

West New Jersey.

I Oliver Hark, an unworthy Minister of the glorious Gospel, residing in Hopewell, Hunterdon County, in the State of New Jersey aforesaid; being at present in a good State of bodily Health, and in full-Possession of my intellectual Faculties, Thanks be unto God for the same: Calling to Mind my Mortality, As it is appointed unto Man once to die, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament, in Manner and Form following. *viz.*

*INPRIMIS.* I commit my Soul into the Hands of the Almighty and most merciful God, who gave it, hoping for an Inheritance with just Men made perfect; not on Account of any Merit or Worthiness of my own, but through the Blood, Righteousness and Intercession of my ever adorable Saviour and Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ. And as to my Body, I leave that to be inter'd in a plain, yet decent Manner; firmly believing in, and hoping for, a glorious Resurrection to eternal Life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Item.* My Will and Desire is, that all my just Debts, and funeral Expences, be paid, as soon as can conveniently be done; for which Purpose, as well as that the Concerns of my Estate may be settled without protracting Time, I advise and direct, that all Monies due to me, at the Time of my Decease, either on Bond, Note, Subscription Papers, or otherwise, be called in, as soon as possible, except my Demands on the Public Treasury, in the State of South Carolina; with Respect to which, I have a discretionary Power in the Breast of Col: Thomas Screven, my Attorney in that State.

*Item.* I give and bequeath unto my beloved Wife, Anne Hark, my Riding Chair and Harness thereunto belonging — one Horse, (or Mare) and one Cow, which ever she may chuse out of my Stock of Horses and Cattle; my best Bed and Bedding suitable for Summer and Winter; a Bedstead and Suit of Curtains; one dining Table, one Tea Ditto; six House Chairs, one large armed Ditto; a Walnut Case of Drawers with Shelves; all my China and so much of the Kitchen Furniture as she shall chuse; ten Books of the Octavo or Duodecimo Size with a Dozen Pamphlets, all of her own chusing out of my Library, to her and to her Heirs for ever. And as to what was her Property before our Marriage, and made over to her by Deed, or Marriage Settlement, I do hereby ratify and confirm the same, to her and her Heirs for ever.

*Item.* I give and bequeath unto my worthy Son-in-Law, Col: Thomas Screven, of South Carolina, Henry's Exposition of the Bible, in five Folio Volumes, to him and to his Heirs for ever. Which Request is a small Token of great Regard, but not intended as a Compensation for his great Kindness, shewn, in a Variety of Instances, to me and mine, for which may God reward him, a Thousand Fold.

*Item.* My Will is, that Sarah, the Widow of my late Son, Doct: Oliver Hark, shall keep, and have the Use of one Negro Woman now with her! named Dinah, during the Widowhood of her; the said Sarah; but in Case she should marry, then the said Negro should be sold, and the Money arising therefrom be disposed of as follows; that is to say, it shall be put out on Interest, and the Interest arising therefrom shall go towards the

Maintainance of the Children which my son has left, until the youngest of them shall arrive at the Age of eighteen years, when the Principal shall be divided between them, Share and Share alike.

Item. I give and unto the above said Children of my deceased son Oliver, the sum of thirty Pounds Sterling, to be put out on Interest, and that Interest, to go towards their Maintainance until the youngest shall arrive at the Age of eighteen years, and then the Principal to be divided between them or the Survivors of them, Share and Share alike.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my son John Hart, one Negro Man, named Friday; also my Watch, with the Chain and Seal; likewise a Silver Soup Spoon and a Silver Pepper Box, together with a Seal set in Gold, on which our Family Coat of Arms is engraven; to Him and to his Heirs for ever.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Mary-Baker Merrell, twenty Pounds Sterling; also Cannon's Bible with some blank Leaves at the latter End; Bunyan's Works in two Folio Volumes; Hervey's Dialogues and Meditations and the Spectator in eight Volumes; to Her and to her Heirs for ever.

Item. My Will is, that the Whole of my Library (except the Books bequeathed above) be divided into three equal Parts, for my two sons John and William Rogers and my Grand Son Thomas Cereven, which I bequeath to them and unto their Heirs for ever. And to prevent Disputes, I direct my Executors to determine by Lot, which Parcel each one shall have.

