

**LAST WILL & TESTAMENT of James Hanscombe 1821**

This is the last will and testament of me James Hanscombe of Pirton Grange in the County of Hertford Gentleman which I make and ordain in manner and form following that is to say

I give and bequeath unto my dear wife Anne Hanscombe and her assigns during the term of her natural life an annuity or yearly sum of sixty pounds of lawful money of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland of English value and currency than of all deductions whatsoever to be issuing out of my freehold Estates and to be paid to her her appointees or assigns for her own proper use and benefit by equal quarterly payments on the twenty fifth day of March the twenty fourth day of June the twenty ninth day of September and the twenty fifth day of December in each year the first payment of the said annuity or yearly sum to be made on such of the said days or times of payment as shall happen next after my decease and in case any quarterly payment of the said annuity or yearly sum of sixty pounds or any part thereof shall at any time be in arrear and unpaid by the space of twenty one days next after any of the said days hereby appointed for payment thereof their and in such case and when and as the same shall happen it shall be lawful for and I do hereby authorize and empowering said wife her appointees or assigns into and upon my before mentioned freehold estates to cater and to distrain and the distress and distresses then and there found to retain and keep until such arrear and all cost charges messuages and expences a housing to taking and keeping such distress and distresses shall have been fully paid and satisfied and in default payment there of or of any part thereof in due time after with distress or distresses shall be so taken to appraise sell and dispose thereof or otherwise are therein according to law in like manner as in cases of distress made and taken for arrears of Rent reserved upon Loans for years such duty when made to be without improvement of waste and to be good and valid although there shall not be any or not a sufficient distress upon the premises where the same shall be made and in case any such Quarterly payment of the said annuity or yearly sum of sixty pounds or any part thereof shall be in arrear and unpaid by the space of sixty days next after any of the said days or finds of payment the same being first lawfully commanded then and from thereof and so after it shall be lawful for my said wife and here appointees or assigns to enter into and upon the said freehold Estates or any part thereof in the name of the whole or otherwise and to have hold occupy and enjoy the same and receive take and retain the rents issues and profits thereof to and for her and their own proper use and benefit until she or they shall be thereby or

otherwise fully paid and satisfied all arrears of the said annuity or yearly sum whether the same were but at the time of such ?? or respective entries or became due during the time of her such entry or entries together into all costs charges damages and expences which shall or may be occasioned by the recovery of more of payment thereof or of any part thereof such possession when taken to be without impeachment of waste I also give to my said wife the use of such of my household goods and furniture linen and china as she shall choose not exceeding in the whole the value of one hundred pounds so long as she shall continue my widow with liberty to dispose of the same as she shall think fit unto and amongst all or some or one of my children but in case she shall marry again then I do direct that such household goods and furniture linen and china shall be equally divided amongst my children and I do hereby declare that the provision hereby made for my said wife is intended to be in her bar? and full satisfaction of an for all dower and thirds at Common Law or by custom or otherwise which she my said wife has or may have claim or be entitled to out of all or any of my freehold estates hereditaments or other property may be seized possessed of or entitled to for any Estate of Inheritance in possession or for any other Estate or interest

Also I give and bequest unto my son James Hanscombe and to each of my three daughters Mary Ann and Eliza the sum of one thousand pounds of lawful money as aforesaid to be paid to them within six months after my decease but in case any of them at my decease shall not have attained the age of twenty one years nor have been married with my consent then I do hereby direct that any or either of them under age and unmarried shall receive her or their share or shares immediately upon attaining such age together with such Interest at the rate of five pounds per .... per annum as shall have accrued there from the time of my decease the said several legacies to my said children to be paid them by my Executors hereinafter named out of my personal property but in case the same shall not be sufficient for that purpose I do direct that the same shall be raised and paid from and out of my Real Estates and I do hereby for that and make the same chargeable therewith accordingly and in case any or other of my said children shall depart this life before his her or their said legacy or legacies shall become payable whether ?? my lifetime or not leaving no lawful issue their the share or shares of him her or them so dying shall go accrue and belong to the survivors and survivor of them my said children James Mary Ann and Eliza and shall be equally divided

amongst them if more than one but if either of them so dying shall have lawful issue then I direct that such issue shall have the share of its parents

