

Dallas County, Texas Probate Cases 1846 – Early 1900's

Case Number 2514

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FILED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

2514

FILED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

In the Matter of the Estate of James T. Elam, Deceased.

In the County Court of

W. B. Elam, Executor

Dallas County, Texas.

to all persons interested in the Estate of James T. Elam,

deceased:

You will please take notice that five days after the service hereof I will apply to the County Clerk of Dallas, County, Texas, for a Commission to take the deposition of W. E. Williams and T. W. Hankinson, resident of Bandera County, Texas, in answer to the hereto attached interrogatories, propounded to them in the above matters, when taken to be used as proof of the execution of the last will and Testament of J. T. Elam, to prove and establish same for probate in said Court.

M. T. Conner, Attorney for W. B. Elam, Executor.

Interrogatories propounded to W. E. Williams and T. W. Hankinson:

1st: State your name, age, business or occupation, and where you now reside? How long have you been living at the place you now reside?

2nd. State whether or not you were acquainted with James Elam in his lifetime, if yes, how long have you known him.

3rd. This is a proceeding to probate the last will and Testament of James T. Elam, deceased. State whether or not the said Elam made a written will, if, yes, when and where was said will made, and who were the subscribing witnesses thereto?

4th: If you have stated James T. Elam Made a written will and that you witnessed same Now state as near as you can the age of the

testator at the time said will was made? And is said testator now dead? State whether or not said Elam was of sound mind at the time of the execution of said will?

5th. State whether or not the said J. T. Elam was acquainted with the contents of said will at the time he executed the same. if yes, state how you know?

6th. State how you came to sign as a witness to said will? And name each and every person present when said will was executed, and state whether or not you saw said Elam sign same and whether or not he saw you sign as one of the subscribing witnesses?

7th. State whether or not you recognize the instrument hereto attached as the will you witnessed for said Elam? If yes place a mark upon it and state in your answer what mark you put upon same, so the same may be identified by the mark.

M. T. Conner, Attorney for W. B. Elam, Extr.

Filed the 2 day of Oct. 1901. A. S. Jackson, Clerk Co. Court, By A. B. Rawlins, Deputy.

The State of Texas

County of Dallas:-----: I, A. S. Jackson, Clerk of the County Court of Dallas County, Texas, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Interrogatories to be propounded to the witnesses W. E. Williams and T. W. Hankinson, by the Applicant in the above named Estate, as the same appear on file in my office among the papers in said Estate.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 2nd day of Oct. 1901.

A. S. Jackson, Clerk Co. Court. Deputy. *A. B. Rawlins*

The State of Texas }
County of Dallas } To whom this may come
I J. F. Elam Being of sound
mind and memory and in reasonably good
health, and realizing that death is certain and
life uncertain, being desirous to dispose of
my property before I die do hereby make and
publish this my last will and testament hereby re-
voking all others by me at any time heretofore made.

First I direct that all my debt shall be by my
Executor paid
Second, I desire that I have a decent burial

Third, I hereby give bequeath and devise to my
Brother William B. Elam all my property real
personal and mixed without reservation except
as herein after explained.

The same to vest in him and be held by him in trust
for the benefit of my three children, namely, Levitt
Bulah, Elam Luther Elam and Winnie Elam and to
be turned over to them at the age of majority.

Fourth, I give and bequeath unto my Brother
Wm B. Elam fifty acres of land to be taken out of the
one hundred and eighty acres that I own situated
in Dallas county Texas to be cut out of the north

Clerk County Court, Dallas County, Texas.

By M. Rawlins Deputy.

part of said tract.

Fifth I direct that my said Brother Wm B Elam divide said remaining portion of my land as follows to wit fifty acres adjoining the fifty acres hereby bequeathed to him for my son Luther Elam and then divide the remaining eighty equally between my said two daughters Bulah Elam and Winnie Elam

Sixth I hereby direct that out of the rents of my real estate there shall be paid to my wife Mary Elizabeth Elam each year twenty five per cent of the net proceeds from same for her own support so long as she shall remain unmarried the said payments however not to commence until after the expiration of the lease now existing on said real estate which lease will not expire until the year 1910 I having heretofore by written contract and lease signed by me leased unto William B Elam all my real estate situated in Dallas County Texas for a term of two years from 1900 to 1910 and have received from said lessee in advance the full payment of said lease for two years and he is entitled to possession and use of said real estate and all profits arising therefrom until said lease terminates

Seventh I direct that my Executor or the

Seventh I direct that my Executor use the money realized from the rents after the termination of said lease of ten year for the support and Education of my said three children and I direct that he use it as to him may seem best and proper for the welfare of said children

Eighth I direct and hereby Will and bequeath to my wife, Mary Elizabeth Belam all my House hold and Kitchen Furniture

Ninth It is my desire and I do direct that no further action be taken by the County Court in the Administration of my Estate except to Pass up and Probate and record this my last Will and Testament and to return an Inventory and Appraisement and list of claims as directed by law, and I authorize and empower my executor to sell any or all personal property at either public or private sale as he may deem best to be used for the purpose of paying any debts or for the support of my said wife and children he to exercise his best judgment in the premises

Tenth. I hereby nominate and appoint My Brother Wm B Belam to be Executor of this my last Will and Testament without Bond.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my

By W. B. Rawlins Deputy.

Clerk County Court, Dallas County, Texas.

[Handwritten signature]
Notary Public
Dallas, Texas

my hand this the 25th day of Nov. AD 1900
in the presence of

who attest the same in my presence and at
my request.
J. F. Elam

The above instrument was now here sub-
scribed by J. F. Elam the testator in our
presence and we at his request and in
his presence sign our names as witnesses
W. E. Williams
J. W. Harrison

3097
Will

FILED BY 25 day of
Nov 1900
A. JACKSON, Clerk Dist. Court.
W. E. Williams

Recorded 5/166-

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF DALLAS.

Commission to Take Deposition.

To any Clerk of the District Court, Judge or Clerk of the County Court, or any
Notary Public in and for the County of *Dallas*

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF DALLAS.

Commission to Take Deposition.

To any Clerk of the District Court, Judge or Clerk of the County Court, or any
Notary Public in and for the County of Bandera, State
of Texas—GREETING:

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND EMPOWERED to cause to come before you
W. E. Williams & J. W. Hankinson, resident^s of your County, at such
time and place as you may appoint; and that you then and there carefully and fully examine them
upon their oath, first to be taken before you, touching the annexed Interrogatories:

1. That you reduce their answers, so taken, to writing, in proper form, and cause the same
to be subscribed and sworn to by said witness. ed

2. That you certify, under your hand and seal of office, that said answers were sworn to and subscribed
before you.

3. That you seal up in an envelope the answers so taken, together with the annexed interrogatories and this
commission, with your name written across the seal.

4. That you endorse on the envelope the names of the parties to this suit, and the name of said witness. ed

5. That you direct the package to the "Clerk of the County Court of Dallas County, Dallas, Texas."

6. That if said package is sent by mail, the postmaster, or his deputy, shall endorse thereon that he received
it from your hands, and sign his name thereto; or, if you entrust it to private conveyance, as provided by the
statute, you will apprise the person receiving it that it must be delivered to the Clerk of this Court by himself in
person; which evidence, so taken as above, is to be used on the trial of a suit now pending in the County Court

in the matter of the application of H. B. Elam for
of said County of Dallas, wherein H. B. Elam is plaintiff and
probate of the will of J. F. Elam, deceased, No. 3097,
on the Probate Docket of said Court;
defendant

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but make due return of this writ.

Witness, A. S. JACKSON, Clerk of the County Court of Dallas County, and the seal of
said Court, at office in the City of Dallas, this, the 7th day of

October A. D. 1901

A. S. JACKSON,

Clerk County Court, Dallas County, Texas.

By W. E. Williams Deputy.

In the matter of the Estate of ^x Pending in the
James F. Elam, Deceased, ^x County Court of Dallas Co.,
W. B. Elam, Executor, No. ^x Knox

answers and depositions of J. W. Hankinson,
of Sanders, Sanders Co. Tex., to the accompa-
nying interrogatories propounded to him in
the above entitled cause taken before J. A. Currie
Clerk County Court in and for Sanders
County, Texas, in accordance with the accom-
panying Commission.

Answers of the Witness J. W. Hankinson:

To the first interrogatory he answers,
"My name is J. W. Hankinson, I'm 41
years old; I am an atty. at law, I reside
in the town of Sanders and have so resided
for two years."

To the second interrogatory he answers,
"I was slightly acquainted with James F. Elam
in his lifetime; I think the second time I
ever saw him was in Kerrville at the time
I wrote the will for him."

To the third interrogatory he answers,
"James F. Elam made a written will
dated November 8, 1900; said will was written
in the town of Kerrville at Chas. Schreiner
bank on said November 8, 1900; the subscribing
witnesses thereto were J. W. Hankinson and
W. B. Williams."

To the fourth interrogatory he answers,
I have no knowledge of his age, but would
guess him to be about 35 years old; I can
~~I have no information~~ only answer from

...I supposed him to be in of sound mind, at the time I wrote the will, he dictated to me the dislocation he wanted to make of his property."

To the fifth interrogatory he answered, "I read the will over to him carefully and asked him if he wanted any changes made on it suited him, and he said No, it is just as I want it."

To the sixth interrogatory he answered, "I signed the will at his request and in the presence of James F. Elam, testator, W.B. Elam, ~~son~~ and W.E. Williams; I saw him sign it and he saw me sign it."

To the seventh interrogatory he answered, "yes; I put a + on it, below the file"

J.W. Dan Kinson

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 1st day of November 1901

J.A. Currie, Clerk County Court in and for Bandera Co. Texas.

The State of Texas,
County of Bandera, I, J.A. Currie, Clerk County Court in and for Bandera County, Texas, do hereby certify that the foregoing answers of P.W. Han-Kinson, the witness before named, were made before me on the 1st. day of November, 1901, by the said witness.

Given under my hand and official seal this the 1st. day of November A.D. 1901,

J.A. Currie, Clerk Co. Court
in and for Bandera Co. Texas.

In Matter of the Estate of James F. Elam deceased
W. B. Elam Executor } Du County
} Court to
} Probate
} Will.

Now at this time comes W. B. Elam and moves the Court to strike out the petition of Henry G. Elam therein filed to remove and set aside certain provisions in the Will of James F. Elam deceased for failure of W. B. Elam to quit

1st Because ^{in law} the case is ^{presently} pending and can only be heard after probate of Will.

2nd Because the Court is without jurisdiction to hear same until Will is probated

3rd Because no citation has been issued and served according to law on the executor herein named

W. B. Elam
Attorney
W. B. Elam

FILED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

No 3097

See matters of
probate of will
of James C. Brown
deceased

Notice to state
from receiver
petition of Mary
C. Brown

FILED Nov 9 1901
A. S. JACKSON
Clerk of Court
BY B. J. Collins

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

No. 3097.

In the Matter of the
Estate of James F. Elam, dec'd.

In the County Court of
Dallas County, Texas
In matters Probate.

On this day personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority, Mary E. Elam, who being by me first duly sworn on oath says that she is applying in the above styled and numbered cause to have a homestead set apart to her out of said Estate & as fully appears from her Petition on file in said Cause; that she is too poor to pay the costs of Court in the matter of such application and that she is unable to give security therefor.

Mary E. Elam

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said Mary E. Elam, on this the 14th day of February A.D. 1902 - as witness my hand and seal of office.

W. Jackson, Clerk of Court
Dallas County, Texas
By B. J. Cuccini, Deputy

No. 3097.

In the Matter of the
Estate of James H. Baum, ^{deceased}

Affidavit of Mary E. Baum
of inability to pay or secure
the costs.

FILED Feb 14 1902

A. J. Cullen

FILED BY THE DALLES CHEMICAL SOCIETY-1978

In Matters of the }
 Estate of James H. Elam }
 deceased }
 W. B. Elam executor }

In County
 Court of Dallas
 County Texas

To All persons interested in the
 estate of James H. Elam deceased
 You will please take notice that five
 days after the service hereof I will apply
 to the County Clerk of Dallas County
 Texas for a Commission to take the
 deposition of W. C. Williams and J. W.
 Hankinson - resident citizens of
 Kaufman County Texas in answer to
 the hereto attached interrogatories propounded
 to them in the above ~~matter~~ ^{specification of the} ~~where taken~~
 to be used as proof of the ~~last will and~~
 testament of J. H. Elam to prove and
 establish said ~~propounded~~ in said Court
 W. B. Elam
 Attorney for

W. B. Elam Executor
 Interrogatories propounded to - W. C. Williams
 and J. W. Hankinson -

1st State your name, age, business or occupa-
 -tion and where you ~~now~~ now reside? ~~where~~
~~did you~~ How long have you been living
 at the place you now reside?

2nd State whether or not you were acquainted
 with James H. Elam in his life time if yes
 how long have you known him?

3rd This is a proceeding to probate the
 last will and testament of James H. Elam
 State whether or not said Elam made a written
 will
 If yes when and where was said will made and

who were the subscribing witnesses thereto?

4th If you have stated James J. Elmer made a written will and that you witnessed same now state as near as you can the age of the testator at the time said will was made? And is said testator now dead? State whether or not said Elmer was of sound mind at the time of the execution of said will?

5th State whether or not the said J. Elmer was acquainted with the contents of said will at the time he executed same? If yes state how you know?

6th ~~State if you were present at the time~~
State how you came to sign as a witness to said will? And name each and every person present when said will was executed? And state whether or not you saw said Elmer sign same and whether or not you saw you sign as one of the subscribing witnesses?

7th State whether or not you recognize the instrument hereto attached as the will you witnessed for said Elmer? If yes place a mark upon it and state in your answer what mark you put upon same so that same can be identified by the mark.

M. J. Elmer
Attorney for
W. B. Elmer et al.

3097

In Matters of the
Estate of James
F. Elam deceased
W. B. Elam Exor.

Attorneys to
Mr. E. Williams and
J. W. Hawkins

FILED the 2 day of
Oct 1901

A. S. JACKSON Clerk Co. Court.

By A. Hawkins
Deputy

100/101

FILED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

The State of Texas } In Matters of Estate
 County of Dallas } of J. B. Elam

To Hon. County Court of Dallas
 County Texas

Your petitioner W. B. Elam a resident
 citizen of Dallas County Texas
 respectfully shew to the Court
 that on the 23rd day of September
 A.D. 1901 J. B. Elam who at and before
 his death resided in the County of
 Dallas and State of Texas and who
 at the time of his said last will
 in Dallas County Texas

That at the time of his death was
 seized and possessed of real and
 personal property of the probable
 value of \$5000 and left a last will
 duly executed and herewith
 filed in which your petitioner
 was appointed ~~administrator~~
 executor

That there is a caveat for administration
 upon his estate and said

That your petitioner is not disqualified
 from by law from accepting ~~the~~
 testamentary

When your petitioner pray that
 he issued to all parties interested in
 said estate as required by law that
 said will be admitted to probate and
 that letters testamentary be issued to
 petitioner according to certificate
 and that such other and further orders be
 made as the Court may deem proper

W. B. Elam

No 3097

In Matter of the
estate of
J. P. Clark deceased

FILED in 24 day of
Sept 1991
A. J. McCulloch, Clerk Co. Court

W. J. Bowen
Attorney

Recorded 7444

W. J. Bowen
Attorney and Applicant

FILED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

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No. 582 - Class B

No. 3077
County Dallas Court,
County, Texas.

