

Will of

Paul T. Gervais

Box 103

No. 24 The State of South Carolina. In the name of the Holy and Blessed Trinity Amen. I, Paul T. Gervais of Johns Island Clerk being weak in body but of sound mind and memory make this my last Will and Testament. Imprimis I desire all my just debts to be fully paid and satisfied. I desire all disputes in the settlement of my affairs avoided as much as possible and declare Hebe and her children to be no part of my Estate but held by me subject to the terms of the last Will of my dear Wife the late Harriette Loundes Gervais. It is my desire that my Servants Edward (Coachman) and his Mother Matilda and Daughter Mary have the privelege of choosing their owner and that the price and conditions of sale be left to the discretion of my Executors. Item. To my eldest Son John Lewis Gervais I give my Plantation called Laurels where I reside including the upper and lower Settlements to him and his heirs forever. Also all the cattle, plantation utensils, and Stock belonging to the plantation and the furniture and books belonging to the house or contained on it also my large boat Marion. Item To my son Paul Trapier Gervais Junior I give all my Plantation called Exchange to him and his Heirs forever, also all the negrroes, cattle, plantation utensils, and stock employed in or belonging to the said plantation and the furniture and books contained in or belonging to the House also my small boat Pushpin and large boat Necessity.

Item. To my daughter Mary Margaret Robinson, Wife of Stephen Thomas Robinson I give all my House and lot No. 23 Legare Street in the City of Charleston to her and her heirs forever. It is my Will that the books and furniture be not sold but divided among my Children according to their liking and if they cannot agree let my Executors appoint one, two, or three persons to make the distribution. Item. I order and direct all my Negroes on the Plantation "Laurels" to be sold by my Executors hereinafter named or such of them as may prove my Will on such terms as they deem fit and all the moneys arising from such sale and all the rest and residue of my Estate I bequeath in four equal Shares namely to my three daughters Martha Powell North wife of Dr. Richard North, Margaret Jenkins Simons widow, and Sarah Ann Laroche each one share and one share to the children of my deceased daughter Claudia Gervais Miller namely Pauline Gervais Prentiss William Miller Anna Cunningham Miller Margaret Gervais Miller Alexander Fraser Miller Paul Gervais Miller Ruth Harriet Miller and Claudia Miller. But the share of Margaret Jenkins Simons and the share of my said Grandchildren are to be retained by my son John Lewis Gervais as Trustee for the following uses that is to say the share of Margaret Jenkins Simons in Trust for her sole and separate use during her life and after her decease in Trust for the support, education, and mainenance of her Surviving children during their minority to be divided among them or the Survivors of them as the Sons attain the age of twenty one years and the daughters the age of twenty one years or day of marriage and if any one of the sons should die under the age of twenty one and before marriage his or her share shall

survive to the others then living and the children of such as may have died leaving Children then living such Children to take by representation only. And as to the share of the Children of my deceased daughter Claudia In Trust (the whole into eight parts to be divided) to allot and assign to Pauline Gervais Prentiss Wife of Christopher I Prentiss one equal eighth part and the remaining seven parts to be held in trust for the support and maintenance of the said William Miller Anna Cunningham Miller Margaret Gervais Miller Alexander Fraser Miller Paul Gervais Miller Ruth Harriet Miller and Claudia Miller during their minority and divided among them as the sons attain the age of twenty one years and the daughters the age of twenty one years or day of Marriage and in case any of the Sons die before twenty one without leaving issue or the daughters before twenty one or Marriage with limitation to surviving issue of Claudia Miller then living as mentioned in the preceding clause of this Will in reference to the share of Margaret Jenkins Simons. And if my Son John L. Gervais should depart this life before the said trusts are exhausted I give the aforesaid shares or as much thereof as may remain In trust to my son in law Stephen Thomas Robinson. In Trust for such as the uses as may remain to be discharged. And I nominate my sons John Lewis Gervais and Paul Trapier Gervais and my son in law Stephen Thomas Robinson executors of this Will and I authorize either of them to bid or purchase at any sale authorized by this Will and the others to make titles for any property that may be purchased by an Executor. And it is my Will that no commission be charged or allowed on the sale of any part of my Estate nor any compensation beyond their expenses as for an honorary trust.

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand this Eighth
day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred
and fifty six.

Paul T. Gervais LS

Signed, published and declared by the Testator as and for his
last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his
presence and at his request have hereunto subscribed our names
In the third line of fourth page "divided" interlined before
signature

Thos. Farr Capers R. Wainright Bacot Joseph T. Dill

Proved before George Buist Esq. O.C.D. July 31st. 1856

August 1st 1856 qualified Paul T. Gervais one of the Executors
therein named. See Decretal order Book M. Page 10

Recorded from Will Book No. L 1851-1856 Page # 491