

WILL OF DANIEL ARMS (1719-1784)
HAMPSHIRE Probate Records, Volume XIII, p. 613-614

In the Name of God, Amen. I Daniel Arms of Deerfield in the County of Hampshire and Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England Yeoman, being at present through the Goodness of God to me of sound Memory and calling to Mind my own Mortality as it is appointed unto all men once to die and not knowing how soon I may be called to put off this my Earthly Tabernacle do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament this 7th Day of March Anno Dom 1765 and in the fifth Year of his Majesty's Reign in Manner and Form following, that is to say in the first place I give my Soul to God who gave it Me and my Body I commit to the Dust decently to be buried in Christian Manner at the Discretion of my Executors hereafter mentioned humbly hoping thro' the Merits of Jesus Christ to obtain a glorious Resurrection to Immortal Life

And as for the Temporal Estate that it hath pleased God to bless me with, I dispose of it in the following manner—Imprimus I give and bequeath to Mary my beloved Wife the Use & Improvement of the one half of the whole of my estate both real & Personal during the Term that she remains my Widow & if it should happen that after Term the said Mary shall be married to another Husband then in that Case it is my Will that she the said Mary shall have the use and Improvement of but one third part of my Estate both Real and personal from the time of her being so married as abovementioned to the End of her Natural Life

Item. I give and bequeath to my Son Aaron Arms the one half of my Estate both Real and Personal to be to him his Heirs and assigns forever—

Item. I give to my four Daughters (viz) Mary Arms- Esther Arms- Experience Arms and Martha Arms to each them one eighth part of my Estate both real and Personal to be to them their Heirs and assigns forever—Furthermore it is to be understood and it is my Will any Thing to the contrary above written notwithstanding that in the first place all my Just debts and funeral Charges shall be fully paid out of my Estate by my Executor hereafter named & lastly I nominate ordain & appoint Mary Arms my Wife and Jonathan Arms of Deerfield aforesd Executors of this my last Will and Testament and I do hereby utterly revoke and make void all Wills and Testaments at any time heretofore made by Me and I do by these present ratify and confirm this to be my last Will and Testament

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the Day and Year above written. Signed sealed, published & declared by ye sd Daniel Arms to be his last Will & Testament in presence of us who signed as Witnesses in the presence of the Testator and each other

Daniel Arms (seal)

Ashel Wright

David Arms

Elijah Smith

Hampshire at a Court of Probate holden at Hadley within and for ye County of Hampshire on the first Tuesday of November being ye third Day of sd Month Domo 1784. The foregoing was presented as the last Will and Testament of Daniel Arms late of Deerfield in the County of Hampshire decd by the Exrs therein named for Probate; and Ashel Wright and David Arms two of ye Subscribing Witnesses to the same appearing made oath that they saw Daniel Arms the Testator sign and seal and heard him publish and declare the same to be his last Will and Testament that he was of sound Mind and Memory when he did it that they together with Elijah

Smith all signed as Witnesses to the same at the same Time in presence of the Testator and of each other whereupon it is considered that the same be and herby is proved, approved, ratified and confirmed as the last Will & Testament of sd Decd
Bonds being given according to Law.

Elbez Porter J Probt.