

Testament of Archibald Constable
SC70/1/38 pp.672-3

Archibald Constable SC70/1/38 [p.673] Archibald Constable 19 May 1828 At Edinburgh the nineteenth day of May Eighteen hundred and twenty eight years the following Inventory of the Personal Estate of Archibald Constable deceased & Deed relative to the disposal thereof were presented by Mes[sieu]rs Gibson Craig & Wardlaw writers to the Signet Inventory of the Personal Means and Estate of the deceased Achd Constable Esq[ui]re late Bookseller in Edinburgh who died on the twenty first day of July Eighteen hundred & twenty seven faithfully given up by Misses Anne & Margaret Constables Daughters of the said Archibald Constable & appointed to succeed to his personal Estate by Disposition awarded by him dated the nineteenth day of May Eighteen hundred & twenty seven 1 Household furniture silver plate Jewels and trinkets linens Pictures Curiosities & c[etera] & Inventory and appraisement under the hands of Alex[ande]r Bruce Licensed Appraiser dated 11 March 1828 ___ £548..16..1½ 2 Debts due to the deceased by David Constable Esqr Advocate ___ 100..-.- Sum £648..16..1½ (signed) Margaret Constable George Carphin At Edinburgh the nineteenth day of May one thousand eight hundred & twenty eight years In presence of Mr George Carphin Commissary Clark of Edinburgh Commissioner appointed by the Honourable the Commissaries of Edinburgh for taking the following Deposition appeared Miss Margaret Constable Daughter of Archibald Constable Bookseller in Edinburgh who being solemnly sworn & examined Depones that the said Archibald Constable died on the twenty first day of July one thousand eight hundred & twenty seven & the Deponent and her sisters Mary and Ann Constable have entered upon the possession & management of the deceaseds personal estate & effects as executioners qua Disponees conform to Disposition executed by him on the nineteenth day of May & registered in the Books of Council and Session the first day of August one thousand eight hundred & twenty seven an extract whereof is now exhibited and signed by the Deponent & said Commissioner of this date as relative hereto That the Deponent does not know of any Settlement or writing left by the deceased relative to the disposal of his personal estate or effects or any part of them other than that now exhibited That the foregoing Inventory which is signed by the Deponent and said Commissioner as relative hereto is al full and true Inventory of all the personal or moveable estate & effects of the said deceased Archibald Constable wheresoever situated already recovered or known to be existing belonging or due to him beneficially at the time of his death and that the value of said Estate situated in Scotland is of the value of Six hundred pounds & under the value of Eight hundred pounds Sterling which the Deponent does not require to be confirmed All which is truth as the Deponent shall answer to God (signed) Margaret Constable George Carphin Com[missioe]r [p.675] [in margin on side] Edinr 30 August 1828. Received up Extract of Disposition by Archd. Constable referred to in Miss Constables deposition P Jas. Gibson Craig James Alexander [main text] Follows the Defuncts Disposition I Archibald Constable Bookseller in Edinburgh Do hereby give grant dispone assign and Convey to Mary Ann and Margaret Constables my three Daughters of my first marriage equally amongst them and the survivors or survivor of them the whole household furniture bed & table linen wines spirits silver plate and every movable of every kind that shall belong to and be in the house occupied by me at my death with the exception of money Bills Bonds & vouchers of debt and also with the exception of my Cabinet of Curiosities and my whole papers paintings prints and articles of a rare description all

of which articles falling under the latter exception I leave and bequeath to my eldest son David Constable with the exception however of Raeburns painting of myself the possession of which my wife shall be entitled to during her life and after her death it shall go to the said David Constable Reserving always to myself my own liferent of the premises with the fullest power to me to alter innovate or revoke these presents in whole or in part at any time of my life and even deathbed But declaring that in so far as these presents shall not be altered or revoked the same shall be valid and effectual though found lying in my own custody or in the custody of any other person for my behoof undelivered at the time of my death with the delivery whereof I hereby dispense for ever and I Consent to the Registration hereof in the Books of Council and Session or others competent therein to remain for preservation and for that purpose Constitute my pro[curato]rs In witness whereof these presents written upon stamped paper by John Bell Spalding Clerk to Gibson Craigs & Wardlaw Writers in Edinburgh are subscribed by me at Edinburgh the nineteenth day of May One thousand eight hundred and twenty seven years before these witnesses William Wallace Esquire Professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh David Cormack Accountant in Edinburgh & the said John Bell Spalding witnesses also to my signing the marginal note also written by the said John Bell Spalding (signed) Archd Constable –William Wallace witness Dav Cormack witness John Bell Spalding witness Edinburgh 19 May 1828 This is the Extract Disposition executed by Archibald Constable Bookseller in Edinburgh and referred to in my deposition on the Inventory of his personal Estate of this date signed Margaret Constable George Carphin Comr.