

## Stephen Hopkins Will

Literally transcribed from the original records, BY GEORGE ERNEST BOWMAN.  
[MD 2:14, 1900]

Also see *Plymouth Colony Records, V1, Wills and Inventories, 1633-1669*, Picton Press, Camden, Maine 1996

The exact date of the death of Stephen Hopkins is unknown, but he must have died at Plymouth, in the year 1644, between June 6, the day his will was made, and July 17, the day his inventory was taken.

The will and inventory were recorded in the Plymouth Colony Wills and Inventories, Volume 1, folios 61, 62 and 63.

[61] The last Will and Testament of mr Stephen Hopkins exhibited Upon the Oathes of mr Willm Bradford and Captaine Miles Standish at the generall Court holden at Plymouth the xxth of August Anno dm 1644 as it followeth in these wordes vizt.  
The sixt of June 1644 I Stephen Hopkins of Plymouth in New England being weake yet in good and prfect memory blessed be God yet considering the fraile estate of all men I do ordaine and make this to be my last will and testament in manner and forme following and first I do commits my body to the earth from whence it was taken, and my soule to the Lord who gave it, my body to be buryed as neare as convenyently may be to my wyfe Deceased And first my will is that out of my whole -estate my funerall expences be discharged secondly that out of the remayneing part of my said estate that all my lawfull Debts be payd thirdly I do bequeath by this my will to my sonn **Giles Hopkins** my great Bull wch is now in the hands of mrs Warren Also I do give to **Stephen Hopkins my vend Giles his sonne** twenty shillings in mrs Warrens hands for the hire of the said Bull Also I give and bequeath to **my daughter Constance Snow** the wyfe of **Nicholas Sow** my mare also I give unto **my daughter Deborah Hopkins** the brodhorned black cowe and her calf and half the Cowe called Motley Also I doe give and bequeath unto **my daughter Damaris Hopkins** the Cowe called Damaris heiffer and the white faced calf and half the cowe called Mottley Also I give to **my daughter Ruth** the Cowe called Red Cole and her calfe and a Bull at Yarmouth wch is in the keepeing of Giles Hopkins wch is an yeare and advantage old and half the curld Cowe Also I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth the Cowe called Smykins and her calf and thother half of the Curld Cowe wth Ruth and an yearelinge heiffer wth out a tayle in the keepeing of Gyles Hopkins at Yarmouth **Also I do give and bequeath unto my foure daughters that is. to say Deborah Hopkins Damaris Hopkins Ruth Hopkins and Elizabeth Hopkins** all the mooveable goods the wch do belong to my house. as linnen wollen beds bedcloathes pott kettles pewter or whatsoevr are moveable



belonging to my said house of what kynd soever and not named by their prticular names. all wch said mooveables to bee equally devided amongst my said daughters foure silver spoones that is to say to eich of them one, And in case any of my said daughters should be taken away by death before they be married that then the part of their division to be equally devided amongst the Survivors. I do also by this my will make **Caleb Hopkins my sonn** and heire apparent giveing and bequeathing unto my said sonn aforesaid all my Right title and interrest to my house and lands at Plymouth wth all the Right title and interrest wch doth might or of Right doth or may hereafter belong unto mee, as also I give unto my saide heire all such lance wch of Right is Rightly due unto me and not at prsent in my reall possession wch belongs unto me by right of my first comeing into this land or by any other due Right, as by such freedome or otherwise giveing unto my said heire my full & whole and entire Right in all divisions allottments appoyntments or distributions whatsoever to all or any pt of the said lance at any tyme or tymes so to be disposed Also I do give moreover unto my foresaid hire one paire or yooke of oxen and the hyer of them wch are in the hands of Richard Church as may appeare by bill under his. hand Also I do give unto my said heire Caleb Hopkins all my debts wch are now oweing unto me, or at the day of my death may be oweing unto mee either by booke bill or bills or any other way rightfully due unto mee fferthermore my will is that. my daughters aforesaid shall have free recourse to my house in Plymouth upon any occasion there to abide and remayne for such tyme as any of them shall thinke meete and convenent & they single persons And for the faythfull prformance of this my will I do make and ordayne my aforesaid sonn and heire Caleb Hopkins my true and lawfull Executor fferther I do by this my will appoynt and make my said sonn and Captaine Miles Standish joyntly supervisors of this my will according to the true meaneing of the same that is to say that my Executor & supervisor shall make the severall divisions parts or porcons legacies or whatsoever doth appertaine to the fullfilling of this my will It is also my will that my Executr & Supervisor shall advise devise and dispose by the best wayes & meanes they cann for the disposeing in marriage or other wise for the best advancnt of the estate of the forenamed Deborah Damaris Ruth and Elizabeth Hopkins Thus trusting in the Lord my will shalbe truly prformed according to the true meaneing of the same I committ the whole Disposeing hereof to the Lord that hee may direct you herein  
June 6th 1644

Witnesses hereof By me Steven Hopkins

Myles Standish

William Bradford