

The Collins Family

Benjamin Collins publisher and bookseller who died in 1785 carried on the family business which later operated from premises on the New Canal, Salisbury Wiltshire. The business was inherited by his son Benjamin Charles Collins who died in 1808 and a share of his estate later passed to his half brother William Collins.

Benjamin Collins married firstly Edith Good and secondly Mary Cooper and in his **Will** given below appointed executors his wife Mary Collins, brother Francis Collins, sons William Collins and Benjamin Charles Collins, son in law Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and brothers in law John Cooper and Joseph Elderton. Salisbury Journal Obituary 21 February 1785. On Wednesday evening at his home on the Canal in the 68th year of his age Benjamin Collins esq of this City.

Summary of Will dated 25 March 1778 proved with five codicils 1 March 1785.

Benjamin Collins of New Sarum in county Wilts gentleman made and published his last Will and Testament the 25th day of March 1778. He bequeathed his wife Mary Collins all her rings jewels and paraphernalia and £500 for own sole use. To brothers Joseph Collins £5 annuity and Francis Collins £50, brothers in law John Cooper and Joseph Elderton and nephew Rev Edward Cooper ten guineas apiece for a ring and mourning. To mother in law Jane Cooper, sisters in law Mrs Sarah Cooper and Mrs Jane Elderton, cousin Mrs Ann Batt, nieces Lydia Compton, Margaret Towers, Mary Tatlock, Elizabeth Saunders, Ann Evatt, Lucy Poole and nephews Rev John Elderton and Joseph Elderton junior five guineas apiece for mourning.

He bequeathed his son William Collins his heirs executors and assigns the copyhold estate at Milford, New Sarum and the leasehold messuage and garden now occupied by Edward Williams blacksmith. To son Benjamin Charles Collins his heirs etc the freehold messuage or house shop warehouses printing office premises with appurtenances on the New Canal, fixtures and stock in the several trades or business of printer bookseller bookbinder, vender of medicines, all implements utensils tools materials in the printing and bookbinding business and the several businesses and rights therein now carried on in the name of Benjamin Charles Collins and John Johnson. Also copyright or right of printing publishing and vending the Salisbury Journal and copyrights or shares viz a third share of Royal Battledore, Royal Primer, Pretty Book for Children, Pretty Book of Pictures, History of Tommy Trip Museum, Private Tutor for Masters and Misses, Royal Psalter, Daily Journal, Gentlemans and Tradesmans compleat Annual pocket Book, one eighth share of Fenning's Spelling Book, one third of the Compleat Letter Writer and full moiety in Cephalic Snuff made and prepared by him and the patent for same. (Patent No. 1030 Benjamin Collins of the City of New Sarum 18 January 1773 - A new invented composition of Snuff called and known by the name of Cordial Cephalick Snuff and which he humbly conceives will be greatly conducive to the health of his Majesty's subjects).

To daughter Elizabeth Colton estate and interest of leasehold at Purse Candle, Dorset for the lives of her and Mr Gardener after the decease of Mrs Barbara Gardener, daughter Jane Staunton £67.4s.0d annuity during her life payable out of estate late of John Missett deceased of Montserrat and to daughter Sarah Brodie income of the Shilling Okeford Rectory, Dorset for the life of Rev Mr Moreau during his incumbency, the right of the next presentation in trust to Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie. To his wife Mary Collins reversionary estate and interest for life of daughter Charlotte Collins after the decease of Mrs Briche the leasehold at Fovant Wilts held under the Earl of Pembroke. All other messuages farms lands tenements hereditaments estates freehold leasehold in Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, Middlesex, Surrey or elsewhere in the Kingdom of Great Britain and all the rest and residue of monies mortgage securities goods chattels real and personal estate devised to the executors and trustees their heirs etc in trust to sell and dispose at their discretion. The produce thereof and the £3700 advanced his three married daughters and said foregoing devises hereafter ascertained in value to be added and thrown into hotchpot and valued together to constitute one aggregate stock or fund, the whole into eight equal parts or shares to be divided. William Collins of value £2000 and two eighth shares and Benjamin Charles Collins £6500 and two eighth shares. Elizabeth Colton share valued £700, Jane Staunton £450, Sarah Brodie £1500 and Mary Collins £210 and each one eighth share. The share of Mary Collins for own use and disposal and for the maintenance and education of daughter Charlotte Collins during her minority. William Collins released from all debts and right for six years to carry on the business of banker in the front of the house also computing house on the New Canal. Mary Collins to reside rent free in the house on the New Canal also at Milford in same manner as always whilst William Collins shall continue unmarried.

He appointed his wife Mary Collins, sons William Collins and Benjamin Charles Collins, brother Francis Collins, son in law Peter Bellinger Brodie and brothers in law John Cooper and Joseph Elderton the joint executors and trustees. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first hereinbefore written - Benj. Collins signed sealed and published and declared by the testator as his last Will and Testament in the presence of of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses thereto in the presence of said testator and each other Edward Wray. Edward Joye. Thos. Chubb.

Five Codicils.

1. Should Benjamin Charles Collins die under 21 his legacy divided among the other children, likewise daughter Charlotte Collins and the one eighth share of Mary Collins in same manner. 25 March 1778 - Benj. Collins witnessed Edward Wray. Edward Joye. Thos. Chubb.

2. Francis Collins now deceased and other property since acquired same now devised to the surviving trustees. 18 February 1781 - Benj. Collins witnessed Mary Collear. Joseph Hillary. Chris. Hallett junior.

3. The freehold estate at Somersham, Huntingdonshire purchased from Christopher Milburne now devised to the trustees. 28 February 1783 - Benj. Collins witnessed John Sanger. Thos. Frampton. Joseph Hillary.

4. William Collins devised Milford estates now with benefit of lives since added. Benjamin Charles Collins devised the Canal freehold now subject to £150 annuity payable to Mary Collins. The annuity of daughter Staunton revoked. Mary Collins, Robert Cooper linen draper of Milford Street Sarum, Benjamin Charles Collins and son in law Peter Bellinger Brodie now appointed the trustees. Sarah Brodie legacy now valued £1200. William Collins owing £900 and interest same to form part of his share also given £100 annuity payable by Lord Arundel subject to £25 paid yearly to Charlotte Collins and valued £750 in his share. Mary Collins share a fund to apply in her lifetime or by her Will for benefit of daughter Charlotte or others at her discretion. If William Collins now abroad beyond the seas predeceased him the trustees devised his legacies to form part of the trusts one moiety to Benjamin Charles Collins the other to Mary Collins and daughters Colton, Staunton and Brodie. 5 June 1784 - Benj. Collins witnessed Catherine Kimber. William Collier. Jos. Elderton.

5. The two eighth share to his son William Collins and one eighth share to his daughter Colton are meant to satisfy all demands they may have out of my estate under and by virtue of any settlement contract bond or engagement made and entered into on my marriage with their late mother Edith Good and in firm satisfaction thereof witness my hand and seal same day and year - Benj. Collins in the presence of Catherine Kimber. William Collier. Jos. Elderton.

The Will was proved at London with five codicils 1 March 1785 before the Right Worshipful Peter Calvert Doctor of laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oath of Benjamin Charles Collins son of the deceased and Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie two of the surviving executors named in the Will to whom administration of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the deceased was granted they having been first sworn by Commission duly to administer power reserved of making the like grant to Mary Collins widow the relict, William Collins son of said deceased and John Cooper and Joseph Elderton the other surviving executors named in the Will when they or either of them shall apply for same.

Salisbury Journal summary of Notices.

26 February 1785. All persons indebted by note, bond, mortgage or otherwise to the estate and effects of Benjamin Collins late of this City deceased are hereby earnestly desired to pay same immediately to Benjamin Charles Collins one of the acting executors at his house in this City. All persons having any claim or demand by bill, note or otherwise are earnestly requested to deliver or transmit particulars thereof in writing.

