

1845-048 Chancery Causes; Mills Daniel v ux vs James Chapman v
Isle of Wight County Davis Edwards v al

other SURNames.
Carson, Eley, Hall

7
Larivel & wife

H. 3 Bull
3 Chayn

Jonas Edward. kids

4 ligates —

—————

May Rules 1844 Sp. esc.

and Bill b. filed

July 1st 1844. dep. filed

" " " Return filed by

Deft.

Sept. 1st for hearing.

Note: Term 1844 - Return
was made & leave to file answer
in 90 days.

Dec. 24th 1844 Answer

filed —

1845. May term Dismissed
at the Court of Compt.

Some time in December 1843. when the said Martha Edward, widow as aforesaid
departed this life. Your orators believe that the said Martha Edward widow as aforesaid
by her said last will & Testament remunerated the ¹ J^r J^r Carlson who intermar-
ried with Martha Edward one of the heirs of ¹ J^r J^r Edwards, for the injury sustained
by the assignment of ¹ J^r Lewis (given to her by the will of her father)
to the ¹ J^r widow, by the commission as aforesaid. But your orators allege
that they have receive no compensation whatever, for the injury done
them, by the loss of the services of the slave Esther, assigned & allotted
to the ¹ J^r widow as aforesaid, for the space of 14 or 15 years, to wit from 17 Dec^r
1829, to 1st Jan^y 1844. that being the time when she was held by the ¹ J^r.
widow as a part of her dower in the ¹ J^r slaves of ¹ J^r J^r Edwards, and being
the prime of the life of the ¹ J^r Esther; and, in as much as no equality of
division was effected, by the commission, by directing, as usual, sums of money
to be paid by those who had the ¹ J^r larger portions than others; your orators allege
that for the injury so sustained by them, the other legatees ought in justice
& good conscience to contribute their ratable proportion to remunerate
them, for the loss as aforesaid incurred which fell upon them, in consequence
of the ¹ J^r remuneration of the will of ¹ J^r J^r Edwards. by his ¹ J^r widow, and the
unusual error pursued by the ¹ J^r commission, in taking the ¹ J^r third, or what
ever was necessary to make a full ¹ J^r third of ¹ J^r slaves; in addition to those given
by the will to the ¹ J^r widow, - from one of legatees only, to wit, from Elizabeth
Edwards ¹ J^r orators, who was then an infant; and for this purpose
your orators have frequently called upon the ¹ J^r James Chapman & his wife ¹ J^r.
(Charlotte who is now dead), Davis, Allen, & James R. Edwards, & Jonas Edwards
and Mrs Carlson & his wife Martha, to contribute their equal & fair proportion
of the burden cast as aforesaid, solely on him the said Mills Daniel & his
wife Elizabeth; about which your orators well hoped that no disputes or controversy
would have arisen but that they would have complied with the demands of
your orators, as in conscience & Equity they ought to have done. But now so it

is May it please your honor, that the said James Chapman, Davis, Allen, James
R. & Jonas Edwards & Mrs Carlson & Charlotte his wife, combining &c. absconded
by refuse to comply with such requests and demands; all of which actings
& doings are contrary to Equity & good conscience and tend to the manifest
injury & wrong of your orators in the premises. In tender consideration
whereof, and for as much as your orators are remediless, according to the strict
rules of the Common Law, and can only have relief in a court of Equity
where matters of this sort are properly cognizable; To the End therefore that
said Chapman, and Davis, Allen, James R. & Jonas Edwards, and Mrs Carlson
& Martha his wife, may be made parties defendant hereto, and on their several
and respective corporal oaths, full, true, direct & perfect answer, and answers
make to all & singular as the matters hereinbefore stated & charged, as fully & particu-
larly, as if the same were hereinafter repeated, and they & each of them thereunto duly
lawfully interrogated: and that each of them state what negroes each of them received
under the will of the ¹ J^r J^r Edwards aforesaid, and when; and if any of them, have
ever contributed in any manner to relieve the ¹ J^r Daniel & wife, of the injury, loss
& damage sustained, by the assignment of ¹ J^r woman Esther to the widow of
¹ J^r J^r Edwards: May it please your honor to decree contribution therefore
as to your honor may seem right - on the principles of Equity, and to grant all
other necessary relief, as in the premises may seem meet & proper & grant
the Amittit writ of Sup^r. &c. -

