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**Thomas Arthur Staples Ahmuty**

Summary of Will dated 22 October 1832 with three codicils proved 9 October 1833 and 31 July 1838

Thomas Arthur Staples Ahmuty a Lieutenant Colonel on the retired list of the Honourable East India Company now residing at Portstewart, co. Londonderry Ireland being of sound disposing mind memory and judgement made and published this his last Will and Testament.

He appointed his wife Frances Ahmuty residuary legatee and one of the joint executors and trustees together with Thomas Harvey Baber late a civilian on the Bombay Establishment and Charles (Henry) Moore solicitor of Lincoln's Inn. They were devised in trust monies in the (East India) Company's funds and bonds, a private bond of Robert Smyth of Portlick Westmeath, two shares in the Government Tontine on the life of Elizabeth Princess of Hesse-Homburg daughter of His Majesty George the Third, the sum of £700 owed by his son William (Somerville) Ahmuty being balance of purchase money of Lime Park house and furniture, the sum of £700 lodged with the Provincial Bank of Colerain and funds in the House of Smith Paine and Smith bankers of London.

He devised in trust the interest on £9899.5s.8d. 3% to be settled on his son William Somerville Ahmuty and wife Edith Ahmuty formerly (Rigby Collins) for the term of their natural lives subject to the interest on £3600 of the principal be paid to Frances Ahmuty if her entitlement from the Military Fund was reduced or withdrawn and on the decease of his son William or wife Edith a moiety of the interest for benefit their children. On the decease of Frances Ahmuty all legacies were devised to William Ahmuty and if a widower to dispose at his discretion or invested by the trustees for the benefit of his children. On the decease of both William and Edith Ahmuty the principal sums to be held in trust and divided equally amongst their children sons at their majority and daughters sooner if marrying with consent of the trustees.

He directed said interest to be settled on his son William Ahmuty and wife Edith as far as regards her said Edith's participation that if surviving her husband her share to be null and void unless the promise made by the Rev Christopher Rigby Collins (her father) was faithfully fulfilled and performed to settle on them and their children said Edith's full share of property left her in trust by her grandfather (William Collins).

He bequeathed his sisters Alice Ahmuty and Charlotte Ahmuty Swift £20 each for mourning. To son William Somerville Ahmuty a watch and gold chain, a large chased Seal with coat of arms, a pair of silver candlesticks and any balance due on the £700 purchase money of Lime Park house together with the lease and deed of assignment. His wife Frances Ahmuty was left all the rest and residue of estate and his diamond star which on her decease was to be given to his granddaughter Elizabeth Frances Ahmuty at her majority or marriage.

In witness whereof he set his hand and seal 22 October 1832. Thos Arthur Staples Ahmuty (ls) signed sealed declared and delivered his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence and of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses Thomas Finlay. Alexander Major. Theobald Butler Aldwell.

**Codicil dated 22 October 1832**

Monies now vested in Government securities and India Bonds were not be transferred without consent given in handwriting of his wife Frances Ahmuty, his son William and wife Edith, Thomas Harvey Baber and Charles Henry Moore. The monies so transferred to be invested in securities considered safest at the time the trustees to exercise their conscientious discretion. He directed his funeral to be conducted with strictest economy and his body interred in the burying ground of Lisson Church in the parish of Muff, Cookstown Ireland. The trustees were left £30 sterling each as a token of his regard payable at the end of three months. Thos Arthur Staples Ahmuty (ls) signed in the presence of us Thomas Finlay. Alexander Major. Theobald Butler Aldwell.

**Codicil dated 4 July 1833**

I hereby alter that part of my Will which takes from my son William the power of disposing of the interest of the money not settled on him and my daughter (in law Edith Ahmuty) during their lifetime and who ever should survive the other to receive one moiety of said interest. The other moiety to be vested in my trustees for the purpose of educating in an accomplished manner the children of my son and daughter (in law) and the principal vested in my son to make a settlement on any second wife or children he may have hereafter born in wedlock. witnessed Thomas Stanley Monck.

**Codicil dated 4 July 1833**

It is also my will that my dear wife should have the use of all the jewels and after her decease for use my daughter (in law) Edith. witnessed Thomas Stanley Monck.

The Will was proved at London with three codicils 9 October 1833 before the judge by the oath of Frances Ahmuty widow the relict one of the executors to whom admon was granted being first sworn by commission duly to administer with power reserved of making the like grant to Thomas Harvey Baber and Charles Henry Moore the other executors.

The Will was proved at London with three codicils 31 July 1838 before the Worshipful John Dauberry Doctor of Law by the oath of Charles Henry (in the Will written Charles) Moore one of the executors to whom admon was granted having been first sworn duly to administer power reserved of making the like grant to Thomas Harvey Baber the other executor when he shall apply for same.

**William Somerville Ahmuty**

Summary of Will dated 6 June 1867 proved 16 February 1871.

William Somerville A'hmuty of Henton in the parish of Wookey in the county of Somerset gentleman. All my real and personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever I give devise and bequeath unto Mary Ann Peach of Henton aforesaid widow her heirs executors and administrators and assigns according to the nature and tenure thereof respectively. And I appoint the said Mary Ann Peach sole executrix of this my Will and hereby revoking all Wills by me heretofore made declare this to be my last.

In witness whereof I the said William Somerville A'hmuty the testator have hereunto set my hand 6 June 1867 - Wm. Somerville A'hmuty - signed by William Somerville Ahmuty the testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses - H.K. Sheppard solicitor Wells - E.J. Richards his clerk.

The Will was proved at Wells 16 February 1871 by the oath of Mary Ann Peach widow the sole executrix named in the Will to whom administration was granted.

Extracted by S. Hobbs of Wells solicitor. Effects under £2000 no leaseholds.

1. The testator William Somerville Ahmuty was late of Henton in the parish of Wookey in the county of Somerset gentleman and died 11 December 1870 at Henton aforesaid.

2. On 16 February 1871 the Will of William Somerville Ahmuty late of Henton aforesaid who died 11 December 1870 at Henton was proved in the District Registry attached to Her Majesty's Court of Probate at Wells by the oath of Mary Ann Peach of Henton aforesaid widow the sole executrix therein named she having been first sworn duly to administer.

**William Somerville Ahmuty**

Summary of Will dated 6 June 1867 proved 16 February 1871.

This is the last Will and Testament of William Somerville Ahmuty of Henton in the parish of Wookey in the county of Somerset gentleman. He devised and bequeathed all real and personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever to Mary Ann Peach of Henton widow heirs executors and administrators and assigns according to the nature and tenure thereof. He appointed said Mary Ann Peach the sole executrix and revoked all Wills heretofore made and declared this to be his last.

In witness whereof William Somerville Ahmuty set his hand 6 June 1867. Signed by William Somerville Ahmuty the testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses. H.K. Sheppard solicitor, Wells. E.J. Richards his clerk.

The Will was proved the 16 February 1871 in the District Registry attached to Her Majesty's Court of Probate at Wells Somerset by the oath of Mary Ann Peach of Henton Somerset aforesaid widow the sole executrix therein named she having been first sworn duly to administer.

Note: Effects under £2,000 no leaseholds. Extracted by S. Hobbs of Wells solicitor

**Frances Staples Ahmuty**

Summary of Will dated 5 October 1836 proved 18 March 1837

Frances Ahmuty widow of Portstewart co. Londonderry Ireland nominated and appointed Rev Alexander Major of Portstewart the executor. She bequeathed her son William Somerville Ahmuty all goods and chattels of what nature and kindsoever and her life insurance policy in the sum of £1200 held with the Clerical Insurance Company.

In witness whereof she set her hand and seal 5 October 1836. Frances Ahmuty signed sealed and published and declared this her last Will and Testament by us witnessed at her request in her presence and in the presence of each other Christopher James Knox. Charles James gent. John Acma.

On the 18 March 1837 admon with the Will annexed of Frances Ahmuty widow deceased was granted to William Somerville Ahmuty the son and universal legatee being first sworn by commission duly to administer the Rev Alexander Major clerk the sole executor having duly renounced the probate and execution of the Will.

**George Arrowsmith**

Summary of Will dated 13 August 1849 proved 3 May 1851.

George Arrowsmith late of Percy Street in the parish of Northfleet but now of Northfleet in the county of Kent appointed his son George Arrowsmith the sole executor. He bequeathed his son Henry George Arrowsmith £500 and sons Benjamin Yarrow Arrowsmith and Thomas Charles Arrowsmith £100 each.

He devised his son George Arrowsmith the messuages or tenements lands hereditaments and premises at Upton upon Severn, Worcester and the estate called Wintershaw at Westgate, Dorking Surrey together with the rest and residue of all personal estate and effects. To son Benjamin Arrowsmith the leasehold estate in Bouverie Street, London.

To son Thomas Charles Arrowsmith the leasehold estate in Theberton Street, Islington Middlesex.

To son Henry George Arrowsmith the leasehold messuage or tenement at No. 2 Canterbury Place, Walworth Surrey.

To Peter Graham of Oxford Street in trust the leasehold estate at Highbury Park, Middx to apply the rents issues and profits thereof for the benefit of George Graham until his majority at which time to own the Highbury estate.