In the Matter of the
Estate of James F. Elam
deceased

DEPOSITION OF
A. M. Hankinson
of Anderson County
Witness

Received this package on the 1st day of
November 1891, from the hands of
J. Currie Clark Colonel
the officer before whom the deposition was taken, and forwarded
same the 2nd day of November 1891, by due
course of mail as directed.

Postmaster at Anderson Co.
by J. Currie Clark
Deputy Postmaster at

Received this package from the Post Office at
Dallas Texas, on the 4 day of
Nov 1901, and filed the same on the 4
day of Nov 1898

A. S. Jackson Clerk,
County of Dallas, Texas.
By A. M. Hankinson Deputy

This package is opened the 4 day of Nov
1901 at the request of M. J. Conner

Attorney for the H. B. Elam
A. S. Jackson Clerk,
County of Dallas, Texas.
By A. M. Hankinson Deputy

Mails & Coors, Stationers, Printers, Lithographers, etc.

No. 47 - A. B. Adair & Co. Stationers and Printers - Dallas, Texas

File No. 3077
County Dallas Court,
County, Texas

Mary Elizabeth Elam
vs
H. B. Elam Executor

DEPOSITION OF
Mrs. Mary Elam
Witness for Deft
Received this package on the 4 day of
Feb 1901 from the hands of
Chas Noorden the officer
before whom they were taken.

Received this package from the Post Office at
Texas, on the 1 day
of 1 and filed same on the
day of A. D. 1
by
A. Jackson Clerk
Deputy Postmaster at

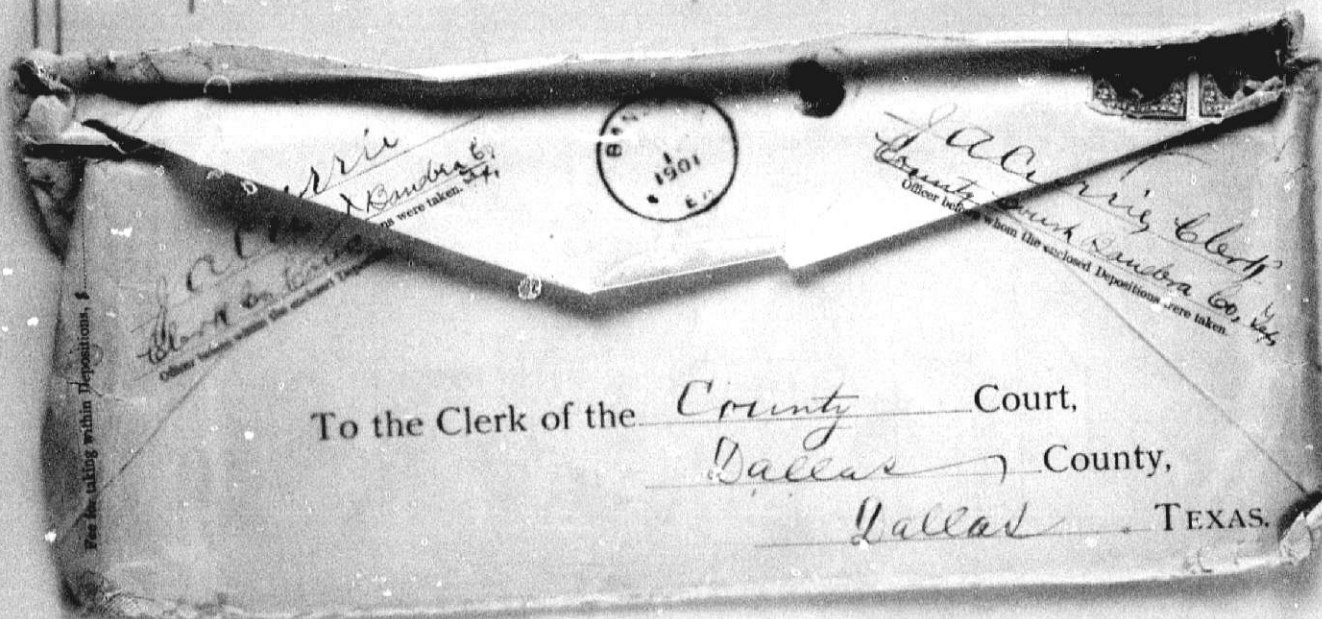
Received this package from the Post Office at
Texas, on the 1 day
of 1 and filed same on the
day of A. D. 1
by
A. Jackson Clerk
Deputy

This package is opened the 7 day of
1901 at the request of
A. S. Jackson
Attorney for the

A. S. Jackson
Clerk
By A. S. Jackson
Filed the 4 day of Feb 1901
A. Jackson Clerk
Deputy

FILED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1973

FILED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



WITNESS AFFIDAVIT-CRIMINAL

~~THE STATE OF TEXAS~~ } THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF DALLAS.

No. 3097 vs. }
Est of J. E. Elam } County Court, Term, 190

I, the undersigned, do solemnly swear that I was duly Subpoenaed as a Witness in the case wherein ~~THE STATE OF TEXAS~~ is Plaintiff, and Mary E. Elam is Defendant.

on the part of said W. B. Elam and that I have served 3 days, and traveled 3 miles in obedience to said Subpoena.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 3 day of June 1903.

By W. J. Moore D. C. A. S. JACKSON,
Clerk County Court.

WITNESS AFFIDAVIT-CIVIL

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF DALLAS.

Est. of J. E. Elam }
No. 3097 vs. Beck }
County Court, Term, 190

I, the undersigned, do solemnly swear that I was duly Subpoenaed as Witness in the case wherein W. B. Elam is Plaintiff, and Mary E. Elam is Defendant.

on the part of said Beck and that I have served 3 days and traveled 3 miles in obedience to said Subpoena.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 24 day of Aug 1903.

By W. J. Elam Deputy. FRANK R. SHANKS,
Clerk County Court.

WITNESS AFFIDAVIT-CIVIL

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF DALLAS.

Elam }
No. 3097 vs. Elam }
County Court, Term, 190

I, the undersigned, do solemnly swear that I was duly Subpoenaed as Witness in the case wherein Mary E. Elam is Plaintiff, and H. B. Elam Executor is Defendant.

on the part of said Executor and that I have served 4 days and traveled 36 miles in obedience to said Subpoena.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 5 day of June 1903.

By W. Rawlins Deputy. FRANK R. SHANKS,
Clerk County Court.

WITNESS AFFIDAVIT--CIVIL.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

COUNTY OF DALLAS,

No. _____ vs. _____

County Court,

Term, 189

I, the undersigned, do solemnly swear that I was duly Subpoenaed as Witness in the case wherein Mary E Elam is Plaintiff, and W B Elam is Defendant, on the part of said 15 15th and that I have served one days, and traveled W. B. Stator miles, in obedience to said Subpna.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 11 day of Jan 1902

No. _____

By B. J. Cullom D. C.

A. S. JACKSON, Clerk County Court.

WITNESS AFFIDAVIT--CIVIL.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

COUNTY OF DALLAS,

Mary E Elam
Est No. 3097 vs. W B Elam

County Court,

Term, 189

I, the undersigned, do solemnly swear that I was duly Subpoenaed as Witness in the case wherein Mary E Elam is Plaintiff, and W B Elam is Defendant, on the part of said 15 15th and that I have served one days, and traveled W. B. Stator miles, in obedience to said Subpna.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 11 day of Jan 1902

No. _____

By B. J. Cullom D. C.

A. S. JACKSON, Clerk County Court.

SUBPENA--CRIMINAL INSTANTER.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Dallas County--Greeting:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to summon Ben Speer

& tender him \$100

To be and appear before the Honorable County Court of Dallas County, Texas, to be held at the Court House of said County, on the 14 day of Feb 1902

at 9 o'clock, A. M., then and there to testify as witness in behalf of the Executor Mary E Elam in a criminal action pending in said Court, wherein THE STATE OF TEXAS is Plaintiff, and W B Elam is Defendant, and there remain from day to day and from term to term until discharged by due course of law.

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but of this Writ make due return, showing how you have executed the same.

WITNESS MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE, at office in the City of Dallas, Texas, this 13 day

of Feb A. D. 1902

A. S. JACKSON,

Clerk County Court Dallas County, Texas.

By B. J. Cullom Deputy.

SUBPCENA-CIVIL

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Dallas County - GREETING:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to summon *Mrs. McCullough-Elam*
Bew Speer-Lawson
Chas. + Staton + Chas. Newman-Elam

To be and personally appear before the Honorable County Court of Dallas County, Texas, at the Court House in the City of Dallas, County aforesaid, *Thursday,* on *Feb 13th* A. D. 190*2* at *9* o'clock, A. M., at the instance of the *Executor Mary E. Elam* is Plaintiff, and *W B Elam, Executor* is Defendant, and remain from day to day and from term to term until discharged by the Court.

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but due service and return hereof make, as the law requires.

WITNESS MY HAND, at office in Dallas, this *6* day of *Feb* A. S. JACKSON, Clerk County Court, Dallas County, Texas.

By *B J Cullow*, Deputy

No. *3097*

THE STATE OF TEXAS

W B Elam
vs.
W B Elam

SUBPOENA

CRIMINAL-INSTANTER

Issued this *13* day of *Feb* A. S. JACKSON, Clerk.

By *B J Cullow*, Deputy.

Came to hand the *13* day of *Feb* A. D. 190*2*

executed the *13* day of *Feb* A. D. 190*2* by reading the within subpoena in the presence and hearing of *Ben Speer* and *Chas. Newman* and *Chas. Staton* who are *accepted* the within named witnesses.

J. ROLL JOHNSON, Sheriff, Dallas County, Texas.

By *J. Roll Johnson*, Deputy.

Sheriff's Fees: *50*
Witnesses: *10*
Mileage: *2* miles at *5* cts. *100*
Total: *160*

SUBPOENA CIVIL

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Dallas County - GREETING:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to summon *H. B. Gill - night watchman at Brewery - See E. Taylor*

To be and personally appear before the Honorable County Court of Dallas County, Texas, at the Court House in the City of Dallas, County aforesaid, instantly on *Feb 13th (Thursday)* A. D. 190 ~~2~~ at *9* o'clock, A. M., at the instance of the *Executor* *Mary E. Elam* *Contestant* then and there to give evidence in a case wherein *Mary E. Elam* is *Plaintiff*, and *H B Elam, Executor* is Defendant, and remain from day to day and from term to term until discharged by the Court.

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but due service and return hereof make, as the law requires.

WITNESS MY HAND, at office in Dallas, this *6* day of *July* A. D. 190 *2*

A. S. JACKSON,
Clerk County Court, Dallas County, Texas.
By *B F Cullum* Deputy.

No. *3097*
COUNTY COURT,
SUBPOENA,
CIVIL.

Issued *6* day of *July* 190 *2*
A. S. JACKSON, CLERK.
By *B F Cullum* Deputy.

Returned on this the *8* day of *July* A. D. 190 *2*
by *J. M. [Signature]* Deputy Sheriff.

the within named witnesses:
Chas. Newnam
Wm. McLaughlin
Ben. [Signature]
Chas. [Signature]

CAME TO HAND this the *6* day of *July* A. D. 190 *2*, and executed on this the *8* day of *July* A. D. 190 *2* by reading the within Subpoena in the hearing of
Chas. Newnam
Wm. McLaughlin
Ben. [Signature]
Chas. [Signature]

SHERIFF'S RETURN.

H. B. Gill
40 Miles
32.00
2.00
4.00

Ed. J. J. Elam, Sec'y

J. M. [Signature]
Sheriff
Dallas County, Texas.

Ed

SUBPOENA-CRIMINAL INSTANTER.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Dallas County-Greeting:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to summon

Lon Reeves

To be and appear before the Honorable County Court of Dallas County, Texas, to be held at the Court House of said County, on *instantly* the *13* day of _____ 190____, at 9 o'clock, A. M., then and there to testify as witness _____ in behalf of the _____ in a criminal action pending in said Court, wherein *Mr. M. E. Elam* is Plaintiff, and *W. B. Elam, Ex't* Defendant, and there remain from day to day and from term to term until discharged by due course of law.

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but of this Writ make due return, showing how you have executed the same.

WITNESS MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE, at office in the City of Dallas, Texas, this *13* day of *Feb* A. D. 190*2* A. S. JACKSON,

Clerk County Court, Dallas County, Texas.
By *B. F. Cullum* Deputy.

SHERIFF'S RETURN.

CAME TO LAND this the *6* day of *Feb* A. D. 190*2*, and executed on this the *11* day of *Feb* A. D. 190*2*, by reading the within Subpoena in the hearing of

W. B. Gill

the within named witnesses.

Returned on this the *11* day of *Feb* A. D. 190*2*

By *J. H. Mearns* Deputy.

J. H. Johnson
Sheriff, Dallas County, Texas.

Ex No. 3097
COUNTY COURT,
SUBPOENA.
(CIVIL)

Ex J. J. Elam, decl

Issued *6* day of *Feb* 190*2*
A. S. JACKSON, Clerk,
By *B. F. Cullum* Deputy.

*Fee Summons 1.00
m. l. 3.00
1.00*

SUBPOENA CIVIL

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Dallas County - GREETING:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to summon *John & Humphries, John & Humphries, J. D. Branton, Tom Moore, (all bar near Stephens Hwy), Bill & Starn, - near Elam Sta.; Parham & Beaw, Heirant, & Hooston, at Elam Sta.; Frank & Scott, Elam Sta.; D. & Henry, at Seymour; Mr. Archie C. Swinger, and tender to said Archie \$1.00 his return fees*

To be and personally appear before the Honorable County Court of Dallas County, Texas, at the Court House in the City of Dallas, County aforesaid, instanter, on *Saturday*

January 11th A. D. 190*2*, at *9* o'clock, A. M., at the instance of

the *Applicant - Mrs. Elizabeth Elam* then and there to give evidence in *and* ~~the~~ *the* ~~matter~~ *the matter of the application of Mrs. Elizabeth Elam to set aside her will of this case against William B. Elam Executor of the Estate of James Elam deceased* is Defendant, and remain

from day to day and from term to term until discharged by the Court.

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but due service and return hereof make, as the law requires.

WITNESS MY HAND, at office in Dallas, this *6th* day of *January* A. D. 190*2*.

A. S. JACKSON,
Clerk County Court, Dallas County, Texas.
By *M. S. Lawler* Deputy.

No. *3097*
FILE STAFF OF ~~TEXAS~~

Ed J. Elam

SUBPOENA.

Issued this *13* day of *Feb* A. D. 190*2* by *A. S. JACKSON,* Clerk

By *B. J. Cullen* Deputy.

