

WILL OF JOHN NIMS (1715-c.1769)  
HAMPSHIRE Probate Records, Volume XI, p. 104

In the Name of God Amen, I John Nims of Deerfield in the County of Hampshire and Province of ye Massachusetts Bay in New England, being under Indisposition of Body, but thro' the Goodness of God having my reason continued to me desire to sett my House in order and make the best preparation I can for my Death & do make this my last Will & Testament, In ye first place I desire by faith to commit my Soul into the Hands of the Lord Jesus Christ to be washed in his blood and presented to ye Father without Spots, & my Body to the Dust by a Decent Burial in hopes of its resurrection to Eternal Life thro' my only Saviour Jesus Christ

With regard to my Worldly Substance after my funeral charges & my just Debts are paid it is my Will it should be disposed of in the following Manner

With regard to my Beloved Wife Abigail it is my Will She should be provided for according to the laws of this Province and also one half of my Sheep and a yoke of two year Old Steers be Given to her

It is my Will that my Sons Rueben, Abner, John, & Ebenezer should have an Equal part in my Estate

But then it is my Will that my Son Rueben should have that half of the Lot he now lives upon & that it shall be returned to him so much as it May be Esteemed Worth without any Improvements made upon it

It is my Will that my two Daughters Esther & Elizabeth shall have one Quarter part each of them so much as one of my Sons & do Constitute my Beloved Wife and my Brother Jeremiah Nims Executors of this my last Will and Testament, & I do hereby annull all former Wills by me made, In Witness whereof I do Set my hand & Seal this twenty seventh day of September in the ninth year of his majesties Reign & in the Seventeen Hundred and Sixty ninth year of our Lord Christ Signed, Sealed published, + declared in the Presence of

Jonathan Ashley

Jonathan Hoit Junr

Rufus Wells

John Nims Seal

At a Court of Probate holden at Hatfield on the first Tuesday of November being the seventh day of said Month AD 1769 p Israel Williams Esq Judge of said Court the foregoing Will was presented by Jeremiah Nims one of the Executors therein named for the Probate and the Revd Jona Ashley & Jona Hoit Junr two of the Witnesses to the same personally appearing made Oath that they John Nims ye Testator sign & Seal +heard him publish and declare the same to be his last Will & Testament and that he was of sound mind & Memory when he did it, & that they together with Rufus Wells all signed as Witnesses to ye same at the same time in ye Testators presence + in presence of each other—

Wherefore it is ratified, approved & confirmed as ye last Will and Testament of said Testator Deceased

p Israel Williams Jud Prob