

**ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
SHORNE, KENT**

INTERIOR SUPPLEMENT

ALLEN

John Allen of Shorne, Gentleman, Consistory Court of Rochester Will dated 20th August 1562

To John Morris, Vicar of Shorne, 20/- to pray for him. To his mother, a hop of gold () with his name enamelled in it. To brother, Francis, his gold ring with a death's head, "waving fyve angelle". To nephew Francis, son of Francis, his gold brooch that he wears upon his cap. To brother in law, Thomas Walton ?, a cloak of fine black cloth, with a standing cape of velvet and "graved with a broad grave of velvet laid on, with black () case"; also 1 acre of woodland on the south side of the Highway at Gadshill in Merston, for ever.

To son in law George Page, his Spanish cap "garded with velvet". To daughter in law, Agnes Page, 10 ewes, over and besides those already given. To Elenor Tudly, a silver spoon, "all gilt" ?, price ?, 13s 4d 20 years of age. To cousin Bartholomew Page, his gold ring with a death's head enamelled, which his son in law, Thomas Page bequeathed to him. To cousin Walter Bustin, his black fur cloak with silver clasp and wolf ? () ? To Steven Burk () ?, 4 mother ewes at 21 years of age. To Richard Hooke ?, "that was my boy", a quarter of barley on the day of his marriage.. Residue, including land and house in Shorne. Occupied by John Baker and in his own occupation, to wife Ellynor, for ever. She is his sole executor, and is to distribute () of charity, at her discretion. Hugh Dawell, Esq., is supervisor of the will; to him, as a token of remembrance, a hoop of gold, price 20/-, with testator's name enamelled in it.

Witnesses: John Morris, Vicar of Shorne, Bartholomew Page, William Page and George Page, () ?
Proved 8th May 1563

Ellinor Allen, of Shorne, Widow, Consistory Court of Rochester Will, dated 15th September 1583

Desires to be buried in Shorne Church, between her two husbands (Edmond Page and John Allen).

To poor householders of Shorne, 8d each. To Elizabeth Page, daughter of William Page, her son, £10 on the day of her marriage. To Francis, Edmund, George and Ellinor Page, children of William Page, £3 6s 8d each; this to be paid within 2 years of her death to son William and her friend George Wright, to be invested and paid to 3 sons at 20 years of age. To Barbara Herenden, her kinswoman, £3 6s 8d, on the day of her marriage. To Rowland S() ?, her servant, 1 cow. To kinsman, Steven Burk () ?, 1 cow. To John () ?, her servant 1 cow bullock of 2 years. To son George all her (household goods ?), (except her bedstead cupboard), and presses, all brewing vessels, with the lead cistern to water malt in, which are in the malt house; all the timber about the house; also the window glass of her house and £10. To Ellynor Johnson, daughter of son George, and to Ellynor Parker, wife of Thomas Parker, 1 fine sheet of the breadth of 3 ells ? To Elizabeth Page, daughter of William Page, her son, and to Jane Kempe, daughter of Agnes Kempe, her daughter, 1 fine sheet, each. To Ellynor Kempe her silver bowl(s) ? To Frances Kempe, daughter of Agnes, 1 piece of gold, value 10/-. To the 3 sisters, Ellynor, Frances and Jane Kempe, 1 table cloth and a dozen table napkins each. To William Page, son of her son George, a piece of gold, value 15/-. To Lord Cobham, 5 weathers (sheep). To Ellynor Parker, wife of Thomas Parker, a feather bed, bolster, pillows, blankets and a coverlet, in her chamber. To Ellynor Parker, 1 silver spoon. To Frances Johnson, daughter of Charles Johnson, 1 silver spoon. Residue to Agnes Kempe, her daughter, who is executor. Son George and friend George Wright are supervisors of the will. To George Wright, "for his paynes", 20/-.

