

WILL OF JOHN CATLIN (1704-1758)
HAMPSHIRE Probate Records, Volume IX, p. 31

In the Name of God Amen I John Catlin of Deerfield in the County of Hampshire & province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England Gentleman being now Sick & weak in body but thro' the Goodness of God of Sound mind & memory & not knowing how Soon I may be called to put off this my earthly Tabernacle do make & ordain this my last Will & Testament the Twenty Second day of September in the Thirty Second year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second of Great Britain France and Ireland King &c Ano Dom one thousand Seven hundred & fifty eight—

First I Give my Soul to God who gave it me & my body I commit to the dust to be buried in a Christian Decent Manner at the Discretion of my Executors hereafter mentioned hoping that thro' the merits of Christ to obtain a glorious resurrection to immortal Life—

And as for the temporal Estate that God hath given me I dispose of it in the following manner—
Imprimus I give to my beloved wife Mary one third part of all my Personal estate forever & also the use of one third part of all my real Estate for her Improvement during her natural life, & also eight Pounds to be paid her out of the other part of my Personal Estate in Such Species as She Shall choose—

Item I give to each of my five Daughters viz Catharine the wife of Ebenezer Clapp, Rachel the wife of Abner Barnard Mary Catlin Mercy Catlin & Dorothy Catlin, Three fortieth parts of all my Estate that still remains, after my Just Debts & funeral charges are paid to be paid to them by my two Sons Joseph Catlin & Seth Catlin Equally either in personal Estate or in money as my Said Sons Shall choose, but it is to be understood & it is my will that there be deducted out of my Daughter Katherine the wife of Ebenezer Clapp's Portion or Share Sixty three pounds & out of my Daughter Rachel's the wife of Abner Barnard's Portion or Share the Sum of Sixty Six pounds Thirteen Shillings & four pence, on account of what I have already given to them, the Said Sums are to be Inventoried in my estate And it is my will that my other Three Daughters viz. Mary, Mercy & Dorothy, Shall receive their Portion on Marriage day or at the age of Eighteen years—

And further it is my will that my house I live in be disposed of in the following manner that is to Say my Son Joseph Catlin Shall have the north end of my house or the north end of that part of Said house that faceth toward the West, viz the Cellar, Lower room, Chamber & Garret to him & his Heirs forever—

And I give & bequeath to my Son Seth Catlin his Heirs & Assigns forever all the South end of that part of my Said dwelling house that faceth toward the West that is to Say the Cellar lower room Chamber & Garret, but hereby reserving to Mary my wife the use of one third part of the whole Cellar under Said house during her natural life—

Item: I give the Improvement of my Back house or Kitchens unto Mary my wife during her natural life—

Furthermore it is my will & pleasure that forasmuch as the north end of my dwelling house is not so far finished as the other parts there of that there Shall be allowd & paid out of my estate to my Son Joseph Catlin So much money as Messr David Field Joseph Barnard and John Arms Shall Judge & determine he ought to have therefore & also that they the Said David Fields, Joseph Barnard & John Arms Shall Judge & determine he ought to have therefor & Also that they the Said David Field, Joseph Barnard & John Arms Shall Judge & determine whether there be or

ought to be any thing paid out to my Son Joseph for what he has done on my estate Since he came to the Age of Twenty one years more than has been done by my Son Seth Since he came to the Age aforesaid, & it is my will that this Affair be Settled according to their Judgments— And as for the remaining part of my Estate whether Real or Personal I give & bequeath it to my Sons Joseph Catlin & Seth Catlin to be divided in equal parts betwixt them, to be to them & their Heirs forever—

Lastly I nominate to Constitute & ordain my beloved wife Mary Catlin & my Sons Joseph Catlin & Seth Catlin Executors of this my last Will & Testament—

And I do hereby make void & Null all other Wills & Testaments by me heretofore made & I confirm & ratify this to be my last Will & Testament, In Witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand & Seal the day & year first written—

Signed Sealed Published & declared by the Sd John Catlin to be his last Will & Testament in presence of us who Subscribed as Witnesses in presence of the Testator— John Catlin 2d Seal
Joseph Barnard

Samuel Wells

John Arms

Ma Court of probate holden at Northampton within & for the County of Hampshire on the Second Tuesday of November being the 14th day of Said Month AnoDomo 1758 P Timothy Dwight Esq Judge of Said Court The foregoing Will was presented for probate by the Executors therein named & Ens Joseph Barnard & John Arms two of the Witnesses to the Same appearing made oath that they Saw Captn John Catlin 2d the Testator Sign & Seal & heard him pronounce & declare the Same to be his last Will & Testament & that he was of Sound mind & memory when he did it & that they with Captn Samuel Wells all Signed as Witnesses to the Same at the Same time in presence of Said Testator & of each other wherefore it is ratified approved & confirmed as the last Will & Testament of Said Deceased

p Timothy Dwight