Will Book C, 1840 to 1876, Pages 146 and 147 Clerk of County and Probate Courts, Chicot County Lake Village, Arkansas 71653

The first entry on page 146 is noted as recorded August 22nd, 1859, by B.F. Stephenson, Clerk.

The second entry begins about one third of the way down the page:

I, John J Bowie of sound and disposing mind and memory but "sum" what bodyly afflicted, bringing to mind that it is the common lot of all men to die and having been repeatedly warned within the last few weeks that the time was not far distant when I would have to go the way of all flesh - prompted by the above warnings I now "declaire" the following to be my last will and testament: In the first-place I wish to be burried in a plain way and never to have any "toom" or other marks of respect placed over or about my grave, and further I am in hopes that none of my family or friends will ever "wain" (morning) for me, I go the way that all before me has gone. and all I leave behind me will soon follow. I leave five heirs by my first wife, namly, Mary Bennett, Sarah Stuart, John Bowie,Junior a miner son of Reason Bowie deceased. Nancy Sanford and Matilda Homer all of which I have "heartofore" given what I believed to be an equal an full "shear" of my Estate, and I hope and request that none of them will interfer with my younger childrens property left them by this will. I have also one other daughter, Harriet E Hollingsworth, the same has been done for her as was for my first family of children. My present wife also had two children before we was married, "Namly" William P Kirkland and his sister Mrs Elizabeth Hamilton both of them, I have also done all I think it was my duty to do-.

What ever estate I now own or "posess" either real or personal, I wish to dispose of it as follows to wit. First to pay all of my just debts. After this is done the first proseeds arising out of the estate of one thousand dollars is to be paid to Martha B. Leatherman, which must be done in five years from the date hereof which will be in full for her part of my estate. the balance to be "equaly" divided between my wife Amerrica A Bowie and our two sons John R. Bowie and James W. Bowie, and it is further my "desire" and request that America A Bowie my wife be left "soal" exectrix of this my last will and that she and our two sons be allowed to manage their estate without giving any security for their acts. And I further "desire" that in the event of the death of my wife that heer estate be "eaqually" divided between our three children Martha, John, and James. and I further request that the girl Masy be sold and the money arising from the sale be paid over to Mrs. Fondlin of Vicksburg of whom I purchaised her. To prevent fraud from being practised on my estate I leave inclosed a correct list of all my just debts. I now declar this to be my last will and hearby revolking all former will written by myself at any residence this 29 day of September AD 1853.

John J Bowie

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State of Arkansas County of Chicot

In the court of Probate in said county in term time.

Be it remembered that on this 8th day of August AD 1859, in open court was exibited for probate the annexed instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and testament of John J Bowie deceased late of said county of Chicot by America A Bowie, therein appointed Executix and at the same time cause

end of page 147.

From Mortality Schedules of Arkansas, 1850 to 1880, all deaths within the past 12 months.

The 1860 schedule lists John J Bowie, died in June (1859) of paralysis in Chicot County. He was a 72 year old male, born in Kentucky.

The same schedule also lists John R Bowie, died in December (1859) after being ill with pneumona for 42 days. He was born in Arkansas and died in Chicot county at the age of 25 years.

By Slephen son Clerk

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2016 Bonham SameMelson P & Longgs

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