

Mrs., Mistress, Dame and Madame were titles of honor and respect bestowed on unmarried women of high social standing or venerable age. The marriage of Governor Bradstreet's daughter, Dorothy, is on record as "Mrs. Dorothy Bradstreet."

Military titles§ were held in high repute among the colonists. A Corporal was on the road to distinction; a Sergeant had arrived and his title was never omitted. An Ensign or a Lieutenant was quite lifted above the heads of his fellows, and a Captain was a man of the highest standing and influence in the community. The officers of the Train Band ranked next to the Minister and Deacon when the church sittings were allotted and on all occasions they took precedence over the untitled multitude.

Upon the death of John Reynolds, his widow was appointed Administratrix. Joshua<sup>3</sup>, then under age, chose his brother John (the cooper) as guardian, while young David chose Joseph Knapp. At his death, John<sup>2</sup> was the largest landowner in Greenwich. In 1706 the sons sold and interchanged various parcels of land, which they had inherited from their "honored father, Mr. John Renals, deceased." We quote his will and give the inventory of John<sup>2</sup> Reynolds' Estate, 1701, in full: (Recorded in Fairfield, Conn.)

#### JOHN REYNOLDS' WILL

Probated at Fairfield, Conn.

The last Will and Testament of John Renolds, Senior, being under ye afflicting hand of God by sickness and long continued weakness, yet throu Gods grate mercy in ye full Injoyment of my understanding and not knowing how short my time in this life may bee, I will as folloth.

*Imprimis*, I commit my Spirit unto God that gave it hoping for redemption and salvation in and throu ye merrits of ye Lord Jesus Christ. 2ly, I will yt my body be decently Beauried and ye charges be paid out of my Estate. 3ly, I will that my just Debts be Payed And for what Worldly Estate God in his Providence hath Pleased to Bestow upon me I will as followeth. I will and bequeath unto my Dear and Loving wiffe my Negro woman also I give unto my wiffe ye Bed headstead & Furniture of that bed which wee ly on also another of ye best beds with ye furniture to it also I give unto her all of ye household Linning with all ye wooll, Flax, yearne or home spun cloth wee may have at my Desease also provession for dyat for a yeare after my desease. I say dyat for her and her famly for ye afore sd time & for ye Rest of her Dowry I will yt my Wiffe have as ye present Law Directs for widows. I will and bequeath to my several sonns and Datters as followeth.

*Imprimis*, I will and bequeth unto my eldst sonn John Renalds all my land en horse neck ould fealde. I further give to him my sd sonn halfe my Lott at Poping point wanting two acres also all my meadow at Coscobs also I give unto him one third part of all my Rite in Land blow ye Path unlayde out save only reserving my Rite in ye Indian Fealde also I give him my sd John, being my oldest sonn a ox and a heffer of two yeare ould which unto what I have already given in land and otherwise I account to be a Double Portion of my estate. I further give and bequeathe unto my sonn Jeames Renalds as followeth, viz.; My lotment of Land lying at a place called ye Crock, also ye remainder of my Lott at Poping Point. Jeames to take his part next to Gersham Lockwood Lott, also I give unto sd Jeames one third part of my lands

§ Grateful acknowledgments to Charles Edwin Booth, in *One Branch of the Booth Family*.

undivided Lying below ye path unless it be ye Indian Fealde. I further will in Reference to Land above ye path Central roade yt my Sonn Jeames and my sonn Jonathan Rnalds have ye just draft and ye Land be equally devided betwene them and I further will & bequeath unto my sonn Jonathan my Lottment of Land Layd out betwene ye two brocks called ye Brothers save one acre which I give unto my aforesaid Sonn Jeames. I further will unto sd Jonathan a third part of my Land undivided below ye path unless ye Indian Fielde. I further will and bequeath unto my sonn Joshua Renalds my home lott at ye Long Meadow brock also my lot in Myanus feald Joining to Jonathan Husted and also I further give unto sd Joshua halfe my Land & meadow at a place called ye Dam.

I give and bequeath unto my sonn David Renald my Dwelling house and barne, orchard & homestead which is bounded by ye street easterly, westerly by ye parsonage Land & (?) southerly by ye Little Fealde and northerly by Joseph Ferris homelot also I give him all my meadow in ye Little Feald and I further give him sd David Halfe my land and meadow, Lying at a place called ye Dam also I give him a four acre Lott in Myanos neck lying next to Ephraim Palmers. I further give unto my two sonns, viz.: Joshua & David all my right in ye Indian Fealde to bee equally divided betwene them also I give ye sd Joshua and David an equall share in my Land on Elizabeth Neck. also I will yt my sonn David and Joshua when they are of Eage to possess ye lands given they yt they pay ten pounds apease: to Jeames tenn pounds & to Jonathan tenn pounds & for what Lands I have not as yet given I will yt my four Youngest sonns have my Rite equally divided to them, and in Reference to my Datters viz. Mary & Judah, I will yt Judah bee made Equall with what Marah hath already received as by account may apeare & that they and my four youngest sonns be equal shares in what movable estate if remaining having given Considerably to my Datters already. I do farther will yt what I have given to my several sonns do stand good to them and there heaires & assigns forever. I do further appoint my deare & loving Wiffe my Sonn John Renolds & my Sonn in Law Samuel Betts to bee overseers of this my last will and Testament made in Greenwich Anno 1699, April 21, as witness my hand and seale signed sealed in the presence of as witnesses,