24 July 1786. The Acting Executors of the late Benjamin Collins will attend on Monday 21 August from nine in the morning until three in the afternoon and at the same hours daily until 9 September for the purpose of paying all remaining legal demands on the estate whether by reason of notes for monies at interest due thereon or any other notes, bills &c. All persons holding notes carrying interest are desired to take notice interest on such notes will cease from said 9 September. Whereas many persons remain largely indebted upon various securities &c to the estate, the executors request they discharge same without delay or they must proceed at law for the recovery thereof. The Bank of the late Mr Benjamin Collins will open Monday 21 August under the firm of Collins, Brown, Smith & Tamlyn who respectfully seek the favours of Past Customers and the Public whose confidence they will endeavour to merit. Benjamin Charles Collins. Thomas Brown jun. Richard Smith. William Tamlyn.

Mary Collins the widow of Benjamin Collins died in 1808 and in her Will given below appointed joint executors and trustees grandsons Peter Bellinger Brodie, William Bird Brodie, George Thomas Staunton and great nephew Rev Blakley Cooper. Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 25 April 1808. At her home on the Canal, Salisbury aged 83 Mrs Collins, mother of Benjamin Charles Collins late printer of the Salisbury Journal whom she survived exactly eight weeks, and second wife and widow of Benjamin Collins formerly printer and banker at Salisbury.

Mary Collins - Will dated 9 March 1808 proved with one codicil 27 April 1808.

Summary. Mary Collins of New Sarum widow the relict of Benjamin Collins late of same city made and published her last Will and Testament dated 9 March 1808. Under the Will of her late husband she was entitled to legacies in trust for own disposal and for the benefit of her daughter Charlotte and now devised grandsons Sir George Thomas Staunton, Peter Bellinger Brodie, William Bird Brodie and grand nephew Rev Blakley Cooper all capital bank stock purchased with monies from said one eighth share now vested in her name in the books of the Bank of England. In trust to pay proceeds from six eighth parts thereof to daughter Charlotte Bacon widow for own use during her life the other two eighth parts to her daughter Charlotte Mary Bacon and after the decease of Charlotte Bacon three eighth parts to Charlotte Mary Bacon the other three eighth parts to daughters Lady Jane Staunton widow and Sarah Brodie widow divided equally.

Under the Will of her lately deceased son Benjamin Charles Collins she was entitled to an undivided equal fifth part of real and residuary personal estates and under the Statutes of Distribution of Intestates was also entitled to three other

equal fifth parts of such residuary personal estates which by the deaths of sons in law Sir George Leonard Staunton, Rev Barfoot Colton and Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie became lapsed and considered as undisposed. All her share in the estates of Benjamin Charles Collins and all her estate right title and interest therein she devised in trust to daughters Lady Jane Staunton, Sarah Brodie and Charlotte Bacon as tenants in common and not as joint tenants. She gave Lady Staunton a silver tea kettle, lamp, tea chest with silver tea canister. Charlotte Bacon £100, plate china bed and table linen, Charlotte Mary Bacon a piano forte and grand daughter Margaret Brodie a gold watch and chain. Son in law Mr Collins, daughter in law Mrs Colton and grand niece Frances Henrietta Elderton £50 each. Elizabeth Grace faithful servant during her life proceeds of £500 4% bank annuities. All the rest and residue of monies goods chattels and personal estate to Lady Jane Staunton and Sarah Brodie equally divided.

She appointed grandsons Sir George Thomas Staunton, Peter Bellinger Brodie, William Bird Brodie and grand nephew Blakley Cooper the executors in trust and during the absence at any time of Sir George Thomas Staunton from England the other executors and trustees to carry out all or any of the powers trusts and provisions. In witness whereof to the first three sheets of this my last Will and Testament contained in four sheets of paper I have set my hand and to this the fourth and last sheet my hand and seal the day and year first hereinbefore written - Mary Collins (Is) signed sealed published and declared by the testatrix as and for her last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto in the presence of said testatrix and each other Mary Williams. Geo. Dow. Thos. Chubb.

Codicil. In addition to the devise and bequest of my share of the real and personal estates of my late son Benjamin Charles Collins I do declare that it was and is my earnest wish and desire and I accordingly hereby recommend to my surviving relations that in case my grandson William Bird Brodie together with John Luxford and John Dowding the principal managers and assistants in the printing and other businesses of my said late son shall not succeed thereto in my lifetime they may afterwards with all convenient expedition succeed thereto as partners and continue the same as such for their own respective advantage in such manner as may be agreed upon and as the nature of such premises and the circumstances of the parties shall require and also that the several other assistants and servants of my said late son may remain as such to the persons so taking to said businesses in like manner as if he had been living. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal 15 March 1808 - Mary Collins signed sealed published and declared as and for a codicil to her last Will in the presence of us Mary Williams. Thos. Chubb.

The Will was proved at London with one codicil 27 April 1808 before the Right Honorable Sir William Wynne Knight Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of Peter Bellinger Brodie and William Bird Brodie grandsons of the deceased and Rev Blakley Cooper great nephew three of the executors named in the Will to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the deceased they having been first sworn to wit said Peter Bellinger Brodie before the worshipful George Ogilve Doctor of Laws and Surrogate and William Bird Brodie and Reverend Blakley Cooper by commission duly to administer power reserved of making the like grant to Sir George Thomas Staunton Baronet grandson of the deceased the other executor named in the Will when he shall apply for same.

The children of Benjamin Collins by his first marriage to Edith Good:.

William Collins

William Collins had daughter Elizabeth Collins who married 28 January 1799 the Rev Christopher Rigby at St Thomas's Church, Salisbury and had children Christopher, Henry, Elizabeth, Mary, Sarah and Edith. Monthly Magazine. At Salisbury Rev C. Rigby M.A to Miss Collins daughter of William Collins Esq.

William Collins died 4 August 1810 and in his Will given below appointed his son in law Rev Christopher Rigby sole executor devised a share in the estate late of Benjamin Charles Collins and residue of all real and personal estate to hold same in trust for his children by his said wife Eliza. Other beneficiaries included his sister Elizabeth Colton and her daughter Mrs Cook, Rev Henry Rigby, Rev Francis Baker, Samuel Emly and George Maton.

The Rev Christopher Rigby added the Collins surname by Royal Licence dated 29 August 1810 and became known as Christopher Rigby Collins : The King has been graciously pleased to give and grant unto the Rev Christopher Rigby clerk, Master of Arts the rector of Ringmore and vicar of Ipplepen both in the county of Devon, his Royal Licence and Authority, that he and his issue, by Elizabeth his wife, may out of grateful respect to the memory of William Collins late of the city of Salisbury esq deceased, take the surname of Collins, in addition to and after that of Rigby.

William Collins - Will dated 12 July 1810 proved with six codicils 8 August 1810.

Summary. William Collins of the city of New Sarum bequeathed his faithful and worthy housekeeper Mrs Catherine Kimber during her life £100 annuity, £50 and all the furniture of her bedroom and two maid servants £50 each. In trust to Samuel Emly and George Maton £50 payable to the Treasurer of the Salisbury Infirmary for charitable uses. To sister Elizabeth Colton £200 and her daughter Mrs Cook £100. George Maton £100 and the Rev Frances Baker released from all debts. Samuel Emly £2500 for own use and requested to continue matters of account in same manner as before for fifteen years or longer entirely to his comfort and upon just settlement of affairs.