J. Whitfield R^r
1844

To the Hon: Rich: H Baker, judge of the circuit sup. Court of Law of Chy -
for the county of Ill of Wjst, in Chancery sitting, Humbly complaining, shew
eth unto your honor, your orator Milly Daniel, and orator Elizabeth Daniel (wife of S: Daniel)
formerly Elizabeth Edwards, That sometime, in the year 1827, perhaps, in the month of March thereof, one
Jonas Edwards of the county aforesaid, departed this life, seized and possessed of a considerable real & personal
estate, after having published, as his last will & testament, a paper (a copy of which, herewith filed, marked
A, & prayed to be taken as a part of this will.) which as your orators are advised, being defective
in some of the requisites of a beque, operated only as a will of personal estate, and as such your
orators believe was admitted to record: That the said Jonas Edwards, left a widow named
Martha who lived until the 1st of December 1843, when she departed this life, and as her (S: Jonas)
heirs at Law, to wit: Charlotte the wife of James Chapman, Sarah Allen, James R. and Jonas Edwards,
Martha the wife of Geo. Carson, and Elizabeth your orators as aforesaid and wife of yo: orator, Milly Daniel,
That in due time, after the death of the said Jonas Edwards, his widow, the said Martha Edwards renun-
ced all benefits of the provision under the will of her S: Husband, and demanded, at Law, the
a segment of her dower &c, in the real estate, and thirds in the negro slaves &c, when of
her late husband the S: Jonas died seized and possessed, in accordance with principles
of Law & Equity governing such cases. And in obedience to such demand, the county court
of S: county, ordered and decreed, that Mr H Chapman, Jordan Parr, B. Coggin & Exum Eley, comp.
proceed to set apart unto the said widow her dower in the lands & slaves of S: Jonas Edwards, &c.
as will more fully appear by reference to a copy of Report of S: Commissioners, herewith filed marked "B"
and prayed to be taken as a part of this will. That the S: Commissioners, in attesting to the S: Martha
Edwards widow as aforesaid, her thirds of the slaves of her husband, found it necessary
to ^{take} from one, or more of the legates of the S: Jonas Edwards, one or more of the slaves bequeathed
to them, under the will of their father; and a negro slave named Lewis given by the T:
will to Martha Edwards, the now wife of Geo. Carson, and a very valuable girl Esther bequeathed
to your orators formerly Elizabeth Edwards, were taken from them by the said Commissioners, and set
aside as the power of the S: widow, and which slaves she retained from the 1st Dec: 1827, until +

in the few - they may the Court to
dismiss the Bill of the complaints
with costs R. Atkinson proff

Shelby County - Ill. This day
came before the undersigned Justice
for said County, Davis, Allen, James
R., and John R. Garrison, who made
oath that the annexed account
contains the truth so far they know
or believe - given under my hand
and seal this day of Nov. 1866.

Wm. H. H. H.

James R.

John R.

Garrison

and the defendants submit it to this Court whether this suit can be maintained without the representation of said Mrs. Chapman being before the Court as a party defendant. The defendants say that it appears by the report of the Commissioners, made under a decree of the County Court of Shelby County, that the Court set apart to the widow of Jonas Randall, the widow as he lived, the slaves, a small negro girl called Esther who at that time could not have been over 5 years of age, and in point of fact was worth, from that time until the death of the widow, which occurred in 1843, scarcely her victuals & clothes, especially as it is true that at the age of 15 or 16 years, she began to bear children, and had two children when the widow died. But if she was in truth valuable, they ought not to be made responsible for her kids a very large sum, that have befallen Miss Randall & wife the complainants. First, because the defendants were infants of tender years when the decision was made & had no control over it;

secondly, because the report of the allotment of decedent was not objected to, but ratified and confirmed as they believe without any objection being offered, and in fact, the said Miss Randall entered into a marriage with his said wife Elizabeth both in the year 1830 and never raised any objection to the acts of the Commissioners until the termination of the life estate of the widow; she having died, a claim is now unjustly presented and urged against her estate, but against the defendants who are in no wise responsible as they suppose. They moreover insist that the services of Esther (from the age of 5 years to the time of the death of the widow, she having in the mean time 2 children) could not have been more than her raising &c. The decision occurred 14 years before any objection was raised, and at least 12 or 13 years have intervened from the marriage of Miss Randall to the said Elizabeth, before any objection was raised; and the Court will not now

To the Judges of the Circuit Superior
Court of Law and Chancery for the
County of Del. of Wight. sitting in
Chy. The joint and separate answers
of David Edwards, Allen Edwards, Jas.
Edwards and Jonas Edwards &
to the Bill of complaint exhibited
against them and others in the said
Court by Mills, Darnell and his wife
Elizabeth formerly Elizabeth Edwards.

The said defendant, passing and coming
to themselves, now and at all times
hereafter all manner of benefit
and advantage of exception to the
error and insufficiency and
false allegation in said bill contain-
-ed; for answer thereto, the said
defendant, say, it is true that for
Edwards the father of the said David,
Allen, James, Jonas, Martha & the
said Elizabeth Darnell made such
a will as is stated in the bill of
the complainant and that he left
one other child Charles, who after-
-wards married James Chapman
and separated this life or or about
the day of ad. the said Chap-
man is now, and so far as they know
she has no personal representation.

