

I Mathew Armstrong of the County of Gaston & State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say.

First that my Executor hereinafter named shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my relations and friends and all funeral expenses together with my just debts howsoever and to whomsoever owing out of the money that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

Item first. I give and devise to my beloved wife the plantation whereon I now live to have and to hold to her the said Mary Armstrong for and during her natural life in satisfaction for and in lieu of her dower and thirds of and in all my real estate said plantation belonging to my son Matthew Armstrong at her death.

Item Second. I give and bequeath to my said beloved wife all my Household and Kitchen furniture to be hers during her natural life and at her death to my Youngest Daughter Sarah to be hers forever.

Item Third. The thirty five Acres of land I purchased of D.H. Fite. I give and bequeath to my grand son Andrew Smith my daughter Sarahs son to have and to hold forever.

Item Fourth. I give and bequeath all the residue of my personal property to my youngest daughter Sarah Smith to have and to hold forever.

And lastly. I do hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend John M Armstrong my lawful Executor to all intents and purposes

my youngest daughter Sarah Smith to have and to hold forever
And lastly. I do hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend
John M 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 Matthew Armstrong
do hereunto set my hand and seal this the 6th day of February AD 1866
Signed Sealed published and delivered by the said Matthew Armstrong to be his last will and
Testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence
do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto
Geo. W. McKee
Jm McKee

John M Armstrong

State of North Carolina } In Probate Court
Gaston County } of said County
Feb'y 8. 1870. This day the foregoing paper writing purporting to be
the last will of Matthew Armstrong decd was offered in Probate Court
of said County for probate by John M Armstrong the Executor
therein named. and the same said paper writing was proven
to be the last will & testament of the late Matthew Armstrong
decd by the oaths of examination of George W McKee &

Wm McKee subscribing witnesses thereto, for said subscribing witnesses testified on their oaths that they did see the late said deceased sign and publish and declare the said paper writing to be his last will & testament & at the time thereof he the said deceased was of sound disposing mind & memory & that he did it freely without compulsion

E. A. Withers Probate Judge
of York County.

March 5th 1865. It is my will when I am dead that my things be distributed in the following manner. First I give to my niece for her kindness to me while Father lived my Bureau to Louisa Henderson, my Book case to Anna Walker, my Saddle and Sorn to Mary Fells, my Table and Humgolatee spread to Margaret Henderson, my small Table and little wheel to Abi Henderson, for the same reason I wish my Books divided between Edwin, Charles and Matten Mendenhall, my Beds and bedding to be equally divided between my namesakes Margaret A Henderson, Margaret E Fells, Margaret R Mendenhall, Margaret R Mendenhall, except four white counterpane to be drawn by lot by Jane Kelly, Amanda Mendenhall Louisa Mendenhall and Anna McIntosh, all the rest of money or what I may possess to be equally divided between my Brothers and Sisters Brother Jacob ^{if he} to be equal of she does not marry and if she does it to go to his children, Mary Hendersons to her or if she dies before she gets it to her children, ten dollars to be removed out of my estate to go to Joseph