

Lambert Searle of Newnham, innholder, 1681

Ref: TNA PROB 11/367/377

In the name of God Amen the twentieth day of August in the three and thirtieth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord Charles the Second by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the faith etc. AD 1681, I Lambert Searle of Newnham in the county of Southampton innholder, being sick and weak in body but of good and perfect memory (thanks be to Almighty God), and calling to remembrance the uncertain estate of this transitory life and that all flesh must yield unto death when it shall please God to call, do make, constitute and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following revoking and annulling by these present all and every testament will and wills heretofore by me made and declared either by word or by writing, and this is to be taken only for my last will and testament and none other. **And first** being penitent and sorry from the bottom of my heart for my sins past most humbly desiring forgiveness for the same I give and commit my soul until Almighty God my Saviour and Redeemer in whom and by the merits of Jesus Christ I trust and believe assuredly to be saved and to have full remission and forgiveness of all my sins and that my soul with my body at the general day of Resurrection shall rise again with joy, and through the merits of Christ's death and passion possess and inherit the kingdom of heaven prepared for his elect and chosen. **And my** body to be buried in such place where it shall please my executrix hereafter named to appoint. **And now** for the settling of my temporal estate and such goods, chattels and debts as it has pleased God for above my defects to bestow upon me I do order give and dispose the same in manner and form following (that is to say): **first** I will that all those debts and duties as I owe in right or consent to any manner of person or persons whatsoever shall be well and truly contented and paid or ordained to be paid within convenient time after my decease by my executrix hereafter named. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my son John Searle the sum of seventy pounds of current English money. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Searle the sum of eighty pounds with the portion him or uncle Richard gave her and the best featherbed and the two best pairs of shirts and two good blankets, rug, bolsters, bedstead, curtains and valance belonging to the White Hart. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my son Richard Searle the sum of sixty pounds of current English money. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my daughter Mary Searle the sum of sixty pounds of current English money. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my daughter Anne Searle the sum of sixty pounds of current English money with the ten pounds her uncle Richard Searle gave her. **Item** my will and meaning is that the above said legacies which is given shall be paid in unto my well beloved friends in trust and overseers of this my last will and testament within twelve months after my decease to be put out at interest for the best advantage of my said children until they shall attain to the age of one and twenty years. **And if** it shall happen any or either of the above said children to die before they shall accomplish the age of one and twenty years then my will and meaning is that that child's legacy or legacies shall be equally divided amongst the survivors of them. **Item** I give and bequeath to my uncle Francis Searle the sum of fifty shillings. **Item** I give and bequeath to my cousin [Lors] Searle fifty shillings of current English money to be paid to them in twelve month's end after my decease as aforesaid. **Item** I give and bequeath to my godson George Draper one ewe at six shillings price. **Item** I give and bequeath to my brother Richard's apprentice Elizabeth [Kindrick] two suits of apparel. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife Mary Searle whom I nominate and appoint to be

my full and sole executrix of this my last will and testament. **All other** my ready money, goods, chattels, credits and debts whatsoever. **And I** do nominate and appoint my well beloved friends John Draper and Thomas Gillam to be my overseers of this my last will and testament, and I will each of them thirty shillings apiece for their care and pains therein taken. **In witness** whereof I, the said Lambert Searle, have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written – Lambert Searle – Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of Thomas [Henford] the mark of Kathrene Searle

Probate granted in London 2 Sept 1681 to Mary Searle, relict.