

**Will, TN, Lincoln, William A. Bryan 1871  
Curt Wright's Collection**

State of Tennessee        ]  
Lincoln County            ] 18 June 1871  
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Know all men by these presents, that I, **W. A. BRYANT** being of sound mind, but weak of body, and considering the uncertainty of this frail life, do make and publish this my last Will and Testament, making all others by me heretofore made.

I will that all my just debts, and funeral expenses be paid out of my monies that I may have on hand at the time of my death.

I will that my entire estate, both real and personal remain just as it is until my youngest daughter, **CYNTHIA ANN** be of legal age, and that my two daughters now under lawful age, **SARAH E.**, and **CYNTHIA ANN**, be their own Guardians, and when they become of age, I will that all my entire estate both real and personal except such things as will be hereafter mentioned, divided among my following children, **AMANDA E. STEADMAN**, **R. M. BRYANT**, **SARAH ELLEN**, and **CYNTHIA ANN**. They can as they see proper, either divide estate or sell it for a distribution, but whether sell or divide, they must all be made square, share for share.

I will that the children of my son, **P. N. BRYANT**, deceased have as they become of age, fifty dollars each, to be paid to them by my other heirs.

I will that the amount that my son **P. N. BRYANT** owed me at the time of his death and what he had received from me shall constitute the full share of his heirs to my entire estate., both real and personal, together with fifty dollars each to be paid to them without interest as heretofore mentioned.

I furthermore empower my son in law **L. M. STEADMAN** and his wife **AMANDA E.**, **R. M. BRYANT**, **SARAH E.** and **CYNTHIA ANN**, jointly to take charge of all my valuable papers and collect all the debts that are owing me and pay out all that I am owing, and divide what money may be on hand, then equally among themselves, I also wish and desire the **E. D. HICKS** be my two youngest daughters adviser.

June the 18th 1871

Signed in the presence of **W. A. BRYAN**, **E. D. HICKS**, **J. J. SUMMERFORD**

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State of Tennessee        ]  
Lincoln County            ] 26 August 1871  
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I John Y. Gill Clerk of the County Court of Lincoln County hereby certify that the foregoing last Will and Testament of **W. A. BRYAN**, Dec'd, was this day fully proven by **E. D. HICKS** and **J. J. SUMMERFORD**, the subscribing witnesses to said will, who by duly sworn depose and say that they were acquainted with the said, W. A. Bryan and that he acknowledges the same to be his last Will and Testament, Sworn to and subscribed before me this

August 26th 1871

**JOHN Y. GILL** Clerk

Pages 254-255  
Lincoln County, Tennessee