

Stephen Watts

Last Will and Testament

Last Will and Testament of Stephen Watts of Bucks County, Pa

In the Name of God. Amen. I Stephen Watts of Southampton in the County of Bucks, do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following.

Imprimis. I will and order, that all my just Debts be paid and funeral Expenses be first paid and discharged.

Item. I will and bequeath unto my beloved wife Elizabeth Watts during her natural life the use of the whole of my dwelling house, kitchen and Cellar, except as hereinafter excepted, and all my household and kitchen Furniture as it shall stand at the time of my death, together with all the Meat and other Provisions then on hand. I also give to her the use of one milk cow whichsoever she shall choose, and the Use of the garden before the House Door. And I do hereby order and direct my son Arthur Watts at his own expense to find, provide and lay at the Door for my said beloved Wife her necessary fire Wood cut in proper Lengths for the fire place, and that he keep the Cow above mentioned for her. Moreover, I give unto my aforementioned wife the sum of twenty pound in gold or silver at the rate of seven shillings & sixpence a Spanish milled dollar or full value thereof a year during life as aforesaid, to be paid to her by my son Arthur Watts out of such share of my Estate as shall be allotted to him by this my last Will and Testament, which twenty pounds a year is to be received, deemed and accepted by my wife as a full Consideration in lieu of her Dower or Third.

Item. I give unto my Daughter Hannah Smith, the use of the back Room where she now dwells, the privilege of washing and baking in the Kitchen, and the use of half the garden adjoining the back room during the Term of her natural Life. I also give to her the sum of seventy pounds in gold or silver at the rate of seven shillings and six pence a Spanish milled Dollar or the full value thereof to be paid to her in one year after the Decease of my beloved Wife. But if my daughter should depart this life before the sum bequeathed to her become due, my Pleasure is that it then deferred to her children James Smith, Hannah Baker, Stephen Smith, John Smith, Elizabeth Smith, Thomas Smith & Fanny Smith, share and share alike, or to the Survivors of them, at the time above said.

Item. I give to my Daughter Sarah Shaw the use of the log house adjoining the orchard, the use of the other half of the garden joining the back room above mentioned, and the Privilege of baking in the kitchen during the Term of her natural Life or Widdowhood. I also give unto her the sum of Seventy Pounds in gold or silver at the rate and value above mentioned to be paid to her, Ten Pounds of it in one Year of my Decease, & the Residue in two years after the Decease of my Wife: But if she should depart this life before the sum bequeathed to her become due, in whole or in part, my Will is, that it descend to her children, Elizabeth Colbert, Mary Fenton, Rachel Shaw, John Shaw, and Joseph Shaw and be divided equally among them share and share alike, or the survivors of them at the time aforementioned.

Item. I give to my Daughter Elizabeth the wife of Thomas Folwell the sum of Seventy Pounds in gold or silver at the rate and value aforementioned to be paid to her in three years after the Decease of my beloved wife. But if she should depart this life before the sum bequeathed to her shall become due, I Order, that it descend to her children Nancy Folwell, William Folwell, Elizabeth Folwell and Mary Folwell & be divided among them share and share alike or the survivors of them at the time aforesaid.

Item. I give to my son Stephen Watts the Sum of One Hundred and fifteen pounds at the rate of value aforesaid when legally demanded at any Time within Ten Years after the Decease of my Wife, by him or his Heirs.

Item. I give unto my grandDaughter Rachel Watts the daughter of John Watts the sum of seventy pounds in gold and silver at the rate and value aforesaid to be paid to her in four years after the decease of my beloved Wife. But if she should depart this life before the sum bequeathed to her becomes due, having lawful Issue, my Pleasure is that it descend to her Issue in the same manner & proportion the Bequests to my Daughters in case of their Death.

Item. I Will and Order that the sum of five pounds in gold or silver, at the Rate and Value aforesaid be applied by my Executors hereinafter named to any use the Baptist Church, in southampton, shall direct, at the Expiration of five years after the Decease of my beloved Wife. Which, with all the Bequest, above given, to my son Stephen Watts and to my said Daughters and granddaughters are to be paid by my son Arthur Watts out of such share of my Estate as shall be allotted to him by this my last Will and Testament.

Item. My will and Pleasure, further, is, that all my Stock, farming utensils, goods and cattles, except as before excepted, be sold by my Executors, and when my just debts are paid the over plus of the monies arising, therefrom, I order to be put to Interest and the Interest to be paid annually to my Wife during her natural Life. Moreove, my Will further is that the Cow and all the household goods and Kitchen Furniture, the {word not extracted}herein before bequeathed to my Wife that shall remain at her Death, together with the money above ordered to be put to Interest be then equally divided between my said daughters Hannah Smith, Sarah Ware, Elizabeth Folwell & my grandDaughter Rachel Watts share and share alike or in case of the Death of any or either of them their share to descend to their children in manner & proportion abovesaid.

Item. I give, devise and bequeath to my Son Arthur Watts all my real estate, the use of the House & the gardens for the Terms aforesaid excepted, to hold to him his Heirs and Assigns forever. Provided nevertheless, that If myself and beloved Wife should live so long from and after the Date hereof, as to become helpless and under necessity to expend or diminish my Estate for our Maintenance that then my Will is, that the Heir of my Real Estate and each of the Legatees shall bear a Proportionable Loss or Diminission of what is bequeathed to hem by this my Last Will and Testament.

Lastly. I nominate, constitute and appoint my Son Arthur Watts and Thomas Folwell joint and co-executors of this my Last Will and Testament, hereby revoking and making void all other Wills, Bequests and Legacies heretofore by me at any time made bequeathed and given, declaring this and no other to be my last Will and Testament. In Witness thereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this twenty-fourth Day of January Anno Domini one thousand seven Hundred and eighty three. 1783.