

1827-012

Chancery Causes: Meredith H. Watkins vs Wiley Watkins & al, by & c

Dale of Wight County

other surnames: Eley

Watkins

in 3rd class

Watkins

Interlocutory decree

Sept. 7. 1826. —

August 7th 1826 Bill of Sale
filed Polly Watkins app^e
Gov. as to the infants

Miley & Sally Watkins —

Interlocutory decree

November 1826

Report and cont^d

Sept 3rd 1827 Report confirmed

Final decree

Attest

before the division takes place in the residue
of the slaves as named in the first item of
the said will - the said two negroes to be
taken out and for his daughter Sally
to have an equal part in the division
as before mentioned in the first item besides
the two slaves - The testator moreover
gives to his two sons Meredith & Mathias
and Wiley Mathias the whole of his lands
and plantation to be equally divided
between them to their heirs
forever

Your orator has arrived to the age of 21
years and consistent with the will of
the testator the property ought now to
be divided equally to the sons of the
testator but as some of the parties con-
-cerned are under age it will be
proper his advice to get a decree of
this Court to divide the property after and
in tender consideration whereof your
orator prays that the said Wiley Mathias
Sally Mathias and Polly Mathias may
be made defendants and answer this bill
He prays that your worthy men make
any decree in the premises as may
be consistent with Equity &
make any other or farther decree
in the premises as they see just & correct
and as in duty bound he will pray.

Attorneys

The answer of party Mathias executed &
sworn of Jeph Mathias and to a piece
of complaint exhibited against him and
others in the County Court of Isle of Wight
by Meredith & Mathias -

This said saving to for answer says that
she cannot gain say the complaint &
allegations and submits to any decree
the Court may choose to pronounce
in the premises consistent with Equity
and having answered she prays leave
to be dismissed &c.

To the County Court of DeKalb Miss to settling in
Chancery - Humbly complaining, she sets
unto you honor some orator she with
H. Matthews - that sometime past to wit, in
the year 1878, Jeff. Matthews late of the County
aforesaid spent his life having made his
last will and testament in which ever duly
proved & recorded in the County of DeKalb
County, by the said will the testator appointed
Polly Matthews and Isaac Ely executors and
executrix - sometime shortly after the will
was admitted to proof the said Polly
Matthews qualified as executrix of the
said will and received unto her
possession the slaves and other estate
belonging to the said testator - By the will
aforesaid to which the Court is referred or
apart of this will the testator directed
leggewatts to his wife Polly Matthews
two negroes to wit, and that to her she
beis forever - He also lent unto his wife
until the year 1886 when his son died.
with Matthews would be 21 years old.
provided he should live right ~~until~~ during
that time - and if in case she should
marry it is his will that a division
should take place immediately as to the
residue of the personal estate and the
slaves which he had given away ^{not} hereto
and that his wife should have one third
part of the residue of his personal estate
& the remaining two thirds to be equally
divided among all ~~my~~ ^{his} children & that
at such division the said Polly to take no
part of the slaves not first given to her -
He then gives to his daughter Sally Matthews two
negroes, Mary & Lucy to be her beis forever.

Watkins's infant

ad. 3 years

Watkins's

To the County Court of Isle of Wight in Chancery
sitting - The answer of Wiley Watkins and Sally
Watkins infants, by Polly Watkins their
mother and next friend, and of Polly Watkins
executrix of Jeph Watkins to a bill of
complaint exhibited against them in the
Court aforesaid by Meredith B. Watkins.

They defendants saving and reserving to
themselves now and at all times hereafter, all
and every manner of benefit, and advantage
of exception to the errors and imperfections in the
complainants bill contained - for answer say,
the said infants say that they are unable to protect
their rights and intent and therefore entrust
the same to the care of the Court. The
defendants cannot deny but that the late
Jeph Watkins devised his property as named
and described in the complainants bill
and that the said Polly is of the age of twenty one years.

The said executrix submits to any decree
that the Court may pronounce in the
premises and having answered pray
here to be dismissed &c. -

Watkins

to

3 Decr

Watkins Gas

against

In Chancery

Polly Watkins, Wiley Watkins and Sally Watkins Deft

This cause came on this day to be heard on the bill, answer and exhibits, filed and was argued by counsel: On consideration whereof the Court doth adjudge decree and order that Edmund Ely David Roberts, Edwin Ely and Benjamin Powell or any three of them do divide the slaves Peter, Kate, Milly, Isaac, Arena, Ting and Edmund in the bill mentioned equally between Merisith H. Watkins, Wiley Watkins and Sally Watkins according to quality and quantity - It is also adjudged decreed and ordered that the said commissioners or any three of them do set apart and allot to Polly Watkins widow of Jeph Watkins deceased one full and equal third part of the lands in this county whereof the said Jeph died entitled to in fee simple as her dower in the same and that they do divide the said lands (subject to the dower aforesaid) equally between the complainant Merisith H. Watkins and Wiley Watkins according to quality and quantity - and make report of their proceeding therein to this Court, in order to a final decree -

Attesty Jette

Math. Young Ck

In Obedience to the annexed Decree of the Honourable Court of ^{Shen-}
-sawright County to us directed bearing date August Court 1826. We the
undersigned commissioners have divided the Slaves mentioned in said
Decree which Jesse Watkins died possessed between Meredith & Watkins,
Wiley Watkins and Sally Watkins in the following Manner to-wit

We have allotted and set apart to Meredith & Watkins one Negro Woman ^{Milly}
Child Goodman and one Girl Irena Valued at \$425.00 and direct that
Sally Watkins pay him three Dollars & thirty three & one third Cents.