Came to hand the *13* day of *Feb* A. D. 190*2* and

executed the *13* day of *Feb*

A. D. 190*2* by reading the within Subpoena in the presence of *Ed Elam* hearing of *Ed Elam*

the within named witnesses.

I, ROY L. JOHNSON, Sheriff, Dallas County, Texas,

By *L. H. Johnson* Deputy.

Sheriff's Fees: *59*
Summoning *1* Witnesses - *18*
Mileage *18* miles at 5 cts. *90*
Total *60*

FORM PREPARED BY THE DALLAS TRIBUNE

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

To all Persons Interested in the Estate of J. J. Elam, Deceased:

W. B. Elam has filed in the County Court of Dallas County, State of Texas, an application for the Probate of the last Will of said J. J. Elam, deceased, and for Letters Testamentary, which application will be heard and acted upon by said Court, at the next term thereof, to be held at the Court House in the City of Dallas, County of Dallas, State aforesaid, and commencing on the first Monday in November A. D. 1901, at which time and place all persons interested in said Estate shall appear and contest said application, should they desire to do so.

WITNESS: A. S. JACKSON, County Clerk of Dallas County, Texas.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and the seal of said Court, at office in the City of Dallas, this 25 day of Sept A. D. 1901

A. S. JACKSON,
County Clerk, Dallas Co., Texas.

By W. B. Rawlins Deputy.

SHERIFF'S RETURN.

CAME TO HAND this the 6 day of January A. D. 1901, and executed on this the 7 day of January A. D. 1901, by reading the within Subpoena in the hearing of Bar Umbrell, John Umbrell, J. D. Brutton, Sam Moore, Bill Stator, Sam Hiram, Boston, Legut, Scott, Dr. Henry, and Mrs Archer as surrogates who was tendered one dollar which he refused to accept.

the within named witnesses.

Returned on this the 8 day of January A. D. 1901.

By J. R. Rylic Deputy.

Sheriff J. W. Johnson Dallas County, Texas.

No. 3097
COUNTY COURT,
SUBPOENA.
(CIVIL)
Est. James Elam
Decd.

Issued 6th day of Jan'y 1901
By A. S. Jackson Deputy,
A. S. JACKSON, CLERK.
to witness 2.00
Mileage 2.50
Total \$ 7.50

EXECUTOR'S BOND.

The State of Texas,

COUNTY OF DALLAS.

Estate of

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we,

as Principal, and _____ and _____
as Sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the County Judge of said County of Dallas, and
his successors in office, in the sum of _____ Dollars;
conditioned that the above bound _____ who has
been appointed _____
shall well and truly perform all the duties required of him under said appointment.

WITNESS our hands and seals, this _____ day of _____ 1901

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

I DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR that the writing which has been offered for probate, is the
last will of J. H. Elam deceased, so far as I know or
believe; and that I will well and truly perform all the duties of Executor of said will.

W. B. Elam

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12 day of Nov, 1901

A. S. Jackson
County Clerk, Dallas County, Texas.

By A. H. Rawlins Deputy.

No. 3097
COUNTY COURT.

ESTATE OF

J. H. Elam

Deceased.

Notice of Application for Probate of
Will and Letters.

Issued this 23 day of Dec, 1901

A. S. JACKSON, Clerk.

By A. H. Rawlins Deputy.

SHERIFF'S RETURN.

Came to hand to _____ day of _____ 1901
and executed the _____ day of _____ 1901

by posting up three copies of _____ with _____
three public places in Dallas County, one of which
was at the Court House door of _____ County, and no
two of which were in the _____ town or city.

J. H. Elam
Deputy.

By J. H. Elam
James Williamson, Printer, Dallas.

Acting 3 Meters 3.00

McCORMICK & SPENCE,
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law
DALLAS, TEXAS

November 15, 1901.

Mr. A. B. Rawlins,
Deputy County Clerk,
Dallas, Texas.

Dear Sir:-

In the matter of the Estate of Jas. F. Elam, deceased, Will Elam, Executor, in your Probate Court, will you please issue citation to the executor upon the application of Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Elam to have certain provisions and directions of the will suspended, and to have an allowance of homestead and other exemptions made to her and her minor children? Please issue this citation under the terms of Articles 1891 and 1993 of the Revised Statutes, both inclusive. Your kind and careful attention to this matter will be much appreciated. Please be careful to have the citation sufficiently full in accordance with the requirements of Art. 1993.

Respectfully yours,

McCormick & Spence

W.S.

County Judge, Dallas County

189 _____ day of _____

Filed *Nov. 19th 1901*

By *J. G. Elam* Deputy

ESTATE OF *Elam*

J. G. Elam,
EXECUTOR'S *Order*

DALLAS COUNTY,
COUNTY COURT.

No. _____

A. T. Anderson & Co., Stationers, Printers and Binders, Dallas

Quoted 9/13/39

INVENTORY AND APPRAISEMENT

OF THE PROPERTY, REAL AND PERSONAL, BELONGING TO THE ESTATE OF

James F. Claw deceased which consist
of the following.

One Hundred and eighty acres of land
situated lying and being in Dallas
County Texas out of the
Wm. B. Claw survey of 640 acres

valued at \$70⁰⁰ per acre \$3600⁰⁰

One Cedar log house in Kaufman
County Texas valued at 50⁰⁰

House hold and kitchen fixtures in
Kaufman County Texas as follows

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| One Cook stove | valued at | 5 ⁰⁰ |
| " | Wet saw | 1 ⁰⁰ |
| " | Red steel | 2 ⁰⁰ |
| " | Feather bed | 7 ⁰⁰ |
| " | Clock | 3 ⁰⁰ |
| " | Bureau | 2 ⁵⁰ |
| " | Kitchen safe | 1 ⁰⁰ |
| " | dishes knives spoons & plates | 2 ⁰⁰ |
| 4 | Chains at 25 ^{cts} each | 1 ⁰⁰ |
| Total property real personal | | \$3675 ⁰⁰ |

No. 3097

COUNTY COURT.

ESTATE OF

James F. Elam
deceased

Inventory and Appraisement.

Filed 19 day of Nov 1901

W. S. Jackson
County Clerk

By A. M. Rawlins Deputy.

Examined and Approved this 17

day of Nov 1901

E. B. Handcock
County Judge

John W. Johnson, Printer, Dallas.

Recorded 125

THE STATE OF TEXAS, }
COUNTY OF DALLAS, }

Wm B Elam Executor

of the above named Estate do solemnly swear that the foregoing is a true, full and complete Inventory of all the property, real and personal, belonging to said Estate, that has come to my knowledge.

W. B. Elam

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the 10th day of Nov A. D. 1901

W. S. Jackson
Clerk County Court.

By A. M. Rawlins Deputy.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, }
COUNTY OF DALLAS, }

Before the Undersigned Authority, this day personally appeared

T. B. Blair S. A. Munsack and M. A. Vaphres

Appraisers of the above named Estate, heretofore appointed by the Court, and each being duly sworn, says that the above and foregoing is a just and true Appraisement of the property pointed out to them as belonging to said estate.

T. B. Blair
S. A. Munsack
M. A. Vaphres

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the 17th day of Nov A. D. 1901

W. S. Jackson
Clerk County Court

By A. M. Rawlins Deputy.

In matters of the }
 Estate of J J Elam }
 deceased }
 W. B. Elam Executor. }
 In County }
 Court of Dallas }
 County Texas }

To Hon Ed S Lauderdale County
 Judge of Dallas County Texas
 your petitioner would respectfully
 show to the Court that heretofore on
 day of Sept. 2nd 1901 He made application
 to probate the written will of J J Elam
 deceased in which your petitioner W. B.
 Elam is named as executor
 That said will was executed in the presence
 of W. C. Williams and J. M. Hutchinson
 in Bandera County Texas that they said
 Williams and Hutchinson signed said
 will as subscribing witnesses that deceased
 did in Dallas Co. Texas and all property
 he did sign and possessed of lies in
 Dallas Co. That he is desirous of proving
 the execution of said will by said
 witnesses and will have to take their
 depositions to that end. Wherefore he prays
 leave of the Court to withdraw ^{complaint} from
 the bills of the Court said will that it
 may be attached to the interrogatories
 propounded to said witnesses that they
 may identify same and ^{that} petitioner may
 prove the execution of said will as
 in duty bound he prays etc.

W. J. Carman
 Attorney for W. B. Elam
 executor

In Matter of the
Estate of A. J. Clague
deceased
W. B. Clague et al

Application to With-
draw Will for proof
of same

FILED the 2 day of
Oct 1901
A. S. JACKSON, Clerk Co. Court.

By A. M. Rawlins

Oct 2nd 1901 within
Application granted upon
condition that applicant
have certified copy of will
in file Ed. L. [unclear]
[unclear]

W. B. Clague
Attorney for
Estate

FILED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

PLOWMAN & BAKER,
DALLAS, TEXAS.

Mary E. Elam
No. 3097 -vs-
W. B. Elam, Executor

In the County Court of Dallas County,
sitting as a Court of Probate.

In the matter of the suit of Mary E. Elam vs. W. B. Elam, executor,
to annul certain provisions of the will of James F. Elam, deceased.

Now comes W. B. Elam, executor of the estate of James F. Elam,
deceased, in his own behalf and shows that, whereas on the 15th day of
February, A. D. 1902, in the said County Court of Dallas County, sitting
as a court of probate, in cause No. 3097 on the Probate Docket of said
Dallas County, Mary E. Elam, plaintiff, recovered a judgment in said
cause against W. B. Elam, executor, which judgment is recorded in Minute
Book "R", p. 105, of the Probate Minutes of Dallas County, Texas, to
which reference is here made as a part of the description thereof, annul-
ing certain provisions of the will of James F. Elam, deceased, to-wit: the
provision in relation to a lease to W. B. Elam and appointing him trustee
for said decedent's minor children and giving him possession of the 180
acres of land therein described; and, setting aside said 180 acres of land
therein described, being out of the W. B. Elam survey in Dallas County, as
a homestead for said Mary E. Elam; and,

Whereas, said W. B. Elam, executor, as such executor, appealed
from said judgment, and desires individually and personally to appeal from
said judgment and to remove the same to the District Court of Dallas County,
and the said W. B. Elam, being duly sworn, deposes and says, under oath,
that he is unable to give the appeal bond to appeal said case and that he
has made diligent efforts to give said bond and is unable to do so by
reason of his poverty.

Wherefore he makes and files this oath, in writing, and prays
that his appeal in said cause be in all respects perfected in respect to
the matter of costs, all of which he is ready to verify.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 25th day of February, A. D. 1902.

W. B. Elam
Rhodus A. Baker
Notary public, Dallas County, Texas.

6

No. 50973

Mary E. Egan,

-vs-

W. B. Egan, Executor.

Affidavit in lieu of Appeal
Bond.

*Filed February 26, 1941
Argue on case*

PLOWMAN & BAKER,
Attorneys at Law.

FILMED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

FILMED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

No. 3097

SUIT PENDING IN THE COUNTY COURT OF DALLAS CO., TEXAS.

Esh. of James F. Elam, Decedent,
Mary E. Elam,
vs. Contestant
W. B. Elam, Executor

THE STATE OF TEXAS.

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Dallas County--GREETING.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED That you serve

Mary E. Elam,

the Contestant in the above stated cause, or McCormick

& Speer Esqs. Attorneys of Record, with the accompanying

Notice and certified copy of Interrogatories propounded by the Executor,

J. B. Elam Mary E. Elam, who resides in the

County of Dallas in the State of Texas.

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but of this Writ, and how you have executed the same,
make due return, within five days after service

WITNESS, Jackson HUGHES, Clerk of the County Court of Dallas County.

Given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office

in the City of Dallas, this the 8th day of

January A. D. 1902,
Jackson
L. H. HUGHES,

Clerk, County Court, Dallas Co., Texas.

W. B. Rawlins Deputy.

Came to hand Jan 8th 1902 and executed this
Jan 9th 1902. By delivering to W. Special Attorney of
Record with the accompanying certified notice and
copy of interrogatories propounded by the executing
sheriff.

R. J. Hoover Sheriff
Dallas Co
By R. S. Carmell
Cly

Fees - 75
mile - 20
Total - 95

No. 3097

Col of Jas H. Blaw - Book

Mary E. Blaw
" Contract

M. A. Blaw's Cit.

PRECEPT.

Jan 9th 1902 day of

Jas H. Blaw

By *[Signature]* Deputy

CITATION.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Dallas County—GREETING:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to summon Wm B. Elam,

to appear before the Honorable County Court of Dallas County, State of Texas, at a regular term thereof, to be held at the Court House of said County, in the City of Dallas, on the first Monday in January 1901, then and there to answer the petition of Mary Elizabeth Elam widow of James F. Elam, deceased,

filed in said Court on the 5th day of Nov. 1901, against the said Wm B. Elam, as Executor of the Will of said James F. Elam, deceased, in the matter of the Estate of said deceased, No. 3097, pending on the probate Docket of said Court,

the nature of which ~~demand~~ ^{petition} is as follows, to-wit:

Petition to set aside and annul the provisions of said will in so far as the said will attempts to bequeath to the alleged Executor the 180 acres of land therein mentioned in trust for the benefit of the testator's children and so far as said will recognizes an alleged lease for ten years of said 180 acres of land to Executor Wm B. Elam, and in so far as said will undertakes to place the said property in the possession of the said Wm B. Elam.

The said Wm B. Elam being hereby directed to refrain from executing the provisions and directions in said will objected to in said petition of Mary Elizabeth Elam, until such petition has been heard and decided by the Court. Wm B. Elam,
and you will deliver to the said

a true copy of this Citation.

HEED IN FAIL NOT, but due service and return hereof make, showing how you have executed the same.

ATTEST: A. S. JACKSON, Clerk of the County Court of Dallas County.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office, at Dallas, this 16th day of November 1901.

A. S. JACKSON,
Clerk County Court, Dallas County, Texas.

By A. R. Rawlins Deputy.

SHERIFF'S RETURN.

CAME TO HAND on the 18th day of November 1907, and executed on the 19th day of November 1907, by delivering to James B. Elam the within named defendant in person, a true copy of this writ.

Fees:
Serving Cop . . . \$.75
Mileage 1.00
Total \$ 1.75

John Johnson
Sheriff Dallas County, Texas
By *J. R. Rylin* Deputy

Original

CITATION.

No. 3097
COUNTY COURT,
Dallas County, Texas.

Ent. of James B. Elam
Recd
W. B. Elam
Executor

ISSUED
this 16th day of Nov. 1907
S. JACKSON, Clerk,
By *W. B. Jackson* Deputy.

Jim Rylin

No. 3097

PROOF OF WILL

THE STATE OF TEXAS,)

ESTATE OF

County of Dallas) J F Elam Deceased.

Proof of Last Will and Testament of J F Elam Deceased.

