

OLD

The Collins Family

Names Index

Benjamin Collins
Benjamin Charles Collins
Elizabeth Collins
Francis Collins
Jane Collins
Sarah Collins
William Collins

Summaries of Wills

Benjamin Collins
Benjamin Charles Collins
Mary Collins
William Collins
Francis Collins

Benjamin Collins

Benjamin Collins bookseller and publisher born in 1715 took over the family business in 1740 and later operated from premises on the New Canal at Salisbury Wiltshire. His son Benjamin Charles Collins inherited the business and when he died in 1808 it was administered by his half brother William Collins who died in 1810 then managed by his nephew William Bird Brodie son of the Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and Sarah Collins.

Benjamin Collins married firstly Edith Good who died in 1751 and had two children son William Collins whose daughter Elizabeth Collins married in 1799 the Rev Christopher Rigby and daughter Elizabeth Collins who married the Rev Barfoot Colton. He married secondly Mary Cooper and had son Benjamin Charles Collins and daughters Jane who married Sir George Leonard Staunton, Sarah who married the Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and Charlotte who married Mr Bacon.

Benjamin Collins died in 1785 buried at St Edmund's Church Salisbury and in his **Will** dated 25 March 1778 appointed joint executors and trustees 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. He bequeathed his son Benjamin Charles Collins the business on the New Canal at Salisbury comprising of a shop, warehouse, printing office and also stock in the trades of bookseller, bookbinder and medicine. Other beneficiaries included son William Collins, Lydia Compton, Margaret Towers, Mary Tatlock, Elizabeth Saunders, Ann Evatt and Lucy Poole, Rev John Elderton and Joseph Elderton and John Cooper.

Wiltshire 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.

The Salisbury Journal summaries.

21 February 1785. Obituary On Wednesday evening at his home on the Canal in the 68th year of his age Benjamin Collins Esq of this City.

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 that 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 earnestly 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 on 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** dated 9 March 1808 appointed joint executors and trustees grandsons Peter Bellinger Brodie, William Bird Brodie, George Thomas Staunton and great nephew Rev Blakley Cooper. Beneficiaries included daughters Lady Jane Staunton widow, Sarah Brodie widow and Charlotte Bacon widow, granddaughter Charlotte Mary Bacon and stepchildren William Collins and Elizabeth Colton.

Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 25 April 1808. At her home on the Canal, Salisbury aged 83 Mrs Collins mother of Mr Benjamin Charles Collins late printer of the Salisbury Journal whom she survived exactly eight weeks, and the second wife and widow of Mr Benjamin Collins formerly printer and banker at Salisbury.

The Athenaeum At Salisbury aged 83 Mrs Collins widow of Benjamin Collins formerly a banker in this city and for many

2
Benjamin Collins - Will dated 25 March 1778 proved with five codicils 1 March 1785.

Summary. Benjamin Collins of the city of New Sarum in the county of 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, £50 and sum of £500 within a year for own use and benefit. To brothers Joseph Collins £5 annuity and Francis Collins £50 and to brothers in law John Cooper and Joseph Elderton and nephew Rev Edward Cooper ten guineas apiece for a ring and mourning. 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 estates at Milford, New Sarum and the leasehold messuage and garden there now occupied by Edward Williams blacksmith. To son Benjamin Charles Collins his heirs executors and assigns the freehold messuage or house shop warehouses printing office premises with appurtenances on the New Canal at Sarum, all 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 the 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. And subject to a £105 annuity payable to his wife Mary Collins which with her legacies and beneficial interest to be in satisfaction of all claims on real or personal estate by settlement or otherwise.

To his three daughters Elizabeth Colton the estate and interest of leasehold estate at Purse Candle, Dorset for the lives of her and Mr Gardener after the decease of Mrs Barbara Gardener. Jane Staunton £67.4s.0d annuity during her life payable out of the plantation estates late of John Missett deceased of Montserrat. Sarah Brodie the 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 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 administrators and assigns in trust to sell and dispose at their discretion as thought best. And the produce thereof and the £3700 advanced his three married daughters and said foregoing specific 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. The legacies of William Collins valued £2000 and two eighth shares. 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 absolute power and disposal to make provisions and to apply for the maintenance and education of daughter Charlotte Collins during her minority. William Collins released from all debts and the right for six years to carry on the business of banker in the front of the house also the compting house on the New Canal. And Mary Collins the right 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.

