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will.HE1

Will of William A. Herron. B. ca 1810. D. before July, 1857, Fairfield Co., S.C. Married (1) Eliza Jane Gladney and (2) Frances __?___. No surviving children known.

Son of William Herron and Esther __?__

This will was abstracted by Iris Turner Kelso, 5250 Camp St., New Orleans, La. 70115.

William A. Herron's father, William Herron, was my great-great grandfather. His daughter, Margaret Crawford Herron, was my great-grandmother.

Will written 23 June, 1857. Recorded 10 July, 1857. Robert A. Herron, listed as William A. Herron's brother in the will, is administrator. William A. Herron died just a few months before his father, William Herron, died in October, 1857.

William A. Herron leaves an estate of \$10,925, a considerable amount for those days. He had 22 slaves. The will presents an interesting picture of how a man with no children disposed of his property. Major shares went to his sisters and brothers, but he also remembered a former sister-in-law and a half sister. He also remembered the husband and children of a sister who had died.

Herron's attention to his wife's inheritance, while reflecting the chauvinistic inheritance laws of the time, were also very considerate. He seemed to be thinking of her welfare. Nevertheless, it is striking to me that all the household goods were sold and that Frances Herron, the wife, had to buy her own spinning wheel.

William A. Herron directed that he wanted no trouble over his will. He provided that anyone taking any legal action against his will would lose his or her legacy.

He died fairly young, at about the age of 47 and before his father died.

Heirs receiving major shares: Frances __?___, his wife; his sisters, Dorothy Herron Thompson and Margaret Crawford Herron Lamney; his brothers, James A. Herron and Robert A. Herron; the two sons of Dorothy Herron Thompson, William and James B. Thompson; and members of the family of his sister, Sarah Susan Herron Hanna, who had died. They were her husband, Archibald Hanna; her daughters, Esther Hanna Tubb, (wife of Richard Tubb) and Sarah Hanna Prewitt (wife of W. Prewitt); and her son, Samuel Hanna.

Others receiving bequests were his former sister-in-law - **Mary "Polly" Gladney Shedd**, wife of George Shedd and the sister of William A. Herron's first wife, Eliza Jane Gladney; and **Betsy Brown**, his half sister. Betsy Brown may have been a child of Esther Herron (William A. Thompson's mother) by her first marriage.

William A. Herron left his wife, Frances, a one-third part of his land with the buildings on it, a slave named Susan and her two children and some livestock. He wrote that she could receive \$2000 in cash and the slaves instead of the interest in the land if she chose.

To his full brothers and sisters, he left one share each in his estate. It amounted to \$1820.93 each for Dorothy Herron Thompson, James A. Herron, Margaret C. Lammey and Richard A. Herron.

To Dorothy Herron Thompson's sons, William and James B. Thompson, he left a half-share each, or \$910.47.

The final share was divided among the family of his sister, Susan Sarah Herron Hanna, wife of Archibald Hanna. Archibald Hanna received \$606.98 and the rest - Esther Hanna Tubb, Sarah Hanna Prewitt and Samuel Hanna, \$404.65 each.

To Mary Shedd, his former sister-in-law, he left \$1000 and directed that she buy a female slave with the money. To Betsy Brown, his half sister, he left \$100.

Witnesses of the will were H. H. Counts, C. S. Weldon and D. B. Kirkland. The will is handwritten in a beautiful, clear style. It apparently was typed later, possibly by WPA workers.

The slaves are listed as "The boy, Anderson, about 30 years old, (value) \$1050...the boy Ruben, 23, value \$1100..the boy Ruben, Tim, 20, \$1150..the boy Frank, 40, \$850...the old woman, Dolly, 68, \$150...the old man, Jacob, \$25..the woman Patsy and her 6 children, all likely, \$3800...Sally and her 4 children, \$2600..Lucy and her 3 children, \$2000,,the woman Susan and her 2 children, \$1550."

Among those who bought slaves were E. G. Randolph, D. A. Caldwell, Samuel Gladney, B. J. Gladney and R. A. Herron. Apparently, mothers and their children were not separated. In three cases, they were bought as one group.

James Thompson (Dorothy Herron Thompson's son?) bought

William A. Herron's gold watch and chain.

Among those who paid debts to the estate were James Schilling, James Miller, D. B. Kirkland, Hugh Miller, James Andrews, Dr. T. J. Furman, Dr. G. B. Pearson, R. T. Yarbrough, J. H. Propst, D. R. Gladney, John Adger, W. C. Buchanan, William H. Thompson, Agnes Law and D. R. Evans.

This will is filed in the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S. C., as follows: "Fairfield Co. Estate Papers, Apt. 111 file 580 (?), frames 178-196.

I would like to correspond with anyone researching the Herrons or related families, including the Turners, Kennedys, Youngs and Waughs. Iris Turner Kelso, 5250 Camp St., New Orleans, La. 70115.