

Benjamin Austen, clothier, Goudhurst, Kent, 1637: Prob 11/174

Date 20th April 1637

Item: to Mr Mardour, curate, for preaching at the burial.

Item: Unto Suzanne - loving wife - £5 and all my household stuff and my best cow – she to take her choice of all my kine.

Item: Executor to sell all stock, and pay £300 of money raised to wife Suzanne for the term of her natural life, citing bond of £400 made to father-in-law Richard Brattle on condition that if Suzanne outlived him she should receive an annuity of £16 a year. This to be paid out of lands held by brother John Austen. John Austen to supply a rent charge of £20 a year to wife Suzanne; this to drop to £16 a year if she remarries.

After Suzanne's death, John Austen to pay the said £300 as follows:

One fifth part to son John Austen

One fifth to daughter Mary Austen

Residue to be divided between Joan, Benjamin, Jeffery and William Austen, my other children.

Item: Once the obligation to wife fulfilled, any money remaining to be paid to children as follows:

One fifth part to son John Austen at 21 years

One fifth to daughter Mary Austen at 21 or on day of marriage

Remainder equally divided between Joan, Benjamin, Jeffery and William Austen, my other children: Joan to receive hers at 21 or on marriage, the rest at 21.

Clause allowing money to be used for apprenticeship or 'service' entered by any of his children.

John Austen, brother, to have choice of best beast left after wife has chosen.

John Austen, brother, to be sole executor

Loving friend and cousin John Horsmonden, gent, and loving brother George Besbech to be overseers. 20s to John Horsmonden and 40s to George Besbech for their pains.

Benjamin Austen

Witnesses: Francis Austen, Hugh Lake.

Elizabeth Austen, widow, Horsmonden, Kent, 1638: Prob 11/178

Date: 10.9.1638

Late wife of Jefferie Austen

To son John Austen – sheets, pillow cases, napkins

To daughter Mary Austen – residue of personal goods, executrix

If daughter Mary dies before marriage, then goods to be divided between the children of George Apesley of Levenden,

Sister Jane Apesley to bring up daughter Mary

The mark of Elizabeth Austen

Witnesses: John Alchorn, Anthony Apsley

Probate: 3.11.1638 John Austen paternal uncle of Mary Austin daughter and executrix of Elizabeth Austen of Horsmonden...

Francis Austen, clothier, Grovehurst, Horsmonden, Kent, 1686: Prob 11/391

Date 4.11.1686

Body to be buried in the church at Horsmonden, near his father

To the poor of Horsmonden £5

To daughter Elenor, wife of John Springett of Brenchley, clothier, £40 to be paid after the death of John Springett
To the four children of Elenor: John Springett, Elinor Springett, Ann Springett and Elizabeth Springett £40 each at 21 years or marriage on condition that son-in-law John Springett release him from 'all and every promise or promises by me made or pretended to be made to him'; otherwise the bequests are void
To Mary the now wife of Nathaniel Leader of Etchingham, Sussex, yeoman, £10
To my three grandchildren Elizabeth Manto, Ann Pix, Thomas Pix, £5 each at 21 or marriage
To my granddaughter Mary Pix £100 at 21 or marriage
To friend Mr Thomas Martin of Lamberhurst 20s
Residue of personal estate to son John Austen, sole executor
Francis Austen
Witnesses: Thomas Keene, Anne Eley, Thomas Martin

John Austen, clothier, Horsmonden, Kent, 1615: Prob 11/127

Date 10.1.1615

John Austen of Rucke, Horsmonden, clothier

20s to the poor of Horsmonden

To son Thomas Austen the furnace that was his grandfather's, a great brass pot, two great spits, two iron dripping pans and one silver spoon, at 21 years

To daughters Jane and Margaret, a silver spoon at 23 years old or on marriage.

Long clause detailing mortgage taken out with him by Thomas Cockle of Staplehurst yeoman for £162?

Mentions Robert Mascoll of Chart next Sutton and Richard Mascoll of Goudhurst kinsmen.

Mentions a house in Staplehurst.

The daughter of Elizabeth Hickmott....

Wife Margaret to be executor and Robert and Richard Mascoll to be executors.

John Austen, Horsmonden, Kent, 1620: Prob 11/137

In the name of God amen I John Austen of Horsmonden in the county of Kent being sick in body but of good and perfect memory thanks be to my God therefore do ordain and make this my last will and testament the 20th day of February in the year of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand five hundred and twenty in manner and form following. First I give my soul and body to God in the mediation of my merciful saviour Jesus Christ Lord and Redeemer and my body to be buried at the discretion of my executor in an assured hope of the Resurrection unto eternal life in Jesus Christ at the last days. Concerning my goods I give to the poor of the parish of Horsmonden five pounds to be paid unto them at the discretion of my executor within one month next after my decease. Item I give to my executor all my moveable goods in my house and plate and jewels whatsoever and also I give unto him all the corn and other provisions in my barns and all of the lease that I have taken of certain lands from Sir Henry Whetnall knight deceased. All the rest of my goods, my debts being discharged I give unto my other seven sons equally to be divided between them that is to say to Jeffery, Benjamin, Robert, Francis, Peter, Richard and Thomas and thus I have disposed of this part of my estate whereof the Lord hath blessed me and I make my eldest son John Austen sole executor of this my will and request my loving friends Mr Jeffery Amhurst and Richard Weekes to be my overseers of this my will to see it truly performed and for their pains therein to be taken I give unto

them five pounds. Further my will and mind is concerning the selling of my lands and tenements and hereditaments whatsoever lying situate and being in the counties of Kent, Sussex or elsewhere within the realm of England as follows: I give, settle upon and bequeath the same and every part and parcel thereof unto John Austen my eldest son and to his heirs for ever, whom I make executor of this my will conditionally that he, the said John my son shall pay unto my grandchild John Perryn yearly for and during his natural life out of my lands five pounds of current English money. And also unto Jeffery my son £100 within one year next after my decease and to Benjamin my son another £100 within one year next after my decease, and to Robert my son another £100 within three years next after my decease and to Francis my son another £100 within four years next after my decease and to Peter my son another £100 within five years next after my decease and to Richard my son another £100 within five years next after my decease and to Thomas my son another £100 within seven years next after my decease. And revoking all other wills I ordain and divulge this for my last will and subscribe to it my name the day and year first above written. John Austen John Austen
Witnesses hereunto: Ralph Rams the mark of Audrie Perrin Jefferey Amhurst Robert Austen Alexander Osborne Edward Russell
Probatum fuit 22.3.1620

John Austen, clothier, Horsmonden, Kent, 1650: Prob 11/213

In the name of God amen 15th day of May in the year of our Lord 1650, I John Austen of Horsmonden in the county of Kent, clothier.....

[Commits soul to God, etc. and body to be buried at discretion of executor hereinafter named.]

Item I give and bequeath unto Widdow Pierson 40 s of lawful money of England.....

Item I give and bequeath unto the other poor people of Horsmonden 40 s ... to be distributed among them by my executor at the time of my burial.

Item I give and bequeath unto Mary Austen daughter of Benjamin Austen my brother deceased the sum of £30 of lawful money of England to be paid within a year next after my decease ...

by and after the death of John Austen her brother late deceased...

Item I give and bequeath unto Benjamin Austen, Jeffery Austen, Jone Austen and William Austen the children of my said brother Benjamin.... £100 [each. Refers to self as executor of their father's will and his estate. All four to inherit at 21 years, and the share of anyone which dies before this age, the survivor(s) to share their legacy.]

Item I give and bequeath unto Richard Austen my brother £150 [to be paid within a year after his decease.]

Item I give and bequeath unto every one of my brother Richard Austen's children that shall be living at the time of my death £20 [to be paid when they are 21 or when they marry. If any die before this, survivor(s) to have their share.]

Item I give and bequeath unto every one of my brother Peter Austen's children £20 a year [to be paid when they are 21 or when they marry. If any die first, survivor(s) to have their share.]

Item I give and bequeath unto John Perryn son of my sister Perryn £100 of lawful money of England in full recompense and satisfaction of one annuity of £5 a year given and bequeathed unto him the said John Perryn by the last will and testament of John Austen my father to be issuing and going out of all the lands and tenements of the said John Austen my father and upon this condition likewise that he the said John Perryn shall upon receipt of the said £100 make seale and deliver unto my executor or his

assigns such a sufficient and lawful release and discharge in the said annuity as my said executor or his assign shall reasonably require.

Item I give and bequeath unto Susanna Perryn daughter of my said sister Perryn £30 of lawful money of England to be paid unto her two years next after my decease if she be then living.

Item I give and bequeath unto Joane Perryn Elizabeth Perryn Mary Perryn and Alce Perryn the other children of my said sister Perryn £20 apiece of lawful money of England to be paid unto every one of them in manner and form following, that is to say unto Joane Perryn within three years next after my decease, if she be then living and to Elizabeth Perryn within four years next after my decease, if she be then living and to Mary Perryn within five years next after my decease, if she be then living and to Alice Perryn within six years next after my decease if she be then living.

Item I give unto John Austen the oldest son of my brother Robert Austen deceased the sum of three score pounds of lawful money.... [to be paid within 1 year.]

Item I give and bequeath unto Jeffery Austen another of the sons of my brother Robert Austen £400 ... [to be paid in two payments when he is 21 and 23.]

Item I give and bequeath unto An Austen daughter of the said Robert Austen my brother £200 ... [one half when she is 21 and the other on marriage.]

Item I give and bequeath unto Joan Austen sister of the said Anne £100 ... [one half when she is 21 and the other on marriage. Reference to having been executor of their father's will]

Item I give and bequeath unto Daniel Brattle of the Tower of London my kinsman in whose house I have a trunk the sum of £10...

Item I give and bequeath whole unto William Manser of Yalding my servant the sum of £20...

Item the residue of all and singular my moveable goods and chattels leases money plate debts owing me by any manner of person or persons whatsoever household stuff and all other goods and chattels whatsoever my debts being first paid and my legacies and funeral expenses being first paid and discharged, I give and bequeath unto my loving brother Francis Austen towards the better payment of my debts and legacies which said Francis Austen I make and ordain my sole executor... and I do hereby nominate... my loving friends John Horsmonden of Gowthurst... gent and John Stringer of Horsmonden... clothier to be overseers of this my will..... and I give and bequeath either of them... 50 shillings apiece...

This is the last will and testament of me John Austen made in writing the day and year foresaid and touching the disposition of all singular my lands tenements and hereditaments whatsoever.

First I give and bequeath unto Thomas Austen my brother... one annuity or yearly rent of £10... to be going out of... all and singular my lands and tenements situate lying and being in Yalding in the said county of Kent..... for the term of his natural life....

Item I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Austen widow late the wife of my Uncle Benjamin £5 of lawful money of England to be paid unto her within three months next after my decease if she then be living.

Item I give unto Peter and Benjamin sons of the said Elizabeth £20... to be paid within three months next after my decease.

Item I give and bequeath unto John Austen son of my brother Jeffery Austen one annuity... of £10... [on] all my lands... in Yalding aforesaid..... for the term of his natural life....

Item I give and bequeath all other my lands tenements and hereditaments whatsoever not before given with all and singular their appurtenances and members whatsoever situate

lying and being in the county of Kent or elsewhere in the realm of England unto my foresaid loving brother Francis.... his heirs and assigns for ever...

Item my will and mind is that my executor shall not fell.... any of the timber trees growing.. upon the lease land which I hold from Thomas Whetenhall [to be kept for repairs etc on Grovehurst House. If the house be sold, a clause shall keep the timber for repairing the house, buildings fences enclosures thereunto belonging. However, wood from the Hooke Wood can be felled.]

[Clause empowering his overseers to sell the properties if Francis doesn't deliver all the legacies and bequests, and take £10 apiece for their pains - remaining money to go to Francis.]

In witness whereof... [John Austen has signed all 12 pages and set his seal to the final page.]

Read sealed and published in the presence of Thomas Luke, Hugh Lake and William Barber.

Probate granted to Francis Austin on 5th August 1650.

[All bequests to family have a clause stating that the bequest is to be received 'in full satisfaction' of any claim they might have on his estate.]

Nicholas Astyn, East Farleigh, Kent, 1532: Prob 11/24

Body to be buried in East Farleigh churchyard beside wife Alice.

Bequests to churches at East Farleigh, Loose, Linton, ?Halton, Marden and Yalding.

Bequest to poor people who come to his funeral.

Obit to be kept at East Farleigh for six years.

Bequest to Friars of Guildford.

Prayers to be said at East Farleigh for his soul and the souls of Joan and Alice, his deceased wives.

To daughter Joan, wife of Guy Maylynn – various linen, wheat etc. A marble ... to Guy Maylynn.

To godson John Maylynn, son of Joan, one ewe, one lamb

To daughter Margery £20

To daughter Margaret my chest, various linen etc. and £20

To Joan T.... widow and bed and bedding etc. and broadyards of cloth that brother John brought from London.

To son William £20 and some household items, including the best bed and broadyards of cloth brought from London by brother John, and my black coat

To William, John, Nicholas, Margery and Margaret my children, my brass and pewter

To John and Nicholas £20

To brother Stephen Astyn my ... doublet, my best worsted doublet, my best pair of ...hosen...

To godson William, son of brother Stephen £20

To John, Thomas and Stephen Astyn, sons of brother Stephen 12s 8d each

To John Willard my sister's ...

To Richard Willard my godson, son of the same John Willard and Agnes my sister one... of the best of the residue of my kine and £20

To Agnes Willard, goddaughter, daughter of John Willard and Agnes my sister one cow, a pair of sheets

To Elizabeth daughter of John Willard and Agnes ...

To Clement Crowhurst daughter of John Willard and Agnes....

To Julian, Ann, Margaret, John, William, George and Dorothy children of John Willard and Agnes 12s 8d each

To Thomas Austen my cousin, my longest gown
 To godson Nicholas Austen son of the said Thomas...
 To.... goddaughter ...
 To Elizabeth Wise my daughter [sic. Should this read goddaughter?] daughter of John
 Wise of Yalding upon marriage....
 To each of my godchildren one lamb.
 To John and Elizabeth Frant, children of of Maidstone
 To William ?Twort my servant, my marble ...
 To John ?Thayre my servant my great ?coat
 To Robert Langley my servant 13s 4d
 Richard Willard and Robert Langley my friends shall....
 My executors to pay them..
 Residue to brother Stephen Astyn my brother and Thomas Astyn my cousin, executors
 Sir Roger vicar of East Farleigh, my ghostly father, overseer
 Last will concerning all my land in the parishes of East Farleigh, Leigh, ?Halton, Linton,
 Yalding, Benenden, Sandhurst or elsewhere
 My brother Stephen Austen and my feoffees (named).... [several parcels of land and] a
 message to be put to the use of son William Astyn.....

Percivall Austyn, Goudhurst, Kent, 1556: Prob 11/39

Date 18.2.1556

To son Thomas Austyn all lands and tenements in a deed dated 10.1.2 Philip and Mary,
 and also a message called Cortisden in Goudhurst, and all lands pertaining to it, now in
 the occupation of the said Thomas, to be held in fee simple, the said Thomas paying
 Percival's wife Agnes £8 p.a. After her death, Thomas to pay his brother Walter 20
 nobles a year.

To son James a message called Kingswood in Staplehurst with its lands in fee simple,
 paying Walter his brother 4 marks annually.

To son William two messages with appurtenances in the parish of Betrisden
 [?Bethersden] in the occupation of the said William and Richard Pettynden, except for a
 parcel of land called ?Oaks Land which is willed to daughter Margery Holmes in fee
 simple.

Moveable goods to wife Agnes [and then to daughter Margery? Or except for certain
 goods to Margery?]

To Margery, featherbed and bolster, coverlet, pillow and...

Son Thomas executor.

Witnessed: Richard Austyn, Robert Fishenden, Agnes Austyn and the wife of Richard
 Austyn.

Robert Austen, clothier, Brenchley, Kent, 1645; Prob 11/194

Date 4.2.1638

To the poor of Brenchley, 10/-

To wife Elizabeth all household stuff which was hers when they married

Power granted to brothers John Austen and Edward Keyley (executors, and given 20/-
 for a remembrance) to sell an annuity of £8 on lands in Old ?Rummy [?Romney] which
 was granted by William ?Epo gent, and stock and goods - money arising to go to
 education and bringing up of children.

Principal money to be paid to his three children – John, Jeffrie and Anne, with the sons getting twice as much as the daughter. To be paid at 21. Household goods to be divided between them.

Witnessed: Thomas Lake, Thomas Baylie

Proved 11.11.1645

Stephen Austen, clothier, Goudhurst, Kent, 1635: Prob 11/182

Date 18.12.1635

Pious opening slightly different, refers to being one of the 'elect children of God'

£100 to eldest son Robert Austen

20s to eldest daughter Mary ?Bayley

£20 to daughter Elizabeth Smith

£150 to son Thomas Austen

£100 to son Stephen Austen

£50 apiece to four daughters Ann, Alice, Martha and Mary Austen at 21 or day of marriage.

The rest to wife Mary

Thomas Ballard of Wadhurst and Robert Whitpayne of Hurst yeoman [both Sussex], with 20s each for their pains.

House and land to go to wife Mary for the better maintenance of the children. After her death the house and land to be sold and £200 of the money from this to be paid to his four younger daughters when they are 21 or married.

Should wife be pregnant, £100 to be paid to resulting child at 21. If not, then that money to be divided between sons Thomas and Stephen.

Stephen Austen

Witnesses: Stephen King snr, Thomas Francis, Robert Lake, his servants

Thomas Asten. Clothier, Goudhurst, Kent, 1559; Prob 11/43

In the name of God amen The 16th day of June in the year of our Lord God 1559 [etc] I Thomas Asten of Goutherst in the county of Kent clothier do make and ordain this my present testament and last will in manner and form following, that is to say first and principally I commend my soul [etc]

I give and bequeath to Richard Tatt Tanner £10 to be paid to him within three years next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath to Thomas Tate my godson $\frac{3}{4}$. Item I give and bequeath to Stephen Asten my son £10 within 2 years next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath to Thomas my son 12d. Item I give and bequeath to William Asten my son one annual rental or pension of 20/- during his life the first term of payment to begin within 3 years next after my decease. The residue of my goods moveable and unmoveable my debts being paid and my legacies discharged I holy give and bequeath unto George Astyn my son whom I make and ordain my sole executor of this my present testament. And for the better execution of the same I make and ordain the said Richard Tate tanner my overseer. And as touching the disposition of my lands I give and bequeath them in manner and form following that is to say To George Astyn my son all my lands and lease set lying and being in the parish of Goutherst aforesaid to have and to hold all the said lands and lease for ever paying my debts and discharging my funeral and legacies aforesaid. In witness whereof to this my present testament and last will I have set my seal given the day and year above said. Signed sealed and delivered by the aforesaid Thomas Asten in the presence of me, Peter Baker... and me Wilfred ?Lewtie John Mentill.

Proved 2.7.1560 by George Astyn, exec.

Thomas Austen, Wadhurst, 1601; Prob 11/99

In the name of God amen the four and twentieth day of August anno domini 1601, and in the three and fortieth year of the reign of our sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England France and Ireland Queen defender of the faith etc. I Thomas Austen of Wadhurst in the County of Sussex Yeoman being sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be to God, do ordain this my present testament conveying here my last will, in manner and form following videlicet, first and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my creator saviour and redeemer, believing steadfastly to be saved by the merits and blood shedding of our saviour Jesus Christ, and my body to the earth to be buried in the parish church of Wadhurst or Goudhurst aforesaid; Item I will and bequeath to the poor people of the parish of Wadhurst the sum of 40 shillings of current money, to be distributed at the day of my burial amongst them by the discretion of mine executor hereafter named, Item I will and bequeath to Margaret my wife all my movable household stuff and chattels lying and being in the parish of Wadhurst where I now dwell, except one dozen of silver spoons one silver salt and one pot covered with silver, Item I will and bequeath to Marie Austen my daughter £200 of lawful English money to be paid unto her at two several payments videlicet £100 within one whole year after my decease, and the other hundred pounds within two years after my decease, by mine executor, Item I will and bequeath unto Francis Austen my son the sum of £100 of lawful English money to be paid unto him within one year after my decease by mine executor, Item I will and bequeath unto Richard Austen my son all the household stuff and furniture for his working house which he hath of mine in his possession, to be left to him as his own immediately after my decease, Item I will and bequeath unto John Austen my son, the sum of £10 of lawful English money, to be paid unto him within one whole year after my decease by mine executor, Item I will and bequeath unto Salomon Weare the son of Thomas Weare and Elizabeth my daughter late deceased the sum of £10 of lawful English money, to be paid unto him when he cometh to the age of one and twenty years by mine executor, Item I will and bequeath unto Margaret Weare the daughter of Thomas Weare and Elizabeth my daughter the sum of £10 of English money, to be paid unto her when she cometh to the age of 18 years by mine executor, And further my will is that if either of these two, Salomon or Margaret do die before they come to the years above-mentioned, that then the survivor shall have the other's portion as heir to the deceased, Item I will and bequeath unto the six children of my son Thomas Austen, 10 shillings apiece, to be paid unto them within one whole year after my decease, by mine executor, Item I will and bequeath unto the children of my son John Austen 10 shillings apiece, to be paid unto them within one year after my decease by mine executor, Item I bequeath unto the children of my son Richard Austen 10 shillings apiece, to be paid within one year after my decease, by mine executor, Item I will and bequeath unto the children of my son Robert Austen 10 shillings apiece, to be paid unto them within one year after my decease by mine executor, Item I will and bequeath to Thomas Nixson the son of my daughter Elizabeth late deceased to the sum of 10 shillings to be paid unto him within two years after my decease by mine executor, Item I will and bequeath unto Stephen Austen the son of my brother Stephen Austen late deceased the sum of five pounds of lawful English money to be paid unto him within one year after my decease by mine executor, Item I will and bequeath unto my three children Francis, Benjamin and Marye all such linen and pewter as are locked up within the mansion house of my son Robert Austen, whereof myself do keep the key, and all one dozen of silver spoons, one silver salt and one pot covered with silver, which are

now in my own possession, to be equally divided amongst them promptly after my decease by mine executor, Item I will and bequeath to Sara Austen 10 shillings to be paid promptly after my decease by my executor. The residue of all my goods and chattels, my debts and legacies paid and my funeral expenses discharged I will and bequeath unto Robert Austen my son, whom I make my sole executor of this my last will and testament, and I appoint my son Thomas Austen overseer of this my present testament, and for the better fulfilling of the same, I will him for his pains 10 shillings to be paid by mine executor.

