

Refus Jones Test

Will

Manhall being Mif May 24th 56

Refus Jones of County State of Virginia being

50 Common health of body & mind, but it is knowing it is appointed for all  
mine once to die, do make this my last will & testament, 1. I Commend  
my soul to God who gave it, 2<sup>d</sup> My body to the earth to be decently buried,  
3<sup>d</sup> I appoint my wife Martha to be my executrix, 4<sup>th</sup> It being my  
desire that my debts and all liabilities be paid as soon as it can be  
done from the proceeds of the farm or any other income, 5<sup>th</sup> After all my  
debts are paid it is my sincere desire that my property both personal  
& real might remain together (on the plantation) in common stock,  
until some of the children become of age or many, 6. In that event  
if the mother cannot arrange with the child satisfactory its portion of  
my personal property then I disinterested freeholders of the county, &  
chosen by each party, that is the mother the child the Commissioner  
the 3<sup>d</sup> one, (To wit) said Commissioner have full power to have all my  
debt brought before them & set apart a child's portion, value of  
likely negro man at \$1000, and others in proportion, the receipt of said  
Commissioner to said child describing said negro set apart as their  
legal & equal portion of my slave, shall when filed in the Clerk's office  
of the Co be a good & sufficient title to the same, 7. My two sons Wm &  
Light & I give and bequeath my entire interest in the store in the  
Shoo trade with Wm Hill Crocker Keely & Sprigg, which interest  
amounted to \$12,500 1<sup>st</sup> July 56. the same to be continued under the  
entire control of said Wm Hill Crocker, so long as it may be his desire  
allowing him for his extra services annually, also a contribution  
of the present agreement with J & Lane which agreement is that  
said Lane shall receive for his services one fourth of the profits,  
for his services in paying one fourth of the expenses of the said  
firm, provided said Mr Crocker shall make once in two years  
a full & fair Statement of Amount of Capital Stock, profit & losses of  
said concern, it being my desire that this business be continued until  
my youngest son become of age should said Mr Crocker live, this gift  
be an only one from any portion of my personal estate until there is a  
final division of the same 10<sup>th</sup> It is my desire that there should be no

return made to the Court of my effects in any ~~but~~ that my affairs might be  
 kept together in the same as during my lifetime. Each of my children  
 to be educated, clothed &c out of the joint funds, & in the event of my  
 wife's Marriage the law points to the Crown of distribution, Given under  
 my hand & seal the year & date aforesaid,

Witness my hand & seal  
 the 25th day of May 1857

J. J. [unclear]

Richard Jones