Witnesses: Rowland S() ?, Thomas Wrighte and the mark of John Steward
Proved 20th December 1583

AYERST

Rev. **Robert Gunsley Ayerst**, of Chelsea
P.C.C. Will dated 22nd October 1812

Desires to be buried in Shorne Church, in the same vault as his mother, if space permits. Gives instructions for his monumental inscription, which was followed, more or less, closely; monument not to exceed £100.

To grandson, Robert Gunsley De Lavaux, (“who may at this time have changed his name to Ayerst”), his mansion at Shorne and all lands and woodlands for life. After his death, then to his male heirs for ever; in default of male heirs, then to John Houseman, the only son of John Houseman, Clerk of the Sick and Wounded Office, (by Susanna, his wife, nee Nash), for ever.

If John Houseman does possess the property, he will, as a “memorial” to the testator's mother, who erected the mansion, change his name to Ayerst. To his grandson (above), his property or money on mortgage he may have at his death, and £2,500 5% Bank Stock, which was settled by testator's mother (Jane) on his sister Anna Gunsley Keating, for her life, and now in the names of Robert Gunsley Ayerst, Christopher Chapman and Jarvis Maplesden, as trustees. Also to same grandson, all articles in his house and money in banks, or owed. Also to Robert Gunsley De Lavaux, Philip Boghurst Jnr. And Charles Haffenden of Ashford, co-partners in the Banking Business, £10,000 3% Bank Annuities, upon trust. They to permit his grand daughter Hester Elizabeth Kemp to have dividends for life. After her death, then the Stock to her child/children, equally shared, in default of heirs, then to son of Robert De Lavaux. To trustees Boghurst and Haffenden, £100 each for their troubles.

Gold mourning rings, value 30/-, to the following: Mr and Mrs Kemp; sister Keating; Mr and Mrs Houseman; Rev. Lomas; Mrs Charlotte Mason; Richard Friend; Mrs Sladden; Mrs Tuggey, sister to Mr Munday of 42 Cheney Walk, Chelsea; Mr and Mrs Hunt (Chemist); , of Chelsea; the Clergyman who conducts his funeral; his Trustees; Mr and Mrs Jarvis Noakes. To his “honest and worthy tenant” Jarvis Noakes, £1,000 3% Bank Annuities; £1,00 of same stock each to: niece Mrs Charlotte Mason; John Houseman, Jnr., (now of Greek Street, Soho); Jane Ayerst Houseman, daughter of John Snr. To Mrs Young, widow of Peter Crawford Young, a distant relation of Mrs Jane Ayerst, “my ever dear mother”; Elizabeth Dennis Barrow, sister of Peter Young, late of Half moon Street, Piccadilly, £1,00 of same stock, shared equally.

To Rev. Thomas Lomas, who married his late daughter, Jane, £1,00 of same stock. £2,00 of same stock to the Treasurer of the General Kent and Canterbury Hospital, in trust, for benefit of the hospital. To the Treasurer of the Canterbury Diocese Society for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of the Clergy, £1,000 of same stock, in trust, for benefit of the Society. £1,000 of same stock to the Incorporated Society for Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

To the Minister and Churchwardens of Shorne, £1,000 of same stock, in trust, to use dividends for maintenance of a Sunday School, for poor children of Shorne.

To housekeeper, Sarah Greenstreet, £500 of same stock, if she is with him at time of his death; to servant Mary Render Morris, £300 of same stock, same condition; to servant Mary Greenstreet, £200 of same stock, same condition.

Residue of stock in Public Funds and other property to grandson Robert De Lavaux and John Houseman, Snr, they are also executors.

Witnesses: Mary Blunt, Thomas Blunt and Alexander Fraser

Codicil dated 30th August 1813

When he married Mary Spencer, lands at Graveney were settled by his father Rev. William Ayerst, on him, his wife and children. His wife is now dead as are all their children; in default of his heirs, the land to grandson Robert De Lavaux, who has now changed his name to Ayerst, for life. After his death, then to his eldest son, for ever. In default, then to John Houseman, Jnr., for ever.

