

**Essex County, New Jersey**

**Will of Alexander Simpson**

(c.1718 – 1768)

Transcribed February 2001 by R Stoy

Names listed with relationship or function as indicated in the document  
(surnames in parentheses are married names of females):

Mary, daughter  
Elizabeth, daughter  
Phebe, daughter  
Anne, daughter  
Simeon, son & executor  
Abraham, son  
Stephen, son  
Benjamin Bonnel, executor  
John Clark, witness  
Samuel Ross, witness  
Jeremiah Clark, witness  
Robert Ogden, surrogate

The following was transcribed from the microfilmed files of wills in the New Jersey State Archives, Trenton, New Jersey, number 3775-6G, Essex County. The transcription is rendered as accurately as possible, including any misspellings, with the exception of the use of the script "f", which is transcribed as "s".

Alexander Simpson  
Will of  
Essex  
Proved – May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1768  
Engrossed  
Recorded in I of Wills  
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In the Name of God Amen I Alexander Simpson of the Borough of Elizabeth in the County of Essex and Province of East Newjersey Yeoman Being Sick and weak of body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be unto God therefor, and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to Die, Do make ordain and constitute this my last will and Testament, In manner and form following. And first I give and recommend my soul unto God who gave it, and my body to the earth to be buried in a Christian Decent maner at the Discretion of my Executors herein after named. Nothing Doubting but I shall receive the same again at the general Resurrection by

the mighty Power of God. And as to my worldly Estate herewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life: I dispose of the same in y<sup>e</sup> manner following

Imprimus – I will and positively order that all my debts be paid in the maner hereafter mentioned

Item: I give and bequeath unto my two Daughters Mary and Elizabeth all my Household goods to be divided between them only Mary is to have five pounds worth more then Elizabeth out of s<sup>d</sup> [said] household goods and also s<sup>d</sup> Mary and Elizabeth is each of them to have such goods as was formerly called their own –

Item I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Phebe the Sum of five pounds money at eight shillings the ounce to be paid by my Executors out of my Lands or Stock –

Item I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Anne the Sum of twenty pounds money as above s<sup>d</sup> to be put to intrest in one year from the date hereof for the use of s<sup>d</sup> Anne and to be paid to the s<sup>d</sup> Anne when She comes to the age of eighteen years or on her marriage day and if either of my Daughters shall die without Lawful Issue then the Legase of the Deceased to be equally divided amongst those that survive –

Item I give Devise and bequeath unto my three Sons Simeon, Abraham and Stephen to be equally divided between them all my Lands and Tenements goods and Chattels (not above disposed of) or all those moneys arising from the sale of Such Lands and Tenements goods and chattls except So much as it Shal take to pay my Just debts and Legacyes.

Item it is my will and I do fully authorise and impower my executors to Sell So much of s<sup>d</sup> Lands and Tenements goods and chattles as they Shall think proper or best to be done –

Item it is my will and I do hereby order that if either of my Sons die without Lawful Issue that the Legase of the deceased be equally divided between the surviving Brothers –

Lastly, I appoint my trusty friend Benjamin Bonnel and my beloved Son Simeon the Sole Executors of this my last will and Testament revoking and disanulling all former wills and Testaments ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament in Witness whereof I have herewith set my Hand and Seal this fifteenth day of april in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Sixty eight – 1768

Signed, Sealed published pronounced & declared by the s<sup>d</sup> Alexander Simpson then present to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us

[signed] John Clark  
Samuel Ross  
Jer<sup>h</sup> Clark

[signed] Alexander Simpson

Samuel Ross and Jeremiah Clark two of the witnesses in the within Will being Sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God did severally depose that they saw Alexander Simpson the Testator within named sign and Seal the [?] and heard him

publish, pronounce & declare the within Instrument to be his last Will & Testament and that at the doing thereof the s<sup>d</sup> Testator was of sound & disposing Mind & Memory as far as these Deponents know and as they verily believe and that John Clark the other person being witness was present, and signed his Name as Witness to the s<sup>d</sup> Will together with these Deponents in the Presence of the Testator.

[signed] Samuel Ross  
Jer<sup>h</sup> Clark

At the same Time the within Named Benjamin Bonnell & Simeon Simson took the Oath of Executors as appointed by Law for the Discharge of their Trust

Sworn at the Borough of Eliz<sup>e</sup> the  
4 Day May 1768 Before me  
[signed] Robert Ogden  
Surrogate

[signed] Benjamin Bonnel  
Simeon Simson