

In the name of God Amen.

Be it known and remembered, that I, Thomas Church of Bristol, in the County of Bristol in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Merchant, having arrived at an advanced age and admonished daily by the increasing infirmities of years, that my time of remaining here, must be short, do now while I am blessed with a sound disposing mind, ~~make~~ and memory, make, publish, and declare the following instrument, as and for my last Will & Testament

Firstly — And in the first place I give, and bequeath to my faithful and beloved wife, Mary Church Sixteen Shares, standing in my name in the Bank of Bristol, all the household furniture I may have in the House, where I now live, all my plate [illegible], to be selected by her from those I may leave and the best chairs I may leave, also such provisions, for the family, as may be in the House at my decease, all which, I give to my said wife to be at her free disposal, and to her assigns forever, I also give and devise to my said wife, during her natural life, improvement of such half part of my homestead dwelling house, as she may elect to occupy, with the West Garden near said house, together with such privileges, in the yards around said house & in the outbuildings there as may be necessary, for her convenience, I moreover allow my said wife, an annuity of One hundred dollars to be paid her by my Executors in cash on every twenty fifth day of March following my decease, during her natural life. all which I give her in lieu of my dower-

Secondly — I give devise, and bequeath, to my Sons, Samuel W. Church, Stephen T. Church and Hezekiah W. Church, share and share, equally to their heirs and assigns forever, all my homestead farm that belonged to my father's estate including also the land I bought of Samuel V. Peck and that I bought of the Executors of Jonathan Diman subject however to the preceding device of the improvement of half of the Homestead House, and her device above -- I also give my said Three sons, all my Stock, [illegible] poultry and farming tools, I may leave on said farm -

Thirdly — I give devise and bequeath to my son William H. Church, and to his heirs and assigns forever, my Niche farm, so called, which I bought of Martin Luther, also one pair of working Oxen, two cows and forty sheep and all the farming tools of every kind I may leave on said farm

Fourthly — I give, devise and bequeath to the children of my deceased son Thomas Church, and to their heirs and assigns forever, share and share alike, all that tract of land I bought of Aaron Sisson, near the Bristol Asylum, containing about thirty Acres, Also the lot of land I bought of my Brother Edward Church- on the Northerly side of Crooked lane – I also give them the sum of One thousand dollars, to be paid by my executors in cash in six Months after my decease to be equally divided among said children -

Fifthly — I give and bequeath to my Granddaughter Eveline B. Church, the daughter of my deceased son Benjamin Church and to her assigns forever, thirty nine shares of my stock in the Commercial Bank which shares are to remain in my name until her marriage, or her arrival at the age of Twenty one years - which ever event may first happen, and until the first of these

events, the dividends, that may accrue thereon, shall be received by my Executors, and paid over to Matilda Church the Mother of said Eveline, for her support, but whenever said Eveline shall be married, or attain the age of twenty one Years, my said Executors shall transfer twenty six shares of said Stock to her, and her assigns, and the said Matilda shall thereupon receive the dividends on the remaining thirteen shares during her life, and at her decease the same shares shall belong to said Eveline, her heirs and assigns forever.

Sixthly — I give and bequeath to Sarah T. Coggeshall & Mary C. Coggeshall, children of my daughter Sarah Ann Coggeshall, the late wife of Thomas B. Coggeshall, as many shares in the Stock of the Commercial Bank, Freeman's Bank, or in both, as shall be equal to three thousand dollars, computing the Stock in the former Bank at Seventy eight dollars per share, but should installments hereafter be paid in, on said shares, at either of said Banks so as to increase their present value, such additional value shall be taken into consideration, so as to limit this bequest to three thousand dollars in value, which shares shall be transferred to my said Grandaughters in Six months from my decease.

Seventhly — In explanation of of the two preceding bequests, it is to be understood, as my intention that both shall be construed, as specific gifts, so that if I shall not have at my decease, sufficiency of stock in said Commercial or Freeman's Banks to satisfy them respectively, my Executors shall make up that deficiency, in money, or purchase such Stock for that purpose, so that said Eveline shall be entitled to Three thousand dollars in cash, to be invested in Stock by my Executors, as is prescribed in my bequest to her, and the two children of my said daughter Sarah Ann Coggeshall to the like sum between them, in case I shall not leave the Stock bequeathed them respectively -

Eighthly — I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary Bennett, wife of Martin Bennett, my Stock in the Bristol Steam Mill Factory Company – Also Three thousand dollars to be paid her in Cash, in one Year after my decease, to be paid by my Executors, to her and her heirs & assigns-

Ninthly — I give and bequeath to my daughter Betsey W. Wardwell, wife of John H. Wardwell, Four thousand dollars, to be paid her by my Executors one year after my decease.

Tenthly — I give devise and bequeath to my four sons, Samuel W. Church, Stephen T. Church William H. Church and Hezekiah W. Church, and their heirs and assigns forever, and share and share alike my Main wharf, Yellow store, and both shed stores, with all the privileges thereto belonging-

Eleventhly — All the rest and residue of my estate both Real and personal, after all my debts legacies and funeral charge shall be paid, and for the payment whereof, I charge my said residue of Real estate, if necessary, after the personal shall be exhausted for the purpose, I give devise and bequeath to all my children, and Grandchildren, in the same proportions they would inherit it from me, by the present law, or Statute of descents.

Twelfthly — Having thus disposed of my estate in such manner, as seemed in my judgment to be just under all the circumstances of my numerous family, it is my especial desire, that it may be received by them with affectionate feelings towards each other, and that my estate may be settled in the earliest convenient time after my decease, without the least litigation or controversy

Thirteenthly — I nominate, constitute, and appoint my four sons Samuel W. Church Stephen T. Church William H. Church and Hezekiah W. Church, joint Executors to this my last Will and Testament, and hereby revoke all former Wills and Testaments by me heretofore made - and declare this to be my last Will and Testament-

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this the twenty second day of March A.D. 1841-

Thomas Church

Signed, sealed, published and declared by Thomas Church as and for his last Will and Testament, in our presence, and in presence of each other, and we at his request, in his presence have hereto subscribed our names as witnesses to the same.

N. Bullock
Saml. S. Usher
Nathan Bardin