

WILL OF ALMETH B. VANDEGRIFT.

STATE OF ALABAMA }
JEFFERSON COUNTY)

I, Almeth B. Vandegrift, a resident of the City of Birmingham, County of Jefferson, State of Alabama, and over the age of twenty-one years, being of sound mind and disposing memory, do hereby make, publish and declare this my last will and testament, revoking all former wills which may have been made at any time heretofore by me.

FIRST.: I will that all my debts and funeral expenses shall be paid by my executors hereinafter named, as soon after my decease as is practicable, and that a suitable amount be expended by them in the purchase and erection of a suitable family monument.

SECOND: I desire to place the beneficiaries under this will on terms of equality and be just to them as far as is practicable in the circumstances. I received through my first wife, about the time of our marriage, the sum of \$4,000.00 in cash, which was of great benefit to me at that time. This sum I have considered and treated as my own, placing it in my mercantile business in which I have been continuously engaged and where it has remained. I received through my present wife, soon after her mother's death, the sum of \$8,000.00, in cash, which I have considered and treated as my own, placing it in my said mercantile business, where it has remained.

THIRD: My son, Sylverter Vandegrift, has remained with me continuously since arriving at majority, aiding me in my mercantile business, known as A. B. Vandegrift & Son, but in which he has never in fact been admitted as a partner. He has never received any salary or fixed compensation for his services, only receiving his support and maintenance from the business, less what he received from rents of real estate which belonged to him, amounting to about \$20.00 or \$25.00 a month. Therefore, in recognition of his long continuous, faithful service without salary or fixed compensation, I bequeath unto him the sum of \$20,000 to be paid out of my estate.

FOURTH: I have already advanced to my daughter, Vida Smith, wife of C. D. Smith, money and property of the value of \$5,000.00. I have advanced to my daughter, Willie E. Caruthers, in money, the sum of \$4,000.00. Now, therefore, to put them on equality, I give and bequeath to my said daughter, Willie E. Caruthers, the sum of \$1,000.00 to be paid out of my estate.

FIFTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my present wife, Willie E. Vandegrift, the sum of \$10,000.00, to be paid by my executors out of my estate.

SIXTH: I give and bequeath to my daughter, Sophia Vandegrift, the sum of \$1,000.00 to be paid her by my executors out of my estate, and direct my executors to pay her the indebtedness which I owe her at its maturity, and to pay the interest on the same in equal semiannual installments, until said indebtedness matures. I hereby request and urge my son, Sylverter Vandegrift, and my daughter, Vida Smith, to suitably and properly provide for my said daughter Sophia as long as she lives, and urge them to see that she is kept in comfortable circumstances.

SEVENTH: The remainder of my estate, after the payment of the debts and bequests above named, I devise, give and bequeath unto my present wife, Willie E. Vandegrift, and my children, Sylvester Vandegrift, Vida Smith and Willie E. Caruthers, in equal parts, in which they are to share and share alike.

EIGHTH: My executors hereinafter named, are hereby given full and ample authority to take charge of all of my estate, real, personal and mixed, and handle the same to the best of their judgment and discretion. They are given full power to sell, either at public sale or private, all of my said estate, and to make necessary transfers, conveyances, deeds or other instruments in writing to fully convey and dispose of said property, and to collect all indebtedness, to give all necessary receipts and acquittances, to pay all taxes, or other charges against said estate, but my son, Sylvester Vandegrift, with the advice and co-operation of my other executors, is authorized and directed to continue to conduct the mercantile business of A. B. Vandegrift & Son, in which I am now engaged, until the same can be properly wound up, and converted into cash, said business to be conducted at least until the first day of October, 1919, and as long thereafter as may seem best to my executors. I desire that my son, Sylvester, shall continue Mr. Henry D Lyman, in his present position, to aid him in conducting said business.

NINTH: I hereby authorize and direct my executors to wind up as speedily as they reasonably can, the affairs of my estate, and distribute the proceeds thereof to the beneficiaries above named, as above directed.

TENTH: Whatever balance, if any, stands against my son, Sylvester, on the books of A. B. Vandegrift & Son, is not to be collected by my executors, the same being hereby released. Whatever balance, if any, may appear in his favor on said books is hereby recognized as a debt and is to be paid by my executors.

ELEVENTH: I nominate and appoint my son, Sylvester Vandegrift as executor, and my daughters Vida Smith and Willie E. Caruthers as executrices, of this, my last will and testament, and declare that they shall not be required to give any bond for the performance of their duties arising hereunder, nor shall they be required to make any inventory of the property coming into their hands as such executors, nor make any report to any court of their proceedings hereunder.

In testimony whereof, witness my hand on this the 25th day of October, 1918.

A. B. Vandegrift.

Signed and declared to be his last will and testament by Almeth B Vandegrift, in our presence, and we in his presence, and in the presence of each other, and at his request, have hereunto set our hands as witnesses on the day the same bears date.

H. D. Lyman

Frank S White.

