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WILL OF SAVILLA N. HILL OF GREENE CO., ALA.

In the name of God Amen, I SAVILLA N. HILL of Greene County, and State of Alabama, do make and ordain & publish this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all wills heretofore by me made. And first I direct that my body be decently interred in some suitable place to be selected by my Son, GEORGE W. HILL and (daughter) REBECCA C. DEGRAFFENREID- and whereas it hath pleased God to bless me with a portion of this worlds goods, I give and dispose of the same in the following manner.

First, it is my will that my son GEORGE W. HILL & my Son-in-Law, DOCTOR T. DEGRAFFENREID do each purchase a likely young Negro woman for my daughter ELIZABETH TERRY, which Negroes they are to secure by deed of trust to some proper person or persons, for the exclusive right and behoof of my said daughter during her natural life and till her youngest child shall attain to legal age, at the laps of which time said Negroes and their entire increases to be sold and equally divided between the children of my said daughter.

Secondly, I do hereby legalize and confirm a bill of sale given by myself to my son GEORGE W. HILL about the twentieth of July 1827 in said bill of sale the right to SAM. ANTHONY and JIM is confirmed. I do also legalize and confirm the receipt and Power of Attorney given to my said son for my full distributive share of the real estate of my husband MOSES HILL, late of Fairfield District and State of South Carolina, deceased, which amounts to one third of said real estate as will appear by reference to the statutes of said State, said papers were executed about the year of 1824 or 1825 to the best of my recollection. I gave an other instrument of writing to my said son, confirming said papers on the 15th say of December Eighteen Hundred and Thirty Four (1834) witnessed by T. DEGRAFFENREID, JOHN C. TUCKER and REBECCA C. DEGRAFFENREID, as will appear by reference to said instrument in the possession of my said son, all of which said instruments were given for the exclusive right and behoof of my said son, and are hereby made and constituted perfectly valid both in law and equity.

Thirdly, I do hereby confirm and make valid a bill of sale

made by myself to my son GEORGE W. HILL as guardian for my daughter REBECCA C. HILL, now REBECCA DEGRAFFENREID, said bill of sale embraces ROSE MAHALEY, BECK, WARNER, TOM and ELLEN and their entire increase, the right and title of said Negroes is hereby confirmed to my said daughter REBECCA C. DEGRAFFENREID was given of the twentieth of July Eight (sic) Hundred & twenty seven (it was 1827), and is hereby made perfectly valid both in law & equity.

Fourthly, I give and bequeath to my Granddaughter REBECCA SAVILLA HILL, daughter of my Son, GEORGE W. HILL my bested, bed and furniture thereunto attached.

Fifthly, I give and bequeath the whole of the balance of my estate after my just debts are paid, should there be any, to my said son GEORGE W. HILL, reserving only one bed and furniture seven counterpins and my wearing apparel, all of the balance of my property of which I may have any actual or accidental right, I give and bequeath as above to my said son, GEORGE W. HILL, provided he will appropriate the amount of Five Hundred Dollars to the purchase of a Negro girl for my said Granddaughter REBECCA SAVILLA HILL, to be secured to her by some proper instrument of writing, and I do hereby make and ordain my Son-in-Law DOCTOR T. DEGRAFFENREID & my esteemed friend Reverend R. G. CHRISTOPHER, Executors of this my last will & testament. In Witness whereof I SAVILLA N. HILL, the testatrix have, to this my will, written on one sheet of paper, set my hand and seal this fifteenth day of June in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred & Thirty Eight....

Signed by/SAVILLA N. (X) HILL  
her mark

Signed, sealed & acknowledged in presence of each other as witnesses: BUSHROD W. WHITE, LUTHER C. JOHNSON, AMEY T. WHITE... The State of Alabama, Greene County, Orphans Court, September 9th, 1844.

End of Will

Note: Moses Hill (husband) died on 1st July 1821 in Fairfield Co., S.C & is buried there. The administration of the estate of MOSES HILL, is located in S.C. Archives, Box 18, Pack 252. Two sons, MOSES BERRY HILL and GEORGE WASHINGTON HILL applied on the 16 August 1821 as Administrators. JOHN BUCHANAN, Judge & Ordinary. The Administrators were appointed on the 1st of September 1821. The bond was signed by son James Hill & his father in law, SPILSBY GLENN .

Witnesses: TITUS G. FARR, JOHN P. FARR, JOHN T. TARTOR.

After the death of Moses Hill, the daughter, Elizabeth Harrison Hill & her husband, Stephen Terry, filed a law suit

against the estate, asking for equal shares and if not, to sell all land etc. and then divided the estate equally. They won the case. After that the Terry family seemed to go their own ways & moved to today's Atlanta, Ga.

What happened to the nine children of Moses & Savilla Hill? a

1. Thomas Hill died between after 24th May of 1824 in Fairfield Co., S.C.
2. James Hill lived as a rich and wealthy man on his plantation (Hillside) near Fish Dam, (Carlisle, S.C. ) Union County, and died on 27th October 1854.
3. Sarah (Sally) Caroline Hill & husband Rev. John Pearson, had also come to Greene County, Ala. She had son son, Moses Pearson Hill, who is buried in same cemetery as Savilla Hill (his grandmother). Sally died between 1831-1835 in Greene Co., Ala. & is suspected to have been buried in same cemetery with mother, but we were unable to locate her grave, (if there).
4. Littleton Hill, died in late teens or early twenties after 1810 census, never married, buried by his father in Fairfield County. He was not mentioned in the final settlement of his father's estate as he was dead.
5. Elizabeth Harrison Hill, shortly after winning the law suit against the estate in S.C., they moved to DeKalb Co., Georgia (today's Fulton Co.) & settled in what is today's Atlanta. They had twelve children and apparently lived a good life in Georgia. Elizabeth died at her home on 3rd December 1838. Notice in the above will that her mother willed her a slave, but Elizabeth had already died and apparently her mother did not know this fact. Does not seem to have been any hard feelings on the part of Savilla, over the law suit.
6. Moses Berry Hill (one the of administrators of father's estate, lived in Chester Co., S.C. with his family. He died suddenly in Chester Co., S.C. on the 14th of October 1824. His brother James Hill, bought him into Union County and buried him among the family cemetery. Apparently trouble developed among his family as the wife had remarried John Johns. The children sued them for equal share of father's estate, a son, James Leslie Stewart Hill, then came to Mississippi.
7. Harriet Windham Hill, had married Edward Pickett Mobley and they lived their entire lives in Fairfield County as a prominent, wealthy family and owned a large number of slaves. She died on 30th April 1857 in Fairfield County, S.C., buried in family cemetery there.
8. George W. Hill, moved his family with his widowed mother, two sisters & their families to Greene Co., Ala. Appeared to become fairly well off. He fathered ten children, wife was Sarah A. Moore. George died on 8th September 1857, buried by mother & wife.
9. Rebecca Carlisle Hill, died in Greene County, Ala. on 11th August 1842 from bilious fever (hepatitis).

She is buried very close to her mother & some of her children in the "Old Bigbee Cemetery" (also known as the old Williams Cemetery near Pleasant Ridge, Greene Co., Ala. As seen from will above, she married Dr. John Trezevant DeGraffenreid.

END OF SC.044 DATA