

Worcester, October, 3<sup>rd</sup> 1797

George Aldrich  
Wife

I George Aldrich of Mendon in the County of Worcester, <sup>Commonwealth of Massachusetts</sup> being advanced in age and also old in body but of a perfect mind and memory, thanks be given to God, therefore and remembering the Mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all such one to die, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament, that is to say principally and first of all, I recommend my Soul into the hands of God that gave it, and my body I recommend to the earth to be buried in a decent manner at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named; and touching such worldly estate, wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me with in this World I give and devise and dispose of the same in the following manner Item my will is that my just debts which I owe, together with my funeral charges shall be well and truly paid, by my Executors hereafter named, in convenient time after my decease.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son Dan Aldrich and to his heirs and assigns forever, all the Land which I purchased of Hezekiah Maynard lying on and about Ducknet Hill (so called) (except one acre at the North east corner of the premises which I shall be judged most convenient for a Building lot, and also two acres of Meadow land lying in the round Meadow (so called); together with about six acres of Woodland lying at the Western end of Leche Aldrich the 2<sup>nd</sup> land, said piece was let off by purchase between Robert Aldrich and my self.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son George Aldrich all my Homestead Farm and buildings thereon erected, situate in Mendon between the right road (so called) and Madry brook (so called), together with all the lands which I own adjoining on the North side of the said road and also about eleven acres of Woodland lying in Milford in the park woods so called, to his heirs and assigns forever - and also I give him a six acre right in the Town ship of Mendon, also I give him his choice in my Deer and eight clay clarks, my largest looking glass and all my black smith tools.

Item I give and bequeath unto my grandson Ebenezer Aldrich, all the remainder of my land which I have not given to my son Dan which I own on and about the Ducknet Hill (so called), which land was formerly owned by Simon Keith he the said Ebenezer paying such Legacies as shall be hereinafter mentioned, viz, to pay to my Daughter Mary Nichols four pounds ten shillings Annually so long as she remains a single woman, that is to pay her two pounds five shillings within six months after my decease and then the same sum every six months as long as she shall remain a single woman - and also to pay George Aldrich four pounds or give him a Quitclaim Deed of his right to three acres of Meadow land lying in the Rock Meadow (so called),

that his Father Charles Aldrich purchased of Simeon Daniels; and also <sup>421</sup> to pay twenty pounds to my Daughter Delphia Strain within one year after my decease, when the above named Ebenezer shall comply with or pay out the above legacies, then the above described premises shall be assigned to him his heirs and assigns forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my grandson Pardon Aldrich, Forty acres of land with the Building thereon which I purchased of Nathan Strain, lying in Mendon on each side of the road leading to Providence, he the said Pardon paying such legacies as shall be hereafter mentioned, viz, to pay to George Aldrich just fifteen pounds, or give him a Quitclaim Deed of his right to three acres of Meadow land lying in the Rock Meadow (so called), that his Father Charles Aldrich bought of Simeon Daniels, also he shall pay, twenty pounds each to six of my granddaughters, the full names of my Granddaughters Delphia Strain, viz, the said Strain, Brilla Strain & Ebenezer Strain, Polly Strain, George Strain and Nathan Strain, each of the above named heirs to be paid when they shall arrive at lawful age to give proper discharges to the abovesaid Pardon - and in case any of the above mentioned heirs should decease before they arrive at lawful age, then the said Pardon to be held on to pay these part to them that shall survive, when the above named Pardon shall comply with or pay out the above mentioned legacies, then the above described premises shall be assigned to him his heirs and assigns forever.

Item I give and bequeath unto my grandson Abas Aldrich part of my land in Uxbridge (so called) bounding Northerly partly on land of Seth Southwick, thence with a straight line to a heap of stones on a Rock being the southeast corner of Timothy Alexanders land and so to extend westerly as far as my land goes with the building thereon meaning, all the land down in said Town South of that line to have his heirs and assigns forever - also if I should own a horse at my decease I give the same to the said Abas, if not void - the said Abas to pay to George Aldrich fifteen pounds or give him a Quitclaim Deed of his right to three acres of Meadow land lying in Rock Meadow (so called) - that his Father Charles Aldrich bought of Simeon Daniels.

Item I give and bequeath unto Zachus Taft and his wife Abigail Taft and their son George Taft my improved Land lying upon the County road in Mendon near Rock Meadow which I purchased of Nathan Aldrich, containing about thirty acres if being all within fence together with west part of Woodland at the North end of my woodlot adjoining the above mentioned premises to extend bothward of equal breadth on said Woodland till it contains eight acres they paying to Aldrich Bolton my grandson thirty pounds in manner hereafter mentioned, viz, five pounds at his arrival at the age of twenty one years, and five pounds Annually until the thirty pounds shall be paid - My will is that the said Zachus Taft, bring up the said George until he shall arrive to twenty one years of age and have the improvement of the whole premises until then, when the above legacies shall be complied with or paid to the said Aldrich Bolton then the above mentioned premises shall be assigned to them their heirs and assigns forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my grandsons Ebenezer Aldrich and Pardon Aldrich two acres and three quarters of Meadow Land lying in the Round Meadow (so called) lying there with about twenty acres lying in Mendon near Cobble Hill.