

# WILL OF JAMES MEDLEY 1805

1805, October 28 Will of James Medley.

"To my three daughters, Jenny Adkisson, Lucy Medley and Mourning Medley and Polly Wood; sons, James Towles Medley, Isaac Medley.

"I do appoint my sons, Isaac Medley and Jesse Atkisson, my executors.

"James Medley."

Witnesses: Jas. T. Medley, Mourning and Lucy Medley, Benj. Wood, Henry Tally and John Henson.

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I was not able to find a complete transcript of the full Will of James Towles Medley (1739-1805) who married Morning Whitlock (1758-1816) December 27, 1779 in Halifax Co., Virginia. This extract shows in Halifax County Va Wills - A History of Halifax County - Chapter X Wills Names "H" to "S" 1924.

This confirms the names of James Medley's children including the Isaac Medley that Thomas Whitlock refers to in his affidavit attached to his Revolutionary War pension file:

"And I further certify that on my return to Halifax to the home of my brother in law James Medley who is now dead, to whom I sold the house I got from Joseph Hobson being his substitute and with whom I worked two years after my return I put my discharge signed by Captain Handy unto his said Medley's hands, to keep for me, as I was moving about and he at home and In the hope of it being yet among his papers, I have written to his son Isaack to search for the discharge amongst his father old papers and send it to me if it is possible to find it and I have also (as every old man acquainted with me there that I now remember fifteen or twenty in number are dead or removed required my said Nephew Isaack Medley to state what he knows of my absence and return from the said service to.

Given under my hand this 3d of September 1832"

James Towles Medley is shown in some records as the son of Isaac Medley (1722-1762) and Jane Towles (1726-1764). His eldest son Isaac Medley is shown born about 1772 with mother as Sarah Dix so James Towles Medley appears to have been a widower when he married Morning Whitlock in 1779 at age 40.

Isaac Medley married Martha F. Collier April 20, 1829 Halifax Co., Virginia.

Isaac Medley and his half brother James Towles Medley both show on the 1830 census for Halifax Co., Virginia. Isaac is age 50 to 60 (1772) and James is age 40 to 50 (1786). In 1840 Isaac is shown as Doctor Isaac Medley age 60 to 70 with 15 free white persons and 106 slaves. In 1850 Isaac is age 78 a wealthy Planter with real estate worth \$42,000. Isaac mentions Benjamin Wood's land in his 1851 Will. Polly Wood is listed in James Medley's 1805 Will and Benjamin Wood is a Witness.

Isaac Medley died in 1851

1851, February 22 The will of Isaac Medley, who was sheriff in 1811:

"To my beloved wife, Martha F. Medley, the dwelling house in which I now reside and the lands contiguous; Miry creek land until it strikes the land I purchased from Benjamin Word's estate, thence on the road known as the Danville road, thence on to my store house; twenty-three slaves, all dividends, my carriage and horses, farm horses, cows, calves, oxen and ox cart. Such as she shall select of beds, furniture, table furniture, household and kitchen furniture, not to exceed one-half of my stock."

As a token of regard he bequeaths to Nathaniel Duval Thomas, infant son of Martha Thomas ("niece of my wife") a slave named "Victoria."

"To my sons, James Medley and Isaac Medley, nine hundred acres on Dan river which I purchased from John G. Chalmers, embracing about five hundred acres also, which I purchased from Joseph W. Chalmers.

"In consideration of services rendered me by my son, James Medley, I also devise to him my tract of land on Dan river known as my "Marseilles tract," adjoining the lands of my brother, James T. Medley above and of James Bruce below, embracing the storehouse and lot on the road where James Medley now resides.

"I give to my son, James Medley, one thousand dollars, to be held in trust for the benefit of my grandson, Edwin F. Medley. I give to Edwin F. Medley also a horse, to be worth not more than \$75.00, and a bridle and saddle.

"To my daughter, Rebecca Ballow, 190 acres on Miry creek, above the sawmill of Charles A. Ballow, which land the said Ballow has used with my consent for some time. I also give to my daughter, Rebecca, my lands between road leading from "Union Meeting House" to my mill on Miry creek.

"To my daughters, Martha C. Jackson, Mary A. Lea and Sarah D. Burks, lands lying along the Danville road that I purchased of James Bruce.

"All of my slaves not otherwise disposed of I bequeath to be equally divided among my children, James Medley, Isaac Medley, Granville C. Medley, Martha C. Jackson, Rebecca A. Ballow, Mary A. Lea and Sarah D. Burks.

"All advancement in slaves, &c., heretofore made to my said children or to their husbands are to be brought into the calculation upon the principles of 'Hotch Poch.'

"To my son, James, my large shotgun. To my son, Granville, my gold watch.

"Executors: My son, James Medley and my son-in-law, Charles A. Ballow.

"Isaac Medley."

Witnesses: Woodson Hughes, William T. Ballow, Thos. M. McCraw.

Codicil: "I also give my wife, Martha Medley; my cook, Lucinda, and yellow Sam, 1,000 pounds of pork, 50 barrels of corn, 6 barrels of flour, 150 pounds of wool, 100 pounds of sugar, 40 pounds of coffee, and three sacks of salt as provisions for the first year after my death; also give her six barrels of flour annually for five years after my death." February 22, 1851

HALIFAX COUNTY, VA - WILLS - A History Of Halifax County  
Chapter X Wills - Names "H" - "S" 1924

SOURCES: X8295; R4697