

In the Name of God I Elizabeth Arnold, of the County of Washington and State of North Carolina, of sound and disposing mind and memory, but in bodily and in view of the uncertainty of human life do make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say. First I desire my executors hereinafter named shall first pay all my just debts however and to whomsoever owing out of the first monies that may come into his hands. Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Laura Elizabeth Ruspase one Bed and all necessary bed furniture, one large looking glass and a dressing table. Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Robert Ann Ruspase one Bed and all necessary bed furniture, the large family Bible, a looking glass, and a dressing table. Item I give and bequeath to my son William Augustus Ruspase that portion of my land lying between the Little Cane and Lee Mill Road and joining the lands of William Harrison and others, also one bed and all necessary bed furniture and a dining table. Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Laura Elizabeth and Robert Ann Ruspase all the money that may be owing to me at my death. My cushioned Chairs and all my books except the family Bible above disposed off. Item I bind to my husband A. W. Arnold all the rest of my property, Real and personal, for and during the term of the natural life of my afflicted son Robert J. O. Ruspase who is unable to provide for himself or consider that my said husband conveniently provides for and take care of my said son until his death and in case my said husband shall fail or neglect so to provide for and take care of my said son as above specified. Item and in that case I give and bequeath all of my other wise undispersed property Real and personal to my said son Robert J. O. Ruspase during his natural life for his support and maintenance, and in either case at his death it is my will and desire that the above described property not otherwise disposed of shall be divided among my children as follows, viz: My two daughters Laura Elizabeth and Robert Ann Ruspase to have each a cow and calf their choice, and in case my said husband shall provide for my son Robert J. O. Ruspase as herein specified I will and desire that my said husband A. W. Arnold have all the rest of my stock of cattle, and the rest of personal property not disposed of otherwise. Also in case he shall provide as above for my son Robert J. O. Ruspase it is my will and desire that my said husband shall have his choice of the two pieces of my land as divided by us between my Ruspase children and Arnold children by a

marked line beginning at the road southward of the gate running thence westwardly to a corner on the ditch bank, thence a straight course to a corner lies in Sarah & Hymen line, for his natural life for the benefit of his children, and it is my will and desire that he may sell it if he chooses and purchase other lands with the proceeds leaving the title in the name of his children and in case my husband shall not provide for my son Robert as herein specified it is my desire that my daughters Laura Elizabeth and Robert Ann Ruspase, shall have the Northern portion of said land, and my Arnold children to have the other or southern portion as described by the above described line, and in case my husband shall make choice of the Northern portion then my two Ruspase daughters shall have the southern portion, and in either case my two Ruspase daughters shall pay over to my son William Augustus the sum of fifty dollars in satisfaction for his portion of the same. And provide my husband A. W. Arnold shall take care of my son Robert as herein specified he shall have the privilege of taking the whole of my lands except the portion given to W. A. Ruspase, on condition that he pay to my son W. A. Ruspase Fifty Dollars and to my Daughters Laura & and Robert Ann the balance of six hundred Dollars and it is also my will and desire that he have three years in which to pay for said lands. Item in case my husband shall fail or neglect to take care of my son Robert I give and bequeath to him three beds and bed furniture and the cows which Sarah Jane and Caroline M. my children now claim. And lastly I hereby constitute and appoint my trusty friend Asa M. Johnson 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 testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this the sixteenth day of May A.D. 1870.

Elizabeth X Arnold *[Signature]*

Saying I seal'd published and dictated  
by the said Elizabeth Arnold to be her  
last will & testament in presence of us  
who at her request and in her presence  
and in the presence of each other do  
subscribe our names thereto

Teste { M. B. Garrett  
{ S. L. Johnston

Washington County - In the Probate Court  
In the Matter of the  
Probate of the Will of  
Elizabeth Arnold deceased)

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Elizabeth Arnold deceased is exhibited before me by A. W. Arnold a devisee in the will and the due execution thereof by the said Elizabeth Arnold by the oath and examination of M. B. Garrett & S. L. Johnston the subscribing witnesses thereto is duly proved and they being duly sworn depon and say each for himself that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now exhibited that the testatrix in presence of deponents subscribed her name thereto and duly executed said paper writing bearing date May 16, 1870, and declared it to be her will.

That the deponents each for himself did thereupon on said day, at the request of the testatrix and in her presence and each in the presence of the other attest said writing as subscriber witness thereto, and that the genuine signatures of each are affixed thereto.

That at the time of executing said will and the attesting the same by deponent, the said Elizabeth Arnold was of sound mind and memory of full age and under no undue influence or restraint according to the best knowledge information and belief of these deponents and of each one of them, and further say not.

Stewart L. Whinston  
Martin B. Garrett

sworn to & subscribed  
September 21 1870 before me  
J. A. Melson Probate Judge

Washington County } In the Probate Court  
In the Matter of the  
Will of Elizabeth Arnold }

The undersigned respectfully  
represent to the Court.

That by virtue of articles of Marriage settlement the estate of Elizabeth Arnold was secured to her and for her sole and separate use and subject to such disposition as she might make by last will executed according to law in her life time.

That the said Elizabeth did execute such will duly attested by two witnesses which is now approved for probate

and therein appoint Asa M. Johnston her executor who refuses to act and renounces all claim to said office.

That the property of the testatrix consisting of lands and house held furniture stock and other articles of personal estate is in aggregate property worth about the sum of six hundred dollars.

