

## Will of John Bessonette

In the name of God Amen I, John Bessonett of the Borrough of Bristol, in the county of Bucks and Province of Pennsylvania being of sound mind and memory and understanding do make this my last will and Testament in manner following that is to pay, I order and my will is that my Executors hereafter named do pay off all my just debts and funeral charges and that as soon after my decease as they conveniently can. In the next place, I give devise and bequeath to my said Executors the sum of two hundred and twenty pounds, lawful money of Pennsylvania, to them and their heirs nevertheless for the uses and purposes herein named that they, my said executors do after the end of six months after my decease pay or cause to be paid to my dear wife Joyce Bessonett, the sum of six pounds twelve shillings lawful money of Pennsylvania aforesaid, and six months after that is twelve months from the day of my decease a like sum of six pounds twelve shillings lawful money aforesaid if she so long should live and from that time during her natural life if so long she shall continue my widow my will is that my said Executors do yearly and every year pay unto my said wife Joyce, the full and just sum of thirteen pounds four shillings lawful money of aforesaid being the yearly interest of the first mentioned two hundred twenty pounds and at and after the decease or marriage of my said wife, I give and bequeath the said principal sum to my said Executors hereafter named and to their heirs forever I likewise give and bequeath to my said wife Joyce all and singular the household goods and furniture of which she was possessed when I married her, I likewise give her my largest Common Prayer Book as also---- of all the hogs that may be in the pen at the day of my decease, also my tea kettle and sundry small articles purchased since my marriage with her all which legacies I give my said dear wife in lieu and stead of dower.

Item I give to my son John Bessonett, one of my Executors hereafter named my Eight Day Clock, and to my son Charles Bessonett my other Executor, my mare saddle and bridle and I give to my son Daniel Bessonett and to his heirs the sum of eighty pounds current lawful money of Pennsylvania to be paid by my said Executors in twelve months after the day of my decease. I give and bequeath to my daughter Catherine Goheen and to her heirs the sum of sixty pounds current lawful money of Pennsylvania. I give and bequeath to my daughter Anne Boucher and to her heirs the sum of sixty pounds like lawful money aforesaid. I give and bequeath to my daughter Martha Johnson and to her heirs the sum of sixty pounds like lawful money aforesaid. And it is my will that if any of my said daughters should happen to die before they receive their respective legacies and the same of my son Daniel that then and in that case my Executors are required to place such of my said children's share to interest on good security to be paid to the child or children of such of my said children as shall happen so to die in a just and equal proportion, as they respectively attain their age of twenty-one years. I give and bequeath to the children of my late daughter Elizabeth Lazalere the sum of forty five pounds like lawful money aforesaid to be divided amongst them as they respectively come of age, but not in less than twelve months after my decease share and share alike. I give and

bequeath to the children of my late daughter Mary Mitchell the like sum of forty five pounds to be paid them in monies as aforesaid. I give and bequeath to the children of my late daughter Sarah Bodine the like sum of forty five pounds to be paid in monies as aforesaid. And if any of my grandchildren should die in their minority my will is that such grandchild's share shall be divided among his her or their brothers and sisters share and share alike. And should any of my children die without issue or should all the children of my son Daniel or of either of my deceased daughters die before their legacies are paid, then it is my will that such shares be equally divided amongst my children and grandchildren in just and equal proportions so that the children of any one of my said daughters do not exceed one child's share. My further will is I do hereby require my Executors immediately after my death to place ten pounds to interest and there continue it till John Bessonett, son of my son John Bessonett shall arrive at his age of twenty-one years when the whole principal and interest is to be paid him, but if he should happen to die before such age I then give and bequeath the same to his brothers and sisters in equal proportions share and share alike.

I further give and bequeath to each of my daughters now living, that is to my daughters Catherine Goheen, my daughter Anne Boucher, and to my daughter Martha Johnson, two large silver spoons being six family silver spoons now in use in my family. I give and bequeath to Martha Brelsfoard, daughter of my dear wife Joyce, my feather bed, bolster and pillows with one pair of sheets, one blanket and my little red quilt, but if she should die before marriage, I then give the same to my wife.

Lastly, I nominate constitute and appoint my son John Bessonett of the city of New York and my son Charles Bessonett of the borough of Bristol Executors of this my last will and testament making them my residuary Legatees to receive and inherit every part of my estate not herein before divided, ordering my said Executors where no time for the payment of such legacies as I have herein bequeathed to pay the same in twelve months after my decease. And I hereby revoke and make void all other wills by me heretofore made. Acknowledging and ratifying this as my only Last Will and Testament.

In Witness thereof I have here unto set my hand and seal the fourth day of March in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy four

John Bessonett

3/4/1774