

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

Case Number 1913

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# 1913

Do not use this space—for

Cashier

*Glynn Byrd Tom E. Ellis*County Clerk  
Dallas County, Texas

## REQUEST FOR CERTIFIED COPIES

Date 4/24/64Please prepare Certified copies of 1 plain copy of willStyled: Estate of John Henry Brown, DeceasedOrdered by: Mrs. Albert A. Tegger

Return to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_By: Guillie A. Maines, Deputy

## Location of Instrument AND DETERMINATION OF FEE:

Type of Instrument \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \$ 3.00

Vol. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_

Cause No. 2581

Film No. \_\_\_\_\_

	Sent to Dept.	Copy Prepared	Returned to C/C Section	Del'd to Cust.	Mailed
Date	<u>4/24/64</u>	<u>✓</u>	<u>✓</u>	<u>✓</u>	
Initial	<u>law</u>	<u>EP</u>	<u>EP</u>	<u>law</u>	

Auditor's Copy

102418

Nº 5576

State of Texas,  
City & County of Dallas. }

Being well advanced and  
thought of somewhat <sup>wish</sup> in good health,  
yet, realizing the uncertainty of life,  
I, John Henry Brown, of the city and county  
of Dallas, Texas, do make and publish  
this my last will and testament:

1. I will and bequeath to my  
faithful and loving wife since July  
9th, 1843, and the mother of all my  
children all of my estate, real, personal  
and mixed, of which I may die pos-  
sessed, subject to the exceptions and  
conditions hereinafter named,  
to wit: Mrs. Mary Mitchel Brown.

1. Overhomestead, on which we  
have lived since nearly A.D. 1873,  
110 feet square, in Block 60, front-  
ing 110 feet each on Pearl and Live  
Oak streets, in Dallas, together with all  
household and kitchen furniture per-  
taining to the same, for and during  
her natural life, but at her death  
to descend to and become the property of  
our two daughters, Lizzie Chambers Brown  
and Marion Taylor Brown, they to  
pay all debts & taxes for which the home-  
stead may be liable and the expenses of  
my last sickness and burial.

2. I will and bequeath to my  
daughter, Mrs. Black <sup>Brown</sup> Mitchel, 2 2/8 acres of  
land, more or less, being parts of blocks  
95 and 103 of the McCullough county school  
lands, on Rush and Garrett's Creek,  
in Wise County, or whatever interest I  
may have in said lands or debt, due  
the for them; provided, however, ~~that~~

said lands shall not be sold after my  
after death by my wife, should she survive  
me.

3. To my said daughter, Clara Brown  
Mitchel I give and bequeath all land  
that may be awarded me, for through litiga-  
tion now pending, on the S. E. 1/4. Peyton third  
of a league of land on the Neches river  
in San Jacinto county, in regard to which  
J. L. Wren of Austin represents me for  
half the land recovered, without costs sue-

4. I will and bequeath to my  
said daughter, Clara Brown Mitchel,  
all of my interest in and to the lot 50 by  
100 feet on Live Oak street, in block  
260 aforesaid, on which the house is No.  
234, said lot being the separate pro-  
perty of my wife.

5. I will and bequeath to my  
said wife all my copy rights, and  
books on hand in the "Life and  
Times of Henry Smith, the first Ameri-  
can Governor of Texas"; my "History  
of Texas from 1685 to 1893," in two  
volumes; and my unpublished volume  
entitled "Indian Wars and Pioneers  
of Texas;" but at her death these rights  
shall descend one half to my daughter  
Clara B., and one quarter each to my  
other daughters, Lizzie C. and Marion  
P. Brown.

6. I give to my grandson, Pierre  
Brown Mitchel, the golden headed cane  
presented me at the close of my service as  
Mayor of Dallas, my silver watch and all  
my law books, and books pertaining to law  
titles.

7 I give to my grandchild Colby C.  
Mitchel the Index Atlas of the World,  
Mexico and the United States by Abbot  
Dalmay's Life of Gen. Robert E. Lee  
and my cane cut on the battle field  
of Gettysburg.

8 I give to my son-in-law Thomas  
B. Mitchel the golden headed cane pres-  
ented to me on the fiftieth anniversary of  
my marriage, July 9th, 1893, and my gold-  
en framed spectacles.