The land is occupied by Mrs Blanchard of Graveney, and lately by Mrs Sladden of Canterbury, but now Robert Francis of Canterbury, so of Mrs Sladden by her first husband.

Also one third of land near Dover, Folkestone, Alkham, Hougham, Capel and Densole, or Swinghill, totalling about 500 acres, also in his marriage settlement, to above grandson, for life; after his death, to his eldest son; in default, to Rev. Lomas, for ever. £300 New South Sea Annuities in names of William Troward and Thomas Alkin or Alkyn, deceased, now (he thinks) in name of Sarah Alkin, daughter of Thomas, also part of marriage settlement, to Rev. Lomas.

Witnesses: Mary Blunt, Thomas Blunt and Sarah Johnson

Proved 24th April 1816

BRADLEY

Thomas Bradley, Esq., of Rochester

P.C.C. Will dated 4th October 1767

Wife, Smart and “good friends” Rev. Samuel Markham of Rochester and Robert Gray of St. James, Jamaica, are executors.

To son in law Christopher Blackestone of St. Margaret's, Rochester, Surgeon, £100. Residue of real and personal estate and household goods to wife Smart, for life. After her death, to their children, Thomas, Robert, Mary wife of Waxham Graham and Elizabeth Lydia wife of Christopher Blackestone, equally shared, for ever.

Witnesses: Thomas Cradock, William Stubbs and Richard Bristow

Proved 14th October 1767

CADWELL

James Cadwell, of Shorne, Yeoman (No Monument but on wives' ledgers)
P.C.C. Will dated 20th February 1747

To wife Elizabeth, as much household linen, woollen and other household goods, as she chooses, for life. After her death, to son James Cadwell. Executors and Trustees to make inventory of plate and household goods; wife to give them a receipt before taking possession.

Residue of monies, leases, farm stock, etc., and personal estate to brother in law Edward Haite of Rochester, Shipwright, Jarvis Maplesden of Shorne and Thomas Carryer the Elder of Shorne, Husbandman, in trust, to sell leases of any farm he may have at death; and all his live and dead stock and crops sown. Proceeds invested in Public Funds until son James is 21 or married; interest used for his maintenance and education. When he is 21, or married, trustees to pay all principle money to him.

His lease on Smith's Farm, Shorne, where he lives, live and dead stock, etc., to son James at 21 or marriage; in meantime, to Tomas Carryer. If James dies pre 21, then to Thomas Carryer. Executors to try to renew lease and ascertain money due to son James from Carryer when he is 21.

An inventory to be made and Carryer accountable to son James for valuation. If James does die pre 21, then £1,000, as follows, £200 to the Minister and Churchwardens of Shorne, in trust, to buy property and land, profits from this to poor parishioners of Shorne who do not take alms from parish. £3000 to Edward Haite; £200 to Thomas Carryer; £100 to Rachel Maplesden, daughter of Jarvis; £50 each to William, Thomas, Sarah and Ann Carryer, children of Thomas Carryer the Elder. Residue of personal estate, if son James dies pre 21 or marriage, to Elizabeth wife of George Martin of Chalk, Yeoman.

Trustees are also executors and Guardians of son.

Witnesses: John Tomlin and William Twopenny

Proved 29th March 1748 Power reserved to Thomas Carryer

COMPORT

George Comport, of Shorne, Gentleman
P.C.C. Will dated 20th October 1826

To James Edmead of Milton, Gravesend, Gentleman, Henry Collis of Maidstone, Builder, James Phillips the Younger of Ryarsh, Miller, 19 guineas each. To Thomas Knight of Snodland, Gentleman, £100.