This is the last will and testament of me the above named Thomas Austen made and declared the day and year first above written concerning the disposition of all my messuages lands tenements and hereditaments whatsoever situate lying and being in the parish of Wadhurst in the County of Sussex, first I bequeath to my son Thomas Austen all my messuages withal my lands tenements and their appurtenances lying and being in the parish of Wadhurst viz one messuage with the lands thereunto belonging which I lately purchased of Richard Harte containing by estimation eight acres, more or less, lying in the parish of Wadhurst adjoining to a certain wood called Week Wood, and also all my land which I lately purchased of Robert Crutall containing by estimation 18 acres of land being in the foresaid parish of Wadhurst, also one messuage or tenement which I lately purchased of William Barham, videlicet one house barn and a shop one garden and two acres of land, either more or less, to have and to hold the said messuages with their appurtenances to him and to his heirs for ever, also my will is that Margaret my wife, during the term of her natural life shall have the use and profits of all my said messuages lands tenements and hereditaments with their appurtenances lying and being in Wadhurst aforesaid, provided and ?alliances... and my will is, that she shall not strip nor waste fell cut nor carry away any wood growing upon the said premises, also whereas I have given and granted unto Margaret my wife by a deed, £20 to be paid unto her yearly after my decease and for her jointure, my will is that if she will stand to her jointure, then she shall have no profit of my said messuages lands aforementioned, nor any of my movable goods which before are specified in this my last will, then my will is that my son Thomas Austen shall have the profits of the said messuages and shall pay the £20 yearly according to the effect in true meaning of the aforesaid deed or jointure, which if he shall refuse to do, and that it be underpaid, then I will and my mind is that my son Robert Austen shall have the said lands to him and to his heirs for ever, and shall pay the said yearly annuity or rents granted by my aforesaid deed, as also all the said movable goods, the which I had given to Margaret my wife, and that I conclude and finish this my last will and testament by me Thomas Austen, witness hereunto Richard Carter vicar of Goudhurst Richard Austen

Probate granted to Robert Austen, son, 27.4.1602

Thomas Austen, Goudhurst, 1606; Prob 11/107

This is the last will and testament of me Thomas Austen of Goudhurst made and declared the 10th day of December 1605. First I commend my soul to Almighty God and my body to be buried at the discretion of my executors. Item I give and bequeath to my eldest daughter Joan Austen £100 to be paid to her at her age of 21 years by my executor herein after named. Also I give to my daughter Margaret £100 to be paid at her age of 21 years by my executor. Also I give to my daughter Anne £100 to be paid to her as her age of 21 years by my executor. Also I give to my daughter Alice £100 to be paid to her at her age of 21 years by my executor. All the rest of my movable goods (my debts and legacies paid) I give to my eldest son Thomas Austen whom I make my executor of this

my last will and testament. And also my will and mind is that my executors shall bring up and provide meat drink and apparel for such and so many of his brothers and sisters as shall not be able to provide for themselves till they shall come to their portions to them bequeath. This is also my last will and testament of me the above said Thomas Austen concerning my lands and tenements... I give to my two sons John Austen and Jefferey Austen all my houses lands and tenements lying in Wadhurst in the County of Sussex to have and to hold to them and their heirs for ever equally to be divided after the death of my mother-in-law Margaret Moore, until which time I will that the profits thereof to my son Thomas Austen my executor. Also I give my son Thomas Austen the house and land with all the appurtenances which I now dwell in lying in the parish of Goudhurst to have and to hold to him and his heirs for ever. Provided always that if my said son Thomas (whom I have made my executor to pay his sisters to fail and not pay every of his said sisters at the several days appointed by my last will or within the space of one whole year next after any the said days of payment that then and from thenceforth it shall be lawful for every or any of the sisters or their assigns to enter and hold the land given to him the said Thomas and have the profits thereof until the said Thomas shall have paid the said money bequeath to them.

Thomas Austen

Sealed and delivered in the presence of John Austen

Probate granted to Thomas Austin, son, 25.4.1606

William Astyn, Yalding, Kent, 1522: Prob 11/20

In the name of God amen the 5th day of May 1522..... I William Astyn of Yalding in the county of Kent and diocese of Rochester being of whole mind and perfect memory made and ordain this my testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God to the Lady St. Mary to the apostles Peter and Paul my patrons and to all the saints in heaven and my body to be buried in the middle space before the high cross within the church of Yalding.

Item I bequeath to the high altar there for tithes forgotten or negligently withheld 6s.

Item I bequeath to the high altar of Brechessle [Brenchley] 6d.

Item to the high altar of Benenden 6d

Item to the maintenance of the light in Yalding named Our Lady light 6s

Item I bequeath 4 tapers of wax of a pound apiece to stand before the image of St. Michael the archangel, St.... St. Blaise and St. Armel to be lighted at high mass every Sunday and holy day as commanded by the church for the space of a whole year next after my decease.

Item I will that there be a tabernacle made for the image of St. Peter standing in the chancel at Yalding according to the bargain that I have made with Thomas Thorngate of Goutherst (Goudhurst) carver.

Item I bequeath to William and William my godsons, sons of Nicholas and Stephen my sons to every of them 6s 4d to be paid to them at the day of their marriage.

Item I bequeath to John Willard and Agnes his wife 20s to be paid in quarters next after my decease.

Item I bequeath to every one of my godchildren which I have not paid by my above .. as it appeareth by my book 4d

Item I bequeath to the said and sung at the day of my burying and at my months day a trental that is to say 30 masses and every priest to have the singing of ... mass to ... 6d

Item I bequeath to every poor man and woman at my buying and months day at every time 1d

Item I bequeath to every poor child that shall be at my burying and months day at every time a loaf of bread to the value of a halfpenny

Item I will there be bestowed at my years mind by the discretion of my executors and ...
20d

Item I will that my obit shall be kept for the space of 14 years after my decease and every year to be bestowed 10s in form following... to 6 priests to say dirge and mass and all the residue to be bestowed at the discretion of my executors and overseers in charitable deeds

Item I bequeath to Elizabeth my wife the halfendal [moity] of all such goods as I have in my parlour my chamber where I lie in the old chamber the old parlour and the new house except only bedsteads shelves standing presses and the mill ... at the new house except furthermore that I will that Stephen my son shall have free liberty on ... to ...any gentleman or yeoman into my parlour and old chamber and to lodge them in the bed there and to have the occupation of such apparel as belongeth to the same bed for a night, 2 or 3 at ... shall require. And the other half of all the said stuff which I have in my parlour and the chamber I lie in and the old chamber and the old parlour I bequeath to John Astyn my son to be delivered to him at the day of his marriage by the said Elizabeth my wife or her assigns. And I will that my said wife shall have the custody of the same goods until the time of the marrying of the said John my son if she be sole and unmarried

Item I bequeath to John my said son my silver spoons to be delivered to him in like manner and if it happens that my said son John shall decease before he marry then I will that all the goods that I have to him above assigned shall be at the disposition of Elizabeth my said wife

I will that the window over the sepulcher be dampened and a blind ... to be made rising over the said sepulchre and the ...of the same sepulchre be made of good workmanship and afterwards to be gilded with the resurrection of Our Lord

Item I bequeath to the said Elizabeth my wife my cow

Item I bequeath to John Astyn my son £12 4s that I receive of the land of Elizabeth my wife which I hold in the parish of Boxley. The £12 4s I will shall be in the custody of the said Elizabeth and her assigns until the time the said John cometh to the age of 22 years. And if my said son John decease before he cometh to the age of 22 then I will that the said £12 4s shall be at the disposition of my said wife. The residue of all my goods and chattels not bequeathed my debts paid and this my last testament and will fulfilled I give and bequeath unto Stephen Astyn my son whom I make executor of that my testament as he ordain and dispose for the health of my soul as it shall unto him be thought most expedient to the pleasure of God.

Item I ordain and make Nicholas Astyn my son to be my overseer of that my testament to whom I bequeath for his labour 20s to see that my testament and will performed and fulfilled.

Item I will that the said Nicholas shall have his reasonable expenses allowed as ... he hath for the same

Item I bequeath unto every of my feoffees 12d to be paid unto them when they deliver or state of my lands according to my will underwritten.

This is the last will of me the said William Astyn made and declared the day and year aforesaid as of and upon the disposition of all my lands and tenements rents and services with the appurtenances which I have to my own use in the parishes of Yalding, Loose, Benenden and Sandhurst or elsewhere within the shire of Kent.... Stephen at Nashe of Yalding, Robert Box late of Sandhurst and Richard Hichcock of the same my feoffees in trust as in a deed thereof to them and others now dead that is to say John Sharpe, John.... Thomas Brodbrege, Thomas Robarde the elder, Stephen Willard, Willam Agat,

Thomasand Thomas Maylinn bearing date at Yalding aforesaid the 12th June in the
....reign of King Henry VII

First I give Elizabeth my wife money yearly out of my lands and tenements which I to
her granted by deed indented before marriage to be paid by Stephen and John my
sons...Also I will that the said Elizabeth shall have the occupation of my parlour, my
chamber over the same, the old chamber and the chamber under the same a little garden
lying between my parlour with easement in another garden thereto adjoining for standing
for her bees and to which her ... in the same easement in the kitchen ?oven and and
necessarily fuel and wood as long as she continueth in her widowhood.

Item I will that the said Elizabeth shall have my messuage called Walter (Watter) during
all the term of her life according to my grant afore the time of marriage. And also all that
land with appurtenances which I bought of the heirs of John a Stone together with a
garden that I bought of William Marshe lying in the north side of the said messuage
called Walters. And also another little meadow called Walcars Howe during all the life of
the said Elizabeth except and to Stephen my soneasement in my parlour and old
chamber as it in my testament..... easement in the apple mill to make .. cider.
Also I will that the said Nicholas and Stephen my sons within one year next after my
decease by their writingtripartited to be indented in due form of law by the
advice of John Hoiles esq. to be made shall remit and release to the said [names of
feoffees as above] to their possession all such interest ties and claims as the said Nicholas
and Stephen my sons now have or shall have in all the said lands and tenements [Section
essentially dealing with a trust - I think.]

Also I will that my son John Astyn within ... months after he shall be 21 years shall by
his writing ... to be indented.... lease unto the said [feoffees]

[Following clause is a caveat that if any of his sons go against the will and refuse to make
release, they will lose their share until they comply.]

Item I will that all my lands and tenements with appurtenances lying in the parishes of
Yalding, Loose, Benenden and Sandhurst shall be let to farm to the best price unto the
feast of St. Michael the archangel in the year 1525 and the money thereof to my said
wife..... I will it shall be paid for the performance of this my testament and last
will...those lands and tenements lying in Yalding excepted. Also 2 parcels of land...
called Horseherst, except further my piece of land lying in the lordship of Aylesford
which I purchased of Thomas Higham and the other 2 pieces called ... and Berryfelde to
have and to hold unto Stephen my son in fee simple under the condition following, that
is to say that if my said son Stephen pay to Elizabeth my wife 30s 6d yearly during term
of her life .. And also if the said Stephen my son pay to Nicholas Astyn my son in the
church of Yalding £106 13s 4d ... in 1526....[over a period of] 10 years next
following.... [clause dealing with possible default giving Nicholas the moiety of Stephen's
share if he doesn't pay up.]

[Reiteration of terms of John's inheritance, and the fact that Elizabeth's share will pass to
him, then.]

And all the residue of my said money I will it shall be paid unto Elizabeth my wife unto
the use of John my son, which money shall be delivered to him when he cometh to the
age of 22 years. And if Elizabeth my said wife do marry or decease before the said age
Item I will all the said money shall be delivered to any such honest person which it shall
be thought most expedient to the use of my said son John.....

I will my executor and overseer to find a good ... for themmoney to John aforesaid

Item Stephen my son shall pay to Elizabeth my wifegranted at the time of marriage
I will that John Astyn my son shall have Horseherst and the other 4 pieces of land and
land in Loose Benenden and Sandhurst with the appurtenanceson condition that he
pay to Elizabeth for life 8s4d.....granted to her

Item I will that John my son shall have immediately after the decease of my wife Elizabeth...all my said lands and tenements called Walters, with garden etc. in fee simple And if it happen that my said son John decease before he come to the said age of 22 years then I will that the issues and profits of lands in Benenden, Loose, Sandhurst and Yalding to my said son John assigned shall be held unto John Willard my son-in-law, John Astyn and Thomas Astyn my brothers equally between them

Item if my said son John decease... then land in Yalding to remain to my said son Stephen in fee simple, and all my land in Benenden, Sandhurst and Loose to Nicholas my son....[provided they pay money to Elizabeth]

Also I will that my said feoffees shall grantby John Aborne of Hadley to the use of Margaret now wife of the said Stephen for all the term of the life of the said Margaret an annuity of 40s yearly out of such lands and tenements as I caused William Smith of Marden to make a draught at ... more plainly doth appear for the discharge of an obligation in the which I stand bounden to the said John Aborne.

[Another clause ensuring his sons only get their inheritance if they abide by the will. Makes reference to lands purchased and inherited.]

Witnesses: Robert Elphete, Thomas Codde, Thomas Richarde, Thomas Harblett

William Austen, clothier, Gowtherst [Goudhurst], Kent, 1616: Prob 11/118

Date: 21.7.1616

To the poor of Goudhurst £10 etc

To preacher at my burial....

To all my godchildren 12d apiece

To godson Austin Fowle, son of daughter Elizabeth Fowle my best gilt salt with the cover, all the bedsteads in my dwelling house with the curtains.... [and a long list of household implements]

To daughter Margaret Horsmonden £100, six of my new silver spoons [and other household goods]

To my daughter Ann Taylor one standing silver cup called a beaker, six of my new silver spoons [and other household goods] and a featherbed bought from Mr Doctor Hudson

To my daughter Mary ?Hewkeley one silver border

To Sarah Wells daughter of my daughter Judith Reynolds one silver bowl, a featherbed etc.

To Mary Fowle daughter of Elizabeth Fowle a little silver ... [and other household goods]

The residue of household goods to Margaret Horsmonden

To William Horsmonden son of Margaret £400

To John Horsmonden, Johanne ?Bachuell and Alice Horsmonden son and daughters of Margaret £50 at 18 years or day of marriage

To the aforesaid Sarah Wells £50

To Anthony, Mary and Elizabeth Fowle, children of Elizabeth £50 at 18 or marriage

To Mary Taylor daughter of daughter Ann £50 at 18 or marriage

To daughter Mary Hewkeley £50 to be paid after the death of her husband Thomas Hewkley

To Robert Austen son of my brother Richard Austen deceased £20

To John Austen and William Austen his brothers £10

To Bartholmew Burnett son of sister Margaret Burnett £20

To the rest of my sister's children 20s

To cousin Johane Tate widow 40s

To all men and maidservants living in my house at the time of my death 5s

To the aforesaid Austin Fowle the implements of my trade

Residue of estate to son John Horsmonden, executor
Mr Anthony Fowle and Mr John Taylor my sons to be overseers - £5 for their pains
To Anthony [sic – but later in this clause he is referred to as Austin] Fowle, son of
daughter Elizabeth a tenement, a ?lawn, an orchard, 4 pieces of land, a wood... about 12
acres in Goudhurst bought from Henry Pattenden and his son George along with 2 acres
of land called Sanders in Goudhurst provided he pay a sum of money to John
Horsmonden for the use of John Horsmonden the younger
Signed William Austen
Witnesses: William Moore, John Lake, Thomas Lake
Proved 22.8.1616

Nicholas Barham, yeoman, Wadhurst, Sussex, 1594: Prob 11/94

Date: 21.7.1594

In the name of God amen the one and twentieth day of July a thousand five hundred and ninety four I Nicholas Barham of Wadhurst in the county of Sussex husbandman son of William Barham being sick in body but of good and perfect memory God be thanked for it do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is first I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and my body to the earth when it shall please God to call me to his mercy. Item I give to my mother Agnes Barham ten pounds of lawful money of England. Item I give to my brother John Barham five pounds of lawful money and to Margaret and William his two children ten pounds viz to either of then five pounds with fifteen pounds I will shall paid unto my said brother John within one year after my decease to the use of himself and his said two children. Item I give to my godson Robert Moone son of my sister Elizabeth wife of John Moone five pounds to be paid to him at the age of twentie years. Item I give to every one of my brother William's children ten pounds. Item I give to my brother John a bedstead which is now in his house. My will is that my executor shall bestow ten shillings upon the poor people at my burial. The residue of my goods and chattels my debts legacies and funeral expenses being paid and discharged I give and bequeath unto my brother William Barham whom I make and ordain my executor of this my last will and testament. Item I give to every one of my godchildren which have no legacy before to them bequeathed twelve pence to be paid when they lawfully demand it. This the said Nicholas Barham declared to be his last will in the presence of John Cortop, Nicholas Barham son of John Barham and of me Thomas Ballard.

Probate 19.9.1594 to William Barham brother and executor.

Richard Barham, yeoman, Wadhurst, Sussex, 1561: Prob 11/221

Date: 24.5.1651

Body to be buried in churchyard at Wadhurst

To kinsman John Longley of Wadhurst, son of John Longley, £5

To all the rest of the children of John Longley by his first wife, £5

To Ann daughter of Thomas Longley, late of Wadhurst, deceased, my kinsman, and his first wife, £15

To Elizabeth, daughter of my brother William Barham, £5

To Anne, daughter of my brother William Barham, £5 which is now in her mother's hands. Mary her mother to pay it to Anne within a year

To Mary wife of John Baker of Ticehurst, daughter of my brother William Barham, £5

To Robert Longley my kinsman, 10/- to buy a ring

To each of the children of Richard Lucke of Wadhurst, my kinsman, 12d apiece

To John Lucke ... 20/-

To Thomas Barham son of my uncle William Barham my best suit of clothes that is to say my waistcoat doublet and breeches and my short coat

Item I give my household [sic] to the children of John Longley my kinsmen which came by his first wife to be equally divided among them

The residue to John Longley my kinsmen, executor

The mark of Richard Barham

Witnesses Richard Lucke, Richard Reade

Probate 12.5.1652

Robert Barham, yeoman, Lamberhurst, Sussex, 1650: Prob 11/230

Date 24.2.1650

To eldest son Robert Barham the house where I now dwell called Wisters, with the stock and household goods when he is 21 years.

To wife Margaret the profits from my stock until the children are all 21, provided she stay single.

If Robert dies before 21 the house Wisters goes to son John Barham

To daughter Elizabeth £100 at 21 or marriage

To son John £100 at 21.

If Margaret is with child, it is to have £100 at 21

[Margaret to be executor and have the right to fell timber in his woods for the raising of the children. Also given instructions on the running of the farm.]

To eldest son Robert two beds furnished, including the best bed. Daughter Elizabeth to have the next best bed

To Margaret the stock, for the purpose of increasing the children's portions

Witnesses John Elland, John Chamberlain

Proved 14.5.1653 by Margaret Barham, relict.

William Barham, Wadhurst, Sussex, 1648: Prob 11/206

Date: 20.10.1648

Body to beburied in churchyard at Wadhurst

Bequest to: wife Mary – mainly household items

Bequests to daughter Mary, wife of John Baker, and Ann and Mary Baker, grandchildren

Bequests to daughters Elizabeth and Ann Barham

Bequests to son John Barham and grandchildren John and Ann Barham, son and daughter of John

John Barham, son, sole executor

Witnesses Joseph Ellis and Richard Read

Probate to Mary Barham, relict, and John Barham, son; 6.12.1648

Iden Bricher, 1652: Prob 11/221

Youngest son George Bricher exec

To sons John, William and Thomas Bricher 40/- apiece

To son Thomas Bricher one bed and bedstead, a blanket, a bolster, a pillow, a holland sheet, the table in the hall

To daughter Elizabeth ?Gervis 20/- and my best suit

To daughter Frances ... four nobles

To son Robert Davis 20/-

To his daughter Mary Davis 20/-
The mark of Iden Bricher
Witnesses: John ?Iyer, Christopher ?Pearte
Probate 11.5.1652

William Hen[d]ry Brown, baker, Peckham, Surrey, 1894/1934: PPR

of 54 Pitt St, Peckham, d. 1.4.1934

Probate, London, 30.4.1934 to Sarah Jessie Brown, widow. Effects £1736 4/9.

