

Will of John Townsend  
Dated June 1, 1805  
Newport Probate Records

In the Name of God Amen. I John Townsend of Newport in the State of Rhode Island &c: being of sound mind and memory and considering the frailty and uncertainty of this mortal state of existence do now make and Publish this my last Will and Testament in Manner following.

First, I Direct that my just Debts and funeral charges be paid in some reasonable time after my decease.

I Give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Mary Townsend, Twelve hundred Dollars to be paid her by my Executors herein after named, within one Year after my decease. I Also, Give unto my said Daughter Mary the Rents and Profits of my House and Lot of Land in Newport, as now enclosed, fronting South on Bridge Street, and adjoining on the West to a Shop occupied by Peleg Cranston, and on the East upon an Alley which divides it from land of Gilbert Chase, to be enjoyed by her during her natural life, if she so long remain unmarried, otherwise until the time of her Marriage.

And further I Give unto her my said Daughter, the following Articles to Wit  
One of my best Bedsteads with Claw feet, with the Bed thereon, usually kept in the great Chamber, and the Bedstead and Bed in my Keeping room Chamber, which belonged to my Daughter Sarah, together with the Sheets, Blankets, Spreads, Bolsters, Pillows, Curtains & furniture belonging to said Beds. Also my best Mahogany Bureau, which I made for her Mother, and one plain Mahogany Bureau, eight Mahogany Chairs with Claw feet, six Black walnut Chairs with Hair bottoms, my Easy Chair, two Mahogany Oval Pembroke Tables. One Square Mahogany four feet Table with fluted legs, one Mahogany three feet square Table with fluted legs, one square Mahogany Pembroke Table with Stretchers, one Mahogany Tea Table with the set of China it Contains, three dozen China Plates and three large China Platters, one large Brass kettle, one pair brass Hand Irons, my best Shovel & Tongs, six large Silver Spoons, my silver Pepper Box & Cream Pot, one Silver Porringer marked P.C., my warming Pan, and one pair of my best Candlesticks.

Also I give and Devise unto my Sons Solomon Townsend and John F. Townsend their Heirs and Assigns forever, my House and Lot of Land lying on Thames Street in Newport being the Estate I purchased of John C. Scott, together with all the Rights and Privileges there to belonging, to be equally divided between them, share and share alike. Also I give and Devise unto my said Sons, Solomon & John, a four Acre Lot lying next Eastward of the Duck Manufactory, being the Lot I purchased of John Clarke to Hold to them their Heirs and Assigns forever share and share alike.

And it is my Will that my six Acre Lot which I purchased of Lemuel Wyatt and adjoins the last mentioned Lot, be divided lengthwise agreeably to a Plot drawn by John Gould surveyor, in two parts, one part to Contain three Acres and one third of an Acre, the other part to contain two Acres and two thirds of an Acre adjoining the said four Acre Lot on the North end thereof which said two Acres and two thirds, I devise unto my said Sons Solomon and John their Heirs and Assigns forever, share and share alike.

Also I Give and Bequeath unto my said Son Solomon a Mahogany Desk I had made for him and a Clock made by Walter Cornell with the Case &c.

Also, I give and Bequeath unto said Son John my Clock which now stands in my Keeping Room made by Storr in London.

And I do hereby release acquit & discharge my said Sons Solomon & John their Heirs Executors & Administrators, of and from all bills, bonds, notes balances & demands which I may have against them at the time of my decease.

Also I Give and Devise unto my Son Charles F. Townsend his Heirs & Assigns forever, my Dwelling house where I now live, with the Lot adjoining whereon it stands, which said Lot Contains the Lot No. Eighty three, part of Lot No. Eighty two & part of Lot No. Eighty one, as the same as laid out in an Allotment of a Tract of Land called Easton's Point in Newport.

Also, I Devise unto my said Son Charles his Heirs & Assigns forever, my House & Lot, which is part of Lot No. Eighty four, and is herein before described, being the same House & Lot I have given to my Daughter Mary for her natural life or so long as she shall remain unmarried, after which period I give said House & Lot with the Appurtenances to my said Son as aforesaid.