Residue of personal estate to Edmead, Collis and Phillips, upon trust, to gather all his money and sell rest of personal estate, to pay debts and expenses; surplus into Public Funds, etc. Freeholds in Shorne or elsewhere to trustees, upon trust, they to take rents, etc., and pay housekeeper Elizabeth wife of Richard Gill, an annuity of £30 for life. In case his son by Elizabeth Gill, George Comport Gill (born 29th December 1821 and baptised at Woolwich 24th April 1822) dies pre 24, in the lifetime of his mother, then trustees to pay Elizabeth Gill an annuity of £50 for life, instead of £30.

Trustees to pay for maintenance and education of son George until he is 24. Income of freeholds held by trustees on son's behalf; if he dies pre 24, with no lawful heirs, then in trust, for blood relations under Intestacy Rules. Trustees are Guardians of son and are also executors.

Witnesses: R.H. Beaumont, James Rhodes and John Wetherall

Codicil dated 27th November 1826

Has given his freeholds to trustees, in trust. Directs that trustees to have power to lease or sell all or any part of freeholds. Any leases granted not to exceed 21 years. (Long conditions follow)

Witnesses: R.H. Beaumont, John Botting and George Nickson

Codicil dated 19th December 1826

He desires that Joseph Solomon the Younger of Shorne, be a trustee and executor in place of James Phillips; legacy to Phillips revoked; 19 guineas to Solomon. Revokes bequest of real estate to Phillips. Makes further provision for Elizabeth Gill, she to have an annuity of £40 for life, or £50 (if she survives her son George).

Rest of will confirmed

Witnesses: R.H. Beaumont, John Botting and George Dickson

Proved 11th April 1827 Power reserved to Joseph Solomon

HERENDEN

John Herenden, of Shorne
Consistory Court of Rochester Will dated 4th December 1527

Desires to be buried before "Our Lady" in the South Chancel of Shorne Church.

To each of the High Altars of Shorne and Chalk, for his tithes, "negligently forgotten" 12d

To the lights before St. Erasmus, Our Lady of Pity, Our Lady and St. Christopher, 12d each.

To all of his godchildren at his burial, 4d. To an "honest priest" to sing for his soul, his father and mother's and all Christian souls, "by the space of a whole year", 10 ...?

To Parnell Ganke ?, and John Ussher ?, his godson, one cow bullock each. His wife to have rents from his lands in Shorne, she keeping in good repair. After her death, land at Golfield ?in Cobham, to James Page and his heirs for ever. Residue of lands in Shorne to Edmond and Elanor Page (his daughter), for ver. In default of heirs, to his next heirs for ever. Agnes his wife and Edmond Page to take profits of his leases in the Manor of Beckley and at Chalk and Shorne, and Shorne Parsonage.

Goods ? in his house ? to the use of wife Agnes. After her death, to Edmond and Elanor Page. To Elanor his hoop of gold. To the repair of the South Chancel at Shorne, 40/-.

To the Friars ?of Aylesford ? a mother sheep; a quarter of wheat and barley to pray for his soul and all Christian souls. To Walter Herenden the Younger, Edward Herenden of London, John Herenden the son of Stephen Herenden, George Chapman, Thomas Page and ? Bu..... ? 20/- each. Residue shared between wife and daughter Elanor, who are his executors. Edward and James Page are Overseers.

Proved January 1527 (28)

HELY-HUTCHINSON

Walter Francis Hely-Hutchinson, P.C., G.C.M.G.

Anglo – Irish. Born in 1849, son of the 4th Earl of Donoughmore. Studied at Cambridge. Lt. Governor of Malta, 1884 – 89; Governor and C. in C. Windward Islands, 1889 – 93; Governor and C. in C. Natal and Zululand, 1893 – 1901; Governor of Cape Colony from 1901; temporary High Commissioner to South Africa in 1909.

His son, Victor, 1901 – 1947, was a Musical Composer, among his works was The Carol Symphony

MAPLESDEN

Gervaise Maplesden, the Elder of Shorne, Gentleman

P.C.C. Will dated 19th December 1681

Sons Richard and Thomas are executors of *different* parts of will.

