

Richard Gray Constable Bond

The State of Alabama Fayette County

We Richard Gray, R. H. Poe, and Anderson Farquhar are held and firmly bound unto Reuben Chapman Governor of the State of Alabama and his successors in office in the sum of one thousand dollars for which payment will and truly to be made we bind ourselves and each of our said Executors Administrators assign severally & firmly by these present sealed with our seals & dated this the 8th day of March 1848.

Now the conditions of the above obligation are such that whereas the above bound Richard Gray has been (duly) elected a Constable in the Hico Beat County & State aforesaid. Now if the aforesaid Richard Gray shall pay over all monies collected by virtue of his office and shall do and perform all and singular the duties incumbent on him by law as a Constable then this obligation to be void else to remain in full force and effect.

Test	R T M Dodson J.P.	{	Richard Gray	Seal
		{	R. H. Poe	Seal
			Anderson Farquhar	Seal

I approve of this Bond and order it to be recorded
July 29th 1848.

Elliot P. Jones Judge C C

Richard Gray Con: Bonds

The State of Alabama Fayette County

We Richard Gray R. H. Poe & Anderson Farguhar are held and firmly bound unto Herman Chapman Governor of the State of Alabama and his successors in office in the sum of one thousand dollars for which payment well and truly to be made we bind ourselves and each of our heirs Executors Administrators assigns severally & jointly by these presents sealed with our seals & dated this the 8th day of March 1848.

Now the Conditions of the above obligation are such that whereas the above bound Richard Gray has been (and) elected a Constable in the 13th Beat County & State of said now if the aforesaid Richard Gray shall pay over all moneys collected by virtue of his office and shall do and perform all and singular the duties incumbent on him by law as a Constable then this obligation shall be void else to remain in full force and effect

List R. H. Poe & Anderson Farguhar
 Richard Gray Seal
 R. H. Poe Seal
 Anderson Farguhar Seal

I approve of this Bond and order it to be recorded July 29th 1848

Elliott D. Jones Judge C.C.

Copied 11 July 1989 ged

Appraisement

Est. of)	
Richard Gray)	The State of Mississippi
decd.)	Rankin County

In Probate Court October Term A.D. 1864.

To John Holland, S.J. Hitt, Lewis S. Myers, Jacob Carr and
Allen D. Kersh ~~~~ Greetings

This is to authorize you jointly to appraise the goods, chattles and personal estate of Richard Gray late of Rankin County deceased as far as the same shall come to your sight and knowledge , each of you having first taken the oath of affirmation hereto annexed a certificate whereof you are to return annexed to an Inventory of the said goods, chattles and personal estate by you, appraised in dollars and cents and in the said inventory you are to set down in a column or columns opposite each article the value thereof having first set apart to Mrs Sabra Gray widow of said deceased all of the personal estate of her said husband, to which she is entitled by law and provisions for herself and children to which you may deem her entitled to be allotted upon oath, reduced to writing, and return to this Court with the appraisement aforesaid.

You will also ascertain and report to the Court what sum of money is necessary to purchase wearing apparel and pay tuition for the children for one year after the death of the decedent.

Witness Wm. J. McMasters, Judge of Probate Court
of Rankin County this Thirteenth day
of October A.D. 1864

H.S. Cole Clerk

Report of Sales of Personal Property

Exhibit A

A list of articles sold on the 20th ov November 1865 at the late residence of Richard Gray deceased.

Geo. H. Gray, Admr.