Edwards &
at
Barrie and
wife

Barrie

July 1. 1844 filed

Mills banish and Elizabeth his wife
vs. 3 The Chancery
James Chapman, basis, Allen, James R.
and John Edwards, and John Carver
and Martha his wife - Defs

These defendants by Joel Hollenman
their attorney for answer to the bill
of the plaintiff say that by his
own showing on the face of said
bill Charlotte the wife of James
Chapman is dead, and that the
said James Chapman cannot
now be a party to this suit
but as the admin. of his said
wife, and not being made
a party in that character, the
bill of the plaintiff is defective
and ought to be dismissed;

that by his own showing we
see the statement of facts in said
bill the said plaintiff has
no cause of action against the
said defendants and ~~that~~ there
fore for the causes above stated
the said defendants do demand
to said bill over and ask the
court that the same may
be dismissed with costs &c

Hollenman Joel

James Chapman was not at the time the bill was
filed in the Court and he was not
suffering at that time to contribute for the bill to
James - was personal and not to his wife

March 23rd 1844. Executed on den. Chapman, by deposing to him
a true copy of the within

Declarative of the 1st 1844 on Daniel's estate, by
James Edwards and John H. Pearson and ~~John H. Pearson~~ by
attesting a true copy of the within

for J. H. Pearson by
for J. H. Pearson

Mills Daniel & wife
vs J. S. P. in l. by
Jas. Chapman & al.

To May 1844
Whitfield p. 46

THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,

To the Sheriff of *Isle of Wight* County, Greeting;

WE COMMAND YOU TO SUMMON *James Chapman, Davis,*
Allen, James R. and Jonas Edward, John R. Pearson
and Martha his wife

to appear before the Judge of the Circuit superior Court of Law and Chancery for the County of Isle
of Wight, at the Court House of said county, on the first Monday in *May* next,
being rule day, to answer a bill in Chancery in the said Court exhibited against *them* by *Mills*
Daniel and Elizabeth his wife

and if *they* shall fail to answer the Bill within two months thereafter, the Court will take the said
Bill for confessed, and proceed to decree the matter thereof accordingly. And have then there this

Writ.—Witness Nathaniel P. Young, Clerk of our said Court, at the Court House, this *25th*
day of *March* 1844, in the *68th* year of the Commonwealth.

N. P. Young Clk.

To Mr. James Chapman in Right of himself & wife
Davis Edwards, Allen Edwards, James Edwards, Jonas Edwards
Mrs R Carson and Martha (formerly Edwards) his wife -

Take notice, that on Saturday between the 22nd of this month June 1844,
between the hours, of nine A.M. and seven P.M. of that day, (if fair, if not
on Saturday, between the same hours, the next thereafter: to wit the 29th inst.) - at the
old Chapel Isl of Wight Co. Va. I shall proceed to take the depositions of Ekum Eley
Benjamin Coggins, Thomas Hale & others, to be read as evidence, in
certain suit, now pending in the Circuit Sup^r Court of (said) and
Chancery, to be holden for the County of Isle of Wight, in which I am
plaintiff, in right of my wife - and you are defendants -
And if for any cause, the said depositions shall not be taken, or
completed, on that day, they will be adjourned from time to time
until completed: Witness my hand this 15 day of June 1844.

Amillo Daniel ^{ltd}

Isle of Wight Co. Va.

Isle of Wight to Wit, This day Mr John W. Edwards
personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for
said County and made oath that he did on Wednesday
the 19th Inst. deliver to James Edwards (Jonas Edwards
left with his wife) Davis Edwards and Allen Edwards a
true copy of the above notice, given under my hand
and seal this 21st day of June 1844

M. Womble J.P. Seal

Isle of Wight County to Wit

This day Joseph B Woodly personally appeared
before me a Justice of the peace for the
said County and made oath that he
did on Tuesday the 18th inst deliver
to James Chapman a true copy of the
above notice, given under my hand
and seal this 21st day of June 1844

M. Womble J.P. Seal

Isle of wight county to wit

This day personally appeared before me Tho^s Hall & made oat
that on the 21st day of June the present month, he delivered a true
Copy of the within notice to John R Cassan given under my hand
this 22nd day of June 1844

H. Chapman

Daniel Koipi

M: Zepher:

Edward Koh:

July 1. 1876 came to
hand upon real &
filed.