We have further allotted and set apart to Wiley Watkins one Negro Boy
Isaac and a Small Boy Edmond Valued at \$410.00 and direct that
Sally Watkins pay him the sum of eighteen Dollars and thirty three & 1/3
Cents.

We have also allotted and set apart to Sally Watkins one Negro Peter &
one Woman Kate Valued at \$450.00 and direct that she pay to
Meredith & Watkins the sum of \$3.33 1/3 and to Wiley Watkins \$18.33 1/3.

We think proper here to state that since the annexed Decree was obtained one
Girl by the name of Fing died and one Boy by the name of Goodman
was born before the Division took place

And We the Commissioners have allotted and set apart to Polly Watkins
Widow of Jesse Watkins Dec'd as her Dower in the land which the said
Dec'd died possessed the land included in the following corners to-wit, be-
-gining at a pine standing near the head of the Dam Branch above
the House thence a South course along a line of marked trees op-
-ple to a large red Oak standing in Josiah I Watkins line near
the head of the lane from thence along Josiah I Watkins line & the
mill pond up to where the dam Branch empties in the Pond thence up
the said Branch to the pine the beginning & first station

We have also allotted and set apart to Meredith & Watkins all the land
included in the following corners (to-wit) beginning ^{at} a White Oak a
corner tree between Edlain & Ely and the Dec'd land thence a South
course along a line of marked trees to a pine thence across the open
ground to a Persimmon tree thence straight on along a line of mar-
-ked trees to the Cabin Branch or Robert Watkins line thence up the
said Branch & along said Watkins line: continuing ^{around} along the Dec'd
line to the said White Oak the beginning and first station

And We have further allotted and set apart to Wiley Watkins all
the residue of said land from Meredith & Watkins line to the line
laid off for the Widow aforesaid and at the Dec'd of the Widow for
said Wiley Watkins to have all her Dower laid off in the land

so as to make him equal with said Meredith & Watkins
 and the commissioners will further state that it is our opinion
 that Polly Watkins, Widow aforesaid should have the privilege of
 using any timber during her life for fence rails or fire wood
 on said Meredith & Watkins or Wiley Watkins land given
 under our hands this 28th day of November 1826

Edw. Coley

Edw. Coley

David Roberts

A Report of the division
 of the land. Hayes which
 Jesse Watkins & Co. possess.

Isle of Wight County August 2nd 1827

Meredith & Watkins

ampth

According to Secretary of the
Army and what follows from
the same source is

Watkins

on 3 over

Watkins's

Merrith & Wathkins & Polly Wathkins, to them, ex. &
and heirs, &c.

This cause came on this day to be heard on the
Bill, answer and exhibits filed and was
argued by counsel; on consideration whereof
the Court with adjudge, decree and order
that Exors. Ely, David Roberts, Edwin Ely and
Benjamin Powell or any 3 of them do divide
the slaves Peter, Bob, Melly, Isaac, Arena, Ting and
Domine in the price of the complainants and
equally between Merrith & Wathkins, Wiley Wathkins
and Sally Wathkins ~~according~~ to quality &
quantity - It is also adjudge, decree & ordered
that the said Com. or any 3 of them do set apart &
allot to Polly Wathkins widow of Jeph Wathkins decd.
one full and equal third part of the lands
in this County whereof the said Jeph did entitle
to in fee simple as he owned in the same, and
that he do divide the said lands (subject to the
power aforesaid) equally between the couple
Merrith & Wathkins and Wiley Wathkins.

Watkins

3 Bida

Watkins

This case came on this day to be heard upon
the bill, answer & exhibits filed and as
argued by counsel, on consideration whereof the
Court with adjourned, order and decree that
Isaac Ely, Lewis Roberts, Edwin Ely and Benjamin
Pond be any 3 of them as scribes.

Having arrived to the age of twenty one years
I wish the County Court of this State to make a
deed directing Commissioners to divide the lands &
lands agreeably to the will of my father Joseph
Watkins, between the scribes of the said will -
given under my hand this 3^d of July 1826.

July 3^d 1826

Merritt, H. Watkins

Peter

Cates

July

Isaac -

Armed

Tiny

Robert

to be scribes equal between Merritt H.
Watkins, Wiley Watkins and Sally Watkins ^{Wife}
Poly Watkins their next friend - Aram & Anne
she is ext. also -

W. W. W. W.

W. W. W. W.
W. W. W. W.
W. W. W. W.

Watkins

^m 3rd July¹⁹
Watkins

This cause came on again to
be heard upon the papers formerly
read and the report of the Court to
which no exceptions have been filed
whereupon the Court both agreed
order and decreed that the said
report be confirmed and that the costs
of this suit be borne by the parties —