9 Request my wife, or in case of her  
death, then my daughter, Louise and Marion,  
to give from my library to my grand  
daughters Mary Lee Mitchel and Cora  
Louise such book, as will equalize  
them in books with their brothers,

My library of 2000 books,  
Reviews, newspaper files, scrap  
books, detached articles of mine,  
works on Mexico & all kindred  
works, shall descend to my daugh-  
ters Louise C. and Marion T. Brown

I appoint my wife executrix of  
my estate. In case of her death then  
my three daughters or the survivor  
or survivor of them - in either case  
without bond or other judicial pro-  
ceedings excepting the probate of this  
will and filing an inventory.

I commend my soul to God who gave it

Witness my hand in the pres-  
ence of two attesting witnesses this 11th  
in presence of us: 3 day of December A.D. 1893

H. P. Belsterling.  
Nellie L. Belsterling.

John Henry Brown

2081

Will of

John Henry Brown,  
Signed & Witnessed  
December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1893.

Filed February 21<sup>st</sup> 1899.

A Jackson  
Clark County Court

Reconvenued 10/99  
Ex-400

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND LETTERS.

10059-Dorsey Printing Co., Stationers, Dallas.

THE STATE OF TEXAS.

To all Persons Interested in the Estate of *John Henry Brown*, Deceased :  
*Mrs Mary M. Brown*, has filed, in the County Court  
of Dallas County, State of Texas, an application for the Probate of the last Will of said  
*John Henry Brown* 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 *March* A. D. 189*9*, 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of *Feby* A. D. 189*9*

A. S. JACKSON,

County Clerk, Dallas Co., Texas.

By *AB Rawlin* Deputy.

No. 2581

COUNTY COURT.

ESTATE OF

*John Henry Brown*

Deceased.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PROBATE OF  
WILL AND LETTERS.

I certify this 21<sup>st</sup> day of  
Feby 1899

A. S. JACKSON, COUNTY CLERK.

By *AB Jackson* Deputy.

SHERIFF'S RETURN.

Came to hand the 21<sup>st</sup> day of Feby  
1899, and executed the 21<sup>st</sup> day of Feby

1899 by posting up three copies of this Writ at  
three public places in Dallas County, one of which  
was at the Court House door of said County, and  
no two of which were in the same town or city.

BEN E. CABELL, SHERIFF, DALLAS CO.

By *J. T. Davis* Deputy.

MURRAY PRINTING CO., DALLAS, TEX.

Fee \$2.50

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Estate of John Henry Brown, ( )  
Deceased. ( ) 6th. day of March A.D.1899

This day came on to be heard the application of Mary M. Brown for  
the probate of the last will and testament of John Henry Brown deceased,  
*the will being admitted*  
*of Melita H. Bulsterling, see Jack Webster's copy, volume 4, page 20.*  
and the said will being produced in court and proved upon evidence deemed  
sufficient by the court, it is hereby ordered, adjudged and decreed that  
the said will be hereby admitted to probate and that such will, together  
with the application for the probate thereof and all of the testimony  
in the case be recorded in the minutes of this court. That Mary M. Brown  
be and is hereby appointed administratrix of the estate of the said John  
Henry Brown and that W. C. Holland, T. F. Laughlin and Thos. R. Trotman  
be and the same are hereby appointed appraisers, together with the admin-  
istratrix, to make a full and complete inventory and appraisement of all  
the property of the said estate and return the same to this court within  
~~20~~ days.

*W. Westmore*  
*Judge*

Estate of John Henry  
Deceased  
Amelia  
① 139

Probate Court of Texas  
County, Texas  
Date of Probate, 1879

Probate No. 48

Probate Court of Texas  
County, Texas

County Court, Dallas County, Texas

March Term, A. D. 1899

The application for the probate of the last will and testament of John Henry Brown coming on to be heard, Nellie L. Belsterling one of the subscribing witness~~s~~s to said will, personally appeared in court, and being duly sworn, upon oath testified and subscribed to the following:- I, Nellie L. Belsterling, knew the said John Henry Brown, whose will is filed and sought to be probated herein, that he was at the time he executed said will, over 21 years of age and married and that he was of sound mind.

That he the said John Henry Brown died in the City of Dallas, County of Dallas, State of Texas on the 31st day of May A. D. 1895. That part of his estate consists of real estate situated in the County of Dallas, State of Texas.

