

the execution therein named. And the due execution thereof by the said Mary Spruce, by the oath and examination of Joseph Kindley and Geo E. Reddick, the subscribing witnesses thereto who being duly sworn doth depose and say. And each for himself depose and say, that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last will and testament of Mary Spruce.

That the said Mary Spruce, in the presence of this deponent subscribed her name at the end of said paper writing, which is now shown as aforesaid, and which bears date on the 31st day of May 1873 or did in the presence of this deponent acknowledge the signing the said paper writing.

That the deponent further saith, that the said Mary Spruce, the testatrix aforesaid, died at the time of subscribing her name as aforesaid, declare the said paper writing as subscribed by her and executed, to be her last will and testament, and the deponent did themselves subscribe his name at the end of said will, as an attesting witness thereto, and at the request, and in the presence of the said testatrix. And this deponent further saith, that at the time the deponent, did subscribe his name and each of them their names as an attesting witness thereto as aforesaid the said Mary Spruce was of sound mind and memory, of full age to execute a will, and was not under any restraint to the knowledge, information or belief of these deponents, and further these deponents say not.

Given and subscribed
to this the 11 day of July 1873
before me
J. H. Miller
Notary Public

John E. Reddick
Geo Kindley

I, Henry Downing of the County of Washington and 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 (herein after named) shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to their wishes, and pay all funeral expenses out of the money that may first come into their hands as a part and parcel of my estate.

Item: I give and devise to my beloved wife Martha A. the plantation whereon I now live, to have and to hold to her the said Martha A. for and during the term of her natural life or widowhood, in satisfaction for and in lieu of her dower or homestead of and in all of my real estate.

Item: I give and devise to my eldest son Wm Cotton Downing all that tract of land known as the "Pocasin Farm" to have and to hold to him and his heirs in fee simple forever.

Item: I give and devise to my youngest son Henry A Downing all that tract of land known as the "Davenport Land" to have and to hold to him and his heirs in fee simple forever.

Item: I give and devise to my youngest son Henry A Downing all that tract of land whereon I now live, except the life estate or widowhood of my beloved wife Martha A. devised in a former item of this my will, to have and to hold unto him and his heirs in fee simple forever.

Item: I give and devise to my son Wm Cotton Downing, his heirs and assigns the house and tract of land whereon my daughter Harriet wife of J. H. McDowell now lives known as the "Brent Place" in special trust and confidence that my said son Wm Cotton Downing shall hold the same to the sole and separate use of my said daughter Harriet for and during the term of her natural life, free and discharged of any and all debts of her present or any future husband, and that after the death of my said daughter Harriet my said son Wm Cotton Downing shall convey the same in fee simple to the heirs of the said Harriet lawfully begotten of her body.

Item: I give and devise to my two sons Wm Cotton Downing and Henry A Downing, equally, to have half and half my mill known as "Lee Mills" and all the houses and improvements connected therewith, and on the premises and the land belonging thereto, together with my carry logs Channis, Gotes and Orens, to have and to hold to them and their heirs in fee simple forever.

Item: I give, and bequeath to my youngest daughter Mary Eliza wife of G. B. Johnston all the timber upon that tract of land

Henry Downing
Will.
Admitted &
Probate the
18th July 1873

When on the new line, which was reserved by me in the deed which I gave for said land.

Item: I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Martha A. One bedstead, and furniture my horse "Dolphin", Ruggy to harness six stool chair of her choice, the rocking chair which she now uses, One dining and two dressing tables, One half of my Crochery, One half of my table linen, One half of my tumblers and goblets, One half of my mirrors and pots, and One half of my kitchen furniture, One third of my stock of hogs two Cows and Calves, all my poultry, One half of my crop and One half of my provisions Consisting of Pork Bacon, Lard and Flour and ten Hundred dollars in money and one third of my Pines, to them and to their heirs and their heirs forever, in lieu of her own provisions and all other rights in my personal estate.

Item: I give and bequeath to my eldest daughter Harriet wife of J. H. Woodland One bed, bedstead and furniture, which is in my line house to them and to their heirs and their heirs forever.

Item: I leave to my beloved wife, so long as she shall remain in the house where I now live my Parlor Carpet, Mirror, Andirons and fender, and at her death, Marriage a Removal, I give said Parlor Mirror, pins and fender to my son Smith Cotton Downing and Henry A. Downing.

Item: I give and devise to my eldest son Wm Cotton Downing my bureau, my guns, my library books and files of papers to him and his heirs forever.

Item: I give and bequeath to my youngest son Henry A. Downing my Eight day Watch and new breakfast table, to him and his heirs forever.

Item: I give and bequeath to my beloved sons - Wm Cotton Downing and Henry A. Downing, each a bed, bedstead and furniture to them and their heirs forever.

Item: I give and bequeath to my two sons Wm Cotton Downing and Henry A. Downing One half of my Crochery, One half of my table linen, One half of my tumblers and goblets, One half of my Mirror, Lard One half of my kitchen furniture, two thirds of my Pines, two thirds of my stock of hogs, One half of my provisions, Consisting of Pork Bacon Lard and Flour and my stock of Cattle, except the Cows and Calves, to them and their heirs in fee simple forever.

