

The Last Will and Testament of Matthew Raulston
s/o William Raulsten & Eleanor (?)

In the name of God amen. I Matthew Roulstone of the State of Tennessee and Jefferson county, being weak in body; but sound and perfect mind and memory, blessed be almighty God for the same, do make and publish this my last will and Testament in manner and form following (that is to say) First-I do order and direct that all my just debts be paid,.

Secondly-I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Martha, all my household furniture of every kind whatever and four milk-cows and choice of my stock, and all my stock of hogs and two hundred and forty bushel of corn to be paid her yearly out of my plantation by my heirs, and ten bushels of wheat to be safely secured for her at the dwelling I now live in during her natural life. I also give unto my beloved wife my grey mare. I also desire and direct that my wife have the house and gartain where she now lives.

Thirdly - I give unto my son Moses fifteen pounds to be paid to him in trade three years after my decease, and all the debts his now endue me. I give unto my son William all that part of my plantation that lies above the waggon road from the river as far as the goot of the hill at the edge of the first bottom, and so up the edge of the bottom to the upper end of the Orchard.

I also give unto my son Samuel all that part of my plantation between the first rise and the river, and from the waggon road down to the lowest cross fence leaving the spring that Moses Rouston's family made use of out, and two poles at the bottom from the spring down the edge of the hill to the cross fence.

I also give unto my son James all the part of my bottom land below the said cross fence. It is also my will that the remaining part of my plantation be equally divided between my sons, William, Samuel, and James.

I also give unto my daughter Elizabeth ten pounds in property. I also give unto my daughter Ruth ten pounds in cash and forty pounds in property. I request that my debts be paid out of the debts that is now due me, and if any remainder is: I desire that it go to the support of my granddaughters Patty, Betsey, Susannah, Maryann and at the decease of my beloved wife, it is my will that all the property which I have given unto her, as so much as shall remain shall be equally divided among my children share and share alike.

I do also appoint my sons Samuel Raulston and William Roulstone Executors to this my last will and testament here by revoking all former wills by me made. As witness the sd. Mathew Roulstone has sett his hand and seal this 29day of December 1800.

Witness: John Moore
James Moore

Matthew Raulston's will is located in the records of Jefferson County Court House, Will Book 1, Page 61.

Tennessee Cousins
A History of Tennessee People
By Worth S. Ray – 1950
Author of "The Lost Tribes of North Carolina"

Jefferson County, Tennessee
Will of Matthew Roulstone on the Records of Jefferson County, TN – pg. 102

This Matthew Roulstone who left a will in Jefferson County, Tennessee, dated December 29, 1800, was doubtless of the same family as the "George Roulstone", who with "R. Ferguson" established the Knoxville Gazette at Rogersville, in Hawkins County, on November 5, 1791. (From Goodspeed's History, and the date may not be accurate).

MATTHEW ROULSTONE'S wife, according to his will was MARTHA, and in his will he mentions the following legatees:

1. MOSES ROULSTONE (married POLLY DENNY in 1803).
2. SAMUEL ROULSTONE (married BETSY LOWREY in 1802).
3. JAMES ROULSTONE (married JENNIE SYMS in 1802).
4. WILLIAM ROULSTONE (married ANNE MOORE, September 8, 1795).
5. ELIZABETH ROULSTONE (married WILLIAM GARRETT in 1792).
6. RUTH ROULSTONE

Executors: SAMUEL ROULSTONE and WILLIAM ROULSTONE

The marriages of the children who are named above are taken from the marriage records of JEFFERSON COUNTY and are based mainly on the date of the will, which indicates that they were the parties to such marriages.

Newspapers

As far as can be determined, only a few Jefferson County newspapers have been published. Existing issues have been microfilmed. A few original editions are in archive collections. An article in a 1962 edition of the Dandridge Banner stated the county had been "served over 150 years" by newspapers.

The Knoxville Gazette, first published in 1791 by **George Roulstone**, was read in Jefferson County. After moving to Knoxville, **Roulstone** also served as Postmaster. As such, he handled mail for most of East Tennessee. Everyone traveling through the territory was an ad hoc mail carrier. **Roulstone** also opened a private postal service, with the goal of increasing subscriptions to his newspaper. This regular post connected area residents on a weekly basis:

George Roulstone/Raulston - b. ca. 1767, Augusta, VA – d. ca. 1831. George was the s/o Matthew Raulston and Martha “Polly” Moore.

**See Chapter 14 for complete family listing.*

**See History of Jefferson County, Tennessee*

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