

William Smith of Basingstoke, butcher, 1685

Ref: TNA PROB 11/382/341

In the name of God Amen I William Smith of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton butcher, being sick in body but of perfect mind and memory do make my last will and testament in manner and form following. **Imprimis** I give and bequeath to my loving wife Mary Smith all and singular my goods chattels and household stuff whatsoever now remaining and being in and about the messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell except money and my barley, wheat, and malt or other grain and my cattle which are, or shall be, in my possession at the time of my decease or in the possession of any other of my use. **Item** I give unto my son John Smith one hundred pounds of lawful money of England to be paid to be paid to him by my executrix hereafter named when he, the said John Smith, shall accomplish his age of twenty three years. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my daughter Mary Smith the sum of eighty pounds to be paid to her at her age of twenty one years or day of marriage which shall first and next happen after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Smith the sum of eighty pounds more of lawful money of England to be paid to her at her age of twenty one years or day of marriage which shall first happen. **Item** I give and bequeath to my daughter Anne Smith the sum of eighty pounds of like money to be paid to her at her age of one and twenty years or day of marriage which shall first and next happen after my decease.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son Samuel Smith the sum of eighty pounds of like money to be paid to him at his age of one and twenty years. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my daughter Hannah Smith the sum of eighty pounds more of like money to be paid to her at her age of one and twenty years. **And if it** shall happen that any or either of my said sons or any or either of my said daughters shall happen to die and depart this life before he, her or they shall accomplish their several ages aforementioned or before his, her or their legacy or legacies by me given shall become due and payable, then I will that the legacy or legacies, portion or portions by me herein before given and bequeathed shall be equally divided and shared between and amongst the survivor and survivors of my sons and daughters herein before named. **Item** I give and bequeath my cottage or tenement situate and being in Ellisfield in the said county of Southampton now in the occupation of Nicholas Merriott, and my cottage or tenement in Ellisfield aforesaid now in the occupation of [missing] Moore widow together with the close, piece or parcel of meadow grounds lying in Ellisfield aforesaid near adjoining to the said cottages or tenements now in my own proper possession or occupation and those two other closes, pieces or parcels of meadow ground lying also near adjoining to the said two cottages or tenements now in the possession or occupation of the said Nicholas Merriott and of John Welsted to my loving brother Richard Smith of Basingstoke aforesaid maltster and my loving cousin Edmond Butler of Basingstoke aforesaid woollen draper and my loving friend George Prince junior of Basingstoke aforesaid ironmonger and to their heirs to the intent and purpose that in case the stock of goods, corn, cattle and ready money which shall be left behind me at the time of my decease shall not be sufficient for payment of the legacies herein before by me given and bequeathed that then they, the said Richard Smith, Edmond Butler and George Prince shall and may sell the same cottages or tenements and three closes of meadow to raise money for payment of the residue of legacies by me herein before given and bequeathed. **And when** the legacies aforesaid are paid then I will that the residue of the money

remaining upon sale of the said two tenements and three meadows, if any shall be, shall go amongst my children before named at the discretion of my executrix herein after named. **Item** I give and bequeath and devise to my said loving wife all other my messuages or tenements, lands and grounds whatsoever in Ellisfield aforesaid to have and to hold the same to her my said loving wife, and to receive and take the rents, issues and profits thereof during the term of her natural life. **And after** her decease then I will that the same my other messuages or tenements, lands and grounds in Ellisfield aforesaid shall be, remain and go to my said two sons and four daughters and to their heirs and assigns forever to be equally parted and divided amongst them. **Item** I give and bequeath and devise unto the said Richard Smith Edmond Butler and George Prince and to their heirs all those my two messuages or tenements in Holy Ghost Street in Basingstoke aforesaid now in the occupation of Robert Hambleden and Andrew Holborne, and all those my two other tenements situate in Basingstoke aforesaid adjoining to each other near the town brook there now in the occupation of Richard Burnham and Fowler Maton in trust and to the intent that the said Richard Smith, Edmond Butler and George Prince and their heirs shall and may receive and take all the rents, issues and profits of the said four messuages or tenements and pay the same to my son William Smith by quarterly payments for and towards the maintenance of my said son William Smith during the term of his natural life, the first payment to be made at the first of the usual quarter days which happen after one whole year from the day of my decease. **And after** his decease then I give and devise the same four messuages or tenements with their appurtenances to my said son John Smith, his heirs and assigns forever. **Item** I will that all my stock of corn, cattle, ready money and money due to me and all other my goods and chattels whatsoever not herein and hereby given and bequeathed to my said wife shall go and be disposed for and towards the payment and discharge of the legacies herein before by me given and bequeathed to my sons John Smith and Samuel Smith and to my four daughters Mary, Elizabeth, Anne and Hannah. **And also** I make and ordain my said loving wife Mary Smith the sole and whole executrix of this my last will and testament. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my loving friends the said Richard Smith, Edmond Butler and George Prince to each of them a ring of ten shillings in value and to each of them ten shillings in money. **And to** my loving sister Mary Smith, the wife of the said Richard Smith, a ring of the value of ten shillings. **In witness** whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal this eleventh day of December AD one thousand six hundred eighty five. William Smith.

Signed, sealed and published by the said William Smith to be his last will and testament in the presence of us John Crompton, Mary Butler, Henry Collier.

Probate granted in the Prerogative of Canterbury 13 March 1685 to Mary Smith, widow.