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He devised all his interest and revenue in the real and personal estates of late brother Benjamin Charles Collins by virtue of his Will or otherwise to the Rev Christopher Rigby husband of his daughter Eliza and also the rest and residue of real and personal estate wheresover. To hold same unto him said Christopher Rigby his heirs executors and administrators in trust for all and every of his children by his said wife. All rents profits and proceeds of real and residuary personal estates to be applied for the maintenance and education of his grandchildren during their minorities and grandson Christopher Gerard or any other son hereafter born of his daughter Eliza at age of 21 years to receive one equal part more than each of his grand daughters. When his share of the messuage printing office shop premises on the New Canal late belonging to his brother Benjamin Charles Collins was sold to be not less than £500 but left to the discretion of Rev Christopher Rigby to act therein as thought proper. The Rev Christopher Rigby was appointed executor in trust and not answerable for any involuntary losses able to reimburse himself of all costs charges damages and expenses occasioned by the due execution of the trusts hereby in him reposed.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal 12 July 1810 - William Collins signed sealed published and declared by the testator as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as witnesses in the presence of the testator and of each other the obliteration and interlineation in the first line, the interlineation of the word When in the second side and of the word This in the third side and above obliteration in this attestation being first severally made Robert Thomas. Geo. Dell. Thos. Chubb.

Six Codicils.

1. To sister Colton £200 more as in his illness her son in law C. O. Cooke came to see him. 15 July 1810 - Wm. Collins.

2. George Maton given £100 now in his hands as Chamberlain and which the Corporation of New Sarum have not thought proper to accept on my terms said sum now to be kept by him as his legacy. 28 July 1810 - Wm. Collins.

3. To Mrs Kimber £50 more and Ann James now a £10 annuity. To the six poor widows in Culver Street £6, widow Buckland £2 and widow Whitmarsh £3, Mary Young £5 and nurse Elizabeth Baker £30. 1 August 1810 - Wm. Collins.

4. To Fanny Poole late of New Sarum £10. 2 August 1810 - Wm. Collins.

5. To Benjamin Barnard banker a brilliant diamond ring as a testimony of friendship and regard. 2 August 1810 - Wm Collins.

6. To Sarah Small widow a former servant of mine who occasionally hath since attended on me £5. To old and valued friend Reverend Henry Rigby £5 for a ring, friend Mrs Loder £5 and niece Mrs Cooke £500 more. In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal 3 August 1810 - Wm. Collins signed sealed published and declared this a further codicil to his Will in the presence of us Thos. Chubb. Geo. Dell.

Affidavit dated 7 August 1810. Appeared personally Reverend Christopher Rigby of Ipplepen in the county of Devon clerk and made oath that he is the sole executor named in the last Will and Testament of William Collins late of the city of New Sarum in the county of Wilts esquire deceased. That on 13th July last he received a letter at his house at Ipplepen from Samuel Emly of Salisbury intimating to him that said deceased was lately taken ill and that he the deceased wished to see the deponent at Salisbury as soon as possible. The deponent immediately left home and arrived at the deceased's house aforesaid the following day which he never quitted till after the deceased's death which happened on the 4th day of the present month of August. That on the 25th day of July last the deceased's housekeeper informed the deponent the deceased by the first codicil to his Will dated as the deponent verily believes the 14th but certainly either the 13th or 14th July last had revoked a legacy in his Will of £100 to Mr George Maton and in lieu thereof had thereby only given him £50. The deponent having married the testator's only daughter and knowing his children were residuary legatees in his Will he took occasion, as Mr Maton had been appraised of the £100 legacy to him by the deceased's Will, to remonstrate with the deceased on the alteration he had so made and urged him very strongly to destroy the codicil revoking Mr Maton's legacy. The deceased thereupon immediately desired his housekeeper to fetch such first codicil from his bureau in his bedroom and she having so done, he tore the same in pieces and threw it into the fire and then wrote with his own hand the codicil hereunto annexed dated 28 July and now appearing as the second codicil to his Will and the deponent lastly made oath that he has not the smallest doubt but firmly and in his conscience believes that the words This is a further codicil to my Will in the beginning of the first codicil dated 15th July last now meant and intended by the deceased to refer or apply to the codicil he so destroyed in his presence the 28th July last by which he had revoked the legacy to Mr George Maton as before set forth - C. Rigby. The same day said Rev Christopher Rigby was duly sworn to the truth of this affidavit before me. S. Parson surr. Henry Ibbotson np.

Affidavit dated 7 August 1810. Appeared personally Samuel Emly of Salisbury in the county of Wilts esquire and Jonathan Dennett of Lincoln's Inn Fields in the county of Middlesex esquire and respectively made oath they knew and were well acquainted with William Collins late of the city of New Sarum deceased and also with his manner and character of handwriting and subscription having frequently seen him write and subscribe his name and that having carefully viewed and perused the paper writing hereto annexed purporting to be and contain the last Will and Testament and six codicils of said deceased . . . they say verily and in their consciences believe the whole body sense and contents of the first second third and fourth codicils to be of the proper handwriting and subscription of the testator William Collins esquire deceased - S. Emly. J Dennett. Same day Samuel Emly and Jonathan Dennett were duly sworn to the truth of this affidavit before me. S. Parson surr. Henry Ibbotson np.

The Will was proved at London with six codicils 8 August 1810 before the Worshipful Samuel Pearce Parson Dr of Laws and Surrogate by the oath of Rev Christopher Rigby clerk the sole executor.

Salisbury Journal September 1812. The Rev Christopher Rigby Collins has paid into the hands of the Treasurer of the Salisbury Infirmary the sum of fifty pounds a bequest to that charity by the late William Collins esq.

In 1832 by three Indentures a share of property on the New Canal at Salisbury once of Benjamin Charles Collins late of William Collins was sold by Rev Christopher Rigby Collins, his son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins, daughters and sons in law Elizabeth wife of Robert Austin Langworthy, Mary wife of William Webster, Sarah wife of Rev John Walter Phelps and Edith wife of William Somerville Ahmuty to William Bird Brodie son of Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie.

The three Indentures inserted

Elizabeth Collins

Elizabeth Collins married Rev Barfoot Colton listed Alumni Cantabrigienses adm pens Queen's 11 June 1755. school Eton. migrated King's 12 March 1756 matric Easter 1756. B.A 1760. M.A 1763. Fellow of King's 1759-1765. Ord deacon Ely 27 Dec 1759. priest 14 Sept 1760. vicar Shrivenham Berks 1764-1803. rector Somerton Oxon 1769-1803. Prebendary of Salisbury 1783-1803. died December 1803.

William Collins in his Will named her sister Mrs Elizabeth Colton and Mary Collins as daughter in law Mrs Colton. Obituary 20 March 1836. At the house of her son in law at Bredon Rectory, Elizabeth relict of Rev Barfoot Colton M.A. Canon residentiary of Sarum and Vicar of Shrivenham Berks.

Alumni Oxonienses William Collins Colton s.Barfoot of Shrivenham. Wadham Coll. matric 5 June 1806 aged 18. Gentleman's Magazine 1826. William Collins Colton son of Rev Barfoot Colton late canon residentiary of Salisbury married Louisa Poyntz second daughter of John Miller late Receiver General for county Bedford and niece of General Poyntz of the 1st Life Guards.

William Collins Colton of Middle Hill, Box Wilts and William Gardiner of Exeter College in 1825 were appointed trustees of the marriage settlement of Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins and Annabella Mary Gardiner.

The children of Benjamin Collins by his second marriage to Mary Cooper:

Benjamin Charles Collins

Benjamin Charles Collins died unmarried in 1808 and in his Will given below bequeathed all his estate and effects real and personal to his mother Mary Collins, brother William Collins, brothers in law Sir George Staunton, Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and Rev Barford Colton their heirs executors administrators and assigns equally share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants. He appointed Sir George Staunton, Townley Ward of Soho Square Middx, Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and Rev Barford Colton the executors but later by codicil Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie was replaced by Jonathan Dennett. (Patent No. 1798 Benjamin Charles Collins of Salisbury 18 March 1791 - A grate to be used in or out of a chimney with an air flue or air flues in the cheeks and back whereby the fuel burnt in it will have the effect of giving a brighter and stronger fire than is produced in chimney grates now in use).

Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 29 February 1808. At one in the morning in his 50th year Mr B. C. Collins an Alderman of the Corporation of the city of Salisbury. He was seized with an apoplectic fit in the afternoon of the 28th near Lincoln's Inn Fields and was soon recognized and conveyed to his house in Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square but the stroke was fatal and the skill of the most eminent of the faculty proved unavailing. He was the youngest son of the late Benjamin Collins an eminent banker in Salisbury and well known as the printer and proprietor of that respectable weekly publication the Salisbury Journal which has been printed and published in the Collins Family upwards of seventy years.

Benjamin Charles Collins - Will dated 19 August 1796 proved 6 May 1808, 26 April 1810 & 15 October 1810.

Summary. Benjamin Charles Collins of Salisbury Wiltshire bequeathed all his estate and effects of what nature kindsoever or wheresoever both real and personal to his mother Mary Collins, brother William Collins and brothers in law Sir George Staunton, Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and Rev Barford Colton to have and to hold their heirs executors administrators and assigns equally share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants. He bequeathed

By three Indentures a share of property on the New Canal at Salisbury once of Benjamin Charles Collins and late of William Collins was sold by Rev Christopher Rigby Collins, his son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins, daughters and sons in law Elizabeth wife of Robert Austin Langworthy, Mary wife of William Webster, Sarah wife of John Walter Phelps and Edith wife of William Somerville Ahmuty to William Bird Brodie son of Peter Bellinger Brodie.

Indenture dated 9 May 1832 summary. Made between Rev Christopher Rigby Collins of Sidmouth Devon, Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins of Sidmouth Devon, Robert Austen Langworthy of Bath Somerset, William Webster of 17 Bedford Place, Russell Square Middx a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, Rev John Phelps of Rennes in the Kingdom of France and William Somerville Ahmuty of Cookstown in the Kingdom of Ireland of the one part and William Bird Brodie of New Sarum Wilts of the other part. That for and in consideration of five shillings apiece of good and lawful money of Great Britain to each of them in hand well and truly paid by said William Bird Brodie at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged. The said parties have sold to William Bird Brodie one undivided fifth part the whole unto five equal parts being considered as divided between them of all that messuage or tenement and ground and soil whereon the same stands and the garden with appurtenances within the city of New Sarum lately called the Ditch but now the New Canal divided and bounded between lands formerly of Robert Baynes on the west part, lands of the Bishop of Sarum on the east part and the land formerly of Lord Staunton on the south part and the street or highway lately called the Ditch but now the New Canal on the north part. All of which were formerly in the occupation of Benjamin Charles Collins, afterward of William Bird Brodie, John Dowding and John Luxford and since of William Bird Brodie and John Dowding, and now of William Bird Brodie and Charles George Brodie together with one undivided fifth part or share of and in all houses shops counting houses warehouses outhouses edifices buildings stables yards gardens ways paths passages easements water courses liberties privileges profits commodities advantages hereditaments and appurtenances. Subject to the powers and declarations expressed and declared and concerning same by an Indenture of Release already prepared and intended to bear date the day next after the day of the date of these presents and made between Rev Christopher Rigby Collins of the first part, Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins of the second part, Robert Austen Langworthy and Elizabeth his wife of the third part, William Webster and Mary Beata his wife of the fourth part, John Walker Phelps and Sarah his wife of the fifth part, William Somerville Ahmuty and Edith his wife of the sixth part, William Bird Brodie of the seventh part and Charles George Brodie of the eighth part. In witness whereof said parties to these presents have set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Indenture dated 10 May 1832 summary. Rev Christopher Rigby Collins of the first part, Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins of the second part, Robert Austin Langworthy and Elizabeth his wife of the third part, William Webster and Mary Beata his wife of the fourth part, Rev John Walter Phelps and Sarah his wife of the fifth part, William Somerville Ahmuty and Edith his wife of the sixth part, William Bird Brodie of the seventh part and Charles George Brodie of New Sarum a trustee for purposes hereafter mentioned of the eighth part. Whereas Benjamin Charles Collins at the execution of his Will entitled to said estates and to a fifth part or share that is now intended to be released did sign and publish his last Will dated 19 August 1796 and devised all his estate and effects real and personal to Mary Collins, Sir George Staunton, Peter Bellinger Brodie, Barfoot Colton and William Collins their heirs executors equally share and share alike as tenants in common. Benjamin Charles Collins by codicil dated 7 November 1796 revoked his bequest to Peter Bellinger Brodie but did not make any devise of the share. The Will and codicils were duly proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury by Townley Ward one of the executors. Sir George Staunton and Barfoot Colton both died in the lifetime of Benjamin Charles Collins and their shares descended to Dame Jane Staunton widow, Sarah Brodie and Charlotte Bacon the three sisters and co-heirs of Benjamin Charles Collins and said real estates passed to Mary Collins and William Collins respectively as tenants in common. Whereas William Collins having one fifth part of property made and published his Will dated 12 July 1810 and thereby bequeathed Christopher Rigby Collins described as the husband of his daughter Eliza all his estate in trust for the children of the said marriage. William Collins departed this life in August 1810 and his daughter Eliza in August 1827. Christopher Rigby Collins by his wife Eliza had six children Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins, Elizabeth Langworthy, Mary Beata Webster, Sarah Phelps, Edith Ahmuty and Henry Collins who died under 21 years without issue. The said parties have agreed the sale to William Bird Brodie for £360. Forfeiture or otherwise to the use of Charles George Brodie during the life of William Bird Brodie. All that one undivided fifth part or share the whole unto five equal parts . . . hereby released.

Indenture dated 30 October 1832 summary. Final Agreement made in the Court of the King at Westminster before Nicolas Conyngham Tindal, James Allan Park, Stephen Caselee, John Bernard Bosanquet, Edward Hall Alderson, Justices of our King and others then and there present: Between William Bird Brodie and Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins, Robert Austen Langworthy and Elizabeth his wife, William Webster and Mary Beata his wife, John Walter Phelps and Sarah his wife, and William Somerville Ahmuty and Edith his wife of one undivided fifth part of messuage with appurtenances in the city of New Sarum. Whereupon a Plea of Covenant was summoned between them in the same Court that they acknowledged the said one fifth part with appurtenances to be the right of William Bird Brodie and they each remised and quit-claimed to him and his heirs for ever. And for this acknowledgment remise quit claim warranties and agreement William Bird Brodie hath given to the aforesaid the sum of sixty pounds sterling.

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Mary Elizabeth Goodenge known as Mary Castle now residing with him at No. 40 New Road, St Marylebone Middx and his uncle John Cooper of Salisbury a £100 annuity each. William Tomlyn of Salisbury banker, Elias Hibbs of Monument Yard London wine merchant and cousin Frances Henrietta Elderton of Salisbury £500 each. Harriet Dennett and Frances Eliza Dennett daughters of Jonathan Dennett of Leicester Place £250 each. Robert Dennett a gold watch and £250. Rev Edward Cooper of Yetminster, Sherborne Dorset £500. Miss Sarah Greaves £100 and brothers William Greaves and Robert Greaves £100 each. John Dowding his clerk, Henry Stevens and William Havers both of Salisbury £100 each. John Luxford his overseer and Thomas Williams of Vere Street released from all debts.

He appointed executors Sir George Staunton, Townley Ward of Soho Square, Middx, Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and Rev Barford Colton. As witness my hand and seal 19 August 1796 - Benjamin Chas. Collins signed sealed published and declared by said testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the sight and presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses at his request and in his sight and presence and the sight and presence of each thereto Cliff. Ashore. James Moss. Matthew Thompson.