This is the last will and testament of me, William Henry Brown of 16 High St Peckham, Surrey, made 29th day September 1894. I revoke all my previous testamentary instructions. I give all my real and personal property to my dear wife Sarah Jessie. I appoint her my executrix and guardian of my children under age.

Witnesses: George Joshua Fletcher, George H Harvey, neighbours.

Signed William Henry Brown, Sarah Jessie Brown.

Sarah Curtis, spinster, Little Horwood, Bucks, 1796: Prob 11/1385

Date 26.11.1795

To nephew William Rand, yeoman of Little Horwood, all money, securities, goods, chattels etc.

Nephew William Rand executor

Sarah Curtis

Witnesses: George Oakley, Lancelot Wyatt

Thomas Curtis, yeoman, Little Horwood, Bucks, 1609: Prob 11/114

In the name of God amen, the thirteenth day of August in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and nine, I Thomas Curtis of Little Harwood in the county of Buckingham yeoman being sick in body but whole in mind and of good and perfect remembrance (thanks be to God) and not willing to die intestate do constitute ordain and make this my testament wherein is conveyed my last will in manner and form following that is to say

First I give and bequeath my soul unto almighty God my creator and redeemer in whom I trust to be saved, and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Little Harwood afs. And as for my goods I bequeath as followeth: First I give and bequeath unto my son John Curtis the sum of £20 of good and lawful English money to be paid unto him at Michaelmas next and furthermore it is my will that my said son John shall have £20 more paid to him by Henry Curtis my eldest son which I will he shall give him bond to be paid him within three years after my death. And also I give and bequeath unto my said son John 10 sheep out of one score which was between him and me undivided. And I do give and bequeath unto my said son John 2 heyfars (heifers) th'one a brinded and th'other a redd. Also I give unto my said son John one little black chest. Item I give and bequeath unto my son William Curtis £10 to be paid him at Michaelmas next. And furthermore I will that my said son William shall have £10 more paid him at Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary next coming. Item it is my will that my said son William shall have £20 more paid him by his brother Henry to be paid him within 4 years after my death which I will he shall give his bond to be paid him well and truly. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Bridget Curtis £20 to be paid her so soon as she shall accomplish the age of one and twenty years or when she shall chance to marry, whether shall happen first. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Alice Curtis £20

to be paid her so soon as she shall accomplish the age of one and twenty years or when she shall chance to marry, whether shall happen first. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Adams £3 6/8 to be paid her by her brother Henry Curtis as the feast of St. Michael the Archangel which shall be in the year of our Lord 1610. Item I give and bequeath unto Alice Adams daughter unto John Adams £3 6/8 so soon as she shall accomplish the age of ten years. And if it shall so chance that the said Alice Adams shall die before she shall accomplish the said ten years then her father or mother to have the said £3 6/8. Item I give unto Helen Curtis my wife 20 marks which my son Henry Curtis shall pay unto her or her executors administrators or assigns at the day of her death for the payment whereof it is my will he shall give her a good security. Item I give and bequeath unto the church 3 shillings and 4 pence to help to make Item I give and bequeath unto my son Henry my teame with all furniture thereunto belonging with carts ploughs and harrows. The rest of my goods moveable and unmovable I give and bequeath unto Helen my now wife whom I do constitute and make my sole executrix of this my last will and testament. And I do appoint overseers of this my last will and testament John Butcher and George Varney. And I will they have for their pains taken two shillings apiece. Item I will and bequeath to every godchild 12 pence apiece. Signed Thomas Curtis, delivered in the presence of us: Thomas Williamson (sig), Thomas Adams, George Varney, Henry Curtis (sig), John Butcher.
 Proved at London at the court of John Benet 15.11.1609, by Helen Curtis, widow...

William Curtis, husbandman, Little Horwood, Bucks, 1639: Prob 11/182

Date 20.12.1639

To William Curtis son, my bedstead which standeth in the parlour and all furniture thereunto belonging and also my table and frame which stand in the hall, a form and my best brass kettle

All the rest of my goods, chattels etc. to my well-beloved wife Anne Curtis – executor

Witnesses: John Harris, Elizabeth Ward

Jane Dagnell, Tring, Herts, 1675: Prob 11/348

Bequests to John Foster, younger, Wm Foster, kinsmen, sons of brother-in-law

John Foster

Sarah Mead, w. of William Mead of Horton in Ivinghoe

John s of Wm Mead

Martha Abrathett, dau of John Abrathett

Jane, Wliz, Thos and Susanna Seabrooke

Children of brother Samuel

Ann Geary

Alice Mead, dau of Wm and Sarah

Martha, w. of Richard Arnott

Deborah, w of Thomas Flepman

Wid Walter, John Dancer's wife, Benjamin Parish's wife, wid Purland, wid Baines

John Foster

Will of Alexander George Findlay, publisher, Norwood, Surrey, 1868/75, PPR

Date 5.7.1868

I Alexander George Findlay of 'Rockwells'. Dulwich Wood Park, Norwood, Surrey, and 55, Fleet Street in the city of London, publisher....

To my wife Sarah Findlay £100
 To my sister Sarah Kettle £100
 To my brother William Benjamin Findlay £25 to buy a ring as otherwise well provided for.
 To Charles Rice Evans in Mortlake, Surrey £100 and copper plates [for engraving]
 To Augusta Laurie and Cecilia Laurie £50 each
 To Edward Blackwell esq. of London St. Reading 13 guineas
 To nephew Daniel Walter Kettle my gold watch
 To nephew Henry Alexander Kettle myring
 To William Richardson Kettle my African shirt studs
 To my wife Sarah Findlay my dwelling house [with the contents]
 Edward Blackwell of 8 London St. Reading, Berks, Charles Rice Evans of Mortlake, Surrey and my nephew Daniel Walter Kettle now residing with me, (executors and trustees) to allow wife to live in the house and enjoy the profits thereof. After her decease the house etc. to pass to nieces Sarah Findlay Kettle, Helen Kettle and Mary Morton Kettle.
 My business to be continued for three years by my trustees
 My dear father to be looked after 'with the love and affection' he deserves
 Money in trust to go to sister Sarah Kettle and her three daughters after wife's decease
 Business to be carried on by his nephews
 A G Findlay
 Witnesses: Jane Carlon, Tunbridge Wells, Henry Blackwell, 41 Great Percy St. London
 Codicil – dated 16.8.1871
 Releases friend Edward Blackwell from executorship and replaces him with his brother Rev. William Benjamin Findlay of Etherley, Co. Durham, and Henry Blackwell, architect.
 To Charles Rice Evans an annuity of £50, and a like sum to his wife Elizabeth should she survive her husband. Revokes previous legacy to Charles Rice Evans.
 Wishes to be buried with his father and mother at Hayes
 Witnesses: John Girdlestone, William Barnes Thring
 Codicil – 22.1.1875
 As nephews Daniel Walter and Henry Alexander now of full age, revokes legacies to Charles Rice Evans and Augusta and Cecilia Laurie
 Charles Rice Evans to maintain his present position in the company
 Revokes annuity of £100 to wife, and replaces it with an annuity of £240.
 Witnesses: Mary Franklin, Elizabeth Robinson
 Proved 3.6.1875 on the oath of Daniel Walter Kettle nephew, William Benjamin Findlay, clerk, and Henry Blackwell

Archibald Findlay, sailmaker, Bermondsey, Surrey, 1806: Prob 11/1446

I, Archibald Findlay of the parish of Saint Mary Magdalen sailmaker being now in sound mind although infirm in body do hereby make this my last will and testament being at this time possessed of the following leases viz one of my present dwelling house or from Simon Lake to myself one of my sail warehouse from Benjamin Jones to self and one of my garden from David Reid to myself I give and bequeath to Sampson Boys Harman of Salisbury Street Bermondsey potter and John Galton of Little East Cheap in the City of London printer and my son Archibald Findlay of Bermondsey aforesaid their heirs executors or admors the said leases with the whole of my property real and personal including the sum of one thousand three percent reduced stock now standing in my name in the Bank Books as well as all monies or debts due to me and securities of moneys in trust for the following purposes –

That the said trustees so pay or cause to be paid as soon as possible after my decease all my just debts and funeral expenses that they the said trustees do pay or cause to be paid to my sister Catherine Grey [sic – should read Greig] of Leith in Scotland the sum of twenty pounds within one year after my decease and which I beg of her to accept as a small token of my love and remembrance.

That they the said trustees s soon as possible after my decease and after having paid the above debts funeral expenses and legacy do ascertain the and amount of the remainder of my property as above mentioned save and except the above mentioned leases and appropriate the same in manner and form following –

That they the said trustees do pay or cause to be paid one sixth part of the proceeds of the said property unto my son Archibald Findlay one of my said trustees within one year after my decease.

That they the said trustees do vest in their names one sixth part of my said property for the benefit of my daughter Catherine and to pay her the dividends arising thereon the said trust to continue till the marriage of my said daughter with the approbation of my said trustees the property to be then disposed of as the said trustees may think most to her advantage.

The remaining four sixths of the proceeds of the said property they the said trustees are to invest in the funds or other government securities at their discretion for the benefit of my other four children, viz Alexander, George, William and Morton Findlay and the interest of money accruing from the said property they are to apply towards the maintenance of my said four children in equal proportions until they respectively gain the age of twenty five years.

That they the said trustees do pay or cause to be paid unto each of my said four younger children as may respectively attain the age of twenty two years such sixth part of the proceeds of my property as above mentioned, but in case of the decease of any or either of them before they respectively attain the aforesaid age of twenty two years my will is that they the said trustees do divide such sum of money as they would have been entitled to had they attained the aforesaid age amongst such of my children as may be living at that time in equal proportions.

Whereas my sons William and Morton Findlay not being yet apprenticed to any business a sum of money may be required for that purpose my will therefore is that they the said trustees be allowed to appropriate a part of the aforesaid sixth part of the proceeds of my said property payable to them respectively such sum not to exceed fifty pounds to each for the said purpose which sum or sums so appropriated they the said trustees are to deduct from the amount to be paid to each or either of them on their attaining the age of twenty two years.

As soon as they the trustees have paid or invested in the funds or other government securities the proceeds of my property as above directed my will is that they assign the aforementioned leases to my son Archibald Findlay one of the said trustees his heirs executors or admors

I hereby appoint Sampson Boys Harman John Galton and Archibald Findlay as aforesaid my true and lawful executors of this my last will and testament revoking all former wills by me heretofore made. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal this fourth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and six. A Findlay ... signed sealed and published by the said Archibald Findlay the testator as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto.

Charles Machell, James Mormom, Sampson Boys Harman, John Galton, Archibald Findlay.

This will was proved at London on the second day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and six before the worshipful Samuel Pearce Parson Doctor of Law Master Keeper or commissary of the prerogative court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of Sampson Boys Harman, John Galton and Archibald Findlay the younger the son of the deceased and the executors named in the said will to whom admn was granted of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased having been first sworn only to administer.

William Findlay, of Madeira, 1837; Prob 11/1872

In the name of God Amen I William Findlay of Madeira make this my last will and testament I... make and appoint my father-in-law Mr John Lewis Esquire William Grant Esquire of Madeira Mr Edward Lewis of Madeira and (my nephew) Mr Archibald Findlay of Liverpool the survivors or survivor of them executors of this my last will and testament I bequeath unto each of my said executors the sum of £20 sterling to purchase a ring as a token of remembrance I give and bequeath unto my brother Alexander Findlay the sum of £500 sterling and to the three children (Archibald Celia and Catherine) of my deceased brother Archibald I give and bequeath the sum of £100 sterling each I also give and bequeath unto my brother-in-law Edward Lewis the sum of £100 sterling and all my books in my library All the rest of my property about £14,000 sterling, more or less, I give and bequeath to my only dearly beloved son William Lewis Findlay The pictures plate jewels etc. to be preserved to my dear son and it is my will that on my property being liquidated all foreign and outstanding amounts being arranged and the business of my establishment being fairly wound up that all monies and such monies being immediately available (after payment of the different sums herein mentioned) be invested in the English funds or other good public... And the interest of such monies to provide for the necessary wants of my dear son – it is my particular wish that he may receive a first rate education and that on his arriving at the age of 21 years it is my will that my dear son be put in full possession and enjoyment of his father's property herein mentioned In the event of my dear son's decease before he attains the age of 21 years it is my will that my executors herein mentioned the survivors or survivor of them do equally divided my property among my surviving brothers and sister and their children including also my nephew and nieces of Liverpool therein mentioned the survivors or survivor of them This is my last will and testament written with my own hand – Funchal Island of Madeira the 10th day of November in the year of our Lord 1836 -

(Signed) W Findlay, Ja^s Rutherford, Geo. Gibbs Witnesses

Opened in my presence in Funchal Madeira this 25th day of November 1836 (Signed)

George Stoddart His Majesty's Consul

I George Stoddart Esquire His Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Island of Madeira do hereby ratify that the foregoing is a true and faithful extract from the Registry Book of wills belonging to this office. Given under my hand and seal of office at Funchal Island of Madeira this 25th day of November 1836 – Geo. Stoddart His Majesty's Consul.

Proved at London 15th February 1837 before the worshipful William... Curteis Doctor of Laws and Surrogate by the oath of John Lewis is Squire one of the executors to whom administration was granted being first sworn only to administer power reserved of making the like Grant to William Grant Esquire or Edward Lewis Esquire and Archibald Findlay Esquire the nephew the other executors.

Pheobe Fuller, widow, London, Mddx, 1857: Prob 11/2246

This is the last will and testament of me Phoebe Fuller of Gunpowder Alley, Shoe Lane in the City of London, widow. I bequeath my portable writing desk to my son Henry Fuller and all my wearing apparel to my daughter Elizabeth Fuller. All the tools and implements of trade but not including stock in trade to my sons Richard and Jonathon trusting that they will continue together. And I bequeath all my real and personal estate to my four children, Richard, Ebenezer, Jonathon and Elizabeth and their heirs. I appoint Ebenezer and Elizabeth my executors. I revoke all former wills. Signed with the mark of Phoebe Fuller.

Witnessed: Thomas Blaney and Charles Cooke, clerks to Mr Devey, Ely Place.
Proved London 20.2.1857 by the oaths of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Fuller.

Richard Fuller, glasscutter, London, Mddx, 1856: Prob 11/2235

This is the last will and testament of me, Richard Fuller of Castle St, in the City of London, glass cutter. To my son Ebenezer, my bookcase and secretary and the printed books therein. And my microscope and all things appertaining to it, to be delivered to him after my decease.

I give and bequeath all household furniture and plate, linen and china in domestic use to my wife Phoebe during her life.

To my daughter Elizabeth Fuller £20.

To my son Jonathon Fuller £50.

The rest of my personal estate to my wife Phoebe. If my wife Phoebe predeceases me, the tools of the trade are to be given equally to my sons Jonathon and Richard in the belief that they will continue together.

The rest of my estate to be shared between my four children, Ebenezer, Richard, Jonathon and Elizabeth.

Phoebe, Ebenezer and Elizabeth to be execs.

Witnessed by Frederick Nicholls Dewey, Ely Place, John Page Deeble, clerk to Mr Devey, Samuel Bracey, 36, Gt Cambridge St, Hackney Rd.

Proved at London 11.7.1856

Henry William Fuller, wine merchant, Peckham, Surrey, 1901: PPR

of 13, Lyndhurst Road, Peckham, Surrey and 1, Walbrook, City; died 7.2.1901 at Guy's Hospital, Southwark, Surrey. Probate, London, to DW and WR Kettle, publishers.

Effects £5417. (Wine Merchant)

Revokes other wills.

Appoints Daniel Walter and William Richardson Kettle of Hayes Common and 35, Minories, publishers, execs and trustees of infant children. Gives each a legacy of £25.

To son Henry Alexander, gold watch and chain which I usually wear; to son Alex William my second gold watch; to my daughter Helen Jane, my late wife's gold watch and chain.

Residue of estate and effects to trustees to manage.

Trustees to pay funeral expenses and legacies from above.

£50 p.a. to sister Annie Fuller during her life by quarterly payments. Rest of money in trust for children.

Trustees to raise up to half on child marrying or reaching 21.

Interest to be used for children's maintenance.

Trustees to continue wine business with a son or other person employed as manager.

Business to be offered for sale to any of sons after they reach 21. If any son wishes to buy, 2 umpires to be appointed to ensure a fair price to everyone. One third of price to be paid at time of sale and rest over 5 years.

Money to be invested in stocks and government securities.

In witness whereof, I, the said Henry William Fuller ... set my hand this 6th day of November 1897.

George Gibbon, Hawkhurst, Kent, 1650: Prob 11/227

Date 24.10.1650

To poor of Hawkhurst 20s

To daughter Martha ?Foman £50

To daughter Mary Betcham one bed, coverlet, blanket and a pair of sheets,

To wife Frances household

To son Anthony, table, form, copper, hurdles ...at his dwelling house

.... of £50 out of the land I gave to my son Thomas by deed

To son Thomas the table in my house and the ... I left in his dwelling house...

To son Anthony all my lands[in occupation of?/ held of] Joseph Boys, William Boys, Thomas ?Sirlet gent and Ann Boys gentlewoman

To son George all my lands and tenements in Benenden, and to be executor

George Gibbon

Witnesses: John ?Horman of ..., Robert Barham

Proved 9.6.1653, by George Gibbon, son

Anthony Gouldsmith, Framfield, Sussex, 1611: Prob 11/118

Date: 21.9.1611

£5 to poor of whichever parish he is buried in.

To wife Suzanne four score pounds a year for life out of 'all my lands and tenements', and £40 within a month after my decease; all my linen and three of my best beds and all things thereto belonging, provided she doesn't challenge the will.

To Goldsmith Hodgson son of my daughter £100 at 21 years, and all my plate, and £1,000 within three years to purchase land. His daughter to hold the land until Goldsmith is 21.

To all the rest of his daughter's children £200 apiece at marriage or 20 years.

To brother's son John Goldsmith £100 within three years

To brother John Goldsmith's children 20 shillings apiece.

To Katherine Apse's children 20 shillings apiece

To sister Barbara Barham's children 20 shillings apiece

To old servant Richard Russell £5

To all servants in my service at time of death 20 shillings apiece.

The rest of my goods and chattels to son-in-law Barnaby Hodgson – sole executor Mr John Langworth esquire, Mr Thomas Aynscombe esquire, Mr Richard Taylor parson of Maresfield overseers – 40 shillings each for their pains.

To Goldsmith Hodgson, grandson, all freehold lands in Maresfield and Buxted in Sussex, and all my lands in Kent, and all copyhold lands in Buxted and Framfield at the age of 22 years. In the meantime my son Barnaby Hodgson and Elizabeth his wife to take the profits.

£40 a year to Goldsmith Hodgson for his education and bringing up out of the said lands until he is 22.

Daughter Elizabeth to assure all copyhold land in Rotherfield to brother John Goldsmith and after his death to his son John Goldsmith.

Witnesses: Thomas Aynscombe, Richard Taylor, John Butcher.

Proved 8.12.1611 by Barnaby Hodgson

Jane Grange, Great Brickhill, Bucks, 1643: Prob 11/194

Date 19.1.1643

To the poor of Little Horwood, Mursley and Great Brickhill, £4 each

To Francis Charlett parson of Brickhill, 20s

To Mary Hawkins 40s

To kinsman Richard Grace 13s 4d

To John Grange the like sum

To the children of my ?nurse £6 13s 4d

To Elizabeth Meade daughter of Richard Meade gent, late deceased one pair of my new flaxen sheets and one other pair of flaxen sheets, one dozen napkins and a table cloth and ... to the value of £5

To John Grange son of Robert Grange my bed and all things thereto belonging at Little Horwood

To kinsman Elizabeth Burt £10

To my cousin Elizabeth Merridale all my household stuff ... at Great Brickhill

To my brother William Grange and my loving sister Elizabeth wife of Thomas Merridale all my pasture ground situate in Soulbury.. and a cottage or tenement

To John and Elizabeth Merridale son and daughter of Thomas Merridale £10

To sister Elizabeth wife of Thomas Merridale of Brickhill £20

To brother-in-law Thomas Merridale £20

Residue to brother William Grange, executor

Mark of Jane Grange

Witnesses: Francis Charlett, Theophilus Warner, Margaret Stanley

John Grange, yeoman, Little Horwood, Bucks, 1633: Prob 11/166

To William Grange, eldest son, farmland in the common fields of Mursley – about 4 acres, along with one half yardland common thereto belonging

To second son Robert, messuage or farm known as Aynells Fee in Little Horwood with their appurtenances ... unto the capital messuage, excepting those acres of arable land sold to Mr John Howard of Little Horwood ... lands lately purchased of Robert Willet of Little Horwood; the advowson and rectory of Little Horwood, and land in Mursley

To eldest daughter Jane £500

To youngest daughter Elizabeth Grange ?farm in Little Brickhill known as the Talbot and in the occupation of Francis Wigton; also land in Soulbury and Little Brickhill and £200

To Elizabeth and Jane, daughters, linen in the bedchamber divided equally, and they to be 'sufficiently maintained'

To kinsmen Anthoine and Elizabeth Gibbs 8 silver spoons and three gilt ones.

