

Will of Nicholas Brower of the City of Albany, dated 17 Jun 1778
Albany Surrogate Court AB:120

“In the name of God Amen I Nicholas Brower of the City of Albany in the State of New York, yeoman, being weak in body, but by God’s grace of sound mind and memory blessed be almighty God for the (smudged); do make this my last will & testament in manner form following. First I give to my son Nicholas Brower Jun. my eldest son my Lyme kiln with the two acres of land wheron it is erected in Dutches County Poughkeepsie Precinct. To him my said son Nicholas Brower his heirs & assigns for ever, and also a bond of two hundred pounds lawful money of New York which he hath given me, and also one equal half of land lying on the Wappins Creek containing between two other acres of land lying on the south side said Wappins Creek and also the equal half of another lot of land lying on said creek with the equal half of the fall there to belonging containing about thirty acres to have to hold all singular the above moiensys to him my said son Nicholas his heirs & assigns for ever. Item. I give and devise unto my son David Brower two hundred acres of land out of the lands I purchased from Gradus Beekman and his brothers lying about nine miles above Schenectady on the northside of the Mohawk River my said son to have his choice of two hundred acres in one piece out of said lands to him his heirs & assigns for ever negro man named Johans. Item. I give & devise unto my son William Brower the lots of ground which I purchased from Barent & Elizabeth St__ (page torn) in the City of Albany, and also the remaining half of two lots & all which I have above devised to my son Nicholas, to him his heirs & assigns for ever. Item. I give & devise unto my son Jeremiah Brower the second choice of a two hundred acre lot of the above lands lying above Schenectady to him my said son Jeremiah his heirs & assigns for ever and the sum of eighty pounds New York Curency when he comes to the age of twenty one. Item. I give and devise & bequeath unto my son Jacob Brower the third choice of two hundred acres of land of the before mentioned lands lying above Schenectady to him said son Jacob his heirs and assigns for ever and also the sum of eighty pounds New York currency when he comes to the age of twenty one years. Item. I give & devise unto my five daughters, Janetha wife of William Conklin, to Elizabeth (her name is then crossed out), Mary Brower, Sarah Brower, Lene Brower, & Catherine Brower, each one equal fifth part of the remaining six hundred acres of my land lying above Schenectady to each of them my said daughters an equal fifth or one hundred twenty acres each to them & to the respective heirs of their bodies, and also the sum of fifty pounds. Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Brower, a bond of one hundred pounds with the interest due to become due theron which my son Nicholas owes to me. I give & bequest unto my beloved wife Sarah the money remaining in the house with which she is to fit up my new schooner lying at the wharf in this said city to be employed for the support & maintenance of her & my small children, with full power if he should find keeping the vessel inconvenient to sell the same & the money to set it out for the use within above mentioned, also give unto my said beloved wife my negro wench Hannah at her own disposal together with all the household furniture, my milch cow, my grey horse & the cart, the negro Peter to have until all the children are grown up. Item. I give & devise unto all my above mentioned children all my right and title to two certain Indian purchases the one for four hundred acres of land near Sacondaga & three thousand acres on the Susquahana which I purchased from Thomas

Palmer them each paying their proportion towards obtaining the patents for the same. Item. My two lots, the one lying in Poughkeepsie Precinct called Mattappen Fall, and the other lying in Rumbout Precinct, I empower my executors to sell for the most they can obtain for the same and the money thence arising to be equally divided amongst my six above mentioned daughters. Item. I give & bequeath unto my brother Cornelis Brower the sum of thirty pounds to be paid him by my executors within six weeks after my decease. As its probable that my beloved wife at this time pregnant with child, if it should please the Lord that she may be safely delivered of either a son or daughter my will is if I hereby order & direct that as soon as it shall arrive to the age of two years one hundred fifty pounds of my estate shall be set out to use on good security and the interest there of to be applied to its support maintenance___ and in case any of my before mentioned children should happen to die before they come to age or without heirs of their body I do hereby order & direct that the survivors shall divide the portion of such deceased equally between them. All the rest & residue of my estate not before devised & bequeathed (except two stiers, my hogs & my sheep which are for the provision of my wife & small children) I devise & direct to be sold, the money thence arising towards paying the legacies above mentioned. The money in the bank to be applied to pay for my (torn page) other debts. Lastly I do hereby nominate & appoint my beloved wife Sarah executrix, & my son Nicholas Brower my friend Henry Bogart to be executors of this my last will & testament hereby revoking all former wills & testaments by me made. I am witness thereof have here unto set my hand & seal this 17th day of September 1777

Signed by Nicholas Brower

Witnessed by John Davis, Godfrey

Enas, John Roorbach

Codicil, dated 21 Sep 1777, signed by Nicholas Brower, requests that the bond that was devised to Elizabeth instead be used for support of his wife & small children. Elizabeth is to instead receive 100 acres of land above Schenectady with the remaining one hundred acres to be split among the other five daughters viz Jane wife of William Conklin, Mary Brower, Sara Brower, Lena Brower & Catrina Brower.

In Dutchess County, NY on 10 Jun 1778, Sarah Brower, executrix for the will of Nicholas Brower appeared at the court of Probate before Judge Thomas Treadwell. In Dutchess County, NY on 31 Aug 1778 Nicholas Brower as executor appeared before the Surrogate Court.

(Transcription by Chris Chester from FHL film #481436, 2004)