This day personally appeared in open Court J J Elam

who, being duly sworn as a witness in the above entitled matter, and examined on behalf of the applicant to

prove said Will, says: I was well acquainted with J F Elam

deceased, during his lifetime; I knew the above decedent for about all his life

before death; the signature of the said deceased to the instrument now shown to me, and offered for probate

as last Will and Testament, filed in this Court on the day of A. D. 189

and bearing date on the day of A. D. 189, was made by the deceased

on said last named date at in presence of myself

and

the other subscribing witness; all of said witnesses being over the age of fourteen years. At the time of the

making of said Will the testator was of sound and disposing mind and memory, and declared the said

Will so made by to be Last Will and Testament, and I thereupon signed my name as a witness,

together with at the request of the said testator,

in presence and in the presence of each other. The said deceased at the time of the execution of said

instrument was years of age; the said J F Elam

departed this life on the 25th day of September A. D. 1907

at Dallas after making said Will, in the County of

Dallas in the State of Texas, where and at which time his residence and

principal estate was situated. at the time of his death he was about

35 years of age.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this J J Elam 9 day of Nov A. D. 1907, in open Court.

A Jackson Clerk

Dallas County Court Dallas County, Texas.

By B F Cullum Deputy.

No. 3097

PROOF OF WILL.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of _____ Term, 189_____

ESTATE OF

J. J. Elam Deceased

Filed the 9 day of Nov A. D. 1897

and recorded the _____ day of _____ A. D. 189_____, in the

Probate Minutes of _____ County, in Volume _____ Page _____

W. Jackson County Clerk.

By B. J. Cullum Deputy.

Recorded 9/169

FILMED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

FILMED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

In the matter of the estate of
Jas. F. Elam, deceased, Mary E. Elam
vs.
W. B. Elam

In County Court,
Dallas County, Texas.

Now comes the defendant, W. B. Elam, executor of the estate of James F. Elam, deceased, and demurs to plaintiff's petition and says that the same is insufficient in law and of this prays judgment of the Court.

W. S. Conner
Plowman & Baker
attys for deft

Defendant excepts to said petition and says:

1st. The court has no jurisdiction to set aside any homestead to plaintiff and to determine the question of annulling the will.

2nd. Defendant specially excepts to said petition in that the same seeks to set aside and annul a lease of land of which this court has no jurisdiction.

3rd. Defendant specially excepts to said petition in that the same does not allege that the said James F. Elam, deceased, had not mental capacity to legally dispose of his property.

4th. Defendant further specially excepts, in the event the court should entertain jurisdiction of this case, that there is a defect in parties plaintiff in that the children of plaintiff and decedent are necessary and proper parties.

5th. Defendant specially excepts to said petition in that the same does not set forth any fact giving the County Court jurisdiction upon which the provisions of the will should be annulled.

Of all which special exceptions, defendant prays judgment of the court.

Defendant further answering herein says that he denies all and singular the allegations in said petition contained and of this puts himself upon the country.

W. S. Conner
Plowman & Baker
attys for deft

6th. And further answering herein, if need be, said executor says that it is true that said property is now rented and in the possession of one Will Staton and has been in his possession for the past two years,

AS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

DETECTIVE COMPANY, TEXAS
IN COUNTY COURT

the first year as a tenant of deceased and since that time as a sub-tenant of this contestant; and that said Staton has now and did have from respondent herein, a written lease for said property for the year 1902, which lease was made and executed long prior to decedent's death and with his full knowledge and approval.

7th. That said James F. Elam, deceased, on account of his ill health and long prior to his said death and on the advice of his physician ceased to occupy and use the premises herein in dispute as his home and had made his home in *Banda* county, Texas, where he had erected himself a house and where he resided and had so resided for the past two years and where he intended to live the remainder of his life, and in furtherance of his said intention he, on 12th day of September, 1900, leased to respondent herein the property in controversy for a term of ten years; that he was only temporarily in Dallas County, at the date of his death, brought here by process from the Criminal District Court, as an attached witness, and while in attendance on said court his health was so impaired that he was confined to his bed at the home of his brother/ J.J. Elam and was never again able to leave same, wherefore respondent herein, executor of the estate of James F. Elam, deceased, prays that if the court should hold its jurisdiction to try and fully determine any matters appertaining to said lease which respondent denies, then he prays said lease be established according to its terms.

8th. And further answering herein, if need be, the executor says that said deceased gave and bequeathed unto your respondent, the said W. B. Elam, his heirs and assigns forever 50 acres of said land off the north end of same. That he, in said will, directed how the remainder of his property should be divided between his said three children. That said land does not lie in a body as stated in petition of Mary E. Elam, but in two separate tracts, wherefore he prays should the court set aside any portion of said will or its provisions, that said bequest to respondent be recognized and established, and that Mary E. Elam, if granted homestead rights in same, that her homestead be designated on the part set aside in the will to decedent's children.

9th. And further answering herein, if need be, the executor of the estate of James F. Elam, deceased, says that long prior to the death of said James F. Elam, deceased, said contestant Mary E. Elam, did without fault on the part of deceased and against his will and earnest entreaties that she stay by his side and do and perform the duties of a wife to him

...the said decedent's executor...
...the said decedent's executor...
...the said decedent's executor...
...the said decedent's executor...

until his death, ~~she~~ voluntarily left his bed and board and abandoned him and refused to go and live with him, and taking advantage of his ill health and weakened condition, she took his children from him and deprived him of their society and comfort, and lived ~~she~~ separate ~~fr~~ and apart from him until his death. That said contestant, after deceased was confined to his bed, which afterwards proved to be his death bed, on ~~XXXXX~~ being informed of his critical condition and the early expectation of his death and being at the same time admonished that he was her husband and her place was by his bedside and she ought to go and see him anyhow, she refused to go to see him and said she hoped she would never see his face again. That she did afterwards come to see him two or three times, after having been repeatedly sent for, that decedent might have a last look at and enjoy the society of his children; that she refused to stay by deceased until his death, and was not present and would not allow his children to be with him when he died.

The premises considered, the executor says, said contestant herein has no homestead right in the property of deceased; wherefore he prays that said petition of contestant be not granted and that the provisions of the will be carried out according to the wishes and directions of testator thereof, and for all relief, both general and special, either in law or equity, respondent may in the judgment of the court be entitled, as in duty bound will ever pray.

M. S. Conner
Attorney for Plaintiff

3097

In re estate of Wm. P.
Egan, Decedent.

Mary E. Egan

vs.

W. B. Egan

FILED 7 1902

Jan 1902

B. J. Curran

FLOWMAN & BAKER,
Attorneys at Law.

LAW OFFICE
BY
MORNINGSTAR & SPENCE

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----|------------------------|
| In the matter of | () | |
| the estate of | () | |
| James F. Elam, Deceased. | () | In the County Court of |
| No. 3097, Probate, | () | Dallas County, Texas. |
| Wm. B. Elam, Executor | () | |
| named in the Will. | () | |

-----c0c-----

Now comes Mary Elizabeth Elam, widow of James F. Elam, deceased, the Testator herein, and files this her First Amended Application to have her homestead, ^{or other exemption} set apart to her, and her Opposition to certain provisions of the will herein admitted to probate, and she pleads anew, as follows:

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COUNTY COURT:

Now in the above Probate proceeding, comes Mary Elizabeth Elam, widow of James F. Elam, deceased, the testator herein, and shows that she is interested in said estate. That there are provisions and directions of the alleged will now here exhibited for probate which ought not to be executed, but should be annulled or suspended, --in so far as the said will attempts to bequeath to the alleged Executor the 180 acres of land therein mentioned, in trust for the benefit of the Testator's children; and so far as said will recognizes an alleged lease for ten years of said 180 acres of land to the Executor, William B. Elam; and so far as the said will undertakes to place the said property in the possession of the said William B. Elam, and bequeath any part thereof to him.

For this:

The said Mary Elizabeth Elam shows:

1. That she and James F. Elam, deceased, were legally married in Dallas County, Texas about eight years ago, and they lived together as husband and wife upon the said 180 acres of land mentioned in the will aforesaid, which said land was actually used, occupied and enjoyed by the said James F. Elam and your petitioner, Mary Elizabeth Elam, his wife, ^{as their homestead} for the full period of seven years. That while they resided on said 180 acres as their homestead, there were born to them three children who still

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survive and who are living with your petitioner, their mother; their names and ages being as follows: Bulah Elam, a girl about seven years of age; Luther Elam, a boy about five years of age, and Winnie Elam, a girl about three years of age. That during the latter part of the year 1899, and at a time when the said 180 acre tract of land was the homestead of James F. Elam and your petitioner and their said children, as it had for many years been, the said James F. Elam being in poor health, temporarily left said homestead and went to Bandera County, Texas, on account of his health. And your petitioner with her children, accompanied him. But your petitioner by no means abandoned her homestead rights in said 180 acres of land. The said land was thereafter rented to one Will Staton for the year 1900 by a mere temporary lease. During that year the said James F. Elam, accompanied by his family, returned to Dallas County. Thereafterward, in the fall of 1900, said James F. Elam again went to Bandera County where he hoped to regain his health. But your petitioner and her children did not accompany him, but they continuously since resided, as they still reside, in Dallas County, Texas. The said 180 acres of land was also rented to the said Will Staton for the current year 1901, but your petitioner at no time in any wise abandoned the said 180 acres, or any part thereof as her homestead; nor did she in any wise ever relinquish or forfeit her homestead rights therein. But on the contrary, she at all times has claimed and asserted her homestead rights in and to the said 180 acres of land. Petitioner avers that if said homestead place--being the 180 acres of land aforesaid--was ever rented to William B. Elam as recited in said will, this petitioner avers that she was never a party to any such lease. And she further avers that if such lease was ever made to William B. Elam, or to any other person, the same was made, if at all, without her knowledge or consent, and in violation of her existing homestead rights in and to said property. And the same, if made, was and is a fraud upon your petitioner's homestead rights in and to said lands. Petitioner avers and shows to the Court that said 180 acres of land is well adapted for a family homestead, in that, as much as 80 acres thereof are in a state of actual cultivation as same have been for many years,

and the remainder thereof consists of pasture and woodland, and all of the 180 acres is in one body of land. That same has upon it, improvements consisting of a residence and connected outhouses and lots; and also a small rental house. That said improvements were made after petitioner's marriage aforesaid, with community funds. And, as aforesaid, all of the said 180 acres were for a long period of time, to-wit: as much as seven years, devoted by the said James F. Elam to his homestead purposes; and his homestead and that of his family (consisting of your petitioner and his said three children) was actually established upon said tract of land, and same was never abandoned as such homestead. That same was, and is, the only lands owned by the said James F. Elam at the time of his death, and long prior thereto. Your petitioner, with said minor children, never left said homestead with any intention on the part of your petitioner of abandoning the same, or in any wise relinquishing her homestead rights therein. And the renting of the same for the years 1900 and 1901 to said Staton as aforesaid, was but a temporary renting, and in no wise operated to deprive your petitioner of her rights to a homestead therein for herself and her said minor children. That said lands are now in the actual occupancy of said Will Staton who was lessee for the year 1901; but his lease expired at the expiration of the said year 1901, as far as said lease was made to him by James F. Elam, deceased. And petitioner is now entitled to the possession of said lands comprising the said homestead. Your petitioner shows that the said James F. Elam left no other homestead at his death. That your petitioner herself owns no other lands, and has no other homestead in her own right. She shows that the Executor herein, William B. Elam, has studiously endeavored to deprive her of her homestead rights aforesaid; and to that end he now claims that said homestead was rented to him for a term of ten years from the year 1900 to the year 1910, as recited in the alleged will which he now offers for probate. But petitioner avers that said alleged lease, if ever made, is wholly void as to your petitioner, because in violation of her homestead rights in and to said property. That said alleged lease, if ever made, was made at a time when James F. Elam was in the last stages of consumption, and when he knew, and when the Executor, William B. Elam, well knew that the said James F. Elam

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could live only a few months. And said alleged lease, if ever made, was made for the ^{deliberate} purpose of defrauding your petitioner and her children out of their homestead rights in and to said tract of land.

2. The premises considered, your petitioner therefore now prays that at the proper time in the administration of this estate that an order of this Court be made, withdrawing the said homestead (being the 100 acres of land mentioned in said will, and more particularly described in that deed from John J. Elam to the said James F. Elam, dated September 7, 1901, and recorded in Book 267, pp. 383 to 385 inclusive, of the Deed records of Dallas County, Texas, reference to which deed is here specially made) from further administration herein. That the said alleged lease thereof, as recited in said alleged will, be declared null and void as to your petitioner, and that said tract of land be set apart for the use and benefit of your petitioner and her said three minor children as their homestead, to the end that your petitioner and her said minor children shall have the exclusive right to the possession thereof; and to the use and enjoyment and benefit thereof as their homestead; and that the Executor be ordered to deliver the said homestead to your petitioner and her said minor children for her homestead use. And your petitioner prays that inquiry be made by this Court, in respect to her exclusive right to the possession and occupancy of said 100 acres of land as her homestead for herself and her said minor children, and that proper orders of this Court be made protecting your petitioner in her homestead rights therein.

3. Your petitioner further prays in the alternative:

That in the event the Executor should make good his contention herein and prove that the said 100 acres of land was not the homestead of your petitioner, her minor children and her deceased husband at the time of his death, then your petitioner shows that in that event there is not among the effects of the deceased, any homestead; and in that event that the said James F. Elam left no homestead in kind, and your petitioner, his widow, and his minor children above named, have no homestead.

Therefore, if it should be found that the said 100 acres of land above described were not the homestead of said deceased and your petitioner and her minor children at the death of said James F. Elam, then your

petitioner and her said minor children are entitled to an allowance in lieu of a homestead not found in kind among the property and effects of the said deceased. Therefore, your petitioner prays that if the Executor shall succeed in his contention that there is no homestead in kind among the property of the estate of said deceased, then that the Court make an allowance not to exceed \$5000.00 in lieu of a homestead, and that proper orders be made requiring the Executor to pay to your petitioner the said allowance thus to be fixed by the Court in lieu of homestead.

Further, your petitioner shows:

That there are not among the effects of the deceased any of the specific articles exempt to petitioner and her said minor children under the laws of the State of Texas, to-wit: There is no household and kitchen furniture; there are no implements of husbandry; there is no library or family portraits, nor pictures. There are no milch cows, nor their calves; there are no work oxen; there are no horses, nor wagons; there is no carriage nor buggy; there is no gun; there are no hogs; there are no sheep; there are no saddles, bridles, nor harness necessary for the use of the family. None of the said exempt articles is named in the inventory hereto returned showing the property of said estate.

Wherefore, your petitioner prays that the Court now make to her and her minor children a reasonable allowance in lieu of the said specific articles of exempt property not found in kind among the effects of said deceased, as your petitioner will ever pray. And your petitioner prays for all further and other relief, and such further orders in the premises as to the Court under the facts and the law may seem proper.

Respectfully submitted.

