

Will of Anthony Lawson, filed in Sevier County, Tenn. Chancery Court Office in Case of Henry S. Catlett vs Andrew Lawson Jr., Et Al, 4 Feb. 1856; copied by J.A. Sharp, July 27, 1951.

In the name of God Amen.

I Anthony Lawson of the County of Sevier and State of Tennessee being at this time weak and feeble in body but of sound and disposing mind and memory, and calling to mind that it is appointed for all men once to die and also the uncertainty at what time this mortal life will cease and being desirous of making some disposition of what it has pleased a benificent providence to bless me with of this worlds goods do make and ordain this my last will and testament hereby revoking all former wills and testaments by me heretofore made. After recommending my Soul to God who gave it and my body to a decent and christian burial. I bequeath as follows. to wit. First it is my will and desire that my beloved wife Catherine Lawson have the control and keeping of the whole of my estate both real and personal (except what is hereafter excepted) until our youngest child becomes twenty one years of age if She Shall live that long, and at that time that a division take place and one third part of the lands and of the personal property then on hand to be given to her during her natural life, and at the time the youngest child becomes of age for the two thirds of the Estate after laying out the third to my wife above mentioned be Sold and the proceeds equally divided between all of my children, and at the death of wife the third laid out to her or whatever may remain of it to be Sold and divided equally between my children, but if my Wife Should die before the youngest child comes of age it is then my will that my Executors hereater named Should manage the estate for the use of raising and schooling my children until the youngest child becomes twenty one years of age, and the Said Executors are hereby Solemnly charged (in the event of my wife's death) with the duty of raising and schooling my children with fatherly care and protection. It is also my will and desire that my son John Lawson live on the place and manage and assist his mother in making a living for the family and raising and Schooling the children and that he have his living off of the place. It is also my will that he Should have my wearing cloths.

Secondly. It is my will and desire that my children both Sons and Daughters as they grow up be apportioned off in the Same way with good horses and Saddles and of as much value as those that have heretofore been apportioned off by me as it is my will and desire that equal and impartial justice be done between all my children. I charge my Executors to discharge this duty to their brothers and sisters. Thirdly I have a quantity of fine books that I wish to remain with my wife until her death and that all my children have the use of reading them when they chose and it is my desire that my children read and Study them well and after the death of my wife I do not want the books sold but that they be divided between my children.

Fourthly A new Saddlæ which is on hand I intended and desire that my Son Alexander Preston Lawson have it for his use. I also desire that he have my rifle gun.

Fifth It is my desire if either of my children at the death of my wife Should be able to buy the lands that two or three good neighbors and disinterested be called on and value the lands and if one of the children is able and wishes that the one pay the rest of the children

their equal portion of the Said valuation and that one have the lands this would keep the land in the family and would Save a Sale of it and dividing the land amongst all would be to little to do either much good. Sixthly It is my desire that all my just and honest debts be paid out of my property. Seventh and last. I do hereby appoint my two beloved Sons John Lawson and Andrew Lawson Executors of this my last will and Testament charging them with the due and proper execution of it. In Testimony whereof I Anthony Lawson have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this twelfth day of March Anno Domini 1839.

Anthony Lawson (seal)

The foregoing Will was read to the testator & Signed by him in our presence Peter Rambo, Isaac A. Miller

State of Tennessee)
Sevier County) I B.M. Chandler Clerk of the & County Court for Said
County hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and perfect copy of
the last Will and Testament of Anthony Lawson Deceased as appears of
record on file in my office.
Witness my hand at office in Sevierville this 8th day of October 1855-
B.M. Chandler Clk., By his Dept. M.W. McCown.