That in the presence of me, the said Nellie L. Belsterling, he the said John Henry Brown signed the said will and declared it to be his last will and testament, and that I, the said Nellie L. Belsterling at the request of the said John Henry Brown signed and witnessed the said will herein filed and sought to be probated.

Nellie L. Belsterling  
Subscribed and sworn to by Nellie L. Belsterling  
before me in open Court on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 1899

As Jackson Clerk County  
Court Dallas, Tex.  
By J. H. Jackson

N<sup>o</sup> 2581

Estate of John Henry  
Brown Deceased

FILED Mch 6 1889  
A. S. JACKSON  
Dallas County, Tex.  
*[Signature]*

Received June 10/99  
E - 402

State of Texas. : County Court, Dallas County, Texas.  
County of Dallas. : Probate Matter.

Hon. Kenneth Force, County Judge.

Your petitioner Mary M. Brown, represents that she resided in the City and County of Dallas, State of Texas. That she is the widow of John Henry Brown. That the said John Henry Brown died in the City and County of Dallas, state aforesaid, on the 31st. day of May, A. D. 1895.

That the property of the said John Henry Brown, at the time of his death consisted principally of real estate situated in the County of Dallas, state aforesaid, and that said property, both real and personal was of the probable value of \$3500.00. That he left a last will and testament herewith set forth, whereby your petitioner is named as executrix, without bond. That there are no debts against the estate of the said John Henry Brown and that no administration is necessary.

Wherefore upon the premises considered, petitioner prays that due and proper citation issue upon this application to probate said will, and that upon final hearing said will be admitted to probate, and that three appraisers be appointed to make an inventory and appraisement of the property of said estate, and for such other and further orders as may be necessary and proper, for which your petitioner will ever pray.

Mary M. Brown

2581

Application for Probate of  
the Will of  
John Henry Brown

Filed January 21<sup>st</sup> 1899.

A. J. Gadsden  
Denton County Court

Recorded 6-497.

Bunting & Holland  
Atty's for Estate of Deceased

INVENTORY AND APPRAISEMENT, of the Property, real and personal belonging to the estate of John Henry Brown deceased produced before us the undersigned appraisers, on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of March A. D. 1899 by Mary M. Brown, Administratrix of the Estate of the said John Henry Brown, Deceased.

Real Estate, (Community Property)

- ✓ 1. A certain lot, tract or parcel of land lying and being situated in the city and County of Dallas, State of Texas and being described as follows to wit: said lot being in the form of a square, fronting 110 feet on the south east side of Live Oak St and 110 feet on the north east side of Pearl St., said lot having been in part conveyed to Mary M. Brown by Miranda S. and Pierre M. Brown by deed dated the 29th. day of December 1874 and recorded in Book Z. page 185 of the Records of Deeds of Dallas County, and in part to J. H. Brown by John M. Stemons by deed dated the 16th. day of September A. D. 1872 and recorded in Book R. on Page 369 and in part conveyed to John Henry Brown by Samuel Scott by deed dated August 19th. A. D. 1872 and recorded in book E. page 308 of the Records of Deeds of Dallas County. Reference is hereby made to the above noted records of Dallas county for a more perfect description of said tracts of land.

- ✓ 2. Parts of the Survey and Subdivision of the Matagorda County School Land situated in the County of Wise in the State of Texas. Said survey having been made by the said John Henry Brown in the Month of August 1877 the blocks of land being more particularly described as follows:-

Block 92. 160 acres. Beginning at a st. com. cor. of 91, 92, 93 and 100 from which a post oak 10 in. brs N. 54 W. 14 3/4 vrs. a p. o. 6in. brs. S. 71 1/2 W. 8 1/2 vrs. Thence N. 89 1/2 vrs. to the com. cor. 92, 93, 100, 101 a pet'd stone set in ground, from which a p. o. 12 in. centre line Tree brs. due S. 36 3/4 vrs. a p. o. 8in. brs. S. 2 W. 39 Vrs. Thence 1010 vrs. to a S. com Cor. 92 and 93. 55 1/2 vrs. S. of S. E. Cor of 86 and N. E. Cor. or 85. Thence S. 89 1/2 vrs. to a stake the S. E. cor. of 85. from which a p. o. 8 in. brs. N. 2 1/2 W. 9 1/2 vrs. a forked p. o. brs. N. 28 1/2 W. 7 3/4 vrs. the town of Decatur brs. N. 34 1/2 E. distant 15 1/2 miles. Thence E. 1010 to the beginning.

