

John Holmes of Basingstoke, yeoman, 1646

Ref: TNA PROB 11/195/111

In the name of God Amen the ninth day of October AD one thousand six hundred forty five and in the one and twentieth year of the reign of our most gracious sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland defender of the faith etc., I John Holmes of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton yeoman, being sick and weak of body but of good and perfect mind and memory (thanks be therefore given to Almighty God), do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. **First** and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Maker and Creator hoping and assuredly trusting that after this life ended I shall be received into His everlasting kingdom through the only merits, death and passion of Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer and by no other merits or means whatsoever. **And my** body being earthly I commit the same to the earth again, to be interred and buried by the discretion and [sic] overseers hereafter named.

And for such temporal goods whereof the Lord of his bounty has bestowed on me in this life, I will, devise and bequeath the same in form following. **First** I will that all such debts as I duly or truly owe unto any man shall be truly paid in as convenient time as may be after my decease, which being done and performed then I give and bequeath unto the poor people of Basingstoke aforesaid forty shillings of lawful money of England to be paid and distributed amongst them by the discretion of my said overseers.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son John Holmes ten pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto him by the discretion of my said overseers. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Margerie my now wife ten pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto her within six months next after my decease. **And I** will that my said wife shall have the custody and use of all my household stuff and goods now being in and about my now dwelling house and backside during her natural life. **And after** her decease I give and bequeath the same household stuff and goods to Thomas Holmes my grandchild and to such other children as my said son John Holmes has, and shall have, equally to be divided between them share and share alike.

Item I give and bequeath unto my overseers hereafter named during the natural of my said son John Holmes and Jane his wife, the messuage or tenement with all outhouses, backsides, stables and appurtenances there unto belonging in the occupation of John Cherrie in Basingstoke aforesaid, upon this special trust and confidence that they, my said overseers, shall without of and by the rents, issues and profits yearly coming and arising out of and by the said messuage and tenement and premises, see my said son and his wife and the children that they have and shall have sufficiently maintained and provided for, so far as the rents, issues and profits of the premises shall reach unto or extend by the discretion of the said overseers. **Provided** always that if after my decease my said son John Holmes and Jane his wife, or either of them, shall either by this said will or by any other ways or means whatsoever claim or pretend to have use, manner of introit, right, title or interest of in or out of the said messuage or tenement and premises, and shall thereby sell or do such yearly means as is by me willed for the maintenance and provision of them and their said children. **That then** and immediately there upon so much in this my said

will as concerns any maintenance or provision for my said son and his wife, or either of them, shall cease, deter, maim and be otherwise void and of none effect. **And that** then and from thence forth the said rents, issues and profits of the said messuage or tenement and premises shall wholly come and be to and for the preferment and maintenance of the child or children of my said son John Holmes as he now has or hereafter shall have by the discretion of my said overseers.

Item I give and bequeath unto the said Margerie my wife all and singular my messuages or tenements as I have bought and purchased to me and my heirs of one Gabriell Reeve situate and being in Basingstoke aforesaid and also twenty acres of land or thereabouts be it more or less lying dispersedly in the common fields of Basingstoke aforesaid, and one acre of meadow in Wildmoor which I have, and to hold purchased to me and my heirs of one William Manfield to have and to hold unto her, my said wife, for term of her natural life for her better preferment and maintenance of living.

Item I give and bequeath (after my decease and after the decease of my said son John Holmes and Jane his wife), all the said messuage or tenement and premises in the occupation of the said John Cherry to the said Thomas Holmes my grandchild and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten.

Item I will and bequeath that my said overseers shall have and receive the rents, issues and profits of all other the said messuages, lands and tenements after the decease of me and my said wife being freehold land, during the minorities of the said children, for the preferment of the children of my said son John Holmes that he now has and hereafter shall have.

Item I give and bequeath unto the said Thomas Holmes my grandchild and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten all the said messuages, land ~~and tenements being~~ freehold lands to have and to hold unto the said Thomas Holmes my grandchild and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten. **And for** default of such issue to every other child of the body of my said son John Holmes lawfully begotten or to be begotten and to the heirs of the body of every such other child lawfully begotten or to be begotten. **And for** default of such issue to Thomas Holmes, son of my brother Thomas Holmes deceased, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten. **And for** default of such issue to the right heirs of me the said John Holmes for ever.

The rest and residue of all and singular my goods and chattels my debts being first paid, legacies in this my will performed and funeral expenses discharged I wholly give and bequeath unto the said Thomas Holmes my grandchild and unto and amongst such other children as my said son John Holmes shall hereafter have equally to be divided between and amongst them share and share alike. **And for** default of such said children of my said son John Holmes lawfully begotten or to be begotten I give and bequeath my said goods and chattels last before mentioned unto and amongst the children of my said brother Thomas Holmes and of my brother in law Nicholas Froode hereafter named vizt., Anne Holmes and Walter Froode and Richard Froode equally to be divided amongst them share and share alike. **Item** my will and meaning is and I do so devise and ordain, that (as for and constituting such goods and chattels as shall belong to my said grandchild or grandchildren, or in

default of such grandchild or grandchildren, to the children of my said brother Thomas Holmes and of my brother in law Nicholas Froode before named), my said overseers shall have the dispersing, keeping and putting forth of the same for their benefits during their minorities and shall make and accompt thereof to them and every of them respectively as they shall accomplish there several ages of twenty and one years, to which said overseers for their care and pains to be taken in and about the execution of this my said will I give and bequeath twenty shillings of current English money yearly to be paid them at their meeting. **And my** will and meaning is and I do hereby so ordain and devise, that if my said overseers or any of them shall be at any time or times hereafter put to any suit in law or receive any damage or loss as being overseers or by the charge or repose to them by me committed that then my said overseers and every of them shall receive the charges as they and every of them shall be dampnified or sustained in that respect out of my said goods, chattels, lands, tenements and premises as they, in their discretions shall think fit.

And I do make and ordain as executor of this my said last will and testament my said grandchild Thomas Holmes. **And I** will that during, and until my said grandchild Thomas Holmes shall be of age or judged capable to undertake the executorship, my said wife before named shall be executor in trust for or on the behalf of my said grandchild Thomas Holmes. **And I** do make and ordain as overseers of this my said last will and testament my trusty and well beloved friends and neighbours William Hearne, Robert Stocker, Richard Woodrooffe, John Coleman and John Borne. **And I** do hereby revoke and disannul all former wills by me made and I will that none of them shall stand in force but only this my said will. **In witness** whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day above written.

Probate granted 28 January 1646