Also I give and devise all and every my real estate and Estates in the counties of Bedford and Bedford or elsewhere unto him my said son William Hanscombe his heirs and assigns for ever charges and chargeable nevertheless with the payment of the said annuity of sixty pounds to my said wife and of the Legacies hereinbefore and hereinafter in the event of death of my said wife given to each of my other children and their lawful issue or descendants and all the rest and residue and remainder of my personal property not ..... before disposed of I give and bequest unto my said son William to and for his own use and property subject nevertheless to the payment of my just debts my funeral and other incidental expenses and also the Legacy hereafter given to my executor and likewise the duty payable to government for and on account of the Legacies given in and by this my will and if at my decease my said wife shall choose to reside in the house at my farm called the Pump Farm and have the use of certain garden ground thereto belonging I do hereby will and direct that the said house shall be decently repaired and fitted up for her reception for which purpose I give to her the sum of two hundred pounds to be laid out in repairing and furnishing the same under her direction and all the furniture which she shall buy with any part of the said sum of two hundred pounds I do declare shall be at her own disposal in the same manner as the before mentioned one hundred pounds worth of furniture hereinbefore bequeathed to her and not otherwise and I do direct and will that my said wife and younger children shall be at liberty to live in and occupy the said house called the Pump and garden ground thereto belonging so long as she and they shall choose without paying any rent for the same or any Taxes parliamentary parochial or otherwise and I also desire that my said son William his heirs and assigns shall find and provide for my said Wife and Children so long as they shall live in the said House called the Pump a reasonable quantity fire wood both small and large sufficient for their own use and home consumption and shall carry and convey the same home to them and shall also find carriage for coals from the town of Biggleswade for such their not without any charge for the same and upon the decease of my said wife I do hereby give and bequeath unto each of my said children James Mary Ann and Eliza the further legacy or sum of five hundred pounds with the benefit of survivorship as aforesaid each in addition to the sum of one thousand pounds given to each

of them aforesaid the lawful issue or descendants of such of their as shall have departed this life to be entitled to the share or shares of their deceased parent or parents and I do hereby charge my Real Estate with the payment of the said additional legacies of five hundred pounds accordingly

And I do hereby appoint my said dear wife executive and my friend Edward Payne of the town of Saint Albans in the said county of Hertford executor of this my will and by the said Edward Payne to accept the sum of ten pounds as a token of my remembrance and a small compensation for the trouble he may have in the execution of the trusts hereby expressed in him

And hereby revoking and making void all former and other wills by me heretofore made I do declare this alone to be and contain my last will and testament witness whereof I have to each sheet of this my will contained in four sheets of paper subscribed my name and to this last sheet my seal also this seventh day August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen James Hanscombe signed sealed published

And declared by the said James Hanscombe as for his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereinto set our names as witnesses the introduction in the third sheet having been first made.

Mary Bell, Ann Tristram, J Times

Memorandum the words with the benefit of Survivorship as aforesaid were written at the top of this sheet by the Estate James Hanscombe in my presence on the thirtieth day of October 1819. J Times

Appendum Personally John Leach of No 1/9 Upper Thames Street London gentleman and made oath that he knew and was well acquainted with James Hanscombe late of Pirton Grange in the County of Hertford deceased for sometime before and to the time of his death and also with the manner and character of this handwriting and subscription having often seen him write and also subscribe his name and he having now attentively

The words with the benefit of survivorship as aforesaid 'written at the top of the last sheet of the last will and testament of the said deceased thereto annexed and beginning

thus 'this is the last will and testament of me James Hanscombe of Pirton Grange in the county of Hertford Gentleman and ending this In Witness whereof I have to each sheet of this my will contained in four sheets of paper Subscribed My names and to this last sheet my Seal also this seventh day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen lastly made oath he both verily and in his believe the said recited words so written at the top of the last sheet of the said will beginning and ending as aforesaid to be of the proper handwriting of the said James Hanscombe deceased. John Leach 27<sup>th</sup> day of June 1821. The said John Leach was duly sworn to the tenth of this affidavit before me. J Haggend Arthur Loveday Not : Rule ??

Proved at London 30 June 1821 before the worshipful Charles Coote of Laws and Surrogate by the Oaths of (in the will written Ann Hanscombe widow Robert and Edward Payne the executors to whom admin was granted being first Sworn duly to administer revoking all former will or wills by me heretofore made In Witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and affixed my Seal the twentieth day of January one thousand eight hundred and twenty one Jane Holt signed sealed published and declared by the said testaise Jane Holt as and for her last will and testament in the presence of us who in her presence and at her request and in the presence of each their have Subscribed our names as witnesses thereof Elizabeth Leech, Jane Backhouse Ralph Shuttleworth

Proved at London 30 June 1821 before the Judge by the oaths of a Robert Holt the Brother and Robert Sarah Holt Spinster the daughter the Executors to whom admin was granted being first sworn by duly to administrating