

*Randolph Co., Will Book 9, Will of John Shaver {1244}*

Lawrence County, Arkansas Territory

I, John Shaver of said county and territory knowing that it is impossible by the irrevocable decrees of heaven unto all men once to die and feeling myself far advanced in the evening of life and by common causes of nature I know that my time of probation on earth will not be long. I therefore avail myself of the opportunity while I am of sound and disposing mind to make this my last will and testament. And in the first place I recommend myself to God who gave it and my body to its mother dust from whence it came to be entered in a decent and Christian like manner. As it relates to my Estate, I hereby dispose of it in the following manner. At my natural death I will and bequeath unto my legal heir Peter Shaver, John Shaver, Daniel Shaver, Joseph Shaver, Michael Shaver, Jacob Shaver, Charles Shaver, Rachel Clien, Lear Mock, Easter Murray, each of the above named legatees to have an equal part of my estate both real and personally and to Elizabeth Lisenger, daughter of Elizabeth Lisenger decd., my daughter, I will and bequeath one hundred dollars to be paid by my Executors when legally demanded by her or agent. Also to the above named Easter Murray and the lawful heirs of her body, I wish to have an equal part with the rest of my heirs. I furthermore say and declare in this my last will and testament that John Murray (who married my daughter Easter Shaver) shall never have the privilege of selling, trading or in any way disposing of any of my estate whether personal or real but I do hereby will and bequeath it to my daughter and the heirs of her body exclusively to themselves for their use and benefit and not to be subject to the control or use of said Murray in any way whatever. Also to the heirs of Leah Mock I will and bequeath an equal part with the rest of the Legatees my last will and testament is that my Executors who I shall hereafter name shall demand all the legatees has any of the property in hand which property I have not bargained nor sold to any of them if they bring it forward to the Executors and receive their part in full, if not they must account to the Executors for the same. Peter Shaver has one girl name Lilly I suppose to be worth six hundred dollars, John Shaver one girl named Fanny worth seven hundred dollars Daniel Shaver one woman named Ann and two children worth one thousand dollars, Joseph Shaver one girl named Harriet worth five hundred, Jacob Shaver one girl name Polly worth six hundred dollars, Charles Shaver one boy called Green worth six hundred dollars, Easter Murray one girl Sopha worth six hundred dollars. The property shall be brought forward within twelve months after my decease by being notified by the Executors which said property if not brought forward to the time they shall receive at the above named price in part or all of their ... (illegible). All which negroes when returned shall be under the full control of and management of my Executors which I shall appoint as to what shall be in my possession at my death and I do hereby appoint Daniel Shaver and Michael Shaver my sons both of the county and territory above named to be my lawful Executors and to manage the business of my Estate at my death and I do not wish my Estate to come under the manage of the court more than it is compelled to be by (law) only to sanction my will. My Executors shall pay my taxes, furnish me with necessities which they shall be paid for extra to their part. I wish my property to be managed with the least expense, my real estate I wish divided without sale if to the satisfaction of the legatees. I wish the Executors to take my property in hand at my decease and manage it to the best advantage as I repose confidence in them. And I do hereby disannul and make void all former wills, revoking all former wills and testaments by me made and hereby declare by these presents this to be my last will and testament made and delivered by me in possession of my right mind uncontrolled by any person whatever, In Testimony whereof I have hereto set my hand this 22 March A.D. 1832.

Signed and acknowledged in the presence of us

Burwell J. Wiley  
Levi Fletcher

h i s  
John X Shaver  
mark

Proved 10 March 1835