

Photographed at Huntingdon Archives 29th Jan 2024

This is the last will and testament of me Thomas Knight of Islip in the county of Northampton. Yeoman who being weak and infirm in body but (blessed be God) of a sound and disposing mind and memory do make the same in manner following. First whereas I have or shall at a considerable expense place my eldest son John Knight in a farm at Woodford which with my settled estate that will fall unto him at the death of my dear wife Ann Knight will be much more than will come to the share of my younger children therefore I trust that he will think himself sufficiently provided for. Also, I give and devise all that my freehold estate which I lately purchased of and from Robert Lambe lying and being within the Parish of Keyston in the county of Huntingdon unto my son Edward Knight and unto his heirs and assigns forever. Also, I give and devise all that my other freehold estate which I lately purchased from Thomas Vivian Esq. situate and being also within the Parish of Keyston aforesaid unto my son Robert Knight and unto his heirs and assigns forever. Also, I give and devise all that my cottage or tenement lands and hereditaments which I lately purchased of Stephen Green situate and being within the Parish of Islip aforesaid. And also, all that close of pasture or meadow lying at or near a place called the Old Mill within the Parish of Old Winkle in the said county of Northampton unto my son Jeremiah Knight and unto his heirs and assigns forever. Also, I give unto my said son Edward Knight all the stock both alive and dead of and belonging to the farm in Islip aforesaid lately occupied by my son Thomas Knight deceased together with the benefit of the lease which I now have of the said farm. Also, I give and bequeath unto my said son Robert Knight the sum of one hundred pounds unto my said son Jeremiah Knight the sum of three hundred and fifty pounds unto my son Charles Knight the sum of five hundred pounds and unto my daughter Mary Knight the sum of three hundred pounds to be severally paid unto my said sons and daughter by my executor hereinafter named and with lawful money of Great Britain when and as they severally attain to the age of twenty one years and my will is that in case any or either of them the said Robert, Jeremiah, Charles or Mary shall happen to die before his her or their legacy or legacies shall become due as payable by virtue of this my will that then the legacy or legacies of him her or them so dying shall go and be paid unto the survivors or survivor of them if more than one in equal shares between such survivors. And my will further is that my said wife shall have the sole management and placing out the said several sums or legacies before mentioned and of the several estates herein before devised during the respective minority's of my before named younger children for and towards their respective maintenances without otherwise accounting to them or either of them for the same provided always and my will is that what I have hereby given devised or bequeathed to my said sons Edward, Robert, Jeremiaah, Charles and to my said daughter Mary shall not be record as a satisfaction for what will become due to them and my marriage settlement but my settled estate shall remain charged with the sum or sums of money mentioned in the said settlement for the benefit of my younger children provided also and my will further is that in case at the time of my death my eldest son John Knight shall not have had sufficient to stock and carry on the business of his said farm at Woodford then my will and desire is that my said wife shall allow him so much more out of my personal estate as she in her discretion shall think reasonable and proper for that purpose provided also and my will further is that in case the inventory of my personal estate (exclusive of any household goods and of what my wife may think necessary to allow my eldest son) shall not after the due payment of all my just debts and funeral expenses be sufficient to pay the several legacies herein before by me bequeathed then my will is that each legatee shall abate out of their respective legacies in proportion to such deficiencies anything herein before contained to the contrary notwithstanding. Also, I give and bequeath my household goods of all sorts unto my said wife for her sole use during her life and after her decease unto and amongst all my children that shall be then living in such shares and proportions as she shall think fit. Lastly, I give and bequeath all the rest and

residue of my goods chattels and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever unto my said dear wife Ann Knight whom I make and appoint full and sole executor of this my last will and testament not in the least doubting of her prudent care of all my children. In witness whereof I have to this my last will contained in two sheets of paper to the first of them just my hand and to the other of them my hand and seal the seventh day of September in the year of our lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven Thomas Knight Seal signed sealed published and declared by the said Thomas Knight the Testator as and for his last will and testament in the presence us three who have set our names as witnesses in the presence of the said Testator and of each other – John Sutton – Thomas Baker – David Yorke

Extracted by Wm Abbott proctor in Doctors Commons

1796 March 8th examined with a copy of the probate

Will Ward

Jo Head