I do hereby make and appoint my 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 joint executors in trust of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all former Wills. 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 said Benjamin Collins the testator as and for 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 to be divided equally among the other children and likewise daughter Charlotte Collins the one eighth share of Mary Collins to be divided in same manner. 25 March 1778 - Benj. Collins - in the presence of Edward Wray. Edward Joye. Thos. Chubb.
2. Francis Collins a trustee and executor now deceased and other property since acquired the same now devised to the surviving trustees 18 February 1781 - Benj. Collins in the presence of 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 in the presence of 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 Montserrat annuity of daughter Staunton revoked now devised Milford estates since acquired. 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 bequeathed £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. Should William Collins now abroad beyond the seas predeceased him the trustees devised his legacies to form part of the beneficial trusts one moiety thereof to Benjamin Charles Collins the other to Mary Collins and daughters Colton, Staunton and Brodie. 5 June 1784 - Benj. Collins in the presence of Catherine Kimber. William Collier. Jos. Elderton.

5. The two eighth share to my son William Collins and one eighth share to my 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.

4

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. By the Will of her late husband she was entitled to receive one eighth part of produce and sum of his trust estates and residue of personal estate for own disposal and for the benefit of her daughter Charlotte. She devised grandsons Sir George Thomas Staunton Baronet, 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 the proceeds from six eighth parts thereof to daughter Charlotte Bacon widow for own use during her life and the other two eighth parts to her daughter Charlotte Mary Bacon. After the decease of Charlotte Bacon three eighth parts to Charlotte Mary Bacon the other three eighth parts in equal proportions to daughters Lady Jane Staunton widow and Sarah Brodie widow.

By the Will of her lately deceased son Benjamin Charles Collins she was entitled to an undivided equal fifth part of his real and residuary personal estates and under the Statutes of Distribution of Intestates she 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 parts and shares in the real and personal estates of son 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 bequeathed Lady Staunton a silver tea kettle, lamp and tea chest with the silver tea canister. Charlotte Bacon £100 and all plate china bed and table linen and to Charlotte Mary Bacon a piano forte. To 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 the proceeds of £500 4% bank annuities. All the rest and residue of monies goods chattels and personal estate after payment of debts funeral and testamentary charges 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. During the absence of Sir George Thomas Staunton from England at any time 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 Mary Collins 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 the said testatrix and of 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 and Testament 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.

William Collins

William Collins born in 1745 the son of Benjamin Collins by his first marriage to Edith Good had daughter Elizabeth Collins who married 28 January 1799 the Rev **Christopher Rigby** at St Thomas's Church, Salisbury and had two sons Christopher Gerard and Henry and four daughters Elizabeth, Mary, Sarah and Edith.

Monthly Magazine 1799. At Salisbury Rev C. Rigby M.A to Miss Collins daughter of William Collins Esq.

Monthly Magazine Obituary At Salisbury aged 66 Wm. Collins Esq one of the Aldermen of that city.

William Collins died 4 August 1810 and in his **Will** dated 12 July 1810 appointed his son in law Rev Christopher Rigby the sole executor devised in trust his share in the real and personal estates late of his brother Benjamin Charles Collins also the residue of all real and personal estate. 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 Eliza the proceeds thereof applied for the maintenance and education of his children during their minorities and after grandson Christopher Gerard Rigby to receive one third part more than granddaughters. Other beneficiaries included sister Elizabeth Colton and her daughter Mrs Cook, Rev **Henry Rigby**, Rev Francis Baker, Samuel Emly, George Maton and Catherine Kimber. William Collins directed when his share in the message printing office shop premises on the New Canal late of his brother Benjamin Charles Collins was sold the sum to be not less than £500 but at the discretion of Rev Christopher Rigby to act as thought proper.

The Rev Christopher Rigby added the Collins surname by Royal Licence dated 29 August 1810 and became known as the Rev **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.

Salisbury Journal September 1812. 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 property on the New Canal at Salisbury once of Benjamin Charles Collins a share of which passed to William Collins was sold by Rev **Christopher Rigby Collins**, his son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins and four daughters 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, acting trustee Charles George Brodie the sons of **Peter Bellenger Brodie** and Sarah Collins.