The Deposition of Ekum Eley taken agreeable to notice, at the Old Chapel, in Guilford County Va - on Saturday the 22nd of June 1844, between the hours of 9. A. M. and seven P. M. - to be read as evidence in a suit pending in the chancery of the circuit court of said County - for the County of said, in favour of Mills Daniel & wife ^{Elizabeth his} p^{ty}. against James Chapman James R. Edwards, Davis Edwards, Alfred Edwards, & John Carson and Martha his wife defendants - The Dependent Ekum Eley having been first duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, deposes & says - that he was one of the Commissioners appointed to lay of the Widows Dower in the Slaves of Jonas Edwards Dec^d. the Widow having relinquished all her benefit in the Last Will and Testament of said Dec^d. and in paying off the said Dower or thirds the Commissioners were obliged to take a Negro Man by the Name of Lewis which was devised to Martha A. Edwards one of the Dec^d. Daughters and assign it to the Widow as her Dower for life and a Negro Girl Esther which was devised to Elizabeth Edwards and assign her to the Widow as her Dower for life and this Dependant is confident that he and the other Commissioners agreed on a sum or sums that the said Martha A. Edwards & Elizabeth Edwards was to receive in consequence of their Negroes being assigned to the Widow as a Dower for life but the sum or sums this Dependant does not now recollect, but this Dependant is informed that the sum or sums is not named in the Report returned to the Office and the reason why this Dependant does not know and believe the Widow kept the said Negroes as long as she lived and further this Dependant says not given under my hand the day & year first above written

Ekum Eley

The foregoing deposition of Ekum Eley was taken & sworn to before us Justices of the Peace for the County of said and this 22nd June 1844, between the hours of 9. A. M. & 7. P. M. at the Old Chapel - given under our hands, this the day of June - 1844 - Wm. Miller - David Roberts & H. Chapman

The deposition of Thomas Hall, having solemnly affirmed &c.
taken, at the Old Chapel Newgate County Va, on Saturday the
22^d June between the hours of 9 A.M. & 5 P.M. - to the
best of his recollection in a court proceeding in the Circuit Court of
the County of Newgate County Va. in favor of Mills Daniel
vs. Chapman, Davis, Allen, James R. & James Edwards
& John Carson & Martha his wife &c. - The deponent; Thomas
Hall, after having solemnly affirmed, deposes & says - That
he knows the negro girl Ester to be in
the possession of Martha Edwards from
the death of Jonas Edwards until the death
of the said Martha Edwards and I think
and I think to be in consideration
that from ninety to one hundred
Dollars would be what the said Ester
was worth during that time,
and the said Ester was the same girl
that the said Martha Edwards held as a
slave of the said negroes of her husband

J. Hall

The foregoing deposition of Hall, was taken & affirmed to
be true as far as the facts for the County of Newgate Va.
at the Old Chapel in the County of Newgate, on Saturday the 22^d June
1846, between the hours of 9 A.M. & 5 P.M. - given under our hands
as a true and correct copy of the above matter -

David Roberts J. Clerk
H. Chapman J. Clerk

Handwritten record to

This case came on to be heard
on the Bill, answer, replication, exhibits
and examination of witnesses, being
agreed by Counsel; On consideration
whereof the Court & the a. g. ord^d &
said that the Bill of the p^{rs} be
dismissed, and that they ~~pay~~ ^{pay} the costs
pay to the defendants their costs
in this suit & expenses &

Hand to

7

Howard to

not by the
exp. atts.

John Semmes

2^d. This Bill is in fact one on the
nature of a Bill of Review;
not in truth a bill of review
but an original Bill to review
the former case decided in
the County Court -

3^d - The act of limitation of 5
years will bar the Plffs: as
they are subjs to review of
the Cpts. In a case of action
which if it was executed, was
more than 5 years ago -

4th - If the widow had the review
of the will imposed - her
estate is responsible -
~~But if~~

Daniel and wife v. Howard &c.

Happens by the title of the 1st! That
in 1829, fifteen years ago, a decision
of the slave of Jonas Edwards, the slave
and: took place under a decree
of the County Court of De Kalb County,
in which decision, slave was
allotted to the widow for her life -
That in the allotment, a negro girl
named Esther whom the 1st! alleges
was given to Daniel's wife in the
will, was given to the widow at.
Left her till her death, which occurred
- and in 1843 - a period of 14 years -
Daniel and wife now complain
of the decision and ask that the
1st! shall contribute to pay
them the hire of the girl from
1829 to 1843 -

The complainant should not
sue over - Because -

1st - If the decision was erroneous,
objection should have been made
by exception to the report of the
Court.

Jonas. Edwards

mill

Copy

"A."