To Jane Holloway widow £150 and the furniture and effects in and about the house in her occupation at Northfleet his plate excepted.

George Arrowsmith hereby revoked all former Wills at any time heretofore made and declared this only to be his last Will and Testament. In witness whereof he hereunder set his hand 13 August 1849. Signed by the said testator in the presence of us present together at the same time who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses the word Henry in the first line of the second side having been first introduced. Francis Southgate. Francis Thomas Southgate. solicitors of Gravesend.

The Will was proved at London the 3 May 1851 before the worshipful James Parker Deane Doctors of Laws and Surrogate by the oath of George Arrowsmith the son the sole executor to whom admon was granted having been first sworn duly to administer.

**Peter Bellinger Brodie**

Summary of Will dated 29 October 1842 proved 20 September 1854

Peter Bellinger Brodie of Lincolns Inn Fields in the county of Middlesex bequeathed his dear and beloved wife Susan Mary Brodie all his property whatsoever and wheresoever for her own absolute use and benefit and appointed her the sole executrix.

In witness whereof I have to this my Will set my hand 29 October 1842. 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 of No. 13 Charing Cross, Westminster. George Thomas Jenkin of No. 3 Lincolns Inn Fields gentleman.

The Will was proved at London the 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.

**Christopher Rigby Collins**

Summary of Will dated 27 July 1834 proved 13 March 1837

This is the last Will and Testament of me the Revd Christopher Rigby Collins formerly of the city of New Sarum in the county of Wilts and late of the Royal Crescent, Bath but now residing at Sidmouth in the county of Devon, Master of Arts. By the marriage of my son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins with Annabella Mary Gardiner I became bound unto the trustees of their settlement by a £12000 bond in penalty of £24000 conditioned for payment to them by my heirs executors administrators within six calendar months after my decease. I do hereby charge all my freehold estates with payment of said sum and subject thereto devise all my said freehold estates unto and to the use of my son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins his heirs and assigns. I also bequeath to my said son my leasehold messuages and premises at Sidmouth and direct the £1000 bond advanced by me to him shall be given up to him to be cancelled.

He bequeathed his daughter Edith Ahmuty wife of William Somerville Ahmuty a silver tea urn bearing inscription To the Memory of Joseph Franklin Esq of Haddenham Bucks. To John Lakeman butler £100 and Thomas Perry groom £50 clear of legacy duty and all other deductions. To each of the female servants in service three years and still in service a full year's wages in addition to any wages due.

He devised Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins and the Rev George Gregory Gardiner of the city of Bath clerk their heirs executors administrators assigns the rest and residue of estate and effects whatsoever wheresoever subject to payment of just debts funeral and testamentary expenses. In trust to convert into money all parts of residuary estates not consisting of money or securities to invest same in the names of the trustees in Parliamentary stocks or funds of Great Britain and in real or long leasehold securities in England and to stand possessed of such ultimate residue of estate and funds.

The trustees to pay the interest dividends annual proceeds of three fourth parts thereof equally between his three daughters Elizabeth wife of Robert Austin Langworthy, Mary Beata wife of William Webster and Edith wife of William Somerville Ahmuty during their lives for own sole and separate use independent of their present or future husband free from their debts control forfeitures or engagements. Of the remaining one fourth part to pay one moiety or equal half part of proceeds thereof to his daughter Sarah wife of Rev John Walter Phelps during her life for own sole and separate use and after her decease said proceeds payable to son in law John Walter Phelps during his life time. The trustees to hold said one fourth part and proceeds thereof for the children of his daughter Sarah by her present husband for their maintenance and education. If there were no issue said one fourth part accumulations to be held in trust for his son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins and daughters Elizabeth Langworthy, Mary Beata Webster and Edith Ahmuty their respective executors administrators assigns.

He appointed Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins and George Gregory Gardiner the joint executors and trustees and stated their receipts for all monies payable to them shall be good discharge to persons paying such receipts. He declared if the trustees appointed by this Will or to be appointed or any of them shall happen to die or be desirous of being discharged from or refuse or decline or become incapable to act in the trusts hereby in them reposed before the same shall be fully executed in such case it shall be lawful for the surviving or continuing trustee or executors or administrators of the last surviving trustee to nominate substitute and appoint any other person or persons to be a trustee or trustees in the stead of the trustee or trustees so dying or desiring to be discharged or refusing or becoming incapable to act as aforesaid and that thereupon also the said trust estate monies and premises shall with all convenient speed be converted assigned and transferred in such manner so that the same shall be legally vested in the person or persons so to be appointed as aforesaid either solely or jointly with the surviving or continuing trustee or trustees as occasion shall require and further declared said trustees or either of them their or either of their heirs executors or administrators shall not be charged or chargeable with or accountable for any more of the said trust monies and premises dw they shall respectively actually receive or shall come to their respective hands by virtue of this Will.

In witness whereof I the said Christopher Rigby Collins have to this my last Will and Testament contained on seven sheets of paper to the first six sheets set my hand and to this seventh and last sheet my hand and seal this 27th day of July 1834 Is Signed sealed published and declared by Christopher Rigby Collins as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses. Philip Henry Watts of Bath solicitor and Geoffrey . . . his clerk.

The Will was proved at London 13 March 1837 before the Judge by the oaths of Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins the son and George Gregory Gardiner clerk the executors to whom admon was granted having been first sworn by Commons to administer.

**Rev Christopher Rigby Collins**

Summary of Will dated 27 July 1834 proved 13 March 1837

This is the last Will and Testament of me the Revd Christopher Rigby Collins formerly of the city of New Sarum in the county of Wilts and late of the Royal Crescent, Bath but now residing at Sidmouth in the county of Devon, Master of Arts whereas by the marriage of my son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins with Annabella Mary Gardiner I became bound unto the trustees of their Settlement in a bond in the penalty of £24000 conditioned for the payment to them by my heirs executors administrators within six calendar months after my decease upon the trusts of the said Settlement of the sum of £12000.

Now I do hereby charge all my freehold estates whatsoever wheresoever with payment of this said sum and subject thereto I do hereby give and devise all my said freehold estates unto and to the use of my son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins his heirs and assigns. I also give and bequeath to my said son my leasehold messuages and premises at Sidmouth and further direct that a bond for £1000 advanced by me to my son shall be given up to him to be cancelled on my decease.

His daughter Edith Rigby Collins the wife of William Somerville Ahmuty was given the silver tea urn bearing an inscription to the memory of Joseph Franklin esq of Haddenham Bucks. His butler John Lakeman was left £100 and his groom Thomas Perry £50 clear of legacy duty and all other deductions and to each of the female servants in his service three years and still in service a full year wages also in addition to any wages due. The rest and residue of estate and effects whatsoever wheresoever of what nature kind soever subject to the payment of just debts funeral and testamentary expenses was devised to Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins and the Revd George Gregory Gardiner of the city of Bath clerk their heirs executors administrators and assigns. Upon trust to convert into money all such parts of residuary estates as shall not consist of money or securities for money to invest same in the names of the trustees in Parliamentary stocks or funds of Great Britain or at interest upon real or long leasehold securities in England with full power to alter and vary said securities and further declared the trustees shall stand possessed of such ultimate residue of estate and of stocks funds securities in or upon which the same shall from time to time be laid out and invested upon trust.

As to the three fourth parts thereof to pay the interest dividends annual proceeds equally between his three daughters Elizabeth Rigby Collins the wife of Robert Austin Langworthy, Mary Beata Collins the wife of William Webster of the Royal Navy and Edith Rigby Collins the wife of William Somerville Ahmuty for and during their lives for their own sole and separate use independent of their present or future husband free from their debts control forfeitures or engagements.

As to the remaining one fourth part and of the stocks funds securites laid out and invested upon trust to pay one moiety or equal half part of the interest dividends annual proceeds thereof to his daughter Sarah Rigby Collins the wife of the Rev'd John Walter Phelps during her life for own sole and separate use independent of said present or any future husband and after her decease to pay said interest etc to his son in law John Walter Phelps during his life time. The trustees shall stand possessed of said remaining one fourth part and the interest etc thereof in trust for all and every the present or future born children of his daughter Sarah by her present husband for their maintenance and education. In the event of no issue the remaining one fourth part accumulations thereof held in trust for his son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins and daughters Elizabeth Langworthy, Mary Beata Webster and Edith Ahmuty their respective executors administrators assigns.

I appoint my son Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins and George Gregory Gardiner joint executors in trust of this my Will and I declare that their receipts for all monies payable to them by virtue of this my Will shall be good discharge to the person or persons paying the same and taking such receipts. I do hereby further declare that if the trustees appointed by this my Will or to be appointed as hereinafter is mentioned or any of them shall happen to die or be desirous of being discharged from or refuse or decline or become incapable to act in the trusts hereby in them reposed before the same shall be fully executors and in such case and when and so often as the same shall happen it shall and may be lawful for the surviving or the continuing trustee or the executors or administrators of the last surviving trustee from time to time to nominate substitute and appoint any other person or persons to be a trustee or trustees in the stead or place of the trustee or trustees so dying or desiring to be discharged or refusing or becoming incapable to act as aforesaid and that thereupon also the said trust estate monies and premises shall with all convenient speed be converted assigned and transferred in such manner so that the same shall be legally vested in the person or persons so to be appointed as aforesaid either solely or jointly with the surviving or continuing trustee or trustees as occasion shall require and I do further declare that my said trustees or either of them their or either of their heirs executors or administrators shall not be charged or chargeable with or accountable for any more of the said trust monies and premises than they shall respectively actually receive or shall come to their respective hands by virtue of this my Will.