6
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 a £100 annuity, £50 and all the furniture of her bedroom also 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. 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.

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 said brother Benjamin Charles Collins was sold the amount received 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 Wm. Collins as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto 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 the above obliteration in this attestation being first severally made - Robert Thomas. Geo. Dell. Thos. Chubb.

Six Codicils

1. In addition to my sister Colton's legacy of £200 I now give her £200 more because my friend C.O Cooke her son in law has come to see me in my illness. 15 July 1810 as witness my hand - Wm. Collins.

2. I had given my friend George Maton a legacy of £100 and I mean and intend that said sum which he has now in his hands as Chamberlain and which the Corporation of New Sarum have not thought proper to accept on my terms shall be retained and kept by Mr George Maton as his legacy. 28 July 1810 - Wm. Collins.

3. I add £50 to Mrs Kimber's legacy and my executor shall not be compellable to pay any legacy but hers within three years after my decease. I revoke my legacy to Ann James and now give her a £10 annuity. I give the six poor widows in Culver Street £6 and to the widow Buckland £2 and widow Whitmarsh £3, Mary Young £5 and nurse Elizabeth Baker £30. 1 August 1810 - Wm. Collins.

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

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

6. I give my niece Mrs Cooke sum of £500 in addition to her £100 legacy making £600 payable three years after my decease. I give £5 to Sarah Small widow a former servant of mine who occasionally hath since attended on me. To my old and valued friend the Reverend Henry Rigby £5 for a ring and to my friend Mrs Loder £5. 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.

7

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 esquire of Salisbury intimating to him that the said deceased was lately taken ill and that he the deceased wished to see the deponent at Salisbury as soon as possible. The deponent thereupon immediately left home and arrived at the deceased's house aforesaid on 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 28th 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 said 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 the Rev Christopher Rigby clerk the sole executor.

Benjamin Charles Collins - Will dated 19 August 1796 proved with four codicils 6 May 1808.

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 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 Sir George Staunton, Townley Ward of Soho Square, Middx, Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and Rev Barford Colton the executors. As witness my hand and seal this 19th day of August 1796 - Benjamin Chas. Collins signed sealed published and declared by said testator Benjamin Charles Collins 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 every agreement entered into by him with William Bacon on the supplying of medicines for the shop in Oxford Street. To John Sawyer now his clerk employed in the Oxford Street business £500 and to John William Hucklebridge of Salisbury late his clerk £200. - B. C. Collins witnessed Cliff. Ashore. James Moss. Matthew Thompson.

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

3. On 7 July 1792 I delivered by letter enclosed draft value £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 namely Maurice Lloyd, Viscount Newhaven and Gregory Bateman 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 Benjamin Collins 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. All these three swindlers long since dead and the two last named died insolvent it was on this day 21st April 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 and Testament in his keeping and in case of my death by him 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. I declare all this a codicil to my aforesaid Will 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 and 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 1801 Dec. 25th.

The Will was proved at London with four codicils 6 May 1808 before the worshipful George Ogilvie Doctor of Laws surrogate the Right Honorable Sir William Wynne Knight Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

Elizabeth Collins

Elizabeth Collins born in 1749 the daughter of Benjamin Collins by his first marriage to Edith Good married in 1768 the Rev Barfoot Colton at St Thomas Church, Salisbury. She was described by William Collins as sister Mrs Elizabeth Colton and by 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 MA. Canon residentiary of Sarum and Vicar of Shrivenham Berks.

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

William Collins Colton son of Rev Barfoot Colton and Elizabeth Collins attended Wadham College listed in Alumni Oxonienses s. Barfoot of Shrivenham cleric. Wadham Coll. matric 5 June 1806 aged 18.

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

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 the county of Bedford and niece of General Poyntz. At Milton Northamptonshire the Rev W.C. Colton to Louisa Poyntz second daughter of John Miller late Receiver-General and niece of General Poyntz of the 1st Life Guards.