CERTIFICATE TO THE PROBATE OF WILL

THE STATE OF ALABAMA)

JEFFERSON COUNTY)

I, J. P. Stiles, Judge of the Court of Probate, in and for said State and County, do hereby certify that the within instrument of writing has this day in said Court, and before me as the Judge thereof, been duly proven by the proper testimony, to be the genuine last will and testament of Almeth B Vandegrift, deceased, and that said will together with the proof thereof have been recorded in my office in Book of Wills, Vol S. Pages 128 and 129.

In witness of all which I have hereto set my hand and the seal of the said Court, this the 16th day of December 1918.

(SEAL)

J. P. Stiles, Judge of Probate

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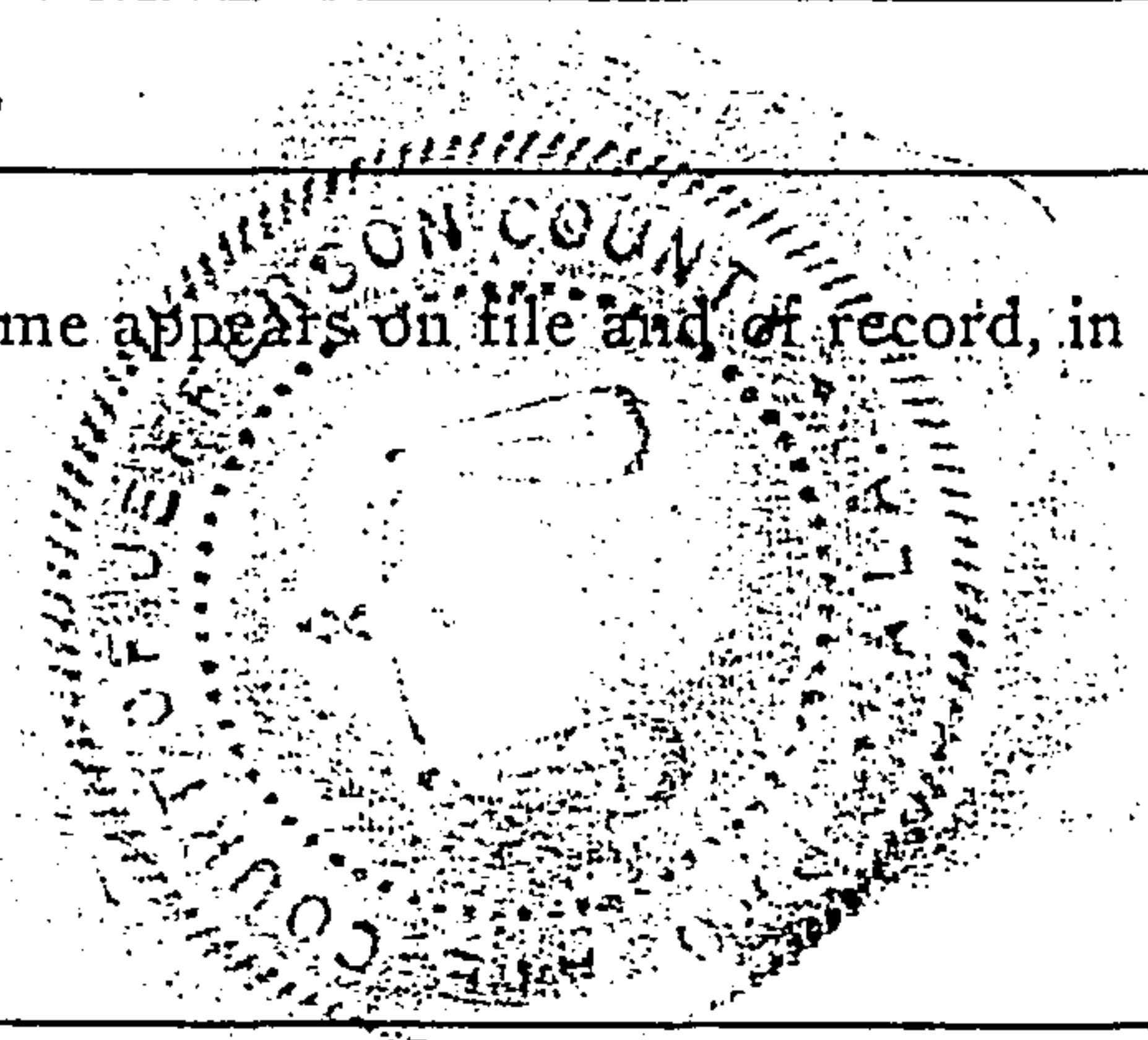
THE STATE OF ALABAMA,
JEFFERSON COUNTY.

PROBATE COURT

I, Tom C. Garner, Judge of the Court of Probate, in and for said County in said State hereby certify that the foregoing contains a full, true and correct copy of the Last Will and Testament of Almeth B. Vandergrift, deceased, together with the Certificate to the Probate Thereof,

~~in the matter of~~

as the same appears on file and of record, in this office.



Given under my hand and official seal, this
the 12th day of February, 19 54.

Tom C. Garner

Judge of Probate.

Filed in the office of the Probate Judge on the 13 day of Feb 19 54 at 8 o'clock PM.
and recorded in Deed Book 164 Page 523 this 18 day of Feb 19 54.
Deed Tax _____ Mortgage Tax _____ has been paid.
L.C. Walker, Judge of Probate