I hereby revoke all former Wills by me at any time heretofore made. In witness whereof I the said Christopher Rigby Collins have to this my last Will and Testament contained on seven sheets of paper to the first six sheets set my hand and to this seventh and last sheet my hand and seal this 27th day of July 1834 Is Signed sealed published and declared by the said Christopher Rigby Collins as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses herein Philip Henry Watts of Bath solicitor and Geo x x his clerk.

Proved at London 13 March 1837 before the Judge by the oaths of Christopher Gerard Rigby Collins the son and George Gregory Gardiner clerk the executors to whom admon was granted having been first sworn by Commons to administer

**Benjamin Collins**

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

This is the last Will and Testament of me Benjamin Collins of the city of New Sarum in the county of Wilts gentleman made and published the 25th day of March in the year of our Lord 1778. He bequeathed his wife Mary Collins all her rings jewels and paraphernalia, £50 and a further £500 within a year. Brothers Joseph Collins £5 annuity for life and Francis Collins £50. Mother in law Mrs 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. Brothers in law John Cooper and Joseph Elderton and nephew and godson Rev Edward Cooper ten guineas apiece for a ring and mourning. Devised to his son William Collins heirs executors administrators assigns the copyhold estates at Milford near New Sarum and leasehold messuage and garden occupied by Edward Williams blacksmith.

To son Benjamin Charles Collins 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 now run by and in the name of Benjamin Charles Collins and John Johnson. The 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 part of Fenning's Spelling Book, one third of the Compleat Letter Writer and moiety in the Cephalic Snuff made and prepared by him and patent for same.

To wife Mary Collins £105 annuity. Daughter Elizabeth Colton the leasehold estate at Purse Candle, Dorset for lives of Elizabeth Colton and Mr Gardener on decease of Mrs Barbara Gardener. Daughter Jane wife of Sir George Leonard Staunton £67.4s 0d annuity charged on the Island of Montserrat plantation estates of John Missett decd. Daughter Sarah wife of Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie income of the Shilling Okeford Rectory, Dorset during incumbency of Rev Moreau on his cessation or death the Rev Brodie to be presented. To his wife all reversionary estate and interest of the leasehold at Foffant/Fovant Wilts held under the Earl of Pembroke for life of daughter Charlotte on decease of Mrs Bricke.

All other messuages farms lands tenements hereditaments estates freehold leasehold in Somerset Dorset Wilts Middlesex Surrey or elsewhere in the Kingdom of Great Britain and residue of monies mortgage securities goods chattels real and personal estate all thrown into hotchpot and valued to make one entire aggregate stock or fund. The whole into eight equal parts or shares in trust to pay sons William Collins £2000 and Benjamin Charles Collins £6500 each two eighth parts, daughters Elizabeth Colton £700, Jane Staunton £450, Sarah Brodie £1500 and wife Mary Collins £450 each one eighth part. His wife's share for own disposal and support of daughter Charlotte Collins during her minority his wife appointed her guardian. Son William Collins had the right for six years to carry on the business of banker in the front of the house and compting house on the New Canal and use of the bed chamber looking into the garden adjoining the library parts of freehold devised to Benjamin Charles Collins. His wife had the right to reside in the house on the New Canal during her life rent free and also in the Milford house as long as his son William Collins remained unmarried.

His wife Mary Collins, sons William Collins and Benjamin Charles Collins, brother Francis Collins, son in law Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and brothers in law John Cooper and Joseph Elderton were appointed the joint executors and trustees.

My hand and seal the day and year first hereinbefore written signed sealed published and declared by Benjamin Collins the testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses in the presence of the said testator and of each other Edward Wray. Edward Joye. Thomas Chubb.

**Five Codicils**

1. Should Benjamin Charles Collins and Charlotte Collins decease under 21yrs all devised them to the other surviving children equally. 25 March 1778 signed sealed and published by Benjamin Collins in the presence of Edward Wray. Edward Joye. Thomas Chubb.

2. Since making his Will his brother Francis Collins had deceased and other property acquired same now devised to the surviving trustees. 18 February 1781 signed sealed published and declared by Benjamin Collins the testator as and for a codicil to his last Will and Testament in the presence of us Mary Collear. Joseph Hillary. Christopher Hallett junior

3. The freehold estate at Somersham, Huntingdonshire purchased from Christopher Milburne devised to the trustees. 28 February 1783 signed sealed published and declared by Benjamin Collins in the presence of John Sanger. Thomas 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 instead £105 payable to Mary Collins. The Montserrat annuity of daughter Staunton revoked now devised the Milford estates since acquired. To the trustees all new acquisitions and estate residue instead of Mary Collins, Robert Cooper of Milford Street New Sarum linen draper, Benjamin Charles Collins and the Rev Brodie. The Montserrat annuity value not included in daughter Staunton's share. The Shilling Okeford Rectory income valued £1200 instead of £1500 in daughter Brodie's share. The £900 and interest due from son William Collins bond lost or mislaid part of his share. Annuity £100 payable by Lord Arundell to William Collins subject £25 yearly to daughter Charlotte valued £750 in his share. Mary Collins share a fund in her hands to apply in her lifetime or by Will for benefit of daughter Charlotte or for his family at her discretion. Should son William Collins now abroad beyond the seas decease before him that so devised to the trustees one moiety to Benjamin Charles Collins and the other to wife Mary Collins and daughters Colton, Staunton and Brodie. 5 June 1784 signed sealed published and declared by Benjamin Collins as a codicil in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as witnesses to the execution thereof in the presence and at the request of said testator and also in the presence of each other Catherine Kimber. William Collier. Joseph Elderton.

5. The shares of son William Collins and daughter Colton to include all demands they may have out of his estate under or by virtue of any settlement contract bond or engagement made and entered into on his marriage with their late mother Edith Good. The same day and year signed sealed published and declared as a further codicil by Benjamin Collins in our presence Catherine Kimber. William Collier. Joseph Elderton.

# **Benjamin Collins 1715-1785**

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

This is the last Will and Testament of me Benjamin Collins of the city of New Sarum in the county of Wilts gentleman made and published the 25th day of March in the year of our Lord 1778. He bequeathed his wife Mary Collins all her rings jewels and paraphernalia, £50 and a further £500 within a year after his decease. Brothers Joseph Collins £5 annuity for life and Francis Collins £50. Mother in law Mrs 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. Brothers in law John Cooper and Joseph Elderton and nephew and godson Rev Edward Cooper ten guineas apiece for a ring and mourning.

He devised to his son William Collins heirs executors administrators and assigns the copyhold estates at Milford near New Sarum and leasehold messuage and garden occupied by Edward Williams Blacksmith. And to his son Benjamin Charles Collins the freehold messuage or dwelling house shop warehouses printing office and premises with appurtenances on the New Canal at Sarum, all fixtures and stock in the several trades or business of printer bookseller bookbinder and vender of medicines, all implements utensils tools materials in the printing and bookbinding business now run by and in the name of Benjamin Charles Collins and John Johnson. And the 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 part of Fenning's Spelling Book, one third of the Compleat Letter Writer and moiety in the Cephalic Snuff made and prepared by him and patent for same.

He bequeathed his wife a £105 annuity and daughter Elizabeth Colton the leasehold estate at Purse Candle, Dorset for the lives of Elizabeth Colton and Mr Gardener after the decease of Mrs Barbara Gardener. Daughter Jane wife of George Leonard Staunton a £67.4s 0d annuity for life charged on the plantation estates in the Island of Montserrat of John Missett decd. Daughter Sarah wife of Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie the income of the Rectory of Shilling Okeford, Dorset during the incumbency of the Rev Moreau and on his cessation or death the Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie to be presented to the Rectory. To his wife all reversionary estate and interest of the leasehold at Foffant/Fovant Wilts held under the Earl of Pembroke for life of daughter Charlotte after the decease of Mrs Bricke.

All other messuages farms lands tenements hereditaments estates freehold leasehold in Somerset Dorset Wilts Middlesex Surrey or elsewhere in the Kingdom of Great Britain and residue of monies mortgage securities goods chattels real and personal estate all thrown into hotchpot and valued to make one entire aggregate stock or fund. In trust to pay and divide the whole into eight equal parts or shares to sons William Collins £2000 and Benjamin Charles Collins £6500 each two eighth parts, daughters Elizabeth Colton £700, Jane Staunton £450, Sarah Brodie £1500 and his wife Mary Collins £450 each one eighth part. His wife's share for own absolute disposal and for the benefit of his daughter Charlotte Collins during her minority and his wife was appointed her guardian. His son William Collins had the right for six years to carry on the business of banker in the front of the house and compting house on the New Canal and use of the bed chamber looking into the garden adjoining the library parts of freehold devised to Benjamin Charles Collins. His wife had the right to reside in the house on the New Canal during her life rent free and also in the house at Milford as long as his son William Collins remained unmarried.