M. C. Spence
Attorneys for Plaintiff.

Mary Elizabeth Elam

survive and who are living with your petitioner, their mother; their names and ages being as follows: Bulah Elam, a girl about seven years of age; Luther Elam, a boy about five years of age, and Winnie Elam, a girl about three years of age. That during the latter part of the year 1899, and at a time when the said 180 acre tract of land was the homestead of James F. Elam and your petitioner and their said children, as it had for many years been, the said James F. Elam being in poor health, temporarily left said homestead and went to Bandera County, Texas, on account of his health. And your petitioner with her children, accompanied him. But your petitioner by no means abandoned her homestead rights in said 180 acres of land. The said land was thereafter rented to one Will Staton for the year 1900 by a mere temporary lease. During that year the said James F. Elam, accompanied by his family, returned to Dallas County. Thereafter, in the fall of 1900, said James F. Elam again went to Bandera County where he hoped to regain his health. But your petitioner and her children did not accompany him, but they continuously since resided, as they still reside, in Dallas County, Texas. The said 180 acres of land was also rented to the said Will Staton for the current year 1901, but your petitioner at no time in any wise abandoned the said 180 acres, or any part thereof as her homestead; nor did she in any wise ever relinquish or forfeit her homestead rights therein. But on the contrary, she at all times has claimed and asserted her homestead rights in and to the said 180 acres of land. Petitioner avers that if said homestead lease--being the 180 acres of land aforesaid--was ever rented to William B. Elam as recited in said will, this petitioner avers that she was never a party to any such lease. And she further avers that if such lease was ever made to William B. Elam, or to any other person, the same was made, if at all, without her knowledge or consent, and in violation of her existing homestead rights in and to said property. And the same, if made, was and is a fraud upon your petitioner's homestead rights in and to said lands. Petitioner avers and shows to the Court that said 180 acres of land is well adapted for a family homestead, in that, as much as 80 acres thereof are in a state of actual cultivation as same have been for many years,

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OF
MCGUIRE & SPENCE

and the remainder thereof consists of pasture and woodland, and all of the 180 acres is in one body of land. That same has upon it, improvements consisting of a residence and connected outhouses and lots; and also a small rental house. That said improvements were made after petitioner's marriage aforesaid, with community funds. And, as aforesaid, all of the said 180 acres were for a long period of time, to-wit: as much as seven years, devoted by the said James F. Elam to his homestead purposes; and his homestead and that of his family (consisting of your petitioner and his said three children) was actually established upon said tract of land, and same was never abandoned as such homestead. That same was, and is, the only lands owned by the said James F. Elam at the time of his death, and long prior thereto. Your petitioner, with said minor children, never left said homestead with any intention on the part of your petitioner of abandoning the same, or in any wise relinquishing her homestead rights therein. And the renting of the same for the years 1900 and 1901 to said Staton as aforesaid, was but a temporary renting, and in no wise operated to deprive your petitioner of her rights to a homestead therein for herself and her said minor children. That said lands are now in the actual occupancy of said Will Staton who was lessee for the year 1901; but his lease expired at the expiration of the said year 1901, as far as said lease was made to him by James F. Elam, deceased. And petitioner is now entitled to the possession of said lands comprising the said homestead. Your petitioner shows that the said James F. Elam left no other homestead at his death. That your petitioner herself owns no other lands, and has no other homestead in her own right. She shows that the Executor herein, William B. Elam, has studiously endeavored to deprive her of her homestead rights aforesaid; and to that end he now claims that said homestead was rented to him for a term of ten years from the year 1900 to the year 1910, as recited in the alleged will which he now offers for probate. But your petitioner avers that said alleged lease, if ever made, is wholly void as to your petitioner, because in violation of her homestead rights in and to said property. That said alleged lease, if ever made, was made at a time when James F. Elam was in the last stages of consumption, and when he knew, and when the Executor, William B. Elam, well knew that the said James F. Elam

could live only a few months. And said alleged lease, if ever made, was made for the ^{deliberate} purpose of defrauding your petitioner and her children out of their homestead rights in and to said tract of land.

2. The premises considered, your petitioner therefore now prays that at the proper time in the administration of this estate that an order of this Court be made, withdrawing the said homestead (being the 180 acres of land mentioned in said will, and more particularly described in that deed from John J. Elam to the said James F. Elam, dated September 7, 1901, and recorded in Book 267, pp. 383 to 385 inclusive, of the Deed records of Dallas County, Texas, reference to which deed is here specially made) from further administration herein. That the said alleged lease thereof, as recited in said alleged will, be declared null and void as to your petitioner, and that said tract of land be set apart for the use and benefit of your petitioner and her said three minor children as their homestead, to the end that your petitioner and her said minor children shall have the exclusive right to the possession thereof; and to the use and enjoyment and benefit thereof as their homestead; and that the Executor be ordered to deliver the said homestead to your petitioner and her said minor children for her homestead use. And your petitioner prays that inquiry be made by this Court, in respect to her exclusive right to the possession and occupancy of said 180 acres of land as her homestead for herself and her said minor children, and that proper orders of this Court be made, protecting your petitioner in her homestead rights therein.

3. Your petitioner further prays in the alternative: That in the event the Executor should make good his contention herein and prove that the said 180 acres of land was not the homestead of your petitioner, her minor children and her deceased husband at the time of his death, then your petitioner shows that in that event there is not among the effects of the deceased, ~~any~~ homestead; and in that event that the said James F. Elam left no homestead in kind, and your petitioner, his widow, and his minor children above named, have no homestead.

Therefore, if it should be found that the said 180 acres of land above described were not the homestead of said deceased and your petitioner and her minor children at the death of said James F. Elam, then your

petitioner and her said minor children are entitled to an allowance in lieu of a homestead not found in kind among the property and effects of the said deceased. Therefore, your petitioner prays that if the Executor shall succeed in his contention that there is no homestead in kind among the property of the estate of said deceased, then that the Court make an allowance not to exceed \$5000.00 in lieu of a homestead, and that proper orders be made requiring the Executor to pay to your petitioner the said allowance thus to be fixed by the Court in lieu of homestead.

Further, your petitioner shows:

That there are not among the effects of the deceased any of the specific articles exempt to petitioner and her said minor children under the laws of the State of Texas, to-wit: There is no household and kitchen furniture; there are no implements of husbandry; there is no library or family portraits, nor pictures. There are no milch cows, nor their calves; there are no work oxen; there are no horses, nor wagons; there is no carriage nor buggy; there is no gun; there are no hogs; there are no sheep; there are no saddles, bridles, nor harness necessary for the use of the family. None of the said exempt articles is named in the inventory hereto returned showing the property of said estate.

Wherefore, your petitioner prays that the Court now make to her and her minor children a reasonable allowance in lieu of the said specific articles of exempt property not found in kind among the effects of said deceased, as your petitioner will ever pray. And your petitioner prays for all further and other relief, and such further orders in the premises as to the Court under the facts and the law may seem proper.

Respectfully submitted.

McGrover & Spence
 Attorneys for Plaintiff.
Mary Elizabeth Alan

State of Texas, 1978

The undersigned, Elizabeth H. Jackson, by and through her undersigned, do hereby certify that the provisions of the Will herein submitted to Probate.

FILED
A. S. JACKSON,
County Clerk

FILMED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

In the matter of the estate of // In County Court, sitting as a
James F. Elam, deceased. // Court of Probate.

Mary Elizabeth Elam
No. 3097 -vs-
Wm. B. Elam, Executor

Now comes the defendant, W. B. Elam, executor of the estate of Jas. F. Elam, deceased, and by leave of the court first had and obtained amends his original answer filed herein on Jan. 7, 1902, and in lieu of the same files this his first amended original answer, and says:

1. Defendant avers that this court has no jurisdiction in this cause, for that, by the terms of the will of Jas. F. Elam, deceased, duly executed and probated in this court, it appears that it was expressly stipulated in said will that no further action be taken in the County Court in the administration of his estate, except to prove and probate and record his last will and testament and return an inventory and appraisement ~~thereof~~, as directed by law; all of which defendant avers has been done, and said defendant was also appointed executor, without bond, and has qualified as such; for that, said petition shows and this defendant avers the fact to be that the only property that was owned by the said estate was a claim or interest in the land in question; and for that, said petition seeks to set aside a lease and try the title and ownership of said land and determine the right to the possession of same, which issues defendant avers, under the Constitution and laws of Texas, can only be tried and determined in the District Court, and the District Court of Dallas County, Texas, alone, has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this controversy, all of which defendant is ready to verify.

2. Defendant demurs generally to plaintiff's petition and says the same is insufficient in law, and on this prays judgment of the court.

3. Defendant specially excepts to plaintiff's petition and assigns the following special demurrers:

W.B. Elam
except a small amt of personal prop
the alleged H. O. Amestrad or
Shovel & Baker of Dallas
attys. for def. W.B. Elam

3008
The County Court has no jurisdiction to determine the question of annulling the will of the decedent, James F. Elam, for that, the said petition shows that only a homestead is involved, which is not a subject matter of administration, and by the Statute is withdrawn from administration, and which by the will of said decedent is also withdrawn from said administration, and for that said petition seeks to annul a lease made by said decedent, and for that the County Court has no power ~~with~~ ^{or authority} to try and determine the question of lease of land and the right to same as between plaintiff and this defendant.

4. Defendant specially excepts to said petition and avers that the same shows that this court has no jurisdiction to try and determine the question as to right or possession of the land in controversy, as between plaintiff and this defendant.

5. Defendant further specially excepts, in the event the court should entertain jurisdiction in this case, that there is a defect in the parties plaintiff, in that, the children of plaintiff and decedent are necessary and proper parties.

6. Defendant further specially excepts to plaintiff's petition, for that, the same shows that this is not a subject matter, ^{of probate proceedings} but in the nature of a suit to recover the property claimed by plaintiff and defendant, respectively, and the same is not a subject matter of probate proceedings.

7. Defendant further specially excepts to plaintiff's petition, for that, it does not set forth the will or terms of the will sought to be annulled.

8. Defendant further specially excepts to plaintiff's petition, for that, it does not set forth any facts showing any right or ground to annul said will.

9. Defendant further specially excepts to plaintiff's petition, in that, it does not show that the land in question was owned in fee ^{or describe same or show the value of same} simple by plaintiff and decedent, or what right of title they had to same, but does show ^{also in law} that by the terms of the will that the right and possession of same is now in W. R. Elam, and by the terms of a lease made by decedent in his lifetime.

10. Defendant further specially excepts to plaintiff's petition, on page 2, wherein she alleges: "That if the lease was made, it was a

fraud upon her homestead rights in and to said lands," for that said allegation is vague, indefinite, sets forth a conclusion and no facts showing any fraud.

11. Defendant further specially excepts to said petition wherein it is alleged "That were improvements upon said land, which were made after plaintiff's marriage, with community funds", for that said petition does not describe said improvements, nor state their value.

12. Defendant further specially excepts to that portion of plaintiff's petition, wherein she avers: "That the lands in question were the only lands owned by James F. Elam, at the time of his death", for that the question of ownership is a mixed question of law, ^{and fact} and for that it does not set forth the title of James F. Elam, ^{deed} nor how he owned same.

13. Defendant further specially excepts to that portion of plaintiff's petition, wherein it is alleged "That the defendant has studiously endeavored to deprive her of her homestead rights," for that the same sets forth no facts showing wherein nor how he endeavored to deprive her of her homestead rights.

14. Defendant further specially excepts to that part of plaintiff's petition, wherein plaintiff alleges: "That the alleged lease, if ever made, was made at a time when James F. Elam was in the last stages of consumption, and when he and the defendant knew he could live only a few months", for that, said allegations are vague, indefinite, and constitute no cause of action.

15. Defendant further specially excepts to that part of the plaintiff's petition, wherein she alleges: "That the lease, if ever made, was made for the deliberate purpose of ^{defrauding} ~~depriving~~ plaintiff and her children of their homestead rights in and to said lands", for that said allegation is vague, indefinite and uncertain and sets forth no facts showing any fraud on the part of this defendant.

16. Defendant demurs generally to plaintiff's second count in her said petition and says the same is insufficient in law.

17. Defendant specially demurs to said count and says that the court has no jurisdiction to try and determine the matters set up in said count.

18. Defendant specially demurs to said second count and says the

same is inconsistent with her first count and contradictory and multifarious.

19. Defendant further specially excepts to said petition, because the same does not show that there is any property out of which said allowances could be made, but in fact shows that there is no property out of which an allowance could be made to plaintiff and her children.

20. Defendant further specially excepts to said second count, in that, said count does not state the value of the exempt articles, in lieu of which plaintiff asks an allowance.

21. Defendant further specially excepts to said petition, for that, it prays that the executor herein be required to pay the plaintiff the allowance in lieu of a homestead, and does not pray that said allowance should be made out of the property of said estate.

Of all which general and special exceptions hereinabove made, defendant prays judgment of the court, and as in duty bound, will ever pray.

W.D. Cannon
Plaintiff's Attorney
Attys. for Deft. W.B. Elam.

Defendant further answering, if need be, denies, all and singular, the allegations in plaintiff's said petition contained, and of this puts himself upon the Country.

Defendant specially answering says that the decedent, James F. Elam, and this defendant were children of William B. Elam, deceased, and his wife, Mary Elam; that at the time of the death of the said Wm. B. Elam, he and his said wife had settled with all the heirs of his estate and advanced them their share, except James F. Elam and John J. Elam. That the said James F. Elam, deceased, and John J. Elam own an undivided interest, with their mother, in all of the unsold lands of the William B. Elam survey, which comprise the land in question, containing about 360 acres. That of said land, their mother, Mary Elam, owns

Propertly 1100 acres, and the said James F. Elam and John J. Elam each own 1/2 of said land, in fee as heirs of their father.
That on the 16th day of August, A. D. 1888, said Mary Elam, the widow of William B. Elam, executed a deed of conveyance whereby she conveyed to John J. Elam and James F. Elam all her undivided half interest in and to the community estate owned and held

...the value does not exceed that of the property out of which it is taken...
...to be paid to the defendant...
...in full...

by herself and William B. Elam, her deceased husband, at the time of his death; the consideration of said deed being love and affection and the further consideration that said John J. Elam and James F. Elam were to pay her the sum of \$200 each and every year during her natural life, the said sum of money to be paid quarterly, and for the payment of which a lien was retained upon the lands therein conveyed, and it was provided in said ~~xxxxx~~ deed that in event of default in the payment of said installments or any of them, the said John J. Elam and James F. Elam, their heirs and assigns, were to ~~be~~ pay all costs and reasonable attorney fees for the enforcement of the payment of the same, and all of which should be a lien upon said lands. That the said lands hereby conveyed consisted of 36.6 acres out of the said W. B. Elam survey. *Defendant further shows that after the death of Jas F. Elam said Mary Elam retained and said 36.6 acres of land for a valuable consideration conveyed to said land to J. Elam who now owns same in full ample*
Defendant further shows that on the 7th day of September, 1901, James F. Elam and John J. Elam divided said lands between them, the same being the separate property of said James F. Elam and John J. Elam, whereby John J. Elam conveyed to James F. Elam all his interest in the land referred to in plaintiff's petition, consisting of 180 acres of land, and more particularly described in said deed of partition between said James F. Elam and John J. Elam, and which said ~~particular~~ partition has been acquiesced in and consented to by said Mary Elam; that said James F. Elam has never paid any portion of the said purchase price of said land, for the interest of Mary Elam, which is a lien upon the said lands claimed by plaintiff and the possession of which is now claimed by this defendant as devisee under said will, of 50 acres, and the balance under a lease, which was executed by the decedent James F. Elam to this defendant W. B. Elam on the 1st of Sept, 1900, which said lease was duly acknowledged and delivered, during the lifetime of said decedent, James F. Elam, whereby said James F. Elam, for valuable consideration, leased all of his interest in said land to this defendant for a ~~xxx~~ period of ten years; that said defendant entered into possession of said property under said lease.

