

WILL OF JOHN HAWKS (1707-1784)

HAMPSHIRE Probate Records, Volume XIV, p. 234-235

In the Name of God Amen I John Hawk of Deerfield in the County of Hampshire Gentleman Being thro' the Goodness of God of sound mind & memory & understanding do make ordain publish & Declare this my Last will & Testament in Manner following that is to say that I commend my soul to God who gave it & my Body I commit to the Dirt to be decently interred at the Discretion of my Executors herein after named hoping thro' the Merits of my only Saviour Redeemer Jesus Christ to be raised to a Glorious Immortality among the Just & with Regard to my Worldly Substance after my personal Expenses & Just debts are paid it is my Last Will that it be disposed of in the following Manner (Viz)

Imprimus I give devise & bequeath to my son Moses Hawk Forty acres on ye West End of the two Lots that my son John Hawk decd Lived on & are Number Eighteen + Nineteen in Shelburn & is delineated as follows Beginning at the south West Corner runs East 54 Rods to ye Top of Shingle Hill then North 51 Rods then North 46 Degrees East 40 Rods thence North 131 Rods to ye North Line thence West 15 Rods to ye North West Corner also a Lott lying in Deerfield North meadow known by the Name of my plain Lott also one half of two Lots I bought of Enock Allen & William Fulton Excepting Eight Rods on ye North side of said Lots lying at a place called ye [?] wing Bridge in Deerfield also one half of two Lotts lying on Pettys plain in Deerfield also Forty three acres of Land lying in Conway.

Item. I give devise & bequeath to my Son Obed Hawk the place on which I now Live also all my Lands in ye Inner Commons Excepting two Lotts on Pettys plain also my meadow Land lying at a place called Old Fort also a Lot of Land Lying in the North east Corner of ye South West Division Laid out to me also the Lots 96 I bought of Abigail Hindsdale also Eight Rods on ye North side of ye Lot I had of Enock Allen joining to my [ ] Lot Also I give to my son Obed my Working Cattle my old Red cow five of my best Sheep & all [ ] provision that shall be Left in ye House after my Decease.

Item I give devise & bequeath to my son Solomon Hawk a Lott of Land Laying on Eagle Brook plain & Beaver Dam also two thirds of the place that was my son John Hawk to extend as far West as the top of s[h]ingle Hill also one half of two Lots of Land Lying on Pettys plain aforesd. Also one half of the two Lots I had of Enock Allen & William Felton excepting so much of said Lotts as I have Given my son Obed and also twenty three acres of a Lott of Land Lying in Conway

Item I give devise & bequeath to my daughter Rebecca Hawk Sixty acres of Lotts of land lying in Conway said Sixty acres to be Laid by the land I sold to David Childs & to run to ye south West Corner of said Lots thence North so far as to make up said Sixty acres also a Lott of Land Lying in Deerfield Meadow called Harrow Meadow Lott also give to my said Daughter all ye wearing apparel that my Wife Left at her decease also all the Wearing apparel that belonged to my two Daughters Elizabeth & Anna at their decease.

Item. I give & bequeath to Thankfull Hawk widow of my Last Son John Hawk one third of two Lots to ye top of Shingle Hill that my said son John Hawk Lived on during her Natural Life & after her Decease I give ye aforesd third of my two Lotts to my son Solomon

Item. I give devise & bequeath to Mary Smead & Eunice Hawk Daughter of my son Abner Hawk Decd during their Lives & to their Heirs Lawfully begotten the farm on which sd Abner Lived Lately in Case either the said Mary or Eunice shall die without [ ] that then ye survivor shall have ye whole of said farm & in case both ye sd Mary & Enice shall die without a Child

Lawfully begotten then ye farm shall Desired to be equally divided between my Heirs of ye first degree then living

I give devise and bequeath to my aforstd Sons Moses Abner & Solomon all my wearing apparel to be equally divided between them

Item. I give devise & bequeath to my said Sons Moses Obed & Solomon & my said Daughter Rebecca all the Residue of my Personal Estate to be equally divided among them

Item. I give devise & bequeath to my said Daughter Rebecca Hawk the Land during Improvement of the North Room in my old House during her state of celibacy then my son Obed to have ye same. & I do hereby Nominate & appoint my aforementioned Sons Moses Hawk Obed Hawk, Solomon Hawk Executors of this my Last Will & Testament & I do hereby revoke all former Wills by me made at any time heretofore In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand & Seal this third day of June in ye year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven Hundred & Eighty four signed sealed published & Declared by ye said John Hawk first mentioned as & for his Last Will and Testament in presence of us who have hereunto set our Names at Witnesses in his presence & at his desire & in presence of each other

John Hawk

Zadok Hawk

Joseph Swet

Eliha Ashley

Hampshire Ss At a Court of probate holden at Northampton within & for the County of Hampshire on the fifth Day of Oct being the first Tuesday Day of said Month in the year of our Lord 1784 the foregoing was presented as the Last Will & Testament of John Hawk Late of Deerfield in the County of Hampshire deceased by the Executors therein named for Probate & Zadok Hawk & Elisha Ashley two of the Subscriber Witnesses to the same appearing made oath that they saw John Hawk the testator sign seal & publish & declared the same to be his Last Will & Testament that he was of sound mind & disposing memory when he did it that they together with Joseph Swet all signed as witnesses to the same at the same time in the presence of the said Testator & each other Whereupon Considered that the same be & hereby is proved Approved Ratified & Confirmed as the Last Will & Testament of said Deceased. Eleazr Porter

Obed Hawks having this Day taken upon him the office of Executor to the last Will & Testament of John Hawk late of Deerfield Decd Bond is taken agreeable to the Law Oct 5 1784