His wife Mary Collins, sons William Collins and Benjamin Charles Collins, brother Francis Collins, son in law Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and brothers in law John Cooper and Joseph Elderton were appointed the joint executors in trust. My hand and seal the day and year first hereinbefore written signed sealed published and declared by said Benjamin Collins the testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses thereto in the presence of the said testator and of each other Edward Wray. Edward Joye. Thomas Chubb

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**Benjamin Collins 1715-1785**

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

**Five Codicils**

1. Should Benjamin Charles Collins and Charlotte Collins die under 21 all such devised them to the other surviving children equally. 25 March 1778 signed sealed and published by Benjamin Collins in the presence of Edward Wray. Edward Joye. Thomas Chubb
2. Since making his Will other property had been acquired and as his brother Francis Collins was now deceased same was devised to the surviving trustees. 18 Feb 1781 signed sealed published and declared by Benjamin Collins the testator as and for a codicil to his last Will and Testament in the presence of us Mary Collear. Joseph Hillary. Christopher Hallett junior
3. The freehold estate at Somersham, Huntingdonshire purchased from Christopher Milburne devised to the trustees. 28 Feb 1783 signed sealed published and declared by Benjamin Collins testator in the presence of John Sanger. Thomas Frampton. Joseph Hillary
4. William Collins devised said estates at Milford now with benefit of lives since added. Benjamin Charles Collins said freehold on the Canal subject to a £150 annuity instead of £105 payable to his wife during her life. He revoked the Montserrat annuity of daughter Staunton and devised her the Milford estates acquired since making his Will. And since said date all acquisitions and residue of estate to his wife, Robert Cooper of Milford Street New Sarum linen draper, Benjamin Charles Collins and Peter Bellinger Brodie instead of the trustees. The value of the Montserrat annuity not included in said share of daughter Staunton. The income of Shilling Okeford during Mr Moreau's incumbency and the next presentation valued at £1200 instead of £1500 in said share of daughter Brodie. The £900 and interest due from son William Collins the bond lost or mislaid included in his said share. The £100 annuity payable by Lord Arundell devised to son William Collins subject to £25 payable yearly to daughter Charlotte and valued £750 in his said share. His wife's said share to be a fund in her hands to apply in her lifetime or by her Will for benefit of daughter Charlotte or for his family entirely at her discretion. If his son William Collins now abroad beyond the seas died before him all such devised to be vested in the trustees one moiety for Benjamin Charles Collins and other moiety for his wife and daughters Colton, Staunton and Brodie in addition to their said shares. 5 June 1784 signed sealed published and declared by Benjamin Collins testator as a codicil to his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as witnesses to the execution thereof in the presence and at the request of said testator and also in the presence of each other Catherine Kimber. William Collier. Joseph Elderton
5. The said shares of his son William Collins and daughter Colton to include all demands they may have out of his estate under and by virtue of any settlement contract bond or engagement made and entered into on his marriage with their late mother Edith Good. The same day and year signed sealed published and declared as a further codicil by said testator Benjamin Collins in our presence Catherine Kimber. William Collier. Joseph 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 the deceased and John Cooper and Joseph Elderton the other surviving executors named in the Will when they or either of them shall apply for the same.

**Benjamin Charles Collins**

Summary of Will dated 19 August 1796 proved with four codicils 6 May 1808

This is the last Will and Testament of me Benjamin Charles Collins of Salisbury Wilts. After payment of just debts funeral expenses and all other charges and legacies he devised to his dear mother Mary Collins, brother William Collins and brothers in law Sir George Staunton, Rev Peter Bellinger Brodie and Rev Barford Colton all his estate and effects of what nature or kind soever wheresoever both real and personal. To have and to hold the same unto them 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, Peter Bellinger Brodie, Barford Colton and Townley Ward of Soho Square Middx the executors.

He gave a £100 annuity to Mary Elizabeth Goodenge calling herself Mary Castle now residing with him at 40 New Road, St Marylebone and a £100 annuity to his uncle John Cooper of Salisbury during their lifetimes. To his cousin Frances Henrietta Elderton of Salisbury £500, to William Tomlyn of Salisbury banker £500 and to Elias Hibbs of Monument Yard London wine merchant £500. He gave £250 each to Harriet Dennett and Frances Eliza Dennett the daughters of Jonathan Dennett of Leicester Place. To his friend Robert Dennett £250 and a gold watch and to the Rev Edward Cooper of Yetminster Sherborne Dorset £500. To Miss Sarah Greaves £100 and to her brothers William Greaves and Robert Greaves £100 each. To Henry Stevens and William Havers both of Salisbury £100 each and to John Dowding his clerk £100. He discharged John Luxford his overseer from all debts and claims and likewise released Mr Thomas Williams of Vere Street. Benjamin Charles Collins as witness my hand and seal this 19th day of August in the year of our Lord 1796 signed sealed published and declared 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 Clifford Ashore. James Moss. Matthew Thompson.

**Four Codicils**

1. That agreements assigned to him to be cancelled be deliver up to Thomas Williams said agreements being entered into with William Bacon relating to the supplying of medicines for the shop in Oxford Street. He gave John Sawyer now his clerk employed in the Oxford Street business £500. To John William Hucklebridge of Salisbury late his clerk £200. B.C Collins witnesses Clifford Ashmore. James Moss. Matthew Thompson.

2. He revoked the bequests made to William Tomlyn, Edward Cooper and Frances Elderton and the appointment of Peter Bellinger Brodie as executor. He gave Townley Ward and his wife £100 each. He appointed Jonathan Dennett an executor and gave him and his wife £100 each. In witness whereof Benjamin Charles Collins have hereunto set my hand and seal 7 November 1796 signed sealed published and declared as and for a codicil to be taken as part of his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence and in the sight and presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses Clifford Ashmore. Samuel Sowther. James Brough clerks to Messrs Ward Dennetts and Greaves of Covent Garden.

3. In July 1792 he had delivered by letter to his most able and faithful solicitor Townley Ward a £769 draft for own sole entire 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 The same 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 that 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 21 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. But I now give it into the hands of my esteemed friend and solicitor Robert Dennett by him 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. All this I declare to be a codicil to my Will signed with my name and sealed with my seal 21 April 1797 Ben. Chas. Collins

4. Dated 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 in any way and not one penny to all or any of my late partners in the banking business. I give to Robert Dennett, his brother Jonathan and his partner William Greaves £3500 in trust £500 for Frances Eliza Dennett and the residue for Maria Castle at Mrs Butts Ladies School, Great Marlborough Street Carnaby Market said Maria to be a Ward of Chancery. Affidavit 2 May 1808 Appeared personally Gerard Selby of Lincolns Inn Fields and made Oath that on 6 February last he went down to the city of Salisbury for the purpose of being present at the examination of the papers of Benjamin Charles Collins who this deponent believes died the 24 January last. On arriving at Salisbury a search was made by him, William Collins, Samuel Emly, John Luxford and John Dowding of Salisbury and in the presence of this deponent and said others Samuel Emly found locked in the deceased's bureau in the dining parlour a Memorandum Book wherein was written said codicil.

## Francis Collins

Summary of Will 21 August 1779 and Letters of Administration granted 22 June 1782

Francis 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 whatever to be paid to the use of this my 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 than I have that I have given them so much after their serious recollection of past etc.

### Part A

After ye headpiece 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 ye 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 ye 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 as mentioned in my Will.

21 August 1779 His nephew Thomas Tatlock owing £650 same given in trust to him and wife Mary Tatlock niece for use their children Nathaniel, Susan, Thomas, Mary, Sarah and Harriot and to nephew Nicholas Saunders and Maurice Barnard £700 in trust also use said children. Nephew James Evatt appraiser owing £800 mortgage on three newly built houses in St James's Parade Bath same given in trust to William Slater attorney and nephew Benjamin Charles Collins for Evatt children lawfully begotten the interest to their mother Ann Evatt. James Evatt owing £450 on Notes same given him and wife Ann Evatt for prudent use on themselves and children. As nephew Thomas Towers died owing £1300 on two Bonds same given Margaret Towers widow with power to sue two subscribers on one Bond.

To nieces Margaret Towers widow £100 and Lydia Compton £450 with Bond £250 given her husband William Compton at marriage. Nieces Elizabeth Saunders £200, Edith Poole £600 and Lucy Poole £700. M. Barnard, N. Saunders and T. Tatlock £600 in trust interest payable to brother Joseph Collins or wife Margaret Collins and at his decease divided his widow £100 and daughter Ann Collins £500 plus £40. Niece Frances Nicholas at Frome Bond £850 and interest due. Cousin Ann Batt £100 or if deceased £40 to son William Batt. James Whitmarsh grocer and William Stephens £200 in trust for Mary, Elizabeth, Catherine and Ann daughters of John Russell butcher late of the Oxford Arms Inn, Catherine Street Sarum begging their friendly eye over them providing by apprenticeship or as best for their future good. William Jones and daughter Jemima Jones owing £30 on their joint Bond same given Jemima Jones as a present. Miss Mary Batten now or late of the Coffee Room, Hot Wells Bristol 12 guineas, Miss Fowl late shop woman to Miss Blake milliner 3 guineas, Miss Hayward milliner 2 guineas, Mrs Cooke of Farringdon Berks 5 guineas and daughters 2 guineas each. Widow Howard 5 guineas, servant Mary Chant 5 guineas and children 1 guinea each. Mary Boney of St Thomas parish late servant to Mrs x 4 guineas that she receives her usual parish allowance. Mary Ward poor neighbour 5 guineas betwixt her father herself and sisters. Edith Bryant and sister now or late in that dismal hole Fisherton Workhouse 4 guineas each. To that honest ill treated man John Burrough late mercer of Silver Street 5 guineas. Mary Bishop ironing woman 3 guineas her mother 1 guinea. Robert Sutton blacksmith late living nr Fisherton Bridge 5 guineas. James Whitmarsh grocer trustee late opposite the Kings Head, Fisherton Bridge 2 guineas, John Whitmarsh grocer trustee 3 guineas and William Slater trustee as reward for some trouble he may have in the trust 5 guineas.