Item: I give and bequeath to my two sons Wm Cotton Downing and Henry A. Downing, all moneys on hand at my death, except the two hundred dollars given to my wife by another item of this my will together with all my notes and accounts, and my Cash, boxes, barrels, and all other remnants of every description in the various houses and my premises, together

with the residue of my estate (if any) After taking out the debts and legacies, to them and their heirs in fee simple forever. And Lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my two sons Wm Cotton Downing and Henry A. Downing my lawful executors 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, fully, lawfully and declaring utterly void all other wills and testaments by me heretofore made In witness whereof I the said Henry Downing do hereunto set my hand and seal this 16th day of May A.D. 1873

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Henry Downing to be his last will and testament in the presence of us, etc. at his Request, and in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

Signed George Latham
J. H. Woodland

Washington County In the Probate Court.

Subscribed writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Henry Downing deceased is exhibited before me, the undersigned Judge of Probate in and for said County by William Cotton Downing One of the executors therein named (the other named being deceased) and the said executor thereof by the said Henry Downing by the Oath and examination of Charles Latham and James F. Woodland the subscribing witnesses thereto, who being duly sworn, doth depose and say and each for himself depose and say, that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last will and testament of Henry Downing, that the said Henry Downing, at the presence of the deponent and each of them subscribed his name at the end of this paper writing, which is now shown as aforesaid, and which bears date on the 16th day of May 1873, or did in their presence of the deponent and each of them acknowledge the signing the said paper writing.

And the deponent and each of them further swear that the said Henry Downing before aforesaid did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid, declare the said paper writing to be his last will and testament and this deponent and each of them did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of said will, as an attesting witness thereto, and at the Request and in the presence of the said

testator. And this deponent and each of them further state
that at the time when the said testator subscribed his name to
the said last will, as aforesaid, and at the time of the deponent's
subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto, as aforesaid, the
said Henry, possessing all of sound mind and memory of full
age & discreet a civil, and was not under any restraint or
undue influence, information or belief of this deponent as to further
these deponent say etc.

Signed Charles Eastman
J. F. Tamm

Personally seen and subscribed
to the 16th day of July 1873 before
me
J. H. Wilson
Notary Public

In the name of God, Amen

I, Harriet M. Parmele of the County of Washington and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind
& judgement, but of feeble health, do declare this to be my last will & testament, all other heretofore
made being null & void.

It is my will and desire that my funeral & burial expenses be paid as soon as practicable
by my Executor.

1st I give to Carrie Rebecca the daughter of Jesse P. & Caroline B. Hilliard my bed &
furniture in my room.

2nd I give bequeath to Carrie R. & Alice Leary the daughters of Jesse P. & Caroline B.
Hilliard my silver forks & spoons & all the crockery ware that I have.

3rd I give and bequeath to Annie Sanitt the daughter of Henry Glade and Henrietta
Glade deceased my gold watch & chain.

4th I desire that all the balance of my property including note money & land be
equally divided between Carrie R. Alice C. & Jesse P. the children of Jesse P. and
Caroline B. Hilliard and Henrietta S. the daughter of Henry Glade & his wife
Henrietta deceased, and it is my will the said be used exclusively for educating
the within named children, and that my Executor or administrator to invest the same at
the best interest, and that the heirship to be retained in the four children only they
heirship one from another.

In testimony I do declare this to be my last will & testament given this day the
17th of Aug 1873 under my hand & seal.

Witness
Thos M Johnston
Ara Johnston

Signed Harriet M. Parmele

Probate

Washington County: In the Probate Court
Thomas M Johnston and Ara Johnston being duly sworn each separately and
for himself say:

That he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now
shown him and purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Harriet M.
Parmele deceased late of Washington County.

That the said Harriet M. Parmele in presence of both the said
Thomas M Johnston and Ara Johnston subscribed her name to the paper writing now
shown and purporting to be the last will and Testament of the said Harriet
M. Parmele and which paper writing bears date the 14th day of August 1873.

And the said Thomas M Johnston and Ara Johnston each separately and for himself
further depose and say: That the said Harriet M. Parmele did at the time of
signing her name to said paper writing declare the paper writing as signed by
her, and which is the paper writing now shown, to be and contain her last Will
and Testament, and did request the said Thomas M Johnston and Ara Johnston
to sign said paper writing as subscribing witnesses thereto, and the said Thomas
M Johnston and Ara Johnston did thereupon at such request in the presence of
the said Harriet M. Parmele and in the presence of each other subscribe their
names as witnesses thereto.

And the said Thomas M Johnston and Ara Johnston each for himself further
deposes and says that at the time when the said Harriet M. Parmele
subscribed her name to the said paper writing now shown them, and declared
the same to be her last Will and Testament, and at the time of these depositions
subscribing their names thereto as subscribing witnesses as aforesaid, the said Harriet
M. Parmele was of sound mind and memory and more than twenty one
years of age and was not under any restraint to the exercise of either of
as the deponent, or to our information or belief was she acting under any undue
influence whatsoever.

Sworn & subscribed to before
me this 17th September 1873

Signed Ara Johnston
Thos M Johnston

J. A. McLean
Probate Judge