see 94 etc

and other property I give to him this heirs forever; also one feather
bed and furniture now in his possession. Item The 4th I give and
bequeath to my son Allen Edwards all the balance of the land
which I purchased that formerly belonged to Daniel Herring
and lying on the East side of the road, and the land which
I purchased also under a deed in trust formerly belonging to
Mills Ely (F.A.) one dark bay filly, one feather bed and furniture,
one cow and calf one ewe and lamb, one sow and pigs, one
negro man Harrod and one hundred and fifty dollars in
cash and at my wife's death one negro woman, Charlotte, which
land negro, other property and cash, I give to him and his heirs
forever. Item 5th I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth
two negroes Jerry and Esther, one feather bed and furniture,
one cow and calf and two hundred dollars in cash to her
her heirs forever. Item 6th I give and bequeath unto my son
~~James~~ James Edwards all the land I purchased of Robert
Chapman, and all the land lying on the East side of the
dividing line whereon I now live as divided in the 1st
Item of this my will also one negro boy Moses, one feather
bed and furniture, one cow and calf, one sow and pigs,
one lamb, and two hundred and fifty dollars in cash, which
land negro, and other property I give to him this heirs forever.
Item 7th It is my will and desire; and I give and bequeath
unto my son Jonas Edwards all the land after the decease of us
my wife which I loaned to her, lying on the West side of the
dividing line as mentioned and described in the first
item of this will, including the land which I purchased
of Thomas Cooks wife, and Benjamin Boggin wife, one negro
boy Jack, at my death one feather bed and furniture, one
cow and calf one sow and pigs one ewe and lamb, also at the death
of my wife I give him the branley mill, apple mill &
presses, and cider casks which I loaned to my wife as said
also at the death of my wife, one negro Dick, which land
negroes and other property and dollars in cash, I give to
him and his heirs forever. Item 8th I give and
bequeath unto my daughter Martha Edwards, two negroes
Lewis and Mary, one feather bed and furniture and
cow and calf and two hundred dollars in cash to her heirs
forever. Item 9th I give and bequeath unto my

unto my son Josiah Edwards one thousand dollars in cash,
one negro boy Dennis one feather bed and furniture, one cow
and calf one ewe and lamb, one sow pigs this heirs forever.
Item 10th I also lend unto my beloved wife Martha
during her natural life, one reding gy thames and I
give bequeath to her one hundred dollars in cash at her
disposal. Item 11th after my just debts are paid
all the balance of my estate of every nature or kind
which I have not heretofore disposed of, I wish to be
sold & equally divided between my beloved wife Martha
and all my children to wit, Charlotte, Davis, Allen,
Elizabeth, James, Jonas, Martha and Josiah Edwards,
to them and their heirs forever. Item 12th lastly I do
sincerely nominate and appoint my son Davis
Edwards, and my son in law, James Chapman, whole
and sole, executor to this my last will and testament
hereby revoking all other or former wills or testaments
by me heretofore made. In witness whereof I have
hereunto set my hand and seal this 9th day of July
in the year of Christ 1837.

Signed sealed and acknowledged by Jonas Edwards (Seal)
to be the last will & testament
of Jonas Edwards in presence
of
Ezra Ely

At a court held for the County of Wright County the 6th day of
April 1839. The foregoing will was presented in court by James Chapman one
of the executors therein named, who made oath thereto according to
law, and the same being proved by the oath of Ezra Ely the only
witness thereto, the same was established as a testamentary writing of the
said Jonas Edwards as to personal property and ordered to be recorded.
And on the motion of the said executor who together with Benjamin
Chapman, Francis Whitley, Matthew Symon, and Andrew B. Woodley his securities
entered into and acknowledged a bond in the penalty of twenty thousand
dollars conditioned as the law directs. Certificate was granted him for
obtaining a probate thereof in due form of law. Link allowed to Davis
Edwards the other executor therein named to qualify.

Attest, John

John Young, clk.
J. M. Young, D.C.

In the name of God Amen, I Jonas Edwards of The County
of Isle of Wight and State of Virginia, being in a low state
of health, and calling to mind the uncertainty of this
life, and it being appointed unto for all men to die; and
being desirous to dispose of all the worldly estate, with which
it has pleased God to bless me with, do think proper to make
my last will and testament, in manner and form following
that is to say. Item 1st, It is my will and desire that the
plantation whereon I now live, should be divided as follows,
beginning at a pine standing in the branch, adjoining Henry
Hastings land, thence a South East course along a ditch and
a line of marked trees to the land formerly belonging to
Robert Chapman, and all that part of the said land
lying on the West of said dividing line, including the
dwelling house and other out houses and two negro men
Sarmany and Dick, and one woman Charlotte, also six head
of cattle of the first choice, one feather bed and furniture, two
horses now on this plantation, twenty head of hogs, the first
choice, eight head of sheep, first choice, also my stile on this
plantation, and two hogheads, thirty barrels, Apples and peaches,
I devise to my beloved wife Martha, during her natural
life, It is also my will and desire, that my wife aforesaid should
have out of my estate provisions enough to support her and
her family one year after my decease, which provisions I
give to her and her heirs forever. Item 2nd I give unto my
daughter Charlotte the wife of James Chapman the following
property, to wit, two negroes Peter and Lemmy, one feather bed
furniture, ^{and} ~~now~~ in her possession, one cow and calf also in her
possession, also two hundred dollars in cash which I give to her
and her heirs forever. Item 3rd I give and bequeath to my
son Davis Edwards, all that part of the tract of land which
I purchased, that formerly belonged to Daniel Ferring Esq.
lying on the West side of the road, including all the houses &
appurtenances belonging thereto, one riding horse with
saddle, now called his, one brassy stub, Apples and
peaches on the said plantation, twenty five empty barrels
and five hogheads, one cow and calf, one sow and lamb,
one sow and pigs, and one negro, Sarmany, at the death of
my wife one negress Peggy, at my death, which said land

Esqum Day the only living trustee, the same was established as
a testamentary writing of the said Jonas Edwards as to personal
property and ordered to be recorded: and on the motion
of the said executor who together with Benjamin Chapman
Francis Whitley, Matthew Lynde, and Andrew B. Moody his
securities entered into and acknowledged a bond in the
penalty of twenty thousand dollars conditioned as the law
directs. Certificate was granted him for obtaining a probate
thereof in due form of law. Time allowed to David Edwards
the other executor therein named to qualify

Teste

Nathl. P. Young. C. C. B.