To sister Isabell Grace 20s a year

To kinsman Richard Grace of Granborough, yeoman, 10s

To kinsman John Grange of Islington, yeoman, 20s

To the vicar of Little Horwood 20s for the funeral sermon

To the poor of Little Horwood and Mursley £3

Executors to discharge son William of all debts legacies and demands

Son Robert? To be executor
John Grange
Witnesses: John Harris, Richard Hobbs

Robert Grange, yeoman, Little Horwood, Bucks, 1648: Prob 11/ 211

[Very hard to read.]

To be buried in the chancel of the church at Little Horwood

To my wife Elizabeth for the better maintenance of my children an annuity of £40 ?to be raised on the sale of a house in Little Horwood?

Reference to land, tenements messuage etc in Little Horwood known as Aynells Fee.

[Think this is part of wife's legacy.]

To eldest son John the messuage in which I now dwell in Little Horwood, with all lands etc. Further reference to Aynells Fee and a piece of land called Abbots Meade.

To son John land in Bedfordshire

To wife Elizabeth all household goods except the linen. This all to revert to son John at 21.

Elizabeth to have the linen and pass it on as she sees fit.

To son Robert the tythes and advowson of Little Horwood, to be held for him until he is 21.

To son Robert £300

To son Richard, Abbots Meade in Little Horwood and lands lately purchased of Richard Edmonds of Winslow, c a yard land and half a yardland.

To son Richard £500

To daughter Elizabeth £500 at 21 or marriage

To unborn child wife now carrying £300 or £250 each if twins.

A house built by me to be sold by Richard Meade of Mursley and William Burton of Dunton [both Bucks] and the money accruing to be divided between all his children at 21 years or marriage.

To the minister who preaches at my funeral 40s

To the people of Little Horwood £10

Richard Meade and William Burton executors. £100 to each of them.

A further £300 to son Richard

Robert Grange

Witnesses: John Adams snr, Richard Spence, John Adams jnr, William Smith, John Robinson

Robert Grainge esq., Little Horwood, Bucks, 1740: Prob 11/785

Date 16.3.1740

To first cousins Elizabeth Kidgell widow, Frances Johnson, spinster and Amy Wells widow, all the ancient estates except those purchased by me or my father, with the Great Tythe of Little Horwood, along with all alnds tenements etc lying in the parishes of Ivinghoe and Pitstone, provided they pay £4 p.a. to Katherine Perkin to educate poor children, and allow her or them to live in the school house in Little Horwood.

To Robert Grainge of Padbury the messuage wherein I now dwell together with the farm and lands thereunto belonging.

To Thomas son of William Parratt land and appurtenances now in the occupation of William Woolman.

To John Grainge of Padbury all the rest and residue of my real and personal estate not before bequeathed, in trust to sell it and divide the money between the following:

Mary Woodward of Little Horwood kinswoman
 All the children of my kinswoman Elizabeth Smith
 All the children of my kinswoman Elizabeth Smith
 All the children of my kinswoman Margaret Illing
 All the children of my kinswoman Elizabeth Rose of Husband Crawley
 All the children of my kinswoman of Sarah Beansley of Littlemoor, Oxon
 All the children of my kinswoman of Mary Munford of Oxford
 All the children of my kinsman Robert Pancard of London
 And if he has no children
 To all the children of Richard Pancard of Brightmore, Oxon
 To all the children of William Pancard of Sandford, Oxon
 And if he has no children
 To all the children of John Pancard
 And if he has no children
 To all the children of Abraham Catamole of Brightmore
 Amongst all the children of Elizabeth Pourle of Otmoor
 Amongst all the children of Ann Busby
 Amongst all the children of William Parrott aforesaid
 To or amongst John Grainge of High Wiccombe cordwainer
 To or amongst Robert Grainge son of Richard Grainge jrn of Wiccombe aforesaid
 wheelwright
 To or amongst Henry Grainge of Tring pattensole maker
 Robert and John Grainge of Padbury to be executors.
 Funeral sermon to be preached and a 3d dole throughout Little Horwood
 To give mourning paid for out of the estate to servants William and Mary Parratt, Francis
 Moores, Elizabeth Bull and William Ashpole
 Robert Grainge
 Witnesses: Robert Grainge, William Curtis, John Illing, George Arrowsmith

Samuel Grainge, gent. Chipping Wycombe, Bucks, 1690: Prob 11/412

Samuel Grainge of Chipping Wycombe, gent, good health but 'calling to mind the
 certainty of death' makes his will.
 Usual pious exhortations.
 Body to be buried in 'the middle of the alley in St. Leonard's Chappel in Aston Clinton'.
 Imprimis – to wife Mary, £5 paid within 6 months.
 To wife Mary, the 'churrett' and all the horses and harness thereunto belonging, my silver
 ?canchard, best sheets, bed-furnishings, chest given to her by her grandmother, feather-
 bed given her by her mother and the ?... which she brought with her. A third of all
 household goods.
 To sister Mary, wife of John Woods, clerk, £7 yearly to be paid at the house whereat I
 lately dwelt called ?Brumes in Aston Clinton.
 To uncle Joshua Grainge £8 yearly
 To brother Joseph, £10 yearly
 To cousin Hannah King, wife of John King 40/-
 To cousin William Grainge of Wendover £5
 To Mary Grainge, daughter of brother Joseph Grainge £600, when she reaches age of 24,
 plus household goods not already devised. Should she die before inheriting or producing
 an heir, her share goes to her brother Joseph.
 To nephew Joseph, a third of the household goods, plus cattle, chattels, impliments of
 husbandry and rest of personal estate not hereby bequeathed.

To cousin Dorcas Fuller, daughter of cousin Mrs Ezekiel Fuller, £50 at age of 24.

To eldest son of cousin Hannah King, £50 at 24.

To friends John Judge and ?Henry ?Queene of Gt Missenden, Wm Hill of Kingswood in Wendover, Thos Hall of Chesham, Thos Eayre the younger of St Leonards of Aston Clinton the messuage or farm in which William Weston now dwells called Brunns, with closes, arable lands, tenements, meadows, pastures woods etc in the parishes of Aston Clinton and Wendover, in trust to pay all rents and profits of the said farm to nephew Joseph when he is 24, and thereafter, every year for the rest of his life. Also exhorted to keep the farm in good repair out of the profits. Should Joseph die young and without issue, the farm goes to Mary Grainge, sister of the said Samuel Grainge the younger when she reaches 24. (Is there a line referring to Sam jnr missing here? He isn't mentioned previously.)

There are copious clauses ensuring that this property stays in the family, including the caveat that Mary's future husband will not be allowed to 'meddle' with it.

If his wife dies before his heirs reach their majority, then his execs to enjoy the bequests in the interim.

To the poor of St. Leonards and of Wendover, 40/- each.

To John Judge, William Hill, Thos Hall, Thos Eayre, execs, £10 each.

Dated 20.1.1690

John Grange; yeoman; Swaffham Bulbeck; 1617: Prob 11/129

in the name of God amen I John Grange of Swaffham Bulbeck in the County of Cambridgeshire and of the diocese of Ely Yeoman being sick in body but whole in mind and of good and perfect remembrance thanks be given to God therefore ordain and make this my last will and Testament in manner and form following First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God who gave it and my body to the earth from whence it came trusting in Jesus Christ my saviour through his precious merits death and passion to be inheritor of the everlasting kingdom the which God grant for his infinite mercy... Amen Item I do give unto the township of Swaffham Bulbeck five pounds of lawful money of England to be paid into the hands of the churchwardens for the time being within one year next after my decease and to be by them and three or four of the chiefest inhabitants of Swaffham Bulbeck aforesaid employed and put forth to the use of the poor people of Swaffham Bulbeck aforesaid for ever and the benefits and use thereof to be by the churchwardens for the time being and two of three of the chiefest inhabitants of Swaffham Bulbeck aforesaid distributed yearly to the poor people of Swaffham Bulbeck aforesaid in Easter week every year forever. Item I do give and bequeath unto Elizabeth my eldest daughter £100 of lawful money of England to be paid her when she shall attain the full age of one in 20 years. Item I do give and bequeath to Anne Grange my second daughter £100 of lawful English money to be paid her when she shall obtain the full age of one and 20 years. Item I do give and bequeath them to Jane Grange my youngest daughter £100 of lawful English money to be paid her when she shall accomplish the full age of one and 20 years. Item I do give and bequeath unto John Grange my son £100 of lawful money of England to be paid to him when he shall accomplish the full age of 18 years provided always and my will and meaning is that if either of my children shall depart this world before their several ages of one and 20 years without issue of their bodies lawfully begotten that then their portion or portions of the deceased shall be equally divided amongst the survivors. Item I do give and bequeath unto my said son John £6.13 shillings and four pounds of lawful money of England to be paid him yearly from his full age of 18 years during the natural life of my beloved wife his mother. All the rest of my goods and chattels movable and unmovable whatsoever not before

bequeathed I give and bequeath unto and my well beloved wife whom I do make and ordain my sole executrix of this my last will and testament for and towards the bringing up of my children the payment of my debts and legacies discharging of my funeral charges and bringing my body decently to the ground. And I do entreat my brother Edward Grange and my brother Alexander Appleyard to be my supervisors of this my last will and... And to be aiding and assisting unto my executrix and to their power to see that my will ... Performed and for their pains hearing to be employed I do give them before 40 shillings... Be paid within one year after my decease. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of March 1616. John Grange: there being witnesses William Hegge/Legge, Thomas Greene.

John Graunge; gentleman; Swaffham Bulbeck; 1612: Prob 11/121

In the name of God amen the fourth day of April in the year of our Lord 1612 I John Grange the elder of Swaffham Bulbeck in the County of Cambridge gent being sick in body yet of good and perfect remembrance the Lord be thanked therefore I do ordain and make this my last will and Testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God who gave it and my body to the Earth from whence it came hoping assuredly that I shall have and enjoy everlasting life with... So in the world to come in his eternal and most glorious heavenly kingdom through the only merits precious death and passion of Christ Jesus our most gracious Lord saviour and Redeemer. Item I give to the poor people of Swaffham Bulbeck aforesaid 40 shillings. And to the poor people in Appleton upon Wiske in the County of York where I was born other 40 shillings of lawful English money to be distributed at the discretion of my executors. Item I give and bequeath to Anne my well beloved wife for and in lieu of her third or dower of all my free houses lands tenements and hereditaments whatsoever, as well... One annuity or yearly rent of five pounds a year to be paid unto her her assigns or deputies by my executors half yearly for and during her natural life out of which said five pounds a year my will is that she shall allow to her poor sister Elizabeth Parke 40 shillings a year so long as they shall live together. Item I give and bequeath to every child or children that my son's John Edward and Martin and my daughter Jane has or shall have during my natural life five pounds apiece of like money to be paid unto them at their several ages of one and 20 years. Item I give and bequeath to my said daughter Jane £20 of like money to be paid unto her executor or administrator within five years next after my decease. Item I give to my servant which shall happen to dwell with me at the day of my death 10 shillings. Item I give and bequeath to my two sons John and Edward their heirs and assigns for ever the reversion of the Rectory Parsonage of Aldeburgh in the County of Suffolk with the gift of the vicarage there and all my other free houses lands tenements and hereditaments within the realm of England with all and singular appurtenances whatsoever to them their heirs and assigns for ever. And I do also give to them all my add thousands gifts nominations presentations and three dispositions of all the rectories and parsonages of vicarages which I have any assurance... To them their executors administrators and assigns for and during all the time of the term of years in the said grants mentioned to that good end intent and purpose that they have or the survivor of them and the heirs executors or administrators of the survivor of them shall sell the fee simple of the said Parsonage of all brother with the gift of the vicarage there and all the other free houses lands tenements and hereditaments before given and also all the former and fastens and gifts of benefice to them before bequeathed for the best price that they can get bona fide the same as well for and towards the discharge and true payment of all my debts... And portions which I oh and which or... Set down my debts book as also for the true payment of all my aforesaid gifts and legacies mentioned in this

my last will according to my good intent and true meaning. Item I do ordain and make my said two loving sons John and Edward sole executors of this my last will and Testament not doubting but that they will in the fear of the Lord see the same performed according to my fatherly trust reposed in them. In witness whereof I the said John Grange the elder to this my last will and Testament revoking all other former Wills have set my hand and seal the day and year hearing mentioned. John Graunge sen. Red sealed and declared by the said John Graunge the elder to be his last will and Testament with presence of John Chambers Thomas Challis Robert Hopton and John Howes.

[Followed by a clause allowing wife Ann to dispose of any items not mentioned in the following.]

Imprimis I do give unto my son John my gold ring which I wear on my finger. I do give also unto my said son John my bed in the Hall chamber with all the furniture thereunto belonging after my decease. Item I do also give unto my said son John five pair of sheets to make an equal with my son Edward who has five pairs of sheets given him heretofore. Item I do give all my plate and jewels and my three children John Edwards and Jane to be equally divided among them after the decease of me and my wife provided always that if the jewels to prove more worth than three pounds that then the said son John his wife shall have the surplusage. Item I do give unto my two sons John and Edward all the linen which was my son Martin's and also all the apparel which was my son Martin is to be equally divided between them presently. Item I do give all my apparel to be equally divided between my two sons John and Edward, the worst of it to be given away to Richard Darling John Allcroft and John Green unto whom I do forgive half of their debt that is due to meet from them. Item I do give unto my daughter Anne Grange the wife of my son ... The best chest adjoining to my bed the long table settle and the two forms in the Hall the great press in my chamber and the... After our decease. Item I give unto my said son John his wife the bed and bedding in the maids chamber after our decease. Item I do give unto my grandchild John Grange my bedstead and all my bedding at London with my chest desk and books and all my other furniture being in the chamber of the... For which the same things shall be sold for after my decease. Item I do give unto Thomas Grange my son Edward his son my grandchild the bed which I now lie in with all the furniture there to belonging and the chest at my bedstead after our decease. Item I do give unto Abigail my said son Edward's child a... Now standing by the window next to the chimney with two pair of good sheets after our decease. Item I do give unto my daughter Jane the great chest which was my son Martin's to be delivered presently. Item I do also give to my daughter Jane to be presently delivered the best bedstead which was my son Martin's standing in the parlour at Dixon with one featherbed one bolster one pillow one blanket and one coverlet with curtains and talents and other things are thereunto belonging. Item I do also give unto my said daughter Jane £20 in money to make up that £20 which I gave her by my last will the sum of £40 to be paid when the Parsonage of all brother is sold. Item the gift of all my grandchildren the legacies of five pounds apiece given to them by my said will and other legacies due to them and also the £115 due to my grandchild Anne Grange daughter of my sudden Martin by her father's will shall be paid unto them when the said Parsonage of Aldeburgh shall be sold and not before. Item the said John Grange the elder doth give unto his said son John Grange all that his lease of the Manor of Michellhall in Swaffham Bulbeck aforesaid during all those years hearing mentioned yet for to come excepting and referring unto the aforesaid John Grange the elder his executors and assigns all those rental and... of rent money due for custom ?works sheriffs aid and common sign and all the fines for copy holders due to be taken up during the natural life of the aforesaid John Grange the elder towards the payment of his debts and legacies. Item the said John

Grange the elder is also content that his son John Grange the younger shall have all that lease which he took of an Grange widow in the said John Grange junior his name of the house lands tenements and hereditaments in Swaffham Bulbeck which he does hold for the term of life during the term and for the rent in the said lease therein mentioned. Item the said John Grange senior Garth also give unto his two sons John and Edward all that would now standing growing in Nunnes Wood in Ditton Valence als Wood Ditton in the County of Cambridge intended to be filled this year and next. And also all that fell of wood in Nunnes Wood aforesaid which shall next come to be sold after the former last three cells towards the payment of my debts and legacies discharging of... Full-time and that the said John Grange and Edward Grange shall equally there and paying Lord Coke his rent for nuns would aforesaid. And after such next cells then aforesaid nuns would to remain unto the said John Grange the younger his executors and assigns during the tenure of the lease granted from my Lord Coke unto the said John Grange the elder and And the said John Grange junior his executors or assigns to pay all the... From... For the during the term aforesaid. Item my wife doth give to Elizabeth and Ann the children of my son John all the pewter and brass and a ... basin that we have... To be equally divided between them after our decease. Item my said wife doth give unto and my son John his daughter her goddaughter her gold ring her best gown her best cloak her pillion and pillion cloth and all the rest of the furniture thereto belonging and one press in the parlour with a long table settle and two forms there and one desk in our chamber after our decease. Item I do give unto my son Edward and my daughter Jane to either of them a table and two forms after my decease. Item I do give unto my son Edward his wife along chest next unto the... Item my said wife doth also give unto John Grange Elizabeth and Ann the children of my son John to each of them a tablecloth and and to each of them a towel after our decease. Item my said wife doth also give unto Elizabeth and Ann Grange the daughters of my said son John to each of them a something sheet and to each of them a cover cloth and to them to more table napkins tied up together to be equally divided between them after our decease. Item my said wife doth give unto Ann Appleyard my grandchild and her goddaughter the great chest standing by the chimney and three pair of good sheets to be delivered after our death. Item my said wife doth give unto Margaret Hullocke a safeguard one of her best smocks and a neckerchief Item my said wife doth give unto Mary Peyton one of her best smocks and a neckerchief. Item my said wife doth give unto Susan Newman a smock and one of her... Day neckerchiefs. Item my said wife doth give to the good wife Alcroft a waistcoat and one of her working day neckerchiefs. Item my said wife doth give to John Hoptyn Ann Fookes and Ann Reve her godchildren 12 pence apiece for a remembrance. Item my said wife doth give unto her sister Elizabeth Pricke all her apparel whatsoever not before given and one pair of course sheets after her death. Item my said wife doth also give unto her said sister Pricke 20 shillings and to her cousin Robert Pricke/Parke and Agnes Lacke 10 shillings apiece to be paid within five months next after her decease. Item I do give to the said Elizabeth Pricke 20 shillings a year so long as she lived to be paid to her at Christmas and Midsummer by equal portions. Item my said wife doth also give unto her cousin and the daughter of Elizabeth Pricke her best hat and a pair of course sheets to be delivered after our decease. Item my said wife doth desire that there may be 40 shillings distributed to the poor people of Swaffham Bulbeck at her burial and to be buried in the church in the Coffin with a sermon which I willingly yielded unto. Item I do give unto my three children John Edward and Jane all the rest of my linen and all other things whatsoever in my chamber and... Which is not here in now in my will formally given to be equally divided amongst them after our decease. Item I give unto my cousin Nathaniel Clarkson the sum of five pounds for the helping him forward towards the entering into the holy function of the ministry. Item the said John Granger the elder

did ... His two sons John and Edward that his said son John would yield up again only threescore and eight acres of the nunnery lands which was meant and intended to be laid to the tiled? House unto my said son Edward, after that the said John Grange the younger shall... taken two crops in every field or shift which meant for five years from entry of the said John Grange the younger his executors and assigns part of the said Edward Grange his executors and the sine £17 rent a year is £8.10 shillings at our lady day and £8.10 shillings at Michaelmas by equal and even portions according to...

Meaning. Item the said John Grange the elder did request his said son John and Anne his wife to sell the Tylers house and all the... Thereto adjoining and belonging so soon as they can for the best price for it is against my will that the said Tylers house should remain in tales to the... Of all my son John his children. Item I do request my son John and Anne his wife to be good to and my poor blind wife and that they do not want anything for her maintenance during her natural life although she has £12 a year of John Cutts and three pounds a year of John Berry in toto £15 rent per annum. Published by the said John Grange the elder after many readings 3 December 1612 in the presence of Nathaniel Clarkson and John Chambers.