Four Codicils.

1. The executors to deliver up to Thomas Williams all agreements entered into by him with William Bacon on the supplying of medicines for the Oxford Street shop. To John Sawyer now his clerk employed in the Oxford Street business £500 and John William Hucklebridge of Salisbury late his clerk £200 - B. C. Collins witnessed by Cliff. Ashore. James Moss. Matthew Thompson.

2. The bequests made to Peter Bellinger Brodie, William Tomlyn, Edward Cooper and Frances Elderton revoked. Appointment of Peter Bellinger Brodie as an executor revoked. Jonathan Dennett appointed an executor and £100 each to him and his wife. Townley Ward and wife £100 each. 7 November 1796 - Benjamin Charles Collins witnessed Cliff. Ashmore. Samuel Sowther. James Brough clerks to Messrs Ward, Dennett and Greaves of Covent Garden.

3. On 7 July 1792 I delivered by letter enclosed draft for £769 to my most able and faithful solicitor Townley Ward for own sole use in grateful yet humble token of my sense of the many and important services rendered me and my family during a long and most arduous executorship being in part a small portion only of my share of very large sums wrested by his able head from the hands of needy and artful villains as also from rogues of lesser note All which services were done and rendered without law and litigation the more meritorious this and to the estate of my father deceased immensely advantageous for the experience of time has shewn had a Chancery suit or even the usual delays of a nisi prius court taken place a very great portion of the large sums so recovered would have been lost This day my worthy and honorable friend Mr Ward returned to my hands this draft and as he was peremptory that I should take it I did so. I now give it into the hands of my esteemed friend and solicitor Robert Dennett to be placed herewith in my last will in his keeping and in case of my death to be delivered into the hands of his brother one of my executors for the uses and purposes of Mr Ward or as he only shall direct. Signed with my name and sealed with my seal 21 April 1797 - Ben. Chas. Collins.

4. 25 December 1801. This is a codicil to my Will in the hands of Robert Dennett of Covent Garden London. I owe not one penny to my father's estate and not one penny to any of my late partners in the banking business. To Robert and Jonathan Dennett and partner William Graves £3500 in trust £500 for Frances Eliza Dennett the residue for Maria Castle at Mrs Butts Ladies School, Great Marlborough Street, Carnaby Market and to be a ward of Chancery - B. C. Collins.

Affidavit dated 2 May 1808. Appeared personally Gerard Selby of Lincoln's Inn Fields, Middx gentleman and made oath that on 6 February last he went to the city of Salisbury for the purpose of being present at the examination of the papers of Benjamin Charles Collins late of Salisbury who died this deponent believes the 24 January last past. At Salisbury a search was made by this deponent together with William Collins, Samuel Emly, John Luxford and John Dowding gentlemen of Salisbury and the deceased's papers were examined. The daily journal for the year 1801 was found by Samuel Emly locked in the deceased's bureau in the dining parlour in the presence of this deponent and said other persons which on reading a codicil was found therein written in a page of Memorandums and Resolutions beginning 25 December 1801

The Will was proved at London 6 May 1808 with four codicils before the worshipful George Ogilvie Doctor of Laws surrogate of the Right Honorable Sir William Wynne knight Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oath of Townly Ward the surviving executor named in said Will to whom administration of all and singular the chattels and credits of the deceased was granted having been first sworn duly to administer power reserved of making like grant to Jonathan Dennett the executor named in the second codicil when he shall apply for same.

On 26 April 1810 Admon with the Will and four codicils annexed of the goods and chattels and credits of Benjamin Charles Collins late of Salisbury deceased left unadministered by Townly Ward deceased whilst living the surviving executor named in the Will was granted to William Collins the brother and surviving residuary legatee having first sworn by Comon duly to administer . . .

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On 15 October 1810 Admon with the Will and four codicils annexed of the goods and chattels and credits of Benjamin Charles Collins late of Salisbury deceased left unadministered by Townly Ward deceased whilst living the surviving executor named in the Will and by William Collins the brother and surviving residuary legatee named in the Will . . . was granted to Peter Bellinger Brodie, William Bird Brodie and Rev Blakely Cooper executors of the Will of Mary Collins widow deceased whilst living the mother of one of the surviving residuary legatees named in the Will having been first sworn by Comon duly to administer.

Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 14 February 1810. Aged 67 Townley Ward esq of Henrietta Street, Covent Garden and Monkey Island, Berks solicitor and one of the oldest and most eminent practitioners in the profession. The late Townley Ward was the son of Rev Henry Ward by Janet one of the three daughters of Henry Townley late of Dutton Hall co. Lancaster. Mr Ward commenced business in Henrietta Street in 1766 and his eminent abilities aided by a persevering disposition and strong mind acquired him that distinction in his profession. He married in 1778 Miss Eleanora Hucks a lady distinguished for her personal charms and accomplishments who died in 1800. Mr Ward not having left any issue devised the Willows and all real and personal property to Patrick Crawford Bruce of Taplow Lodge and left upwards of £20,000 to friends, confidential clerks and servants several of whom have been in his service upwards of 20 years.

Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 12 April 1818. In Lincoln's Inn Fields, Jonathan Dennett esq.

Jane Collins

Jane Collins married in 1771 George Leonard Stunton of Cargins co. Galway Ireland son of Colonel George Staunton by Margaret daughter of John Leonard of Carra. At Salisbury Wiltshire George Staunton Esq of Grenada son of George Staunton of Galway to Miss Collins daughter of Benjamin Collins of Salisbury banker.

George Leonard Stunton was appointed a member of Council and his Majesty's attorney general in the island of Grenada. He later accompanied Lord Macartney to Madras and negotiated the peace with Tippo Sultan in 1784 for which service he was created a Baronet of Ireland in 1785. He also accompanied Lord Macartney to China as Secretary of Embassy and was eventual minister plenipotentiary in 1792 and later published a narrative of the mission. In 1784 at the decease of Thomas Staunton of Sibton Park, Suffolk, M.P for Galway without male issue, George Leonard Staunton became chief and representative in the male line of the ancient family of Staunton of Staunton. He married Jane daughter of Benjamin Collins of Milford Wiltshire by whom he left at his decease an only surviving son George Thomas Staunton M.P. D.C.L. F.R.S. born 26 May 1781 who succeeded his father as second baronet in January 1810.

Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 16 June 1823. At her house in Devonshire Street, Lady Staunton relict of the late Sir George Staunton bart.

Sarah Collins

Sarah Collins married in 1775 the Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie of Winterslow Wilts listed in Alumni Oxonienses s. Alexander Brodie of St James Westminster arm.. Worcester Coll. matric 23 Feb 1762 aged 19. B.A 1765. M.A 1768. rector of Winterslow. died 19 March 1804. Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 7 February 1847. At Salisbury aged 92 Sarah relict of Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and daughter of Benjamin Collins of Milford formerly an eminent bookseller of Salisbury and sister of Lady Staunton wife of the late Sir George Staunton; she was left a widow having had sons Peter Bellinger Brodie conveyancer, William Bird Brodie late M.P for Salisbury, Sir Benjamin Collins Brodie surgeon and Charles George Brodie.