That the testatrix disposes of her estate by devising the same and bequeathing the same to the following named persons Laura Elizabeth Roscoe Robert Ann Roscoe William Augustus Roscoe A. W. Arnold Robert J. O. Roscoe Mary M. Arnold Sarah Jane Arnold and Caroline W. Arnold

A. W. Arnold

subscribed & sworn to before  
me 21st Septem 1870

J. A. Melson  
Probate Judge

Washington County - In the Probate Court  
In the Matter of the Will } Before J. A. Melson  
of Elizabeth Arnold } Judge of Probate

Asa M. Johnston being sworn doth say that Elizabeth Arnold late of said County is dead having first made and published her last will and testament and that he is the executor named therein. Further that the property of the said Elizabeth Arnold consisting of Real and personal estate worth \$400. (as follows Real Estate \$600. Personal property \$300.) as far as can be ascertained at the date of this application and that Laura Elizabeth Roscoe, Robert Ann Roscoe William Augustus Roscoe Robert J. O. Roscoe Mary Martha Arnold, Sarah Jane Arnold and Caroline W. Arnold and A. W. Arnold her husband all residents of the County of Washington Laura E. and W. A. Roscoe of full age Robert J. O. Roscoe of full age incapable of acting for himself as so declared by the wife the rest of the children minors without guardian are the parties entitled under said will to the said property

A. M. Johnston

Sworn & subscribed to before  
me this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 1871.

J. A. Melson  
Probate Judge

State of North Carolina } In the Probate Court  
Washington County }

I, Asa M. Johnston do solemnly swear  
that I believe this writing to be and contain the last will  
and testament of Elizabeth Arnold deceased; and that I will  
will and truly execute the same by my first paying her debts  
and then her legacies as far as the said estate shall extend  
in the law which charge me; and that I will will and  
safely execute the office of executor agreeable to  
the trust and confidence reposed in me and according  
to law; so help me God.

A. M. Johnston

Sayson to and subscribed  
before me this 4 day of April 1871

J. C. Wilson  
Probate Judge

I, Charles Latham of the County of Washington and State  
of North Carolina, do make this my last will and Testament  
in manner and form following. I give, devise and bequeath  
unto my beloved wife Emma P. Latham her heirs and exec-  
utors forever, all my Property, Real Personal and mixed of what  
nature or kind soever and wheresoever the same shall be at  
the time of my Death.

And whereas my son Robert B. Latham is a minor of the  
age of about sixteen years old, and his mother was the  
sister of Emma P. Latham, and Adda May Latham is a minor  
about 10 years of age. Now therefore my will and desire  
is that my beloved wife Emma P. Latham is hereby appointed  
and constituted Guardian to those my two children to  
have and to hold the custody and Guardianship both  
of their respective Person and Estate until they the said  
Robert B. Latham and Adda May Latham shall severally  
arrive at the full age of twenty one years.

And lastly, I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved  
wife Emma P. Latham my lawful sole Executor, of this my  
last will and Testament &c.  
In witness whereof I the said Charles Latham have hereunto  
set my hand seal this 16<sup>th</sup> March 1871

Charles Latham Seal

G. W. Ashe  
J. B. Willoughby

Personally appeared Emma P. Latham the testator named in said  
will and seal and subscribed to the same in the presence of the undersigned  
Qualifications of Executor and Testator and before me this day of May 1873 J. C. Wilson  
(as of his hand) This 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May 1873 J. C. Wilson

State of North Carolina } In the Superior Court  
Washington County }

A paper writing, purporting to be the last will and testament of  
Charles Latham deceased, is exhibited for probate in open Court by  
Emma P. Latham the executrix therein named, and it is therupon  
proved by the oath and examination of J. A. Willoughby that J. B. Willoughby  
one of the subscribing witnesses thereto is a non resident of the state  
of North Carolina. And it is further proven by the oath and examination  
of the said J. A. Willoughby that he is well acquainted with the hand-  
writing of the said J. B. Willoughby having often seen him write  
and that the name of the said J. B. Willoughby subscribed as a  
witness to the said will, is in the handwriting of the said J. B. Will-  
oughby. It is therefore considered by the Court that the said paper  
writing, and every part thereof, is the last will and testament of  
the said Charles Latham and the same is ordered to be recorded  
and filed.

This 22 day of May 1873

J. A. Willoughby

Theodore Mannus C. S. C.

State of North Carolina } In the Superior Court  
Washington County }

A paper writing, purporting to be the last will and  
testament of Charles Latham deceased, is exhibited for probate  
in open Court by Emma P. Latham the executrix therein  
named, and it is therupon proved by the oath and examination  
of L. C. Latham that he is well acquainted with the hand-  
writing of the said Charles Latham having often seen him  
write, and that the name of the said Charles Latham  
subscribed to the said will is in the handwriting of  
the said Charles Latham. It is therefore considered by  
the Court that the said paper writing, and every part  
thereof, is the last will and testament of the said Charles  
Latham and the same is ordered to be recorded and filed  
this 22 day of May 1873. L. C. Latham

Theodore  
Mannus  
C. S. C.

State of North Carolina } In the Superior Court  
Washington County }

A paper writing purporting to be the last will and testa-  
ment of Charles Latham deceased, is exhibited before me  
the undersigned, Clerk of the Superior Court for said  
County by Emma P. Latham the executrix therein named,  
and she due execution thereof by the said