

Solomon Knapp's Will
Transcribed by David and Sandra Martin

County of Fulton
Surrogates Court

To John Wells County Judge of Fulton County, The petition of Samuel Mills of the town of Johnstown & county of Fulton respectfully showeth – that Solomon Knapp late of the town of Johnstown & county of Fulton departed this life in the said county on or about the 19th day of August in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty eight having previously as your petitioner is informed and believes duly made & executed his last will and testament – that your petitioner is one of the Executors named in the said will – that the deceased was a citizen of the United States that he was at the time of his death and immediately previous thereto, an inhabitant of the county of Fulton, & that his said will relates to both real & personal estate

Your petitioner further shows that the heirs & next of kin of the said Solomon Knapp deceased are Solomon Knapp, Moses Buck & Mary his wife who reside in the state of Illinois, Cordelia Woodward, county & town unknown, Douw Levissee & Catherine his wife, David Knapp & Axey Holbroke who reside in the state of Wisconsin town & county unknown, Benjamin Knapp & Lois his wife John Knapp & Nancy his wife who reside in the state of Ohio place [?] unknown, Solomon Holbroke whose place of residence is Oak Point St. Lawrence County, Jonathan Miller & Mary Ann his wife who reside at Hammond, St. Lawrence County, David W. Tower & Sally his wife who reside at Watertown Jefferson County, Jerome Palmer husband of Nancy Palmer deceased, Ortensia Palmer & Lanson Palmer, minor children of Jerome and Nancy Palmer reside at Buffalo Erie County, Isaac M[W?] Tower & Harriet his wife who reside in Upper Canada John Christie & Harriet his wife who reside at Gloversville Fulton County all of full age except Ostensia & Lanson Palmer

And your petitioner further shows that he is desirous that such proof should be taken & such letters granted & such other or further proceedings in the premises should be had as may be legal & proper – Your petitioner therefore prays that a citation may issue out of & under the seal of this Court to be directed to the proper persons pursuant to the statute in such case made & provided requiring them and each of them at such time and place as shall be as shall be in the said citation mentioned to appear & attend the probate of the said last will and testament & that such other as further proceedings in the premises should be duly had as may be requisite to the proving & recording of the said last will & testament & the granting probate & letters testamentary thereof & your petition etc.

S. Mills

State of New York
County of Fulton

On this 28th day of February 1849 personally appeared before me Samuel Mills the petitioner named in the foregoing who being by me duly sworn deposes & says that he has here[?] read the foregoing petition by him subscribed & the same is true according the best of his knowledge & belief.

John Wells County Judge

From the book of Wills

Be it remembered that heretofore to wit on the twenty eighth day of February in the one thousand eight hundred and forty [sic] since Samuel Mills one of the executors of the last will and testament of Solomon Knapp late of the county of Fulton deceased appeared in open court before the County Judge of the County of Fulton and made application to have the said last will and testament which relates to both real & personal estate proved, and on such application the County Judge did ascertain by satisfactory evidence who were the receivers[?], heirs & next of kin of the said testator, and their respective residences, and some of them appearing to be minors having no general guardian residing within the state of New York a special guardian was appointed in due form of law to take care of their interests in the matter of proving the said will by an order entered for that purpose by said County Judge. And said County Judge did thereupon issue a citation in due form of law, directed to the said widow heirs & next of kin & special guardian by their respective names, stating their respective places of residence requiring them to appear before said County Judge at his office in the village of Johnstown in said County on the 30th day of April then instant to attend the probate of said will, and afterwards to wit[?] on the said 30th day of April satisfactory evidence by affidavit was produced and presented to said County Judge of the service of the said Citation in the mode prescribed by law and at which time and place last aforesaid the matter of proving the said will was on motion of David Cameron counsel for the petitioner [?] to the 7th day of May instant. And on that day no one appearing to oppose the probate of such will such proceedings were thereupon had that the County Judge took the proof of said will hereinafter set forth and he adjudged the said will to be a valid will real and personal estate and the proofs thereof to be sufficient which said last will and testament and proof are as follows, that is to say.

Will

I Solomon Knapp of the town of Johnstown county of Fulton and state of New York considering the uncertainty of this mortal life and being of sound mind and memory, do make and publish this my last will and testament

First. I give and bequeath to my wife Sarah all that certain piece or parcel of land situate, laying and being in the village of Glovers-ville with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging with the rents, issues and profits thereof for and during her natural life and from and after the decease of my said wife Sarah. I give and bequeath the said land and all the said appurtenances, rents, issues and profits thereof to my daughter Harriet, provided my said daughter Harriet shall outlive my said wife Sarah. I also give and bequeath to my said wife Sarah the interest arising out of these hundred dollars to be paid to her by my executors hereinafter named, annually. I also give and bequeath to my said wife Sarah all my household furniture to be by her disposed of as She shall please, all of which I give to my said wife Sarah in [?]. I also give and bequeath to my daughter Lois residing in the state of Ohio the sum of two hundred dollars to be paid to her by my executor after the decease of my wife Sarah, provided said Lois shall outlive my said wife Sarah, and if she should not then the said two hundred dollars to be divided as hereinafter named[?], I give and bequeath to my daughter Nancy now residing in the state of Ohio the sum of two hundred dollars to be paid her by my executors after the decease of my said wife Sarah, provide the said Nancy shall outlive my wife Sarah, and if she should not then the said two hundred dollars to be divided

as hereinafter named. I give and bequeath to my daughter Cordelia now residing in the state of Illinois the sum of one hundred dollars to be paid to her by my executors after the decease of my said wife Sarah provided the said Cordelia shall outlive my wife Sarah, and if should not then the said one hundred dollars as hereinafter named. I give and bequeath to my daughter Polly now residing in the state of Illinois the sum of fifty dollars to be paid to her after the decease of my wife Sarah, provide the said Polly shall outlive my wife Sarah and if she should not the said fifty dollars to be divided as hereinafter named. I give and bequeath to my daughter Catherine, fifty dollars to be paid to her by my executors the decease of my said wife Sarah, provided the said Catherine shall outlive my said wife Sarah and if she should not, then the said fifty dollars to be divided as hereinafter named. I also give and bequeath to my son Solomon Knapp Junior the sum of fifty dollars to be paid to him after the decease of my wife Sarah. All the rest and residue of my personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever of what nature or kind the sum debts and funeral expenses I give and bequeath to my children hereinafter in this my will named, to be by my executors equally divided among those of them that shall or may be alive at the decease of my wife Sarah, I do [?], appoint and constitute Samuel Mills and Henry Churchill of Glovers-ville my executors of this my last will and testament. I witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty fifth day of April 1848.

Solomon Knapp

The within instrument consisting of one sheet was now here subscribed by Solomon Knapp the testator in the presence of each of us, and was at the same declared by him to be last will and testament and we at his request sign our names hereto as attesting witnesses.

Henry Churchill, Gloversville, Fulton Co

Samuel Mills, Gloversville, Fulton Co