

Edward Acton of Basingstoke, gentleman 1686

Ref: TNA PROB 11/384/169

In the name of God Amen, I Edward Acton senior of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton gent., being sick in body but of sound and perfect memory, praise be therefore given to Almighty God, do make and ordain this my present last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say **first** and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God hoping through the merits death and passion of my Saviour Jesus Christ to have full and free pardon and forgiveness of all my sins and to inherit everlasting life, and my body I commit to the earth to be decently buried at the direction of my executrix hereafter named. **And as** touching the deposition of such temporal estate as it has pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I give and dispose thereof as follows. **First** I will that my debts and funeral charges shall be paid and discharged. **Item** I give, devise and bequeath unto my daughter Joanna the now wife of Fowler Meaton junior the sum of ten pounds per annum to be paid unto her quarterly for and during the term of her natural life or the sum of one hundred pounds at the discretion of my executrix and my four eldest sons. **Item** I give, devise and bequeath unto Elizabeth Acton the daughter of my brother Richard Acton last of St Clement Danes deceased, the sum of ten pounds to be paid by my executrix within six months after my decease. **All the** rest and residue of my personal estate, goods and chattels whatsoever I do give and bequeath unto my dearly beloved wife Joane whom I make my full and sole executrix of this my last will and testament in trust for the use of my five sons viz. my sons James Acton, Edward Acton, John Acton, Paul Acton and Michael Acton she paying them and each of them according to her discretion having a respect to my mind and meaning as in certain papers therein written with my own hand is expressed all such sum and sums of money at such times as therein limited and expressed for the payment thereof. **And if** it shall happen any difference to arise between my said sons and my wife which God forbid, then my mind and meaning is that such difference shall be determined by the major part of them. **And I** desire that my body may be buried in such decent manner as my said wife and children shall think meet. **And I** do hereby revoke, disannul and make void all former wills by me heretofore made and will that none shall stand but this my said last will and testament. **In witness** whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this tenth day of July in the second year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James the Second by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., AD one thousand six hundred eighty six.

Signed Edward Acton.

Signed, sealed, published and declared to be the last will and testament of the said Edward Acton in the presence of John Rogers, John Crompton, Aquila Clapshew, Thomas Spier.

Proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, probate granted 8 August 1686 to Joanne Acton, relict.