

James Potter of Newnham, clerk, 1658

Ref: TNA PROB 11/282/343

In the name of God Amen: The twelfth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred fifty and seven I James Potter of Newnham in the county of Southampton clerk, being of sound and perfect memory (thanks be to 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 God my Maker hoping assuredly through the only merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour to be made partaker of life everlasting. **And** I commend my body to the earth whereof it is made to be decently buried according to the discretion of my executrix hereafter named. **And as** touching my worldly estate I devise the same as follows. **First** I do hereby devise all my messuages, lands and hereditaments in Sanders from and immediately after my decease to John Raymond, Jonathan Raymond and Thomas Raymond sons of my sister Mabel Raymond and their heirs forever, to be equally divided amongst them charged and chargeable with these sums following. **First** I do appoint them, their heirs and assigns to pay out of the rents and profits of my lands in Sandhurst to my cousin Charles Court who lives with my uncle William Lawrence, sixteen pounds yearly during his natural life by half yearly payments (that is to say), on the feast day of St Michael the Archangel or the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary which shall first happen after my decease and so from time to time to be paid during his natural life. **Item** that they shall pay unto my cousin Elizabeth Herriott five shillings quarterly during her natural life. **Item** that they shall pay fifty shillings yearly to such poor person or persons of the parish of St Mary's in the Devizes, or they in their discretion shall think fit in lieu and satisfaction of the sum of twenty shillings half yearly charged by my father's last will and testament or his heirs to be paid to the said poor. **Item** I give unto Doctor Langben forty shillings to buy him a ring. **Item** I give unto my uncle William Andrewes forty shillings to buy him a ring. **I desire** Mr Thomas Lamplough to preach my funeral and I give him three pounds for his pains. **Item** I do give unto my brother Thomas Lawrence that fifty pounds upon the mortgage which he owes me upon the mortgage of his house with all arrears of rent or interest which may be due for the same. **Item** I give unto my brother William Lawrence ten pounds. **Item** I give unto my sister Katherine Lowdy five pounds. **Item** I give unto my godson James Watts five pounds. **Item** I give unto my cousin Richard Smith forty shillings. **Item** I give unto my cousin John Smith forty shillings. **Item** I give unto my cousin Henry Smith forty shillings. **Item** I give unto their two sisters Katherine and Mary forty shillings apiece. **Item** I give unto my cousin Anne Hackwell five pounds. **Item** I give unto my cousin Mary Raymond five pounds. **Item** I give unto my brother John Lawrence, his children, forty shillings apiece. **Item** I give unto my cousin Mary Winch, the wife of Richard Winch of Bray Wick, five pounds. **Item** I give unto Anne Winch my wife's goddaughter four pounds. **Item** I give unto the poor of the parish of Binfield forty shillings. **Item** I give unto the poor of the parish of Newnham forty shillings. **Item** I give to the poor of the parish of Mapledurwell twenty shillings. **Item** I give unto the poor of the parish of Sanders twenty shillings. **Item** my will and meaning is that all the said legacies by this my said will bequeathed and to be paid by my executrix be paid within twelve months after my decease. **And in** case my personal estate should not be sufficient to satisfy and pay all the legacies in this my will, and the legacies in another will given to my wife's kindred upon her request that then my executrix receive the rents of my lands in Sandhurst so long until she has sufficient to satisfy the legacies before mentioned excepting the sixteen pounds

a year given to Charles Court and the five shillings quarterly given to Elizabeth Herriott and the fifty shillings yearly given unto the Parish of St Mary's in the Devizes. **And I** do hereby make, nominate, ordain and appoint Mabell Raymond my loving sister, the wife of John Raymond, sole and only executrix of this my last will and testament and revoking all other wills by me formerly made I do hereby publish and declare these presents to be my last will and testament. **In witness** whereof I have to each leaf set my name and upon the top of these presents put to my seal the day and year first above written. James Potter. Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of us Nicholas Vedlere, Anthony Floyde, Martin Pyke.

This will was proved at London the eighth day of October one thousand six hundred fifty eight before the judges for probate of wills etc by the oath of Mabell Raymond the sister sole executrix etc to whom administration etc was committed, she being first by commission sworn truly to administer etc.