To son Richard, all moveable goods, cattle (except his two colts), corn, implements of husbandry and sown crops at Gaskens Farm in Cobham, in his own occupation. His interest in the lease and all debts owing to farm.

Richard to pay arrears of rent for farm; and to pay his sister, Elizabeth, £200 at 18 years; interest to be used for her maintenance and education. If her mother takes on this responsibility, she has an annuity of £12. If Elizabeth dies pre 18, £100 of the £200 to son George at 21, or executors if he dies. £100 residue to son Edward at 21. Son Richard to pay debts. To poor of Cobham 20/-, distributed at executors discretion. Richard to give good security to brother Thomas for paying the above £200. To poor of Shorne 20/- as above. To daughter Katherine, £300 and a trunk marked J.M. With all the linen in it, at 18 years. In lieu of interest from the £300, Thomas to pay Katherine £10 per annum for maintenance and education. To all servants with him at death, 5/- each. To son Gervaise, all debts owed to testator by son George, upon bond, mortgage, etc. Also to son Gervaise, all title and interest in property which brother George has mortgaged. To wife Elizabeth, £20; to son Thomas all his interest in properties which John Rumney of Cobham, Yeoman and [] his wife have mortgaged or conveyed to him, and the mortgages, securities and conveyances, to enable him to pay debts and legacies. To son George all property and farm stock at Shorne Ifield, (latter to go to son Gervaise). Residue of household goods, farm stock and personal estate, to son Thomas, he to pay for funeral, etc. He is also to pay his grand mother Margaret Maplesden, an annuity of £5 for life. Also to Thomas, his rights in remainder of leases (21 years) for about 30 acres of land in Shorne Ridgeway, in his own occupation, held from George Woodyear, deceased.

To son Gervaise his rights in 21 year lease for 40 acres near Shorne Ifield, in his occupation also held from George Woodyear. Property at Shorne Ridgeway, in his occupation and of William Cornell, to son Thomas and heirs; in default of heirs, to son Gervaise, for ever. His little house with 6 acres at Shorne Ridgeway, and salt marsh at Higham, in his occupation, to son Thomas, for ever. Provided son Gervaise, for two years after testator's death, takes the rents from the latter properties and pay £10 per annum for the properties. His Manor or reputed Manor, called Upper Tooos ? and house, with land of 60 acres, at Milton next Sittingbourne, Iwade and Bobbing, to son Thomas, upon trust, to be sold, to pay debts and legacies; surplus to Thomas. Thomas also has his two third share in lands called Farthing Coltswood, Little Coltswood and Raynecroft, adjoining each other (about 18 acres) in Boughton Monchelsea, occupied by [] Day, formerly the property of Mary Emyott. All other lands and houses in Boughton Monchelsea, to son George, for ever. All property in Gillingham, occupied by Christopher Pannell, and in Cuxton, occupied by John Kettle, to son Edward and his heirs; in default of heirs, then the Cuxton property to daughter Elizabeth, for ever; the property in Gillingham to son George for ever.

Witnesses: Thomas Ayerst, the mark of William Cornell, Elizabeth Ayerst and Walter Brooke

Proved 8th February 1681 (82)

Jarvis Maplesden, of Shorne, Gentleman

P.C.C. Will dated 26th April 1711

All his farm and lands in Shorne, in his occupation, which was his mother's jointure, and lands purchased by his father from Mrs Martha Woodyear of Shorne, Widow and William Woodyear, Esq., also in his occupation, to his wife Jane as long as she remains his widow.

If she remarries, she gets an annuity of £20 for life, from his real estate. After her death, the land which was his mother's and that purchased from the Woodyears, to son Jarvis; all other property to son John.

If his wife survives the two sons, then his mother's property and that purchased from Woodyears, to his wife, for ever. All property in Shorne occupied by his mother in law, Elizabeth Maplesden and William Woodyear, purchased by his father from Christopher Allanson Esq., deceased, to his wife, for life; after her death, then to his cousin Jarvis Maplesden, son of his uncle Richard, late of Cobham, deceased, subject to payment of cousins, George and John Maplesden, brothers of above Jarvis, £30 each. To cousin Katherine and Elizabeth Maplesden, sisters of George and John, £20 each.