J.W. Warren	1 set	Blacksmith Tools	\$12.00
J.W. Gray	"	Ploughs	2.00
B.A. Gray	"	"	1.00
M.L. Bowman	"	Sundries	2.25
J.W. Gray	"	"	.50
" "	"	Plough & irons	.50
F.F. Watkins		Grind stone	2.25
Wm Gray		Broad Ax	2.50
B.A. Gray		Carpenter tools	5.00
Mrs. Sebra Gray	1	Bed stead	8.00
" "		Folding Table	1.00
" "		Lot of chairs	2.00
Chas Weils	1	Rochaway & hamep	115.00
J.M. Hobson	2	Hogs, 1st choice	32.50
M.L. Bowman	"	2nd "	30.50
Lucinda Bowman	"	3rd "	22.50
W. Gray	4	" 4th "	36.50
J.W. Gray	"	" 5th "	21.00
Wm Gray	3	" 6th "	13.00
W. Gray	4	" 7th "	10.00
J.W. Gray	1	Mule Bill	10.00
"	"	Jim dead (?)	
J.M. Joyner	18	Sheep 1st choice	37.00
Lucinda Williams	1	prided heefer	12.00
Jno Holland	"	cream cow	14.00
Lewis S. Myers	"	red "	15.00
James Gipson	1	cow & calf	13.50
B.A. Gray	20	sheep 2nd choice	42.00
		no Sale	
J.M. Hobson	1	set Plow Gear	3.75
M.L. Bowman	"	" " "	2.10
J.W. Gray	"	" " "	2.75
Mrs. S. Gray	1	pr Steeliards	1.25
J.F. Smith	25	Bu Cotton Seed	5.00
A.S. Lindsay	"	" " "	6.25
"	"	" " "	5.00
J.F. Smith	"	" " "	6.25

Carried Fowrard

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\$496.35

	Amount	Brought	Forward	
				\$496.35
J.F. Smith	25	Bu	Cotton Seed	5.00
" "		"	"	6.25
James Gipson		"	"	6.25
J.W. Gray		"	"	6.25
F.S. Bushler		"	"	6.25
B.A. Gray		"	"	6.25
J.W. Gray		"	"	6.25
J.M. Hopson		"	"	6.25
F.F. Watkins		"	"	5.62
M.L. Bowman		"	"	6.25
Lewis Myers	100	Bu	"	23.00
D.S. Crook	7	Bales	of Cotton	747.55
" "	16	"	"	3000.79
				=====
		Total Amount		4338.11

Examined & confirmed in open court
the 12th of December A.D. 1865 & ordered
to be recorded.

J. W. McMaster Judge

)
Same) Report of Sales of Personal Property
)

In the matter of the sale of the personal Estate of
Richard Gray Decd

To Hon. J.W. McMaster Judge of the Probate
Court of Rankin County State of Mississippi

The undersigned Administrator of the Estate of Richard Gray decd respectfully reports that by virtue of an order of this Hon. Court made at the October A.D. 1865 directing and authorizing him to sell the personal Estate of said intestate described in his application in his behalf after notice made and duly given according to the Statute & the direction of said order, did on the 20th day of Novr 1865 at the late residence of said Richard Gray decd in this county did expose at public sale in presence of notice through a copy of which Marked "Exhibit B" herto attached & made part of this report, and sold to the highest bidder the several articles mentioned in the sale for cash. For a full account of said sale with the names of the purchasers and the highest amount bid for the articles the undersigned begs leave to refer your honor to the account of sales herewith filed, and marked "Exhibit A" and prayed to be made a part of this report; said account of sales amounting in the aggregate to the sum of four thousand three hundred and thirty eight-dollars and eleven cents (\$4338.11). Having fully reported his proceedings in this behalf, your petitioner prays that the said sale may be approved and confirmed by this Hon. Court.

Geo. H. Gray, Admn.

Sworn to & subscribed before
me this 11th day of Dec A.D. 1865

H.S. Cole Clerk
by Jon Bennett, D.Clerk

Filed Dec 11th 1865 & recorded April 3rd A.D. 1865.

H.S. Cole, Clerk
by W.C. Sacey Dept Clerk

Book F Inventory & Appraisement Rankin County Miss Pg 26

Jan. 18, 1867

Estate of Richard Gray, decd

In the matter of the final settlement of the Estate of Richard Gray, decd, by Geo. H. Gray, Administrator:

Geo. H. Gray Admin. of the Estate of Richard Gray, decd, having this day presented his account for the final settlement of his said Administration.

