

The Last Will and Testament of Elizabeth Gant, Widow of Bristol

In The Name Of God Amen

I Elizabeth Gant of the city of Bristol, widow, do make this my last Will and Testament in _____ following that is to say first and principally I _____ my soul into the hands of Almighty God hoping through the _____ and ?salvation of my _____ saviour and _____ Jesus Christ to obtain everlasting life and free and _____ pardon of all my sins, and my body to the earth to be _____ interred by the same grave with my late dear husband, William Gant, deceased, by my executrix hereinafter named and as to such worldly goods and effects _____ it hath pleased God to bless me with give and dispose hereof as follows. First I will and direct that all my just debts, funeral expenses, legacies and costs of proving this my will shall be paid and satisfied. Then I give and bequeath unto my brother John House of the City of Bristol said (?broker, ?quaker) the sum of one hundred pounds of lawful British money. To my cousins John Jones and Thomas Jones, both of Hutton in the county of Somerset, yeomen, the sum of ten pounds apiece of like money. To my brothers in law James Gant and John Gant, both of the city of London, brokers, the sum of ten pounds apiece of like money. To ?Mary Ann ? Harlands of Caerleon in the county of Monmouth, widow, the sum of five pounds of like money and I will that my legacys (sic) shall be paid within six months next of my decease. Then I give and bequeath to Elizabeth House, wife of my said brother John House, all my wearing apparel whatsoever and wheresoever from. I give _____ and bequeath unto my sister in law Ann Gant of Spitalfields London _____ spinster, all and singular my freehold messauges and tenements, lands and _____ whatsoever and wheresoever lying, and _____ to hold unto her my said sister in law Ann Gant her heirs and _____ for ever. All the rest and residue of my goods, chattels and personal estate whatsoever I give and bequeath unto my said sister in law Ann Gant subject to the payment of my just debts, funeral expenses, _____ and costs of proving this my will and I do hereby nominate and appoint my said sister in law Ann Gant to be executrix of this my last Will and Testament, and I will and desire that my said good friend James Phillips will see this my will be performed. _____ whereof I have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand and seal this sixth day of April in the year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty four. Elizabeth Gant, signed, sealed, published and declared by the Testatrix Elizabeth Gant as and for her last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in her presence at her request and in the presence of each other have subscribed our hands as witnesses.

Sarah Batchelor, Jane Norton, Geo. Rogers

This will was proved at London the seventeenth day of September in the year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two before the Right Honourable Sir William _oyune, Knight, Doctor of Laws, Master _____ or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, lawfully constituted by the oath of Ann Gant, spinster, the sole executrix named in the said will to whom administration of all and singular the goods, chattels and _____ of the deceased was granted having been first sworn by commission duly to administer.

Some punctuation has been added for easier reading. Transcribed from a very poor original copy