One third of his personal estate to wife Jane; one third to child/children his wife is expecting at 21 years; one third to sons Jarvis and John, shared equally at 21 years. Wife is executor.

Witnesses: Julius Caesar, Augustine Caesar, Thomas Rogers and Henry Elwood

Proved 21st February 1716 (17)

Jarvis Maplesden's Inventory had a total value of over £2,500; over £700 of which was owed by the Royal Navy, for timber ? Also leather ? £175 of the inventory concerns leather and hides, etc.

Christopher Maplesden, of Chalk, Victualler
Archdeaconry Court of Rochester Will dated 23rd April 1740

To wife Mary, for ever, his half share of a house, Ifield Place and 50 acres of land, in Shorne, occupied by brother Gervaise. Also his quarter share of Upper Ifield Farm, also occupied by same brother.

She also has residue and is executor.

Witnesses: John ? Parker, Richard Jackson and Mary Danes

Proved February 1st 1744 (45)

MIDDLETON

Ann Middleton, of Chatham, Widow of Joseph, Clerk of the Cheque of the Ordnance, Chatham
P.C.C. Will dated 7th March 1810

To daughter Hannah wife of James Best, Esq., her silver s..... ? and silver cup, dozen china plates, large china dish and two other china dishes. To John Clark, late of Rome Lane, Chatham, her watch, and to his wife her silver mustard pot. To son in law, Rev. Francis Jennings, all furniture, other china, clothes, etc. (except plate, linen and bed hangings), upon trust, to sell and pay debts and funeral, etc. Residue into Public Funds, in his name, for benefit of grand daughter Ann, his eldest daughter, she also has plate. Bed hangings and linen to Francis, Jane and Ruth Jennings, siblings of Ann, shared at discretion of their father.

When Ann is 21, father to transfer investments to her. Rev. Francis Jennings and Boswell Middleton of the Custom House, London, Esq., are executors

Witnesses: James Best and Edward Wickham

Proved 1st July 1812, Power reserved to Rev. Jennings

PAGE

Edmund Page, of Shorne, Gentleman
Consistory Court of Rochester Will dated 15th January 1551 (2)

To Elynor, his wife all his household stuff, also £40 in cash, and £40 in corn and cattle. She also has the farm of the Manor of Beckley in Higham, for rest of lease, and house in Shorne called Gerdland ?, for life, "without any interruption or condition of my son Thomas". Also to his wife, his stock at Beckley, 28 kyne, 5 bullocks, 170 ewes and rams.

To poor householders in Shorne and Chalk, worth, in goods, less than 3s 6d, 12d each or a bushel of wheat or 2 bushels of malt.

To Robert Smythe, "my boy", 40/-. To Thomas S..... ?, 40/-; to godson Edmond Page, 3 silver spoons; to child of brother James Page and sister Faythe Luff silver spoon to value of 6s 8d.

To Richard Myddleton and Susan his wife, 5 yards of woollen cloth, "to make either of them a gown, price the yard 4/-" To sister Luff, uncle Walter Herenden and ?, his wife, cousin Thomas ?, and Barbara his wife; to old friends, John Evley and Lyonell ?, cousin Robert Dunstan and his wife, a gold ring, in remembrance of him. To Walter Herenden, £3 6s 8d; to William Crypps, ... ?, bullock; to Edward ?, 4 bullocks, 5 ewes and 2 quarters of

barley; to Faythe Srybbyng ?, his god daughter, half a quarter of barley; to each of his other god children ?, 20d. To his children, William, George, Lyonell, John, Elizabeth and Agnes, £26 13s 4d at 20 years of age or before for reasonable cause, e.g. marriage.