It is ordered by the Court that the said account be filed and that Citation issue to Sebra Gray, widow of said decedent, Wm Gray, Benijah Gray, Lucinda Williams & W.R. Williams her husband, Mary Hopson & Jno M. Hopson her husband, Rachel Bowman & M.L. Bowman her husband, and W. S. Cole who is hereby appointed guardian ad-litem of Nelly Ann, John & Robert M. Gray minor heirs of said estate - citing all parties to be and appear at the next term of this court to show cause if any they can, why the said account now on file in this court should not be allowed and the said Administrator discharged.

Source: Minute Book E Probate Court Rankin County, MS
Page 661

See also:

Minute Book D , pg 447 Oct 1864
George applies for Administrator of Estate

Record of Bonds and Letters, Book 2 pg 694
George appointed 13 Oct 1864
\$20,000 bond

Probate Minute Book E , numerous entries
George drags his feet about reporting settlement to the court. Issued a contempt citation.

Book D, Petitions pg 191 28 Oct 1865
Wm F. Gray petitions for Geo H. Gray to post bond because Rchd Gray owed Wm \$1560.
Note witnessed by John Bowman, K.M. Buckelew, and R.V. Gray.

Pg 336 (continued)

List of Property belonging to the estate of Richard Gray, Decd,
Apparaised on the 21st day of March A.D. 1865, to wit,

1	Folding Table	\$10.00
7	Chairs	3.50
1	Bed Stead	8.00
1	Rockaway & Harness	125.00
6000#	Gined Cotton	480.00
32000#	Seed Cotton	1200.00
1	Gin Head 40 Saw	100.00
1	Gin Brush	20.00
1	Pair Steelyards	1.50
650#	Bacon	81.25
1	Set Blacksmiths's Tools	30.00
1	Lot Plows	20.00
3	Axes 1 Wedge	3.00
1	Lot Weeding hoe	2.00
2	old Cradles	.50
1	Lot old iron	5.00
40	Head Sheep	60.00
10	Head Cattle	70.00
30	Head Stock Hogs	105.00
1	Mule Jim	60.00
1	Blind Mule	8.00

Carry forward	2372.75
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Continued

Brought forward 2372.75

1	Negro boy Joe	\$1200.00
1	" man West	1700.00
1	" man Ben	800.00
1	" man Jack	50.00
1	" " Tom Blind no value	

\$6122.75

We the undersigned appraisers certify that the above is a
true list of the property appraised by us this day.

Given under our hands and seals this the 21st
day of March A.D. 1865

A.D. Kersh
S.J. Hitt
J. (x) Holland
Jacob Carr

List of property allotted to Mrs Sabra Gray widow of Richard Gray
Decd on the 21st day of March A.D. 1865 to wit,

One	Negro woman Meneber (?)	
800#	Bacon	
150	Bushels Corn	
1	Barrel	
4	Cows & calves	
1	Yoke Oxen	
a	Head Stock Hogs	
1	Wagon	
2	Plows	
2	Weeding Hoes	
2	Axes	
1	Trunk	\$3.00
1	Bed Stead & Bed furniture	40.00
1	Safe	10.00
1	Lot Crockery & Glass Ware	20.00
1	Clock	10.00
2	Small Tables	5.00
1	Looking Glass	4.50
2 & Furniture	20.00
1	Bed Stead Beds & Furniture	35.00
1	Old spinning Whell	1.00
1	Lot quilts	15.00
1	Water Bucket	1.00
1	Clock Reel(?)	1.50
1	Wash Pot	3.00
1	Lot Kitchen Furniture	15.00
1	Lot Bowls & Pitchers	10.00

Carry over

\$ 241.00

pg 338

Brought forward

\$ 241.00

2	Dining Tables	1.00
1	Small Desk	2.00

Amount allotted for tuition for 2 children	160.00
" " " clothing for 2 children	100.00

INDEX TO WILLS

ELENDER E. MCCOOL

"State of Alabama, Fayette County)

