

WILL OF SAMUEL BARNARD (1721-1788)
HAMPSHIRE Probate Records, Volume XV, p. 388-389

In the Name of God Amen I Samuel Barnard of Deerfield in the County of Hampshire & State of Massachusetts bay &c, being far advanced in Years & in poor State of health all which gives me reason to suppose the day of my Death to be drawing near, and being by the blessing of God now of a Sound mind & memory do this Twentieth day of September 1785, make & publish this my Last Will & Testament in manner & form following (that is to Say) first of all I Commend my Soul into the hands of God who gave it my & my body to the Earth to be buried at the Discretion of my Surviving friends & Executors in hopes of a Joyfull resurrection through the merits of my Saviour Jesus Christ, and as for the Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me I dispose thereof as followeth; And first of all it is to be Considered that previous t my Marriage to my present wife Elenor I did in my covenant made with her Dated Decem'r 1788, Reserve out of my Estate all Such Household Goods Wearing Apparel rings Jewels &c & also such lands as did belong to my late wife Hannah which do of right belong to my Daughter Hannah her only heir & for her only Use So that my present wife by her rights of Dower is not to claim any part of the Same nor any interest by means thereof in any way whatever, and as to Such Debts as Shall be Justly due from me at the time of my Decease it is my Will that they be all paid by my two Executors after named, the before mentioned things being Observed it is my Will & I do hereby Give to my Loving Wife Elenor one third part of all my Real Estate for her Improvement during her natural Life & until her Decease then, after her Decease to my two Daughters Hannah & Lucy & I also Give to my wife Elenor one third part of my Personal estate of what name or nature so ever for her own Use & benefit for ever & accepting only what is before reserved for my Daughter Hannah & for the payment of my Just Debts be and for the remaining part of my Estate both Real & Personal Estate the Same to my two Daughters Hannah & Lucy to be Equally Divided between them Excepting what heretofore reserved for my Daughter Hannah. And I do hereby make ordain & appoint Joseph Barnard of Deerfield Gentm & Elisha Root of Montague Sole Executors of this my last Will, & as it is my desire that my Just Debts Should be paid in Such way & by Such means as may be least Prejudicial to my Heirs, it is my Will & desire that none of my household furniture of any kind should be sold for the payment of said Debts but that my Stock of horn cattle horses team Tacking & Implements for Husbandry of every kind Should be paid for the payment of Sd Debts all Excepting two cows, and that all Such Debts that may be due me may be Collected as Soon as reasonably may be disposed of for the before mentioned purpose & the Same Should prove Insufficient for Sd purpose it is my Will & Desire that the North part of my houselot where I now Dwell running East & West the length of Sd lot should be Sold running South from the North line not Exceeding twenty Six rods & if the Same be Insufficient to pay Sd debts, then in like manner to Sell the South part of Sd lot Extending North from the South line so far as to be Sufficient to pay Sd Debts

In Witness whereof I the Said Samuel Barnard have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal the day & year above written

Signed Sealed, Published & declared by the Said Samuel Barnard as & for his last Will & Testament in presence of us whose names are hereunto Written who did each of us Subscribe our Names as Witnesses at his request & in his presence in the room where he then was

Samuel Barnard Seal

William Anderson

William Holt

Jonathan Forbush

Hampshire Ss At a Court of Probate holden at Deerfield within & for the County of Hampshire the first Tuesday of March being the fourth day of said month in the year of our Lord 1788. The foregoing was presented as the last Will & Testament of Samuel Barnard late of Deerfield in the County of Hampshire deceased, by the Executors therein Named for Probate & William Anderson & William Holt two of the Subscribing Witnesses to the Same appearing made Oath that they Saw Samuel Barnard the Testator Sign & Seal & heard him Publish & declare the Same to be his last Will & Testament & that he was of Sound mind & disposing memory when he did it that they together with Jonathan Forbush all Signed as Witnesses to the same at the Same time in the Presence of the said Testator & of each other Whereupon it is considered that the Same be and hereby is proved approved ratified & confirmed, as the last Will & testament of Said Deceased—

Bond being given according to Law

Eleazar Porter J Prob

Elenor Barnard of Deerfield in the County of Hampshire is nominated appointed & allowed to be Guardian to Lucy Barnard a minor aged 8 years & one of the Heirs of Samuel Barnard late of Deerfield aforesd decd & aforesd is taken for her faithfull performance of Trust—

Mar 4th 1788