sup>th</sup> I desire my Executor herein after named to sell all the balance of my chattel estate.

Item 7<sup>th</sup> I give and bequeath to my wife Edith Wills one third of the proceeds of the sale of my chattel estate and one third of my moneyed estate to have and to hold during her life or widowhood and after her death or marriage I give and bequeath the same to be equally divided among all my children.

Item 8<sup>th</sup> I give and bequeath the other two thirds of the proceeds of the sale of my chattel estate, and of my moneyed estate to be equally divided among all my children.

Item 9<sup>th</sup> I hereby nominate and appoint Edward H. Masonburg the executor of this my last will and Testament hereby revoking all other and former wills and Testaments by me heretofore made.

Item 10<sup>th</sup> I give and bequeath to my sons Orvin C. and Thomas R. Wills the debt due me from the Nottoway Saw mill company for timber cut off the lands given them under the 2<sup>d</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> clauses of this will to be divided between them in the same proportion that the timber has been cut from the land given to each, and should I collect the said debt or any part of it, then I desire my executor to divide the amount so collected in the proportion aforesaid between my said sons Orvin C. and Thomas R. before any of my moneyed estate is divided under the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> clauses.

Item 11<sup>th</sup> I give and bequeath my stills to my three sons James W., Orvin C. and Thomas R., the said stills to remain where they are and to be jointly and equally used by all three.

Item 12<sup>th</sup> I give and bequeath to my three sons and to my wife one bed each.

In witness whereof I hereunto sign my name and affix my seal this

In the presence of,

day of

1854.

James Wills

*(Signature)*

J. A. Scoggin

*(Signature)*

Law Brumpler

*(Signature)*

Probate number  
and date  
page 564.