

In the Name of God Amen Joseph Holmes
of Attleborough in the County of Bristol in his Majesty's
Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England
being weak in Body but of sound mind and memory
(Helped be God therefore) do this Nineteenth Day of July
in the fifth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George
the Third King of Great Britain &c. and in the year of
our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Sixty five
make and Publish this my Last Will and Testament
in manner and form following (that is to say) Imprimas
I commend my Soul into the Hands of Almighty God
Who gave it me; and my Body to the Earth from
Whence it came; in hopes of a Joyfull Resurrection
Through the merits of my Saviour Jesus Christ and
as for that Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God
to Bless me in this Life I Dispose thereof as follows
First I Give to my (Dearly Beloved Wife Joanna
Holmes my best Bed and furniture to be and remain to her
use and Disposal. also the free use and Improvement of
all my real and Personal Estate after my Just Debts and
funeral Charges are paid and Discharged out of said Personal
Estate which I hereby order and will Shall be Done until the
first Day of April which will be in the year of our Lord
one thousand seven hundred and Sixty Seven: the better to
Enable her my Said Wife, to bring up and Educate my young
Children and after the expiration of said Term my will
further is that my Said Beloved Wife Have and Enjoy
the free use and Improvement of the one half of my Said
Real Estate Together with three Cows such as she shall
Chuse out of my Stock for and During the full Term of
Time she shall remain my Widow and no longer so
and for the use and purposes above mentioned

I Give to my Well Beloved son Aaron Holmes all my
Lands and Buildings situate lying and being within the
Township of Attleborough aforesaid To be and remain
To him his heirs and assigns as an absolute Estate of
Inheritance in fee Simple forever for my said son Aaron
Paying the following Legacies out of the Same To my other
Children hereafter named. and my will further is and I
hereby order and appoint That on or about the first Day
of April which will be in the year of our Lord 1767 Ebenezer
Lane Practitioner in Physick John Stearns Gentleman and
Edward Richards Yeoman all of Attleborough aforesaid
or in Case of either of their Decease such other person or
persons as shall be chosen and appointed by the Hon^{le}
Judge of probate for said County of Bristol for the Time
being make a just Division into Two Equal Parts of my
Lands and Buildings Between my said Wife Joanna and
my said son Aaron. and Set of to my said Wife the one
half of said Real Estate I have Given her the use and
Improvement off, During the time she shall remain
my Widow as aforesaid and also make a just appraisement
of the other half of said real Estate Set of to my said son
Aaron in Writing under their hands and when So Done
I Give to my Well beloved Daughter Melitah on ion four
pounds Lawfull money. To my well beloved Daughter Rebekah
Ide one pound Lawfull money. To my well beloved Daughter said
Holmes four pounds Lawfull money. To my well beloved Daughter
Olive Holmes four pounds Lawfull money. To my well beloved
Daughter Hannah Holmes four pounds Lawfull money. To my
Well beloved Daughter Sibel Holmes four pounds Lawfull
money To my well beloved Daughter Lewis Holmes four
pounds Lawfull money. To my well beloved Daughter Mary
Holmes four pounds Lawfull money and To my well beloved
Daughter Eloe Holmes four pounds Lawfull money To be paid
to

To them respectively by my said son Aaron Holmes within one
year after the aforesaid Division and appraisement. and
after the payment of the aforesaid Legacies what shall still be
Remaining of the sum the one half of said real Estate was
apprised at, I give the one Quarter part thereof To my well
beloved son Elephat Holmes, the one Quarter part To my well
beloved son Samuel Holmes, and one Quarter To my well beloved
son Joseph Holmes To be paid to them severally and respectively
or their Legal representative by my said son Aaron Holmes within
one year after the aforesaid appraisement. Each of my ~~last named~~
said three sons paying and allowing to my said son Aaron
one pound Lawfull money each out of the same to them their heirs
&c. and my will further is that what shall be remaining
of the said real Estate without Doors at the first of April 1767
the three Cows in my said wifes Improvement only excepted
be Equally Divided amongst my aforesaid four sons -
their heirs and assigns

And further my will is and I hereby order and Direct
that ~~at the first of April 1767~~ within one year after the Decease of my
said wife ~~after her decease with another son~~ the Remaining
other half of said real Estate be appraised by the aforesaid
persons ~~and others~~ that may be appointed in their room
as aforesaid, and when so Done I give To my nine
aforesaid (daughters four pound Lawfull money apiece
To be paid To them by my said son Aaron Holmes within
one month after said appraisement to them their heirs and
assigns. and after the payment of said Legacies what shall
be still remaining of the sum the said half of P. real Estate
was appraised at, I give the one Quarter part thereof To my
said son Elephat Holmes the one Quarter part thereof To my P.
son Samuel Holmes and one Quarter part thereof To my said
son Joseph Holmes To be paid to them by my said son Aaron
Holmes within one month after said appraisement To them their
heirs &c. Each of my said three sons paying and allowing to my

Said for thorn Holmes one pound Lawfull money each out
of the same —

and my will further is That after the Death of my aforesaid
Beloved Wife or at the Time of her Intermarriage with another
man my personall ~~estate~~ State Within Doors that Shall be remaining
be Equally Divided amongst my afore named nine beloved
Daughters to them their heirs &c

and my mind and will further is That my afore named ~~well~~
beloved Wife make such use and Improvement of all my
Swine and all my Shoe Leather I have now by me & she
shall think proper for the use of the family without being
Accountable to any person or persons for the same and my will
further is that my said wife be a Guardian for all my said
Children who shall need the same and I make and ordain
her my said Beloved wife Sole Executrix of this my Last
Will and Testament and do hereby utterly Disallow revoke
and Disannul all and every other former Testaments
Wills Legacies and Bequests and Executors by me in any
ways before made Willed and Bequeathed Notifying and
Confirming this and no other to be my Last Will and
Testament In Witness whereof I the said Joseph Holmes do
hereunto set my hand and Seal the Day and year first
afore Written

Signed sealed Published pronounced and
Declared by the said Joseph Holmes as
his Last Will and Testament in the
Presence of us whose names are
hereunder Written who did each of us
subscribe our names as Witnesses at his
Request and in his presence in the room
where he then was

Joseph Holmes

Taberz Gay
Ebeneser Mager

John Dext

April 28th 1766