Per me Johem Graunge sen rem

Proved by John and Edward Graunge at London.... The

Thomas Graunge; gentleman; Swaffham Prior; 1610: Prob 11/117

In the name of God amen the twentieth day of October 1610 I Thomas Graunge of Swaffham Prior in the county of Cambridge and diocese of Ely gent being of good and perfect remembrance thanks be given to Almighty God do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following (revoking and disannulling all former wills heretofore by me made.) First I give and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my only saviour and redeemer hoping through the merits of Jesus Christ to have remission and forgiveness of my sins and that after this transitory My soul shall have rest with the elect of God in his everlasting kingdom Item Whereas I have reposed trust and confidence John Grange the younger and Alexander Appleyard and in my good loving friends Thomas Greene the elder and William Norman as feoffees for the sale of certain lands tenements and hereditaments in Bottisham and Stow cum Quy in the foresaid county of Cambridge for and towards the advancement of my younger sons and my daughters the greatest part whereof I do acknowledge that they have honestly performed and that I have received all the money for the same, my desire is that they will accomplish the rest accordingly with as much convenient speed as may be and the money thereof made and now in my hands or in the hands of other men to my use or hereafter to be made of the rest to be thus disposed by my executors hereinafter in this my will named viz to every of my sons (except my eldest son) three score pounds and to every of my daughters forty pounds or after that rate or proportion as the money shall arise or amount unto be it more or less to be paid unto such of my said children as shall then be of full age within one year after my decease the rest to be put forth and employed by my executor with the advice of my supervisors for the behoof of my younger children towards their bringing up and ... of their persons (if conveniently it may be) and for their parts and portions to be paid unto them severally as they shall accomplish their several ages of one and twenty years, And if there shall happen any loss in ... of the money already put forth or hereafter to be put forth for the behoof of my younger children, Then my will and meaning is that such loss shall be equally and indifferently borne out amongst all my said children as well by those as shall have received their portions as by the rest, and to that purpose I will that my executor shall take security of my eldest children as they shall receive their portions. Item I give and bequeath to Thomasine my

wife the use of all my household stuff and implements of household or so much thereof as she shall desire to have for so long time as she shall keep herself a widow But if she shall fortune to take in marriage another husband, or when she shall depart this present life, then my will and meaning is that presently after her marriage or decease my executor shall enter and take possession of all my said household stuff and implements of household and to make present sale of them to the best price that can be had and the money to be divided among my said children after such proportions and in such manner before in this my will expressed. Item I give and bequeath unto the foresaid John Graunge, Alexander Appleyard Thomas Greene and William Norman to every of them ten shillings towards their pains taken and to be taken about the sale of the lands and tenements before mentioned to be paid within one year next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath to my nephew Mr Graunge of Trinity College in Cambridge twenty shillings to be paid presently after my decease Item I give and bequeath to Elizabeth my daughter over and above her portion before mentioned fifteen pounds in lieu of a legacy given to her by her grandmother which was in the hands of Richard Master the elder, the greatest part thereof I received of him. Item I give and bequeath unto my sisters Elizabeth Graunge widow, Bridgett Waters, and Marie Holmes to every of them twenty shillings to be paid with six months next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath to Anne Holmes my niece and goddaughter one ewe and one lamb to be chosen by her father amongst all my ... which I shall have at our Lady Day next after my decease to be brought up and preferred for her behoof by her father, All the rest of my goods and chattels both moveable and unmoveable corn cattle ready money and debts which be owing unto me I give and bequeath them to my executors to the satisfying of any debts and paying of my legacies in this my will devised my funeral expenses and such new... charges as he shall lay out about the proving of this my will recovering of ... the debts owing to me or otherwise concerning his place of executorship, provided and my will and meaning is that if my goods cattle corn and debts owing to me will not suffer to pay my debts and satisfy the charges before mentioned and the legacies before in this my will bequeathed, then I will it shall be made up out of the money received or to be received for such lands tenements and hereditaments as are or shall be sold by the feoffees before named, And if there shall be an overplus out of my said goods cattle corn and debts owing more than will satisfy my debts legacies and charges as foresaid Then my will and meaning is that such overplus shall be proportionately divided amongst my children (except my eldest son D) to be paid unto them in manner and form before expressed. Provided also and it is my will and meaning that if any of my said children shall depart this world before their portion be due and paid unto them, that then his her or their part or portion so dying shall be equally divided amongst the rest that shall survive ... paid unto them with their own portions when they shall ... payable. Item Whereas my son George hath put me to some extraordinary charges and not given me good content in his course of life in regard whereof I have had the ... respect unto him other than made a settled estate to him and his heirs in reversion after the decease of me and my wife of a house and tenement land in Bottisham yet hoping for reformation in him and to the end he may the better preserve his said estate I do give unto him twenty pounds to be paid within one year next after my decease anything before in this my will to the contrary notwithstanding presuming that hereafter he will be beneficial to some of his brothers and sisters who may have need of his help. Finally I do ordain and make my son John Graunge sole executor of this my will hoping that he will honestly perform the same according to my good And I do entreat my good cousins John Graunge, Edward Graunge and Martin Graunge to be supervisors of this my will and to be aiding and assisting to my executor with the advice and direction to the honest performance

hereof and I and I give and devise to them for their pains ten shillings, This being witnesses.

N Barret Cleric; John ... per me Tho: Graunge

Probate 7.9.1610

William Grange, Edlesborough, Bucks, 1652: Prob 11/229

In the name of God amen. I William Grange of Edlesborough, weak in body but of sound memory, blessed be God, do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following.

Imprimis, I give my body to the earth to be decently buried in the church of Edlesborough in the hope of a general resurrection. And as for my worldly estate I give in manner and form following.

Imprimis, I give to my cousin Richard Grace and Elizabeth his now wife and the of them during their natural life all that messuage and tenement situated in Little Brickhill in the co. of Bucks wherein Joseph Bratt lately dwelt.

Item, I give to my sister-in-law Susan Astley all that cottage or tenement situate in Little Brickhill wherein Toby Summers lately dwelt for and during her natural life.

Item, I give to the widow Edline, Arthur Clisby, Robert Bagley, Thos Soles, Frances Varney, John Marfield, Widow Chantrill, Richard Warren, William Warren's widow, John Buxlater, Widow Stadston, Widow Taylor 3? / 10?s apiece and to theresidue of the poor of Mursley 20/-

Item, I give the poor of Edlesborough 40/-

Item, I give to Rich? Maxton 20/-

Item, I give to20/-

.....John Marriott 20/-

.....? Fountaine 20/-

Item, I give to my sister-in-law Frances Meade 20/-

.....my cousin John Merridale my best suit of apparel

All the rest of my goods and chattels I give to my son-in-law Richard Meade whom I make my executor of this my last will and testament.

William Grange

Sealed and signed in the presence of Richard Meade and John Marriott

William Grange, gent., Ivinghoe, Bucks, 1676: Prob 11/351

Date 17.5.1676

To Elizabeth Grange my mother £200

To John Grange my brother £5

To Elizabeth Grange wife of John £5

To brother John Grange £60 to be paid to Robert Grange son of brother Robert at 21 years.

If he dies before 21 then the money to go to the eldest of all the sons of my said brothers, or in want of sons, to the eldest daughter

To brother John £50 provided my mother give my brother Robert the £50 he owes me and my mother

To the poor who attend the funeral, 1d and a 2d loaf for adults and 1d and a 1d loaf for children

Residue to brother Richard, executor

William Grange
Witnesses: Francis ?Dearten, John Geare
Probate granted to Richard Grange 8.8.1676

Joseph Grantham, yeoman, Chetwode, Bucks, 1725: Prob 11/640

Date 6.8.1725

To grandchildren Ann, Sarah William and Joanna Corbett, children of my son William Corbett and his wife Ann, £30 apiece at 21 or marriage
To grandchildren Thomas and Sarah Paine £10 each at 21 or marriage
To my son Thomas Grantham one shilling
To daughter Ann Corbett all household goods to be disposed of among her children as she sees fit
To son-in-law Thomas Grantham 1 shilling
To daughter Sarah Staper 1 shilling
Residue to Robert Corbett of Hillesden, Bucks, yeoman and John ?Iling of Chittwood, Bucks, yeoman, executors
Joseph Grantham
Witnesses: Hartley Sandwell, Edmund Sibthorpe, Sarah Watford

Thomas Grantham, knight, Newton, Sunbury, Mddx, 1704: Prob 11/574

Date 6.9.1704

To sister Ann Hawkes £16 p.a.
To Thomas Hawkes her son £20
To Mary Body, her daughter £10
To John Gill son of John Gill, godson, of Sun... in Mddx £7
To John Gill srn, my kinsman and his daughters Ann and Elizabeth £5 each
To Edward Grantham kinsman of Norbrooke, Oxon £5
To the poor of Bicester £50 to be invested, and the interest distributed a year later as a Christmas dinner. The trust to continue in Mr John Burrows of Bicester
To granddaughter Judith Andrews at 21 or marriage the house ? Madam ?Larcey lives in; it cost me £700
To son-in-law Johnathan Andrews £10
To servants...
To Anthony ?Vankers £20
To the poor of Sunbury £10
To godsons one guinea piece of gold
To nephew Mr John Burrows of Bicester £5
To grandson Grantham Andrews the farm in Sunbury
Body to be buried in Bicester church in the place in the middle isle where my father and mother were buried. A marble monument no less that 100 guineas to be erected
To Diana and Charlotta Andrews and Theodore Andrews £100

Thomas Grantham, gent., Bicester, Oxon, 1735: Prob 11/673

Date 26.3.1735

To be buried in my father's grave at Fringford
To wife malthouse in Bicester and the rents and interest of my estate, money and effects
To brother Henry Grantham £50
To Thomas Grantham the younger and Henry Grantham the younger £10 apiece.

£10 apiece to: children of John Westcar, John Basson, Henry Trafford, Thomas Trafford, William Burgess (except his eldest daughter who gets £5)
 To cousin Makespeare's five children £5 apiece
 To Mary Hudson now wife of Rutter £5
 To godson Thomas Haddon £10
 To Mary wife of William Upton £10
 To Henry Wilson £5
 To Susannah Upton £10
 To Elizabeth Osborne's children £10
 To John Grantham of Fringford £5
 To the wife of William Rolfe daughter of Samuel Grantham £5
 To Rev Anson 5 guineas
 To John Basson and John Westcar after the death of my wife, the malthouse etc and residue of estate
 Thomas Grantham
 Witnesses: Robert Dommett, Mor? Stokes, J Egerton
 Proved 25.10.1735

Daniel Kettle, grocer, Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham, 1862: PPR

I Daniel Kettle of Stockton on Tees, by this my last will and testament, give and bequeath all the property and effects of which I am possessed to my dear wife Sarah Kettle and I hereby appoint her the sole executrix of this my will. Witness my hand this 29th day of July 1862.

Daniel Kettle

Signed sealed and delivered by the said Daniel Kettle as and for his last will and testament in the sight and presence of us who at the same time and in his sight and presence and in the sight and presence of each other hereto set our names as witnesses. Francis J James, vicar of Stockton on Tees, WB Findlay, Curate of Atherton, Lancs. Proved at London 10.12.1862 by the oath of Sarah Kettle widow the relict, the sole executrix to whom admon was granted.

Probate: Effects under £2000. 10th December 1862. The will of Daniel Kettle, late of Stockton on Tees, in the co. of Durham, grocer deceased, who died 4.8.1862 at Stockton on Tees afs. Was proved at the Principal Registry by the oath of Sarah Kettle in the co. of Kent, widow, the relict, the sole executor.

John Kettle, horse dealer, Lewes, Sussex, 1820: Prob 11/1728

This is the last will and testament of John Kettle of Lewes in the co. of Sussex, horse dealer. First I order and direct that all my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses shall be paid and discharged by my executors hereinafter named as soon as can be conveniently after my decease. Also I give and bequeath unto my daughter Ann Barber the wife of William Evans of St. John St West Smithfield London dealer all and every sum or sums of money advanced by me to her and her said husband or otherwise due from them to me except only the balance of rents of my house in Kent Rd near London received by him for and now due from him to me. And also I give and bequeath unto my said daughter all my government securities and bank stock for her own use absolutely she my said daughter paying interest on the amount of the said sums so as aforesaid advanced by me to her and her said husband after the rate of £5 % per annum and the dividends of my said Government Securities and Bank Stock unto my wife Mary Kettle half yearly for the term of her natural life. Also I give and bequeath unto my said wife

Mary Kettle the use of all my household furniture plate and plated articles linen china and books for the term of her natural life. And from and after her decease I give and bequeath all my said household furniture plate and plated articles linen china and books unto my said daughter Ann Barber the wife of the said William Evans and my sons Francis Barber and John Kettle equally to be divided between them my said daughter and sons share and share alike as tenants in common not as joint tenants and to their respective executors administrators and assigns. Also I give devise and bequeath unto my said sons Francis Barber Kettle and John Kettle all my lands tenements hereditaments and real estate and also all that my leasehold messuage or tenement with the appurtenances in the Kent Road near London and my leasehold messuage stable and yard in Lewes afs which I hold by lease from Mr Charles Welle and the said balance due from the said William Evans for rents and all and every sum or sums of money advanced by and now due and owing to me from my said sons. And all the rest residue and remainder of my ready money debts securities fro money personal estate and effects whatsoever not hereinbefore otherwise disposed of which I may die possessed of to hold the same with the appurtenances unto and to the use of my said two sons Francis Barber Kettle and John Kettle equally to be divided between them share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants and to their respective heirs executors administrators and assigns absolutely and for ever they paying to my said wife Mary the rents of my said real state and leasehold messuages and premises and interest after the rate of £5 % per annum half yearly of the said balance due from the said William Evans for rents and of the said sums due from my said sons respectively to me and of my said personal estate and effects for and during the term of her natural life. And I appoint my said sons Francis Barber Kettle and John Kettle joint executors of this my will and hereby revoking any former will by me at any time heretofore made and so publish this only to be and contain my last will and testament. In witness whereof I the said John Kettle the testator have to this my last will and testament contained in one sheet of paper subscribed my name and affixed my seal this 25th day of February in the year of our Lord 1820.

Signed John Kettle

Signed sealed published and declared by the said John Kettle the testator as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses: John Dudeney, Lewes, schoolmaster, Thomas Cooper solicitor Lewes, John Smith his clerk.

Proved at London 30th July 1827 before the worshipful John Danberry Dr of Law surrogate by the oaths of Francis Barber Kettle and John Kettle the sons the executors to whom admon was granted having been first sworn duly to administer.

Sarah Kettle, widow, Hayes, Kent, 1881: PPR

Date: 29.6.1881.

This is the last will and testament of me Sarah Kettle of Hayes Cottage, in the parish of Hayes, in the county of Kent widow.

I appoint my two sons Daniel Walter Kettle and Henry Alexander Kettle and my friend Henry William Fuller of 13, Lyndhurst Road, Peckham, Surrey and Henry Blackwell of 61, Brockley Road, Lewisham, Kent to be executors of this my last will and testament for the purposes hereinafter declared.

I bequeath unto my cousin Matilda Lumb if living at the time of my decease nineteen guineas as a legacy.

I bequeath my rocking chair in my house at Hayes aforesaid to my son William Richardson Kettle.

I bequeath my secretaire bookcase with whatever books may be in the same at my decease unto my said son Daniel Walter Kettle.

I bequeath my mahogany wardrobe unto my son Henry Alexander Kettle.

I direct that as soon as conveniently may be after my decease cause an inventory to be made of the remainder of my household furniture, books, plate, linen, china, pictures, and other household goods and effects. And shall permit the same to remain in my said leasehold house called Hayes Cottage at Hayes aforesaid and to be used by such of my children as may elect in manner hereinafter mentioned to reside in my said house during their his or her occupation of the same. And I declare that my trustees shall not be responsible for the loss of or damage occurring to any of the said household furniture or effects by reason of the same being allowed to remain in the possession of or be used by my said children or any of them as aforesaid. And in case my said children shall cease to reside in my said house, I direct my trustees to divide the said furniture and effects equally among my children then living or (at the discretion of my trustees) to sell or dispose of the said household furniture and effects and hold the proceeds thereof as part of my residual personal estate.

I give devise and bequeath all my real estate (if any) and my household and personal estate not hereinbefore otherwise disposed of (including my fourth share of investments made or to be made or any other property coming to me under the will of my late brother Alexander George Findlay and also one hundred and two pounds $15/8$ three pounds per cent consolidated bank annuities standing in my name unto the said Daniel Walter Kettle, Henry Alexander Kettle, Henry William Fuller and Henry Blackwell their heirs etc. upon trust.... To sell... my real, leasehold and personal estates.... Debts etc being paid ... and hold the same in trust for my six children namely the said William Richardson Kettle, Daniel Walter Kettle, Henry Alexander Kettle, Sarah Findlay Kettle, Helen the wife of Henry William Fuller and Mary Morton Kettle.

[Further clause allows executors to delay the sale if any of the children wish to remain in the house, which is held on lease from the Hayes Charity Trustees.]

I hereby declare it to be my wish that my sons Daniel Walter and Henry Alexander shall take over the Publishing Business carried on by the executors of the late Alexander George Findlay at No. 53 Fleet Strret, London in accordance with the will of my late borother the said Alexander George Findlay at the expiation of the period of ten years therein mentioned. And also that when my youngest child the said Mary Morton Kettle shall attain her majority all my children should come to an arrangement among themselves with reference to the dispositions or provisions contained in the will of the late Alexander George Findlay so as to remove... any ... doubts ...as to the construction of the said will.

... In witness whereof I have to this my last will and testament set my hand this 10th day of November 1879. Sarah Kettle

Witnesses: William Russell, Keston, Kent, gardener, Elizabeth Christmas, Hayes Common, housekeeper

Codicil to my will this same date

It having pleased God to take from me my dear son Henry Alexander Kettle, I direct that his interests under my will, except that relating to the business shall become divisible among my surviving children....

I also direct that my fourth share arising from investments ...out of the estate of my late brother ... shall be divided equally between my three daughters.

I revoke the legacy to Matilda Lumb.

I direct my trustees be released at the end of the term of the lease on my house

I direct my son William Richardson to act in the place of his late brother as executor...

I withdraw Henry Blackwell as executor, feeling that he has already been overtaxed in my affairs...

Same witnesses.

Proved London 29.6.1881

Personal estate £976 12/4

The will and codicil of Sarah Kettle, late of Hayes Cottage, Hayes in the co. of Kent, widow, who died 9.4.1881 at Hayes Cottage was proved by DW Kettle of 53 Fleet St. City, publisher, the son, HW Fuller of 1, Wallbrook in the said city, wine merchant and WR Kettle of 53, Fleet St. hydrographer, the son, surviving executors.

William Lake, gent., Wilstone, Herts, 1674: Prob 11/ 345

Bequests to: Joseph Duncome, Ivinghoe and John Kidgell jnr, Northall, Edlesborough, brothers-in-law

Wife Martha, daughters, Ann, Eliz, Lydia, son. William.

Refs to land held in Wilstone, and whose land abutted.

William Lavender; gentleman; Goudhurst; 1802: Prob 11/1405

Will dated 8.5.1802.

Appoints sons Thomas and John Lavender as executors £100 each for their trouble.

Ratifies bond made before marriage to wife Mary Lavender.

Bequest of £10 to his wife Mary along with the house in which he lives in Goudhurst lately bought from Thomas Dove. His wife Mary also to have household goods, furniture etc. from the said house provided she doesn't let the premises. Wife Mary also to receive an annuity of £10.

Bequest to his son Thomas Lavender of £400.

Bequest to his son John Lavender of £400.

Bequest to daughter Ann Lavender of £400.

£600 to be invested and the interest from £400 of that to go to daughter Elizabeth Standen, wife of Jesse Standen.

Interest from the remaining £200 to go to son-in-law John Fromings, previously married to his daughter Mary.

Makes reference to children of his daughter Elizabeth - grandsons John and Thomas Frominge.

Makes reference to a debt owed to him by ?Andrew Fromings of Horsmonden, gingerbread baker on a bond dated 9.10.1793, and another bond taken out by John Fromings.

[Considerable further detail, regarding trust]

Will proved at London 11.to.1805 by Thomas and John Lavender. Extracted from the registry of the prerogative court of York.

John Lorkyn, yeoman, Ticehurst, Sussex, 1595: Prob 11/85

£5 to the poor of Brenchley, Kent, to be distributed by George Roberts and John Alchorne of Brenchley, and the vicar of Brenchley

30 shillings to the poor of the parish where I shall be buried

To Mary Courthope daughter of John Courthope of Wyley in Ticehurst 'my best chest at Wylie aforesaid', my best featherbed bolster, 2 pillows, 3 blankets, best christening sheet, 4 pairs of best sheets except my second christening sheet. My best coverlet, a brass cauldron, pot, pan and ?stupnet, a table cloth, napkins and one half of the pewter.

To Frances Courthope, daughter of John Courthope, my second chest at Wyley [and a similar range of goods as Mary receives]
 To daughter Elizabeth, wife of John Courthope, the residue of household stuff, who is to have custody of the bequests to her daughters until they are 21 years old or married.
 To George Courthope, son of John Courthope £100 at 21 years.
 To John Courthope the younger, son of John Courthope of Wyly £50 at 21.
 To John Cheeseman, Thomas Terrye and John Burch all my wearing apparel
 To my kinsman William Lorkyn, steward to my lady at Badsell in Kent £5
 To godson John Lorkyn son of Edward Lorkyn £5 at 21.
 To the children of my ?wife's? daughter Barbara late the wife of George Nashe of Lamberhurst, Kent 26 shillings and 8 d
 To my ?lame kinswoman Jane Lorkin of Pepenbury [Pembury] Kent, daughter of Richard Lorkin 40 shillings
 To my ?wife's? son William ?Vaynies? of ?Whestred? in Kent one cupboard now in his house
 To my aunt Agnes Barham, widow of Wadhurst, Sussex 6/8d a year during her life and 20d on the day of my burial
 To every one of my godchildren 12d apiece
 To my kinswoman Anne, wife of ... Kirle of Rochester, Kent 20 shillings
 To John Courthope the younger the household goods in the house at Brenchley where I late dwelt, in the inventory indented annexed to the lease of the same house made to Alexander Remington, and a table, form, benches and a cupboard in my house at Pepenbury now in the occupation of Thomas Page.
 To Margey Latter of Brenchley one cottage and garden in which she lives
 If John Hentens of Boughton Winchelsea[sic] Kent enters into a bond [re rents of 20s a year] with my executor regarding the house where he lives, he can live in it for life. After his death the property to go to my sister Anne, wife of John Hentens
 Daughter Elizabeth to be sole executor, and to receive all rents and profits of lands in Kent until John Courthope the younger is 21, when he is to receive them. After his death, it descends to his male heirs, or in default of these, to Elizabeth's heirs.
 Son-in-law John Courthope of Wiley and his brother William Courthope to be overseers - £5 for their pains
 The mark of John Lorkyn
 Witnesses: Thomas Markwick, Thomas Ballard
 Probate 10.4.1595 to Elizabeth Lorkyn, daughter.

