

**Will of Brice Edwards** [Patrick County, VA WB5, page 86-87]  
[written 2 September 1851, proved February 1856]

I Brice Edwards of the county of Patrick and state of Virginia, do publish and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say ~

It is my will and desire that all my just debts be paid off and satisfied by my executor herein after appointed in such a manner as he may think most advantageous to my wife and children herein after mentioned

It is my will and desire that my beloved Jane Edwards shall during her life or widowhood to occupy my dwelling house and to remain in the occupancy of my of land on which I now live - And also that all my personal property including my negro woman Vina and her two children, Charles and Lurinda (except such surplus property as may be useless to her the said Jane Edwards) to continue in her possession to be managed and controlled by son Joseph in such as manner as he may think most conducive to her comfort and happiness

It is my will and desire that my son Joseph, as soon as convenient after my death shall sell all such surplus property above named as my beloved wife may not need for her comfort and support, and that he apply the proceeds thereof in such sums and in such manner as her necessities may require

It is my will and desire that after the death of my beloved wife Jane Edwards, all my personal property of every kind and discription saving and excepting my Negro woman, Vina and her two children Charles and Lurinda, be sold by my executor and the proceeds thereof equally divided among my children Nancy Griffith, Joseph, Sally Arrington, and the children of Hetty Vires (their share to be divided among them equally) Lucinda Cochram Elizabeth Hancock, Lewis Edwards, Lavinia Cassell, Jane Hancock and Catherine Cassell, them & their heirs

It is my will and desire that after my wife's death, my negro woman Vina and her children, Charles and Lucinda in consideration of her faithful services and trust worthiness remain in my family and with that view I desire after their seperate appraisement, some one or more of my children, shall take them at said appraised value, he she or they being responsible to my legatees above mentioned for each one's distributive share.

It is my will and desire that after the death of my beloved wife, Jane Edwards my executor herein after named sell my tract on which I now live and that the proceeds thereof be equally divided among my several children and grandchildren above named and that my said Executor also have power convey complete and absolute title by deed to the purchaser thereof as fully and effectually as if I did the same

It is my will and desire that my executor herein after named shall be at liberty to dispose of in such a manner as he may think most advantageous to my wife and children my bounty land claim under the Act of Congress passed September 28th 1850 for my service during the late war with Great Britain and that should a patent be issued therefore and he should therefore and should sell the same then I desire that he convey to the purchaser thereof such title as may be vested therein by law.

It is my will and desire that should my beloved wife after my death desire anyone to live with her for her comfort and contentment that she be at liberty to procure such a person as she may desire, and my son Joseph render any assistance she may desire

I do hereby constitute and appoint my son Joseph Edwards my sole Executor of this my last will and testament hereby revoking and annulling all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 2nd day of September 1851

Signed, sealed & acknowledged by the said Brice X Edwards (Seal)  
Brice Edwards as his last will and testament mark

in presence of us who at his request and in his presence, have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto

Samuel G Staples

Benjamin F Bunett

John Hancock Sr

Patrick County February Court 1856

This last will and testament of Brice Edwards decd. was produced in court by Joseph H Edwards the executor therein named in order to be proved, and Samuel G. Staples, the surviving witness to the said writing having testified in court that the said Brice Edwards deceased signed and published the same in his presence as and for his last will and testament, that he subscribed his name as a witness thereto in the presence of the testator and at his request, and that the said testator was of sound sense and memory as far as he knew, or believed, and having also testified that he saw John Hancock one of the other witnesses to the said writing who is now dead subscribe his name thereto also in the presence of the testator and at his request it is ordered that the said writing be recorded as the last will and testament of the said Brice Edwards decd. And on motion of the said Exer. Joseph H Edwards who made oath thereto and together with Crawford Turner his security entered into and acknowledged a bond in the penalty of four thousand dollars, conditioned as the law directs, certificate is granted the said Joseph H. Edwards for obtaining letters of administration on the said decedents estate with the will amended in due form

Teste

Henry Tuggle Clk