

Will of Christopher Townsend
Dated July 3, 1773
Newport Probate Records

I Christopher Townsend of Newport, in the County of Newport, in the Colony of Rhode Island, and Providence Plantations, in New England in America, Shop-joiner, being of a sound and Well disposing mind & memory, blessed by God for the same and being Mindful of my Mortality, and the time thereof, being uncertain do make and Ordain this, my last Will and Testament, in manner following, and first of all, I commend my Soul to God, who gave it, and my Body to the Earth to be decently buried by my Executors hereinafter named, And as to such Worldly Goods and Estate as it hath pleased Almighty God to bless me with in this Life, I Give, devise, bequeath & dispose of the same in the Manner following that is to say.

Imprimis, my Will is that all my Debts, and funeral Expenses be Paid in some convenient time after my decease.

Item, I Give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife Patience Townsend, the use and Improvement of all my Real Estate, for and during the time she shall be and remain my Widow, & Also the use and Improvement of all my, Household furniture (except what is here in after mentioned and bequeathed to my sons and Daughter). for and during the time she shall be & remain my Widow; And I further Give and bequeath unto my said Wife, my Cow, and One hundred Spanish silver milled Dollars, to be paid her out of my Estate by my Executors hereinafter Named, all which my Will is, shall be in Lieu of her Right of Dower, and thirds of and in my Estate.

Item. I give and Devise unto my Son John Townsend my House and Lot of Land belonging and adjoining thereto, being the Lot of Land Number Eighty One, in an Allotment of a Tract of land called Easton's Point, situate, lying and being in Newport aforesaid, with the appurtenances, To be held by him and his heirs forever, and to be Enjoyed by him after my said Wife, shall cease to be my Widow.

I also Give, and devise unto my said son John, the One Moiety, or half Part, of the Lot of Land Number Eighty two, in the Allotment of Land before mentioned, which I bought of Daniel Coggeshall, reference to be had to his Deed for the bounds thereof, with the Appurtenances. To hold to him and his heirs forever, and to be enjoyed by him and them after my said Wife Ceases to be my Widow, And I further Give and Bequeath, unto my said son John Townsend, two of my largest silver Porringers marked CLM, and Three hundred spanish silver Milled Dollars, and One feather bed and bedding now in my bedroom Chamber. Also, one third Part, of all my new desks, and other joiners ware that is for sale, except one large Mahogany Desk, which my son Jonathan Townsend made; And also all my Joiners Tools, and all my Mahogany and other Shop Joinery stock, and all my Desk furniture which shall remain after the said New desks which I have by me shall be finished.

Item, I Give and Devise, unto my son Christopher Townsend, my Dwelling House, in which I now live, and the Lot of Land whereon it stands, with Joiners Shop, and all the other Buildings thereon standing and being, said Lot of Land being the Fifty first lot, in Number of said Allotment of said Easton's Point, with the Appurtenances thereunto belonging. To hold to him & his heirs forever, to be enjoyed by him when my said Wife shall cease to be

my Widow; I Also give and devise unto my said son Christopher Townsend, my store, or stable, with the Lot of Land, on which it stands, said Lot being the Forty ninth Lot in number of the above said Allotment in the first division of said Eastons Point. And is the same lot, which I bought of Matthew Borden with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging. To hold to him and his heirs forever to be enjoyed by him and them when my said Wife shall cease to be my Widow. I further give and bequeath unto my said son Christopher Townsend, my Clock and Clock case, and Silver Watch, silver Tankard, Two silver Porringers Marked cTp, also Three hundred spanish silver Milled Dollars One large Mahogany Oval Table, one small Mahogany oval Table, One feather bed, bedding & furniture, and my Gun, or Fowling Piece. Also one large Mahogany desk, which his brother Jonathan made, the Mahogany Desk which stands in my Great Room, Also my large looking Glass in my great room, two round about or great Chairs, and six leather bottom'd Chairs, and the one third part of all my New Desks & other joiners ware which I have by me for sale, and five large Maps in Frames.

Item I give devise and bequeath unto my Daughter Mary Wanton, my House & Lot of Land which Sarah Cozzens now occupies, being part of, the Eighty fourth Lot, in number of said Allotment, on said Eastons Point, and which I purchased of John Hicks, with the Appurtenances thereof. To hold the said House and Land to her own use for and during the Term of her Natural Life and from and after her Death, I give and devise the same House and Land to her son Christopher Townsend Wanton, and his heirs of his Body, My Will is that my said Daughter Mary shall have and take the use and Improvement, of the above said House and Land, immediately After my said Wife shall cease to be my Widow, And in case my said Daughter, Mary Wanton, should die before the determination, of my said Wifes Estate, and Interest in said house and land, then Immediately After the Determination of her said Estate and Interest therein, my Will is that my said House and Land should be held by the said Christopher Townsend Wanton, in manner aforesaid — And if the said Christopher Townsend Wanton, should die without Heirs of the Body, lawfully begotten, then I devise the same, House and Lot of Land to his Brother Gideon Wanton and to the heirs of his Body lawfully begotten. Also I give unto my said Daughter Mary Wanton, the Feather Bed in my great Chamber, with all the bedding and furniture thereunto belonging, and the Looking Glass, and six Maple fram'd Chairs, all of them in said Chamber, and Also Two silver porringers, and One silver cream Pot to be enjoyed by her immediately upon my Wife's ceasing to be my Widow; My Will Also further is that my Executors hereinafter named, pay to my said Daughter Mary Wanton out of my Estate Two hundred spanish silver Mill'd Dollars, within three Years after my decease. Item, My Will is that my Executors hereinafter named Pay to each of my said Grand Children, Chris Townsend Wanton, and Gideon Wanton, out of my Estate, One hundred Dollars when they shall respectively arrive to the Age of twenty one years, and in case either of them shall die before he shall have arrived to that Age, then his Part shall be paid to the survivor by my Executors, when he shall arrive to the Age Aforesaid.

