

James Matthew of Upton Grey, yeoman, 1583

Ref: Hants. RO 1583B/55

In the name of God Amen the 27th day of September AD 1583 I James Mathewe of Upton Grey in the county of Southampton yeoman, sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be unto Almighty God, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. **First** I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker and redeemer through the merits of whose death, blood and passion I only trust to be saved and to be an inheritor of his everlasting kingdom and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Upton aforesaid. **Item** I give and bequeath to the trinity church of Winchester 12d. **Item** I give and bequeath to the parish church of Upton Grey 2s. **And as** touching the disposition of all and singular my manor, lands, tenements and hereditament my full will, meaning and intent is, and I give and bequeath unto my son Nycholas Mathewe and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten and to be begotten forever, all that my messuage, tenement or copyhold with its appurtenances situate, lying and being in Upton Grey aforesaid now in the tenure and occupation of one John [Coomber] and all the lands, meadows, leasows, pastures, feedings and commons thereunto belonging which sometimes were in the tenure and occupation of one Thomas Robnett and afterwards in the tenure and occupation of me, the said James Mathewe or my assign or assigns by virtue of a copy thereof to me, Dorothy my wife and Andrewe my son granted as by the copy thereof, that does and may appear.

Also I give and bequeath unto my said son Nycholas and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten and to be begotten forever all those my messuage lands, tenements, commons and hereditaments situate, lying and being in Upton Grey aforesaid and now in the tenure and occupation of one Rychard Lypscombe or of his assign or assigns. **Nevertheless** my full intent, meaning and will is that the said Nycholas and his heirs shall yearly yield and pay unto his brother Andrewe and his heirs being lords of the manor of Upton Grey after such time as the said lands and tenement shall come into the hands and possession of the said Nycholas and his heirs all such rents as the copyholders and customary tenants thereof have accustomedly paid and also shall pay heriots and relief after the death of every tenant dying seized of the premises or any part thereof and shall do suit of court to the said manor as other tenants of the said manor do or are bound to do.

Also I give and bequeath to my said son Nycholas and to his heirs forever all that my meadow lying and being in the parish of Heckfield which I late purchased of my cousin Nycholas Mathew called Lowdewater meade. **Also** I give and bequeath to my son John Mathew and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten and to be begotten forever all that my messuages or tenements in the tenure, occupation of one John Raynoldes with all lands, meadows and leasows, pastures, feedings and commons thereunto belonging. **Nevertheless** my full intent, meaning and will is that the said John and his heirs shall yearly yield and pay unto his brother Andrew and his heirs, being lords of the manor of Upton Grey aforesaid, after such time as the said messuage or tenement shall come into the hands and possession of the said John or his heirs all such rent as the copyholders or customary tenants thereof have accustomedly paid. **And also** shall pay heriots and relief after the death of any tenant dying, seized of the premises, and shall do suit of court to the said manor as other tenants of the said manor do or are bound to do. **Also** I give and bequeath

unto Margaret Growte my daughter and to the heirs of her lawfully begotten and to be begotten forever all that my messuage, cottage or tenement with the backside thereunto adjoining now in the tenure and occupation of one Thomas Lypscombe yielding and paying therefore yearly unto her brother Andrew and to his heirs being lords of the said manor therefore 4d at the Feast of St Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of our Lady by being even portions and doing suit of court to the said manor as other the tenants of the said manor do and of right are bound to do.

Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Eliyzabeth £20 to be paid unto her by my executor hereunto named at the day of her marry age or at her full age of 21 years whether of them shall first happen. **Also** I give and bequeath to my said daughter Eliyzabeth one featherbed with the bolster, one of the best coverlets, a pair of blankets and a pair of sheets, a brass pot, the best [savinyge] pan, one pan, ten wethers, ten ewes, one cow and four pewter platters. **Also** I give and bequeath to my said daughter Eliyzabeth three quarters of wheat and three quarters of malt to be delivered at the day of her marriage by my executor. **Item** I give and bequeath to my daughter Dorothy £20 to be paid unto her at her full age of 21 years or at the day of her marriage which of them shall first happen. **Also** I give and bequeath to my said daughter Dorothy one featherbed with the bolster, one of the best coverlets and a pair of blankets and a pair of sheets, one brass pot, one kettle, ten wethers, ten ewes, four pewter platters and one cow. **Also** I give and bequeath to my said daughter Dorothy three quarters of wheat and three quarters of malt to be delivered unto her at the day of her marriage. **Item** I give and bequeath to Nycholas my son one cow, nine bushels of seed wheat, one bed with his furniture. **Also** I give and bequeath to my son John one cow and six sheep. **Item** I give and bequeath to Alys Growte my daughter Growte's daughter six sheep. **Item** I give and bequeath to the poor [*illegible*] of Upton Grey half a quarter of wheat to be baked and given by my executors at the day of my burial. **Item** I give to my daughter Myldred 4 ewes. **The residue** of all my goods and chattels unbequeathed, my debts and funeral expenses paid and discharged, I give and bequeath unto Andrew my son whom I make my sole executor of this my last will and testament. **And** I do make overseers of this my last will and testament my dear and well beloved friends and kinsmen Roger Hall and James Matthew and do give them for their pains 3s 4d apiece.

Signed Nicholas Mathewe
Thomas Mathewe
Peter Growte
Rychard Hall

Obligation was to James Mathew of Upton Grey, husbandman and Roger Hall of Herriard, carpenter.

The inventory of the goods of James Mathew of Upton Grey taken and appraised by Roger Hall and James Matthew the overseers and Thomas Mathew the elder, William Lee, Thomas Ranger and Ambrose Bickner the seventh of October AD 1583 as follows.

	£	s	d
In the chambers			
Imprimis his apparel	0	11	0

Item two feather beds, three flock beds, four bolsters, two pillows	3	12	8
Item six pairs of sheets	1	10	0
Item five coverlets	1	4	0
Item five bedsteads	0	5	0
Item one Holland sheet and two sealings	0	6	0
Item two coffers and one chest	0	13	4
Item one old press and old cheese rack	0	0	8

In the hall

Imprimis a cupboard and a table	0	13	4
Item one chair, two little stools, shelves and benches with one form	0	1	0
Item one cradle	0	0	6
Item a form, trestle and shelf in the lumber	0	0	8

In the kitchen

Imprimis one furnace	0	16	0
Item three pots	0	10	0
Item two skillets	0	2	0
Item four kettles and a pan	0	8	0
Item one frying pan	0	0	5
Item an old furnace	0	1	0
Item two dripping pans	0	3	0
Item three broches	0	5	0
Item a trivet and two pot hangers	0	2	0
Item two pairs of andirons	0	3	0
Item two troughs and two garners	0	6	8
Item two troughs and moulding boards	0	4	0
Item sixteen coops and barrels	0	8	0
Item two axes and two bills	0	2	0
Item three wedges	0	1	0
Item two mattocks and two shovels	0	3	0
Item three augers, a spokeshave, a hand saw, two chisels and a hatchet	0	2	0
Item an old quern	0	13	4
Item a cheese press and a hen coop	0	0	10
Item a grindstone	0	2	0
Item thirteen platters	0	8	0
Item thirteen pottingers and five saucers	0	6	8
Item two salt cellars	0	0	4
Item a brasen chafing dish with a mortar	0	1	4
Item dishes and spoons and trenchers	0	0	10
Item bows, arrows, swords and daggers	0	10	0
Item a gun	0	4	0
Item two bowls with a stone coop	0	2	0
Item the scales with weights	0	3	0
Item two pairs of shears	0	0	8
Item a spinning wheel and a pair of cards	0	1	0
Item three sacks	0	2	0

Item a bushel and a peck	0	0	10
Item a winnowing sheet and a hair cloth	0	1	8

Goods without the house

Imprimis seven horses	5	0	0
Item the horse harness	0	13	4
Item two iron bound carts	3	0	0
Item the plough with the whole chains and irons	0	10	0
Item riphooks	0	0	6
Item a well bucket and rope to the same	0	3	0
Item wheat in the barn	26	13	4
Item wheat sown in the field, twenty acres	6	0	0
Item barley in the barn	13	6	8
Item in oats	1	0	0
Item in peas and vetches	5	0	0
Item in hay	0	9	0
Item five kine and two bullocks	4	0	0
Item in wood	0	4	0
Item four score and twelve sheep	11	0	0
Item five hogs	1	0	0
Item two geese	0	1	4
Item hens and poultry	0	2	0
Sum total	95	11	10

Probate granted 7 December 1583.