

Will, DE, Kent, MARK BARDON 1750

In the name of God Amen.

I, **MARK BARDON**, Kent County on Delaware being sick and weak in body but, thanks to almighty God, of perfect, sound mind and memory, do call to mind the uncertainty of this life and do make this my last will and testament in the following manner, viz.

FIRST AND PRINCIPALLY I recommend my soul to almighty God that gave it and my body to the earth to be buried and such decent and Christian like manner as my executors, hereafter named, shall think proper.

FIRST my will is that all my just debts or duties, which in right or conscience I owe, be paid within proper time near after my decease by my executors, hereafter named.

THEN FIRST my will is that my grandson **DANIEL COUDRAT**, son of **DANIEL COUDRAT**, deceased, shall have 50 acres of land laid out on the north side of my land where I now dwell, part of a tract of land called LONGREACH, so as to take but one half of the orchard on this proviso; that his mother, **ELIZABETH ARMITAGE**, by a good and sufficient deed convey unto my daughter [**PRESEMANE**] **PRESEMENE BRIAN**, wife to **JOHN BRIAN [BRION]**, to her and her lawful heirs of her body, 50 acres of land, also being part of said LONGREACH, which she was empowered by her former husband, **DANIEL COUDRAT's** last will to make over.

ITEM my will is that my grandson **MARK COUDRAT**, son of **DANIEL COUDRAT** deceased, shall have all my land between the 50 acres of land I willed to **DANIEL COUDRAT** and a small branch or glade, so as not to take any of the said small branch or glade or any part of the cripple or savannah adjoining the said branch or glade, to him and his lawful heirs on this proviso; that his mother, **ELIZABETH ARMITAGE**, doth by a good and sufficient deed, convey unto my daughter **PRESEMENE BRIAN**, wife to **JOHN BRIAN**, to her and the lawful heirs of her body, 50 acres of land, aforesaid, which she was to **JOHN BRIAN**, to her lawful heirs of her body, 50 acres aforesaid which she was empowered to make over by her former husband, **DANIEL COUDRAT**, deceased, and last will.

ITEM my will is that my daughter, **PRESEMENE BRIAN**, wife to **JOHN BRIAN**, have all the remainder of my lands within the tract of land called LONGREACH or HAMMER SMITH to her and her lawful heirs of her body.

ITEM my will is that if my daughter, **ELIZABETH ARMITAGE**, should refuse or neglect to make over and convey the aforesaid 50 acres of land, as aforesaid, that then my will is that my aforesaid grandson, **MARK COUDRAT**, shall have the 50 acres of land which I bequeathed in this will, aforesaid, to the aforesaid my grandson **DANIEL COUDRAT** and my will is that if my daughter **ELIZABETH ARMITAGE** should refuse or neglect making over and conveying the aforesaid 50 acres of land as aforesaid that then my will is that my daughter **PRESEMENE BRIAN**, wife of **JOHN BRIAN**, should have that parcel of land which I willed to my grandson **MARK COUDRAT** adjoining the small branch and the 50 acres of land first bequeathed to my grandson, **DANIEL COUDRAT**, and my will is that my daughter **ELIZABETH ARMITAGE** should have a home or residence during her life on that part of my land, which shall be her son **MARK COUDRAT** and my will is that whereas some part of the lands before bequeathed is mortgaged in the loan office, my will is that the aforesaid lands so mortgaged shall clear the loan office by renting or otherwise and my will is that if the said **DANIEL COUDRAT** or **MARK COUDRAT** or **PRESEMENE BRIAN** or either of them should deceased without leaving issue that their part or parts to descend to deceased shall be equally divided among all my grandchildren.

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ITEM my will is that my daughter **ELIZABETH ARMITAGE** shall have 10 shillings paid to her by my executors out of my estate.

ITEM my will is that my daughter **SARAH MAXWELL** shall have out of my household goods one feather bed with the furniture thereunto belonging and also one iron pot hook.

ITEM it is my will that any that my daughter **PRESEMENE BRIAN** shall have all the remainder of my household goods.

ITEM it is my will and desire that all my grandchildren shall have five shillings to each of them out of my estate.

ITEM it is my will is that all the remainder of my movable estate, after my just debts being paid, shall be equally divided among all my children and grandchildren, only my daughter **ELIZABETH ARMITAGE** excepted, she to have no part thereof.

ITEM my will is that my daughter **PRESEMENE BRIAN** have one mare called IANISO.

And lastly I do constitute and appoint my well beloved son-in-law **JOHN BRIAN** and **JOSEPH POWELL** my executors of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 15th day of December in the year of Our Lord 1750.

MARK BARDON {seal}

Signed Sealed pronounced and declared in the presence of us

ROBERT R. WILSON {his mark}

DAVID PUGH

MARY ANN WILSON {her A mark}

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County of Kent on Delaware

Personally came before me, **ROBERT WILSON** and **DAVID PUGH**, two of the subscribing evidences to the foregoing will, who, being severally sworn on the Evangelist of almighty God, doth depose and say that they saw and heard **MARK BARDON**, the within testator, sign and seal, pronounce and declare the aforesaid to be his last will and testament and that day, with **MARY ANN WILSON**, did, at the same time, sign as evidences thereunto, and that at the time of said testator saying and doing the same, he was, to their belief, of sound and disposing mind and memory this day of 26 day of March 1750

JOHN HOUSMAN, register

Personally appeared before me **MARY ANN WILSON**, one of ye subscribing witnesses to ye foregoing will and being sworn on ye Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth and sayeth that she did see and hear **MARK BARDON** ye within testator sign, seal, publish, pronounce and declare ye within instrument of writing as his last will and testament and that at ye time of his so doing & saying he was to ye best of her belief of a sound and disposing mind and memory and that she did see **ROBERT WILSON** and **DAVID PUGH** ye other two subscribing witnesses sigh at ye same time and that they all signed at ye request of ye testator.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 28th day of July 1755.

THEODORE MAURICE, register

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Transcribed from original documents by Brent **R. BRIAN** & Martha M. **BRIAN**.

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