Know all Men by these presents that I, Elender E. McCool of said state and county considering the uncertainty of this life and the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the time do hereby make publish and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form as follows: Item First, My will is that after my death my body be decently buried without extravagance and that my just debts I may have against me as well as my funeral expenses be paid out of the means I may leave at my death, my executor hereinafter named to sell such property as he may deem best ~~for~~ if need be to raise the money for the same. Item Second My will is that all the property I may leave at my death both real and personal shall be taken in possession by my Executor and that he shall also have the possession and control of all my children and shall raise them up on said property selling any or of what is necessary for the purpose at public or private sale as he may deem best for said children and if he can raise them up and educate them out of said means left by me and their own proper exertions and have any means or effects of my estate unexpended the same is to be equally divided among them all by sale or otherwise as my appear most equitable. Item Third I hereby nominate and appoint my brother, Richard V. Gray my sole Executor of this my last will and testament written on this and foregoing page in witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal signed, sealed and acknowledged in our presence 25th March, 1866.

E. G. Horne,
B. F. Knight. "

her
Mrs. E. E. x McCool
mark

RECORDED IN Will No. 1, Page 7

The State of Mississippi

Rankin County

Lafayette McCoole & Wife
to Isaac L. Gray

This indenture make the twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty three between Lafayette McCoole Ellenor McCoole his wife of the first part and Isaac L. Gray of the second part.

Witnesseth that the said party of the first part for and in consideration of one hundred and fifteen dollars and fifty cents to him in hand paid at and before the doing and delivery of these presents by the said party of the second part the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath granted bargained sold and conveyed and doth by these presents grant bargain sell and convey unto the said party of the second part and to his heirs and assigns forever the following described tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Rankin State of Mississippi (to wit) the East half of the north East quarter and the north West quarter of the North East quarter of Section No Twenty six in Township No five of Range No five East containing one hundred and twenty acres and its of an acre together with all and singular the tenements appurtenances thereunto belonging in any wise appertaining also all the stock right title interest claim or demands what ever of them Lafayette McCoole and Ellenor McCoole his wife said parties of the first part Either in law or Equity of in and to the above bargained premises and every part and parcel thereof to have and to hold to the said party of the second part their heirs and assigns to the sole use only proper use benefit and behoof of the said party of the second part to his heirs and assigns forever and the party of the first part for their heirs executors and administrators doth hereby warrant sell and will forever defend the title of the above bargained premises to Isaac L. Gray his heirs and assigns free from the claim or claims of all and every person or persons whomsoever as also the claims of the General Government in testimony whereof the aforesaid party of the first part hath hereunto set their

there unto belonging in any wise appertaining, also all the stock right title interest claim or demands whatsoever of them Lafayette McCool and Ellender McCool his wife said parties of the first-part- Either in law or Equity of in and to the above bargained premises and every part and parcel thereof to have and to hold to the said party of the second-part- Her heirs and assigns to the sole and only proper use benefit and behoof of the said party of the second-part- to his heirs and assigns for ever and the party of the first-part- for their heirs executors and administrators cloth hereby warranted and will for ever defend the title of the above bargained premises to Isaac L. Gray his heirs and assigns free from the claim or claims of all and every person or persons whomsoever as also the claims of the General Government in testimony whereof the aforesaid party of the first-part- hath hereunto set their hands and seals the day and date and year above written

The State of Mississippi
Tarrant County

Lafayette McCool
Ellender ^{his} McCool

Deals
Deals

Now any before me Ellis M. Myers an acting justice of the peace in and for said County and State of Mississippi personally appeared the above named Lafayette McCool and McCool his wife who each severally acknowledged that they signed sealed and delivered the foregoing deed of conveyance on the day of the last thereof as their act and deed and the said Ellender McCool also in a separate examination by me separate and apart from her said husband and acknowledges that she signed sealed and delivered the same as her voluntary act and deed freely without any fear or compulsion of her said husband

Given under my hand and seal this 12th day of September A.D. 1855

Ellis M. Myers

an acting justice of the peace

IN MEMORIAM

James F. McCool died at his home in Kosciusko, Miss., on March 1919. He was born in Lafayette County, Alabama, February 24, 1853, and left an orphan at the early age of nine years, his father, Lafayette McCool, a Confederate soldier, having died during the Civil War. By his application and energy, and without wealth or influence, he obtained a liberal education in the schools of Alabama and State Springs College, Mississippi, from which he was enabled to enter the University of Mississippi and graduated in the Law Department in 1879. He was admitted to the bar and located in Kosciusko, Mississippi, where he was practicing law at the time of his death.

