

TRANSCRIPT OF THE WILL OF THOMAS KEMP OF RYDE

In the name of god amen, I Thomas Kemp, of Ryde, of the parish of Newchurch, Isle of Wight, in the county of Southton *[sic]*, merchant, being very sick and weak in body, but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be given unto god, calling into mind the mortality of my body, and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain this my last will and testament, that is to say, principally and first of all, I give and recommend my soul into the hand of almighty god that gave it and my body I recommend to the earth, to be buried in decent Christian burial at the discretion of my executors; nothing doubting but at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again, by the mighty power of god, and as touching such worldly estate wherewith it has pleased god to bless me in this life, I give, demise and dispose of the same, in the following manner and form;

First I give and bequeath to my well beloved son, Benjamin Kemp, the rent of my freehold, known by the name of Upward House, to be paid yearly to the said Benjamin Kemp by my executors hereafter mentioned, as long as he shall continue in his Majesty's Army of Land Forces, and in case the said Benjamin Kemp should have his discharge from the army, and become a sober, carefull *[sic]* man, then the said Benjamin Kemp, his heirs shall have possession of the above named ~~possession~~ freehold for ever, and in case the said Benjamin should die without a child then the afore mentioned land shall return to the children of my executors, hereafter mentioned, to be equally divided among their children, free land for ever,

Also I give to my well beloved daughter Mary Kemp, the yearly rent of a small tenement at present in the possession of John Baker Gardner, with the strip of land at the north end of the house, adjoining Potts's *[??]* Garden, and the said rent to be paid in good and lawfull *[sic]* money of Great Britain, by my executors, to the said ~~yearly~~ Mary Kemp yearly, and in case the said Mary Kemp should marry, and have children than *[sic]* the said Mary Kemp, her heirs shall take possession of it free land forever, but if the said Mary Kemp should die without heir, than *[sic]* it shall fall to George Kemp, my youngest son free land for ever,

Also I give my youngest son, George Kemp, the small wooden house, hay house *[??]*, and fowl house, two hog sties *[??]*, with a piece of garden land adjoining the said dwelling house at the south side of the garden alley, this likewise is free land for ever, but not to have it in his possession untill *[sic]* he arrive to 21 years of age. N.B. In case of my death, the said George Kemp shall be paid by my executors, the yearly rent of the afore mentioned lands, and *[??]* tenements, in good and lawfull *[sic]* money of Great Britain for his use and maintenance till he becomes of age, and than *[sic]* he shall with his heirs take possession for ever, as to my money, goods, and chattels, it shall be equally divided amongst all my children, ____ except the two beds, bedsteads, and furniture, belonging to my room, which I give and bequeath for the use of George Kemp, my youngest son,

Lastly I give and bequeath jointly, to my beloved sons Thomas Kemp, and James Kemp, and their heirs for ever, the house that I myself usually live in, that is to say, the house with the trees *[??]* before the door *[??]*, with the piece of garden ground at the west end of the house, as far as the cross *[??]* alley, and likewise Ja. Beazleys tenement laying behind it northwardly. Those two tenements I give the above named Thomas and James Kemp, and their heirs for ever,

Whom I likewise constitute, make, and ordain jointly my executors of this my last will and testament, and I do hereby utterly disallow, revoke, and disannul *[??]*all, and every other former testaments, wills, legacies, bequests, and executors, by me in any ways before named, willed, and bequeathed, ratifying and confirming this and no other, to be my last will and testament, in witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this eighth day of January, in the year of our lord. One thousand, seven hundred and eighty eight.

RSHG is grateful to Chris Kemp for this contribution to our website.