

*The Last Will and Testament
of Thomas Browne
of Minety
Will proved
6th July 1738*



Probate Court of London
Original reference
Will Dated 13th November 1737

Testator:	Browne	Thomas	Gentleman of Minety
Executors:			
Browne	Arabella	Wife	Joint Executrix
Browne	Arabella	Daughter	Joint Executrix

Beneficiaries		Relationship to testator	Other Information
Surname	Given Names		
			Poor of Little Somerford
			Poor of Minety
		Brothers	Male children of father Lucian Browne
		Servants	Not named
Browne	Arabella	Daughter	
Browne	Arabella	Wife	
Browne	Robert		Of Hankerton. No relationship stated
Browne	Robert	Nephew	Brother of Thomas
Browne	Thomas	Nephew	Brother of Robert
Butterfield	Lettice	Daughter in Law	
Huse	Robert		
Nott	Joseph		No relationship stated
Witnesses			
Digges	Richard		
Fifield	William		
Francome	Richard		
Other Names			
Browne	Lucian	Father	
Nott	John	Father of Joseph Nott	

Transcription

In the Name of Good Amen I Thomas Browne of Minety in the County of Wilts Gent being of sound mind and memory thanks be given unto God therefore but calling to mind the uncertainty of death and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner following that is to say

Imprimus. I give bequeath and devise all that my Messuage or Tenement the Closes Lands Tenements Hereditaments and Appurtenances thereunto belonging situate lying and being in Little Somerford in the County of Wilts aforesaid together with the Common of Pasture in Braydon in the said County of Wilts or elsewhere thereunto belonging unto my Daughter Arabella Browne and the heirs of her body lawfully begotten or to be begotten To hold to her and her heirs forever And in default of such Issue I give bequeath and devise the same Messuage Lands Closes and Premises unto the heirs male of my father Lucian Browne And for default of such Issue I give bequeath and devise the same premises unto the Right Heirs of my said father Lucian Browne But whenever Thomas Browne Grandson of my said father Lucian Browne or his heirs shall be possessed of the said Messuage Lands and Premises I do hereby charge the said Premises with the payment of four hundred pounds to Robert Browne Brother of the said Thomas the sum of four hundred pounds go be paid by the said Thomas Browne or his heirs to the said Robert Browne within the space of one year after he or they shall be possessed of the aforesaid Lands and Premises.

Item I give bequeath and devise unto my loving Wife Arabella Browne All that my Manor of Minety together with the Messuage or Tenement in which I now live and the Closes Lands Tenements Parsonage and Appropriated Titles of Minety in the County of Wilts and Gloucester thereunto belonging with their and every of their Appurtenances To hold unto my said Wife and her Assignes for and during the term of her natural Life And after her decease I give and bequeath the same premises unto my said Daughter Arabella Browne her Executors and Administrators And my Will is that my said Wife shall out of the Rents Issues and Profits of the premises from time to time ours in every four years next after my decease during her natural Life purchase a new Lease of the premises in her own name for the Term of Twenty One Years from the Date of such new Lease and also Maintain and provide Dyet for my said Daughter Arabella Browne during the joint Lives of my said Wife and Daughter In case my said Daughter shall so long live sole and unmarried and that all and every such new Lease shall be to the use of my said Wife during her natural Life and after her decease to the use of my said Daughter and her Executors and Administrators,

Item. I give and bequeath unto my Wife the use of all my Household Goods during her Life with a power for my said Wife to give any part of the same Household goods not exceeding the value of twenty pounds unto my Daughter in Law Lettice Butterfield or any persons my Wife shall think fit to give it to And from and immediately after the death of my said Wife I give and bequeath the residue of the same Household goods unto my Daughter Arabella Browne her Executors and Administrators.

Item. I give and bequeath unto Robert Huse if alive at my decease the sum of Twenty Shillings. And to my Chief Man and Maid Servants that shall be living with me at my death the sum of forty shillings apiece.

Item. I give unto the poor of Minety the sum of five pounds and the sum of five pounds to the poor of Little Somerford to be given to them by my Executrix's hereafter named in such manner and proportions as they shall think fit.

Item. I give unto Robert Browne of Clotely End in the parish of Hankerton the sum of forty pounds to be paid to him by my said Executrix's within one year of my decease.

Item. I give unto my Daughter in Law Lettice Butterfield the sum of Ten Pounds to be paid by my said Executrix's within the time aforesaid.

Item. I give to my beloved Wife Arabella Browne one Annuity or Rent charge of Ten pounds a year to be likewise paid by my Executrix's every year during the natural Life of my said Wife.

Item. I give bequeath and devise my Right Title and Interest conveyd to me by John Nott Gent of and to a Copyhold Estate in the parish of Lyddiard Treygoose in the County of Wilts aforesaid after the decease of my Wife to the use of Joseph the son of the said John Nott.

All the Rest and Residue of my Goods and Chattels Bills Bonds Mortgages and Personal Estate not hereby otherwise disposed of I give unto my said Daughter Arabella Browne her Executors Administrators and Assignes and I do hereby nominate and appoint my said Wife and Daughter Executrices of this my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I have to this my Will contained in two sheets of paper set my Hand and Seal this thirteenth day of November in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty Seven.

-----*Tho. Browne*-----

This Will contained in two sheets of paper was signed and sealed by the said Thomas Browne the Testator and by him declared to be his last Will and Testament in our presence and by us attested in the presence of the said Testator in presence of us

-----*Wm. Fifield*-----*Richd. Francome*-----*Richd. Digges*

This Will was proved at London the Sixth day of July in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty Eight before the Right Worshipfull John Bettesworth Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of Arabella Browne Widow the Relict and Arabella Browne Spinster the Daughter the Executrixes in the said Will named to whom Administration was granted of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of the said deceased they being first sworn by commission duly to Administer.,