To cousin Walter Herenden the Younger, 20/-, per annum to be paid by son Thomas. To William Debuan ?, 13s 4d, quarterly for life, from real estate at Shorne. To John Baker, for life, his dwelling house and land in Shorne, he to keep it in good repair; after Baker's death, then to wife Elynor for ever. Elynor also has 9 acres of land called Outhmen Graster ?, in Shorne. To son Thomas, house and stables, barn in ?, for ever.

Wife Elynor has the annual income of all his lands not already bequeathed, in Shorne and Higham with ?, woods and timber. All land in Shorne, Higham and Merston to son Thomas, for ever. After death of Edward Whyte, Gentleman ?, property/ in Gravesend, Milton, Chalk and Higham, to son Thomas, on condition that his mother Elynor to have benefit of Manor of Beckley, for life.

Witnesses: Henry Adam, George Haysden and Thomas Fyurhe and William Tayllour
Proved 20th February 1551 (52)

Elenor Page, of Rochester, Widow of Sir **William Page** of Shorne
P.C.C. Will dated 29th April 1643

Desires to be buried in Shorne Church near her late husband.

She wishes to carry out her husband's intentions concerning the placing out apprentice, poor children of Shorne. Executor to spend £50 to buy land, which is to be conveyed to him and four or more substantial freeholders of Shorne, upon trust, to provide income for the charitable purposes. The children to be chosen by the Churchwardens and Overseers. When only two trustees left, they to convey land to their successors and so on, "that neither I in my intention be frustrated, or the poor defrauded".

The heirs of her late cousin, George Page, ?, to pay to Eleanor, one of daughters of John Yardly of London, Grocer, £50, part of £100 given to him by testator within seven years of her death, according to an Indenture of Bargain and sale of land, assured by George Page and his son George, to testator, dated 30th August 1631. To William Page, son of William Page, late of Faversham, deceased, godson of her husband, £40. To Elizabeth Baker daughter of Frances, late wife of Christopher Flure ?, of Rochester, Joiner, deceased, £20. To William Scoles son of William Scoles of Cobham, deceased, £10. To Elinor daughter of William Scoles, £10. To Dorothe Johnson, £40, provided that if she claim any more out of personal estate of testator's late husband, "upon any pretext, whatsoever," then the bequest is void. To nephew Samuel Edolph son of her brother Sir Robert, £40, to his brother Thomas, £20, To nephew Henry Parker son of Richard Parker Esq., and Priscilla, her sister, £40. To Jane Edolph daughter of brother Thomas, now wife of William Rothwell, £40. To god daughter, Elinor Rothwell, daughter of William and Jane, £40. Executor to pay William Rothwell, provided that upon receipt of bequest, he becomes bound in an obligation of £80 for the payment of £40 to her god daughter at 18 years of age. Interest to be used for her benefit until she is 18.

If Jane dies pre 18, then the £40 to her mother, Jane.

£210 to be paid to nephew John Parker and nieces Frances Parker and Ann Parker, children of Richard Parker and sister Priscilla. To her household servants with her at death, 20/- each.

Nephew John Parker of Middle Temple, Gentleman, is executor. Richard Parker and cousin Edmond Page are Overseers of will. To each of them a gold ring of 20/- value. Lands in Shorne lately "assured upon me and my heirs" by George Page and his son, George, to executor, for ever, upon trust.

To poor of Rochester 40/-, to poor of Eastgate (Rochester) 40/-.

Witnesses: Benjamin Burk, William Cripps and Robert Heath

Proved 24th January 1644 (45)

PORTEN

Robert Porten, Captain, of Ratcliffe, Stepney, alias Stebenheath, Middlesex, Gentleman.

PC.C. Will dated 29th March 1711

Desires to be buried in Shorne Church where his first wife, Elizabeth is buried. There is to be engraved on the stone over her grave, the inscription on the back of his will.