A Copy

Teste

J. M. Young. C. C.

Copy Teste

J. P. Miles. C. C. M.

(Copy)

Jonas Edwards' will

Page 94 of 100

one handy still apple mill and press on the said plantation
twenty five empty barrels and four hogheads, one cow and
calf, one ewe and lamb one sow and pigs, and one
negro Samsony at the dec. of my wife and one negro girl
Peggy at my dec., which said lands and other property I give to
him and his heirs forever, also one feather bed and furniture
now in his possession - Item 4th. I give and bequeath to
my son Allen Edwards all the balance of the lands
which I purchased, that formerly belonged to Daniel Henningford
lying on the East side of of the road, and the lands which
I purchased sold under a deed in trust formerly belonging to
Mills Eley (S.D.) one dark bay Pully one feather bed and furniture
one cow and calf, one ewe and lamb, one sow and pigs, one
negro man ~~and~~ and one hundred and fifty dollars in
cash, and at my wife's dec. one negro woman Charlotte,
which land, negro, other property and cash I give to him and
his heirs forever. Item 5th. I give and bequeath unto my daughter
Elizabeth two negroes Bray and Esther, one feather bed and
furniture, one cow and calf and two hundred dollars in
cash to her and her heirs forever. Item 6th. I give and
bequeath unto my son James Edwards all the land I purchased
of Abner Chapman, and all the land lying on the East
side of the dividing line whereon I now live as described
on the 1st item of this my will, also one negro boy man, one
feather bed and furniture, one cow and calf, one sow and
pigs one ewe and lamb and two hundred and fifty dollars in
cash, which lands negro and other property I give to him
and his heirs forever. Item the 7th. It is my will and desire
and I give and bequeath unto my son Jonas Edwards, all
the land after the decease of my wife which I loaned to him
lying on the West side of the dividing line as mentioned
and described in the first item of this will including the
lands which I purchased of Thomas Cooks wife Wm. Coggin
wife, one negro boy Jack at my decease, one feather bed and
furniture, one cow and calf, one sow and pigs, one ewe and lamb, also at the

decease of my wife I give him the handy still apple mill &
press, and cider casks, which loaned to my wife aforesaid also at
the dec. of my wife one negro, Dick, which land negro
other property and dollars in cash I give to him and his
heirs forever. Item the 8th. I give and bequeath unto my
daughter Martha Edwards, two negroes Luns and Mary,
one feather bed and furniture, one cow and calf and
two hundred dollars in cash to her heirs forever. Item 9th. I give
and bequeath unto my son Josiah Edwards one thousand
dollars in cash, one negro boy Dennis one feather bed &
furniture, one cow and calf, one ewe and lamb, one sow and pigs his heirs
forever. Item the 10th. I also loan unto my beloved wife Martha
during her natural life, one sewing gig and harness and
give and bequeath to her one hundred dollars in cash at
her disposal. Item 11th. After my just debts are paid all the
balance of my estate of every nature or kind which I
have not heretofore disposed of, I wish to be sold and
equally divided between my beloved wife Martha and
my children, to wit, Charlotte, Davis, Allen, Elizabeth James, Jonas,
Martha and Josiah Edwards to them and their heirs forever.
Item the 12th. lastly I do hereby nominate and appoint my
son Davis Edwards and my son in law James Chapman
whole and sole executors to this my last will and testament
hereby revoking all other or former wills or testaments by me
heretofore made, In witness whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and seal this 9th. day July in the year
of Christ 1837.
Signed Sealed Vastenwledged to be }
The last will Testament of Jonas }
Edwards in presence of us }
Ezra Ely

Jonas Edwards Seal

At a court held for the County of Wright County the 6th day
of April 1839, the foregoing will was presented in court by James
Chapman one of the executors therein named who made
oath that he according to law and the same being proved by the oath