3500 00

THE COURTS OF TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES HAVING DETERMINED THAT THE ESTATE OF  
LAWRENCE L. PEYTON IS ENTITLED TO NO RIGHTS WHATSOEVER AND NO ESTATE IS APPOINTED TO

2

Block No. 95. Containing 170 acres.

Beginning at a S com. cor. of 94,95 102 and 103 Thence N. 956 vrs. to a Stake in the N. line of the M--- a lands. Being also the N. W. cor of No. 103 from which a post oak 2 in. brs. S. 7 1/4 vrs. a post oak 5 in brs. S. 10 1/2 vrs.. Thence W. at 614 vrs. cross'd Rush Creek 1010 vrs a stake in Pararie Vallay N. and W. of a timbered bottom the N. E. cor. of 87 from which an elm 3 in. brs. S. 21 1/2 E. 3/4 vrs. a hack-berry 5 in. brs N. 52 1/2 W. 3/4 vrs. thence S. 956 vrs. to a stake in E. Line of Block 87. thence E. 1010 brs to the Beginning

Block 103 containing 170 acres.

Beginning at a stake the Com. cor. of 102,103,110 and 111 Thence N. 956 Vrs. to a stake in the original N. line being also the N. W. Cor of 111. from which a post oak 8in. brs. N.74 E. 4 1/2 vrs. a black jack 6 in. brs S. 4 W. 2 1/4 vrs. thence W. at 344 vrs cross Decatur and Weatherford Road. at 470 vrs. cross a ravine at 1010 vrs a stake the N. E. cor. of 95 from which a post oak 2 in. brs. due S. 1 1/4 vrs. a Post oak 5 in. brs due S. 1G 1/2 vrs. Thence S. 956 vrs to a stake the Com. cor. of 94,95,102 and 103 Thence E. 1010 vrs. to the beginning.

The title to the above three tracts of land is in controversy and the possession thereof is not in the representatives of the estate.

The chose in action therefor is of the probable value of -----

3. An unknown and controverted interest in the A. G. Peyton 1/3 of a league of land in Zavala County, State of Texas. and on the Nueces River. The possession of the same is not in the representatives of the estate. The chose in action for the same is of the probable value of -----

\$10 20

\$10 00

Personal Property ( In which the decedent owned a community interest.)

Copyrights in the United States of the following books,

1. "Life and Times of Henry Smith, The First American Governor of Texas. -----

\$100 00

"History of Texas from 1685 to 1893" by John Henry Brown.	1000	00
"Indain Wars and Pioneers of Texas."	\$0	00
Library of Texas Books Review, newspaper files, scrapbooks, etc.	500	00
Personal, Separate Property.	25	00
Two gold headed canes.	10	00
One Silver Watch.		

State of Texas : :

County of Dallas : We the undersigned, duly appointed and legally qualified Appraisers, heretofore appointed to appraise the property belonging to the Estate of John Henry Brown, deceased, do solemnly swear that the foregoing statement contains a full inventory and appraisement of all the property, both real and personal, belonging to the said estate and exhibited to us for appraisement by Mary M. Brown, Administratrix of the said estate and that the amount set opposite each item is a full and fair appraisement thereof.

H. C. Holland  
T. D. Vaughan

### Appraisers.

Subscribed to and sworn to before me this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March A.D. 1899  
Geo. A. Gitterman, Notary Public, Dallas, Co., Texas

State of Texas

County of Dallas : I, Mary M. Brown, Administratrix of the Estate of John Henry Brown, Deceased, do solemnly swear that the foregoing inventory; there being no list of claims due by or to the said Estate; is a full and complete inventory and list of the property belonging to said Estate, that has come to my knowledge.

Mary N. Brown.

Administratrix of the es-  
tate of John Henry Brown.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March A.D. 1899

Geo Tillington -  
not on public Dallas  
Colleges

7551

In the Matter of the Estate of  
John Henry Brown, Deceased.

Inventory and Appraisement of  
the Property Belonging to the  
said Estate.

FILED *Mch 25 1899*

A. S. JACKSON

Clerk of Dallas County, Tex.

J. H. Taylor

*Approved*  
*Guaranteed and*  
*Approved*  
*O-184 Alvin C. Jones*  
*or Judge*

*Recorded*  
*6-106*