

**Robert Stocker of Basingstoke, yeoman, 1607**

**Ref: TNA PROB 11/109/268**

**In the name of God amen** the second day of September in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and six, I Robert Stocker of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton yeoman, being in good health of body and of whole and perfect memory and remembrance, thanks be unto Almighty God therefore, do make, constitute and publish this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following. **First** I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my maker and redeemer, hoping assuredly through the only merits of Jesus Christ my redeemer, to be made partaker of life everlasting. **And** I do bequeath my body to the earth whereof it was made. **Item** I give unto the church of Basingstoke aforesaid forty shillings, to be paid the first Sunday in Lent next after my decease. **Item** I give unto the poor people of Basingstoke aforesaid five pounds to be bestowed upon them at the discretion of my overseers.

**Item** I give and devise all that my messuage or tenement with the appurtenances wherein I now inhabit and dwell, situate and being in Basingstoke aforesaid, and now or late called or known by the name of Valence; and also three pieces of arable land containing by estimation six acres of land, lying in the common fields of Basingstoke aforesaid, commonly called the Hatchfield, the which land I heretofore purchased of one Gilbert Crome; and also one piece of meadow commonly called Frogmeade lying in Basingstoke aforesaid to Ursula my wife for term of her natural life. **The** remainder of all and singular the said messuage, tenement and lands from and after my said wife's decease to Mathewe Stocker my son and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten; and for default of such issue to John Stocker my son and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten; and for default of such issue to Athanasius Stocker my son and his heirs forever.

**Item** I give unto the said Ursula my wife all the furniture of the said house as it now stands fully furnished, and all the household stuff now being in the said house. **Item** I give and devise all that messuage or tenement with the appurtenances situate and being in Sherfield on Loddon in the said county of Southampton, now in the tenure or occupation of one Christopher Goodchild, and all lands, meadows, pastures and hereditaments heretofore thereunto belonging, or sometimes used or occupied to, or with the same, and now being in the occupation of me, the said Robert Stocker; and also one acre and a half of meadow ground lying in Crowchmeade in Sherfield aforesaid, to the said Ursula my wife for term of her natural life. **The remainder** thereof, from and after her decease, to the said John Stocker my son and his heirs forever. **Item** I give and devise all those my messuages, tenements or house plots called or known by the names of Smithes Downers and Fidlers with their appurtenances situate and being in Sherfield on Loddon aforesaid, now or late in the tenure or occupation of me, the said Robert Stocker, and also all lands, meadows, pastures and hereditaments whatsoever with the appurtenances unto them, or any of them, belonging or appertaining, or now or lately used, occupied or enjoyed to, or with the same, unto the said Ursula my wife for term of her natural life. **The remainder** thereof after her decease to the said John Stocker my son and his heirs forever, upon condition that he, the said John, do and shall within three months next after the decease of me, the said Robert Stocker, surrender in due form of law, and according unto the custom of the manor or tithing of Ithenswell in the said county of

Southampton into the hands of the lord or lords of the said manor or tithing for the time being. **All such** copyhold or customary messuages, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever with the appurtenances as the said John Stocker holds by copy of Court Roll or otherwise of the lord or lords of the said manor or tithing of Ithenswell, to the use and behoof of the said John Stocker, for and during the term of the natural life of the said Ursula my wife; and from and after her decease to the use and behoof of Samuell Stocker my son and his heirs forever to hold according to the custom of the said manor, by the rents, services and customs therefore due and of right accustomed. **The** same customary messuages, lands, tenements and premises at the time of the said surrender so to be made, being discharged and at all times from thenceforth saved harmless of and from all former surrenders, forfeitures, cause or causes of re-entry, and rent and charges whatsoever and of all arrears of rents then due unto the lord of whom the same *have* been beholden. **After** which surrender so made, my mind is that the same for the admittance thereupon should be paid at the equal charge of the said John Stocker and Samuell Stocker. **And** if the said John Stocker do not surrender the said customary premises in manner and form aforesaid, then I give and devise the said premises so devised unto the said John Stocker, unto the said Samuell Stocker and his heirs forever.