John Matresse, husbandman, Cranbrook, Kent, 1587: Prob 11/72

Date 6.11.1587

To Mary my wife my featherbed and joined bedstead and all my linen and napiery, brass and pewter and all other household stuff and her apparel
 To William Stephens – wife's brother – 40s
 To John Stephens – wife's brother - £3
 To Joan and Agnes Stephens – wife's sisters – 30s apiece
 To Agnes Collins – servant - £10
 To Robert Wells – servant – 40s
 To JohnWyly – servant – 20s
 To Amy Stephens – servant – 20s
 To Richard ? Indle – late servant - £3
 To John Robins – late servant – 20s

To Elias Tugley all the money he owes me and one horse colt which he has in his keeping
 To Robert Austen the filler of Mr Culpeper's furnace all that money which he owes me
 To the poor of Cranbrook £6 10s to be paid to Mr Thomas Roberts of Glassenbury
 To Thomazine Stephens 40s
 To the children of the aforesaid John Stephens 10s apiece
 To Thomas Roberts 40s to buy a cow for James Merchingham for the better sustenance of his poor wife and children, provided he doesn't sell or do away with the cow.
 To Abraham Kemp 40s to be paid to Mr Roberts to buy a cow for the said Abraham. Also all such money as he owes me.
 To the two daughters of Mr Roberts 20s apiece to be delivered unto Mrs Roberts to be bestowed upon a jewel or some such like thing for them as they shall think best
 To Mr Alexander Colepeper my landlord £3 to be paid by my landlord Mr Anthony Colepeper to be given to his said son
 To Goodwife Baker 4 bushels of wheat and 2 bushels of wheat to her daughter
 Executors to distribute 5 bushels of wheat to the poor of Cranbrook on the day of burial
 20s to be paid to those who go to church on the day of burial
 To my godchildren 6s 8d apiece
 To Frances Lily 40s which she owes me
 To aunt Lande 20s and to her daughter Suzan 20s, and if she dies, money to be divided between her children
 The residue to be divided between wife Mary and Richard Ballard of Cranbrook aforesaid, which Mary my wife and Richard Ballard I make my executors
 Witnesses Richard Kennington, William Harmer, Elias Tugley, Matthew Penny snr.

Francis Norman, gent, Salehurst, Sussex, 1644: Prob 11/193

To the poor of Salehurst £3
 To wife Bathshua £10; all plate except anything otherwise disposed of in this will; linen, woollen, brass, pewter, bedding, household stuff and implements of household in my house, and two sparrowalls of gold
 To Deborah Poole [Pooke], Ann Weller, Bathshua Tyndell and Priscilla Lord my daughters £10 apiece
 To sister Martha Bourne 20s
 To Thomas Buckhurst my sister Bourne's son £4
 To Martha Payne daughter of Thomas Buckhurst and my god-daughter £10
 To all the other children of Thomas Buckhurst £5
 To grandchild John Poole son of Deborah Poole a piece of gold called a chairman
 To grandchild Deborah Poole 1 piece of angel gold and £100 on marriage or 21 years
 To grandchild Francis Poole £200
 To grandchild Francis Weller son of my daughter Ann Weller a gold chairman
 To grandchild Richard Weller a gold angel and £10
 To grandson Edmund Weller £10
 To grandson Thomas Lorde son of Priscilla Lorde £10
 To grandchild Ann Lorde £200
 To Susan Norman my daughter one sparrowall of gold
 I forgive unto Edmund Hyam gent, my son-in-law the sum of £40 which he owes me.
 This to go to grandson Edmund, godson at 21.
 To Alice Thetcher daughter of sister Priscilla Thetcher £10
 To Priscilla Dawes daughter of sister Priscilla Thetcher £20
 To Martha Dale daughter of sister Priscilla Thetcher £5

To Thomas Thetcher father of Alice, Priscilla and Martha £5 and 20s a year towards his maintenance

To Cicely Gibbons wife of George Gibbons 20s to buy a ring

To Anthony, George and Thomas Gibbons, sons of sister Cicely, £10 p.a.

To Martha wife of Richard Sloman, wife of one of Cicely's daughters £5

To Mary Gibbons now wife of ... Bathurst one of Cicely's daughters £20

To Mercy Gibbons one of Cicely's daughters £8

To godson George Gibbons son of George Gibbons the younger £4

To Jane Gibbons daughter of my sister Deborah Gibbons deceased 20 nobles

To Ann Gibbons daughter of my sister Deborah Gibbons deceased 20 marks

To Francis Holden son of my said sister Deborah £20

To Francis Sampson godson, son of deceased sister Ann Sampson £12

To Thomas Sampson son of deceased sister Ann Sampson £10

To Martha Sampson daughter of deceased sister Ann Sampson £40

To Joseph Newington of Ticehurst Sussex gent and the said Anthony Gibbons ... to buy a gold ring

To Francis Brissenden godson and servant 22s

To Elizabeth Bassett sometime servant 10s

To Joan Cheeseman and Mary Shorten sometime servants...

To Stephen Poole[Pooke] son-in-law 10s a year

Long clause dealing with debt due from Nathaniel Powell of Ewhurst, Sussex, gent for £424 residue of sum of one thousand three score six pounds 13s 4d reference to statute of the staple recovery of a debt.....

To grandchild Margaret Tyndall daughter of daughter Margeret Tyndall one sparroyall of gold and £100 to Thomas Tyndell in trust for Margaret at 21 or on marriage

To granddaughter Bathshua Weller the £100 that son-in-law Richard Weller owes

To grandson Edmund Weller, son of Richard and Ann Weller, one angel and £10

To grandson George Poole £10

To Francis Tyndell son of Thomas and Bathshua one angel and two long drawing tables and the frames for them now standing in the hall and parlour of the house of Thomas Tyndell in Sutton Valence.

To Pheobe Foster wife of John Foster of Burwash 20s

To John Kennington of Brightling in Sussex, gent, my kinsman, 50s to buy a beaver hat

To my son-in-laws Stephen Poole and Richard Weller a lease made by Sir Thomas Dyke of a farm called the Meade in Salehurst with one messuage, 2 barns and and 160 acres of land....

Residue to Stephen Poole son-in-law executor

Francis Norman

Witnesses: ... Gibbons my sister's daughter, Mary Shorter, John Lorde, John Newington, Richard Weller, Thomas Godley, John Simmons

Proved 30.5.1645

Thomas Orglass(e), Hawkhurst, Kent, 1558: Prob 11/45

In the name of God amen the 25th day of October in the year of our Lord God one thousand five hundred and fifty-eight, I Thomas Orglasse of the parish of Hawkhurst in the co. of Kent being of whole mind and perfect remembrance laud and praise be unto Almighty God make and ordain this my present testament concerning herein my last will in manner and form following that is to say: first I bequeath my soul to the mercy of Almighty God my maker and redeemer and my body to be buried in the churchyard of St. Lawrence in Hawkurst aforesaid.

Item I will that all such debts or duties that of right and conscience I owe to any person or persons that it be paid by my executors hereinafter to be named or ordained without any delay or contradiction.

Item I will at the day of my burial there shall be disposed in charitable deeds as mine executors shall think necessary according to their discretion.

Item I will and bequeath to Agnes and Susan my daughters to every of them £6 13 4d of lawful money of England and that to be paid to either of them at the day of their marriage and if it happen that they do not marry then to be paid to them when they shall come to the age of 30 years and if that any of my said daughters decease unmarried before the age of 30 years then I will either to be others heir.

Item I bequeath to Alice my daughter and wife of John Samon £6 13 4d and that to be paid to her within one year after my decease.

The rest of my goods not ... or bequeathed my debts first paid and this my present testament performed I give and bequeath unto Margaret my wife and John my son the which Margaret and John I ordain and make my executors of this my present testament and last will.

This is the last will of me the forenamed Orglasse made the day and year foresaid upon the disposition of all my lands and tenements set lying and being in Hawkhurst aforesaid. First I will and bequeath to Margaret my wife the house I late purchased of John Wateman the which Burges widow now dwelleth in and the piece of land thereto belonging with a garden containing by estimation 3 acres of ground to her and to her assigns for ever.

Item I will and bequeath unto John Orglasse my son the house that I now dwell in and 13 acres of land thereto belonging and all ... orchards with the appurtenances to him and his heirs for ever paying the said John to his mother every year of her natural life 8s 4d quarterly to be paid by portions and if it fortune any part or portion to be behind in part or all of which it ought to be paid by the space of six days then as often it shall be lawful for the said Margaret to enter and distrain unto any part or parcel of the premises and that lawfully to bear carry and drive away or to withhold until full payment be made forthwith....

I give and bequeath to Edmund my son the house that Jackson now dwelleth in 2 orchards and ... piece of land with the appurtenances to him and his heirs for ever paying the said Edmund to Margaret my wife every year during the natural life of the said Margaret 40 s quarterly to be paid by even portions and if it fortune any part or parcel of the said payment be behind in part or in all after any term of the which it should be paid after the space of six days then and as often as it shall chance it shall be lawful for the said Margaret and her assigns to enter and distrain unto every part and parcel to the said Edmund before appointed and the distress there.. ...fully taken full satisfaction be made with costs and expenses by that occasion had.

Item my very will and mind is that if John Orglasse my son do make any challenge ... or title to any part or parcel that I have given to Edmund my son whereby my said son Edmund may not peaceably enjoy his foresaid part then I will immediately that the said Edmund or his heirs shall enter upon all the part that the said John Orglass before assigned and enjoy to him and his heirs for ever.

[Followed by a clause mirroring the above, so that Edmund gives his part up to John if he interferes with John's inheritance.]

Item my will and charge is to both my said sons that fourteen days after my decease that either or other shall make a release of and for all their funeral part before to them given and assigned and if any of my said sons do refuse to make release to his other brother of the premises then I will that he that so doth refuse shall forfeit too his brother all his part before to him given and bequeathed hereto being witness

Peter Wodgate, Edward Wagehorne, John Samon, John Andrew
Probate granted c 20th day of January 1560

John Perryn, clothier, Horsmonden, Kent, 1614: Prob 11/125

In the name of God amen the 14th day of March 1614 and in the years of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James by the grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith viz of England France and Ireland the twelfth and of Scotland the eight and fourth. I John Perryn of Horsmonden in the county of Kent clothier being sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance thanks be to God for it do make and ordain this my present and last will and testament in manner and form following viz. First and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my only maker hoping assuredly by the death and passion of Jesus Christ to have and ... a joyful resurrection at the last days and my body I commit to the earth to be buried at the discretion of my executor. Item I give and bequeath to the poor people of Horsmonden aforesaid the sum of 20 shillings of lawful money of England to be disbursed amongst them on the day of my burial at the discretion of my executor. Item I give and bequeath unto Audrey my wife my best bed in the parlour of my now dwelling house as it now stands 10 pairs of sheets four pairs of pillowcases 3 pillows 2 dozen of tablenapkins 5 tablecloths a joined chest a table with a frame in the same parlour. I will and my mind is that the said Audrey my wife shall have the whole use and benefit of the said parlour with free liberty and use ingress and egress and regress for her and her children servants and friends into and from the same parlour at all times during the lease of my said house (if she continue so long a widow) And also that the said Audrey shall during the said time have free liberty to come to the fire and fleete in the said house and to bake and brew and wash and do all other necessary business in the low rooms of my said dwelling house at the only costs and charges of my executor. I give and bequeath to Richard Perryn my son one flock bed a bolster a pair of blankets two pairs of sheets and a joined chest. Item I will and my mind is that all the residue of my household stuff and of household except bedding and linen shall be equally divided between the aforesaid Audrey my wife and John Perryn my son. Item I will and my mind is that my executor shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the aforesaid Audrey my wife or her assigns within one whole year next after my decease to and for the use and behoof of Elizabeth my daughter the sum of £40 of lawful money of England to be paid unto the said Elizabeth at the age of twenty years provided always and my will and mind is that if the said Audrey my wife shall happen to marry again that then before her said marriage she shall put in good unto my overseers hereafter named or the survivors of them such as they shall well for the payment of the said £40 unto my said daughter at her said age of twenty years. Item I give and bequeath unto Richard Perryn my son the sum of threescore pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto him when he shall accomplish his full age of three and twenty years. Item I give and bequeath unto Robert Perryn my son the sum of threescore pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto him when he shall accomplish his full age of three and twenty years. And if it shall fortune anyone of the aforesaid Richard Robert and Elizabeth Perryn my children to depart this life before he she or they have received his her or their legacy or legacies then my will and mind is that his her or their legacy... shall be equally divided and shifted amongst all my children that shall be then living. I will and my mind is that my executor within three months after next my decease shall put in good ... to my overseers or the greater part of them such as they well for the payment of all such legacies as I have by this my will given and bequeathed. The residue of all and singular my moveable goods and chattels not before willed given or bequeathed (my debts legacies and funeral

expenses first having been paid and discharged) I will give and bequeath to the aforesaid John Perryn my son whom I make and ordain my full and sole executor of this my last will and testament and I do nominate and appoint my loving brothers Robert Saxby, John Saxby and Edmund Saxby and my loving friend John Horsmonden of Goudhurst clothier to be overseers of this my last will and testament whereof I the aforesaid John Perryn to every sheet of paper of this my will containing three sheets have set my hand and to this last sheet have also set my seal dated the day and year first aforewritten there being witnesses John Perryn his mark, William Perryn his mark, Richard Hope his mark, Henry Smighte ? his mark.

Probatum fuit ... at London 29th March 1614.

John Peryn, clothier, Horsmonden, Kent, 1653: Prob 11/227

In the name of God Amen. I John Peryn of the parish of Horsmonden in the county of Kent the elder clothier the first day of September in the year of our Lord 1653 being infirme of Bodye but of sound and perfect remembrance and good memory lauded be Almighty God therefore I do make and ordaine this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following that is to say first and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God hoping assuredly of my Salvation by the only Merits of Jesus Christ my alone Saviour and my Bodye I commit to the Earth at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named. Item I give and bequeath unto the poor people of the said parish forty shillings of lawful money of England to be distributed unto them at the discretion of my executor. Item I give and bequeath unto my five daughters viz Joane, Elizabeth, Mary, Susanne and Allice one joint chest of linen as it now stands in the hall chamber where I now dwell equally between them to be divided and shifted. Item my mind and will is that all the residue of my household stufte shall be equally divided and shifted between all my children that is to say John, Joane, Elizabeth, Mary, Susanne and Allice of all which I will and desire the overseers of this my testament to see an equal distribution. I give unto the said Joane, Elizabeth, Mary, Susanne and Allice my daughters one hundred and twenty pounds apiece to every one of them severally by my executors within one year next after my decease they and every of them giving unto my executor his executors administrators and assigns several and respective Releases Acquittance and Discharge for the same Sum upon the Receipt thereof the residue of all and singular my Goods Chattels money and plate whatsoever before not willed given or bequeathed (my debts legacies and funeral expenses being first paid and discharged). I give and bequeath unto the said John Peryn my son whome I make and ordaine my full and whole executor of this my last will and testament and I do nominate appoint and request my loving friends John Horsmonden of Goudhurst in the said county gent and Francis Asuten my brother-in-law be overseers of this my will desiring them to be aiding and assisting to my executor with their best counsel advice for the due and faithful execution of this my personal last will and testament And I do give unto either of them for their pains therein to take 40 shillings apiece of lawful money of England. **This is** the last will and testament of me John Peryn made and declared in writing the day and yeare afore written and touching the disposition of all due singular my lands and tenements whatsoever I give and bequeath unto Joane my daughter one annuity yearly Rent of four pounds of lawful money of England to be yearly and (she allowing no parliament Taxes or any other Scotts out of it) issuing and giving out of all these two pieces or parcels of land commonly called or known by the name of the greate Few (Feu?) and the little Few (Feu?) with their appurtenances containing in whole by estimation seven acres more or less lying and being in the said parish of Horsmonden and now or late in the occupation of me the said John to have hold levy and yearlie to

..... the said annuity or yearly rent of £4 to the said Joane and her assigns for during and by the full terme and tenure of her natural life at four termes or feasts in the yeare that is to say the Feast of the birth of Jesus Christ the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary the Nativity of St. John the Baptist and St. Michael the Archangel by even and equal portions or quarters to be paid the first payment thereof to begin and be made at that feast of the feasts aforesaid which shall first and next happen and come after my decease and not before. And if it shall happen the said Annuity or yearly rent of £4 to be behynd (several lines making it clear what action Joan can take to distrain for payment if she doesn't get her money regularly). Item I give and bequeath the said two pieces or parcels of land with their appurtenances to the said John Peryn my son and to his heirs for ever paying the same annuity yearly ... to his Sister as aforesaid. Item I give and bequeath unto the said John Peryn my son All that messuage or tenement wherein I now inhabit and dwell with the Barns Outhouses Workhouses Buildings ?Tayntor ?Hordle Copper Fatt [Vat] all Utensills of clothing with the Orchard Close Garden and foure pieces and parcels of land with their appurtenances containing in the whole by estimation 20 acres more or less situate lying or being in Horsmonden aforesaid and being now in the tenure of me the said John.. To have and to hold the same messuage lands tenement premises before given with their appurtenances unto the said John my son and his heirs and assigns forever (several lines making thee proviso that this is forfeit if he doesn't pay the legacies of £120 each to his sisters. If he fails to do so...) Then I give and bequeath the said two pieces or parcels of land called the great Few and little Few etc with the said copper hardle taynter fatt and utensils with all and singular the premises with their appurtenances to the said Joane, Elizabeth, Mary, Susanne and Alice my daughters and to their heirs for ever equally between them to be divided and shifted. In witness whereof to every sheet of paper of this my will containing seven sheets I the said John Peryn have set my hand and to this last sheet have also set my seale Dated the day and year here above written. John Peryn for his marke Read sealed and published in the presence of John Austen Will. Austen Hugh Lake.

This will was proved at Westminster the one and twentieth day of September in the year of our Lord 1653 before the judges for the probate of wills and granting Administrations according to an Act of Parliament entitled and act for probate of Wills and granting Administrations by the oath of John Peryn the son executor named in the said Will to whome the Administration was committed of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Debts of the deceased he being first sworn well and truly to administer the same.

James Porter, farmer, Little Haywood, Staffordshire, 1869: PPR

The Will with a Codicil of James Porter late of Little Haywood in the Parish of Colwich in the County of Stafford Farmer deceased who died 26 October 1869 at Little Haywood aforesaid was proved at Lichfield by the oaths of James Gardner of Rugeley in the County aforesaid Gentleman Hugh Smith Turnock of Hixon in the Parish aforesaid Farmer James Porter of Liverpool in the County of Lancaster Draper the Son and John Robinson of Burton-upon-Trent in the County of Stafford aforesaid Draper the Executors.

The last will and testament of James Porter of Little Haywood in the parish of Colwich, Staffs.

James Gardner of Rugeley, gent, Hugh Smith Turnock of Hixon, Colwich, farmer, son James Porter appointed execs and trustees.

Funeral to be plain and inexpensive.

To wife Hannah – all provisions in my dwelling house in which I reside at the time of my death, life use of all plate, furniture, linen, household effects, any money banked in her

name, house and bottom garden occupied by Frederick Harper, all residue of real and personal estate.

To son James – all that messuage and dwelling house known as The Lichfield Arms Inn, and outbuildings, yard, garden etc. at Little Haywood with cottages, gardens and hereditaments adjoining.

To wife Hannah, a legacy of £50 payable within 6 months and an annuity of £25 quarterly with rents of hereditaments bought from William Hawkes, 2 tenements in Little Haywood, one occupied by me and one by Ellen Lockley, and 2 fields called Upper Ridding and Far Ridding in Colwich parish and 3 fields called Middle, Little and Near Ridding and a barn in the parish of Stowe and occupied by Frederick Harper.

To son Thomas - the 3 gardens adjoining the said fields (c. 15 acres), with £900 paid by son James, as agreed as a charge on the said hereditaments on 26.11.1863. To be paid with interest of 4% within 3 months.

To dau Harriet, wife of Benjamin Vale Saddler - £800 to be invested in government or real securities or railway or public companies, the interest to be paid to her and her heirs. Signed 4.1.1865 by James Porter, Frederick Harper, Arthur Longhurst, Chas, Bell, clerk to Messrs Lauder, Gardner and Lauder, solicitors, Rugeley

Codicil: Extra legacy to Hannah

To dau Sarah wife of John Robinson of Burton on Trent, draper, for her separate use, £96.

John Robinson also appointed exec. Signed 1.4.1869.

Probate: 18.2.1870, Lichfield. Effects under £1,500. The will and codicil of James Porter, late of Little Haywood in the parish of Colwich, in the co. of Stafford deceased, who died 26.10.1869 at Little haywood afs. Was proved at Lichfield by the oaths of James Gardner of Rugeley ... Hugh Smith Turnock ... James Porter of Liverpool in the co of Lancs, draper, the son and John Robinson of Burton-on-Trent in the co. of Stafford afs. Draper, the execs.