To Mr Thomas Tanner of the Navy Office, London, Gentleman, for ever, his freehold farm called Randall Heath and the Manor of Randall, of about 80 acres. If Tanner or his son, or daughter (if son dies childless), have a son that child should be named Porten, and the above Manor goes to that son, after death of Mr Tanner. To James Tanner, Mariner, his nephew, and his daughter Susanner Tanner, £10 each, for mourning. To Susanner Tanner, 12 damask napkins, 1 damask table cloth marked R.P., 4 Holland sheets, 4 Holland pillow bears marked R.P. E. with buttons. To Flora Gill, his servant, the house which adjoins his own in Ratcliffe (copy-hold), for life. If she marries Jacob Tab of Wapping, Joiner, then Jacob is to have the house for life, after Flora's death. When they are both dead, house to Francis Porten, Merchant of London, for ever. Also to Flora all his linen in the hair trunk and household goods in his house at Ratcliffe and all his clothes. To cousin Charles Burnham, Mariner all his books and instruments belonging to the sea. His copy-hold house in Ratcliffe, held from the Manor of Ratcliffe, to Susanner Tanner, for ever. Provided she names her first male child Porten and she lives in the house.

Mr John Sheffield of Wood Street, Apothecary and John Scott of Clifford's Inn, Gentleman are executors.
To Thomas Tanner all household goods at Shorne. His funeral not to cost above £50. To the Churchwardens of Shorne and two freeholders (Mr Cotmore to be one of them), £10 for the poor in bread on 10 days.
Witnesses: Sarah Alexander, Samuel Wright, Benjamin Carleton and the mark of Ann Alexander
Proved 5th April 1711

SMITH

Henry Smith, Gentleman, Master Joiner of H.M. Dockyard, Chatham
P.C.C. Will dated 21st January 1779

To wife Smart (widow of Thomas Bradley), nephew Waxham Graham, of Frindsbury, Gentleman, niece Catherine Graham of Chatham, Spinster, nephew William Wilson of Chatham, Commander of the Commissioner's yacht at Chatham, £10 each. To niece Catherine Graham all his clothes and ornaments on same, provided she does not sell them. To wife Smart, real and personal estate, and goods in England and Jamaica, bills, bonds, investments, for life (except things already bequeathed).

Also to Catherine Graham, £120 annuity from rents of his estate, for life. If she outlives his wife, she to have all his real and personal estate, for life. After death of his wife, if Catherine is not living, then to children of William Wilson, including silver plate and half household goods and furniture, divided equally. After death of his wife, the other half to the children of Waxham Graham, Kitty, Smart, Mary, Elizabeth Hanson and Cecelia Ann, equally divided. After death of wife and niece then the other half of real and personal estate to Waxham Graham's children, equally divided.

All debts due from Waxham Graham and farm in Hoo lately purchased from George Cherry, valued at £240, and rents due and £200 due on bond from Thomas Bradley Broadber, with interest, to Graham's children.

Niece Catherine to have all his books, papers and writings. After death of wife and niece, any payments received from Jamaica or elsewhere, to be placed in Public Funds, unless executors wish to lend it on bond or mortgage, to Graham's children at 21 years. Wife and Catherine Graham are executors.

Witnesses: William Thompson, Christopher Mayor and Josh. Hawkins

Codicil dated 12th August 1779

He gave, before will was made, a Deed of Gift to Sally Graham, daughter of Waxham., all silver plate, property of his wife before their marriage. Niece Catherine may need some plate other than bequeathed, so he now gives her an extra £30 to buy some.

All his liqueur bottles and others, empty or full to discretion of niece Catherine for her of wife's use. After death of wife and Catherine, he left remains of household goods, etc., to Waxham's children and Wilson, now, after his death, if wife and niece find they have more than sufficient goods, they may give anything they don't need to children of Graham and Wilson.

Witnesses: William Thompson, Christopher Mayor and Jos. Hawkins

Proved 13th June 1780 Smart Smith has died since will and codicil made.

END