Moreover. It is my Will, that all and every Part of my Estate, both real and personal, not disposed of as above, shall be sold to the best Advantage, either at publick or private Sale, as my Executors may think best, and the Monies arising therefrom, together with any other Money on Hand, after my just Debts, funeral and other necessary Expences are paid, shall be put out on Interest, upon good Security; the Interest to be paid annually, into the Hands of my dear Wife, Anne Hart, to assist Her in the Maintainance and Education of our young Son, William-Rogers Hart. My Desire is that my said Son may be under the Care of his Mother during his Minority, and that his Education may be as liberal as his Interest and Capacity will admit. And I do hereby intreat my Executors to pay a peculiar Attention to the Morals of my Son; and likewise that they study the Genius and Bent of his Mind, that they may be the better qualified to fix Him in that Line of Business, to which God and Nature may seem to call Him. Thus, while I am sleeping in the Dust, they will have the Management of the most important Trust, that whole Living, I am capable of placing in their Hands.

At the Age of twenty one years, or on his Marriage Day, which ever Event may first take Place, my said Son, William Rogers, shall be entitled to the Principal of said Monies, put out to Interest, as above, and which I do hereby give and bequeath unto Him and to his Heirs for ever. But should my said Son die unmarried; and

and before He arrives at the Age of Twenty one years, my Will is that his Mother shall have the use of said Monies during her natural Life, and at her Death, it shall go to my Children, men living, share and share alike. Or should all these be dead, then it shall go the Philadelphia Baptist Association, to Educate young Men for the Ministry.

Finally, I do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint my beloved Wife Anne Hart Executrix, and my much respected Son in-Law, Col: Thomas Screven, of South Carolina, together with my esteemed Friends Samuel Stout Esquire and Deacon James Hart, both of Hopewell, Executrix and Executors of this my last Will and Testament; hereby revoking and disannulling all other Will and Testaments, by me, at any Time heretofore made. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal. Dated at Hopewell, New Jersey aforesaid, this sixteenth Day of December, in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and ninety one.

Signed sealed and delivered }  
in the Presence of us. }

John Blackwell.

Oliver Hart

A. Randolph

A. S. Blackwell

A Codicil to the above Will; made and done by me Oliver Hart of Hopewell New Jersey, this fifteenth Day of January one thousand seven hundred and ninety three.

Whereas, by the abovesaid Will I have given and bequeathed my Negro Man Friday to my Son John Hart, I do hereby revoke that Request, and my Will now is, that the said Negro Man Friday, shall be fully and absolutely free, at the Expiration of seven years after my Decease. During which Term of seven years, said Friday, shall be under the Care and Controul of my dear Wife Anne Hart, to dispose of his Time or Labor, or any Profits arising therefrom, as she may think proper. And in Lieu of Friday, I give and bequeath unto my Son John Hart D. Gill's Exposition of the Bible, in nine Volumes Folio-Body of Divinity, three Volumes Quarto, and on the Canticles, one Volume Quarto, to him and his Heirs for ever, any Request in the above Will notwithstanding. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the Day and Year above written

In presence of  
Benjamin Hexton,  
John Blackwell  
Edw. Cooper

Oliver Hart

John Blackwell one of the Witnesses the said  
 in Will being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty  
 God, did depose and say that Benjamin Oliver Bart, the  
 said Testator, was of sound and disposing mind and me-  
 morie, and that a Nathaniel J. Hands, J. and John  
 Blackwell the other subscribing Witnesses were  
 present at the said time, and signed their names as  
 Witnesses to the said Will, together with the said de-  
 ponent, in the presence of the said Testator.

This Deponent further saith that he also saw the  
 said Testator sign and seal the within writing with  
 his hand, and that Benjamin Oliver Bart and Edward  
 their names as Witnesses to the said Will in the  
 presence of the said Testator.  
 Sworn at Hopewell the 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 1766.

John Blackwell

January 1766 - Before me

W. Shrockmorton  
 Surrogate

Ann, the wife of John and James Hunt, the  
 of the within writing, being duly sworn  
 on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, did severally depose and  
 say that the within Instrument contains the last Will and  
 Testament of Oliver Bart, the Testator, the name  
 name, so far as they know and as they verily believe,  
 that they will observe and truly perform the same, by  
 paying first the debts of the said deceased, and then  
 the legacies in the said Testaments specified, so far as the  
 Goods, Chattels and Credits of the said deceased can thereunto  
 extend, that they will make and exhibit into the prerogative  
 Officers of the County a true and perfect Inventory of  
 all and singular the Goods, Chattels and Credits of the said  
 deceased that have or shall come to their knowledge or  
 possession or to the possession of any other person or  
 persons, forthwith, and render a just and true account  
 when their unto lawfully required.

Sworn at Hopewell the 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 1766 - Before me  
 W. Shrockmorton James Hunt  
 Surrogate