Defendant further shows that by the terms of said will of James F. Elam the said decedent bequeathed and devised to this defendant 50 acres of said land to be taken out of the North part of said tract of 180 acres and directed that he cut off 50 acres ~~adjoining~~ adjoining the

50 acres aforesaid, for his son Luther, and to divide the remaining portion, 80 acres, equally between his said two daughters, Bulah and Winnie.

Defendant further shows that he is in possession of said lands ^{through his tenant Will Stanton} and claims the same by virtue of said lease and the terms of said will, and avers that this court has no jurisdiction to try and determine the question of the right and possession and title to this land between the plaintiff and defendant, ^{as his tenant & this Court has} not the right or the power to annul the said lease made by the decedent James F. Elam, to this defendant, and that the District Court of Dallas County, Texas, alone, has jurisdiction to try these questions. That the said will of said decedent has been duly probated and has not been set aside.

Defendant further shows that the said plaintiff ought not to have and ~~she~~ maintain her suit herein, for that, the said decedent in his lifetime had a right to lease said lands in question to this defendant, which he did as hereinbefore stated, and that the said decedent abandoned said property as his home, prior to his death, and with the intention of abandonment and of not returning to same, which he had a right to do, and which was and is ~~being~~ binding in law upon the plaintiff herein and his heirs. That the said decedent, long prior to his death, ceased to occupy and use the premises in dispute as his home, and moved to Bandera County with his family and made his home in said County, where he erected for himself a house and where he resided and did reside for two years prior to his death, and where he intended to live, as he stated, the remainder of his life. That the lease made to this defendant was because of the fact that he could not live and determined not to reside in Dallas County, Texas.

Defendant further answering herein says that long prior to the death of James F. Elam, deceased, said contestant Mary E. Elam, did without fault on the part of deceased and against his will and earnest ^{by} entreaties that she stay his side and do and perform the duties of a wife to him until his death, voluntarily left his bed and board and abandoned him and refused to go and live with him, and taking advantage of his ill health and ~~weakness~~ weakened condition, she took his children from him and deprived him of their society and comfort, and lived separate and apart from him until his death. That said plaintiff, after deceased was confined to his bed, which afterwards proved to be

his death bed, on being informed of his critical condition and the early expectation of his death and being at the same time admonished that he was her husband and her place was by his side and she ought to go and see him anyhow, she refused to go to see him and said she hoped she would never see his face again. That she did afterwards come to see him two or three times, after having been repeatedly sent for, that the decedent might have a last look at and enjoy the society of his children; that she refused to stay by deceased until his death, and was not present and would not allow his children to be with him when he died.

The premises considered, the defendant says said contestant herein has no homestead right in the property of deceased; therefore, he prays that said petition of contestant be not granted and that the provisions of the will be carried out and according to the wishes and directions of testator thereof, and for all relief, both general and special, either in law or equity, respondent may in the judgment of the court be entitled, as in duty bound will ever pray.

W. J. Conner
Plowman & Baker
Attys. for Deft. W. B. Elam.

In the office of the
Secretary of the
May 6, 1962
T. L. ...
Department's First Annual ...
All States.

March 13, 1962
T. L. ...

PLANNING & ...
Aluminum Co.

FILMED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

LAW OFFICE
OF
MCGHEE & SHERMAN

Estate of James F. Elam
3097
W.B. Elam Executor

In the matter of the Estate of
James F. Elam, Deceased,
Wm. B. Elam, Executor,
No. 3097, Probate.

February 15, 1902.

Wednesday February 19th 1902
instead of February 15th 1902

This day, in the administration of the above named estate, came on to be heard the Application of Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Elam, surviving widow of James F. Elam, deceased, for an order of this Court, annulling those certain provisions of the will of the said James F. Elam, deceased, heretofore admitted to probate in so far as the said will attempts to bequeath to the Executor, William B. Elam, the 180 acres of land belonging to said estate as set out in the Inventory thereof, in trust, for the benefit of the said Testator's children, and in so far as said will recognizes an alleged lease for ten years to the said William B. Elam as lessee of the said 180 acres of land, and in so far as the said will undertakes to place the said property in the possession of the said William B. Elam and bequeath any part thereof to him. By which Application said Mary Elizabeth Elam, widow, also prays that said 180 acres of land be set apart to her by this Court, as her homestead for herself and her minor children, to-wit: Bula Elam, a girl about seven years of age; Luther Elam, a boy about five years of age and Winnie Elam, a girl about three years of age, being the minor children of said Applicant and her deceased husband, James F. Elam, now residing with their said mother.

And it appearing to the Court that citation has been duly issued and served herein upon the said William B. Elam, Executor of said estate, commanding him to appear at this term of the court and answer said application, and to refrain from executing the provisions and directions of said will which are objected to as above set out. And now the said William B. Elam appearing herein by his counsel, and having filed ^{his} answer to said widow's Application:

The issues raised by the pleading of the said parties herein, both of fact and of law, are by the said parties submitted to the Court. And first, the demurrers, general and special, of the said Executor to the

said widow's Application, being presented to the Court are by the Court overruled, in so far as said exceptions deny the jurisdiction of this court to hear and determine the said widow's application to have the said provisions and directions of the will of James F. Elam annulled, and to have the said lands set apart to her as her homestead, ~~but~~ ^{the} ~~other~~ exceptions of the said Executor, Nos. 10 and 11, as set out in his first amended original answer are sustained.

And then the issues raised by the said pleadings of the said parties were submitted to the Court for determination upon the merits. And the Court having heard the evidence adduced by the parties and the argument of counsel thereon, is of the opinion that the law is for the Applicant in so far as she seeks to have said provisions and directions of the will of James F. Elam, deceased, annulled, and to have said lands above mentioned set apart to her as her homestead for the benefit of herself and her said minor children. And the Court is of the opinion that said widow is entitled to have the said lands set apart to her as her homestead for herself and her said minor children, and that the terms of the will inconsistent therewith ought to be annulled.

Therefore, it is now by the Court ordered and so adjudged and decreed that the provisions of the will of James F. Elam, deceased, herein admitted to probate, in so far as the same attempts to bequeath to the said Executor, William B. Elam, the said 180 acres of land therein mentioned, in trust, for the benefit of the said testator's children, and in so far as said will recognizes an alleged lease for ten years to the said William B. Elam as lessee of said 180 acres of land, and in so far as said will undertakes to place the said property in the possession of the said William B. Elam, ^{Executor} be and the same are hereby annulled, vacated and for naught held:

And further, that the said 180 acres of land belonging to said estate and mentioned in the inventory thereof as herein filed, the same being more particularly described in that deed from John J. Elam to the said James F. Elam, dated September 1901 and recorded in Book 267, pp. 383 to 385 inclusive of the Deed Records of Dallas County, Texas, reference to which said deed is here specially made, be and the same are hereby set apart for the use and benefit of the said Mary Elizabeth Elam, widow of

James F. Elam, deceased, and their said minor children, Bulah Elam, Luther Elam and Winnie Elam, as their homestead, the same having constituted the homestead of the said James F. Elam and his said wife and children during the lifetime of said James F. Elam and at the time of his death, the same being hereby set apart to them, the said widow and minor children, as property of the said estate exempt to them from execution or forced sale by the Constitution and laws of this State:

And further it is ordered by the Court and so adjudged, that the said 180 acres of land with all improvements thereon, be forthwith delivered over to the said widow, Mary Elizabeth Elam, by the said Executor, William B. Elam. And he is hereby ordered to place her in actual possession thereof. That this disposition of the said homestead shall continue during the lifetime of the said widow, Mary Elizabeth Elam, or so long as she may elect to use or occupy the same as a homestead, or so long as the guardian of the said minor children of the said deceased, James F. Elam, may be permitted under order of the proper court having jurisdiction to so use and occupy the same. But after said use and occupancy shall cease, then the said homestead tract as above described shall then become subject to the operation and terms of the said will in so far as same shall then be consistent with this order. And it is further ordered by the Court and so adjudged, that the said Applicant, Mary Elizabeth Elam, do have and receive of and from the said William B. Elam as Executor of said estate of James F. Elam, deceased, all costs herein expended and incurred.

*To all of which said Executor W B Elam excepts
and in open Court gives notice of
Appeal to the District Court of Dallas County
Texas*

*OK Ed. J. Landwehr
Co Judge*

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... of the said land as a...
... the same being...
... the same being...
... the same being...

No 3097
 Private
 In Matter of
 Estate of
 Geo. A. ...
 Order of the
 Application for
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LAW OFFICES
OF
MCCORMICK & SPENCER

In the Estate of Jas. F. Elam, deceased,
In the matter of the Application of
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Elam, surviving
widow for an order setting apart her
homestead out of said Estate.

No. _____ Probate.
In the County Court of
Dallas County, Texas.

Now come Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Elam, the Applicant in the above
entitled Probate proceeding by her attorneys, and pursuant to the Notice
served upon her herein, propounds to Mrs. Mary Elam, witness for the Execu-
tor, the following cross interrogatories, reserving all exceptions and ob-
jections to the form and substance of the direct interrogatories and of
the answers of the said witness.

CROSS INTERROGATORIES to the Executor's witness, Mrs. Mary Elam

1. Are you the surviving widow of W.B. Elam, Sr.? and are you
the mother of Jas. F. Elam, deceased, and John J. Elam and W.B. Elam, the Execu-
tor of Jas. F. Elam, deceased?
2. Do you know the tract of about 180 acres of land which is
in controversy in this suit? If you state whether said land was ever
owned by W.B. Elam, Sr. in whole or in part? Was said land acquired as
the community property of W.B. Elam, Sr. and yourself?
3. What is community property?
4. When W.B. Elam, Sr. died did he leave any will? State all
that you may know about any will that he left? and if he left any will
state what was done with it and how you know?
5. Is it not true that Jas. F. Elam now deceased, and his brother
John J. Elam acquired title to 360 acres of land, and did not Jas. F. Elam
afterward move on said tract of land, claiming one half of it; and did he
not establish his home with his family thereon?
6. Do you remember when Jas. F. Elam married? If you, when was
it?
7. After his marriage where did Jas. F. Elam reside with his
family as his homestead, and for how long a time did he actually remain
with his family on such home place? Describe the home place.

8. What title within your knowledge did Jas. F. Elam have to this home place? Was a deed made to him, or to him and John J. Elam? If no deed was made to Jas. F. Elam, then state how he acquired his title to his home place? Answer fully and state how you know?

9. You are asked in the direct interrogatories about a supposed conveyance which is claimed was made by you to John J. Elam and Jas. F. Elam upon condition that they should pay you \$200 each year of your life in quarterly instalments, the payments to be secured by lien upon the lands conveyed:

Now when was any such conveyance made? Where is that conveyance? Who made that conveyance? Was it in writing? Before whom was it executed or acknowledged? Can you produce that original conveyance or a copy of it? If yes, do so and attach ~~the same as a~~ part of your answer to this question.

10. What particular land was described in the supposed conveyance about which you are interrogated in direct interrogatory No. 8, and in the last preceding cross interrogatory? Answer fully.

11. Now as a matter of fact, did John J. Elam and Jas. F. Elam or either one of them, pay you \$200 ^{each and} every year from the date of said conveyance to the present time? Name each year when such a payment was made to you by John J. Elam and Jas. F. Elam, or either one of them? and state the total amount they paid to you pursuant to any such conveyance?

12. Is it not true that John J. and Jas. F. Elam did not pay you the sum of \$200 in money for any year as the consideration for the land, a part of which is now in controversy? If you say they did, then state again just how much money was paid by them to you as the consideration for the conveyance of any land which you may have conveyed to them? For how many years was such payment made? When and where was each payment made?

13. Is it not true that Jas. F. Elam lived on the land and now in controversy for many years with his family as his homestead?

14. During the time that Jas. F. Elam resided on his home place with his family in Dallas County, is it not true that he did not pay you anything as the consideration for said home place? If you say he did, state Jas. F. Elam's farm in Dallas County, Texas?

THE OFFICE OF
THE COMMISSIONER OF
AGRICULTURE & MECHANIC ARTS

state just how much he paid you as the consideration for said home place? For what years he paid it, and in what amount he made the payments, and state how each payment was made?

15. Is it not true that during the year 1899 Jas. F. Elam was in bad health? Did he not in that year go to Bandera County for the benefit of his health?

16. Did not Jas. F. Elam return to Dallas County in the summer or early fall of the year 1900? Did not his family return with him?

17. What did Jas. F. Elam do with his home place when he left it in the year 1899? What contract did he make for renting the place for the year 1900? Answer fully and state how you know.

18. Did not Jas. F. Elam again return to Bandera County for his health in the fall of 1900? And did he not return to Dallas County in the Spring of 1901?

19. What contract did Jas. F. Elam make in regard to his home place for the year 1901? Answer fully and state how you know.

20. Did not Jas. F. Elam die in the month of September, 1901? If not, when did he die?

21. What family did Jas. F. Elam leave at the time of his death? Answer fully and give the names and ages and sexes of his children?

22. What property did Jas. F. Elam leave at his death? Describe the property that he left, both real and personal.

23. What contract did Jas. F. Elam make in regard to his home place during the year 1901 after his return to Dallas County, and prior to his death. Did he rent out his home place for ten years and get the rents paid in advance? Did he not rent to Bill Staten for the year 1900 and the year 1901?

24. Did not Jas. F. Elam always state that if his health improved in Bandera County that he would return to his home in Dallas County, Texas? When he left Dallas County in 1899 did he not then declare that if his health improved he would come back and would then want his home place again?

25. Did Jas. F. Elam's wife ever agree to give up her homestead on Jas. F. Elam's farm in Dallas County, Texas?

LAW OFFICE
MEMORANDUM TO BE FILED

26. Did Jas.F.Elam's wife ever know that her husband had in any wise abandoned his home place in Dallas County and had given it up as his home?

27. What other home had Jas.F.Elam ever acquired or owned after he rented out his home place in Dallas County, Texas, which is in controversy herein? Describe the other home place that Jas.F.Elam acquired.

28. Was the land on which Jas.F.Elam fixed his homestead acquired by you and your husband after your marriage, and was it community property between you and your husband?

29. At the death of your husband what heirs did he leave?

30. What provision was made by your husband and yourself for each of your children?

31. Is it not true that Jas.F.Elam acquired his home place in Dallas County where he lived for many years with his family absolutely and by perfect title? How did he acquire title to his homestead?