The children of Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and Sarah Collins:

Peter Bellinger Brodie born in 1778 was a noted conveyancer and barrister of Lincoln's Inn. In 1829 he prepared the draft of the Rock Life Assurance Company and drew up the Charter of King's College London. A member of the Real Property Commission he drew up parts of its three reports on fines and recoveries, probate of wills, copyhold and ancient demesne. He also prepared a Parliamentary Bill for abolishing fines and recoveries which became law in 1838 and was the author of a Treatise regarding a tax on successions to real and personal property, removal of the house tax as substitutes for the income tax, and on burdens on land and restrictions on commerce and loans of money. He married firstly Elizabeth Mary Wood who died in 1823 daughter of Sutton Thomas Wood of Oxford and married secondly in 1826 Susan Mary Morgan daughter of John Morgan. In 1854 he died at his home 49 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London. Summary of Will dated 29 October 1842 proved 20 September 1854. Peter Bellinger Brodie of Lincoln's Inn Fields in the county of Middlesex bequeathed his dear and beloved wife Susan Mary Brodie all property for own absolute use and benefit and appointed her the sole executrix. In witness whereof I have to this my Will set my hand this 29th October 1842 - P.B. Brodie. The writing on the other side was signed published and declared by Peter Bellinger Brodie as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses William Cockrane, 13 Charing Cross, Westminster. Geo. Thos. Jenkin, 3 Lincoln's Inn Fields gentleman. The Will was proved at London 20 September 1854 before the worshipful Frederic Thomas Pratt Doctor of Laws and Surrogate by the oath of Susan Mary Brodie widow the relict the sole executrix to whom Admon was granted having been first sworn duly to administer.

Peter Bellinger Brodie born in 1815 son of Peter Bellinger Brodie by his first wife Elizabeth Mary Wood was ordained at Salisbury Cathedral in 1838 and appointed curate to the Rev Francis Baker. In 1853 he was appointed vicar of St Lawrence Church, Rowington Warwickshire and raised funds for a new school, restoration of the church and construction of a mission chapel in an outlying hamlet. He married Isabella Octavia Baker daughter of Rev Francis Baker rector of Wylde Wiltshire and when she died in 1896 a stained glass window was dedicated to her by the Worcestershire Diocesan Girls Friendly Society of which she was a founder member. He died in 1897 buried at Rowington alongside his wife and two sons and two stained glass windows were dedicated to him by his parishioners who held him in high regard and affection.

He was also a noted geologist and attended lectures at Emmanuel College Cambridge given by Adam Sedgwick and in 1834 was elected Fellow of the Geological Society of London proposed by William Clift curator of its museum. The author of Fossil Insects in the Secondary Rocks of England and had many species named for him. In 1853 he became a member of the Warwickshire Natural History and Archeological Society and was founder of its Field Club guiding field trips, writing papers, serving on committees and donating many fossils to its museum. He was described as a genial man who impressed people with his enthusiasm and energy. In 1887 he was awarded the Murchison medal by the Geological Society of London and after his death in 1897 Charles Lapworth wrote to the Warwickshire Natural History Society: We of the younger generation of geologists look up to Mr Brodie as one of the fathers of our science, not only does palaeontological geology owe a deep debt of gratitude to Mr Brodie but stratigraphical geologists have cause to be equally grateful.

Alumni Cantabrigiensis.

Peter Bellinger Brodie adm pens Emmanuel Coll. 7 June 1834. s.Peter Bellinger barrister. matric michs 1834. B.A 1838. M.A 1842. ord deacon 1838 priest Salisbury 1839. curate Wylde Wilts 1838-1840. curate Steeple Claydon, Bucks 1840. curate Down Hatherley 1840-1853. vicar Rowington 1853-1897. surr dio Worcester 1853-1897. rector Baddesley Clinton 1855-1897. dean Warwick 1877-1894. Entomologist. Fellow Geological Society. Author of Fossil Insects in Secondary Rocks. died 1 Nov 1897 aged 82. Father of Arthur William Lawson Brodie and Frank Malcom Brodie.

Arthur William Lawson Brodie adm pens St Johns 27 May 1870. 3s.Peter Bellinger 1834 clerk. bap 19 June 1851. Hereford Cathedral matric Michs 1870. B.A 1874. Athletics Blue 1872. 1873. died 13 June 1874.

Frank Malcom Brodie adm pens Trinity Hall 23 April 1877. s.Peter Bellinger 1834 clerk. Lancing and Stratford upon Avon. matric michs 1877. B.A 1881. M.A 1882. ord deacon 1882. priest Worcester 1883. curate Rowington 1882-1889. rector Honiley 1889-1897. perpetual curate Coventry 1897-1916. vicar Northwood Middx 1916-1923. retired lic.pr.dio Chichester. of St Helen's Road, Hastings 1933.

William Bird Brodie born in 1780 married firstly Louisa Hussey who died in 1816 daughter of Thomas Hussey of Salisbury. He married secondly in 1826 Frances Huntley daughter of Rev Richard Huntley of Boxwell Court, Gloucester and had son Erasmus Henry Brodie listed in Alumni Oxonienses 2s.William Bird Brodie of the Precincts, Salisbury Cathedral gent. Trinity Coll. matric 27 May 1850 aged 18. B.A 1855. M.A 1860. Inspector of Schools.

Salisbury Journal Monday 23 November 1812 summary. On Wednesday Edward Davis Mayor of this City of Salisbury retired from office and Mr William Bird Brodie was sworn in as Mayor. Afterwards at four o'clock he gave a dinner in the Council Chamber and Assembly Room for Members of the Corporation, Nobility, Gentry and Clergy and principal inhabitants of the City, Close and Neighbourhood. Among those who honoured the Mayor with their presence were the Earls of Radnor and Pembroke, Viscount Folkstone, Sir Eyre Coote, Sir Charles Warre Malet, Major Wadham Wyndham, Mr Wyndham of Dinton, Messrs Paul Methuen, Canon Coxe, Penruddocke, Osborne, Egerton, Templeman, Bethel Coxe, Bristowe and many other Gentlemen. After dinner at the Assembly Room some of the Gentlemen of the Cathedral Choir under the direction of Mr A.Corfe performed in great style. Toasts were made to the Royal Family, the Army and Navy, Lord Wellington, Lord Bridport and the Royal Marines; and those to Mr Chancellor Douglas and Major General George Michell showed the high esteem in which these gentlemen are held by all to whom they are known. The company continued together in great conviviality the room not being completely cleared till near seven on Thursday morning and the Mayor had the satisfaction of knowing his efforts for the entertainment of his friends were eminently successful.

In 1832 by three Indentures a share of property on the New Canal at Salisbury once of Benjamin Charles Collins and late of William Collins was sold by Rev Christopher Rigby Collins, son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins, daughters and sons in law Elizabeth wife of Robert Austin Langworthy, Mary wife of William Webster, Sarah wife of Rev John Walter Phelps and Edith wife of William Somerville Ahmuty to William Bird Brodie.

Benjamin Collins Brodie born in 1783 married Anne Sellon third daughter of Mr Serjeant Sellon and Charlotte Dickinson. Sir Benjamin Collins Brodie 1st baronet cr baronet 30 Aug 1834. DCL President Royal College of Surgeons 1844. President Royal Society 1858-1861. Surgeon to the Queen and first surgeon in ordinary to H.R.H the Prince Consort. Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences in the Institute of France. died 19 October 1862. of 14 Saville Row, London and Broome Park, Dorking Surrey. succeeded by his son Benjamin Collins Brodie 2nd baronet.

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Benjamin Collins Brodie 2nd baronet married Philothea Margaret daughter of John Vincent Thompson, Serjeant at law. Alumni Oxonienses 1s. Benjamin of Westminster bart. Balliol Coll. matric 29 Nov 1834 aged 17. B.A 1838. M.A 1860. Lincolns Inn 1839. DCL 1872. Waynflet Professor of Chemistry 1865-1872. Aldrichian professor 1855-1873. Fellow of the Royal Society. died 24 November 1880.

William Brodie second son of Benjamin Collins Brodie 1st bart married Maria Waldergrave. Cantabrigienses Alumni adm Trinity Coll. 3 July 1838 aged 17. matric michs 1839. B.A 1843. M.A 1846. ord deacon 1844. priest Winchester 1845. rector New Alresford Hants 1851-1868. vicar East Meon Hants 1868-1882. married Lady Maria Waldegrave daughter of William 8th Earl of Waldegrave.

