

John Cleeve of Basingstoke, clothier, 1642

Ref: Hants. RO 1642A/14

In the name of God Amen the four and twentieth day of September AD 1638 and in the fourteenth year of the reign of the most gracious sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland defender of the faith etc., I John Cleeve of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton clothier, being sick in 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 of my executrix and overseers hereafter named. **And for** such temporal goods whereof the Lord of his goodness 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 men shall be truly paid in as convenient time as maybe after my decease, which being done and performed **item** then I give and bequeath out of the remainder of my estate unto my daughter Elilizabeth Cleeve twenty pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto her when and so soon as she shall accomplish her full age of twenty and one years. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my son Edward Cleeve twenty pounds of lawful money of England as he shall accomplish his full age of twenty and one years. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my son Richard Cleeve twenty pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto him when and so soon as he shall accomplish his full age of twenty and one years. **Item** whereas by agreement between my father Edward Cleeve and myself, I am to find and provide for my said father a sufficient meat and drinking during the term of six years to commence at the Feast Day of St Michael and The Archangel next ensuing the date of this my said will, my will and meaning now is that if my said father Edward Cleeve (after my decease), shall dislike to take such meat and drink with Margaret my now wife during the said term and shall find and provide for himself such meat and drink and thereof shall give notice unto the said Margaret my wife, that then the said Margaret my wife shall yearly and every year during the said term of six years or so many of the said years as shall be to come and unexpired after my decease, pay or cause to be paid unto my said father Edward Cleeve ten pounds of lawful money of England for and in lieu of such his, my said father, his finding and providing of himself such meat and drink as aforesaid. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my son John Cleeve forty shillings of lawful money of England to be paid unto him when and so soon as he shall accomplish his full age of twenty and one years. **The rest** and residue of all and singular my goods and chattels, my debts being first paid and legacies in this my will performed, I wholly give and bequeath unto the said Margaret my wife whom I make and ordain to be the full and sole executrix of this my said last will and testament. **And I** do make and ordain as overseers of this my said last will and testament my trusty and well beloved friends Richard Spier the elder my father in law and Thomas South the elder of Basingstoke aforesaid clothiers desiring them to be aiding and assisting unto my said executrix to see this my said will performed. **Unto each** of which for their pains to be therein taken I give and bequeath five shillings apiece of current English money. **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 will. **In witness** whereof I have hereto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

This will consisting of four sheets of paper was read, signed, sealed, published and declared to be the last will and testament of the said John Cleeve, and the words in the third sheet (vizt) 'paid or cause to be paid unto my said Father Edward Cleeve' interlined before sealing in the presence of
Edward Barnard, William Cleeve,
John Borne snr