In the name of God amen, I Jonas Edwards of the County
of Suffolk and State of Virginia, being in a low state of health,
and calling to mind the uncertainty of this life, and it being
appointed once for all men to die, and being desirous to dispose
of all the worldly estate, with which it has pleased God to
keep me with, do think proper to make my last will and
testament, in manner and form following, that is to say.
Item 1st, It is my will and desire that the plantation
whereon I now live, should be divided as follows, beginning at
a pine standing in the branch, adjoining Henry Gaskins land,
thence a South East course along a ditch and a line of marked
trees to the lands formerly belonging to Robert Chapman, and all
that part of the said lands, lying on the West side of said
dividing line, including the dwelling house and other out
houses and two negro men Samson and Jack and one
woman Charlotte, also six heads of cattle of the first choice, one
feather bed and furnitures, two horses now on this plantation
twenty heads of hogs, the first choice, eight heads of sheep
first choice, also any still on this plantation, ten hogsheads,
thirty barrels of pepper and pepper, I leave to my beloved wife
Martha, during her natural life. It is also my will and
desire, that my wife aforesaid should have out of my estate
provisions enough to support her and her family any
year after my decease, which provisions I give to her and
her heirs forever. Item 2nd, I give unto my daughter
Charlotte the wife of James Chapman, the following property,
to wit, two negroes Peter and Harry one feather bed and
furnitures, already in her possession, one cow and calf, also
in her possession, also two hundred and twenty dollars in cash which
I give to her and her heirs forever. Item 3rd, I give and
bequeath to my son Davis Edwards, all that part of the
tract of land which I purchased, that formerly belonged
to Daniel Henning and lying on the West side of the road,
including all the houses and appurtenances belonging
thereunto, and rising horse mill road, now called his, one

Edward V. Thayer
is } copy Report
Edward, Ent.^r:

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for 58¢

In Obedience to a decree of the Court of Idlersight County bearing date
October Court 1829 to us directed, We the undersigned have laid off and
apportioned, to Martha Edwards, widow of Jonas Edwards, decd. as her right of
Dower in the land & slaves, which said Jonas Edwards decd. died possessed,
to wit: as her right of Dower in the lands as follows to wit, beginning
at a pine in Henry Gastkins line, thence running a S. E. course a long
a line of marked trees, and a long a ditch about the course to a red Oak,
on the line formerly Robt. Chapman, thence a long S. E. Chapmans,
to a pine a corner tree of Benj. Coggin and Jesse Edwards, thence
a long said Coggin line to Thomas Goodsons line and road to, Hezekiah
Bracys line, and a long said Bracy and Henry Gastkins
line to the pine the first station —

Also as her right of Dower in the slaves as follows (to wit) Dick,
January, Charlot, Esther, and Lewis — We have also apportioned to the
several heirs of said Jonas Edwards, the balance of the land which
he died possessed as follows, (to wit) to Jonas Edwards, the following
tract or parcel of land, to wit: beginning at a pine in Henry
Gastkins line, thence a S. E. course a long a line of marked
trees & a long a ditch to a spot on the side of said ditch,
thence running a long a line of marked trees a south course to a
pine in Thomas Goodsons line, thence a long S. E. Goodsons line and
road to Hezekiah Bracys line and a long said Bracy & Henry
Gastkins line, to the pine the first station. Subject to the Dower

To Josiah Edwards the following tract or parcel of land (to wit) beginning
at a spot standing on the side of a ditch in the line of the Dower
land and now a corner of S. Josiah and Jonas Edwards, thence
running a S. E. course a long a line of marked trees and ditch
a south course to a red Oak on the line formerly Robt.
Chapmans, thence a long S. E. Chapmans to a pine a corner
tree of Benj. Coggin and Jesse Edwards, thence a long
said Coggin line to a pine and now a corner tree of S. E.
Josiah and Jonas Edwards, thence a line of marked trees to
the spot the first station. Subject to the Dower —

To Martha Edwards the following tract or parcel of land (to wit) beginning
at a pine in Henry Gastkins line, thence a long S. E. Gastkins line,
and the line of the land which Samuel Westray decd. died possessed
to a pine a new corner tree now made thence a long a line of
marked trees to a black Gum standing in Sampson Bracys
line thence a long S. E. Bracys line, Thomas M. Clonney, decd. line

and the line of the land formerly Robt. Chapman, to a ced oak in J.^d Chapman line thence running a N.W. corner and marked tree and ditch to the pine the first station —

To James Edward, the following tract or parcel of land (to wit) the tract bounded by the above named tract, W.^m Batten, John Gastine, Sampson Bracy &c. To Allen Edwards the following tract or parcel of land (to wit) beginning at a pine standing on the east side of the road in Thomas Marshall line, thence running along the road a north course to the Swamp joining Edwin Gray, thence up the Swamp to the corner of Wiley Turners line, thence a long said Turners line and the land called Mills Elys tract thence a long S.^d line to Miles Bracy's line thence a long said Bracy's line to a white oak standing in the Swamp, thence down the Swamp to a black gum a new corner tree now made, thence a S.W. course and a long a line of mark^d trees a straight course & through the open ground to Thomas Marshall line thence a long said Marshall line a west course to the road, and first station. To Elizabeth Edwards the following tract

or parcel of land to wit, bounded by, the above last mentioned tract or parcel of land, Miles Bracy, Thomas Marshall &c and east side of the road running through the land called the Steering tract — To Davis Edwards the following tract or parcel of land to wit beginning at a post oak standing on the side of the road at the corner of the Orchard, thence running a long a line of mark^d apple trees a west course & a straight line to the line of the land which Thomas Blaincock died: dies prop^r., thence a long said Blaincocks line to the swamp thence up the swamp, to the road thence a long the road, to the post oak the first station — To Charlotte Chapman the wife of James Chapman the following tract or parcel of land, to wit, the balance of the land call^d the Steering tract joining the last above mentioned &c and lying on the west side of the road — Given under our hands this 17th day of December 1829

