

In the name of the Father, the Son & the Holy Ghost, the one true God, of the Christian Religion, Amen.  
 I, Robert Brent Drane, of the Town of Wilmington, County of New Hanover, & State of North Carolina, being of sound mind, memory & understanding, but considering the certainty of death & the uncertainty of the time thereof; to the end that I may be the better prepared to leave this world when it shall please God to call me hence, have now determined to direct what disposition shall be made of my property after my decease; & after maturely considering the circumstances & condition of all those among whom, as my heirs at Law, or the objects of my gratitude or affection, in my judgment my estate should be distributed, I do make, publish & declare this to be my last Will & Testament; hereby revoking & making void all former Wills & Testaments, & writings in the nature of last Wills & Testaments by me heretofore made.

And my will is, First, that after my decease my body shall be decently buried, without ostentation or unnecessary expence; & that my funeral expences & just debts shall be paid by my Executrix hereinafter named. And as to the residue of my estate & property with which God has blessed me, or which hereafter shall be mine, & shall not be required for the payment of my just debts & the execution of this my will, I give, devise & dispose thereof as follows: to wit.

First. To my beloved wife Catharine Caroline Drane I give, devise & bequeath all the property, real, personal or mixed which is at present mine, or which I may be entitled to at the time of my death, on the following conditions & with the following exceptions. To wit.

Item. To my son Henry M. Drane, I give & bequeath a Silver Salver, marked as a present from Charles Lamar to his mother Augusta C. Drane, & also two double-plated fruit baskets, to be kept by the said Henry M. Drane as a memento of his deceased mother to whom they once belonged.

Item. - To my son Robert Brent Drane, Jr. I give & bequeath my gold watch & gold headed cane, to be worn & used by him when of suitable age as memorial of my affection for him. To the said Robert Brent Drane Jr. I also confirm the following gifts already made, viz. Twenty shares of the Capital Stock in the Bank of Wilmington & Fifti-six shares of capital stock in the Wilmington & Helder Rail Road Co. Also three Confederate States Bonds for Five hundred dollars each. The said Bonds & certificates of Stock now standing in the name of the said Robert

I Drane Jr. will be found among my papers. It is further my will, that ~~the~~ addition to the Stocks & Lends mentioned above, the whole of the property as bequeathed above to my beloved wife Catharine Caroline Drane, shall, at her death, become the property of our son, the said Robert Brent Drane Jr.

Item. It is my positive & express will that all my manuscript sermons, letters & papers, except such as I may hereafter think proper to except, shall be burnt without being read or copied, as soon may be after my decease.

And I do hereby appoint & constitute my beloved wife Catharine Caroline Drane to be my sole Executrix of this my last Will & Testament, & to be the sole Guardian of our son Robert during the period of his minority.

In witness whereof, I, the aforesaid Robert Brent Drane do hereunto set my hand & seal this twenty ninth day of September, A. D. eighteen hundred & sixty two.

Robert Brent Drane *Seal*

State of North Carolina

New Hanover County Court, Decemb. Term 1862.

This paper writing without subscribing witnesses purporting to be the last will and testament of Robert B. Drane deceased, is exhibited for probate in open Court by Catharine C. Drane the executrix therein named, and it is thereupon proved by the oath and examination of William G. Thomas that the said will was found among the valuable papers of the said Robt. B. Drane after his death, and it is further proved by the oath and examination of three competent and credible witnesses, to wit: A. J. W. Robert William B. Giles and Joshua G. Wright that they are acquainted with the hand writing of the said Robt. B. Drane, having often seen him write, and verily believe that the name of the said Robert B. Drane, subscribed to the said will, and the said will itself, and every part thereof, are in the hand writing of the said Robt. B. Drane. And it is further proved by the evidence of the three last mentioned witnesses, that the said hand writing is generally known to the acquaintances of the said Robert B. Drane. It is therefore considered by the Court, that the said paper writing is the last will and testament of the said Robert B. Drane, and the same is ordered to be recorded and filed. And thereupon Catharine C. Drane the executrix as aforesaid, comes into Court and qualifies as executrix by taking the oath prescribed by law.

Testo Samuel J. Smithing Clerk  
Jm. Dredg Dy. Clerk.