

Beverly W. Kennon

(7 Apr 1795 – 29 Feb 1844)

Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Equipment of the Navy. Died in the S.S. Princeton Disaster.

Tombstone reads: The lamented men who lie together beneath this stone were united by ties of friendship, which commenced in youth, and experienced no interruption till the awful moment when the lives of both were terminated by the explosion of the great gun of the Princeton frigate. United in life, in death they were not divided.



Will of Capt. Beverley Kennon, U.S. Navy, born in Va. (dtd. Jan. 1, 1844, probated May 17, 1844; Book 5, pp. 361-363; O.S. 2464; Box 17)

To wife Britannia Wellington Kennon, and her infant daughter, and any other child or children that she may hereafter bring into the world, my house *in which we are now residing in the City of Washington, and which I bought of G.C. Cooper, Esq. of the U.S. Navy), furniture, except articles specified, to her and her children, excluding the children of my first marriage.

To wife and her own children, all the property which she inherited from her father or may inherit from her mother; also the household stores on hand, the fuel, my carriage and horse, riding ware given her by Mr. Robert Dick.

To sons Beverley Kennon and W.D.C. Kennon, the children of my first wife, all property which their mother inherited from her father, and all other property in my possession which came originally out of the estate of their grandfather Claiborne, and their grandmother Claiborne; I here allude to W. Dandridge Claiborne, Esq., deceased, late of King William Co., Va., and his last wife, also deceased who were the parents of my first wife, deceased.

All my property to be kept together for the support of my family and education of my children until son W.D.C. Kennon is 21 yrs. Old; then he and son Beverley Kennon receive property bequeathed to them.

Wife to be sole guardian of children; to the care of my wife and children, my sister-in-law Lucy Ann Claiborne, and that she be supported out of the proceeds of that part of my estate which came originally from her father's estate.

Exrs.: Britannia Wellington Kennon, wife; or Lucy Ann Claiborne, in case of wife's death

Wit.: George W. Peter

Codicil, Jan. 3, 1844; all debts due from my brother George T. Kennon are only to be regarded as offsets to any demands of his heirs; my Exrx. To settle with his and my brother Richard's estates; to son Beverley, my watch, all jewelry of my first wife to her sons equally; to Lucy Ann Claiborne, my first wife's rocking chair; to sons Beverley and Dandridge, my old Liberty Hall Clock and their mother's bedstead (they are to draw lots for choice), to them their trunnel bed and bedstead in which they slept in their childhood, their mother's toilette looking glass (it was a bridal present to her from her brother John D. Claiborne); after wife's death, Lucy Ann Claiborne is Exrx. And guardian to children.

Proved by oaths of George W. Peter, Borden M. Voorhees, and Henry M. Mofit, citizens of Washington City.