John H. Chapman

Jordan Pan

B. Coggin

Esau Ely

Copy
Teste

J. P. Mills D.C. W.C.

Edwards & others
as copy reports

Edwards Exor.

Feb 5-8 etc.

To Martha Edwards the following tract or parcel of land (to wit) beginning at a pine in Henry Gaskins line, thence along s. l. Gaskins line, and the line of the land which Lemuel Michay did and proceeds to a pine a new corner tree now made, thence along a line of marked trees to a black gum standing in Charrierson (Bracy's line thence along s. l. Bracy's line, Thomas McClennay's old line and the line of the land formerly Robert Chapman's to a red oak in S. Chapman's line thence running a N.W. course, marked trees back to the pine the first station. To James Edwards the following tract or parcel of land (to wit) the tract bounded by the above named tract, Wm. Patton, John Gaskins, Charrierson (Bracy &c. To Allen Edwards the following tract or parcel of land (to wit) beginning at a pine standing on the East side of the road in Thomas Marshall's line thence running along the road a North course to the swamp joining Edwin Gray, thence up the Swamp to the corner of Wiley Gunness line, thence along S. Gunness line, and the land called Mills Elys tract thence along s. l. line to Mills Bracy's line, thence along s. l. Bracy's line to a white oak standing in the swamp, thence down the Swamp to a black gum, a new corner tree now made, thence a S.W. course and along a line of marked trees a straight course + through the open ground to Thomas Marshall's line thence along s. l. Marshall's line a West course to the road, and first station. To Elizabeth Edwards the following tract or parcel of land to wit, bounded by the above last mentioned tract or parcel of land, Mills Bracy, Thomas Marshall, &c. East side of the road running through the land called the Herring tract - To Davis Edwards the following tract or parcel of land to wit beginning at a post oak standing on the side of the road at the corner of the orchard thence running along a line of marked apple trees a West course & a straight line to the line of the land which Thomas Stancroft did and possessed, thence along S. Stancroft's line to the swamp thence up the Swamp to the road thence along the road to the post oak the first station

To Charlotte Chapman the wife of James Chapman the following tract or parcel of land (to wit) the balance of the land called the Herring tract joining the last above mentioned &c and lying on the west side of the road. Given under our hands this 17th day of December 1829.

John H. Chapman

Jordan. Parr

B. Coggin

Leah Ely

Copy,

Teste

J. P. Mills D.C. M.C.

Copy

Teste

J. P. Mills D.C.

Leah
Affix
Name

In obedience to a decree of the court of ~~Shelby~~ ^{Shelby} County bearing date October Court 1829 to us directed, We the undersigned have laid off and assigned, to Martha Edwards widow of Jonas Edwards decd. as her right of course in the lands and slaves, which Jonas Edwards decd. did possess to wit as her right of course in the lands to wit, beginning at a pine in Henry Gaskins line, thence running a S course along a line of marked trees, and along a ditch a South course to a red oak, on the line formerly Robert Chapmans, thence along S. Chapmans, to a pine a corner tree of Benj. Coggin and Jesse Edwards, thence along said Coggin line to Thomas Gordons line and road to Hezekiah Bracy's line, and along said Bracy and Henry Gaskins line to the pine the first station - Also as her right of course in the Slaves as follows (to wit) Dick, January, Charles, Esther, and Lewis. We have also assigned to the several heirs of said Jonas Edwards the balance of the land which he did possess as follows (to wit) to Jonas the following tract or parcel of land, to wit beginning at a pine in Henry Gaskins line, thence a South course along a line of marked trees along a ditch to a stub on the side of said ditch, thence running along a line of marked trees a South course to a pine in Thomas Gordons line and road to Hezekiah Bracy's line and along said Bracy's & Henry Gaskins line to the pine the first station subject to the course - To Josiah Edwards the following tract or parcel of land (to wit) beginning at a stub standing on the side of a ditch in the line of dower land and now a corner of s. Josiah and Jonas Edwards thence running a South course along a line of marked trees and ditch a South course to a red oak on the line formerly Robt. Chapmans thence along S. Chapmans line to a pine a corner tree of Benj. Coggin and Jesse Edwards, thence along S. Coggin line to a pine and now a corner tree of s. Josiah & Jonas Edwards thence a line of marked trees to the stub the first station, subject to the course.