Benjamin Charles Collins

Benjamin Charles Collins born in 1758 the son of Benjamin Collins by his second marriage to Mary Cooper died in 1808. In his Will dated 19 August 1796 he 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 to hold unto them their heirs executors administrators and assigns equally share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants. Later by codicil this bequest to Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie was revoked. Sir George Staunton, Townley Ward of Soho Square Middx, Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and Rev Barford Colton were appointed the executors but later by codicil Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie was replaced by Jonathan Dennett. Other beneficiaries included John Cooper of Salisbury, Robert Dennett, Harriet and Frances Dennett daughters of Jonathan Dennett, Sarah Greaves and brothers William and Robert Greaves, John Dowding and John Luxford.

Wiltshire 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 Mr Benjamin Collins an eminent Banker in Salisbury and well known as the Printer and Proprietor of that very respectable weekly publication the Salisbury Journal which has been printed and published in the Collins Family upwards of seventy years.

Jane Collins

Jane Collins born in 1743 the daughter of Benjamin Collins by his second marriage to Mary Cooper married in 1771 Sir George Leonard Staunton. At Salisbury George Staunton Esq of Grenada son of George Staunton of Galway Ireland to Miss Collins daughter of Benjamin Collins of Salisbury banker. Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 16 June 1823 At her house in Devonshire Street, Portland Place, Lady Staunton relict of the late Sir George Staunton Bart.

Sir George Leonard Staunton 1st Baronet was a Member of Council and His Majesty's Attorney General in the island of Grenada. In 1784 he went with Lord Macartney to Madras and negotiated the peace with Tipoo Sultan for which he was created a Baronet of Ireland in 1785. Later as Secretary of Embassy he went with Lord Macartney to China and became Minister Plenipotentiary in 1792. He was succeeded by his son Sir George Thomas Staunton who in 1808 was appointed by his grandmother Mary Collins a trustee and executor.

Sarah Collins

Sarah Collins born in 1754 the daughter of Benjamin Collins by his second marriage to Mary Cooper married in 1775 the Rev **Peter Bellinger Brodie** the rector of Winterslow listed in Alumni Oxonienses s. Alexander of St James Westminster arm. Worcester Coll. matric 23 Feb 1762 aged 19. BA 1765. MA 1768. rector of Winterslow Wilts. Died 19 March 1804. Gentleman's Magazine Obituary 7 February 1847 At Salisbury aged 92 Sarah relict of Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie rector of Winterslow, the 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 1st Bt surgeon and Charles George Brodie.

Francis Collins

Francis Collins born in 1713 the brother of Benjamin Collins was a vintner and managed the Mitre and Crown Tavern in Silver Street, Salisbury. He died unmarried in 1782 and in his Will dated 21 August 1779 named his brothers Joseph Collins and Benjamin Collins and nephews William Collins and Benjamin Charles Collins. Other beneficiaries included the Tatlock and Ewatt families, Nicholas Saunders, Thomas Tanners, Thomas and Frances Nicholas of Frampton.

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George Leonard Staunton first studied physics obtaining the degree of M.D. and then adopting the profession of law he was appointed a member of Council and his Majesty's attorney general in the island of Grenada. Later he accompanied Lord Macartney to Madras and negotiated the peace with Tippo Sultan in 1784 for which service he was created a Baronet of Ireland on 31 October 1785. He also accompanied Lord Macartney to China as Secretary of Embassy and was eventual minister plenipotentiary in 1792 and published a narrative of the mission. At the decease without male issue in 1784 of Thomas Staunton of Sibton Park, Suffolk, M.P. for Galway, George Leonard Staunton became chief and representative in the male line of the ancient family of Staunton of Staunton. He married in 1771 Jane daughter of Benjamin Collins of Milford co. Wilts by whom he left at his decease in 1810 an only surviving son Sir George Thomas Staunton M.P. D.C.L. F.R.S. born 26 May 1781 who succeeded his father as 2nd Baronet on 14 January 1810.

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Francis Collins

Francis Collins born in 1713 brother of Benjamin Collins managed the Mitre and Crown Tavern in Silver Street, Salisbury. He died unmarried in 1782 and in his Will dated 21 August 1779 left many legacies including bequests to his brothers Joseph and Benjamin Collins and nephews William Collins and Benjamin Charles Collins. In June 1782 James Whitmarsh of New Sarum grocer, Silas Cumlym of same tailor, Benjamin Collins and Lucy Poole spinster made oath they knew very well Francis Collins. Letters of Administration of all and singular 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.