

Essex County Probate 325/275

The Will of Benjamin Morse b. Aug 27, 1668, and died Jul 22, 1743 in Newbury, MA. Proved Aug 01, 1743.

Copied by Chuck Hanson

In the Name of God Amen the **twenty eighth day of February Anno Domi 1737/38 I Benjamin Morse Newbury** in y^e county of Essex and province of y^e Massachusetts Bay in New England. Being at the time in good health, and of perfect mind and memory, thanks be given unto God therefore; but calling to mind the mortality of my body and that it is appointed for all men once to die, Do make and ordain this to be my Last Will and Testament, principally recommending my soul to God who gave it, and my body to decent Christian Burial. As touching such worldly Estate, wherewith it has pleased Almighty God to bless me in this life, I give demise & dispose here of after y^e following manner (vizt:)

Imprimis: I give to my beloved **wife Marcy** one halfe of my household goods, and one cow, also I give her my littel garden before my door, between my house and the town house for her use, while shee remains my wido: Also I give her a room in my house, which shee shall chuse during the time shee remains my widow, and if shee marry again I give her four pound a year, so long as shee lives.

Item. I give and bequeath unto **my son in law John Adams** my homestead, with all my buildings thereon, and twenty pounds out of my moveables_ and I do hereby ordain, constitute and appoint him, **the said John Adams, to be the sole executor** of this my will; and furthur my will is that my sd. executor shall pay to Marcy my now wife, the sum of fifteen pounds a year, yearly after my decease, until he hath paid her the sum of two hundred ten pounds, if shee so long remain my widow, but if it please god shee die or if shee marry before y^e said sum of two hundred & ten pounds is paid, then what remains shall be equally divided **among my daughters, Mary Brown, Hannah March, Margaret Coffin, Susannah Piper, Sarah Perly & Susannah Morse the daughter of my son Joshua Morse** and y^e sd John Adams my said executor; but if it so be, that if my now wife Mercy, should live my widow, after shee have received of my Execr: the sd sum of two hundred & ten pounds, in manner as aforesaid, my will is that my daughters, Mary, Hannah, Margaret Susannah & Sarah, and my Executor shall each of them pay yearly to my said widow, the sum of three pounds a year, while shee remains my widow, and if any of my daughters, above mentiones shall refuse to pay the said sum as abovesaid, my will is that my executor shall sell, so much of their part or portion who refuses as to pay y^e said sum of three pounds yearly.

Item. I give & bequeath to **my grand daughter Susannah Morse, the daughter of my son Joshua Morse**, the sum of five pounds to be paid her, when shee come to the age of eighteen years.

Item. I give & bequeath to **my grand daughter Marcy Brown**, five pounds,

Also: I will that after my just debts & funeral charges are paid, the rest of my estate, not before disposed of, be equally divided both real & personal among my daughters Mary Brown Hannah March Margaret Coffin Susannah Piper & Sarah Perley and I do rattify & declare this to be my last will and testament In witness whereof I the said Benjamin Morse, have hereunto sett my hand & seal this twenty eighth day of February, in the eleventh year of y^e reign of our sovereign lord George y^e second King of Great Brittan &c: Anno Domini 1737/8

Signed Sealed published pronounced & declared , by Benja: Morse to be his last will & testament in presence of John Brown William Brown John Fyfield} Benjamin Morse (Seal)

Proved Aug 01, 1743 in Ipswich before The Hon. Thomas Berry Esq.