**Item** I give and bequeath unto Athanasius Stocker my son one annuity or rent charge of five pounds by the year to be issuing and going and yearly payable out of that messuage or tenement with the appurtenances situate in Sherfield Green in the said county of Southampton now in the tenure or occupation of Richard Hardinge, and out of certain *[insert illegible]* Sherfield aforesaid, commonly called Etheredges, and out of all that my piece of meadow ground lying in a common mead in Sherfield aforesaid, commonly called Boare Meade; to have and to hold the said annuity or rent charge of five pounds by the year unto the said Athanasius my son and his assigns for and during the term of the natural life of the said Athanasius Stocker; the same to be paid yearly and every year during his life, at and upon the feast days of Saint Michael the Archangel, and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by equal portions. **The** first payment thereof to be made at and upon the first of the said feast days which shall first happen next after the decease of me, the said Robert Stocker. **And** if it shall happen the said annuity or yearly rent of five pounds, to be behind and unpaid, by the space of twenty days next after any of the said feast days in and upon the which the same is appointed to be paid, I will that then, and at all times from thenceforth, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Athanasius and his assigns during his life into the said house land and meadow to enter and distrain and the distress and distresses there found to drive away and keep until he, and they, be paid the said annuity or rent of five pounds, together with the arrears thereof if any such shall happen to be.

**Item** I give and bequeath unto Mathewe my son all the said messuage or tenement with the appurtenances situate in Sherfield Geen, being now in the tenure of the said Richard Hardinge, and the said grounds called Ethereges, and the said piece of meadow ground lying in Boare Meade to have and to hold the same unto the said Mathewe and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten; and for default of such issue to Samuell Stocker my son, and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten; and for default of such issue to Athanasius my son and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten; and for default of such issue to John Stocker my son, and his heirs forever. **Item** I give unto the said Athanasius my son and his heirs forever all that my

house and land lying at Cowch Greene within the parish of Basing in the said County of Southampton. **Item** I give and bequeath unto the said Ursula my wife one hundred marks of lawful money to be paid unto her within six months next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Thomas Stocker my son forty shillings. **Item** I give and bequeath unto the said Samuell Stocker and Athanasius Stocker my sons to either of them one hundred pounds apiece to be paid unto them within six months next after my decease. **Item** I give unto Ellener Palmes my sister five pounds. **Item** I give unto Richard Norton one of the sons of George Norton of Little Worleham in the said county of Southampton gentleman, the sum of forty pounds to be paid unto him within one month next after he shall accomplish his full age if he live so long. **Item** I will that my executor shall within three months next after my decease give security by bond of the penal sum of four score pounds unto the said Richard Norton, with condition to this effect, for the payment as well of the said forty pounds unto the said Richard within one month after he shall accomplish his full age of one and twenty years, if he so long live. **As also** for the payment of forty shillings for every year that shall happen to arise betwixt one year next after the decease of me, the said Robert Stocker, and the full age of one and twenty years of the said Richard Norton if the said Richard shall so long live.

**All the** residue of my goods and chattels whatsoever as well movable as unmovable I give and bequeath unto the said John Stocker my son whom I make the full and sole executor of this my last will and testament, and of the execution thereof. **And** I do make and appoint William Purchase and John Lee of Basingstoke aforesaid and Richard Heath to be overseers to see the same duly and truly performed. **And** I do give to every of them for their pains to be taken in this behalf twenty shillings apiece. **In witness** whereof I have to this my present last will and testament subscribed my name and set to my seal the day and year first above written, which was the second day of September Anno Domini one thousand six hundred and six. Robert Stocker.

Signed, sealed, published and declared to be the last will and testament of the said Robert Stocker in the presence of Ambrose Webb clerk, William Arnoll, Thomas Bunney, John Hall.

Probate granted in London 3 April 1607 to John Stocker, son.