Also, I Devise unto my said Son Charles three Acres and one third of an Acre of the Lot I purchased of Lemuel Wyatt as before described, the remaining part of which Lot I have herein given to my Sons Solomon & John, said three Acres & one third to be taken from the Northerly side of said Lot next to land of Oliver Ring Warner, and to be held by my said Son Charles his Heirs & Assigns forever. And it is my Will, that until my said Son Charles shall arrive at the age of Twenty one Years, the Lots and Houses herein given him shall be under the care of my Executors and the profits thereof applied by them to his use.

Also I Give and Bequeath unto my said Son Charles my Mahogany Desk which I have now in use and the Mahogany Bureau which was his Sister Sarah's.

Also I Direct that my House & Shop, and the Lot on which they stand which I purchased of the Executors of Kindal Nichols and likewise the fifth part of the House & Lot I purchased of the Executrix of Joseph G. Wanton as the same was laid out by a Committee shall be sold by my Executors and the proceeds thereof applied to the purposes of this my Will.

All the Rest and Remainder of my Estate both Real and Personal of every nature and wherever to be found and all Claims, Debts, Rights, Interests and Privileges, which shall belong or accrue unto me, I Give Assign and Devise unto my said three Sons Solomon John and Charles to be equally divided and enjoyed by them their Heirs and Assigns forever.

And hereby revoking all former Wills, I appoint Charles Feke and my Sons Solomon Townsend and John F. Townsend to be Executors of this my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I hereto set my Hand and Seal the first Day of June in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand eight hundred and five

Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the said John Townsend to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who hereto subscribe our names as Witnesses thereto in presence of said Testator and of each other.

V. Wightman  
 Willm. Engs  
 B. Hazard

At a Court of Probate held at the Council Chamber in Newport Monday May 1st AD 1809 in Open Court cometh Valentine Wightman and William Engs two of the Witnesses to the aforegoing Will and on their Solemn Oaths declare and say that they were present at the time that John Townsend named in said Will executed the same to Wit, on the first day of June in the Year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and five, that he was then of a sound mind & memory that they saw him sign & seal and heard him Publish and declare the same as and for his last Will & Testament that they signed as Witnesses thereto at the same time in the presence of the Testator in the presence of each other and in the presence of Benjamin Hazard the other Witness who is Absent, Wherefore said will is Proved and Approved.

Jonathan Almy Probate Clerk  
 Newport 8 May 1809 Recorded  
 By Jonathan Almy Probate Clerk

Inventory (1809)

Inventory of the Personal Estate of John Townsend late of Newport Cabinet Maker deceased taken by us the Subscribers May 13th, 1809.

8 Black Walnut framed Chairs \$24.	
8 Mahogany Chairs not put together \$16	\$40.00
4 Mahogany Bed Posts \$2.	
497 feet Mahogany \$78.72. 297 feet Walnut \$17.52	98.24
4 Cherry Tree Bed Posts \$1. 50 feet Cherry Tree \$3.	
1 Grind Stone and frame \$4	8.
Joiners Tools & 6 Benches \$59. 2 Easy Chair frames \$8.	
8 Blk Walnut frames Chairs \$24	91.
1 Chaise \$25. 1 Frame Saw. Stove and Lathe \$4.50	29.50
Samuel Vaughns Note \$64.77. John Marsh's Note \$27	91.77
John Cooke & Sons Note \$160. George Brown's Note \$195.	
Samuel Vaughans Note \$177.77	532.77
Thomas Warren's Note \$17. United States Certificate \$5.	
States Certificate \$16.23	38.23
Wearing Apparell \$25. Cash on hand \$92. Wheel and Lathe \$8	125.00
4 Mahogany Posts \$7. Nine feet Mahogany \$3.17	<u>10.17</u>
	\$1064.68

Joseph Cozzens  
 Job Townsend  
 John Tillinghast