

Exhibit A.

In the name of God, Amen:

I Benjamin Phelps of Frederick County, the state of Maryland being weak in body, but of sound and disposing mind, memory, and understanding, Considering the certainty of death, and the uncertainty of the time thereof, and being disposed to settle my worldly affairs, and thereby be the better prepared to leave this world, when it shall please Almighty God to call me hence, do therefore make and publish this my last Will and Testament in the manner and form following, that is to say, I commit my soul into the hands of Almighty God, and my body to the earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executor herein after named, and after my burial expenses and just debts, and the debts of the firm of Crampton & Phelps are paid, I will and devise of the remains of my share (One half) of real and personal property as follows.

- (1<sup>st</sup>) I give and bequeath to my sister Martha A Crampton, Four thousand dollars (\$4,000)
  - (2) I give and bequeath to Sarah Ann Hammett, my sister, Three thousand dollars (\$3,000)
  - (3) I give and bequeath to Benjamin P. Crampton (my nephew) the following amounts, to wit, Eleven hundred dollars over paid by me in the farm which we hold in equal shares and interest; also Eight hundred dollars over paid by me in building dwelling house on said farm as above, and thirty five dollars over paid by me in building kitchen on said farm as above
  - (4) I give and bequeath to Emily Jane Florence Brooks (Coloured) One hundred and Twenty five dollars.
  - (5) I give and bequeath to John Thomas Brooks, (Coloured) One hundred dollars
- The last two legacies (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>) to be retained by my Executor hereinafter named, and applied judiciously to the education of said Emily Jane Florence Brooks, and John Thomas Brooks, (both Coloured)

It is my wish and desire that the above legacies be paid out of what remains of my share of the real and personal estate which is now owned by Benjamin P. Crampton and myself, share and share alike, or equal.

I do hereby constitute and appoint my nephew Benjamin P. Crampton to be my sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament, revoking and annulling all former Wills by me heretofore made, ratifying and confirming this and none other, to be my last Will and Testament. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this thirty first day of October, One thousand Eight hundred and sixty eight.

Benj. Phelps

Signed, sealed, published and delivered by Benjamin Phelps the above named Testator, as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of who at his request in his presence of each other, have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto.

Witnesses  
George Shafen  
Jonathan Warner  
H Clay Cittings

State of Maryland, Frederick County, to wit:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true Copy from the Original as filed and recorded in the Office of the Register of Wills for the County aforesaid. In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of the Orphans Court this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 1869



Stamp

Test - J. H. Cockey, Regr

Filed Feb 24 1869