

The Last Will and Testament of Holden Bowker

I Holden Bowker of the town

of Northampton in the County of Northampton, Gentleman being of sound and disposing Mind, Memory and Understanding do make this my last Will and Testament in manner following that is to say I give and devise all that my Missuage or dwelling house with the Appurtonanres where in I now dwell situate in the Mare fair commonly called Gold Street in the Parish of All Saints in the said town of Northampton which said promises are for Simple and which I purchased from ...

and also the use of all my household furniture Plate Linen China Rings Books and whatsoever shall be found in that said dwelling house being my property at the time of my decease unto my beloved wife Margaretta Bowker for and during the term of her natural life without impeachment of or for any manner of waste she wife paying all my just souls

funeral expenses and the charges of proving this my will. I also give and devist unto my said wife Margaretta Bowker the house situate on the west side of Bridge Street in the town of Northampton aforesaid presently occupied by her father Bryan Alliston ??? and now in the occupation of William ??? Carpenter. I also give and devise all that my Missuage or dwelling house with the ..moditaments and appurtonances hereunto belonging situate on the North side of Compton Street in the Parish of Saint Ann Soho in the liberty of Westminster and County of Middlesex formally in my own occupation and now in the tenure of occupation of John Savage his substitutes undertenants or aligned which said Promises I hold by lease from Elizabeth last ??? of Portland borrowed for the remainder of the term of sixty five years which is yet to ??? and unexpired ??? unto my said wife Margaretta Bowker for and during her term of her natural life without impeachment of waste she my said wife having the quit rents payable out of the said promises and from and immediately after the decease of my said wife I give and devise all the furniture plate Linen China Books Rings and whatsoever shall be found in my house where in I dwell at the time of my decease being my own property unto my son Robert Bowker and from and immediately after the decease of my said wife Margaretta Bowker. I give and devise all the said promises herein before mentioned unto John Easton of Northampton aforesaid gentleman and Thomas Johnson of the town of Northampton Gentleman their heirs ??? Executors and administrators upon trust that they the said John Easton and Thomas Johnson do and shall immediately after the decease of my said wife Margaretta Bowker receive and take the rents Hours and profits of all the said promises and pay and apply them to or to

the list of my said son Robert Bowker for and during the term of his natural life and from and after the decease of my said son Robert Bowker I give and devise all the said promises herein before mentioned unto the said John Easton and Thomas Johnson their heirs Executors and administrators upon trust that they the said John Easton and Thomas Johnson do and shall receive and take the rents Hours and Profits of all the said promises and pay or apply the same to or to the list of all and every child and children of my said son Robert Bowker lawfully begotten which shall be living at the time of his decease or born in due time afterwards to be equally between or amongst them share and share alike if more than one and if only one then wholly to such child when he she or they shall arrive at his her or their respective age or ages of twenty one years and if any of the children of my said son Robert Bowker lawfully begotten being daughter or daughters shall marry before their age or ages of twenty one then I direct that the provision hereby made for her or them shall be to or to the list of her or their child or children if there shall be any and if there shall be no child or children of her or their bodies lawfully begotten then I direct that the provision of such daughter or daughters if or more than one shall be at the disposal of such daughter or daughters respectively notwithstanding her or their coverture

and in case my said son Robert Bowker shall die leaving one or more son or sons daughter or daughters then I direct that such son or sons shall not be paid their respective Proportions or Share of my said Estate untill his or their Age or Ages of twenty one Years and if he or they shall live to the age of twenty one years then I direct that he or they shall be paid his or their respective proportions or share of my said estate which share or shares shall afterwards be at his or their own disposal but in case any of the son or sons of my said son Robert Bowker shall die before his or their age or ages of twenty one years then I direct that the share or shares of him or them so dying shall go to and be equally divided amongst the Survivors or Survivor both Sons and Daughters share and share alike and in Case any of the daughter or daughters of my said son Robert Bowker shall die before her or their ages or ages of twenty one years unmarried and without children lawfully begotten then I direct that her share or shares of her or them so dying shall go to and be equally divided between or amongst her Survivors both sons and daughters share and share alike and in default of ... ??? of my said son Robert Bowker lawfully begotten I give and devise all the said promises herein before mentioned unto the said John Easton and Thomas Johnson their heirs Executors and administrators