William Potter; gentleman; Great Coggeshall; 1802: Prob 11/1373

Be it remembered that I William Potter of Great Coggeshall in the County of Essex Gentleman being sick and weak in body but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding do make and published this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say First I give devise direct ... and appoint unto and to the use of my friend Ezekiel Wood of Barking in the County of Essex gentleman and my son William Potter of Great Coggeshall aforesaid gentleman and to their heirs all that my one full undivided moiety or half part of and in all those the impropriate rectories and parsonages of Great Coggeshall aforesaid and Little Coggeshall in the said county with the Vicarage Advowson Glebe Lands Tithes hereditaments and premises whatsoever to the same belonging or in any wise appertaining or reputed or taken as part or parcel or member thereof with their and every of their appurtenances and also all that my one full undivided moiety or half part of and in all that capital messuage or tenement and farm commonly called High Hall Farm situate lying and being in to Tollesbury in the said county of Essex and now in the tenure or occupation of Francis Richardson or his assigns and also all that my undivided moiety or half part of and in all that parcel of wood and woodland ground commonly called High Hall Wood situate lying and being in Tollesbury aforesaid and now in the tenure or occupation of myself and Peter Brightwell the owner of the other moiety thereof together with all and every the timber trees wood and underwood thereon standing and being which said moiety of the said messuage or tenement and farm wood and wood ground I lately purchased of William Swinbourne and also all that parcel of wood and woodland or ground commonly called

Glazen Wood part whereof I lately stubbed up situate lying and being in Bradwell next Coggeshall in the said county of Essex with the appurtenances as the same is now in my own occupation and also all these my woodlands and grounds commonly called the Great Wood and the Small Wood or otherwise situate lying and being in Messing in the said county which I lately purchased of William Hammond with all and every the timber timber trees and other trees wood and underwood thereon standing and being with their appurtenances as the same is now in my own occupation and also all that my undivided moiety or half part of and in all that cottage or tenements and piece or parcel of land or ground situate lying and being in Inworth in the said county and now in the tenure or occupation of John Barham or his assigns to hold the same moieties woods woodlands hereditaments and premises and every of them and every part and parcel thereof with their and every of their several and respective rights members and appurtenances unto the said Ezekiel Wood and William Potter their heirs and assigns upon trust as soon as conveniently maybe after my decease to sell and dispose of the same and every of them with their and every of their several and respective rights members and appurtenances either together or parcels and either by public or private sale or sales as they in their discretion shall think fit and for the best price or prices that can or may be had or obtained for the same and the money arising by and from such sale or sales after deduction of all reasonable costs charges and expenses attending the same I do hereby will and direct shall be added to and taken as part of my personal estate and go and be disposed therewith as hereinafter mentioned and I do hereby declare my mind and will be and do hereby direct that the receipt or receipts of the said Ezekiel Wood and William Potter or the survivor of them his heirs or assigns shall be good and effectual discharge and discharges to the purchaser and purchasers of the said moieties woods woodlands hereditaments and premises and every of them and every part parcel thereof as in such receipt or receipts shall be expressed to be received and that the purchaser or purchasers thereof or of any part thereof shall not be answerable or accountable for any misapplication or nonapplication thereof or of any part thereof or be obliged to see to the due application of such purchase monies or monies also I give and devise to my said son William Potter and his heirs for ever all that my messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell and by me lately erected and built and also all that my messuage or tenement commonly called the Chapel Inn together with the malt office cottages stables outhouses buildings yard garden orchard lands meadows pastures hereditaments and premises to the same belonging or in any wise appertaining commonly called or known by the name of the Chapel Estate ?Crouches and Part Field all which premises I lately purchased of Richard White deceased and the same situate lying and being in Great Coggeshall aforesaid and now in the several tenures or occupation of myself John Burles Isaac Brightwell Robert the people called the Quakers and Mark Guyon or some or one of our assigns or under tenants and also all that my messuage or tenement wherein I lately dwelt situate in the Chapel Yard in Great Coggeshall aforesaid with the yards gardens and premises to the same belonging as the same are now in the tenure or occupation of Simon Richold Jonas Thorne and John Sharp their assigns or under tenants also I give and bequeath to my said son William Potter all and every my household goods and furniture watch and seals plate linen books wine beer and china that maybe my dwelling house at the time of my decease except the bed bedstead and furniture that may be in the lower room at the time of my decease which I give and bequeath to my daughter Anne Potter to and for her own proper use and behoof also I give and bequeath to my said son William Potter my horse and cart my harness and the firewood and coal that I may have by me at the time of my decease to and for his own proper use and behoof also I give and bequeath to the said Ezekiel Wood the sum of 20 Guineas for the trouble he may have in acting as executor and trustee of this my will to be taken and retained by him

from and out of my personal estate also I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah the now wife of John Eley of Feering Essex farmer the sum of £400 of good and lawful money of Great Britain to be paid to her by my executors hereinafter named from and out of my personal estate within 12 months next after my decease also I give and bequeath to my said daughter Ann Potter to the sum of £600 of lawful money of Great Britain to be paid to her by my executors hereinafter named from and out of my personal estate in manner following the sum of £300 part thereof at her age of 21 years and the remaining £300 to be paid at the age of 23 years also I give and bequeath to my son Joseph Potter the sum of £1000 of like lawful money of Great Britain to be paid to him by my executors hereinafter named from and out of my personal estate in manner following the sum of £500 part thereof at his age of 21 years and the remaining £500 to be paid at his age of 23 years also I do hereby will and direct that my executors hereinafter named shall as soon as conveniently maybe after my decease place out and invest at interest upon some good and real security securities or in one of the public funds of this Kingdom the said legacies by me given to my said daughter Anne Potter and my said son Joseph Potter and pay and apply the interest dividends or proceeds arising therefrom to them the said Anne Potter and Joseph Potter for their respective board and maintenance till their said legacies shall become due and payable also after payment of all my just debts my funeral expenses the charges of the probate of this my will and the costs charges and expenses attending the due execution hereof and the aforesaid several legacies I give and bequeath all the rest residue and remainder of my personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever and what nature sort or kind soever the same situate lying and being and not hereinbefore disposed of unto my said son William Potter and Joseph Potter and my said daughters Sarah Eley and Ann Potter equally to be divided between them part and share alike also I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint the said Ezekiel Wood and my said son William Potter jointly executors of this my will and I do hereby declare my mind and will to be that it shall and may be lawful to and for my said executors to deduct and reimburse himself and themselves from and out of the monies and effects that shall come to their hands by virtue of this my will and the trusts hereby in therein repose and that they my said executors and trustees shall not be answerable or accountable for any more or other sum of sums of money than they shall actually and respectively receive and which shall come to their hands by virtue of this my will and the trusts hereby in them reposed or for all with any loss or losses happening to my personal estate and effects or to the monies to be placed out at interest pursuant to this my will or the interest dividends or proceeds thereof unless such loss or losses shall be owing to or by or through his or their wilful neglect or default and that the one of them my said executors and trustees shall not be answerable or accountable for the acts the receipts default disbursements or payments of the other his heirs executors or administrators that each of them for his own particular acts deeds receipts default disbursements or payments only and lastly I do hereby revoke and make void all former and other wills by me at any time or times heretofore made and I do hereby publish and declare this only to be my last will and testament contained in three sheets of paper to each sheet thereof set my hand and seal this third day of March in the year of our Lord 1802 – W^m Potter - Signed sealed published and declared by the said William Potter the testator as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us and by us attested as witnesses thereunto in his presence and at his request - John Durrant – Tho^s Fowell – John Fordham

This will was proved at London on the 22nd day of April in the year of our Lord 1802 before the worshipful John Sewell Doctor of Laws Surrogate of the Right honourable William Wynne knight Doctor of Laws Master...or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of Ezekiel Wood the younger and

William Potter the son of the deceased and the executors named in the will to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased having been first sworn duly to administer.

John Rickwood; miller; West Faversham; 1835: Prob 11/ 1929

Last will and testament of John Rickwood of Preston, West Faversham, Kent, Miller.

Dated 17.9.1835.

Appoints John Hutton of Ashford, Kent, miller and John Poll of Boughton under the Blean, Kent, farmer, executors.

Bequest to daughter Mary wife of Thomas Lemon of Faversham – £50 and an annuity of £36. Daughter has permission to distrain the same if not fully paid.

All property (including messuages and tenements, mill, etc.) In Preston, West Faversham or Faversham town to go to the executors in trust for his four grandchildren: Mary Brookwood, John Rick Wood the younger, Sarah Rick Wood and Hannah Rick Wood – children of his deceased son John, and to be shared equally amongst them as tenants in common not as joint tenants.

All other goods, chattels etc. to be sold by the executors and held in trust and invested for the benefit of the four grandchildren already named until they reach the age of 21 years.

Signed by John Rickwood; witnessed by Ann Rickwood X, John Rickwood of Preston, miller, W^m C Morgan solicitor Faversham.

Admon granted to daughter Mary Lemon on 2.6.1840, with will annexed, the executors having renounced executry. Also annexed with the will were letters of administration for Mary Histed, (wife of Lewis Histed), formerly Rickwood, granddaughter of the testator. Hannah Rickwood, mother of the other grandchildren, acted for those who were still minors.

Daniel Richardson, yeoman, Horsmonden, Kent, 1799: Prob 11/1345

This is the last will and testament of Daniel Richardson of Horsmonden in the co. of Kent yeoman, made and declared this third day of December in the year of our Lord 1799.

First I make and appoint my brother James Richardson, my brother-in-law Thomas Dodge and Thomas Lavender of Horsmonden aforesaid miller executors of this my last will and guardians of my children until they attain the age of 21 years. And I give and bequeath unto each of my executors the sum of £5 for their care and fidelity in executing this my will. And I give and bequeath unto my daughter Sarah Richardson the sum of £200 to be paid to her by my said executors when she shall attain her age of 21 years and I direct my executors to apply the interest thereof in the meantime towards her maintenance and education. Also I give and bequeath unto the said James Richardson, Thomas Dodge and Thomas Lavender the sum of £200 upon trust that they shall and do as soon as my youngest son attain the age of 21 years put and place the same out at interest and receive and take the interest thereof and pay the same unto my said daughter and during the term of her natural life for her own use and benefit and after her decease upon trust to pay and divide the said sum of £200 and the interest due for the same unto and amongst all the children of her my said daughter in equal shares and proportions to whom I give the same accordingly. But if my daughter shall happen to die without leaving any child or children living at her death or born after her decease then upon trust to pay and divide the said sum of £200 and the interest then due for the same unto and between my two sons James and Daniel share and share alike.

Also I give and bequeath to my wife Diannah an annuity or clear yearly sum of £30 to commence and be paid by my said executors from the day of my death and during so long time as she my said wife shall continue my widow and unmarried and if my said wife shall happen to marry again then I give and bequeath unto her the annuity or yearly sum of £20 only (in lieu of the said annuity of £30) to continue and be paid by my said executors from the day of such marriage during the natural life of my said wife.

Also I give devise and bequeath all my messuages or tenements buildings lands hereditaments and premises with their and every of their rights members and appurtenances unto and to the use of my said two sons James and Daniel and of their several and respective heirs and assigns for ever equally to be divided and they to take as tenants in common and not as joint tenants and as to all the rest residue and remainder of my ready monies and securities for money goods chattels stock in trade husbandry tackle debts effects and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever and of what nature or quality soever the same be (not hereinbefore disposed of) which shall be due owing or belonging to me at the time of my death and all my estate and interest therein I give and bequeath the same and every part thereof to my sons James and Daniel their executors administrators and assigns absolutely and for ever to be equally divided between them share and share alike. And it is my will and meaning that my said executors or either of them shall not be liable to answer or make good any loss or losses that shall or may happen in this the execution of my will unless the same shall appear to happen by or through their or one of their neglect or default, nor shall either of my said executors be answerable or accountable for the acts deeds receipts or disbursements of the other or others of them but each of them shall be answerable only for his own acts deeds receipts or disbursements. And I do hereby direct that my said trustees shall and may pay and reimburse themselves and himself and allow to each other respectively all reasonable and necessary costs charges and expenses that they or either of them shall or may bear pay or be put unto in or about the execution of this my will over and above the sum of £5 hereinbefore bequeathed to each of them.

And I revoke and make void all former and other wills and codicils by me at any time heretofore made. In witness whereof I the said Daniel Richardson the testator have to this last will and testament contained in this and the preceding sheet of paper set my hand and seal (to wit) my hand to the preceding sheet and my hand and seal to this last sheet the day and year first above written. The mark and seal of Daniel Richardson. The writing contained in this and the preceding sheet of paper was signed sealed published and declared by the said Daniel Richardson the testator and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence and in the persons of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses: Richard Vidler, David Hobbs, R White attorney at Goudhurst.

This will was proved at London the 22nd day of July in the year of our Lord 1800 before the Right Honourable Sir William Wynne knight Doctor at Law Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of James Richardson the brother of the deceased, Thomas Dodge and Thomas Lavender the executors named in the last will to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the deceased having first been sworn (by commission) duly to administer.

James Richardson; yeoman; Withyham; 1807: Prob 11/1492

This is the last will and testament of me James Richardson of Withyham in the County of Sussex yeoman First I give and bequeath unto my nephews Thomas Richardson and James Richardson of Withyham aforesaid the rents and profits of all my estates until my

debts and funeral expenses are paid by them the said Thomas and James Richardson and from and immediately after the debts are paid and satisfied I give devise and bequeath unto my nephews James Richardson and Daniel Richardson of Horsmonden in the County of Kent and the said Thomas Richardson and James Richardson all that my half part of my third part or share of the farm lands and premises called Steven's land in Withyham aforesaid and also all that my half part of my third part or share of the farm and lands called Homeland in the parish of Withyham aforesaid and also all that messuage or tenement and garden in the occupation of Edward Russell and John Reynolds and standing on Homeland Farm to hold to them the said James Richardson Daniel Richardson Thomas Richardson and James Richardson their heirs and assigns for and as tenants in common and not as joint tenants Item I do give devise and bequeath unto my said nephews Thomas Richardson and James Richardson of Withyham aforesaid all that water corn mill and land called Blackham Mill in the occupation of Thomas Atherfold to hold to them the said Thomas Richardson and James Richardson their heirs and assigns for ever as tenants in common and not as joint tenants Item I give devise and bequeath unto my said nephew Thomas Richardson all that my half part of the estate called the Bear Garden situate at Withyham aforesaid to hold to him the said Thomas Richardson his heirs and assigns for ever and I do desire the said Thomas Richardson to give his brother John Richardson two years schooling Item I give devise and bequeath unto my said nephew John Richardson all my in the manor of Muncklow [Munckloe] to hold to him the said John Richardson his heirs and assigns for ever all the rest residue and remainder of my property both real and personal item give devise and bequeath unto my said nephews Thomas Richardson and James Richardson of Withyham aforesaid their heirs executors and assigns for ever and whom I make ordain constitute and appoint executors of this my last will and testament they paying all my just debts and funeral expenses and probate hereof. In witness whereof I the said James Richardson the testator have to this my last will and testament contained in two sheets of paper to the first sheet set my hand and to the last my hand and seal the 16th day of April in the year of our Lord 1807. James Richardson – signed sealed published and declared by the said James Richardson as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses here to add his request in his presence and in the presence of each other - John Reynolds Miller Withyham John Adams Tanner Withyham – Geo Baulson? Atty East Grinstead. Proved at London 28th of January 1809 by Thomas Richardson, nephew, executor. Grant to James Richardson, nephew, executor.

James Richardson; farmer; Withyham; 1834: Prob 11/1836

This is the last will and testament of me James Richardson of Blackham in the parish of Withyham in the County of Sussex farmer Whereas John Kettle of Croydon in Surrey the husband of my sister Sarah stands now indebted in or about the sum of £675 to myself and my brother Daniel Richardson Now it is my will and meaning and I hereby bequeath my moiety such sum to the said John Kettle absolutely together with all interest that may be due thereon at my decease and I further direct that the other moiety of such sum so due as aforesaid to my brother Daniel Richardson shall be discharged by my said brother to the said John Kettle immediately on my decease without any . . . consideration for the same save and except the monies and effects left by this my will to my said brother Daniel and in case my said brother Daniel refuses to discharge such sum accordingly I direct that my said brother-in-law John Kettle shall be paid a sum to the said amount out of my estate within six months after my decease I give devise and bequeath unto my executors hereinafter named as executors and administrators the sum

of £830 upon trust immediately after my decease to place the same out in the purchase of government funds or stocks or real security securities in England and to pay and apply the interest and dividends and annual proceeds thereof unto and to the use of my said sister Sarah the wife of the said John Kettle for and during the term of her natural life and immediately after her decease I give and bequeath the said principle sum of £830 stocks funds and securities unto and equally amongst them between all her children sons and daughters of my said sister Sarah Kettle as shall be living at the time of my said sister's decease and in case any of such children shall depart this life during her lifetime leaving lawful issue my will and meaning is and I direct that such children or child as the case may be shall stand in the place or stead of his her or their deceased parent or parents and received such parent or parents' share accordingly such principle sums or shares to be paid to such child or children of the said Sarah Kettle or the issue of such child or children that may have departed this life as aforesaid on their respectively attaining their respective age or ages of 21 years and assigned and paid to them by my said trustee and executor hereinafter named the interest dividends and annual product of their respective shares to be paid towards their respective maintenance in the meantime and I hereby give devise and bequeath unto my said brother Daniel Richardson all my freehold and copyhold estates lands tenements and hereditaments and appurtenances and all my moieties of farms lands tenements and hereditaments and appurtenances and all other my shares therein situate lying and being at Blackham or near thereto in the parish of Withyham aforesaid or elsewhere in England to hold the same states lands tenements and hereditaments and appurtenances and to him the said Daniel Richardson and his assigns for and during the term of his natural life without impeachment for waste in selling timber or other wise and from and immediately after his decease I give devise and bequeath the said lands tenements and hereditaments and appurtenances unto and equally amongst and between all the children sons and daughters of the said Daniel Richardson lawfully begotten as shall be living at the time of his decease to hold to them and their heirs as tenants in common and not as joint tenants and I direct that in case any the child or children as aforesaid of the said Daniel Richardson shall die during his (their father's lifetime) leaving lawful issue such issue either sons or daughters or both shall stand in the place severally and equally of their deceased parent or parents and shall obtain a vested interest only on their attaining their respective ages of 21 years or their leaving lawful issue and I give and bequeath such interest in the same lands and appurtenances to them accordingly and I hereby give devise and bequeath all the rest residue and remainder of my estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever that I may be possessed of or entitled unto at my decease unto my said brother Daniel Richardson and his heirs executors administrators and assigns absolutely he paying thereon all my just debts and funeral and testamentary expenses and the costs and charges of proving this my will and hereby direct that my said executor and trust the hereinafter named shall only be accountable for wilful neglect or default in the execution of the trusts of this my will or the monies reserved and placed out by him by virtue thereof and I further direct that all interest and dividends paid by virtue of this will to my said sister Sarah her receipt and receipts only whether covert or sole shall be sufficient discharges for and I hereby nominate constitute and appoint my said brother Daniel Richardson sole executor and trustee of this my will I hereby revoke all former wills and testamentary dispositions by me at any time heretofore made and declared this only to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I the said James Richardson the testator have so this my last will and testament contained in three sheets of paper set my hand and seal (to wit) my hand to the bottom of the first two sheets thereof and my hand and seal to this the third and last sheet thereof this 24th day of August in the year of our Lord 1834 – James Richardson – Signed sealed published and declared by the said James Richardson the testator as and for

his last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto – William Peerless Sol^r East Grinstead - Charles Marchant farmer Hartfield David Lingham Miller Tonbridge.

Proved at London 15th September 1834 by Daniel Richardson, brother, executor.

