

The Will of Michael Bassett of Cowden 1718- 1738

Will of Michael Bassett  
of Cowden, Kent

In the name of God Amen I Michael BAFSETT of Cowden in the  
County of Kent

Yeoman being upwards of nineteen years of age and somewhat  
indisposed in

body but of sound and disposing mind and understanding  
thanks be given to

Almighty God for the same doe make and ordain this my last  
will and

testament in manner and form following that is to say I  
first give my soul

into the hands of Almighty God my creator and my body I  
recommend to the

Earth to be decently buried and as to my worldly Estate I  
give and dispose

of as followeth

First I give unto the poor of the several parishes of Cowden  
and

Chiddingstone the several sums of fifty shillings to each  
parish to be

distributed amongst them within one month next after my  
decease by the

Minster and Church wardens of each parish

I also give and bequeath unto my Grandmother Elizabeth  
GAYNSFORD five

pounds to be paid her within twelve months next after my  
decease

I also order and appoint that my loving mother Elizabeth and  
sister

Elizabeth BASSETT shall use and occupy my farm lands I now  
use in Cowden

and Chiddingstone aforesaid until my youngest sister Mary  
shall attain her

age of twenty one years and do order and appoint that my  
said mother and

sister Elizabeth shall maintain educate and bring up my two  
sisters Sarah

and Mary until my said sister Mary shall attain her said age  
of twenty one

years as aforesaid out of the produce of my personal estate  
and of the

rents and profits of my real estate and as soon as my said  
sister Mary

shall attain her said age of twenty one years then I order  
give and

appoint that all and singular my goods chattels bills bonds

and personal  
estate whatsoever shall be divided into two equal parts One  
part whereof I  
give and bequeath unto my said mother Elizabeth and the  
other moiety or  
half part thereof I give and bequeath unto my said three  
sisters Elizabeth  
Sarah and Mary to be divided between them share and share  
alike and I make  
ordain and appoint my said loving mother Elizabeth and  
sister Elizabeth  
BAFSETT joint executrices of this my last will and testament  
in Trust and  
to and for the uses aforesaid and I order and appoint Mr  
Robert  
STREATFEILD of Heaver and Mr Stephen WOODGATE Trustees of  
this my will to  
whom I give a Guinea a piece in remembrance of me  
In witness whereof I the said Michael BAFSETT have to this  
my last will  
and testament contained in two sheets of paper to each sheet  
set my hand  
and seal this thirteenth day of June in the twelfth year of  
the reign of  
our sovereign Lord King George the Second and in the year of  
our Lord  
Christ one thousand seven hundred and thirty eight Michael  
BAFSETT Signed  
sealed published and declared as and for his last will and  
testament in  
the presence of us who have subscribed our names as  
witnesses hereunto in  
the testator's presence and at his request.  
Edw HARBY Robt STREATFEILD Fran GREEN Edward GREEN  
This Will was proved at London the nineteenth day of  
September in the year  
of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty eight  
before the Right  
Worshipful John [WORD] Doctor of Laws [WORD] or commissary  
of the  
prerogative court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the  
oath of  
Elizabeth BAFSETT widow the mother and Elizabeth BAFSETT  
spinster the  
sister and executrix named in the said will to whom  
administration was  
granted of all and singular the goods chattels and credits  
of the said  
deceased been first sworn by commission duly to administer.