SAMUEL PECK,  
JONATHAN RENOLDS, Senior.

JOHN RENOLDS.  
(Seal)

(Signature very shaky and partly covered with wax.)

On the side is written "This will is acknowledged by ye subscriber Mr. John Renalds before me ye date there of,

"SAM'LL PECK, *Justice of ye Peace.*"

On the back is a codicil dated Greenwich Anno 1701, November ye 8, giving Joshua £12 in lieu of the lot at Myanos Neck which had been otherwise disposed of. This signature is clearer than on the will.

On the bottom of the second page is a codicil:

"Greenwich, Anno 1699, July ye 23. Whereas it hath pleased God still to Lengthen out my life upon further Consideration I see Reason to add to my written will viz: I will that my Deare and Loving Wiffe to fully enjoye ye one halfe of my present Dwelling house & halfe ye Orchard during her Life time to be fully for her use and at her dispose durring sd time. Further I do will & give unto my youngest sonn my fowling peasse or gun & also my sword and for ye Confirmation of which I ye written Testator have here unto sett to my hand ye Date above written.

Signed to in ye presence of  
us witnesses,  
SAMLL PECK,  
SARAH LOCKWOOD.

JOHN RENALDS.  
(Almost illegible)

THE INVENTORY OF THE ESTATE OF MR. JOHN RENALLS,  
Late of Greenwich, deceased, takeing by us under writing.

Imprimis to hous and homestead.....	£130	00	00
To land called the Dam.....	100	00	00
To medo in the littel Feld.....	015	00	00
To the home lot at long-medo brook.....	015	00	00
To a right of land in Elizabeth Neck.....	007	00	00
To a lot in horse neck old field.....	035	00	00
To a lot one pippin point.....	018	00	00
To a right of land below the past(ure).....	010	00	00
To medo in coscob field.....	004	00	00
To a lot between the brooks called the Brothers.....	020	00	00
To the ten acre lot or first draft.....	009	00	00
To right in commons above the path.....	010	00	00
To land called the croch.....	005	00	00
To a right in hassikel medo.....	001	00	00
To land called Dicks purchase.....	015	00	00
Real estate is .....	£394	00	00
To an old negro woman.....	£08	00	00
To two oxen and a cart horse.....	17		
To one ox, 6 more and 2 small oxen 10.....	16		
To a stear, 5 more, 3 yearlings.....	11		
To 5 cows, 19 lbs. more to 2 years old.....	25		
To 4 calves .....	02		
To 28 sheep, 14 lbs. to 18 swin 13 lbs.....	27		
To horses in the woods.....	04		
To hay in the barn.....	06		
To twenty bushels of Indian corn.....	03		
To wheat and barly, oats and peas in the barn.....	14		
To flax in the barn.....	02		
To wearing aparrall .....	02		
To 3 bibels and other books.....	01		
To 2 beds and other furniture.....	20		
To table linning, shets and pilokers.....	04		
To bed and bedding.....	02		
To new homespun cloth .....	03	15	
To 3 pounds of wool.....	00	05	
To a silver dram & cup.....	00	09	
To 2 brass cessells .....	01	01	
To 2 chests and cases of bottels.....	00	14	
To a warming pan and 30 pounds of puter.....	03	10	
To 2 iron pots & iron cettel.....	01	10	
To trammals & fire irons.....	01	19	
To chamber pot & earthenware.....	00	10	
To one year old.....	02	00	
To wheat on ground.....	02		
To 2 tabeles and a cubord.....	01	06	
To wooding ware .....	00	10	
To 2 guns and one cutlass.....	02	08	
etc., etc.	£617	06	

JOSEPH FINCH  
JOSEPH KNAP  
THOMAS MARSHALL } apprezers

Dec. 12, 1701.

Greenwich Anno 1701—December ye 17, Mrs. Judah Renalds, Relick unto Mr. John Renalds late of Greenwich gave oath to this Inventure to be ye full of her deceased husbands estate according as it perticularly mentiones, it being ye full of ye estate according to ye best of her knowledge.

Oath taken before me, SAMLL PECK,  
Justice of the Peace.