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PETITION FOR EDMUND & DOROTHEA WINSTON, 1817

This is a portion of a petition filed by attorneys Leigh & Anthony on behalf of the Winstons in a case against the executors of Patrick Henry's estate. Mrs. Dorothea Dandridge Henry Winston was Patrick Henry's widow, and Fayette [LaFayette] Henry, their son, had been Mrs. Winston's agent in the management of her interests in the settlement of the Henry estate.

Patrick Henry had died on 6 June 1799, and his will stipulated that his wife, Dorothea, would forfeit her inheritance should she remarry. She violated the will with her marriage to Judge Edmund Winston on 11 June 1802, which brought on a lawsuit and delayed probation of the will.

DOROTHEA DANDRIDGE HENRY WINSTON

Dorothea Dandridge was the daughter of Nathaniel West Dandridge of Hanover, and the granddaughter of Gov. Alexander Spotswood. She married Patrick Henry 9 October 1777, at Scotchtown, while Henry was Governor of Virginia. The Henrys resided there while the Capitol was being renovated. Following the death of Patrick Henry, Dorothea married Judge Edmund Winston in 1802.

SOURCES: Campbell, Norine Dickson. *Patrick Henry: Patriot & Statesman*. Old Greenwich, CT: The Devin-Adair Co., 1969; Daily, Patrick. *Patrick Henry, The Last Years, 1789–1799*. Bedford, VA: The Print Shop, 1986; Knorr, Catherine. *The Marriage Bonds & Marriage Returns of Charlotte County, Virginia, 1764–1815*. Pine Bluff, Ark.: author, 1951.