

William H. Armstrong

State of Georgia

In the name of God Amen:
 I William H. Armstrong of the County of Washington and State of Georgia being impressed with the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death especially as I am now about to enter into the struggle for the defence of Liberty of my country, and in my last and final will to make a disposition of the property which a kind Providence has blessed me, I do therefore make this my last Will and Testament having heretofore made no other.

1st Item: I Commit my Soul to God and my body to the dust.

2nd Item: Let all my just debt be paid without delay.

3rd Item: I give bequeath and devise to my beloved wife M. Caroline in trust for living - And my children now born or hereafter to be born all my Estate both real and personal in manner following to wit: I desire that all my property be kept together for the purpose of maintaining my wife and raising and educating my children upon the income thereof And as each child shall become of age or marry I desire that he or she shall have a Negro girl or boy suitable for nursing and waiting on said child to be selected by my wife among my Negroes or purchase with any money that I may leave or that may arise from income on my Estate with advice and consent of her advisors hereinafter appointing.

This trust is to stand so long as my wife shall Mary or shall she shall Mary - In the event my wife shall Mary or shall depart this life I desire and direct that my Estate be equally divided among my children (and my wife if living) equalizing all by charging my children who may have had property advanced with what it was worth at the time it was advanced but by the standard of valuation at the division - So long as this trust shall exist I desire and direct that my wife as Trustee shall have power to purchase any property with the funds of my Estate, and sell my property (except land) that I may leave provided the advisors hereinafter appointed shall think that it will be for the advantage of my heirs and benefit of my heirs.

4th Item I hereby nominate and appoint my wife M. Caroline Armstrong executrix of this my last Will and Testament, I also nominate my Son-in-law Sylvanus Poirer my father-in-law John Coft and my friend James H. Gilman as advisors to my wife as executrix and as trustee, And after she is legally qualified and has returned an inventory and appraisement to the Court, I desire that she shall not be required to make annual returns either as executrix or trustee.

5th Item: The property that shall fall to my daughter Agnesable to whom third shall be a separate life estate free from the liabilities or disposal of the husband and remainder to their children. The provision for my wife is to be in lieu of dower and all other legal allowances.

6th Item I nominate my Son-in-law Sylvanus Poirer and my

Executors to succeed and close my Estate when my wife's trust shall
be September 22^d 1863

Wm H Armstrong

• Signed Sealed declared and published as the last Will and Testament
of William H Armstrong in the presence of us who witnessed the same
at the request of said testator in his presence and in presence of each
other this September 22^d 1863

Wm H Armstrong
Witness

G. Augustus Varburton

State of Georgia }
Washington County } In the name of God Amen

I G Augustus Varburton being of Sound mind disposing memory
and memory knowing that it is appointed unto all men to die
claim it right and proper both as respects my family and myself
that I should make a disposition of the property with which a kind
providence has blessed me. I do therefore make this my last Will and
Testament hereby revoking and annulling all others by me heretofore
made

First I desire and direct that my body be buried in a decent
and Christian like manner suitable to my circumstances and con-
dition in life. My soul I commit to God who gave it.

Secondly: I desire and direct that all my just debts be paid
without delay by my Executors hereinafter named and appointed

Thirdly: I desire and direct that my wife Mary Jane shall
become unresistable should she desire to marry again and in case
she marries, I desire and direct that all my property both real and
personal shall be equally divided between my said wife and children
Share and Share alike

Fourthly: Should my wife Mary Jane remain a widow then I give
bequeath and devise to her the said Mary Jane all my property both real
and personal and choses in action with full power to manage and
control the same as she may see proper to do for the support and main-
tenance of herself and our children (having all confidence in my beloved
wife) for and during her natural life, and at her death such property as
shall remain shall go to my children share and share alike in fee simple

Fifthly: I nominate and appoint my beloved wife sole Guardian
of my Children provided she remain unmarried. In case my said wife
marries again or departs this life during the minority of my Children or any
one of them, I desire that the law shall confer the Guardianship of the
person and property of said Children as may be selected and named
James W Smith and Joseph D Daniel Cop and J H Johnson and