To son Benjamin Charles Collins £100 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. To the parson to preach a good honest sermon at my burial no flattery 1 guinea. To each under bearer five shillings and each link boy sixpence the 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. Nephew N. Saunders and wife £8 a year 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

To nephews Benjamin Charles Collins and the Rev Mr Brody £700 in trust interest for use Joseph Collins and wife for their joint lives and if he outlived his wife interest for own use. At his decease same given to nieces Frances Collins and Ann Collins daughters of Joseph Collins. Sister in law Margaret Collins widow £200, nieces Frances and Ann Collins £450 each, brother Benjamin Collins and wife £20, niece Mary Collins £5. Nephew William Collins, Elizabeth Collins, Jane Collins, Sarah Collins, Charles and Charlotte £5 each. Nieces Margaret Towers and Elizabeth Saunders £200 each, Lydia Compton £350 and Ann Evatt £300. James Evatt, wife Ann and Edith Poole her sister £650 in trust for use Evatt children. Edith Poole £1300 on supposition she will never marry that at her death principle part will return benefit of her sisters. Mary Tatlock £500, Thomas Tatlock and Nicholas Saunders £400 for use Tatlock children. Lucy Poole £800 and copyhold at Sarum. Vaughn Prince of Farringdon £40 in trust for kinsman John Butler paid weekly. William Compton and John Whitmarsh executors £80 in trust for use four youngest daughters of John Russell butcher. Ann Batt £100 or if deceased £50 to son William Batt. Miss Jemima Jones schoolmistress of Bishops Walton jointly with her father owing Bond £30 same given. Mary Batten of Coffee House, Hotwells 10 guineas. John Harfield shopman and N. Saunders £10. Elizabeth Blake 5 guineas, her late shop maid Miss Fowl 3 guineas, present shop maid Miss Hayward 2 guineas.

To 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 5 guineas daughters 2 guineas each. The widow Howard 4 guineas, servant Mary Chant 5 guineas children and grandchildren 1 guinea each. Mary Boney 2 guineas, Edith Bryant and sister now or late in Fishertons very dismal cold workhouse 3 guineas each. To that poor but honest man so unnoticed by his birth relations James Burrough mercer in Silver Street and wife or either £10. James Whitmarsh grocer, John Whitmarsh brother and William Chubb 1 guinea each for a ring. Mary Bishop and mother 2 guineas each. Mary Ward and sisters 3 guineas each and Ann Bishop widow 3 guineas but not to pay her landlord for rent. Annuity of Edward Burtles to Thomas Tatlock for use children of niece Frances Nicholas of Frome. All gifts and other charges after alteration amount to £7575 only.

#### Part C

To clothe two men and three women poor parishioners of Farringdon Berks such as are real abjects and recommended by the churchwardens and approved by three or four of the oldest and most capital inhabitants of the town the abjects to be changed every year and on a 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 remainder for proper use or divided among them.

To Benjamin Collins and wife £5 each and daughters £5 each. Nephew William Collins the house in High Street now occupied by Mr Cumlyn subject to annual rent charge £10. Nephew Benjamin Charles Collins present dwelling with appurtenances stable outhouses etc subject to annual rent 10 guineas payable to Frances Nicholas wife of Thomas Nicholas for use their children. N.Saunders and T.Tatlock £420 in trust to pay Joseph Collins or his wife eight shillings weekly with 5 percent added during his life now near 70 more in time of sickness. At his decease his widow £100 and daughter Ann Jones £300. A further £300 to Ann Jones as it may happen not forgetting Bond £200 given Jones as executor. Lucy Poole £650 payable by transfer on Bond due from T.Tatlock and £50. To Nicholas.Saunders, Thomas Tatlock and William 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. M.Barnard, N.Saunders and T.Tatlock £2000 in trust interest for Tatlock children born in wedlock.

Niece Frances Nicholas given debt due for inventory paid to place herself and husband Thomas Nicholas in the Crown Inn at Frome and to William and Charles Collins £400 in trust the Nicholas two daughters. James and John Whitmarsh £160 in trust for daughters of John Russell butcher. To nephew Charles Collins in trust for the abjects in Sarum Infirmary. Jemima Jones £30 Bond. Widow Cook of Farringdon £10 children 2 guineas each. James and John Whitmarsh 4 guineas as a small acknowledgement. Saunders and Tatlock to pay John Butler 2s.6d a week for life. Mary Batten late x of Miss Evatt 10 guineas. Eliz Blake £5 and late shop woman Miss Fowl of Blandford 2 guineas. Mary Tanner wife of Tanner the plumber for use the Bryants late in Fisherton Workhouse. Mary Chant £5.

#### Part D

To William Collins the Cumlyns house that he pay 10 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 and 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 13th day of November then all five to prayers at Church being St Andrews. The abjects nominated by the churchwardens and approved of by three or least two of the principle inhabitants of Farringdon if they dont approve 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 form and so from year to year for ever. I think the ten guineas to complete if any remain for use said abjects and my desire that strict attention be paid to this charity and in default the churchwardens shall have full power to make complaint etc. To Benjamin Charles Collins dwelling house and appurtenances now occupied by Francis Collins that he pay £50 a year to the steward or treasurer of said Almshouse Wintergate for equal distribution among abjects male or female.

#### Part E

To Benjamin Charles Collins the corner house that he pay Frances Nicholas £12 a year for life as it was feared she will be blind and at her decease £1120 for use her children. Lucy Poole Bond £500 due from Thomas Tatlock dated 20 October 1770 and £100.

#### Part F

To James Whitmarsh and William Stephens in trust £800 mortgage on Evatts houses the interest from J. Evatt for use wife Ann and children. Barnard and Saunders £1100 each in trust for use the six youngest children of Mary Tatlock. Susan and Nathaniel fifty shillings each. Also £600 in trust for use children now or 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 (and prove worse to this my Will) to any two or more of the principle inhabitants of said town of Farringdon they are required to report it to the nearest Justice of the Peace who shall have full power to rectify and amend the same to the fulfilling of my Will and by calculation £11 will be just enough to defray all charge for apparel for five and some trifle left that which shall be equally divided.

Parts H to O Lists of beneficiaries and bequests and not listed but ending:

Part J - £8700 my present property exclusive of late loss of £1400.

Part K - I give my nephew William Collins my house now occupied by Mr Cumlyn subject to a quarter rent annually let or not let of £15 a year for ever for a moiety thereof to buy and pay eight upper garments for four men and four women deserving poor of ye town of Farringdon in Berks to change every year and of any surplus same to be given with the clothing for ever. 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 not only £26 a year to brother Joseph but eighteen shillings a month paid for sole use of my kinsman John Butler at Farringdon.

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 were well acquainted with 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 Benjamin Collins and Lucy Poole one of the nieces of the deceased 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 and that they were found and 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 when same were found and delivered to these deponents and all said paper writings are now at this time in the same plight and condition as they were in when they were 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.

**Mary Collins**

Summary of Will dated 9 March 1808 proved with one codicil 27 April 1808

This is the last Will and Testament of me Mary Collins of the city of New Sarum widow the relict of Benjamin Collins late of the same city banker deceased made and published the 9th day of March in the year of our Lord 1808.

Under the Will of her late husband dated 25 March 1778 she became entitled to one full eighth part or share (the whole into eight equal parts or shares to be divided) of the produce and sum of the trust estates and residue of personal estate valued into an entire aggregate stock or fund. By her late husband's codicil of 5 June 1784 the eighth part was to be considered a fund in her hands to apply in her lifetime or by her Will for the benefit of her daughter Charlotte Bacon or for her late husband's family entirely at her discretion and in exercise and execution of said power or authority she bequeathed to Sir George Thomas Staunton Baronet, Peter Bellinger Brodie and William Bird Brodie and her grand nephew the Rev Blakley Cooper all the capital bank stock purchased with monies from the one eighth part vested in her name in the books of the Governor and company of the Bank of England. On trust from six equal eighth parts thereof to pay the proceeds for sole use benefit and support of her daughter Charlotte Bacon widow during her lifetime and two eighth parts to grand daughter Charlotte Mary Bacon. After the decease of Charlotte Bacon on trust three of the six eighth parts to Charlotte Mary Bacon and three eights parts to daughters Lady Jane Staunton widow and Sarah Brodie widow in equal proportions.

