

Will of Sir Edward Hartopp (1654/1655)

In the name of God Amen. I Sir Edward Hartopp the elder of Buckminster in the Countie of Leicester Baronett doe make this my last Will and (sic) in manner and forme Following First I doe in all humilitie yeild upp and comend my Soule into the hands of God my maker trusting onelie in the merrits of my Saviour Jesus Christ that hee will forgive all my sins and receive to his mercy to rest whith him in everlasting blisse. My bodie I doe appointe to be buried in such place as my Executors shall thinke fitt in decent and private manner. And whereas I have already by the advice of Councell in lawe setled my Lands and tenements I doe hereby declare my Will therein as Followeth (that is to say) whereas by Conveyance made in my life time I have setled the Mannor of Brentingby in the Counte of Leicester upon my selfe for life with the remainder upon Sir John Coke since deceased and William Bury and their heires upon severall Trusts therein mentioned with such powers of Revocac[i]on of the whole or parte thereof and to limitt new uses by my deed or Will testified by two witnesses as in and by the said Conveyance relac[i]on thereunto being had may more fully appeare Now by this my Will in writing testified by two and more witnesses, I doe declare that the said William Bury and his heires after my death shall make an estate to my wife during her life or for years determinable upon her death of my cheife dwelling house at Brentingby aforesaid with the Courts orchard and garden thereunto belonging with free ingress egress and regresse for my said wife her family and friends during her life I intend for her habitation if she please to abide there. And as concerning my personall estate I doe thereof make this my last Will and Testament as Followeth. I give to my daughter Earle Twentie pounds And to my daughter Hall Twentie pounds to be payd them to be payd them (sic) within one day next after my death to buy them Mournings withall. I give unto my grandchildren Frances Parsons and Mary White by my deceased daughter Ann White Twentie pounds a peece to be paid them respectively at their age of one and twenty yeares or dayes of marriage which shall first happen And if either of them dye in the meane time the survivour to have her portion And till the payment thereof I give them forty shillings a peece yearly towards their maintenance to be payd at the Feaste of the Annunciation of the virgin Mary and St Michael tharchangell by even porc[i]ons the first payment to begin at either of the said Feasts which shall First happen next after my death. Item I give unto my sonne Richard Hartopp the summe of one hundred and Fiftie pounds to be payd him within one yeare after my death. Item I give unto the poore of Buckminster and Sewsterne Tenn pounds to be payd to the Churchwardens and overseers of the poore on the day of my buriall and to be disposed and distributed by them for and towards the Townes stocke or otherwise at their discesion And my Will further is that my Executors out of my personall estate shall satisfie and pay such debts wherein my Sonne Richard Hartopp standeth indebted together with his elder brother or otherwise shalbe indebted at the time of my death my desire being to make my sonne Richard a Freeman. I give unto my loveing wife such goods as belong to her person. And moreover I give to my wife my Coach, Coachorses and furniture to them And such plate bedding and household stuffe as is belonging to or used in her Lodging chamber. And I doe give unto my wife the use and occupac[i]on the residue of my household stuffe Implements and chattells in my outhouses of my dwellinge house at Buckminster during the minority of my grandchild John Hartopp (if shee soe long live) and after her death and at his age of one and twentie yeares I give the same to himn the said John Hartopp. I give to my daughter Hartopp twenty pounds to buy her mournings withall. And I doe make my wife one of the Executors of my Will during her widdowhood And doe further make Executors hereof my grandchild John Hartopp and my loving and trusty kinsman William Bury And to the said John Hartopp and William Bury I die give Fiftie pounds a

peece in token of my love to them and for their care in seeing my Will duly performed. And my will moreover is that my Executors and every of them out of my personall estate be allowed liberally all expenses costs and damages which they shall susteine or be put unto by reason of this trust in them reposed whether in suits of lawe advice with Councell travelling charges Accounts or otherwise. And the residue of my personall estate goods and chattells bills bonds and debts my owen debts and legacies being first satisfied and my Funeralls discharged, I doe appoint and give to my Executors for the benefitt of such younger child or children of my sonne Edward Hartopp as he shall have at the time of my death or that his wife shall then be with child of to be equally divided betweene them if there be more such younger than one, and if there be but one younger child then that child shall have one thousand pounds out of my personall estate to be put forth by the said John Hartopp for the benefit of such child within one yeare after my death. And the residue of my personall estate shall be for the benefitt of my said Executor John Hartopp And if there be noe such younger child then the said whole personall estate remaineing shall be for the benefitt of my said Executor John Hartopp And if in any thing any doubt or question shall arise about my Will in yearnest desire and request unto my Executors and unto All legatees in this that they wilbe advised by my good freinds Thomas Coke and John Archer of Grayes Inn in the Counties of Midlesex Esquires whom I intreate to doe me the Courtesie to arbitrate and Compose all Differences that may arise and to settle things in a loving iust and peaceable way and what my said two freinds or the survivor of them shall signifie to be his or their minds in any thing wherein they shall be consulted with by my Executors That I doe desire may stand And doe enioyne all Legatees in this my Will to submit thereunto and in all things else I doe desire the said Thomas Coke and John Archer to be supervisors of my Will and to assist my Executors to see the same performed And I give to the said Thomas Coke and John Archer Twentie pounds a peece as a token of my love and respect to them and for their care therein I doe revoke all former Wills by me made and doe declare this to be my last Will and Testament by signing it with my proper hand writing sealing it with my seale publishing it for my last Will in the presence of diverse Credible wittnesses the present nyne and twentieth day of september in the yeare of our Lord god one thousand six hundred fifty foure

Edward Hartopp

Signed sealed and published after the interlineing of these words (by the said John Hartopp) in the third sheete in the presence of John Archer John Hinde John Dickinson Thomas Gunter

This will proved at London The one and twentieth day of March in the yeare of our Lord god according to the Computation of the Church of England one Thousand six hundred Fiftie foure Before the Judge for probate of Wills and granting Adm[inistra]cons lawfully authorized By the oathes of John Hartopp the grandchild and William Bury the Executor of the said deceased named in the said Will To whom was comitted Administrac[i]on of all and singular the goods chattells and debts of the said deceased they being first sworne truely to Administer the same Power being neverthelese hereby reserved to Dame Mary Hartoppe the Relict and other Executor of the said decea'd alsoe in the said Will named to have like power and Administration granted unto her whensoever shee shall require the same

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