32. Who has talked to you about your evidence in this case?

33. Who has helped you to form your answers in this case?

34. Where have you been while answering these questions?

35. Who has been present while you have been giving your answers.

36. If you say that Jas.F.Elam abandoned his home place in Dallas County and left no homestead at his death, then state exactly how and when he abandoned his homestead and lost his homestead rights therein?

37. State all that you know on which you base your statement that Jas.F.Elam abandoned his homestead and had given it up as a homestead before his death?

Mary E. Elam
Atty for Applicant
Mrs Mary E. Elam

FILED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

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FILED BY THE DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY-1978

In the matter of the Estate of
James P. Elam, deceased,
No. 2097 Probate.
Wm. B. Elam, Executor named in the will.

In the County Court of Dallas
County, Texas.

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COUNTY COURT:

Now in the above probate proceeding, comes Mary Elizabeth Elam, widow of James P. Elam, deceased, the testator herein, and shows that she is interested in the said estate. That, ^{then} the provisions and directions of the alleged will, now here exhibited for probate, ^{which} are not to be executed, but should be annulled or suspended, in so far as ^{the} said will attempts to bequeath to the alleged executor the 180 acres of land therein mentioned in trust for the benefit of the testator's children; and so far as said will recognizes an alleged lease for ten years of said 180 acres of land to the executor, Wm. B. Elam, and in so far as said will undertakes to place the said property in the possession of the said Wm. B. Elam.

For this:

The said Mary Elizabeth Elam shows:

1. That she and James P. Elam, deceased, were legally married in Dallas County, Texas about eight years ago; and they lived together as husband and wife upon the said 180 acres of land mentioned in the will aforesaid, which said land was actually used, occupied and enjoyed by the said James P. Elam and your petitioner, Mary Elizabeth Elam, his wife, for the full period of seven years. That while they resided on said 180 acres as their homestead, there were born to them three children, who still survive and who are living with your petitioner, their mother; their names and ages being as follows: Bulah Elam, a girl about seven years of age; Luther Elam, a boy about five years of age and Winnie Elam, a girl about three years of age. That during the latter part of the year 1899, and at a time when the said 180 tract of land was the homestead of James P. Elam and your petitioner and their said children, as it had for many years been, the said James P. Elam being in poor health, ^{temporarily} left said homestead and went to Baudera County, Texas on account of his health. And your petitioner with her children accompanied him. But your petitioner by no

means abandoned her homestead rights in said 180 acres of land. The said land was thereafterward rented to one Will Stator for the year 1900 by a mere temporary lease. During that year the said James F. Elam, accompanied by his family, returned to Dallas County. Thereafterward, in the fall of 1900, said James F. Elam again went to Bandera County where he hoped to regain his health. But your petitioner and her children did not accompany him, but they continuously since resided, as they still reside, in Dallas County, Texas. The said 180 acres of land was also rented to the said Will Stator for the current year 1901, but your petitioner at no time in any wise abandoned the said 180 acres or any part thereof as her homestead; nor did she in any wise ever relinquish or forfeit her homestead rights therein. But on the contrary, she at all times has claimed and asserted her homestead rights in and to said 180 acres of land. Petitioner avers that if said homestead place, being the 180 acres of land aforesaid, was ever rented to Wm. B. Elam as recited in said will, this petitioner avers that she was never a party to any such lease. And she further avers that if such lease was ever made to Wm. B. Elam, or to any other person, the same was made, if at all, without her knowledge or consent, and in violation of her homestead rights in and to said property. And the same being made, was and is a fraud upon your petitioner's homestead rights in and to said lands. Petitioner avers and shows to the court that said 180 acres of land is well adapted for a homestead, in that as much as 80 acres thereof are in a state of actual cultivation, as same have been for many years. And the remainder thereof consists of pasture and woodland, and all of the 180 acres is in one body of land. That same has upon it improvements, consisting of a residence and connected out-houses and lots; and also a small rental house, with community funds. And, as aforesaid, all of the said 180 acres were for a long period of time, to-wit: as much as seven years, devoted by the said James F. Elam to his homestead purposes, and his homestead and that of his family, consisting of your petitioner and his said three children was actually established upon said tract of land, and that the same was and is the only land owned by the said James F. Elam at the time of his death, and long prior thereto. Your petitioner, with said minor children never left said homestead with any intention on the part of your petitioner of abandoning the same or in any wise relinquishing her homestead rights therein. And the renting of the same for the

LAW OFFICES
WILLIAMS & BRIDGES

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to said Stator
 years 1900 and 1901, as aforesaid, was but a temporary renting and in no wise operated to deprive your petitioner of her rights to a homestead therein for herself and her said minor children. (That said lands are now in the actual occupancy of the said Will Stator as lessee for the current year. But his lease thereof will expire at the expiration of this current year, and your petitioner will then be entitled to the possession of said lands comprising the said homestead.) Your petitioner shows that the said James P. Elam left no other homestead at his death. That your petitioner herself owns no other lands and has no other homestead in her own right. She shows that the Executor herein, Wm. B. Elam, has studiously endeavored to deprive her of her homestead rights aforesaid, and to that end he now claims that said homestead was rented to him for a term of ten years from the year 1900 to the year 1910 as recited in the alleged will which he now offers for probate. But petitioner avers that said alleged lease ^{is void} is wholly void as to your petitioner, because in violation of her homestead rights in and to said property.

The premises considered, your petitioner therefore now prays that at the proper time in the administration of this estate that an order of this court be made withdrawing the said homestead—being the 180 acres of land mentioned in said will, and more particularly described in that deed from John J. Elam to the said James P. Elam, dated September 7, 1901 and recorded in Book 267, pp. 363 to 388 inclusive of the Deed Records of Dallas County, Texas, reference to which deed is here specially made—^{from} further administration herein. That the said alleged lease thereof, as recited in said alleged will, be declared null and void as to your petitioner and that said tract of land be set apart for the use and benefit of your petitioner and her said three minor children as their homestead, to the end that your petitioner and her said minor children shall have the exclusive right to the possession thereof, and to the use, enjoyment and benefit thereof as their homestead; and that the Executor be ordered to deliver the said homestead to your petitioner ^{and her said minor children} for her homestead use. And your petitioner prays that inquiry be made by this court in respect to her exclusive right to the possession and occupancy of said 180 acres of land as her homestead for herself and her said minor children, and

LAW OFFICES
OF
McCORMICK & SPENCE

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that proper orders of this court be made protecting your petitioner in her homestead rights therein. And your petitioner prays for all further and other relief to which she may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

McCormick & Spence

Attorneys for Mary Elizabeth Elam,
widow of James P. Elam, deceased.

Personally appeared before the undersigned authority on this day, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Elam, who being first duly sworn, upon oath states:
That she is the surviving widow of James P. Elam, deceased, whose will is now offered for probate in the above entitled and numbered probate proceeding.

That the matters contained and the facts stated in the foregoing petition in respect to her homestead rights in property of the estate as therein described, are true in substance and in fact.

Sworn to and subscribed before me by Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Elam,
this the _____ day of November, A.D. 1901.

Notary Public, Dallas County, Texas.

Da

No. *3097* Probate.

Estate of James F. Elan, deceased,
~~and~~ Opposition of Mary Elizabeth
Elan, widow, to certain provisions
of the will now offered for pro-
bate, and application to have her
homestead set apart, etc.

FILED

5
Nov 1911

W. Rawlins

and

Consider also filed

In the matter of the estate of
James F. Elam, deceased.

In the suit of Mary E. Elam,
Surviving wife of James F. Elam, dec'd

had any settlement with you
In the County Court,
Dallas County, Texas.

No. 3097--vs

W.B. Elam Executor

On the 15th of August, 1888, you property did you own and

What did you do with same and describe the same as fully as you can

To MARY E. Elam or her attorneys of record, McCormick & Spence,

You will please take notice that five days service of the
accompanying interrogatories, application will be made the Clerk of
the County Court of Dallas County, Texas, for a commission to take the
depositions of Mary E. Elam, who resides in Dallas County, Texas, which
deposition when taken will be read in evidence by the defendant on and
the trial of the above entitled cause.

1st. That you were to
receive the leased house on said S.E. M.T. Corner for your use as a
home during your natural life and that Ploverman & Baker James F. Elam
were to keep the same in good state
John F. Direct interrogatories to the witness Mary E. Elam. 1888.

1. State your name, age and residence.

2. State when and where you were married, to whom you were married, and
with whom you came to Texas, or their heirs or assigns were to pay

3. After you came to Texas, state if you and your husband acquired any
property; if so, state what you so acquired.

4. If you say you married W.B. Elam, Sr., state whether he is living or
dead, if dead, when he died and who he left surviving him.

5. State whether or not John J. Elam has complied with your children in his lifetime, and if you did not have a settlement with any of them, state with whom you did have a settlement and what did you do.

6. On the 15th of August, 1888, what property did you own and what did you do with same, and describe the same as fully as you can.

7. If you say you conveyed 360 acres of the W.B. Elam survey to John J. Elam and James F. Elam, state what was the consideration for said conveyance?

8. If you say the consideration for said conveyance was love and affection that you bore to your sons, John J. Elam, and James F. Elam, and with the distinct understanding and agreement; 1st. That you were to reserve the tenement house on said W.B. Elam survey for your use as a home during your natural life and that John J. Elam and James F. Elam were to keep the same in good state of repair; and 2nd. That the said John J. Elam and James F. Elam, were to pay to you the sum of \$200. each every year during your natural life, the said sum of money to be paid to you quarterly and for the repayment of which a lien was reserved on the lands conveyed; 3rd. That the event default should be made in the payment of any installments of any of them, then the said John J. Elam and James F. Elam, or their heirs or assigns were to pay all costs and reasonable attorneys fees for the enforcement of the payment of the same, which costs and attorneys fees were to be a lien on said land, we ask you to state whether or not said James F. Elam has carried out his contract and agreement with you. State you much has been paid you by James F. Elam, or his heirs in consideration of said

deed and state whether or not John J. Elam has complied with said agreement and deed.

This State of Texas 9. State whether or not you have ever waived your right or interest in said lands in favor of said James F. Elam, or his heirs. true and correct copy of direct interrogatory 10. propounded to witness

Where did James F. Elam reside on Sept /1/ 1900 and state where the wife of James F. Elam, Mary E. Elam, resided at that time. original papers in said matter. 11.

Where was the home of James F. Elam in September, October and November of 1900. A.D. 1900.

A.S. Jackson, 12. Clerk, Dallas County, Texas. If you say he resided in Bannock County, state whether or not said residence was temporary, or with the intention of returning or not returning to his former residence in Dallas County ?.

1/8/2 M.T. Conner
Plowman & Baker,
Attys for W.E. Elam, Executor.

Filed the 8th day of January 1902.
A.S. Jackson, Clerk Co. Court
By A.E. Rawlins, Deputy.

In the Estate of J. P. ELAM, deceased

No. 12345 Probate

In the matter of the application of
The State of Texas

In the County Court of

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Elam, executrix
County of Dallas: I A S Jackson, County Clerk of Dallas County

Texas, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and
correct copy of Direct interrogatories propounded to witness

Mary E. Elam, by the Executor in the above entitled and numbered
cause as the same now appears on file in my office among the original

papers in said cause., propounded to Mrs. Mary Elam, witness for the

Executor. Given under my hand and seal of office this 14th day of
January A. D. 1902. The form and substance of the direct interrogatories

and the answers thereto are on file in my office among the original

papers in said cause. I A S Jackson, County Clerk, Dallas County Texas.
By *S. L. Stewart* Deputy.

In the Estate of Jas. F. Elam, deceased

No. _____ Probate

In the matter of the application of

In the County Court of

Mrs Mary Elizabeth Elam, surviving

Ellis County, Texas.

widow for an order setting apart her

homestead out of said estate.

Now comes Mrs Mary Elam, the applicant in the above entitled probate proceeding by her attorneys, and pursuant to the notice served upon her herein, propounds to Mrs Mary Elam, witness for the Executor, the following cross- interrogatories, reserving all exceptions and objections to the form and substance of the direct interrogatories and of the answers of the said witness.

1. Are you the surviving widow of W. B. Elam, Sr.? and are you the mother of Jas. F. Elam, deceased, and John J. Elam and W. B. Elam the executor of Jas. F. Elam, deceased?

2. Do you know the tract of about 80 acres of land which is in controversy in this suit? If yes, state whether said land was ever owned by W. B. Elam, Sr. in whole or in part?

3. Was said land acquired as the community property of W. B. Elam Sr. and your self.

4. When W. B. Elam, Sr. died did he leave any will? State all that you may know about any will that he left? And if he left any will state what was done with it and how you knew?

5. Is it not true that Jas. F. Elam, now deceased, and his brother John J. Elam, acquired title to 360 acres of land, and did not

Jas. F. Elam afterwards move on said tract of land claiming one half

of it; and did he not establish his home with his family thereon?

6... Do you remember when Jas. F. Elam, married? If you when was it? a part of which is now in controversy? If you say they did

7... After his marriage where did Jas. F. Elam, reside with his family as his homestead, and for how long a time did he actually remain with his family on such homestead? Describe the homestead.

8... What title within your knowledge did Jas. F. Elam have to this homestead? Was a deed made to him, or to him and John J. Elam? If no deed was made to Jas. F. Elam, then state how he acquired title to his homestead? Answer fully and state how you know?

9... You are asked in the direct interrogatories about a supposed conveyance which is claimed was made by you to John J. Elam and Jas. F. Elam, upon condition that they should pay you \$200. each year of your life in quarterly instalments, the payments to be secured by lien upon the lands conveyed:

15 Now when was any such conveyance made? Where is that conveyance? Who made that conveyance? Was it in writing? Before whom was it executed or acknowledged? Can you produce that original conveyance or a copy of it? If yes, do so and attach the same as a part of your answer to this question.

10... What particular land was described in the supposed conveyance about which you are interrogated in direct interrogatory No. 8 and in the last preceding cross interrogatory? Answer fully.

11... Now as a matter of fact, did John J. Elam and Jas. F. Elam or either one of them, pay you \$200 each and every year from the date of said conveyance to the present time? Name each year when such a payment was made to you by John J. Elam and Jas. F. Elam or either one of them? and state the total amount they paid to you pursuant to any such conveyance?

12... Is it not true that John J. and Jas.F. Elam did not pay you the sum of \$200 in money for any year as the consideration for the land, a part of which is now in controversy? If you say they did then state again just how much money was paid by them to you as the consideration for the conveyance of any land which you may have conveyed to them? For how many years was such payment made? When and where was each payment made?

13..Is it not true that Jas.F. Elam lived on the land and now in controversy for many years with his family as his homestead?

14.. During the time that Jas.F. Elam resided on his homestead place with his family in Dallas County, is it not true that he did not pay you anything as the consideration for said homestead? If you say he did, state just how much he paid you as the consideration for said homestead? For what years he paid it and in what amount he made the payments, and state how each payment was made?

