

1224 Fourth Street.
New Orleans, May 28th 1900.

Jas McConnell, Esq.

My Dear Sir:--

Having this day renewed to you, and Messrs Hincks, Dixon, and Morris, in written form duly acknowledged the declaration that the City of New Orleans is my chosen home and legal domicile, it is proper that I should express and place in your hands, as my legal adviser for use in the future should the same become necessary, a statement of the principal reason that actuates me in repeating this declaration of my domicile, so that no doubt can exist in regard thereto after my death. From various reports that have reached me, as well as from my own observation and knowledge, I regret to have to say I am apprehensive that there are among my relatives some who, without the shadow of legal right or cause, but actuated solely by mercenary motives, may attempt to thwart the execution and fulfillment of my intentions as expressed in counsel and advice in accordance with the laws of the State of Louisiana. I have asked your professional assistance and have been guided by it in all these matters, in order that my estate maybe settled here, by my Executors under your advice as their counsel, and that so my wishes expressed in my will as above stated, may be executed and fulfilled here, the chosen place of my domicile and home, without embarrassment or contention of any kind, and thus the benevolent purposes I have in view will be neither frustrated nor delayed in their execution.

Truly Yours,
(Signed) JOSEPHINE LOUISE NEWCOMB.

Attest:

F. Walter Callender
Jas McConnell.

State of Louisiana,
Parish of Orleans,

Before me, the undersigned authority personally appeared Mistress Josephine Louise Newcomb, to me personally known, which in the presence of me, Notary, and in the presence of the two subscribing witnesses, F. Walter Callender, and Jas McConnell, declared and acknowledged the signature affixed to the foregoing letter to be her own genuine signature, and that the said letter was written by her with her own hand.

In witness hereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at New Orleans, this 28th day of May 1900, together with the said two subscribing witnesses.

(Signed) JAS McCONNELL. Jr.
Notary Public.

(seal)

Attest:

F. Walter Callender
Jas McConnell.

Editors' note

This is a typewritten copy of the letter submitted in evidence in the court case on June 17, 1903. Even as a copy, it is the only letter known to exist among those introduced in the case.