

**James Cherry of Basingstoke, weaver, 1631**

**Ref: TNA, PROB 11/159/574**

**In the name of God Amen** the nineteenth day of July AD one thousand six hundred twenty eight and in the fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Charles etc., I James Cherry of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton weaver, being sick and weak in body but of good and perfect memory and understanding (praised be God), do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say **first** I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Maker and Redeemer hoping assuredly through the only merits and death of Jesus Christ my Saviour to have remission and pardon for all my sins and to be made partaker of life everlasting amongst them that are sanctified. **And I** commend my body to the earth to be buried in Christian sort. **And as** touching my goods, chattels and estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me, first I give and bequeath unto Barbara my loving wife twenty pounds of lawful English money to be paid unto her by my executors hereafter named within six months next after my decease. **Also** I give and bequeath unto her, my said wife, all such linen, pewter and household stuff of what kind soever which I ever had or received by or from her father or mother upon or since the intermarriage between us to be delivered unto her within two months next after my decease. **Item** (if so much shall remain or may be made out of my estate after my debts paid and other payments charged and legacies herein given paid and discharged), I give and bequeath unto James Cherry, Elizabeth Cherry and Johane Cherry my three children twenty marks apiece of current English money to be paid unto them by my said executors within six months next after they shall severally accomplish and be of the age of twenty and one years. **And if** it happens *that* any ~~three~~ of my said three children do die before they come to the ages aforesaid, then I will and appoint that the survivors of them at their ages aforesaid shall have the portion or legacy of either or any of them so dying to be equally divided amongst them if there be two, and if but one, then he or she to have the same wholly. **Item** I give and bequeath to the said Elizabeth my daughter the lease, estate and term of years yet to come of and in my lands in Newbury in the county of Berks which I have and hold from and under Mr Barkesdale upon condition notwithstanding, that my said executors shall and may receive and take the rents, issues and profits of the same lands until she, the said Elizabeth, shall accomplish the full age of twenty and one years. **And** upon this further condition that she, the said Elizabeth, within six months next after she shall come to the age aforesaid if either shall pay or cause to be paid unto my said son and her brother James Cherry five pounds of current English money, or in default thereof, shall yearly and every year during the continuance of the same lease from and after her said age of twenty and one years pay or cause to be paid unto him, the said James her brother, his executors or administrators ten shillings at the Feast of St Michael the Archangel. **And** the residue and remainder of all my money, household stuff, leases, goods and chattels whatsoever and the said rents, issues and profits of my said lands in Newbury during the time aforesaid, I give and bequeath unto my good friends George West gent., and Thomas Mason whom I make and ordain joint executors of this my last will and testament upon trust and confidence and to the intents and purposes following, that is to say, that they, my said executors after my decease, shall and may sell and make money of my said household stuff, leases, goods and chattels so given unto them, or of any part thereof at their discretions, and shall employ and dispose of the same to the best benefit and advantage they may for the

payment of my debts, and for the performance of this my will. **And also** that they, my said executors (to whose care I commit the education and bringing up of my said three children desiring them to undertake the same), shall out of, and with, the remainder of the monies thereof coming and with my estate, pay for the breeding, bringing up and maintenance of my said three children according to their degrees in decent and fitting manner until they shall severally be of the age of twenty one years after such rates and allowances as my said executors shall think fit. **And also** that they, my said executors if it shall seem convenient unto them, and that the same may be procured, shall buy and purchase with, and out of the monies coming of my estate for and unto my said daughter Elizabeth, an estate for her life in reversion after her said brother James of and in the copyhold tenement which I hold of the Manor of Eastenborne. **And** moreover to this further intent and purpose and my will and desire is, that when my said executors shall have paid all my debts and the legacies aforesaid, and shall have fully performed the other contents of this my will, and shall have deducted and allowed unto themselves out of my estate all such monies, expenses and charges as they, or either of them, shall necessarily lay forth or expend in, about or concerning my funeral, or this my present will or anything touching the same as my will and desire is, that that should be first done and allowed before any legacies or other payments, then (if any overplus or remainder of my said monies, goods, chattels or household stuff or monies thereof coming shall be or shall remain in the hands of my said executors or either of them, the same shall be paid and satisfied by my said executors unto my said three children or to such of them as shall be then living to be equally divided amongst them as shall be then living to be equally divided amongst them to help increase their portions or legacies aforesaid. **And I** do hereby revoke and make void all former wills by me made. **And lastly** I desire and appoint my loving friends Mr John Aylwin and Richard Woodrooffe to be overseers of this my last will and testament desiring them to be aiding and assisting in the promises, and willing that my said executors should bear all their necessary charges and expenses in that behalf. **In witness** whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal given the day and year first above written. James Cherry.

Signed, sealed and published in the presence of John Cooper John Warner.

Probate granted 8 May 1631.