

James Wyther of Basingstoke, gentleman, 1658

Ref: TNA PROB 11/279/684

In the Name of God Amen the first day of December in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred fifty and eight, I James Wyther of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton, gent, being of good health of body for which I do give humble and hearty thanks to God Almighty. **And for** the sure and firm settling of my estate that God of His great goodness has bestowed upon me I do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. **First** I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my faithful creator trusting in the alone merits of Jesus Christ to be my redeemer with assurance that I shall enjoy eternal bliss and happiness with Him in heaven. **Item** I give unto my son in law Mr Barnard Reeve ten pounds to be paid within six months after my decease. **Item** I give unto Barnard Reeve the son of my son in law Barnard Reeve five pounds to be paid to the foresaid Barnard Reeve the younger at the time of his being twenty and one years of age if he be then living. **Item** I give unto my grandchildren James Acton, Edward Acton and Joanna Acton children of my son in law Mr Edward Acton by my only daughter Mrs Joane Acton twenty pounds apiece to be paid to James and Edward at their being one and twenty years of age and to Joanna Acton at the day of her marriage or at one and twenty years of age. **Item** I give the money that I did loan to James Wyther at Farnham being ten pounds and five pounds. **Item** I give unto my beloved wife Margaret Wyther twenty pounds, if that she does according to her promise relinquish all the right, title, claim and demand of and to all or any of my estate real or personal. **But if** she shall sue or cause to be sued my executor then I give unto the aforesaid Margaret my wife but one shilling. **I also** upon the same condition before mentioned do give unto the aforesaid Margaret my wife all the corn that did grow upon my land that I did sow in the fields of Basingstoke and is now in the barn, and all the household goods that were in the house at Nordons Hill otherwise called Northdowne Hill at and before the time I made her, the said Margaret, my wife. **Item** I give unto the poor of the parish of Basingstoke forty shillings to be given at my funeral. **Item** I give to the poor of Baughurst ten shillings. **Item** I give unto the poor of Bentworth twenty shillings. **Item** I give unto the poor of Basing ten shillings. **Item** I give to my sister Anne Gregory of Bentworth twenty shillings. **Item** all the rest of my lands, leases, goods and chattels, debts upon the book, bills and bonds or debts owing unto me by any means whatsoever I give and bequeath unto my son in law Mr Edward Acton and to my sole and only beloved daughter Joane Acton his now wife. **The aforesaid** Edward Acton I do hereby make, ordain and constitute to be my sole, whole executor and to pay all my debts, legacies and my funeral expenses and also to pay unto one other younger grandchild John Acton twenty pounds at the age of one and twenty years. **In witness** hereof I set to my hand and seal the 8th day of September 1658 revoking all former wills. **I do** give all the cleft wood and faggots unto my wife Margaret Wyther. James Wyther.

Witness Bar: Reve, Thomas Barney, Thomas Browne, William Smith, George [France].

The testator within named died on or about the 8th day of this instant September and the erasure in the will was done before the singularity thereof. **Witness** my hand the 24th day of September 1658 Edward Acton.

This will was proved at London the five and twentieth day of September in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred fifty eight before the judges for probate or wills and granting administrations lawfully authorised by the oath of Edward Acton gent., the son in law and sole executor named in the said will to whom administration of all and singular the goods, chattels and debts of the said deceased was committed he being before sworn truly to administer the same.

There is an earlier dispute at TNA C2/Jasl/W1/27 dated 1603-1625 between James Wyther and Joan Wyther his wife vs Alice Missett widow re messuages in Basingstoke