

Legal Record with Notation & Seal: 1685 May 7

RG 1, Subseries A: Sylvester Family

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Transcription: Complete ▾

Review: Approved ▾

[TRANSCRIPTION START]

(perpendicular) The Last will and Testament of Grizzell Sylvester

(perpendicular) Grissel Sylvester will 1685

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Whereas upon the consideration of a marriage intended to be solemnized between Capt. Nathaniell Sylvester of Shelter Island and my selfe, the said Nathaniell Sylvester, did bargain, contract and agree with my loving brother in law William Coddington of Road Island to whose care and custody I was committed by my father Mr Thomas Brinley at my departure from him, to make me a jointure of one hundred pounds [per] annum during my naturall life for my better comfortable livelyhood and subsistence, if I survived him, wch accordingly was made unto the said William Coddington his heirs and assignes as [Trustees?] in trust to the purposes aforementioned, as [per] said jointure bearing date 6th July 1653 may more fully appeare Now Know all men that I Grizzell Sylvester [Ridict?] and Executrix of my husband Capt. Nathaniell Sylvester abovementioned deceased, taking into consideration the uncertainty of the dissolution of this humane fraile life being crazy in body, but of sound and perfect understanding, with most serious and deliberate thoughts of my owne state and condition, and the good and benefit of the children the Lord in mercy hath given us do I make, ordaine and publish this my last will and testament, not only as Excentrix to the last will of my said deare husband deceased, but allso in order to the bestowing the rents, issues & profits arising by meanes of the abovesaid jointure, from the day of my said husbands death to my decease, among my children, desiring and requiring according to the power of a Parrent and their duty, all my children to take notice and observe these my last words and mind hereafter expressed in manner and forme following. [Imprimis?] I will and require that all those debts I owe in right or conscience to any manner of person or persons whatsoever be justly and truly paid within convenient time after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto my son Giles Sylvester, one feather bed and bolster, one rug and one blanket, my silver watch, the Brasse clock, the great chest, two pewter candlesticks, six dishes one with other, one iron pott and brammell, the brasse tongs, brasse shovell, brasse paire of bellows, and all the small utensils wch belongs to the closet or porchamber six of the best leather chaires, one pewter flagon, and the great glasse in the Hall. Item in regard of my disbursements towards a house for my son Nathaniell Sylvester, wch I give and bequeath him out of the rents issues and profits of my jointure, I give and bequeath unto him only in particular his fathers cabinet wch in the closet, having already given him some household stuffe, wch is now in [inserted: his] possession

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Item I give and bequeath unto my son Peter Sylvester one feather bed and bolster, one Rug and Blanket, two paire of ordinary sheets, foure towells, one dozen of napkins, two tablecloths, six greene chaires, one iron pot and brommell, one of the little iron potts, the blondstone six pewter dishes one with the other, two pewter candlesticks, my old iron bound trunks and one little table. Item I give unto my son Constant Sylvester six pewter dishes one with the other, two pewter candlesticks, one iron pott, six [Turki?] wrought chaires, one feather bed and bolster, one rug and the great chest wch is above in the Long Roome. Item I give unto my son Benjamin Sylvester six pewter dishes one with the other, two pewter candlesticks, one Iron pott, six Turkie wrought chaires, one feather bed and bolster and one rug. Item I give the Childs Corall wch hath silver bells on it to the first son of any of my sons, who beares his grandfathers name. Item I give unto my daughter Pateince Sylvester, the great Turkie wrought Carpett, to my daughter Elizabeth Sylvester my Bible and my Negro woman called Hope, the daughter of Jacquero and Hannah his wife, to my daughter Mary Sylvester one Turkie wrought carpet, to my daughter Anne Sylvester one Turkie wrought carpet and to my daughter Mercy Sylvester one Turkie wrought carpet, one dozen and five diaper napkins and the diaper table cloth belonging to it, and my mind is the warming pan should remaine for the use of the family in generall. Item I give unto my brother William Brinley one sylver spoone, to my daughter Grissell Lloyd, six silver spoons, and to my brother Joshua Sylvester one silver spoone. Item I give unto my daughters [ineligible?] Patience, Elizabeth, Mary, Anne and Mercy Sylvester, all the remaining part of my household stufte and the rest of my plate, not all ready bequeather to be equally devided amongst them, and to my said five daughter last nominated, I give and bequeath to each of them forty pounds in New England money, or in goods, stock or provisions equivalent thereto out of the rents, issues and profitt of my jointure of one hundred [per] annum abovementioned to be paid them at twenty one yeares of age or day of marriage, wch first happens, and my mind and meanning is if paid in goods, stock or provisions, my executors hereafter named shall [turne?] it into money as soon as conveniently may be for the use of my daughters abovementioned, and the remaining part of the rents, issues and profitts of my jointure if any be, I give

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I give and bequeath unto my sons Giles, Peter, Constant and Benjamin Sylvester to be equally divided among them. Item I give unto all my aforesaid sons all the books, to be equally divided amongst them. Item I give unto my five daughters last aforementioned my Negros jacquero and Hannah his wife for the use of the house for all my aforesaid daughters, that are unmarried, living either here or elsewhere, and after my said daughters are all married, or die before, unto my son Giles Sylvester. And lastly I doe hereby nominate and appoint my son in law James Lloyd, my brothers Francis and William Brinley to be my executors in trust to see this my last will and testament performed. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seale in Shelter Island the 7th of May 1685.

Grissell Sylvester

Signed Sealed and declared by Grissell Sylvester to be her last will and testament before us

Nathl Sylvester

Simon Grover

Jacques Guillot

Peter Sylvester

Newport in Road Island the 8 June of 1685 Grizzell Sylvester then appeared before me and declared the above written will to be her voluntary act and deed, and that shee did signe and seale the same.

[Henry : bull : Soue?]

[TRANSCRIPTION END]