Worcester, October, 3d. 1797

George Aldrich Will

In the Name of God Amen I George Aldrich of Mendon in the County of Worcester & Commonwealth of Massachusetts yeoman being Ancient in age and also weak in body, but of a perfect mind and memory, thanks be given to God therefor and remembering the Mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once 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 Executor hereafter named; and touching such Worldly estate, wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me with in this World I give and dispose and dispose of the same in the following manner & form

Imprimis my Will is that my just debts which I owe, together with my funeral charges shall be well and truly paid, by my Executor 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 Wayman lying on and about Quicksett hill (so called) (except one acre at the North east corner of the premises which which 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 five acres of Woodland lying at the Westerly end of Leche Aldrich the 2d land, said piece was set off by mutual bargain 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 road (so called) and Muddy brook, so called, together with all the lands which I own adjoining on the North side of Sherburn road and also about eleven acres of woodland lying in Milford in the pine wood so called, to her heirs and assigns forever - and also I give him a six acre right in the Town ships of Mendon, also I give him his choice in my Desks and eight day clocks, 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 Quicksett Hill so called, which land was formerly owned by Simeon Keith he the said Ebenezer paying such Legacies as shall be herein 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 jun. 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 purchased of Ebenezer Daniels; and also to pay twenty pounds to my Daughter Delphia Streeter within one year after my decease, when the above named Ebenezer shall comply with or pay out the above legacies, then the above discribed 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 Buildings thereon which I purchased of Nathan Streeter, 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 jun 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 Ebenezer Daniels, Also he shall pay twenty pounds each to six of my Grandchildren, the lawfull heirs of my Daughter Delphia Streeter, viz, to Sally Streeter Orilla Streeter Ebenezer Streeter, Polly Streeter George Streeter and Nathan Streeter, each of the above named heirs to be paid when they shall arrive at lawfull age to give proper discharges to the above said Pardon - and in case any of the above mentioned heirs should decease before they arrive at lawfull age, then the said Pardon to be holden to pay their part to them that shall survive, when the above named Pardon shall comply with or pay out the above mentioned legacies, then the above discribed premises shall be assigned to him his heirs and assigns forever

Item I give and bequeath unto my Grandson Thaes Aldrich part of my land in Clement hills 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 buildings thereon meaning, all the land I own in said Farm South of that line to him his heirs and assigns forever - also if I should own a horse at my decease I give the same to the said Thaes, if not void, - the said Thaes 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 Ebenezer Daniels

Item I give and bequeath unto Zachius Taft and his Wife Abigail Taft and their son George Taft my improved Land lying upon the Coventry road in Mendon near Rock Meadow which I purchased of Nathan Aldrich, containing about thirty acres it being all within fence - together with eight acres of Woodland at the North end of my wood lot adjoining the above mentioned premises to extend Southward of equal breadth on said Wood land 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 Zachius 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 Caleb's

Will

Hill so called, being land that Simon Hicks formerly purchased of Samuel Rawson together with the remainder of my land at Chesnut Hill that I have not given to Thos Aldrich adjoining to that containing about twenty acres, to be equally divided between them their heirs and assigns forever —

