

**The Last Will of James Meek**  
**Memorial No. 2505 James Meek to certain devisees**

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Will – Recorded the 30th day of March 1835 at 9 O'clock A.M in Liber F, Folio 6 on the oath of Thomas Daniel of Port Stanley, Physician and James Ferguson of Southwold, Yeoman.

For M. Burwell, Registrar (Signed)

Upper Canada

Registrar office, county of Middlesex, I James Ferguson of Southwold in the county aforesaid, yeoman, make oath and say that I was personally present and did see the executor within described duly sign seal and execute the codicil to this last will and testament within set forth and also that I was personally present and did see John Meek an executor named in the last will and testament to which the said codicil is amended, sign and seal the forgoing memorial of the said will and codicil for Registry, and that I am a subscribing witness to the said codicil and to the foregoing memorial – So help me God.

James Ferguson

Sworn before me this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 1835.

M. Burwell  
Register

A memorial to be registered pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided of a will and codicil in the following and unto that is to say:

In the name of God, Amen, I James Meek of Southwold in the London District and Province of Upper Canada, Farmer, being of sound and perfect mind and memory, and calling to mind the uncertainty of this transitory life, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form as follows:

First, I recommend my soul to Almighty God, and my body to the grave, to be interred in a decent Christian like manner, I next will and desire all my lawful debts to be paid by my executors hereinafter named.

I next will and devise unto my beloved wife, Jane Meek, one half of all my beds, bedding and household furniture together with the cows to be her choice of all my stock. One half of all the fruit that grows in my orchard and one half the vegetables raised in my garden as also the use of either end of the basement story of my new dwelling to have her choice of the same, together with the sum of twelve pounds, ten shillings currency, to be paid her annually in half yearly installments during her natural life, by my son John Meek and

further to have her two cows kept during the grass season in good pasture and during the winter be well fed and taken good care of by my said son John Meek,

In the next place, I will and bequeath unto my oldest son Thomas Meek the sum of five pounds currency to be paid to him by my Executors herein after named.

I will and bequeath to my next oldest son, John Meek, all that Estate known as Lot number 12 North of the Union Road in the township of Southwold aforesaid, containing one hundred acres, more or less, also, all that estate containing eighteen acres off the South end of lot number twelve, North of Union Road, aforesaid. Also, all that estate containing thirty one acres off of the North end of Lot number twelve, South of Union Road, all in Southwold aforesaid, containing in the aggregate one hundred and forty nine acres, more or less, to him and his heirs and assignees forever.

To my next son, James Meek, I will and bequeath all that estate known as lot number twelve South near of Union Road in Southwold, aforesaid, containing seventy eight acres, more or less, together with all that estate containing sixty nine acres off the South end of lot number twelve South of Union Road aforesaid, containing in the aggregate one hundred and forty seven acres more or less, to him and his heirs and assignees, forever. I also will and devise to my said son James Meek all of my joiner and carpenter tools.

To my youngest son, William Henry Meek, I will and bequeath all that estate known as lot number three South of Mill Road in Southwold aforesaid, containing sixty five acres more or less, together with eighty two acres off of the North end of lot number twelve North rear of Union Road aforesaid, containing in the aggregate one hundred and forty seven acres more or less, to him and his heirs and assignees, forever, and also one yolk of oxen.

To my oldest daughter, Sarah Ferguson, I give and devise the sum of four pounds currency to be paid her by my executors hereinafter named

To my youngest daughter, Jane Whitcomb, I will and devise the sum of twenty-five pounds currency to be paid her by my executors hereinafter named.

To my grandson John Mitchell, the oldest son of my daughter Jane Whitcomb alias Mitchell, I will and devise one yoke of steers. To my grandson James Mitchell, the second son of my daughter Jane Whitcomb alias Mitchell, I will and bequeath all that estate known as lot number seven East of River Road in Southwold aforesaid, containing one hundred acres more or less, to him and his heirs and assignees, forever.

To my brother Thomas Meek I will and devise that piece of land situated in the second field North of my orchard containing five acres, during the term of his natural life and no longer.

To my second son John Meek aforesaid, I will and devise all the rest, residual, and remainder of my chattel property, stock, grain, farming utensils \_\_\_\_ \_t already herein

devised. I further order and direct my said son John Meek aforesaid, to pay all my lawful debts and clear up all encumbrances that may sway on any part of my estate herein bequeathed, and I further authorize and empower and direct my said son John Meek to obtain deeds from the proper offices for any part of my estate for which I may not have regular title as deed in proper form and to deliver as soon as he can concurrently obtain the same deeds in fee simple for all and every part of my estate bequeathed to my heirs as herein specified.

