

Joane Acton of Basingstoke, widow 1686

Ref: TNA PROB 11/385/215

In the name of God Amen the thirteenth day of August in the second year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James the Second over England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith etc., AD one thousand six hundred eighty six I Joane Acton of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton widow and relict of Edward Acton late of Basingstoke aforesaid gent., deceased the weak in body yet of good and perfect memory, praised be God therefore, do make and ordain this my present last will and testament in manner following. **Imprimis** I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God and my body to the earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my executors hereafter named being fully persuaded in, by and through the merits of Jesus Christ to obtain the full pardon of all my sins and to rise again at the last day to life everlasting. **And as** for that temporal estate wherewith God has blessed me I will and dispose thereof in manner following, that is to say I will and bequeath to each of my sons James Acton, Edward Acton, John Acton, Paul Acton and Michael Acton the sum of five pounds to buy them mourning. **Item** I will and bequeath to my daughter Joanna Meaton the sum of fifty pounds to be paid within six months after my decease, she together with her husband giving my executors a receipt and discharge for the same. **Item** I will and bequeath to my two grandchildren and to each of them according as my dear father did to each of my dear children the sum of twenty pounds apiece to be paid to my son Edward Acton in trust for them within three years after my decease. **Item** I give to my son John Acton the sum of five hundred pounds left for him in my hands as executrix to my late dear husband deceased to be paid him within three months after my decease if it can be so soon raised. **Item** I will that my said executors shall pay to my said son Michael Acton the sum of six hundred pounds in like manner in my hands as executrix to my said dear husband lately deceased within three years after my decease and I will that my said executors shall allow him twenty pounds annum during the said three years. **Item** I will that if it shall happen the present incumbent of Collingbourne parsonage to die (my son Paul Acton living and being qualified), that he shall be presented thereunto by my executor. **The residue** and remainder of all my goods and chattels, debts and ready money remaining after this my will is performed and my debts and funeral expenses discharged I will and bequeath to my said son James Acton and John Acton whom I make joint executors of this my last will and testament not doubting of their justice to my other son but believing and really persuading myself that they will act like honest men in disposing thereof among the rest of my children with respect to the papers mentioned in my said dear husband's will purporting his intentions and as they shall be in conscience persuaded that I myself should have done were I living to dispose of the same. **In witness** whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written Joanne Acton.

Sealed, published and declared to be the last will and testament of the above named Joane Acton in the presence of Nicholas Burnham, Elizabeth Burnham, Mary Reve.

Proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. Probate granted 16 November 1686 to James and John Acton, sons.