Charles George Brodie born in 1789 married Catherine Sarah Ray the daughter of Walter Ray of Suffolk. Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 22 August 1849. At Salisbury after a few hours illness Catherine Sarah wife of Charles George Brodie and eldest daughter of Walter Ray of Tostock Suffolk.

London Gazette 5 November 1847 Bankrupts. William Bird Brodie and Charles George Brodie of Salisbury Wilts co-partners. Official assignee Bell. sols Bundrett & Co. Temple. Fiat 1 November pet. cr William Ward of Salisbury carrier. London Gazette 4 June 1850 Meetings. William Bird Brodie and Charles George Brodie of Salisbury bankers. 24 June 1850 at 11 Court of Bankruptcy London div. sep. est Charles George Brodie.

Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 1 February 1853. At Salisbury in his 74th year Charles George Brodie esq many years an eminent wine merchant and Alderman of that city. He was a younger brother of the late William Bird Brodie M.P for that city and of Sir Benjamin Collins Brodie bart and was the fourth and youngest son of Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie vicar of Winterslow by Sarah daughter of Benjamin Collins of Milford Salisbury.

Francis Collins

Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 1781. At Salisbury Francis Collins esq brother of Benjamin Collins of that city banker. In his **Will** given below he devised legacies to his brothers Joseph and Benjamin Collins and to nephews William and Benjamin Charles Collins. Letters of Administration of the goods chattels and credits of Francis Collins bachelor was granted to Benjamin Collins and Joseph Collins the natural and lawful brothers and next of kin of the deceased.

Francis Collins - Will dated 21 August 1779 proved 22 June 1782.

Summary. The intent of his Will did not change but in the various Parts he made numerous alterations in the detail, condtions and/or size of bequests and noted all debts to be paid to the use of his last Will save and except therein mentioned as gift and legacy - the principal wonder that among my relations on account of this my last Will I think must be from my not giving more for them then I have.

Part A. First I order etc

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Francis Collins - Will 21 August 1779 proved 22 June 1782.

Summary. Frances Collins made many bequests which included sums of money and debts owed to him. The intent of his Will did not change but in the various Parts he made numerous alterations in the detail, conditions and/or size of bequests. He noted all debts to be paid to the use of his last Will and Testament save and except therein mentioned as gift and legacy. The principal wonder that among my relations on account of this my last Will I think must be from my not giving more for them then I have that I have given them so much after their serious recollection of past etc.

Part A. First I order that all my buildings in High Street be sold by auction or otherways to the best advantage that is to say my house now occupied by Mr Cumlyn with all fixtures as dressers shelves stoves pump and lead cistern locks to doors paper hangings etc with the back building belonging to the same. I likewise order all my household furniture plate linen to be sold by auction or otherways to the best advantage after which I order my present dwelling house likewise sold to the best advantage with the remark to each purchaser that as I have made all the rain water gutters and currents very convenient from house to house the same shall remain so except the proprietors of both houses shall agree to alter it all the above to be done within six months after my death and I do hereby give a strict charge with my utmost request that my executors to this my last Will go do to their utmost perform and execute all and every legacy of ever so small denomination as my worldly effects at a moderate calculation (after the great loss sustained by Mr Towers of about £1300 with other sums) to amount to more than a sufficient to answer all legacies etc.

21 August 1779. Nephew Thomas Tatlock owing £650 same now given him and wife Mary Tatlock in trust for their children Nathaniel, Susan, Thomas, Mary, Sarah and Harriot and also for the children £700 in trust to nephew Nicholas Saunders and Maurice Barnard. Nephew James Evatt appraiser owing £800 mortgage on three newly built houses in St James's Parade Bath now given to William Slater attorney and nephew Benjamin Charles Collins in trust for Evatt children lawfully begotten the interest to mother Ann Evatt for herself and children. James Evatt owing £450 now given him and his wife for prudent use. Nephew Thomas Towers died owing £1300 on two bonds now given to Margaret Towers widow. Nieces Margaret Towers £100, Lydia Compton £450 and bond £250 given her husband William Compton at marriage, Elizabeth Saunders £200, Edith Poole £600, Lucy Poole £700. M.Barnard, N.Saunders and T.Tatlock £600 in trust invested in public funds the proceeds payable monthly to brother Joseph Collins or wife Margaret Collins. Niece Frances Nicholas at Frome bond £850 and interest due now near £600. Cousin Ann Batt £100 or if deceased £40 to son William Batt. James Whitmarsh grocer and William Stephens £200 in trust for poor children Mary, Elizabeth, Catherine and Ann daughters of John Russell butcher late of the Oxford Arms Inn, Sarum begging their friendly eye over them and providing by apprenticeship or otherways for their future good. William Jones and daughter Jemima Jones owing £30 on joint Bond now given her as a present. Miss Mary Batten now or late of the Coffee Room, Hot Wells Bristol twelve guineas, Miss Fowl late shop woman to Miss Blake milliner three guineas, Miss Hayward milliner two guineas, Mrs Cooke of Farringdon five guineas and daughters two guineas each. Widow Howard five guineas, servant Mary Chant five guineas and children one guinea each. Mary Boney of St Thomas parish late servant to Mrs x four guineas on condition she receives her usual parish allowance. Poor neighbour Mary Ward five guineas betwixt her father herself and sisters. Poor widow Bishop a near neighbour two guineas. Edith Bryant and sister now or late in that dismal hole Fisherton Workhouse four guineas each. To that honest ill treated man John Burrough late mercer of Silver Street five guineas. Mary Bishop his ironing woman three guineas. Robert Sutton his blacksmith late opposite the King's Head, Fisherton Bridge five guineas. James Whitmarsh two guineas and John Whitmarsh three guineas grocers and trustees. William Slater trustee as reward for some trouble he may have in the trust five guineas. Nephew Benjamin Charles Collins £100 in trust interest payable to the treasurer of the Salisbury Infirmary for charitable uses. Vaughan Prince grocer and the Churchwardens of Farringdon Berks £10 for the most distressed poor of that town by half crowns and eighteen pence each. The parson to preach a good honest sermon at my burial no flattery one guinea and each under bearer five shillings and each link boy sixpence. Funeral to be at Farringdon and the text thus Psalms 106 verse 4th Common Prayer Book by candle light the church to be well lighted. N.Saunders £8 yearly on life of Edward Burtles of London secured in law in Cheshire. William Compton the little copyhold houses or cottages with bit of land on life of John Bell now lying in Cirencester situate in Market Lavington.

Part B. Benjamin Charles Collins and Rev Mr Brody £700 in trust on good security the proceeds payable monthly to brother Joseph Collins and wife for their joint lives and if he outlives his wife same for own use and after to nieces Frances Collins and Ann Collins the daughters of Joseph Collins. Sister in law Margaret Collins widow £200, nieces Frances and Ann Collins £450 each, Benjamin Collins and wife £20, niece Mary Collins £5. Eliz Collins, nephew William Collins, Jane Collins, Sarah Collins, Charles and Charlotte £5 each. Nieces Margaret Towers and Elizabeth Saunders £200 each, Lydia Compton £350, Ann Evatt £300. James and Ann Evatt and Edith Poole her sister £650 in trust for use the Evatt children. Edith Poole £1300 on supposition she will never marry so at her death the principle part will return for benefit of her sisters. Mary Tatlock £500, Thomas Tatlock and Nicholas Saunders £400 in trust for use Tatlock children. Lucy Poole £800 and copyhold at Sarum. Vaughn Prince of Farringdon £40 in trust for kinsman John Butler. William Compton and John Whitmarsh executors £80 for Elizabeth and Mary Russell and youngest daughters of John Russell butcher late landlord at the Oxford Arms Inn, Catherine Street. Miss Jemima Jones schoolmistress of Bishops Walton bond now given. John Harfield shopman and N.Saunders £10. Vaughn Prince of Farringdon and churchwardens £20 for the Farringdon poor on condition no person be reduced in their usual allowance from the parish or town rate. Mrs Cook widow of Farringdon five guineas and daughters two guineas each. Edith Bryant and sister now or late in Fishertons very dismal cold workhouse three guineas each. To that poor but honest man so unnoticed by his birth relations James Burrough mercer in Silver Street £10. James Whitmarsh grocer, John Whitmarsh brother and William Chubb one guinea each for a ring. Mary Bishop and mother two guineas each. Mary Ward and sisters three guineas each and Ann Bishop widow three guineas but not to pay her landlord for rent. Edward Burtles annuity to T.Tatlock in trust for the children of niece Frances Nicholas of Frome. All gifts and other charges after alteration amount to £7575 only.

