

Obituary and Will of
Lady Harriet Elizabeth Wetherell-Warneford

The will and five codicils of the late Lady Harriet Elizabeth Wetherell-Warneford of 96, Eaton Square, London and of Warneford Place, Highworth, Wilts have been proved in her Majesty's Court of Probate by Joseph Sewell, Esq, the sole executor. Her Ladyship was the second and surviving daughter of the late Colonel Francis Warneford and the widow of the late Sir Charles Wetherell, Kent, DCL, MP. Lady Wetherell-Warneford entered into the possession of the family estates in Wilts and in Ireland upon the death of her mother, the Hon. Elizabeth Warneford in 1847 and shortly afterwards assumed her maiden name of Warneford after that of Wetherell by Royal license. Her Ladyship died on the 7th ult. childless, when the family estates passed under the will of her late husband, to the Rev John Henry Warneford of Halifax, Yorkshire. Her Ladyship commences her will by the bestowal of her jewels upon her god-daughter, lady Clementine Augusta Churchill, daughter of the late Duke of Marlborough and to whom she leaves her leasehold house in Eaton Square, together with the furniture and a legacy of £5000. The other pecuniary legacies are as follow:- To the Dowager Viscountess Ashbrook £1000; to Viscountess Ashbrook £5000; to the three daughters of Viscount Ashbrook £15 000 amongst them; to Nathan Wetherell Esq £5000 and upon him devolves a further sum of £5000 as the representative of the late Rev R Wetherell; to her friend Joseph Sewell Esq of Cirencester £10 000 and whom she has appointed residuary legatee; to the daughters of the late Mr Malton, her London solicitor, £3000 which sum was left to his widow since deceased; to F Chichester Esq £500; to the wife of Captain Webbe £500; to the Rev E Rowden, Vicar of Highworth £1000; and to William Lawrence Esq, her medical attendant £500. Lady Warneford has left to her own maid, Esther Bradford £5000 and other bequests; to Elizabeth Phillips, her late housekeeper £300; to her butler £500; to another servant £200; and to her head gardener, farm bailiff and each of her domestic servants, one year's wages. Her Ladyship leaves the following munificent bequests for charitable purposes, namely:- the sum of £45 000 to the trustees for aiding the necessitous widows and orphans of the poor clergy, incumbents and licensed curates in the ancient diocese of Gloucester – her Ladyship having made a gift of £30 000 for promoting the building and repairing the churches in the same diocese; and bequeaths to the Vicar of Sevenhampton £2000, the interest to be expended in coals, blankets and warm clothing for the poor and distributed amongst them at each returning Christmas. All bequests are to be paid free of legacy duty. The personality was sworn under £180 000. The will bears date the 16th April, 1851 and witnessed by E. Carleton Holmes, 12, Bedford-Row, Solicitor and Richard Fisher of Queen Square Bloomsbury. The last codicil was made on the 21st July, 1860.

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