

The Last Will & Testament of
Elizabeth Geers ne Cope, of Canon Frome
dated 2 September 1721



In the name of God amen, I Elizabeth Geers of the Parish of Canon Frome in the County of Hereford widow of Thomas Geers Serjeant at Law being in health of body and of good and perfect memory, thanks be to God, do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Heavenly Father trusting to be saved through the sole merrit of my Holy Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ. My body in hope of joyfull resurrection I committ to the earth to be douthly and privately buryed in the Parish Church of Canon Frome aforesaid or otherwise according to the direction of my Executors hereafter named and as to the worldly goods that pleased Almighty God to bless me with I dispose of the same as follows. Imprimis I will that all my debts legacies and funeral expenses be first paid and discharged then I give to the poor of the Parish of Whitney in the County of Hereford the sum of five pounds to the poore of the Parish of Bridge Solers within the County aforesaid the summe of five pounds and also to the poore of the Parish of Canon Frome the summe of five pounds to be distributed as my Executors shall think fitt among poore housekeepers each of the parishes. Item I ? my deare father William Cope late of Icomb in the County of Gloucester Esqr. did putt into the hands of my aforesaid late husband the summe of one hundred pounds to the intent that my said husband should have the benefit thereof until such time as a workhouse should be settled in the towne of Stow and a trade to emply the poore inhabitants and that within these months after such a workhouse and trade should be settled he should pay the said summe of one hundred pounds to the persons employed to oversee and regulate the said trade and whereas my grandson William Gregory by his fathers marriage settlement obliged on the condition aforesaid to pay to the persons and purpose aforesaid the summe of fifty pounds being and moiety of the said one hundred pounds Now I being minded as well to discharge my said grandson from the payment of the said fifty pounds as also to make a certain provision for ? the payment of the said one hundred pounds do give and bequeath unto my son and daughter Hopton and the survivor of them and the heirs executors and assigned of such survivor all that my house in the Castle H? in the City of Hereford with the garden stable and outhouse there to belonging upon trust and confidence that my said son and daughter and the survivor of them and the Heires executors and assigns of such survivor shall whosoever it so happens that a workhouse is built and a trade settled in Stow pay to the overseers of it the summe of one hundred pounds and I do hereby charge and make the said messuage and premisses soly able to and charged with the payment of the said summe and then my will and ? is that my said son and daughter and the survivor of them and their Heires executors and administrators of such survivor shall have all my right and title to the premises to their use and benefitt. Item whereas my said father William Cope did by his last Will and Testament after his legacies and funerall expenses were discharged leave all his ready money and promises for money to be divided between my children as I should by any writing under my hand and seale direct and appoint now to avoid any dispute that may arise I do by this my last will divert and appoint and in title my daughter Elizabeth Hopton to the said money I ? and all other advantages whatsoever

attending to my said children by my said fathers will. Item I so according to the desire of my beare husband aforesaid give unto my son in law Timothy Geers Esq. my great silver Tankard and I do also give him ten pounds to buy mourning. Item I give unto my grandson William Gregory Esqr. and to my granddaughter Elizabeth Dourse the summe of one hundred pounds a piece to be paid unto them by executrix within three months after my decease. Item I give unto my grandson Edward Cope Dopton my great Cupp and wrought ?. Item I give unto my waiting maid Amy wearing cloths and five pounds. Item I give unto my son and daughter Dopton and the longer lived of them all my household goods at my house in Hereford and att my house in Canon Brome and my store of graine as I ? and plate nott otherwise disposed of. Item I give all the rest of my ready money debts mortgages and bonds to my said son and daughter Dopton upon trust and confidence that they will as such find and in such manner as they see fitting dispose of the same amongst their children and as to all thereof and as for all the rest of my estate nott before disposed of I give the same unto my said bearly beloved daughter Dopton whom I so also do hereby constitute and ordain sole executrix of this my last Will and Testament and I do hereby utterly revoke all former wills and testaments by me in anywise heretofore made or declared in witness whereof I have ? my hand and seale this second day of September in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand and seven hundred and twenty one ./.. Eliza Geers ./.. Signed sealed published and declared in the presence of Mary Mathews ./.. Elizabeth Dillerhamp[?] ./.. Ian Redub[?]