And further I order and direct my said son John Meek to pay all sums of money herein devised to each of my legatees, and to deliver up the cattle and chattel property herein devised by this my will. I do hereby nominate my oldest son Thomas Meek, my second son John Meek, and my friend Hugh O'Brian to act as my executors to this my last will and testament.

Further, it is my will that in the event of my son John Meek dying without issue, that all of the property herein bequeathed to him should be equally divided, share and share alike, to my three remaining sons, viz. Thomas, James, and William Henry. In the event of either of my two grandsons, John Mitchell and James Mitchell, dying without issue, I will and devise that the remaining grandchild should inherit the property bequeathed to them.

I further order my grandson James Mitchell to pay his brother John Mitchell the sum of twelve pounds, ten shillings currency on the day he arrives at the full age of twenty-five years.

And I hereby disallow, revoke, and disannul all previous wills, testaments, legacies, and bequests by me in any \_\_\_ heretofore named, willed, or bequeathed.

Ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty fourth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty three.

Signed sealed published and declared by the said James Meek, as his last will and testament, in the presence of us who in his presence, and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names

James Meek, L. S.

John Kent, Thomas Daniel, Patrick Clancy, Hugh O'Brian

Codicil to this my last will – I case that my beloved wife Jane Meek should think proper to reside with one of her children and leave the homestead, then it is my will desire that she should have the serviceable property already bequeathed her, together with seven pounds, ten shillings added to the sum of twelve pounds, ten shillings already bequeathed which will make in the aggregate twenty pounds currency in such case to be paid her annually and every year by my second son John Meek during the natural period of her life or during her widowhood. I further desire she should have my horse known as Bob,

and that in the case of her desire, said horse should be on the property of my youngest son William Henry Meek.

I further desire that my son Thomas Meek should have my said colt now c\_\_ing two years old, provided he accepts of it a full consideration of the same for any services he may perform as executor of this my will – I further desire that my third son, **James Meek**, as soon as he obtains his deeds for the property willed to herein, that he pay my second son **John Meek**, the sum of twenty five pounds Ca. – I revoke the payment of twelve pounds, ten shillings which I ordered by this my last will that my grandson **James Mitchell** should make his brother **John Mitchell**. I also revoke the use of the five acres to my brother Thomas Meek devised in this my last will and instead thereof that each of my sons, John Meek, James Meek, and William Henry Meek, should each and every one of them individually deliver him the said Thomas Meek, on the first day of January in each and every year during his life, four bushels of Merchantable wheat. I also will & desire by this codicil to my will that my grand daughter Sarah Jane Mitchell, oldest daughter of my daughter Sarah Whitcomb should be paid the sum of five pounds currency so soon as she arrives at the age of twenty one years. To all of which and in witness thereof I have hereinto set my hand at my residence in Southwold aforesaid this eighth day of December, on thousand eight hundred and thirty four.

In the presence of James Ferguson, Aldrich Freeman, Hugh O'Brian

his  
James X Meek  
mark

Which said will is witnessed by John Kent Of St. Thomas, yeoman, Thomas Daniel of Port Stanley, Physician, Patrick Clancy of St. Thomas aforesaid, storekeepers clerk and Hugh O'Brian of St. Thomas aforesaid, merchant and which said codicil witnessed by James Ferguson of Southwold, yeoman Aldrich Freeman of Southwold, laborer, and Hugh O'Brian of St. Thomas aforesaid, merchant – and this memorial of the said will and codicil is duly required to be registered pursuant to law by me John Meek one of the devisees and one of the executors in the said will named and appointed. Witness my hand and seal at Port Talbot in the County of Middlesex and London District aforesaid, this twenty forth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty five.

Signed & sealed in the presence of Thomas Daniel, James Ferguson, John Meek

1687 Upper Canada

Registry office, County of Middlesex, I Thomas Daniel of Port Stanley in the county aforesaid Physician, make oath and say that I was personally present and did see the testator herein before described duly sign seal and execute the last will and testament of which the foregoing is a memorial in presence of me the despondent and the other subscribing witnesses to the said will and also that I was personally present and did see John Meek one of the executors and a devisee in the said will mentioned, sign and seal

the foregoing memorial thereof for registry - So \_ide of which I am a \_\_\_ \_\_\_ being  
witness So help me God.

Sworn before me this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 1835

Thomas Daniel

M. Burwell  
Register