

as Sarah Ann Mercer, late wife of Benjamin M. Mercer of Stockbridge Berkshire County, Massachusetts,

You are hereby required to appear before me, the subscriber, a Commissioner appointed by the Superior Court of Bencombe County in the State of North Carolina, on the 27th day of August A.D. 1884, at the house of Ogden E. Edwards Esq. in said Stockbridge on Tuesday day at 5³⁰ o'clock P.M. the second day of September current to give your testimony as a subscribing and attesting witness to the last will and Testament of Helen M. Edwards, late of Asheville, in said Bencombe County. deceased, Herof fail not under penalty of law.

Charles S. Rackemann,
Commissioner &c

Seriot Sept 2, 1884
Mass^{ts} Berkshire Co,

I accept service herof Sarah Ann Mercer,

Do Agnes B Sumner, otherwise known as Agnes B Stafford, now wife of John Stafford of Stockbridge, Berkshire County, Massachusetts,

You are hereby required to appear before me, the subscriber, a Commissioner appointed by the Superior Court of Bencombe County, in the State of North Carolina, on the 27th day of August A.D. 1884, at the house of Ogden E. Edwards Esq. in said Stockbridge on Tuesday at 5³⁰ o'clock P.M. the second day of September current to give your testimony as a subscribing and attesting witness to the last will and Testament of Helen M. Edwards (wife of said Ogden E. Edwards) late of

State of Mass not under penalty of law
Charles S. Rackemann
Seriot Sept 2^d 1884
Mass^{ts} Berkshire Co,

I accept service herof Agnes B. Stafford
now John Stafford,

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Berkshire Co Town of Stockbridge

Pursuant to the annexed Commission to me Charles S. Charles S. Rackemann Commissioner under the authority thereof on the second day of September, A.D. 1884, in the Town of Stockbridge in the County of Berkshire, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts proceeded to take the examination of Sarah Ann Mercer, wife of Benjamin M. Mercer, and formerly Sarah Ann Farley, and of Agnes B Stafford, wife of John Stafford, and former Agnes B. Sumner, the subscribing witnesses to a paper writing now produced before me and purporting to be the last will and Testament of the late Helen M. Edwards, which paper writing is hereto attached and marked A and B and the said witnesses being first by me duly sworn upon and say and each for herself deposeth and saith that she is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now exhibited to her purporting to be the last will and Testament of the said Helen M. Edwards, in the presence of these two deponents subscribed her name at the end of said paper writing which is now shown or afforded, which bears date the Twenty Ninth day of November A.D. 1875. And these deponents further say that the said Helen M. Edwards the Testator aforesaid did at the time of subscribing her name as aforesaid declare the said paper

See original
314707 Clerk

writing so subscribed by her and attested
to be her last will and Testament and
Thereupon did thereupon severally
subscribe their names at the end and end of
said will as attesting witnesses thereto and
at the request (to each) and in the presence
of the Testatrix - And these deponents
further say that at the time when the
said Testatrix subscribed her name to
the said last will and Testament
again said, and at the time of the depo-
nents severally subscribing their names
as attesting witnesses thereto as aforesaid,
the said Helen M. Edwards was of
sound mind and memory, of full age to
execute a will, and was not under any
restraint, to the knowledge or belief of these
deponents respectively,
and farther these deponents say not.

Sarah A. Mercer
formerly Sarah A. Garley

Agnes B. Stafford
formerly Agnes B. Sumner,

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Berkshire Co. at Stockbridge, Sept 2, 1884.

The foregoing examination of Sarah
Ann Mercer and Agnes B. Stafford
were by them severally subscribed and
afterwards sworn to at the time and place
mentioned in the Caption, and before
the examination began the said Sarah
& Agnes were severally sworn:
Before me,

Charles S. Rackemann
Commissioner as aforesaid
Justice of the Peace throughout
said Commonwealth

State of North Carolina In the Superior Court
County of Buncombe September 9th 1884

It having been suggested to the Court
that Helen M. Edwards, a Resident of this
County and State, died after having made, and
executed a will without the State, disposing
of land and other property within the State,
the Court on the 27th day of August 1884,
issued a Commission to Charles S. Rack-
mann Esq., of Lenox, Berkshire County
in the State of Mass., to take the examination of
in writing of such witnesses as might be produced
touching the execution of the said paper un-
purporting to be the last will and Testament
of the said Helen M. Edwards, and directed
him to send the same together with the Com-
mission to this Court.

And whereas, the said Commission and the
examination in writing of Sarah Ann Garley
and Agnes B. Sumner, together with the paper
writing purporting to be the last will and Testament
of the said Helen M. Edwards deceased have
been returned to this Court, the said paper
writing is exhibited for probate in open Court
by Ogden Ellery Edwards the executor therein
named, and the due execution thereof
by the said Helen M. Edwards, is duly
proved, by the oath and examination of
Sarah Ann Garley and Agnes B. Sumner, the
subscribing witnesses thereto, It is therefore con-
sidered by the Court, that the said paper un-
writing, and every part thereof, is the last will
and Testament of the said Helen M. Edwards,
and the same, together with the said Commis-
sion and all proceedings touching the exe-
cution of the said will, is ordered to be re-
corded and filed.

And thereupon the said Ogden ^{Edwards} Edwards
Executor as aforesaid came into Court of
Court and duly qualified as such by taking
the oath required by law

E. W. Hemmelen