

William Spencer of Basingstoke, clothier 1699

Ref: Hants. RO 1699A/71

In the name of God Amen the seventeenth day of September AD 1696 and in the eighth year of the reign of William the Third King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., I William Spencer of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton clothier being of good and perfect mind and memory (thanks be therefore given to Almighty God), do make and ordain this my last will and testament. **First** and principally I commit my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Maker and Creator hoping and assuredly trusting that after this life is ended I shall be received into his everlasting kingdom through the merits, death and passion of Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer. **And my** body I commit to the earth to be decently buried according to the discretion of my executors hereafter named. **And for** such temporal estate as the Lord has been pleased to bestow upon me I give and dispose thereof as follows. **First** I will that all such debts which I duly or truly owe unto any man shall be truly paid in as convenient time as may be after my decease which being done and performed then I will and bequeath to the poor people of Basingstoke aforesaid twenty shillings of current English money to be paid and distributed amongst them in bread by the discretion of my executors. **And to** every one of the work folks as shall daily work with me in the house I give twelve pence a piece of like money to buy them gloves.

Item I give unto the children of my son John Spencer the sum of ten pounds lawful English money equally to be divided amongst them payable one year after my decease. **Item** I give unto the children of my son Thomas Spencer the sum of ten pounds of like money equally to be divided amongst them payable as aforesaid. **Item** I will that all my shop goods, implements and working tools whatsoever that belong to my trade to be appraised with the rest of my stock of trade and the same to be equally divided between my son John Spencer and my son Thomas Spencer and my daughter Sarah Spencer share and share alike. **Item** I give unto my beloved wife Margery Spencer the sum of one hundred pounds current English money payable unto her within twelve months after my decease. **Item** I give unto my son in law Moses Willis of Reading the sum of twenty pounds of like money payable as aforesaid. **Item** I give to my son John Spencer and to my son Thomas Spencer and to my daughter Sarah Spencer and to their heirs forever the messuage or tenement and lands with the appurtenances which I lately bought and which I now live in equally between them and so to be divided that they have each share and share a like, provided and upon this condition and my will and meaning is that my said children John and Thomas and Sarah shall pay unto my said wife Margery Spencer the full sum of six pounds a year current English money and equally to be paid between them share and share alike and this to be and continue yearly and every year during the term of the natural life of my said wife. **Item** I give in like manner unto my son John Spencer and to my son Thomas Spencer and to my daughter Sarah Spencer and to their heirs forever all that my right and title that I have and shall have in the messuage or tenement and premises with the appurtenances that I have in Reading in the county of Berkshire, equally to be divided in like manner between them as aforesaid. **Item** I give unto my grandson Moses Willis the eldest of my daughter Mary's children the sum of ten pounds of lawful money of England when he shall arrive unto the age of one and twenty years or at the day of marriage which of them shall first happen. **Item** I give unto the rest of my daughter Mary's children each

of them five pounds apiece of like money payable also at the age of one and twenty years as aforesaid or at the day of marriage which of them shall first happen. **Item** I give unto my daughter Sarah Spencer the sum of one hundred pounds of like lawful money to be paid her within twelve months after my decease. **Item** I give unto my granddaughter Mary Cox the sum of five pounds of like money to be paid her at the age of one and twenty years. **Item** I give unto William Cox my son in law the sum of ten shillings of like money. **Item** I give to my sister Elanor the wife of Richard Segrove the sum of twenty shillings of like money to be paid her three months after my decease.

And if it should happen that my said daughter Sarah Spencer should depart this life before her said legacies become due or be paid then I will that the said legacies be equally divided and distributed amongst the survivors of my children that shall be living. **And if** any quantity of such debts as are due to me should happen to be lost or that the value of my stock should not hold out according to expectation for the payment of every the said legacies then I will that every one of them shall abate a like proportion according to what was given and bequeathed to them. **But if** my stock and debts that are owing me should happen to be got in and surmount what I have bequeathed them then my will and desire is that the same shall be equally parted and divided amongst my said children only, share and share alike. **Item** I give also unto my well beloved wife Margery Spencer all the rest and remainder part of my household goods and chattels excepting the aforesaid goods, implements and materials before bequeathed to my children, and excepting the standards that belonged to my house when I bought it.

And of this my present last will and testament I make and ordain my said sons John Spencer and Thomas Spencer and my daughter Sarah Spencer to be my full and sole executors. **And I** do make my well beloved friends and neighbours William Budd and Edward Jeyes to be overseers of this my said last will desiring them to be aiding and assisting therein to see this my last will performed unto whom for their pains herein taken I give them ten shillings a piece of current English money. **I do** hereby revoke and disannul all former wills by me made and I will that none of them shall stand in force but this my said will. **In witness** whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.