

other one the day and year therein written

sworn to and R O Gessons

Subscribed before me this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 1844

C. A. Dennis judge Cb.  
Recorded the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December AD 1844  
Joseph M. Lee clerk

~~The State of Alabama } orphans  
 Pike County } Court  
 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June AD 1844 In open  
 court. Personally appeared De Mo  
 Simonds one of the subscribing witnesses  
 to the foregoing Will who after  
 being duly sworn deposes and saith  
 that he saw the within named  
 John Bethune use name in sub-  
 scribed there to sign said will and deliver  
 the same as his last will and tes-  
 tament in the presence of Dushie  
 Shaw and Neil A. Northison and  
 that he their deponent deponent  
 subscribed his name as a witness  
 thereto in the presence of the  
 said John Bethune and that he  
 saw the said Dushie Shaw and  
 Neil A. Northison the other sub-  
 scribing witnesses sign the same as  
 witness in the presence of the  
 said John Bethune and by his  
 request and in the presence of  
 each other one the day and in~~

The yode therein written signed  
to and subscribed before me in open  
court this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 1844

The State of Alabama } In the name  
Pike County } of god amen, John  
Bethune of the State of Alabama Pike  
County Being of sound mind but in-  
firm body Do hereby constitute and  
make this my last will and testame-  
nt as follows Item 1<sup>st</sup> I request my  
executors of this my last will and tes-  
tament here after to be named that  
after my death all my just and law-  
ful debts shall be paid Item 2<sup>nd</sup>  
It is my wish and design that all my  
property shall remain undivided until  
the oldest of my children becomes of age  
then each one draw their equal  
portion as they become of age except  
the land which shall  
remain until the youngest child  
becomes of age and then it shall be  
equally divided for each one to draw  
his or his equal portion  
Item 3<sup>rd</sup> I do here by give and Bequeath  
with to my beloved children viz Rebe-  
ca Rodrick Samuel and David  
Share and share alike as they sever-  
ally become of age  
Item 4<sup>th</sup> It is my wish and desire that  
my executors take charge of my chil-  
dren and give them a liberal or classical  
education according to the different

capacity or desire for learning and the funds to give it to them Item 5<sup>th</sup> I do hereby request and do constitute and appoint my Brother Roderick Bethune and John B. McLean to act as my executors to this my last Will and Testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and this the 24<sup>th</sup> November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty three signed sealed and delivered

in witness of John Bethune   
 A. D. McDonald  
 Doshie Shaw  
 V. A. Mathison

The State of Alabama } orphans court  
 Pike county } 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June  
 in open court personally appeared Archibald S. McDonald one of the subscribing witnesses to the foregoing Will who after being duly sworn deposes and saith that he saw the within named John Bethune whose name is subscribed thereto signed sealed and delivered the same as his last will and testament in the presence of Doshie Shaw and Neil Mathison and that he their deponent subscribed his name as a witness thereto in the presence of the said John Bethune and that he saw the said Doshie Shaw and Neil A. Mathison the other subscribing witnesses sign

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The same as witnesses in the presence of the said John Bethune and by his request and in the presence of each other on the day and in the year therein written

Sworn to and subscribed before me in open court this 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 1844

Archibald McDonald

C. A. Dennis J. C. C.

Recorded the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 1844  
Jesse W. Lee Clerk

The State of Alabama } In the name of goes  
Pike County } I William  
Cope do make this my last will and  
Testament first I will my body to the  
earth and my soul to the Almighty god  
who give it I further will that all my  
just debts including my funeral expenses  
shall be paid and I also will that af-  
ter all my just debts are paid  
that the residue of my Estate be  
equally divided amongst my children  
and that my son Wilson Cope take  
charge of the same and keep it all  
together until the youngest child  
be of age and that he shall  
be paid for his services out of  
the income of the estate whatever  
Hiram Carter Thomas Cope and  
George Cope think his services  
are worth and when the youngest