Under the Will of her lately deceased son Benjamin Charles Collins she was one of the devisees and residuary legatees and now possessed an undivided equal fifth part of his real and residuary personal estates. And by virtue of the Statutes of Distribution of Intestates estates was also entitled to a distribution share of three other equal fifth parts of residuary personal estate by in the lifetime of her son the several deaths of her three sons in law Sir George Leonard Staunton, Rev Barfoot Colton and Peter Bellinger Brodie three other of the devisors and residuary legators. She devised all her such part and share in the real and personal estates of her son Benjamin Charles Collins and all her estate right title and interest and all sums of money to George Thomas Staunton, Peter Bellinger Brodie, William Bird Brodie and Blakely Cooper the trustees for the use of her daughters Lady Jane Staunton, Sarah Brodie and Charlotte Bacon as Tenants in Common and not as joint tenants.

She left her silver tea kettle and lamp and tea chest with the silver tea canisters therein to Lady Staunton and all plate bed and table linen china and £100 to Mrs Charlotte Bacon. And her gold watch and chain to granddaughter Margaret Brodie and her piano forte to Charlotte Mary Bacon. And to the four trustees, her son in law Mr Collins, daughter in law Mrs Colton and grand niece Frances Henrietta Elderton the sum of £50 each. And to her faithful servant Elizabeth Grace during her life the dividends and interest of £500 four per cent bank annuities and to such other woman servant the sum of £10. The residue of monies goods chattels and personal estate whatsoever after payment of just debts funeral and testamentary charges and subject to the given legacies was left divided equally to Lady Jane Staunton and Sarah Brodie.

She appointed Sir George Thomas Staunton, Peter Bellinger Brodie, William Bird Brodie and Blakley Cooper the executors in trust of this her last Will and Testament but her will and meaning is that during Sir George Thomas Staunton's absence from England at any time her other trustees and executors shall proceed in carrying all or any of the trusts provisions and powers of this her Will into execution in the like manner as if Sir George Thomas Staunton had not been appointed a trustee or executor.

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. George Dow. Thomas Chubb

Codicil - In addition to the devise and bequest therein 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 do accordingly recommend to my surviving relations that in case my grandson William Bird Brodie together with Mr John Luxford and Mr 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 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 son may remain as such to the persons so taking to the said businesses in like manner as if he had been living. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 15th day of March in the year of our Lord 1808 Mary Collins (Is) signed sealed published and declared by the testatrix Mary Collins as and for a codicil to her last Will and Testament in the presence of us Mary Williams. Thomas Chubb

The Will was proved at Lohdon with a 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, William Bird Brodie grandsons of the deceased, 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 the 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 the grandson also of the said deceased and the other executor named in the said Will when he shall apply for the same.

**William Collins**

Summary of Will dated 12 July 1810 proved with six codicils 8 August 1810

This is the last Will and Testament of me William Collins of the city of New Sarum Wilts. He gave his faithful worthy housekeeper Mrs Catherine Kimber £100 annuity during her lifetime, £50 and her bedroom furniture. To two maid servants £50 each. To his friends Samuel Emly and George Maton £50 in trust for the Treasurer of Salisbury Infirmary for the charitable uses of the Infirmary. To his sister Mrs Elizabeth Colton £200 and her daughter Mrs Cook £100. To George Maton for own use £100 and the Rev Frances Baker was released from all outstanding debts. Samuel Emly was left for own use £2500 and requested to continue the matters of account for 15 years or longer entirely to his comfort and upon a just settlement of affairs.

He devised to Rev Christopher Rigby husband of his daughter Eliza all his real and personal estate and all of his revenue and interest in the real and personal estates of his late brother Benjamin Charles Collins To have and to hold unto him said Christopher Rigby his heirs executors and administrators in trust for all and every of his children by his wife Eliza. And when the messuage printing office shop premises on the New Canal belonging to his late brother were sold to be not less than £500 but in such case Christopher Rigby to act therein at his discretion. The rents profits and proceeds of real and residuary personal estates were to be applied for the maintenance and education of the children of his daughter Eliza during their minorities and Christopher Gerard Rigby at his majority to have one equal third part more than each of her daughters.

Christopher Rigby was appointed the executor and trustee and not answerable for any involuntary losses and able to reimburse himself for 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 this 12th day of July in the year of our Lord 1810 signed sealed published and declared by the Testator William 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 said Testator and of each other Robert Thomas. George Dell. Thomas Chubb.

**Six Codicils**

1. In addition to my Sister Collins legacy of £200 I 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 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 George Maton as said legacy. 28 July 1810 Wm Collins.

3. In addition to what I have already given Mrs Kimber I add £50 to her legacy and my executor shall not be compellable to pay any legacy but Mrs Kimbers within three years after my decease. I revoke my legacy to Ann James and give her a £10 annuity. I give to the six poor widows in Culver Street £6, widow Buckland £2, 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 my brilliant diamond ring as a testimony of friendship and regards to Benjamin Barnard banker dated 2 August 1810 Wm Collins.

6. I give my niece Mrs Cooke £500 in addition to the £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 Thomas Chubb. George Dell.

16  
Affidavit 7 August 1810

Appeared personally the 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 deceased. That on the 13 July last he received a letter at his house at Ipplepen from Samuel Emly 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 25 July last the deceased's housekeeper informed the deponent that 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. That 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 of £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 he had so made revoking Mr Maton's legacy. That the deceased thereupon immediately desired his housekeeper to fetch him 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 said Will.

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 15 July last now meant and intended by the deceased to refer or apply to the codicil he so destroyed in his presence the 28 July last by which he had revoked the legacy to Mr George Maton as before set forth. C. Rigby. The same day Christopher Rigby was duly sworn to the truth of this Affidavit before me S. Parson surr. Henry Ibbotson n.p.

Affidavit 7 August 1810

Appeared personally Samuel Emly of Salisbury in the county of Wilts and Jonathan Dennett of Lincolns Inn Fields in the county of Middlesex 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 now carefully viewed and perused the paper writing hereto annexed purporting to be and contain the last Will and Testament and six codicils of the said deceased. They say they 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 the named Wm Collins set and subscribed to the recited first second third fourth and fifth codicils to be of the proper handwriting and subscription of the testator William Collins deceased S Emly. J Dennett.

The same day Samuel Emly and Jonathan Dennett were duly sworn to the truth of this Affidavit before me S Parson surr. Henry Ibbotson n.p.

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.

17  
**William Collins**

Summary of Will dated 12 July 1810 proved with six codicils 8 August 1810

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. Two maid servants £50 each. Samuel Emly and George Maton in trust £50 payable to the Treasurer of Salisbury Infirmary for charitable uses. Sister Elizabeth Colton £200 and her daughter Mrs Cook £100. George Maton £100 and Rev Frances Baker released from all debts. Samuel Emly for own use £2500 and requested to continue matters of account in the same manner as before for fifteen years or longer if necessary entirely to his comfort and upon a just settlement of affairs.

He devised all his revenue and interest in the real and personal estates of late brother Benjamin Charles Collins by virtue of Will or otherwise unto the Rev Christopher Rigby the husband of his daughter Eliza Rigby and also all the rest and residue of real and personal estate wheresoever. 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 the rents profits and proceeds of real and residuary personal estates to be applied for the maintenance and education of the children during their minorities. Grandson Christopher Gerard Rigby and any other son hereafter born of his said daughter to receive at the age of 21 one equal part more than each of her daughters.

William Collins directed that when the message printing office shop premises on the New Canal late belonging to his said brother was sold and disposed of his share not to be less than £500 but left to the discretion of Christopher Rigby to act therein as thought proper. The Rev Christopher Rigby was appointed executor in trust and not answerable for any involuntary losses and allowed to reimburse himself all his 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 the 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 Coltons 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 the said legacy. 28 July 1810 - Wm. Collins.

3. To Mrs Kimber I further add £50 to her legacy and my executor shall not be compellable to pay any legacy but Mrs Kimbers within three years after my decease. I revoke my legacy to Ann James and give her £10 annuity yearly. I give the six poor widows in Culver Street £6, widow Buckland £2, 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 my brilliant diamond ring as a testimony of friendship and regards to Benjamin Barnard banker. 2 August 1810 - Wm Collins.

6. I bequeath my niece Mrs Cooke £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 my friend Mrs Loder £5. In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal the 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 7 August 1810. Appeared personally the 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. That 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 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. That 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 apprised 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. That 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

Affidavit 7 August 1810. Appeared personally the 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. That 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 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. That 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. That 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. Same day said Rev Christopher Rigby was duly sworn to the truth of this affidavit before me - S. Parson surr. Henry Ibbotson np.

Affidavit 7 August 1810. Appeared personally Samuel Emly of Salisbury in the county of Wilts esquire and Jonathan Dennett of Lincolns 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.

**Sarah Ann Cotton**

Summary of Will dated 11 August 1840 proved 29 April 1843

Sarah Ann Cotton late of Leytonstone in the county of Essex but now of Guildford Street in the parish of Saint Pancras in the county of Middlesex the widow of Thomas Cotton formerly of Cornhill in the city of London stockbroker deceased requested her body be interred in the church of Saint Michael Cornhill as near as possible to her late dear husband.