He attained eminence not only as a lawyer, but as a statesman, and as a judge under three successive administrations when the judges and chancellors were appointed by the Governor.

This, too, during a period of twelve years when personal politics was the issue in Mississippi, and by executives whose aspirations he had opposed for office. No greater tribute could be paid his many qualities for honesty and integrity of character than these three successive appointments of him under such circumstances, as chancellor of his district.

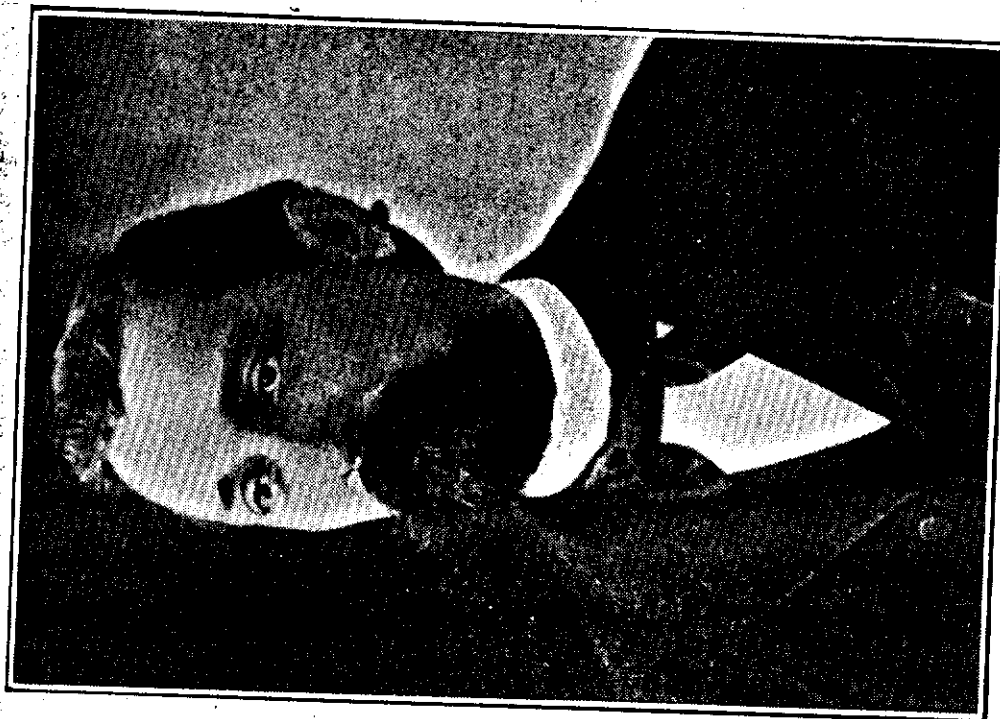
He was a representative from Attala County in the State Legislatures of 1882, 1884, 1896 and 1898, and speaker of the house of representatives during the session of 1896 and 1898.

In 1888 a delegate from the State at large to the National Democratic Convention that nominated Cleveland and Thurman; and in all these responsible positions served his people and state creditably. He was open and candid to bluntness, but loyal to friend and cause, as he saw the right. He was married to Mary (Niles) McCool, a daughter to Judge Jason Niles of Kosciusko, Miss., in December, A. D. 1880, who only survived him a few days.

He was elected Grand Master of Masons in 1896, but was seriously ill the better part of the year and the administrative duties of this exalted position were largely discharged by Brother L. F. Rainwater, the District Deputy Grand Master. He presided though at the Stated Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and in his address recommended that the Grand Lodge be permanently located, and ways and means provided for the erection of a suitable Masonic Temple. I recall an expression used by him in this connection that was characteristic of our brother, "that the Grand Lodge had been jumping around like a Jack Rabbit long enough and the time had come when it should be permanently located."

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. CLIFTON



JAMES F. MCCOOL
Grand Master 1896