upon trust that they the said John Easton and Thomas Johnson do receive and take the rents ??? and Profits of the said promises and pay or apply them to or to the use of my Nephew Thomas Bowker of Newcastle upon Tyne in the County of Northumberland and to his sister my Niece ..[Catherine Bowker]..Booth wife of Booth of Manchester in the County of Lancaster watch maker for and during their natural lives to be equally divided between them share and share alike and I do direct that the receipt of my said Niece Booth shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors notwithstanding her ??? and from and after the said decease of the said Thomas Bowker and my said Niece Booth I give and devise the said promise unto the said John Easton and Thomas Johnson their heirs Executors and administrators upon trust that they the said John Easton and Thomas Johnson do and shall from and immediately after the decease of the said Thomas Bowker and my said Niece Booth sell and dispose of all and every the said promises herein before mentioned to the best purchaser or purchasers and for the best price or prices that can or may be had or gotten for the same and shall pay or dispose and equally divide the money that shall be raised by such sale or sales unto and amongst all and every the heirs and children of the said Thomas Bowker and my said niece Booth lawfully begotten the Son and Sons who they shall arrive at the age of twenty one years and the Daughter or Daughters when they shall arrive at the age of twenty one years or marry which shall first happen and if any of the Son or Sons of the said Thomas Bowker and my said Niece Booth lawfully begotten shall happen to die before their age or ages of twenty one years or if any of the Daughter or Daughters of the said Thomas Bowker and my said Niece Booth shall happen to die before their age or ages of twenty one years or marriage then I direct that te Share or Shares of him her or their

so dying under age or unmarried as aforesaid shall go to and be equally divided between the survivors of their share and share alike and I direct that the receipt or receipts of my Executors herein after named their heirs Executors and Administrators shall be sufficient surcharge to the purchaser or purchaser of any of the said Promises which shall be so sold as aforesaid and in case the said Thomas Bowker and my said Niece Booth die without any child or children lawfully begotten I give and devise all the said promises unto my own right heirs for ever provided also notwithstanding any direction limitation or appointment herein before made that in case my said Son Robert Bowker shall die without any child or children lawfully begotten then I give and devise the said house in Bridge Street herein mentioned to have been in the

occupation of Bryan Alliston deceased unto Mary Johnson wife
of the said Thomas Johnson her heirs Executors and Administrators
and ??? for ever any thing herein before contained to the
contrary thereof in any ??? notwithstanding / Provided also
and I do hereby direct that they the said John Easton and Thomas
Johnson or either of them their or either of their heirs Executors
Administrators ??? shall not be charged or chargeable with
or accountable for any sum or sums of money other than such
as they or any of them retrospectively shall by virtue of this my
will actually have or receive nor with or for any loss which
may happen of this said trust money or any part thereof or as the
same happen without their wilful Defaults nor shall any of them
be charged or chargeable with the receipts Payments ??? or ???
of the other of them but each of them with and for his own
receipts Payments ??? and ??? only and not otherwise
and shall and may respectively retain and deduct out of the
money which they shall respectively receive by virtue of
the trusts hereby reposed in them all with Cash Charges
damages and expenses which they or any of them shall respectively
expand sustain or be put unto in the execution of any of the
trusts in them respectively reposed by virtue of this my will
and lastly I do hereby nominate and appoint my beloved
wife Margaretta Bowker the said John Easton and Thomas
Johnson Executrix and Executors of this my last will and
testament hereby revoking all former wills by me at any
time heretofore made in Witness whereof I have Signed my
Name to the bottom of the four first pages of this my Will
and have set my hand and have affixed my seal to the end hereof this
twenty fourth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand
seven hundred and seventy first and ijn the fifteenth year of the
reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third King of Great Britain
and soforth *Holden Bowker* Signed Sealed
Published and Declared by the said testator Mr Holden Bowker as
and for his last will and Testament in the Presence of us who
have hereunto set our own Names in his Presence of the
said testator *Thomas Meason Joiner John*
Sharp Baker Nicholas Battin Plumber in Northampton

This Will was proved in London the twenty seventh
day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred
and seventy five before His Right Worshipful Sir George Hay Knight
Garter of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Perogative
Court of Canterbury Lawfully Constituted by their oaths of
Margaretta Bowker, widow the relict of the deceased, and John
Easton two of the Executors named in the said will, to whom

administration was granted of all and singular the goods and Chattels and Credits of the said deceased having first sworn by Commission duly as administrator Power reserved of making the like grant to Thomas Johnson Esquire the other Executor named in the said will when he shall apply for the same.