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Such survivor shall may and is hereby authorized and empowered to
 pay and apply such sums and sums of money as they shall judge it
 necessary and sufficient out of any part of my said Estate for binding out
 my son apprenticed to such trade as they in their discretion shall think
 most proper and advantage and my will further is that if any loss
 shall happen by putting and placing forth at interest of the said money
 or any part thereof shall be borne and suffered by my Executors
 or Administrators and not by my Executors in Trust or either of them and
 that my Executors herein named shall not be accountable for the Act or
 default of the other of them but each for his or her own Act only Item
 I do hereby order and my will and desire is that it shall and may be
 lawfull for and for my said Executors and the survivor of them and the
 Executors or Administrators of such survivor to deduct and retain in
 the said or the survivor's hands out of my said Estate from time to time all
 such sums and sums of money which they or either of them shall or
 may pay or be at all times or be put into in or about the redemption
 of the said my will or all or any of the debts in the said or either of them
 hereby proposed and lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint the said
 Edmund Nichol and Elizabeth King Executors in Trust of this my last
 will and Testament desiring their acceptance of this Trust and do
 give unto each of them the sum of ten shillings as a token of my affection and
 respect to them hereby reserving all former Wills by me made in witness
 whereof I have to this my last will and Testament contained in two sheets
 of paper written only on outside thereof subscribed my name to the
 first thereof and to this present sheet have set my hand and seal
 the fourth day of October in the year of our Lord God 1724. A
 true and genuine signed sealed published and declared by the said
 Edmund Nichol and Elizabeth King in the presence of us who
 have set our names as witnesses hereto in the presence of and at
 the request of the said Testator the marks of Edmund Nichol
 and Elizabeth King
 Roduon Robert Sandford

Probatum

hinc hujusmodi Testamentum apud Londoniam a
 diebus diebus mensis Septembris Anno Domini Millesimo Septingentesimo
 tertio secundo Coram venerabili et Gregorio viro Johanne defforwille
 legum Doctore Curie prerogative Cantuariensis Magistro Custode et
 suo Commissario legitime constituto Juramento Edmundi Nichol
 et Elizabetha King videlicet Executorum fiduciarum in dicto Testamento
 nominatim quibus commissaria fuit administratio omnium et singulorum
 bonorum jurium et creditorum dictae defunctae de bonis et fideliter
 administratio dabitur ad sancta dei Evangelia vigens Commissionis Jurat
 etc.

In the Name of God Amen

I Elizabetha King of the Parish of Canon Ham in the County of
 Hertford widow of Thomas King Esquire being in health of
 body and of good and perfect memory (Thank be to God) do make this my
 last will and Testament in manner and form following first I bequeath my
 soul into the hands of Almighty God my Heavenly Father trusting to be
 saved through the alone merits of my Blessed Saviour and Redeemer
 Jesus Christ

In
 Elizabetha
 King

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in hope of a joyfull Resurrection I renounce to the earth
 to be devoutly and privately buried in the Parish Church of Canon Thome or
 aforesaid or else wher according to the direction of my Executors hereafter
 named and as to the worldly goods it hath pleased Almighty God to bless
 me with I dispose of the same as followeth I suppose I will that all my
 debts legacies and sundry expences be first paid and discharged then
 I give to the poor of the Parish of Whetstrey in the County of Hereford the
 sum of five pounds to the poor of the Parish of Bridgeford in the
 County aforesaid the sum of five pounds and also to the poor of the
 Parish of Canon Thome the sum of five pounds to be distributed as my
 Executors shall thinke fitt among poor houses and in care of the
 Parishes. Item I have my dear father William Copple of Iron in
 the County of Shropshire Esq. did put into the hands of my aforesaid late
 husband the sum of one hundred pounds to the intent that my said
 husband should have the benefit thereof until such time as a workhouse
 should be set up in the Town of Stow and a trade to employ the poor
 Inhabitants and that within three months after such a workhouse and trade
 should be set up he should pay the said sum of one hundred pounds to the
 persons employed to oversee and regulate the said trade and whereas my
 Grandson William Gregorie by his fathers marriage settlement obliged
 on the conditions aforesaid to pay to the persons and purposes aforesaid
 the sum of fifty pounds being one moiety of the said one hundred pounds
 now being minded as well to discharge my said Grandson from the payment
 of the said fifty pounds as also to make a certain provision for providing the
 payment of the said one hundred pounds do give and bequeath unto my son and
 daughter Hopton and the survivor of them and the heirs Executors and
 assigns of such survivor all that my house in the Castle Street in the City of
 Hereford with the garden stable and outhouses thereto belonging upon a
 Trust and confidence that my said son and daughter and the survivor of them
 and the heirs Executors and assigns of such survivor shall whosoever it
 happeneth that a workhouse be built and a trade settled in Stow pay to the
 Overseers of it the sum of one hundred pounds and I do hereby charge and
 make the said moiety and promise payable to and charged with the payment
 of the said sum and here my will and meaning is that my said son and daughter
 and the survivor of them and the heirs Executors and Administrators of
 such survivor shall have all my right and title to the premises to their use
 and benefit Item I have my dear father William Copple did by his last will
 and Testament after his legacies and sundry expences were discharged
 leave all his ready money and benefits for money to be divided between
 my children and should by any writing under my hand and seal direct and
 appoint how to avoid any dispute that may arise I do by this my last will
 direct and appoint and in full my daughter Elizabeth Hopton to the said
 money and benefits and all other advantages whatsoever attending to my said
 children by my said father's will Item I do according to the desire of my dear
 husband aforesaid give unto my son in law Timothy Gird Esq. my great
 silver Canard and I do also give him ten pounds to buy mourning for
 I give unto my Grandson William Gregorie Esq. and to my Granddaughter
 Elizabeth Hopton the sum of one hundred pounds a part to be paid unto
 them by my Executors within three months after my decease Item I give unto
 my Grandson Edward Copple Hopton my great Cup and wrought silver
 I give unto my waiting Maids all my wearing Cloaths and five pounds
 I give unto my son and daughter Hopton and the longer liver of them all my