By the marriage settlement dated 24 July 1795 made between her late husband Thomas Cotton of the first part, herself by description of Sarah Ann Rigby of Stoke Newington spinster of the second part, and her late father George Rigby and Isaac Dupuey both of Stoke Newington of the third part the Stoke Newington copyhold messuage and premises were settled for the benefit of herself, Thomas Cotton and any children of the intended marriage. She now devised her son Henry Cotton and son in law Rev Alfred Williams in trust debentures £3000 Upper Canada £5% reimbursable London 1855 the proceeds thereof payable to her daughter Marianne Cotton until her marriage or decease. After (1855) one moiety each to daughters Marianne Cotton and Rosetta Lambert wife of Rev Alfred Williams. She appointed her son Henry Cotton and Alfred Williams the executors and left the residue of all personal estate to daughter Marianne Cotton.

The trustees were empowered to sell the £3000 Debentures or otherwise in stocks or securities to invest or vary same and chargeable only for such monies as they actually receive only answerable for themselves and acts and not for any banker broker or others into whose hands any part of her personal estate may be deposited nor for any other misfortune loss or damage except as happens by their gross wilful defaults and they may retain and reimburse themselves of all costs charges damages expenses they may sustain expend or disburse regarding her personal estate or application thereof.

In witness whereof I the said Sarah Ann Cotton the testatrix have to this my last Will contained in this and two preceding sheets of paper set my hand 11 August 1840. signed and declared by the testatrix as her last Will and Testament in the presence of us present at the same time who in her presence and in the presence of each other have attested the same and hereunto subscribe our names as witnesses. H. Whishaw of Grays Inn. William Noad clerk to Messrs Whishaw of Grays Inn.

The Will was proved at London the 29 April 1843 before the worshipful Augustus Frederick Bayford doctor of laws and surrogate by the oaths of Henry Cotton esquire the son and the Reverend Alfred Williams clerk the executors to whom administration was granted having been first sworn duly to administer.

**Thomas Cotton**

Summary of Will dated 20 November 1818 proved 13 January 1826

Thomas Cotton of the Stock Exchange London and of Enfield in the county of Middlesex gentleman bequeathed his dear wife Sarah Ann all real estate freehold and copyhold whatsoever and wheresoever and all personal estate and effects of every nature and kind to and for her absolute use and benefit. He appointed his wife Sarah Ann Cotton the sole executrix and guardian of such of his children as shall be under age at the time of his decease.

In witness whereof I the said Thomas Cotton the testator have to this my last Will set my hand 20 November 1818. signed sealed published and declared by said Thomas Cotton the testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses thereto John Whishaw of Grays Inn. Robert Marsh and Henry Whishaw his clerks.

The Will was proved at London the 13 January 1826 before the worshipful John Danbury Dr of Laws and Surr by the oath of Sarah Ann Cotton widow the relict and sole executrix to whom admon was granted being first sworn duly to administer.

**Thomas Dicey Cotton**

Summary of Will dated 4 October 1821 proved 8 March 1836

Thomas Dicey Cotton of Winchmore Hill in the county of Middlesex esquire being of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding made this his last Will and Testament. He devised and bequeathed all his real and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever in possession reversion remainder or expectancy unto his dear wife Elizabeth Maria heirs executors administrators and assigns for her and their own absolute use and benefit. He appointed his wife Elizabeth Maria Cotton the sole executrix and revoked and made void all former and other Wills by him at any time heretofore made.

In witness whereof I hereunto have set my hand and seal 4 October 1821. signed sealed published and declared by Thomas Dicey Cotton the testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses thereto John Whishaw. C. J. Whishaw. J Whishaw. Grays Inn.

The Will was proved at London the 8 March 1836 before the Judge by the oath of Elizabeth Maria Cotton widow the relict the sole executrix to whom admon was granted being first sworn by commission duly to administer.

**John Gardiner**

Summary of Will dated 1 November 1836 proved with one codicil 8 September 1838

In the name of God and in a humble reliance on a blessed Redeemer's merits amen I John Gardiner DD being of sound mind make this my last Will and Testament revoking all other Wills and codicils whatsoever.

He left in trust to the Vicar and Church wardens of the parish of St Mary Magdalen in the town of Taunton and county of Somerset or either of them the sum of 100 guineas towards the painting of an altar piece for said church. The subject to be taken either from the 1st or the 11th to 18th verses of the 20th Chapter of St John and the altar piece to be finished and put in place within two years after formal notice by his executors to the Vicar of this clause otherwise the legacy to lapse.

To each of his sons John Gardiner and William Gardiner he left one third part of the property and one third of the interest now due on his Columbian Bonds deposited with Jones Loyd & Co and made made his son George (Gregory) Gardiner sole executor and residuary legatee. Written and signed with his own hand this 1st day of November AD 1836.

By codicil his sons John and William were left £300 each in addition to the one quarter due to them after his decease Written and signed with his own hand this 27th day of June 1837.

Appeared personally Philip Henry Watts of the city of Bath gentleman and William Tuckwell of the same city linen draper and made oath that they know and were well acquainted with the Reverend John Gardiner late of the parish of Saint Michael in the city of Bath clerk Doctor of Divinity deceased and with his manner and character of handwriting and subscription having often seen him write and subscribe his name and having now with care and attention viewed and inspected the paper writing hereto annexed purporting to be and containing the last Will and Testament and codicil of the said deceased the said Will beginning thus . . . ending thus . . . and thus subscribed John Gardiner DD and the said codicil beginning thus . . . ending thus . . . and thus subscribed J Gardiner they these Deponents say they do verily and in their consciences believe the whole body sense and contents of the said Will and codicil and the said recited subscriptions thereto to be of the proper handwriting of the said deceased -

On 1st September 1838 Philip Henry Watts and William Tuckwell were duly sworn to the truth of this affidavit before me Henry Law commissioner

Proved at London 8th September 1838 with a codicil before the Judge by the oath of the Rev George Gregory (in the Will written George) Gardiner clerk the son the sole executor to whom Admon was granted having been first sworn by Comon duly to administer

**Mary Gardiner**

Summary of Will dated 1 April 1818 proved 28 November 1825

This is the last Will and Testament of me Mary Gardiner wife of the Rev John Gardiner of the city of Bath, Somerset Doctor in Divinity I do give and bequeath all and every sum and sums of money bills bonds notes specialties and all other my personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever over which I have any disposing power at the time of signing this my Will unto my husband the said John Gardiner his executors and administrators.

Upon trust that the said John Gardiner his executors administrators shall collect get in and receive all her monies stocks and funds and convert into money such part of her estate as shall consist of chattels and to apply same in equal portions for the use of Frances Ellen Piercy and Mary Piercy the two daughters of her late son Jeffrey Piercy by her former husband. In the event of the death of either or both of the two aforesaid daughters then such portions or share to be divided equally between Jeffrey Bond Piercy and Henry James Piercy the two sons of her late son Jeffrey Piercy.

And I do hereby constitute and appoint the said John Gardiner sole executor of this my last Will and Testament written by my own hand and contained in one sheet of paper set my hand and seal this first day of April 1818.

Appeared personally Mehetabel Austin of the city of Bath widow and William Gardiner of the same place and made oath that they know and were well acquainted with Mary Gardiner wife of the Rev John Gardiner DD late of the city of Bath deceased and during such their knowledge of and acquaintance with the said deceased they have often seen her write and also write and subscribe her name whereby they have become well acquainted with the manner and character of handwriting and subscription and having now with care and attention viewed and inspected the paper writing hereunto annexed purporting to be and contain the last Will and Testament of the said deceased beginning thus . . . ending thus . . . and thus subscribed Mary Gardiner these deponents say they do verily and in their consciences believe the whole sense and contents of the said Will together with the subscription thereto to be all of the proper handwriting and subscription of the said Mary Gardiner the testatrix deceased -

On the 14th day of November 1825 the said Mehetabel Austin and William Gardiner were duly sworn to the truth of this affidavit by virtue of the annexed commission before me Charles C Waller commissioner

On the 28th November 1825 admon with the Will annexed of the goods chattels and credits of Mary Gardiner wife of the Rev John Gardiner Doctor in Divinity late of the city of Bath deceased was granted to the said Rev John Gardiner the lawful husband and sole executor named in the said Will and sole person entitled to undisposed residue of the personal estate and effects of said deceased having been first sworn by Common duty to administer

**Christopher Rigby**

Summary of Will dated 30 January 1789 proved 7 February 1795

In the name of God Amen I Christopher Rigby of Princes Risborough in the county of Bucks Esquire being indisposed in body but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding and being mindful of the uncertainty of this life do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner following that is to say I commit my soul to God and my body to the earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my executrix hereinafter named and for such worldly estate as it hath pleased Almighty God to bless me with I dispose of the same as followeth.