Item I give and bequeath unto my son George Aldrich, all my lands and building by the Friends Meeting house lying on both sides of the road together with the lot known by the name of Emerson lot containing about four acres together with my woodland lying the North side of Taft pond so called containing about ten acres, also all the woodland I own lying on the Pond Hills, except what I gave to Zacheus Taft lying about twenty acres, these lands above mentioned I give to my son George he enable him to pay the legacies hereafter mentioned, viz, that he shall pay and perform in the manner following the said George shall let my Daughter Mary Nichols have the use of my shop (formerly my trading shop near the Friends Meeting House) to lodge and store her goods in & the use of so much of the Cellar under said room as she shall have occasion for and also a privilege of using the well as much as she shall have occasion for as long as she shall remain a single woman — and to pay her the said Mary Nichols four pounds ten shillings once every six months after my decease so long as she shall remain a single woman, to be paid in money or in such necessaries of life as she shall stand in need of at money price, also the said George to pay my Grand daughter Bezpak Bruce Eighty pounds, to be paid in the manner following viz, twenty pounds in One year after my decease, and then twenty pounds annually till the Eighty pounds is paid — Also the said George is to pay to my three grandchildren, viz, Aldrich Bolton, Polly Bolton and Fanny Bolton fifteen pounds each, to be paid to each of them when they shall arrive at lawfull age to give him a discharge for the same, in case any of the above mentioned children should not live to arrive to lawfull age, then their part to be paid to them that shall survive — Also the said George to pay to my Daughter Phila Bolton Fifteen pounds to be paid seven pounds ten shillings to be paid in one year after my decease, the other seven pounds ten shillings in two years after my decease — Also the said George to pay my Daughter Delphia Stratton Twenty pounds, to be paid forty shillings in one year after my decease and then forty shillings annually untill the Twenty pounds is paid — Also the said George to pay all cost and charge of settling my estate agreable to this my will — when the within named legacies and performances shall be performed and complyed with then the within named premises to be the said Georges his heirs and assigns forever —

Item I give and bequeath unto my grandson Thos Aldrich my other Desk not heretofore disposed of —

Item I give to my two sons Dan Aldrich and George Aldrich all my wearing apparel and all my printed Books to be equally divided between them —

Item

Item I give and bequeath to my two sons Dan Aldrich and George Aldrich and my three grandsons Ebenezer Aldrich, Pardon Aldrich and Thos Aldrich all my live Stock, not hereinbefore given away disposed of as horned Cattle Sheep and Swine & all my farming tools and out door moveables, to be equally divided amongst them.

Item I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Delphia Stratton One third part of my Indoor moveables not hereinbefore disposed of —

Item I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Mary Nichols, to my Daughter Phila Bolton and my Grand Daughter Abigail Taft and my Grand Daughter Bezpak Bruce the other two third of all my indoor moveably not hereinbefore disposed of, to be equally divided among them —

Item it is my will that if I have any money or securities for money at my decease more than to pay my just debts and funeral charges (not meaning the charges of settling my estate, which I have hereinbefore given to George to pay) the same shall be equally divided between my children viz Dan Aldrich George Aldrich — Mary Nichols, Phila Bolton and Delphia Stratton

Item it is my will that my real Estate shall not be appraised after my decease

Finally I hereby nominate and appoint my trusty and well beloved son George Aldrich the sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking disannulling and making void all former or other wills and bequeaths by me made, do declare this to be my last Will and Testament — In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this seventh day of January in the year of our Lord 1797 and in the 21st year of the Independence of America

Signed, Sealed, published pronounced and declared
by the said George Aldrich to be his last
Will and Testament in the presence of us

Chad Mason
Charles Aldrich
Adams Chapin

George Aldrich (Seal)

Worcester ss) At a Court of Probate holden at the Probate Office in Worcester in said County on the first Tuesday of September instant personally appeared Chad Mason, Charles Aldrich and Adams Chapin, the subscribing witnesses to the Execution of this Instrument, & made oath that they saw the said George Aldrich late of Sturbridge in said County yeoman (Seal) deceased, who made oath that or affirmation that they saw the said George Aldrich sign and seal and heard him declare the said Instrument to be his last Will and Testament, and that he was, at the time of signing said Instrument of disposing mind and memory and that they set their names as witnesses to the execution of said Instrument in the presence of the said George Aldrich and each other — I Prove approve and allow of the said Instrument as the last will and Testament of said deceased, and commit the Administration thereof in the said Court to George Aldrich the Executor therein appointed — In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal of the court of Probate this third Day of October A.D. 1797

Jos Dorr Jr Prob

Entered from the Original pr Thos Wheeler Reg