

Edmund Frost

The last will and testament of Edmund Frost of Cambridge in New England made and declared this 16th day of April 1672: I Edmund Frost being stricken in yeares and at the present ill and weake daily expecting my disolueism yet through (the great favor of God having my minde and understanding cleare and sound as in former times I am desirous (according to my duty to set my house in order to settle that small estate that God hath graciously lent me so that strife and contencion may be prevented after my decease between my wife and children. In the first Place I desire to role rest and resigne my precious and imortall soul to and upon my deare Lord Jesus Christ the great mediator of the covenant of the eternall blessed one God, Father, Sonne and Holy Ghost is terminated for all power is given to him in heaven and earth and is declared in the Gospell that whoever beliveth in him shall receice remission of sins and injoy eternall life as for my body (wch God hath called a temple of the Holy Ghost) I desire it may be decently interred in the earth in an assured hope of the happy and blessed resurection thereof in Gods appaynted time. 21y. For my outward estate I dispose thereof as followeth.

Impr. I give o my deare wife Reana the use of about two acres of planting being more or less lying in my feild on the west side of my orchard to have and to hold to her or assignes during life. Provided that she allow my sones Ephrain and Thomas for two daies worke every yeare towards keeping the fence in good repair:

It. I give to my wife the use of a percell of pasture land lying without ye feild during her life.

It. I give to my wife one third part of ye fruit that growes yearely in the orchard during her life.

It. I give to my wife all the corn of rye and wheat that is sowne and shall grew in my planting feild for this yeare.

It. I give to my wife twenty shillings a yeare during her life to be paid in corne or cattle brought to her house as currant count price to be paid by my sonne Ephram and Thomas ten shillings a peece in pt. of consideracion of Legacy given them hereafter mencioned.

It. I give to my wife twenty shillings a yeare more during her life to be paid by my sonne John in corne or cattle at currant county price brought to her house and this he is to pay in consideracion of lands bequeathed to him hereafter mencioned and in case he refuse or neglect to pay the twenty shillings pr Annum as aferesd my wife is to enter upon the land bequeathed and injoy it during her life.

It. I give to my wife the use of all the salt marsh being about 4, acres more or less bounded with m Pelhams marsh north and Bredish east and Bredish east and the river south to have and hold during her life.

It. I do order and my will is that my sonne Ephrain and Thomas shall plant their mothers Indian corne both at Watertowne lott and in my feild this spring. Also they are to get one thousand of clapbords and deliver to their mother at the house for covering

thereof which they are to get out of the timber bought of Philip Jones for that end: Also my will is that they get fencing stuff of the common (by leaving of ye selectmen) and fence in their mothers yards orchard or garden at her house. In consideracion of this worke they are to have ye use of my teams for three months after my death and during the time they are doing this work for their mother shee must provide them diet.

It. I give to my sonne Jno: six aceres of land yt he improveth of mine to him and to his heyres forever which land I had in exchange for other land lieing neare m Dusters farme house, and new belonging to his heyres: and although no writtings or deeds passed betwene m Dunster and me about the exchange yet each of us have for a long time peaceable enjoyed ye same, I trust their will be no question about it but if their should be any sonne Jno: is to cleare the difference if any be without any prejudice to any of his brothers.

It. I give to my sonnes Samuell and Joseph after their mothers decease, that two aceres of land more or less that lyes in my feild in the west side of my orchard equally to be divided betwene them or their children.

It. More I give to my sonne Joseph after my wife death on halfe of my marsh:

It. I give to sonne Joseph one of my weed lotts beyound notimey (Arlington now called) which of the two he shall choose:

It. I give to my sonne James fewer pounds to be paid in foure years after my wives death to be by my sonne, Ephraim and Thomas in

consideracion of the pasture ground lying without fence was I give to them after my wives decease.

It. I give to Ephraim and Thomas equally to be divided betwene them my dwelling house orchard and all the land within the inclosed feild and without not formerly disposed of for them to enjoy and their heyres forever.

It. I give to Ephraim my lott in the great swamp.

It. I give to my sonne Thomas my other wood lott beyond notemy (Arlington now called), and if any other devisions of land shall fall due in the Towne after my decease I give them to my sonnes Ephraim and Thomas equally to be divided.

It. I give to my two daughters the other halfe of my marsh after my wives decease, equally to be divided betwene them or their children or in case Sarah die before Marriage then her part of said Marsh is to decbd to Ephraim and Thomas equally divided.

It. I give to my daughter Sarah a feather bed and bolster and she is to have it a yeare after my death: I give and bequeath to my two daughters equally to be divided betwene them a Kettle and all other household goods that properly belong to me after my wives death:

It. For some reasons best knowne to my selfe I order my executors after my death to sell for the best advantage my old mare and my young gelding and wt they shall produre to divide into five parts 2 parts of that five I give to Jacob French and his wife: and the other three parts I give to the children of Golden More equally to be divided.

It. I order my executors to sell my oxen and horses not disposed of and to pay my just debts and in speciall forty shillings by me given to ye new Colidge (Harvard College) and twenty shillings to Mr Alcocks sone at ye Colledge: Lastly I do appoint and ordain my sonne Jno: Samuella Joseph and Ephraim to be executors to this my will and Testament. And I do humbly desire and intreate my honored and worthy frinds Capt Daniell Gookin and Mr Thomas Danforth to be overseers of my will and if any difference should arise betweine my wife or children concerning any matter herein contained that they determine it and that all persons concerned acquiesse in their determinacions: In testimony of the thurth of which is above declared I have hereunto set my hand and seale the day and yeare above written:

Edmund Frost and a Seale

Signed Sealed and declared In ye presece of us

Daniell Gookin            William Manning            Bononie Eaton

Upon after consideration I do will and bequeath the reversion of the two acres of land given to my wife during her life lying within my planting feild on the west side of my house unto my sonne Ephraim and Thomas on condicion that in law thereof they pay in money to their two brothers Samuella and Joseph foure pounds a peece in money vizt twenty shillings to each pr ann to begine the first payment within one yeare after my wifes death: Also my foure accr percell of marsh I do will that my sonne Joseph shall have that one moyty or halfe part thereof and Ephraim and Thomas shall have the other halfe equally divided between them and in consideracion

thereof they shall pay twenty pounds in money to their two sisters Mary and Sarah or to their children vizt Joseph foure pounds Ephraim foure pounds and Thomas foure pounds and the same to be paid within one yeare after my wives death or in default thereof their sisters shall have so much of the said marsh as will yeeld them the said money, dated the 17th April 1672.

Daniell Gookin

Edmund Frost

William Manning

Benome Eaten

Cambridge Court, October 1, 1672

A coat of arms has been aceredited to Edmund Frost, and the same is described in "Crozier's General Armery" by William Armdtrong Crozier, F.R.S.; pub 1904. It is the coat armor of the Frosts of St. John's House of Chester, and the descendants of Edmund Frost have, strictly speaking, no right to its use.