Part C. Benjamin Collins and wife £5 each and daughters £5 each. Nephew William Collins the High Street house now occupied by Mr Cumlyn subject to the £10 rent charge used to clothe two men and three women poor parishioners of Farringdon Berks such as are real abjects approved by three or four of the oldest and most capital inhabitants of the town and the abjects to be changed every year and on calculation of £10 each man a great coat waistcoat and britches shoes and four stocking and each woman a cap gown petticoat apron shift shoes and stockings. Benjamin Charles Collins my present dwelling with appurtenances I now keep for my own use as stable outhouses etc subject to the ten guineas rent charge paid yearly to Frances Nicholas wife of Thomas Nicholas in trust for use of their children. N.Saunders and T.Tatlock £420 in trust to pay Joseph Collins or his wife eight shillings weekly with 5% added during his life now near seventy and at his decease to his widow £100 and daughter Ann Jones £300. Ann Jones another £300 as it may happen not forgetting bond £200 given Jones as executor. N.Saunders, T.Tatlock and W.Compton all the houses in Bath profits arising equally betwixt them save Saunders £60 to atone for his £100 mortgage on them and like sum to Lucy to atone for £100 mortgage on them and be thankful. Barnard, Saunders and Tatlock £2000 in trust the proceeds for Tatlock children born in wedlock. Frances Nicholas given debt due for inventory to place herself and husband Thomas Nicholas in the Crown Inn at Frome and for use of their two daughters £400 in trust to nephews William Collins and B.C. Collins. Saunders and Tatlock to pay John Butler 2s.6d a week. Mary Tanner wife of Tanner the plumber £5 for use the Bryants late in Fisherton Workhouse.

Part D. William Collins given the Cumlyns house to pay ten guineas every year to clothe two poor men and three poor women real abjects of the town of Farringdon. The men a hat coat britches two shirts two pairs stockings one pair shoes. The women a hat two caps warm gown petticoat two shifts one or two aprons two pair stockings one pair shoes. All made to fit them with good and proper stuff for the purpose and first day of wearing the 13 November then all five to prayers at church being St Andrews. The abjects nominated by the churchwardens to be approved by three or two of the principle inhabitants of Farringdon and if not approved the churchwardens to nominate five others or exchange one or two of them. The next year five fresh ones to be entitled in same manner and so from year to year for ever. I think ten guineas to complete and desire strict attention given to this charity and in default churchwardens have full power to make complaint. To Benjamin Charles Collins the dwelling house and appurtenances now occupied by Francis Collins subject to £50 a year paid to the steward or treasurer of the Almshouse Wintergate for equal distribution among abjects male or female.

Part E. Benjamin Charles Collins my corner house subject to £12 a year paid to Frances Nicholas for life for own use as I fear she will be blind and at her decease £1120 for use of her children. Lucy Poole £500 bond with security due to me from Thomas Tatlock date 20 October 1770 but she shall have no power to sue for same within three years after my death.

Part F. James Whitmarsh and William Stephens in trust £800 mortgage and interest due on Evatts houses for use Ann Evatt and children. Barnard and Saunders £1100 each in trust for use youngest children of Mary Tatlock. Nathaniel and Susan Tatlock fifty shillings each. In trust £600 for any child lawfully begotten born and baptised before August 1780.

Part G. To clothe two oldest men and three oldest women that are real abjects and inhabitants of Farringdon changing the abjects every year nominated by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor the clothes to be made as far as convenient in the town of Farringdon that they may fit the abjects. For the men a hat a coat waistcoat britches shirt pair of stockings and shoes all made of new materials but not of the very coarsest and worst sort. For the women a cap hat gown and warm petticoat shift check apron pair strong stockings and shoes all made of new stuff. To be without the least partiality in the whole proceeding but if any partiality respecting the abjects or any neglect mismanagement or deficiency in clothes shall appear to two or more of the principle inhabitants they are required to report it to the nearest Justice of the Peace who shall have full power to rectify and amend same to the fulfilling of my Will and by calculation £11 will be just enough to defray all charge for the apparel of five and some trifle left to be equally divided.

Parts H to O include persons already mentioned with additionally:

Part J. John Fletcher attorney £5. Mr Cumlyn tenant £2. Ann Domont basket woman in town market £2. Parish of St Thomas £10. Eliz Condute or Condit apprentice weaver for clothing and to Bishop weaver for clothing 2 guineas in trust to William Stephens. End note: £8700 my present property exclusive of late loss £1400.

Part K. Benjamin Collins and family the two houses and quarter rent £1470. William Collins my house now occupied by Mr Cumlyn subject to quarter rent let or not let of £15 a year that a moiety thereof used to buy eight upper garments for four men and four women the most deserving poor of the town of Farringdon to change every year and any surplus to be given with the clothing for ever and I desire my nephew to be careful whom he employs as I wish a just distribution.

Part L. Clothing for three women and three men annually from the interest of £2000. £26 a year to brother Joseph Collins and eighteen shillings a month to kinsman John Butler at Farringdon.

Part M. Houses £1300. Goods £300. Wine bottles etc £40.

Affidavit 5 June 1782. Appeared Personally James Whitmarsh of New Sarum grocer, Silas Cumlyn of same tailor, Benjamin Collins of same and Lucy Poole of same spinster jointly and severally made oath they very well knew Francis Collins late of New Sarum gentleman deceased for several years before and to the time of his death and were well acquainted with the manner and character of his writing having often seen him write and having seen and carefully viewed the several paper writing hereunto annexed marked with the letters A B C D E F G H J K L M N O these deponents on their oath jointly and severally say the whole body contents and several interlineations and figures were and are of the proper hand writing and figuring of said deceased . . . Benjamin Collins and Lucy Poole for themselves jointly and severally speaking make oath they were both present the day after the death of the deceased making search for a Will when papers were found in the house of Francis Collins wherein he died taken out of the pocket of an outer or great coat by Mary Sturgis servant and believe to be true Mary Sturgis brought and delivered same to these deponents and that the several interlineations and obliterations scratchings and crossings out in the several paper writings appearing are now at this time in the same plight and condition as were found and delivered (save the letters marked thereon to distinguish them in manner aforesaid) and that they made diligent search after but could find no other Will or testamentary script or scroll . . . Benjamin Collins for himself only speaking saith the several paper writings so marked have from time of finding and delivery remained in the custody and power of this deponent only.

This 5th day of June 1782 James Whitmarsh, Silas Cumlyn, Benjamin Collins and Lucy Poole were duly sworn to the truth of this affidavit before me - Edward Moore commissary

On 22 June 1782 Letters of Administration with the Will contained in fourteen testamentary schedules annexed of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of Francis Collins late of New Sarum a bachelor deceased was granted to Benjamin Collins the natural and lawful brother and one of the next of kin of the deceased having been first sworn by commission duly to administer no executor or residuary legatee being named in the Will and to Joseph Collins the natural and lawful brother also and other only next of kin of the deceased having been first sworn.