

Name: **Absalom Casto**
 Probate Date: 27 Sep 1913
 Probate Place: Jackson Co., WV
 Inferred Death Year: About 1913
 Inferred Death Place: West Virginia, USA
 Item Description: Will Book, Vol 2-3, 1848-1916

Danita's Note: Absolom Casto (1845-1913) was the son of Levi & Hannah (Carney) Casto.

I, Absalom H. Casto, physician, of Sandysville, Jackson County, West Virginia, being of sound mind and memory, do make, declare and publish this instrument to be my last will and testament hereby expressly revoking all former wills and testaments heretofore made by me.

First: It is my desire that after my death that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid out of the proceeds of my estate as soon after my death as convenient for my executor hereinafter named to do so.

Second: After the payment of my just debts and funeral expenses, I give, devise and bequeath to my beloved wife Gertrude Casto, all my household and kitchen furniture which I may have at the time of my death, except the piano and the large picture of myself and former wife, and in addition to the household and kitchen furniture, I give my wife Gertrude Casto her choice of one horse and my buggy and also two cows and all of the hogs and chickens on the farm at the time of my death together with all the farming implements, to be her sole and separate property and disposed of as she may see proper. It is further my will and I so direct that my wife, Gertrude Casto, shall have the use and control of the home farm near Sandysville and to use and occupy the same as a home until the same is disposed of under this will as hereinafter provided.

Third: I direct that my daughter Willis E. Fontaine be charged as an advancement with the \$200.00 note heretofore made by me to her for her interest in certain insurance money on the life of her mother and I further direct that my daughter A. Gertrude Thornburg be charged as an advancement with the \$200.00 note heretofore made by me to her for her interest in certain insurance money on the life of her mother, and I further direct my executor to pay to my daughter Francis F. Burdette out of the proceeds of my property \$200.00 to make her equal with her sisters, Willis E. Fontaine and A. Gertrude Thornburg in the insurance money on the life of their mother, and I further direct that if interest is calculated on the said \$200.00 notes of cash of my daughters Willis E. Fontaine and A. Gertrude Fontaine, then a like amount shall be made

to my daughter Frankie F. Burdette to make her absolutely equal with her sisters.

Fourth: I give and bequeath unto my daughter Frankie F. Burdette the piano now in my home, because the same was given to her and belonged to her at the time of her marriage and I give to my daughter B. Bertrude Thornburg the large picture of myself and former wife which belonged to her and was claimed by her at the time of her marriage, and I further give and bequeath to my daughter Willie E. Fontaine to make her equal in this respect with my other two daughters a horse to be selected by her out of any that I may own at the time of my death or I give her the value of a horse to be paid to her out of my other personal property.

Fifth: It is further my will and I so direct that after all my just debts are paid as provided in the first provision of this will, and after the special bequests provided for in the second, third and fourth provisions of this will are carried out, I direct that all the rest and residue of my property, both real and personal, and all proceeds thereof be divided equally share and share alike between my wife, Bertrude Gato, and my three daughters, Willie E. Fontaine, A. Bertrude Thornburg, and Frankie F. Burdette, and should it be thought advisable by my wife and children to divide and partition my real estate between them, I direct that the homestead near the village of Sandyville be assigned to my wife and Frankie F. Burdette provided they so elect, my intention being to make my wife equal with my children in addition to the provisions for her made in the second clause of this will.

Sixth: I hereby empower my executor hereinafter named with full power to sell and convey my real estate or any part thereof that may be necessary to be sold in order to carry out the provisions of this will and to wind up and settle my estate.

Seventh: I hereby nominate and appoint D. C. Gato, to be the executor of this my last will and testament and I desire that he be required to enter into a bond in such an amount equal to at least all of the funds which

may come into his hands under this will which bond shall be in the penalty of an amount fixed by the County Court of Jackson County, and otherwise conditioned according to law.

In testimony whereof I, Absalom H. Gasto have hereunto signed my name and affixed my seal to this my last will and testament on this 18th day of November, 1911, in the presence of Dorr Gasto and Nina Anderson, whom I have requested to act as witnesses hereto.

A. H. Gasto (Seal)

Signed, sealed, acknowledged, declared and published by, Absalom H. Gasto, the testator, as and for his last will and testament, in the presence of each of us the undersigned witnesses present at the same time and in the presence of Absalom H. Gasto, and at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed and attested our names as attesting witnesses thereto this the 18th day of November, 1911.

Dorr Gasto
Nina Anderson

West Virginia, Jackson County Court Clerks Office, September 27, 1913
In vacation of said Court.

This day came D. C. Gasto and produced a paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of A. H. Gasto late of this County, and moved that the same be probated and recorded as and for the last will of said A. H. Gasto deceased.

Then came Nina Anderson Wilson one of the subscribing witnesses to said writing, and on oath says that she was present and saw A. H. Gasto sign said writing, as and for his last will and testament, that he did so in her presence and that she signed as witness thereto in said A. H. Gasto presence and of each other, that said A. H. Gasto was of sound mind and over 21 years of age, and a resident of Jackson County.

It is therefore ordered that the said writing hereto annexed be recorded as and for the last will and testament of said A. H. Gasto deceased.

W. C. Staats, Clerk.