

Will of John Cowlen made 1788 and proved in 1791

Gods Will be done

I **John Cowlen** of Sampford Peverell in the county of Devon Gentleman do make publish and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say I give devise and bequeath all those messuages farms lands hereditaments and premises with their rights encumber(ance)s and appurtenances situate in the several parishes of Halberton and Sampford Peverell and elsewhere in the county of Devon and also all my indoor and outdoor stock monies securities for money goods chattels rights credits real and personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever situate lying and being of what nature or kind soever the same may be unto **William Cowlen and Richard Crudge** both of Sampford Peverell aforesaid gentlemen and to my dear wife **Johanna Cowlen** their heirs executors administrators and assigns upon such trusts and to and for such ends intents and purposes hereinafter ... expressed and declared of and concerning the same that is to say upon trust in the first place that my said trustees shall pay and discharge all my just debts and funeral expenses and in the next place in trust that they the said William Cowlen and Richard Crudge and the survivor of them his or their heirs executors administrators and assigns shall and do permit and suffer my said dear wife to have and hold and enjoy the rents issues and profits of all my said messuages farms lands hereditaments and premises with the appurtenances and also to have the use and enjoyment of all monies outdoor and indoor stock furniture goods and chattels and all other my personal for during and until **my daughter Mary Saunders Cowlen** shall arrive at her age of twenty one years or marriage which shall first happen such marriage to be had with such consent as after mentioned my will and mind being that no part of my estate monies or effects shall be diminished or lessened by my said wife during the event aforesaid and upon trust that they the said William Cowlen and Richard Crudge and the survivor of them his heirs executors administrators and assigns shall and do when and as soon as my daughter Mary Saunders Cowlen shall arrive at the age of twenty and one years or marriage which shall first happen such marriage to be had and obtained with the consent of my trustees and my said dear wife under their respective hands equally divide my said messuages farms lands hereditaments and premises and also all my said monies indoor and outdoor stocks goods chattels real and personal estate of every sort and kind into two equal parts or shares and assign release and pay over one full moiety or half part thereof unto my said daughter Mary at her said age of twenty one years or marriage (with such consent as aforesaid) her heirs executors administrators and assigns to and for her and their own use and benefit but in case my said daughter shall happen to dies under the said age of twenty one years unmarried as aforesaid then upon trust to assign release and pay over all her said moiety share or half part of my said messuages farms lands real and personal estate and effects unto my siad wife for her and their own use power advantage and disposal But in case my said dear wife shall happen to die before my said daughter Mary shall arrive to the said age of twenty one years or marriage with such consent as aforesaid then in trust to release assign and pay the full moiety share or half part of my said messuages farms real and personal estate and effects whatsoever unto my daughter Mary her heirs executors administrators and assigns on such arrival to her said age of twenty one years or marriage with such consent as aforesaid to and for her and their only use benefit power and disposal for ever to whom in such case I give devise and bequeath the same accordingly provided always and my will is that my said trustees and each of them his and their heirs executors administrators and assigns shall and do in the first place pay and defray to himself and themselves all costs charges leases sum and sums of money and expenses whatsoever which he she or they shall

bear pay sustain or be put into under and by means of the execution of the trusts of this will or any matter cause or thing therein contained except only for wilful and designed loss and also that my said trustees and each of them their heirs executors administrators and assigns shall not be answerable the one for the other of them or for the others acts deeds receipts disbursements or defaults by each of them for his and her own act and deeds in the management and execution of the trusts of this my will and I do hereby make nominate constitute and appoint the said William Cowlen and Richard Crudge and my wife Johanna joint executors and executrix of this my will upon the trusts aforesaid and I do revoke all former wills by me at any time heretofore made and declare this to be my only true will in witness whereof I the said John Cowlen the testator have to this my last will and testament written upon and contained in three sheets of paper to each shall set my hand and seal this sixteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight *John Cowlen* signed sealed published and declared by the said John Cowlen the testator as for and to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our names and witnesses hereto at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other *Charles Leigh Gregory Webber Jno Bennett*.

This will was proved at London the twelfth day of July in the year of our Lord 1791 before the Right Honourable William Wyune Knight Doctor of Laws Master Keeper Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of William Cowlen the brother and Johanna Cowlen widow the relict of the deceased and two of the executors named in the said will to whom administration of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased was granted they having been first sworn by commission duly to administer power reserved of making the ..grant to Richard Crudge the other executor named in the said will when he shall apply for the same.