

Michael Acton of Basingstoke, clerk 1697

Ref: TNA PROB 11/439/26

In the Name of God Amen I Michael Acton of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton clerk being in a declining condition and weak in body but of a sound disposing mind and memory do make this my last will and testament in manner following. **Imprimis** I bequeath my soul into the hands of my great Creator hoping through the merits of His Son to find admittance at the throne of grace, and as for that temporary estate which God has been pleased to bestow upon me I give and bequeath the same in manner following. **In the** first place I give unto my brother Edward Acton my silver [slyding] candlestick and to his wife my japanned drawers. **Item** I give unto my brother John Acton my two silver candlesticks and to his wife my silver chafing dish and to his daughter Margaret one of my gold seals and to my niece Jane Acton of Bentworth I give my other gold seal. **Item** I give unto Mrs Moore of Chineham my hair ring with one diamond and to Mrs Anne Moore of Chineham aforesaid I give my mare and calash and to my dear widow Mrs Dorothy Coleman of Basingstoke aforesaid I give my locket. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Captain Moore of Chineham aforesaid my hair buttons and a guinea ring and to James Chudleigh of Basingstoke aforesaid I give my silver headed cane and a guinea ring. **And** I give to all Chineham family gloves. **Item** I give to Mr Woodmans of Baughurst a guinea ring and to Mr Henry Moore a fifteen shilling ring and to his wife a ten shilling ring and to Richard Benham of Bentworth I give a fifteen shilling ring. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Joane Waples my old nurse five pounds of lawful English money and to Mrs Elizabeth Burley servant to my sister Acton the like sum of five pounds of like money and to every other servant that shall be living in the house with my brother John Acton at the time of my decease I give ten shillings apiece. **Item** I give to New College in Oxford five guineas to buy divinity books and to my brother Meaton I give my silver tobacco box and to honest Richard Worrall I give my fur cap and my book called Sandy's Travels.¹ **Item** I give, devise and bequeath unto my brother Edward Acton the next presentation and right of patronage of the rectory, parish church and parsonage of Collingbourne Ducis in the county of Wilts and all the right, title and interest of in and to the same my said brother Edward paying all my debts and legacies hereby before by me given or bequeathed and all my funeral expenses. **And if** my said brother Edward shall refuse so to do then my will and meaning is that the same shall be sold for the payment of my debts and discharging of my legacies aforesaid and my funeral expenses and the overplus money thereof shall go, remain and be paid unto my sister Meaton and her two children Edward and Jane share and share alike. **And to** that end, intent and purpose I give, devise and bequeath the said next presentation and right of patronage of the rectory, parish church and parsonage of Collingbourne Ducis aforesaid and all my right and title to the same unto the aforesaid James Chudleigh upon the special trust and confidence that he, the said James Chudleigh, shall sell the same for the end intent and purpose aforesaid and to and for now other end intent of purpose whatsoever. **Item** I give, devise and bequeath unto my said sister Meaton and to her said two children Edward and Jane and to their heirs forever all my real estate whatsoever. **All the**

¹ Sandy's Travels: containing a history of the original and present state of the Turkish empire, the Mahometan religion and ceremonies; a description of Constantinople also of Greece, Egypt, the Holy Land and Italy and the islands adjoining. Pub. 1615.

Michael Acton of Basingstoke, 1697

rest and residue of my goods, chattels and personal estate not hereby disposed of I give and bequeath unto my said sister Meaton and to her said two children Edward and Jane. **And I** do make and ordain the said Edward Meaton, my said sister Meaton's son sole executor of this my last will and testament hereby revoking all and every other will or wills by me at any time heretofore made. **And lastly** I do hereby order and appoint my said brother Edward Acton and the said James Chudleigh overseers of this my will desiring them to see the same duly and truly performed. **And for** their pains to be taken therein I do hereby give them five pounds apiece to be paid them out of my goods and chattels. **And my** will is that my said overseers shall be allowed all reasonable expenses and charges which they shall at in seeing this my last will performed. **In witness** whereof the said Michael Acton have to this my last will and testament set my hand and seal the eighth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred ninety and six.

Michael Acton

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the within named Michael Acton to be his last will and testament in the presence of William Clough, Martha Moore, Francis Lampard.

Probate granted 26 June 1697 to Fawler Meaton father and guardian of Edward Meaton junior, nephew.