

North Carolina, Gaston County.

I. N. E. Groves, of the aforesaid County and State,
being of sound mind, but considering the un-
certainty of my earthly existence, do make and
declare this my last will and Testament.

First

My Executor hereinafter named, shall give my
body a decent burial, suitable to the wishes of
my friends and relatives, and pay all funeral
expenses, together with all my just debts, out
of the first money which may come into
his hands belonging to my estate.

Second.

I give and bequeath to Miriam E. Lay, Forty acres
of land to be taken from the North west corner ^{and}
including the old buildings on my plantation
known as the Armstrong land containing about
90 acres.

Third

I give and bequeath to Maggie H. Gorch and her
bodily heirs as follows, The balance of that tract
of land known as the Armstrong land the tract
on which I now reside containing about 80
acres. the tract of land known as the Martin
land, containing about 50 acres and all my

Fourth

on which I now reside containing about 80 acres. The tract of land known as the Martin land, containing about 50 acres and all my personal property of every description. I hereby constitute and appoint J. Math. Armstrong my lawful executor to all intents and purposes, to execute this my last will and testament, according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and clause thereof hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other Wills and testaments by me heretofore made. In witness whereof, I the said M. E. Groves do hereunto set my hand and seal this 13th day of January 1896.

M. E. Groves Seal

Signed, sealed and declared by the said M. E. Groves to be her last will and testament in the presence of us who at her request and in her presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

J. J. Havel
C. C. Cornwall

State of North Carolina (In the Superior Court.
Gaston County)

In the matter of the last will of N.E. Groves
Appearing to the Court by the oath and exam-
ination of S.J. Haas and C.C. Cornwall
the subscribing witnesses, there to, that the
paper writing propounded by the Executor. therein
named, is the last Will and Testament
of N.E. Groves and that the same was duly
executed by said N.E. Groves in the pre-
sence of said witnesses and that at the
time of signing the same the said N.E.
Groves was of sound mind, It is there-
upon adjudged that the said paper-
writing be admitted to probate, as the last
will and testament of the said N.E.
Groves and the Executor. therein named
qualify as such.

This the 9th day of June, 1897

S.J. Haas
Clerk Superior Court,