

John Morley of Basingstoke, gentleman, 1638

Ref: Hants. RO 1638A/115

In the name of God Amen. The four and twentieth day of January AD 1637 and in the thirteenth 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 Morley of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton gent., being of good and perfect health, 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 executors, and overseers hereafter named. **And for** such temporal goods whereof His Lord of his goodness has bestowed on me in this life, I will, devise and bequeath the same, in manner and form following. **First** I give and bequeath unto the poor people of the town of Basingstoke aforesaid, twenty shillings of lawful money of England, to be paid unto them within one week next after my decease, by the discretion of my said executors and overseers hereafter named. **Item** I give and bequeath unto the soldiers of the trained band of the town of Basingstoke aforesaid, twenty shillings of lawful money of England, to be paid unto them, within one week next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Henry Watts the son of my son in law John Watts five pounds of lawful money of England, and to Dorathie Watts the daughter of my said son in law John Watts, five pounds of like money which said several sums of five pounds I will shall be put forth by the discretion of my said overseers for the best commodity and benefit of the said children, against the times that the said Henrie Watts shall accomplish his full age of one and twenty years, for his part or portion, and the said Dorathie Watts shall accomplish her full age of one and twenty years, or day of marriage, which shall first happen. **And if** either of the said children shall fortune to die, or depart, this life, before that his or her portions shall be due, then I will that his or her part or portions so dying, shall be and remain unto the survivor of them. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Ann Kemp my wife's daughter, five pounds of lawful money of England, to be paid unto her when and so soon, as she shall accomplish her full age of one and twenty years or day of marriage, which shall first happen. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my son John Morley, twenty pounds of lawful money of England, to be paid unto him within one year next after my decease if he, my said son shall personally come and demand the same of my said executors. **And if** that my said son shall not so come and demand the same within the said year, then I give and bequeath unto him only five shillings of lawful money of England. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth the wife of my said son in law John Watts, and to her assigns, the lease of my dwelling house, called the George, in Basingstoke aforesaid, with the appurtenances and all other my leases of all lands and tenements and hereditaments within the said town or parish of Basingstoke aforesaid, with all my estate, terms of years, claim, and demand whatsoever of in and to the same, to have and to hold to my said daughter, her executors, and assigns from hence forth for, by and during all the rest and residue of the terms of years yet to come and unexpired of and by the said leases. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my said son in law John Watts, all my best clothes or wearing apparel. **Item** I give and bequeath unto

Thomas Hellier my servant, all my worst clothes or wearing apparel, to be paid and delivered unto him within one month next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Robert Barton, my best sword and belt, to be paid and delivered unto him within one month next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Silvanus Hether my servant, my saddle and best boots, to be paid and delivered unto him within one month next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath all the rest of my goods, and chattells, moveable, and unmovable, my debts being first paid, and the legacies in this my will performed, to Alice my well beloved wife, and my daughter Elizabeth the wife of my said son in law John Watts, equally to be divided between them. **And I** do make and ordain the said Alice my wife, and my said son in law John Watts, executors of this my last will and testament, and I do ordain and appoint as overseers of the same, my trusty and well beloved friends, William Goidout of Herriard in the county of Southampton aforesaid gent., and Robert Stocker, James Wyther and Mr Ambrose Webb junior of Basingstoke aforesaid, desiring them to be aiding, and assisting, unto my said executors, to see this my will performed, unto each of which for there pains to be taken, I give and bequeath five shillings apiece, of lawful money of England. **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 wittness** whereof, I have here unto set my hand and seal, the day and year first above written.

Signed sealed published and delivered to be
the last will and testament, of the said John
Morley and this word Eizabeth in two places
of his will interlined before sealing, in the presence
of The marke of

Silvanus Hether
John Borne sen

My desire is that if occasion be, that Sir Richard
Kingsmell, and Sir Thomas Jervoice be
assisting to my overseers

John Morley

Obligation to Alice the widow.

August 3rd 11s
Received part 10s