He devised to his loving wife Sarah Rigby the messuage wherein he now dwells with outhouses yard garden and appurtenances situate and being in Princes Risborough to hold during the term of her natural life and after her decease he devised said messuage with appurtenances to his son Christopher Rigby his heirs and assigns. He bequeathed his wife Sarah Rigby all household goods and furniture for her own use benefit and disposal and also his money in public funds or elsewhere to transfer or dispose of or by her last Will to their children Christopher Rigby and Sarah Rigby as thought best for their benefit and advantage. In the meantime the interest dividends and produce thereof was to be applied for her own support and the maintenance and education of his children. His horses and residue of goods chattels rights credits and personal estate were left to his wife for her own disposal. He appointed his wife Sarah Rigby sole executrix and revoked and made void all former Wills by him made and published and declared this to be his last Will and Testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 30th day of January in the twenty ninth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King defender of the faith and so forth and in the year of our Lord 1789. C. Rigby (Is) signed sealed published and declared by the above named Christopher Rigby the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who subscribed our names in the presence of said Testator and of each other. Ann Francklin. John Coventry. Joseph Wells.

This Will was proved at London the 7th day of February in the year of our Lord 1795 before the worshipful John Michell Doctor of Laws and Surrogate of the Right Honorable Sir William Wynne Knight also Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted before the oath of Sarah Rigby widow the relict and sole executrix named in the Will to whom Administration was granted of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the deceased having been first sworn duly to administer.

**Fanny Rigby**

Summary of Will dated 8 May 1822 proved 3 April 1827

This is the last Will and Testament of me Fanny Rigby of the city of New Sarum in the county of Wilts widow made the 8th day of May 1822. I desire to be decently buried at Cranborne in the county of Dorset in the vault wherein my late father Dr Robert Prower and my dear daughter Harriet Rigby and other relatives are buried and that the words Fanny Rigby daughter of Robert Prower M.D with the day of the month and year of my decease inscribed on the monument which I have lately put up in the chancel of the church of Cranborne.

To Robert Dixon servant thirty guineas and Elizabeth Turner servant £10 free and clear of legacy tax and outgoings. To her nephews Anthony Mervin Reeve Storey of Basset Dowry House Wilts and Rev John Mervin Prower of Purton Wilts in trust £500 government stock last £5 per centum per annum now £4 % floated or about to be floated by authority of Parliament to pay the annual proceeds to her servant Sarah Small widow for life. To Anthony Mervin Reeve Storey his executors and administrators for own use all her estate right title term and interest in a leasehold messuage or tenement farm lands hereditaments appurtenances at Ockford Fitzpaine Dorset late the property of her father. To the executors in trust £120 of now £4% stock the proceeds every year for ever on New Years Day to the poor aged people residing in the town of Cranborne Dorset or each of them as thought best but not to the poor residing in the outlying hamlets.

The residue of real and personal estate money securities plate linen china goods chattels and said £500 stock on decease of Sarah Small to be divided into four equal parts one part to the executors in trust for sole use of her niece Anne Isherwood wife of Robert Isherwood of Highgate Middlesex. Of the other three parts one part each to nephews Anthony Mervin Reeve Storey, John Mervin Prower and Thomas Prower a surgeon in London their executors and administrators for his and their own use.

Anthony Mervin Reeve Storey and John Mervin Prower appointed the executors of this her Will revoking all former Wills. In witness whereof hereto my hand and seal the day and year first above written Fanny Rigby (Is) signed sealed published and declared by Fanny Rigby the testatrix as and for her last Will and Testament in the presence of us Thomas Winch att at law Salisbury. James Chisholme. James Edwards x clerks to Mr Winch.

**One Codicil**

All my wearing apparel excepting colored silks and silk shawls that are not black. The last flowered one I bought, a black one with a border to it also silk stockings to my niece. Sarah Small £20 a year for life free of deductions and every half year as dividends become due after her death £6 a year for ever to the widows and poor of Cranborne which I think is £5 more than my Will mentions but it must be for ever and ever Amen. Fanny Rigby 23 Oct 1825.

**Affadavit 31 March 1827**

Appeared personally Robert Dixon and George Glass of the city of New Sarum in the county of Wilts and made oath they knew and were well acquainted with Fanny Rigby late of the city of New Sarum widow deceased for some years before and to the time of her death also with manner and character of her handwriting and subscription having frequently seen her write and subscribe her name and having carefully viewed and perused the paper writing hereunto annexed say they verily and in their consciences believe the whole of the writing contained in said paper writing to be of the proper handwriting of the deceased. On the 31 March 1827 Robert Dixon and George Glass were duly sworn to the truth hereof before me Charles Henry Hodgson commissioner.

The Will was proved at London with one codicil 3 April 1827 before the judge by the oath of Anthony Mervin Reeve Storey esquire and the Reverend John Mervin Prower clerk the executors to whom Admon was granted having been first sworn by Comon duly to administer.

**Henry Rigby**

Summary of Will dated 3 November 1817 proved with five codicils 24 May 1819

This is the last Will and Testament of me Henry Rigby of New Sarum Wilts clerk made and published the third day of November in the year of our Lord 1817. He devised his freehold messuage dwelling house garden coach house stable and appurtenances in Crane Street New Sarum, leasehold messuage farm lands hereditaments at Ockford Fitzpaine Dorset, leasehold farm lands hereditaments appurtenances at Bradford Abbas Dorset and all other real estate to the executors and trustees Anthony Mervin Reeve Storey of the Middle Temple London, Peter Templeman of Whichbury Wilts and Thomas Andrews of Ludgate Street London linen draper. His wife Fanny to peaceably occupy and enjoy all said premises and proceeds therefrom for own use and after her decease sold into personal estate. From proceeds of stock funds securities goods chattels and personal estate trustees to pay his wife £400 annuity during her life by two half yearly payments the first days of February and August. Also £200 annuity in trust for benefit of his nephew George Arrowsmith's four sons George 17yrs, Joseph 15yrs, Henry Abel 13yrs and Charles 11yrs and their advancement in trade or professions after to George Arrowsmith for own use and on his decease to his sons during their lives share and share alike as Tenants in Common.

After the decease of his wife proceeds of £4000 5% stock to sister in law Mary Anne Rigby widow of his brother Tipping Rigby late Alderman of London and on her decease sold and given her children share and share alike as Tenants in Common. Proceeds of further £4000 to niece Sarah Anne Cotton daughter of his late brother George Rigby the wife of Thomas Cotton of Enfield Middx for life not subject to the control or interference of her present or any future husband.

To wife Fanny for own use and enjoyment all pictures prints and wines liquors household furniture plate linen china and books and on her decease in trust for person entitled to residue of personal estate. To nephew Rev Christopher Rigby Collins five guineas for a ring in remembrance of me and it was not from my disrespect to him that I have not bequeathed to him a larger legacy but because he and his children are most amply provided for by the late Mr William Collins and I have disposed of my property amongst those to whom I consider it will be most useful.

In witness whereof I Henry Rigby to the first four sheets have subscribed my hand and to this fifth and last sheet have subscribed and set my hand and seal the day and year before written. Henry Rigby (Is) signed sealed and declared this his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses Peter Harrison curate of Fisherton Anger. Charles Hill junior clerk to Mr Winch att at law of Salisbury. Elizabeth Eyres servant to Mr Winch att at law.

**Five Codicils**

1. Appointment of Anthony Mervin Reeve Storey as executor and trustee revoked and declared null and void. In witness I have hereunto set my hand and seal. 11 August 1818 Henry Rigby (Is) signed sealed published and declared this a codicil to his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence and at his request have signed our names as witnesses Thomas Wilde Dyke. M.A Skinner. Sarah Skinner.

2. Thomas Cotton of Enfield Middlesex appointed an executor and trustee. In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal. 21 September 1818 Henry Rigby (Is) signed sealed published and declared this a codicil in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereto set our names as witnesses Thomas Winch att at law Salisbury. Edward White. Charles Hill junior clerks to Mr Winch.

3. To Robert Dixon servant all wearing apparel, large silver shoe buckles, silver knee buckles, a smaller pair of silver shoe buckles, silver stock buckle, all shaving apparatus, inkstandish, bureau now standing in the lumber room, brewing utensils except fixtures, all linen such as shirts stocks stockings except two India handkerchiefs. Sarah Small servant £5 and mourning. Mr Thomas Prower £20. Mr Winch solicitor worthy and much esteemed friend £20. Good friend Dr Skinner a ring and same to Rev Mr Harrison of Fisherton Anger. Peter Templeman executor requested to accept a ring not for its value but as a small token of friendship and regard. Mr Winch senior £10. Nephew the Rev Rigby Collins a Comelian seal set in gold and nephew George Arrowsmith a folio Bible and Testament. Witness my hand 7 October 1818 Henry Rigby signed sealed and delivered in presence of us Anna Maria Bowles. Elizabeth Bowles. Elizabeth Hayward.

4. To Robert Dixon an additional £30 H.Rigby (Is) witness my hand and seal 8 April 1819 witnesses Joseph Bell. Mary Bell. Philip Clouter.

5. To Sarah Small widow £30 cancelling former codicil made in her favour. H.Rigby (Is) witness my hand and seal 15 April 1819 witnesses Joseph Bell. James Bennett. Philip Clouter.

The Will was proved at London with five codicils 24 May 1819 before the worshipful John Dauberry Dr of Laws and Surrogate by the oath of Thomas Andrews one of the executors named in the Will and Thomas Cotton the executor substituted in the second codicil to whom Admon was granted being first sworn duly to administer power reserved to Peter Templeman the other executor named in the Will.