

I Martha E. Gustin of Washington County N.C.  
being of sound mind and memory do make and  
declare this my last will and testament in manner  
and form as follows.

Item 1. My life being insured in the Mutual Reserve  
Fund Life Association of New York under Policy  
No 65201 for the sum of Five Thousand Dollars  
& I wish to dispose of the money arising from it  
in the following manner Viz: my two Sons Chas R.  
Gustin and Alfred T. Gustin, having paid one  
half of all premiums and dues on said policy  
I desire that one thousand dollars of said money  
shall be divided between my said Sons in proportion to  
the amount each one shall have paid at the time  
of my death: the remaining one thousand dollars of  
said money I desire to be divided equally among  
my three children F. A. Gustin, A. T. Gustin and  
Della M. Blane. Said Policy No 65201 is now  
in the hands of my said Son G. T. Gustin free  
from any transfer or in consequence of any kind  
and should any such appear I hereby declare  
it to be forgery.

Item 2. I desire that my daughter Della M. Blane  
shall have control and direction of my funeral arrange-  
ments and the expense of same shall be borne  
equally by my three children. My Executrix  
hereinafter named to pay the same out of the  
legacies due to my said children.

Item 3. In case any of my said children shall contest  
or oppose the carrying out of this will then and  
in that case I hereby revoke his or her legacy  
as aforesaid and direct that my executors pay  
to him or her the sum of five cents and no  
more and pay over the remainder of his or  
her ~~posthumously~~ intended legacy to my other  
child or children in equal shares.

Item 4. I hereby appoint my son Alfred T. Gustin and  
my daughter Della M. Blane Executors to this  
my last will and testament with the proviso that  
they give a sufficient bond for the said full  
discharge of their duties, and that they pay  
over all monies due legatees within five days  
of their receipt of the same and hereby revoke all  
former last wills and testaments by me made

in testimony whereof I here set my hand and  
seal on the 5th day of Nov 1897 Martha E. Gustin *(Signature)*

Signed sealed and  
acknowledged in  
presence of  
L. G. Pope  
& J. W. Speight M.D.

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

A paper writing purporting  
to be the last will and testament of Martha E.  
Gustin deceased is exhibited before me the undersigned  
Clark of the Superior Court for said County by J. W.  
Speight one of the witnesses thereto mentioned and  
the other witness thereto by the said Martha E. Gustin  
is sworn by the Clark and examination of J. W.  
Speight & L. G. Pope the subscriber subscribers  
thereto who being duly sworn doth de pose and say  
and each for himself deposes and saith that  
he is a subscriber witness to the paper writing  
named above purporting to be the last will and  
testament of Martha E. Gustin that the said Martha  
E. Gustin in the presence of this subscriber subscribed  
her name at the end of said paper writing  
named above as aforesaid, and which bears  
date of 5th day of November 1897  
and the deponent further saith that the said  
Martha E. Gustin the testator aforesaid did at the  
time of subscribing her name as aforesaid declare  
the said paper writing so subscribed by her  
and exhibited to be her last will and testament  
and this deponent did 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 further  
saith that at the said time when the  
said testator subscribed her name to the said  
last will as aforesaid and at the time  
of deponent subscribing his name as an attesting  
witness thereto as aforesaid the said Martha E.  
Gustin was of sound mind and memory of  
full age to execute a will and was not

under any restraint to the Plaintiff information or  
knowledge of this deponum. And further that deponent say  
John W. Wright  
L. G. Poppe *[initials]*  
*[initials]*

Sincerely Sworn and Subscribed  
this 18<sup>th</sup> day of Dec 1897  
before me  
Theo J. Manning Clerk Superior Court  
for E. P. Manning Aft. " "

State of North Carolina

Bladen County,

I now all men by this present  
that we Della M. Blance L. G. Poppe John T. Clark  
are husband & family bound unto the State of North  
Carolina in the sum of Four Thousand dollars  
to the payment whereof we bind ourselves and  
each of us and his executors and administrators  
jointly and severally firmly by these presents  
Signed and sealed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of Dec 1897

The condition of this obligation is such that if  
the said Della M. Blance of  
Martha E. Gunter deceased do make a true and  
perfect Inventory and account of all her  
real estate and of all the goods and  
chattels rights and credits of the deceased which  
have or shall come to her possession or knowledge  
or to the possession to any other person for her  
and the sum do exhibit into the office  
Clerk Superior Court of said County next in ninety days  
after the date of this present and do well and  
truly administer according to law all the  
goods and chattels rights and credits of the  
deceased and the proceeds of her real estate  
which may be sold for payment of her debts  
which shall at any time come into her possession  
or to the possession of any other person for her and  
further do make a true and just account  
of her administration within two years after  
the date of this present and all the rest and  
residue of said proceeds of real estate goods  
chattels and credits which shall be found  
remaining upon her account (the sum <sup>being</sup> paid  
remained and allowed by the S. C.) shall deliver

and pay to such person as the same shall  
be delivered unto pursuant to law and I shall  
appear that any such will and testament  
was made by the deceased and the testator  
therein named do exhibit the same to Clerk Superior  
Court making request to have it allowed  
and approved and the said Della M. Blance  
or pr. John T. Clark a true bond being  
thereunto required do make and deliver the said  
letter of Administration probate of such instrument  
being first had and made in the said Superior  
Court and faithfully execute the trust reposed  
in her as such and obey all lawful order  
of the Clerk of Superior Court or other court  
having the administration of the estate committed  
to her that this obligation to be void and of  
no effect

Della M. Blance  
Signed Sealed and L. G. Poppe  
affixed in the presence of N. Blance  
of Theo J. Manning

Clerk Superior Court  
for E. P. Manning  
Aft Clerk Superior Court

L. G. Poppe marries east that  
he is a resident of N.C.  
is worth one and above his  
abilities and his property  
estimated by law the sum of  
Four thousand dollars