do

aforesaid

Household goods att my house in Hertsford and att my house in Hertsford and att my
 Canon house and my house of Hertsford and Hertsford and place not otherwise disposed of
 I have given all the best of my ready money debts mortgages and bonds to my
 said son and daughter Hopton upon Trust and Confidence that they will with all their
 kind and in such manner as they see fitting dispose of the same amongst their
 Children and as for all the rest and residue of my Estate not before disposed
 of I give the same unto my said dear beloved daughter Hopton whom I
 do also hereby constitute and ordain sole executrix of this my last will and
 Testament and I do hereby utterly revoke all former wills and Testaments
 by me in anywise heretofore made or declared in witness whereof I have
 hereunto set my hand and seal the sixth day of September in the year
 of our Lord God our Saviour thousand and twenty one Elizabeth first
 signed sealed published and declared in the presence of Mary Matthews
 Elizabeth Miller Camp Sam Rood

Probatum fuit huiusmodi Testamentum apud Londoniam Coram
 venerabili et egregio viro Johanne Northworte Regium Doctorum Curie
 prerogative Cantuarie Magistro Custodie sue Commissario legitime constituto
 primo quarto die Mensis Septembris Anno Domini Millesimo Septingentesimo
 primo secundo Juramento Elizabetha Hopton uxoris Richardi Hopton
 Armigeri executricis in dicto Testamento nominata cui commissum fuit
 administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum iurium et Credituum dicta
 defuncta debent et fideliter administrando dabam ad sancta dei Evangelia
 vigore Commissionis iurate Exam

In the name of God Amen

I Elizabeth Hill of the Parish of St. Saviour and Burrough of Southwark
 in the County of Surrey being in full and sound mind and disposing
 mind and memory (praised be God for the same) do make and ordain this my
 last will and Testament in manner and form following I give myself
 into the hands of God who gave it and my body to the earth to be decently buried at the
 direction of my Executors hereinafter named and as for all my worldly Estate I do give
 if that please God to be left and disposed of as follows (that is to say) I give
 and bequeath unto my dear and loving wife Elizabeth Hill all my goods stuff in
 Trade Chattels debts and effects real and personal Estate of what kind and nature
 soever she should or otherwise over the same and I do hereby make my said wife
 Elizabeth Hill full and sole executrix of this my last will and do hereby revoke all
 former wills by me at any time heretofore made in witness whereof I have hereunto
 set my hand and seal the sixth day of November one thousand six hundred
 and thirty two Elizabeth Hill signed sealed published and declared by
 the said Testator ad and for his last will and Testament in the presence of
 Wm. Cott & Tho. Raper.

Elizabeth Hill

Probatum fuit huiusmodi Testamentum apud Londoniam primo die
 Mensis Septembris Anno Domini Millesimo Septingentesimo primo secundo
 Coram venerabili viro Carolo Pinfold Regium Doctorum Curie prerogative
 Cantuarie Magistro Custodie sue Commissario legitime constituto
 primo quarto die Mensis Septembris Anno Domini Millesimo Septingentesimo
 primo secundo Juramento Elizabetha Hill uxoris Richardi Hill Armigeri
 executricis in dicto Testamento nominata cui commissum fuit
 administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum iurium et Credituum dicta
 defuncta debent et fideliter administrando dabam ad sancta dei Evangelia
 vigore Commissionis iurate Exam