Thomas Richardson; yeoman Horsmonden, Kent; 1790: Prob 11/1193

This is the last will and Testament of me Thomas Richardson of Horsmonden in the county of Kent Yeoman made and published this 22nd day of May in the year of our Lord 1791. First and principally I commend my soul unto Almighty God and my body I commit the earth to be decently interred at the discretion of my executors hereinafter named and to dispose of such temporal estate as it has pleased God to entrust me with as follows I make and appoint my dear wife Mary Richardson and Joseph Tompsett of Horsmonden aforesaid innkeeper and Richard Tyler Twort of the same place gentleman executors of this my will. I give and bequeath unto my said wife Mary the sum of £100 of lawful money of Great Britain to be paid to her within one month next after my decease by my executors. Also I give and bequeath to my said wife Mary all my household goods plate linen and china whatsoever to be delivered to her immediately after my decease. Also I give and devise unto my said wife Mary and her assigns for and during the term of her natural life all and every my messuages or tenements farms lands and premises and real estate whatsoever with their appurtenances situate lying and being in the parish of Goudhurst in the said County of Kent and now in the several tenures or occupation of Thomas Phillips and Widow Vousden or of their undertenants or assigns and from and after the decease of my said wife I give and devise my said messuage or tenement farm lands and premises with their appurtenances situate lying and being in Goudhurst aforesaid and now in the occupation of the said Thomas Phillips or his undertenants or assigns and my nephew Thomas Richardson son of my brother John Richardson and to his heirs and assigns for ever. Also from and after the decease of my said wife I give and devise my said messuage or tenement farm lands and premises with their appurtenances situate lying and being in Goudhurst aforesaid and now in the occupation of the Widow Vousden or of her undertenants or assigns and my nephew James Richardson son of my said brother John Richardson and to his heirs and assigns for ever. And also I give and bequeath to my brother Daniel Richardson and to my niece Sarah Richardson daughter of my said brother Daniel Richardson the sum of £2.10/- each of like money. Also I give and bequeath to the two eldest children of my nephew John Ristwood of Faversham in the said County Miller the sum of £10 each of like money. Also I give and bequeath to my brothers James Richardson and John Richardson both of Withyham in the County of Sussex the sum of pounds [sic] each of like money. Also I give and bequeath to my sister Sarah Rogers now the wife of John Rogers of Goudhurst in the said County of Kent Farmer and my nephew James Rodgers son of my said sister Sarah Rogers the sum of five pounds each of like money and all which said legacies of sums of money I desire may be paid by my said executors within one year next after my decease. Also I give and bequeath to the said Joseph Tompset and Richard Tyler Twort all the rest and residue of my goods chattels monies and securities for... and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever and every part thereof upon trust and confidence nevertheless and to the intent and purpose that day the said Joseph Tompsett and Richard Tyler Twort and the survivor of them his executors or administrators shall and do as soon as conveniently maybe after my decease sell and convert into money and all such part of my personal estate as shall not consist of money as securities for money and also call and getting all such parts thereof as shall consist of money as due or owing

to me upon security or otherwise and the money is arising there by shall and... place out at interest upon such security or securities as they my said trustees or the survivor of them his executors or administrators shall think proper and upon further trust that they the said Joseph Tompsett and Richard Tyler Twort and the survivor of them his executors or administrators do and shall pay the yearly interest and dividends and proceeds of such money and to my said wife Mary for and during the term of her natural life or otherwise... Her to survive the same and upon further trust that they my said trustees and the survivor of them his executors or administrators shall immediately after the decease of my said wife paid the whole of such principle monies in... following that is to say to my brother-in-law Thomas Bannister of Faversham aforesaid Miller the sum of £50 is like money and to my said Sister Sarah Rogers and to her four sons Thomas James John and Daniel Rogers the sum of £100 of like money equally between them share and share alike and to my said brother John Richardson and to all his children as well such as are now born as also such as may be born before the decease of my said wife the sum of £50 of like money equally between them share and share alike and the residue of such monies do and shall pay and divide into and amongst all my nephews and nieces in equal share in proportion and the child or children of such of them as shall not survive my said wife and I do hereby give the same accordingly and my will and mind is that in case any or either of my said legatees before named shall die before his or her or their legacy or legacies or parts and shares of my said personal estate shall become due and payable by virtue of this my will then the legacy legacies or part or parts of my said personal estate shall go and be paid to his/her or their child or children if any and if none then to his or her or their legal representatives and my will further is that they my said trustees and the survivor of them his executors or administrators shall and may by and out of the monies which they or either of them shall receive by virtue of the trust aforesaid return to and reimburse themselves respectively all such costs damages and... as they or either of them shall sustain suffer or be put on too by reason of the trust aforesaid or in any whys relating thereunto and my said trustees paid each of them and the heirs executors and administrators of them and each of them shall be chargeable only for such monies as they shall respectively actually receive by virtue of this my will and... of them shall not be answerable for the other of them or for the debts receipts... disbursements of the other of them nor shall they all either of them be answerable for any loss or misfortune which may happen in the execution of this my will so long as the same shall happen without them or either of their wilful neglect or default and I do hereby give to the said Joseph Tompsett and Richard Tyler Twort the sum of £5 each for their care and trouble in executing the trusts aforesaid to by them when they shall think proper and I revoke all former Wills by me made and devised. This is my last will and testament in witness whereof I the said Thomas Richardson to this my last will and Testament contained in two sheets of paper have to the first and to the second and last sheet... hereof set my hand and seal the day and year first above written. *Thomas Richardson* signed sealed published and declared by the said Thomas Richardson the testator as and for his last will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses.

Wim Lavender, William Baker, M^o Pope

John Rogers; yeoman; Cowden; 1817: Prob 11/1597

Last will and testament of me John Rogers of Cowden in the County of Kent yeoman. All just debts and funeral expenses and probate to be fully paid by executrix

To my four grandchildren, children of son Thomas Rogers and Elizabeth his wife -£500 to be paid within 12 months

To housekeeper Mary Groves - messuage or tenement by the name of Lady Lands in Cowden in the occupations of myself and James Wallis, charged and chargeable nevertheless during the lives of my son Thomas Rogers and Elizabeth his wife and the life of the longest lived with them the annual sum of £10 by two half yearly payments.

Mary Groves appointed executrix.

Dated 15th February 1817.

The Mark and seal of John Rogers.

Witnesses: Geo Bankin, attorney East Grinstead, James Dodd Glover, East Grinstead, William Awcock Miller Cowden.

Proved at London 21 October 1817 by Mary Groves widow ~~the~~ ~~relief~~.

John Saxby (Sexbey), clothier, Brenchley, Kent, 1611: Prob 11/118

In the name of God amen on the 10th day of January in the year of our Lord 1609 and in the year of the reign of our gracious Sovereign Lord James I John Sexbey of Brenchley in the co. Of Kent clothier, whole in body [usual pious openings and a desire that no controversy shall ensue after his death] do therefore make and ordain this my present testament.....

First [commends soul to God etc. and body to be buried decently by executors.]

Item I give to the poor people of the parish of Brenchley aforesaid where I now dwell £5 of lawful money to be distributed ... by my executors... where most need shall be.

Item I give and bequeath unto all my servants that shall be dwelling with me at my decease either men servants or women servants 3s 4d apiece to be paid .. after my decease.

Item I give to my daughter Lamb's two sons John and William Lamb £5 apiece and to my son's son John Sexbey the like sum of £5 to be paid to them at their several ages of 24 years. Also I give to my son Robert Sexbey's daughter Jane Sexbey 40s .. to be paid at the age of 24 years or after the day of her marriage. To Richard Brooker my sister's son 20/- of lawful money of England to be paid to him at his age of four and twenty years. To John Perrin and Richard Perrin my daughter's sons £5 apiece to be paid unto them as they come to their several ages of four and twenty years. To every one of my god-children 12d apiece.

Item I give and bequeath unto my well-beloved wife Jane my lease and term of years yet for to come... of all that messuage and hereditaments with their appurtenances now in the occupation of the said Robert Sexbey. Also the said Jane shall ... to the end of her years yet to come in the same lease but if the said Jane shall decease before the term of the said years then I give the residue of the said years to come in the said ... unto Edmund Sexbey my son.

Also I give and bequeath unto the said Jane my wife all my cattle and stuff of household and the sum of £20 of lawful money... to be paid within the space of one year next coming after my decease.

Item I give and bequeath to John Sexbey my son £5 ... to be paid ...at 21 years and to his son Thomas Sexbey £5 to be paid... at 21 years.

And to my said son Edmund Sexbey £400 ... to be paid.... at 21

And to my said son Stephen Sexbey £400 ... to be paid.... at 21

[If either son dies, the other gets his brother's share.]

Item ... to my daughter Julyan wife of William Lamb of Leeds in the said co. clothier ...£5

And to my daughter Alice wife of Richard Wymeshurste? £5

And to my daughter Elizabeth the wife of Richard Willard ... £5

And to my daughter Mary Sexbey ...£100 to be paid at 21 years or at the time of her marriage...

And my will ...is.... that if my said daughter die before 21 [her legacy to go to other daughters.]

Item ... to Richard Wymeshurste? son of my said daughter Alice ... £5

And to John Willard son of my said daughter Elizabeth... £5

[All to be paid at 24 years.]

As touching the disposition of all and singular my lands tenements and hereditaments whereof I am now possessed.... I give will and devise them in manner and form following, that is to say

First my said son Edmund Sexbey to his heirs and assigns for ever my messuage and lands with their appurtenances in Horsmonden in the said co. which lately I purchased of William Willard now in the occupation of William Jeffery of Horsmonden shoemaker ... at 21.

Item to my said son Robert Sexbey to his heirs..... all my lands tenements and hereditaments with their appurtenances which I have within the parish of Cowden in the said co. of Kent and Horsmonden aforesaid which lately purchased of John Willard of Horsmonden aforesaid, provided... that the said Robert Sexbey my son ... shall pay out of the rents.... unto the said Jane my wife the sum of £4 of good and lawful money every year ... [during her natural life, quarterly. Clause allowing her to distrain if money ever unpaid.]

Item.... to my son Stephen Sexbey ... all that my messuage and tenement and 14 acres of land by estimation thereunto belonging with their appurtenances lying in Horsmonden aforesaid, now in the occupation of William Perrin of Horsmonden broadweaver which I lately purchased of Thomas Were of Lynton in the said county clothier when he shall come to21 years.

... I devise that my said son Robert Sexbey ... after my decease shall receive the yearly rents I have before devised to my sons Edmund and Stephen until they come to ...21 years.

[If either Edmund or Stephen die without issue before 21, the legacy to go to the brother.]

The residue of all.... my ready money, cloth, wool ... and debts and all my working stuff tools and other implements belonging to the trade of clothier which I shall have at the time of my decease.... I wholly give and bequeath unto my said son Robert Sexbey whom I make and appoint executor to this my last will and testament.

And overseers hereof I name and appoint Richard Wymeshurste? And Richard Hosner of Brenchley aforesaid broadweaver..... and I give to either of them for their pains 20s. [Clause reminding Robert Sexbey that he will answer on the day of judgment for the way he carries out the executorship. Revokes all former wills, bequests, executors and overseers.]

In witness whereof I the said John Sexbey have hereto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written in the presence of Thomas Scothford? Soloman Were William Hunt.

John Sexbey

Probate awarded to Robert Sexbey July 1611

Richard Saxbie. Brenchley, Kent, 1592: Prob 11/81

Date 18.11.1592

To the poor of Brenchley 10s

To the worshipful Mrs Elizabeth Fane of Brenchley my very good mistress £4.in consideration of Certain land which I hold of her manor of Frant
 To the wife of George Salmon snr of Brenchley and her daughters Mercy and Rebecca 20s
 To Mary Salmon another of the daughters of my said sister 5s
 To my brother Thomas Saxbie 40s
 To the wife of Thomas Potter of Brenchley and her daughter Faith 5s and to all her other daughters 2s 6d
 To every of the above-said Mistress Fane's men being serving men 12d and to every of her maids 12d
 All my household stuff in the parish of Brenchley to Robert Saxbie my son
 To Robert Saxbie my son, various sums of money - £24 owed by William and Robert Haines of Brenchley, £10 8s 4d owed by Stephen Maytcham, £4 owed by Thomas Maitcham his brother, £10 15 owed by John Hogeikin the tilemaker, £5 owed by Henshawe vicar of Frant, £8 8s owed by Jerome Salmon, £50 owed by Robert Kipping of Brenchley
 Robert Brabon my brother-in-law shall have £50 which makes up £100 (already owed £50) to make an annuity for the use of son Robert Saxbie (I think)
 Executors to put his land to farm and the profits be put into son Robert's inheritance (I think). When Robert's legacy reaches £100 it is to be invested (I think) until he is 21. Once £100 is reached, executors to put aside any profits for son George Saxbie, until he reaches 21.
 To George Saxbie, son, all lands, tenements and hereditaments in the parish of Frant to be held until he is 21
 If these two sons die before 21, all the above land to go to brother Thomas Saxbie, money to go to Leonard Saxbie, son of brother Leonard
 Robert Brabon, bother-in-law and Robert Kipping snr of Brenchley executors
 Mr John ?Waler of Brenchley to be overseer and receive a ring of gold for his pains
 Witnesses: John Alchorne, Robert Potter, Bartholomew Younge, John Godfrey, Rowland Roberts

Isaac Scotts otherwise Scutts, publican, Pimlico, Mddx, 1847: Prob 11/2077

In the name of God amen.

I, Isaac Scotts or Scutts of 2, Gillingham St, Vauxhall Bridge Road, Pimlico in the parish of St. George Hanover Square in the co. of Mddx, retired publican.

Instructions given to executors, then:

Furniture to wife Mary Ann Scotts along with house at 2 Gillingham St and rest of contents to be shared between their 7 children: James, Francis, Sarah, William H, Joseph H, Mary and John C. Isaac's picture to go to William.

To wife Mary Ann. The 10 cottages in Brunswick Place Regent Street and the ground rents of the other cottages and the 3 front houses numbers 18, 19 and 20, and the cottage no 4 Brunswick Place out of the above rents she will have to pay Mr Pepper £15 p.a.

After her death, these rents to be divided between the 7 children, and the house in Gillingham St also to be shared between them.

To son John Carr the 4 houses in Chapter St and Garden St with the stabling and warehouses. To daughter Mary Ann Scotts 3 houses in Hindon St, nos 41-3. To Jospeh Henry Scotts, no 20 Chapter St and no 1 Douglas Gardens (and some other its) To son William Holborough Scotts the Public House known as the Old King's Head Marsham St and Horse Ferry Road Westminster and another house. To daughter Sarah Jane Scotts or Whesterman – more houses. To daughter Frances Mary Scotts or Piper – more

houses. To son James, house called Providence, with blacksmith's tools therein. (All these property bequests seem to be to do with collecting ground rent).

To niece Ann Cox – property

To brother James Scotts – wearing apparel and £20 – he living at Sopworth.

To brother William Scotts - £20

To sister Elizabeth Cox at Segby, Staffs, £5

To sister Rebecca Wells at Todmorden (Rodmorden) Glos, £5

To sister Ann Peart at Bibiary, Glos, £5

To sister Rachel Walker of Little St, St. James St. Bristol, £5

To Rebecca Hearn for kindness when ill

To nephew John Wells £40 for services as exec.

To Isaac Andrew Scotts £5

To niece Mary Carter £5

To brother John Scotts life interest in houses.

Nephew John wife Mary and son William execs.

Long probate discussing the fact that several changes seemed to have been made on the will. Proved 1848.

William Steel; mariner; Greenwich, Kent; 1722: Prob 11/586

In the name of God amen I William Steel one of the mariners at the Royal Hospital at Greenwich in the county of Kent [usual openings]

In the first place my mind and will is that all my just debts be paid And whereas my wife Margaret Steel (in breach of her marriage contract) hath refused to cohabit with me and behaved herself very unkindly and undutifully towards me having (as I have reason to believe) married me purely with a view of possessing herself of my substance I do hereby bequeath unto her the sum on twenty one shillings and no more. Item I give and bequeath unto my brother John if now living the sum of four pounds And the like sum of four pounds to my sister Isabel and also the sum of four pounds to my nephew William Steel the son of my sister Marg^t. Item I give and bequeath unto William Steel jun^r the son of William Steel of Windmill Court in the parish of St. Sepulchres London Linen Draper my large silver tankard And all the rest residue and remainder of such goods chattels and other personal estate as I shall be possessed of or interested in at the time of my death I give and bequeath unto the said William Steel Linen Draper whom I do hereby name and appoint sole executor of this my last will and testament and I do hereby revoke annul and make void all and every former and other will and wills by me heretofore made and do confirm this to be my only last will and testament In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this third day of July in the eighth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord George [usual titles] anno domini 1722. (William Steel his mark) Signed sealed published and declared by William Steel the testator to be his last will and testament and in his presence and at his request attested by us whose names are hereunto subscribed. Witness William Pomroy Alexander Bonner John

Proved 10.7.1722

Edward Whitmell, yeoman, Crick, Northants, 1651: Prob 11/225

In the name of God amen the 19th day of March 1651 I Edward Whitmell of Cricke in the co. of Northampton yeoman being in health both of body and mind thanks be to God therefore do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First and above all things I do bequeath my soul into the hands of the Lord

my God who gave it, and my body to the earth from whence it came, and as for my earthly goods, I dispose of them as followeth.

I give and bequeath unto my eldest daughter Elizabeth Whitmell the full and just sum of £200 of lawful money of England to be paid unto her when she shall accomplish the full age of 20 years.

I give and bequeath unto my other daughter Sarah Whitmell the full and just sum of £200 of lawful money of England to be paid unto her when she shall accomplish the full age of 20 years. And my will is that if either of my daughters happen to depart this life before they do accomplish the age of 20 years that the survivor of them shall have and enjoy both the portions. And if they should happen both to depart this life before they should accomplish the said age of 20 years then it is my will that my son Thomas Whitmell shall have and enjoy both the portions to be paid to him or for his use when it shall so happen to be due.

And I give unto my son Thomas Whitmell when he shall accomplish the age of twenty and one years half my lands and tenements which I have now in occupation with the land ready sowed with good seed according to the custom of the place; and also I give him 3 horses one cart and a plow a harrow with gears and such necessaries to them belonging as shall be worth in value the sum of £20.

And also I give him nine bease and heifers fit to be kept on the common and 40 sheep or £40 to be paid to him in lieu of the said bease and sheep which he shall then ... And also I give unto him half my household goods movable and unmovable. And also I give unto the poor of Crick the sum of 40 shillings to be ... at the discretion of my execs and I will that ten shillings of this same be given Edw. Howlett. And also I give unto my well-beloved wife Eliz. Whitmell whom I do make my full and whole executor the house wherein Edward Howlett now dwells with the plot of ground belonging unto it and also three quarters of homeland thereunto belonging as purchased of William Mason of Crick lately deceased and as expressed in a deed bearing date the first of May 1648 to her and her heirs and assigns for ever for and towards the payment and discharge of the portions and legacies herein expressed. As also my will is that if the heirs execs or assigns of Will: Mason do pay the money due upon the aforementioned deed that then my wife do make them a full release upon the aforesaid deed and house and three-quarters of land. And all the rest of my goods and chattels my legacies being paid and my funeral expenses being discharged I give as afs t o my wife Elizabeth Whitmell whom I have made my whole and full exec. of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have put my hand and seal the day and year first above written. And also my will is that Edward Hilton of Daventry and my brother-in-law John Russell of Newnam be overseers of this my last will and testament to whom I give twenty shillings apiece.

Edward Whitmell. Sealed and delivered in the presence of John King his mark, Thomas Watson.

Proved at Westminster by the oath of Elizabeth Whitmell, 3rd August 1653

John Whitmell, the elder, gent. Crick, Northants, 1835, Prob 11/1900

3.2.1830

N.B. Very dark and hard to read. Large chunks missed.

All household goods to son John Whitmell and daughter Susannah Whitmell

House in Crick in occupation of son Stephen Whitmell with 15 acres of land adjoining Watling St, and 10 acres called Haddows Hill and 20 acres called Old Furlong adjoining the Lilbourne Road in the occupation of my son Stephen, to my son Stephen.

Dwelling house in the occupation of William ?Quickley to my daughter-in-law Mary Whitmell as long as she remains a widow. After that to John Whitmell.

The house and seven acres of land purchased of Thomas.... and Richard Thornton and other land containing about 67 acres being my old family estates in Crick aforesaid heretofore in my own occupation and late in the occupation of my eldest son William Whitmell deceased and also 7 acres heretofore in my own occupation and that of my son John purchased of Samuel Perkins and devised to me by the late William Judkins and another piece of land called the Cottage containing 3 acres late the property of James ?Wedding .. and purchased by son William Whitmell deceased.....

John and Stephen Whitmell, sons, to be trustees.

To son Edward Whitmell £1000

To daughter Elizabeth Perridge £300. [Names her husband Robert Perridge.]

Something about a debt of £400 owing by Robert Perridge to be paid to Elizabeth's daughter – I think.

To daughter Susannah Whitmell out of moneys from the Willow estate and out of my personal estate £600

Another reference to Mary Whitmell, widow of William

To tow grandchildren, Mary Clark Whitmell and Sarah Whitmell, children of son William.

John Whitmell the elder

Witnessed by Thomas Bucknell of Crick, gent, William ?Wratislaw of Rugby solicitor, James Stringer, his clerk

Codicil 11.5.1830

Reference to John Whitmell, son

Codicil 22.1.1831

Reference to property called the Cottage now going to son John

Codicil 9.3.1835

.... to be divided equally between sons Stephen and Edward and daughter ELizabeth

.... to be divided equally between son John and daughter Susannah

Proved 23rd August 1838 by John and Stephen Whitmell, sons.

Thomas Whitmell, yeoman, Crick, Northants, 1723: Prob 11/593

In the name of God amen, I Thomas Whitmell of the county of Crick in the county of Northampton yeoman being weak in body but of perfect mind and memory praised be God therefore do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say Imprimis I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my creator hoping for salvation through the merits of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ my redeemer and my body I commit to the earth to be decently buried according to the discretion of my execs hereinafter named, and as for what worldly estate of goods it hath pleased God to bestow upon me I give and bequeath the same as followeth.

Imprimis I give unto my eldest son Edward Whitmell a little house in Crick which I purchased of Thomas Gurle to him his heirs and assigns for ever to sell or dispose of at his pleasure.

Item I give unto my son Thomas Whitmell those goods in the kitchen fixed to the freehold utensils for brewing and in the hall a long table joint stools and a couch and in the great sellar the t..... pitch pans and brand and in the parlour chamber a little chest wherein his ?and sons writings are. I give him likewise a warming pan

Item I give my son John Whitmell a bond made in his name which I have in my keeping and a note from Mr Edmund Brunwick which he received the money of me for and I give him a gardner which standeth in the corn barn when the malt is gone out of it and I shall dispose of it immediately.

Item I give unto my daughter Elizabeth Whitmell all the malt in the gardner to spend at her leisure or dispose of at her pleasure with all the household goods unbequeathed chests coffers boxes bedsteads and bedding of all sorts woollen and linen whatsoever and all my brass and pewter whatsoever and cupboards dripping pan and spit and all money that I shall leave in my house at my decease to her use only.

Item I give to my son Edward's eight children all the money I have in bills and bonds to be equally divided amongst them and I make my son trustee to improve it to the benefit of each of them. If any of them die in their minority or unmarried their part to the survivors equally but if the age of twenty and one then at their own disposal and I make my son Edward the sole exec of this my last will and testament revoking all former wills whatsoever in the ninth year of his Majesty King George's reign August the 13th AD 1722. Thomas Whitmell. Witness William Cowley, William Griffin, Mary Masters. Probate at London to Edward Whitmell, son, exec, 3.9.1723.