Andrew Butler of Basingstoke, woollen draper, 1649 Ref: TNA PROB 11/209/261

In the name of God Amen the tenth day of July AD 1649 I Andrew Butler of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton woollen draper, being weak in body (yet thanks be given to God), of good and perfect memory and calling to mind the uncertainty of this life and the certainty of death being therefore mindful in this time of weakness to settle and dispose of such things as the Lord of his infinite mercy has given, lent unto me in this world do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following, revoking all former wills by me made. First and principally before all other things I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Creator most constantly trusting and believing to be saved through the merits, death and passion of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ committing my body to the earth in hope of a joyful resurrection. **Item** I give and begueath to John West my brother in law and to his now wife for and during their natural lives and the life of the longest liver of them, the messuage or tenement wherein they now dwell with the backside and garden thereunto belonging with liberty of, ingress, egress and regress thereunto through the gatehouse and backside of the messuage or tenement late in the occupation of William West, so as the said John West and his now wife do keep the premises in good repair during their lives and pay all quit rents and other taxes and charges payable in respect of the same premises. Item I give and bequeath the reversion of the said messuage or tenement and premises with the appurtenances immediately from and after the death of the said John West and his now wife unto my son John Butler and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten. And for want of such issue to my son George Butler and his heirs forever. Item I give and begueath to my said son John Butler twelve pounds per annum to be paid unto him for and during his natural life at the four most usual feasts or terms in the year. **That is** to say the feast days of St John the Baptist called Midsummer Day, St Michael the Archangel, St Thomas the Apostle and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by even and equal portions, the first payment thereof to begin at the first of the said feasts which shall next happen to come after my decease, which twelve pounds per annum I will shall be paid by my executor hereafter named out of my lands, tenements, goods and chattels. **Item** I give and begueath unto my son Richard Butler the lease of the messuage or tenement which I purchased of John Goringe gent., for four score and nineteen years and all my estate therein, he paying the rent and performing the covenants of the said lease. And I further give him ten pounds to be paid within six months after my decease. **Item** I give unto my daughter Joane the wife of William Hawkins the three score pounds which was delivered her by my late wife for certain uses and I do acquit and discharge her husband thereof. And I do give unto her ten pounds more to be paid within six months after my decease. Item I do give unto Andrew Collier my grandchild ten pounds to be paid at his age of one and twenty years. Item I give unto the three children of my son in law William Hawkins twenty shillings apiece to be paid unto them when they shall accomplish their several ages of one and twenty years. Item I give unto the four children of my son in law William Clough being my grandchildren, twenty shillings apiece to be paid unto them as they shall accomplish their several ages of one and twenty years. Item I give unto the two daughters of my said son Richard Butler twenty shillings apiece to be paid unto them at their several days of marriage or ages of one and twenty pounds which shall first happen. **Item** I give unto my maid servant Mary Hawkins forty shillings to be paid her within six months after my decease. Item

I acquit and discharge my son in law William Clough of all such debts, reckonings and demands as are due to me from him upon condition that he give unto my executor hereafter named a release of all accounts, debts, reckonings and demands and then my executor to give unto him the like release. Item I give unto the poor of Basingstoke aforesaid four pounds to be distributed amongst them by my executor as conveniently as maybe after my decease. **Item** all and singular other my lands, tenements, hereditaments whatsoever not hereby given and bequeathed, I give and bequeath unto my said son George Butler his heirs and assigns forever. And I make and ordain my said son George Butler my sole executor of this my last will and testament and I desire my good friends Mr William Herne and my sons in law William Clough and Joseph Collier to be overseers of this my last will and to be aiding to my executor in the execution thereof for whose pains therein I give them twenty shillings apiece to be paid them by my executor. And thus praying to God that we may all have a joyful meeting in heaven through the merits, death and passion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who has suffered for us, I conclude Amen. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written -Andrew Butler.

Signed, sealed and published to be the last will and testament of the said Andrew Butler in the presence of William Herne, Robert Burchell, Joseph Collier, Robert Stocker, Edmond [R]iceman.

Probate granted 14 September 1649.