Item. I do herby release and discharge my son John Townsend from the Payment of the Ballance which may or shall be due from him to me at the time of my Death, on account or Otherwise, excepting the bond, which he gave to my son Jonathan deccas'd, in his life time, and the Note of hand he gave to Me.

Item. I do hereby release and discharge my son Christopher Townsend from the Payment of the Ballance which may or shall be due from him to Me at the time of my Death, on account, or otherwise.

Item all the, Rest, Residue, and Remainder of my Estate, whatsoever, both Real and Personal, and whersoever situate, not before, in this my Will devised & bequeathed, I give devise and bequeath, unto my said sons John Townsend & Christopher Townsend and my said Daughter Mary Wanton to be equally divided amongst them, and to be held by them, and their heirs forever.

Lastly. I hereby Nominate, Constitute and Appoint, my said sons John Townsend and Christopher Townsend to be Executors of this my last Will and Testament, and I do hereby utterly disallow, Revoke and disannull all and every other Wills, Legacies, Bequests and Executors, by me at any time heretofore made, named, Willed or bequeathed, Ratifying allowing and confirming this & none Other to be my last Will and Testament, In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this Third 4ay of the seventh Month called July, in the Year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and seventy three and thirteenth year of the Reign of George the third King of Great Britain &.

Christopher Townsend

Signed sealed Published Pronounced & Declared by the said Christopher Townsend to be his last Will & Testament in the Presence of.

Timothy Waterhouse

William Ellery

Jonathan Wallen

Codicil (1786)

A Codicil to be added to and be Part of the last Will and Testament of Christopher Townsend of Newport, in the County of Newport, and State of Rhode Island &. Shop Joiner.

Whereas I have made and Published a Will in Writing, bearing date the third day of July, in the Year of our Lord, One thousand, seven hundred & seventy three; Now I do hereby, confirm and establish the same with the following Alterations, to wit, Whereas in and by my said Will and Testament, I gave and devised, unto my Daughter Mary Wanton my House and Lot of Land, which I purchased of John Hicks, and, she being Already deceas'd, I Give and devise the same to my son John Townsend, To hold to him, his heirs & Assigns forever, subject to this condition, that he my said son John Townsend, shall pay unto my Grandchildren Christopher Townsend Wanton, Gideon Wanton, and Edward Wanton, Children of my Daughter Mary Wanton Sixty Spanish silver Milled Dollars each, with the payment whereof I do hereby charge my said son John Townsend and the Premises Aforesaid, And it is further my Will that if either of my said Grand Children shall die before he or they shall arrive to the Age of twenty one Years, at which time they shall respectively be entitled to receive the same; that then the sum hereby bequeathed him or them so dying, shall be by my said son John Townsend paid to the Survivors or Survivor of them my said Grand Children that shall arrive to the full Age of Twenty One Years.

It is also my Will that my Well beloved Wife, Patience Townsend, shall have and enjoy the Rents and Profits of the same Premises, for and during her Natural life.

Also I give and bequeath unto my son Christopher Townsend Junr, the Bed, Glass and Chairs in and by my said last Will and Testament, bequeathed to my Daughter Mary Wanton, To hold to him and his Assigns forever.

Also I Give and bequeath unto my Grandson Christopher Townsend Wanton, the Silver Cream Pot, by me in and by my said last Will and Testament given and bequeathed unto his Mother, To hold to him and his Assigns forever.

Also it is my Will that all other bequests in my said Will contained to my said Daughter Mary Wanton, and to my Grand Children Christopher Townsend Wanton & Gideon Wanton, shall go to my said Executors, therein named, to be equally divided between them.

And I do hereby declare that my said Will and Testament, in Writing, & this Codicil which I Will shall be Added to and deemed a part thereof, do contain my Last Will and Testament, In Witness whereof, I have to this Codicil set my hand & Seal the eighteenth day of, March, in the Year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and Eighty six, and in the tenth Year of American Independency.

Christopher Townsend

Witnessed by:

John Grelea

Edmund Townsend

William Borden

Inventory (1792)

'An Inventory of the Personal Estate of Christopher Townsend, late of Newport, Cabinet Maker, deceased, taken by us the Subscribers, November 30th, 1792.

1 Mahogany Desk, 84/ . . .	1 Mahogany dining table, 40/	6..4..0
1 Clock & Case, 7..10..0 . . .	One Small Oval table, 20/	8..10..0
1 Fly tea table, 20/ . . .	6 Black walnut Chairs, 72/	4..12..0
3 broken roundabout Chairs, 18/		
1 Bedstead, bed, bolster, & Pillows		6..0..0
1 iOld Blacknut, Oval Table, 6/		
1 Old Blacknut China Table, 1 Old Meal Chest		0..3..0
6 Maple Straw bottom'd chairs, old		0..15..0
2 Beds, 1 Bolster, 2 Pillows "old:" 1 pr. old sheets		4..10..0
1 Mahogany China table, 10/ 1 looking Glass, broke, 18/		1..8..0
1 Broken Stand		
1 Maple bedstead, 10/ . . .	1 Small black walnut desk, 30/	2..0..0

- 1 Small Stool. . .
- 1 Old Chest drawers, 5/. . .
- 2 Old trunks, 1 Old Chest, 4/. . .
- 1 Oak bedstead, 3/. . .

- 2 Old bedsteads in the Garret, 4/. . .