15 Is it not true that during the year 1899, Jas.F. Elam was in bad health? Did he not in that year go to Bandera County for the benefit of his health?

16.. Did not Jas.F. Elam return to Dallas County in the summer or early fall of the year 1900? Did not his family return with him?

17... What did Jas.F. Elam do with his homestead when he left it in the year 1899? What contract did he make for renting the place for the year 1900? Answer fully and state how you know.

18... Did not Jas.F. Elam again return to Bandera County for his health in the fall of 1900? and did he not return to Dallas County in the Spring of 1901?

19.. What contract did Jas.F. Elam make in regard to his homestead for the year 1901. Answer fully and state how you know.

20.. Did not Jas.F. Elam die in the month of September, 1901?
If not, when did he die?

21.. What family did Jas.F. Elam leave at the time of his death? Answer fully and give the names and ages and sexes of his children?

22.. What property did Jas.F. Elam leave at his death? Describe the property that he left, both real and personal.

23.. What contract did Jas.F. Elam make in regard to his homestead during the year 1901 after his return to Dallas County, and prior to his death. Did he rent out his homestead for ten years and get the rents paid in advance? Did he not rent it to Bill Staton for the year 1900 and the year 1901?

24.. Did not Jas.F. Elam always state that if his health improved in Bandera County that he would return to his home in Dallas County, Texas? When he left Dallas County in 1899 did he not then declare that if his health improved he would come back and would then want his home place back again?

25... Did Jas.F. Elam's wife ever agree to give up her homestead on Jas.F. Elam's farm in Dallas County, Texas?

26.... Did Jas.F. Elam's wife ever know that her husband had in anywise abandoned his homestead in Dallas County and had given it up as his homestead?

27... What other home had Jas.F. Elam ever acquired or owned after he rented out his homestead in Dallas County, Texas, which is in controversy herein? Describe the other homestead that Jas.F. Elam acquired.

28.. Was the land on which Jas.F. Elam fixed his homestead acquired by you and your husband after your marriage, and was it community property between you and your husband?

29..... At the death of your husband what heirs did he leave?

30... What provisions was made by your husband and yourself for each of your children?

31.... Is it not true that Jas. F. Elam acquired his homeplace in Dallas County, where he lived for many years with his family absolutely and by perfect title? How did he acquire title to his homeplace?

32... Who has talked to you about your evidence in this case?

33.. Who has helped you to form your answers in this case?

34.. Where have you been while answering these questions?

35... Who has been present while you have been giving your answers?

36.. If you say that Jas. F. Elam abandoned his homeplace in Dallas County and left no homestead at his death, then state exactly how and when he abandoned his homeplace and lost his homestead rights therein?

37.. State all that you know on which you base your statement that Jas. F. Elam abandoned his homeplace and had given it up as a homestead before his death?

McCornick & Spence Attys for applicant

Mrs Mary E. Elam.

Filed January 14th 1902,

A. S. Jackson, County Clerk,

By *D. L.* Stewart, Deputy.

The State of Texas

County of Dallas: I, A.S. Jackson, County Clerk of Dallas County,

hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of Cross interrogatories propounded by Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Elam, applicant in the above styled and numbered cause to Mrs. Mary Elam a witness for the executor, as the same now appear on file in my office among the original papers in said cause.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 14th day of January A.D. 1902.

A.S. Jackson, County Clerk, Dallas County, Texas.

By *S. L. Stewart* Deputy.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF DALLAS.

Commission to Take Deposition.

To any Clerk of the District Court, Judge or Clerk of the County Court, or any
Notary Public in and for the County of Dallas, State
of Texas—GREETING:

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND EMPOWERED to cause to come before you
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Elam, a resident of your County, at such
time and place as you may appoint; and that you then and there carefully and fully examine her
upon her oath, first to be taken before you, touching the annexed Interrogatories:

1. That you reduce her answers, so taken, to writing, in proper form, and cause the same
to be subscribed and sworn to by said witness.
2. That you certify, under your hand and seal of office, that said answers were sworn to and subscribed
before you.
3. That you seal up in an envelope the answers so taken, together with the annexed interrogatories and this
commission, with your name written across the seal.
4. That you endorse on the envelope the names of the parties to this suit, and the name of said witness.
5. That you direct the package to the "Clerk of the County Court of Dallas County, Dallas, Texas."
6. That if said package is sent by mail, the postmaster, or his deputy, shall endorse thereon that he received
it from your hands, and sign his name thereto; or, if you entrust it to private conveyance, as provided by the
statute, you will apprise the person receiving it that it must be delivered to the Clerk of this Court by himself in
person; which evidence, so taken as above, is to be used on the trial of a suit now pending in the County Court
of said County of Dallas, In the matter of the Estate
of James F. Elam Reed ~~defendant~~

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but make due return of this writ.

Witness, A. S. JACKSON, Clerk of the County Court of Dallas County, and the seal of
said Court, at office in the City of Dallas, this, the 14th day of

January A. D. 190 2
A. S. JACKSON,

Clerk County Court, Dallas County, Texas.

By L. Stewart Deputy.

3514

No. 3097

In the matter of the
Estate of Jas. F. Kelam
Deceased

Commission to Take Deposition

of Mrs. Mary Elizabeth
Kelam

Issued the 14th day of January
A. D. 1902

A. S. JACKSON,

Clerk County Court, Dallas County, Texas.

By L. Stewart Deputy.

Deposition of Mary E. Elam in case of
Mary E. Elam, wife of James F. Elam deceased
No. 8097 vs W B Elam Executor

1st My name is Mary E. Elam, I am
79 years old. I reside near Elam
Station, Dallas County Texas

2nd I was married in 1840 in Hudson
county Mo. to Wm B. Elam: came to
Texas with my husband, Wm B. Elam
and two children, Artemisa and Isaac in
the year 1844

3rd He acquired two acres of land known
as the Wm B. Elam Survey in Dallas
County Texas and 640 acres of the
Jesse Elam Survey.

4th He is dead, he died in 1888, July 17th
of that year. He left surviving him
myself, Isaac H. Elam, A. J. Elam,
Artemisa, Gill, California, Ayers, the
children of Rosa Brown, ~~George and~~
viz: Josie, Willie, Mattie and Mary
Brown, George and Thomas Elam, Wm
B. Elam, Mary Seals, deceased, she
left one child, John Cook, by her first
husband, Margaret Moor, J. J. Elam and
James F. Elam

5th We made a settlement with all the
children named in my answer to
fourth interrogatory, except J. J. Elam
and James F. Elam

6th On 15th day of August, 1888 I owned
my community interest in the undisposed
of part of the Wm B. Elam Survey amounting
to about 360 acres, on that day I made

a deed to J. J. Elam and James F. Elam
of any community interest in that 360
acres.

7th Love and affection and the promise by them
to pay me \$2000 per year during my
natural life. I reserved the Tenement house,
that is the house where me and my husband
had made our home for myself. I also
retained a vendor's lien on this 360 acres
to secure the payment of this \$2000 per
year which was to be paid quarterly.
I also reserved the right to foreclose the
lien and they were to pay all costs and
attorney's fees in the event default was
made in the payment of said moneys.

8th No, neither James F. Elam or his heirs
ever paid me anything for said land.
John J. Elam has always paid his part
and complied with his agreement with
me.

9th No, I have never waived my right or
interest in the lands in favor of James
F. Elam or his heirs.

10th In September, 1900 James F. Elam resided
in Bandera County; his wife lived at
her mother's Mrs. White, at that time
in Dallas County.

11th At that time his home was in Bandera
County Texas.

12th His residence in Bandera County was not
temporary. His intention, as declared to me
by him was that he intended permanently
to reside in Bandera County as he could
not live in Dallas County and that he
had been advised by his doctor to make
Bandera County his home.

Mary E. ^{her} ~~Claw~~
mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this the 1st day of February A. D. 1902

Chas. Woodson J. P.
Ex Officio Notary Public
Dallas County Texas

x 1st Yes - yes

x 2nd I know the tract of land in controversy
Yes the land was community between
myself and Wm B Elam Sr. It was.

x 3rd Yes

x 4th No, he left no will

x 5th The title acquired by them was as I
have stated in answer to direct interrogatory
No 7. Yes James J Elam lived on the
N. W. Corner of it.

x 6th No. He married, I think, in 1894.

x 7th He first lived on South side of this 360
acres, then he moved up to the N. W. corner.
He lived there untill 1899 when he
and family moved to Bandera County.
Description is the E. half of Wm B. Elam
Survey, a tract of land, one mile long
by 1/2 mile wide, with 40 acres on West
side, all under fence. The house three
small rooms, a small stable or barn
with horse lot, with cistern for house

x 8th None except as stated in answer to direct
interrogatory No 7 and the interest he would
have in his father's estate. I made a deed
to him as before stated in my answer to
No 7 direct. I know this because I was his
mother.

x 9th About the middle of August 1888. I did. I don't remember. I cannot produce it or give a copy but it is on record in Clerk's office of Dallas County Texas

x 10th My community interest in the balance or undisposed of part, of the J. B. Elam survey. You will find the deed as recorded describes the land by metes and bounds. I cannot do so from memory.

x 11th No. James F. Elam never paid me a cent in any way. John J. Elam has paid me all he owes so far, and has paid the same in money and my support from August 1888 down to the present time. The total amount paid by John J. Elam I am unable to give, but he has paid and settled with me each year since I made the deed to him.

x 12th James F. Elam paid me nothing in any way. I answered as to John J. Elam in answer to cross interrogatory No. 11. Each payment or settlement was made by John J. Elam each year and at the home of John J. Elam with whom I live.

x 13th Yes. He lived there from the time he married until he moved off in 1899.

x 14th To all this interrogatory I answer Yes. James F. Elam never paid me anything as the consideration for said place.

x 15th Yes. Yes, to make his home there

x16th He returned with his family about the last of August of that year.

x17th It was occupied by a tenant, I know nothing about any contract.

x18th He returned to Baudera County to make his home there, and he was brought back, so I understood, from him, as a witness in the Spring of 1901.

x19th I dont know anything about any contract

x20th Yes.

x21st His wife Lizzie Elam, and his daughter Keula his son Luther, and another daughter Minnie, Ages not remembered.

x22nd I dont know what personal property he left but he did leave his interest in the 360 acres above stated

x23rd I dont know

x24th He did not. No.

x25th I dont know

x26th I dont know

x27th I heard him say he built him a house in Baudera County, and was going to take up 80 acres of school land to live on

x 28th Yes, the land on which he lived after his marriage was community property, between one and my husband

x 29th I have named them all in my answer to No 4 direct interrogatory

x 30th He gave all the boys 80 acres apiece except John J. and James J. and all the girls 40 acres apiece

x 31st He did not. I have stated how he acquired the interest in this land

x 32nd No one.

x 33rd No one

x 34th At home

x 35th The officer taking the answers

x 36th When he moved to Baudera County in 1899 with the purpose, as he declared to me of making his home there.

x 37th His physician told him to go so he told me and he further stated that he was not going to live here in Dallas County again but would make his home in Baudera County the remainder of his life
Mary E. ^{his} ~~Clam~~ ^{mark}

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 1st day of February A. D. 1902

Chas. Woodson J. P.
Ex Officio Notary Public
Dallas County Texas

FLOWMAN & BAKER,
DALLAS, TEXAS.

In the matter of the estate of
James P. Elam, deceased.
In the suit of Mary E. Elam,
surviving wife of James P. Elam, dec'd.
No. 3097 vs.
W. B. Elam, Executor.

In the County Court,
Dallas County, Texas.

To Mary E. Elam, or her attorneys of record, McCormick & Spence:-

You will please take notice that five days after service of the accompanying interrogatories, application will be made the Clerk of the County Court of Dallas County, Texas, for a commission to take the depositions of Mary E. Elam, who resides in Dallas County, Texas, which deposition when taken, will be read in evidence by the defendant on the trial of the above entitled cause.

M. D. Cannon
Flowman & Baker
Attys. for W.B. Elam, Execut-
or.

Direct interrogatories to the witness Mary E. Elam.

-1-

State your name, age and residence.

-2-

State when and where you were married, to whom you were married, and with whom you came to Texas.

-3-

After you came to Texas, state if you and your husband acquired any property; if so, state what you so acquired.

-4-

If you say you married W. B. Elam, Sr., state whether he is living or dead, and if dead, when he died and who he left surviving.

-5-

State whether or not you and your husband had any settlement with your children in his lifetime, and if you did not have a settlement with any of them, state with whom you did have a settlement, and what did you do.

-6-

James F. Elam, deceased
in the will of the estate of
James F. Elam, deceased

On the 15th of August, 1888, what property did you own and what did you do with same, and describe the same as fully as you can.

-7-

If you say you conveyed 360 acres of the W. B. Elam survey to John J. Elam and James F. Elam, state what was the consideration for said conveyance?

-8-

If you say the consideration for said conveyance was love and affection that you bore to your sons, John J. Elam and James F. Elam, and with the distinct understanding and agreement; 1st. That you were to reserve the tenement house on said W. B. Elam survey for your use as a home during your natural life and that John J. Elam and James F. Elam were to keep the same in good state of repair; and 2nd. That the said John J. Elam and James F. Elam were to pay to you the sum of \$200 each and every year during your natural life, the said sum of money to be paid you quarterly and for the payment of which a lien was reserved on the lands conveyed; 3rd. That the event default should be made in the payment of any installments, or assigns were to pay all costs and reasonable attorney's fees for the enforcement of the payment of same, which costs and attorneys fees were to be a lien on said land, we ask you to state whether or not said James F. Elam has carried out his contract and agreement with you. State you much has been paid you by James F. Elam or his heirs in consideration of said deed and state whether or not John J. Elam has complied with said agreement and deed.

-9-

State whether or not you have ever waived your right or interest in said lands in favor of said James F. Elam, or his heirs.

-10-

Where did James F. Elam reside on Sept/ 1, 1900, and state where the wife of James F. Elam, Mary E. Elam, resided at that time.

-11-

Where was the home of James F. Elam in September, October and November of 1900.

-12-

If you say he resided in Bandera County, state whether said residence was temporary, or with the intention of returning or not returning

CONFESSION
I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the County Clerk of Dallas County, Texas, in the case of the estate of W. B. Egan, deceased, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the County Clerk of Dallas County, Texas, in the case of the estate of W. B. Egan, deceased.

to his former residence in Dallas County?

1/8/2

W. T. Courner

Plummer & Baker
Attys. for W. B. Egan, Executor.

~~We have this day rec'd a copy of the written interrogatories and waive further notice & consent that five days after this date Commission may issue on the foregoing originals of the direct & cross interrogatories of the undersigned at Dallas Texas July 1902~~

No. 3097

In re estate of
James J. Elam, deceased.
Mary E. Elam
Wrs. Elam ex. ad.
Direct Interrogatories
propounded to witness
Mrs. Mary E. Elam.

8th
Jany 1902
W. Rawlins

PLOWMAN & BAKER,
Attorneys at Law.