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2 Jacob Cole  
pothia fridionizy barham  
Quintato London

In the name of God amen I prepare  
thy horse for thou shalt die saith God to Man. Wherefore I James Cole of London Merchant  
being at this time in good health and of perfect memory do make and ordaine this myn will  
ing for my last will and testament. I do yeld my selfe in life and death whollie to the will and  
pleasure of my heavenly father with most hartie thankes for his speciall love shewed toward  
me all manner of wayes from myn infancy untill this present, and although through my  
continuall sinnes I do with sorrowe confesse to have deserved his eternall anger; yett doth  
my faith most earnestlie intreate him to quitt and forgive all for Iesus Christ his sake my  
only hope and mediator. Desiring him, that when it shall please him to take me from  
this transitorie life, that then he will most mercifully receive my soule into his handes  
My bodie I do bequeath unto the ground in certaine hope of a happy resurrection where my  
Exequies shall be it be stored in such manner and with such mourning onlie to the utter  
finde or alliaunce, as then it shall please my now livinge wife Lovisa for to appointe with  
all my earthly goodes wherewith the Lord hath blessed me, I ordaine to be done as followeth  
First what soever I shall lawfully owe unto any man shall be without delaye and in due time  
honestly paid. And such monyes and bondes as shall be found in my handes convertinge to  
widow and childer of James Cole wyndersse I will that they shall be delivered unto said  
widow and childer his exors and after such deliverie my exors whollie therof discharged. All  
my right and estate in my Cottage or Tenement and garden plotte with all apperteynances in higgate  
I do as much as I can confirme unto Lovisa my wife, and immediately after her decease I  
give all the same whollie unto Abraham Bushe my sister sonne, and this by virtue of a summe  
made the ninth of May Anno 624 desiringe that he may be admitted, And as for my dwel-  
ling house or tenement in Lynne streete, the which I hold by lease from my Carpenter in London  
I do divide and give the same unto my sister Elizabeth Bushe all that tenement or for part  
of my house containinge one cellar, one warchouse, thre chambers one sittyn and two  
Garrettes the which was lately in the occupation of Mathias Schonharing with furd-  
er gate and wicket through my great gate and fence of my well water both at decent and conve-  
nient times. I give also unto Lovisa my wife, the other great tenement, to witt all the first of my  
dwelling house as it was in my occupation when the said Mathias did inhabit the first part  
thereof. And I will that the said Lovisa and Elizabeth and their assignes shall take haue and  
hold everie one theire severall parts immediately after my decease, and to it and sitte at their pleasure  
untill my time be expired. Lovise payinge in the meantime while towards the rent and fyne or  
more fourteen shillings of every pound and Elizabeth 100 shillings of every pound -  
Provided always that if either the said Lovisa or Elizabeth shall happen to marrye or to  
decease, Then will I that the said marriage or decease and everie her assigne shall lose  
all their right immediately in the premises, and shall surrender. And I do give all the same  
whollie unto Lovisa or Elizabeth the unmarried or survivinge. But if Elizabeth afore-  
said do refuse this gift, Then I do refuse it and give it to Abraham Bushe her sonne  
But after my marriage or decease of both Lovisa and Elizabeth afore said, Then I do  
give all my estate in the said Tenement in Lynne streete unto Henry Cole my sonne  
I do give further unto Lovisa my wife, all her now apparell,  
all her ringes and jewels, fyne Coynes and monyes by her gathered and  
ordained kept, also, all my brasse, pewter, silver, bedding and all manner of  
house hold stuffe (Covaine rott and painted cloathes nailed to my house onlie excepted)  
all my picture commonly hanging without my Counting house in Lynne streete also  
my horse and furniture if any I shall have, all to have and possess as her own good  
goodes. Convertinge my plate I give unto Henry Cole afore said a gilt Cuppe and Boot  
with the Armes of Antwerp given therein and likewise my Chain of gold. And  
give unto Peter Cole afore said a gilt Cuppe with a heart and Jacob the seed of heaven

And likewise all my ringes of gold and stones therein, And unto Abraham and Benjamin  
 Bush my Nephewes I give my two silver bowles, the one with a Castle the other with  
 bootes graven therein and unto Elizabeth and Susan Bush my Nephewes I give my  
 two silver salts, both of one selfe same fashion, and likewise unto Susan and Lovisa  
 Sponharringe my two silver beakers or my beere bolles, and unto Mary Chene a  
 little bowle with ffished graven therein, All the rest and residue of my vessel of plate, I  
 give unto Lovisa my wife, and lastly to accomplish and farr to exceede Contract made  
 before our marriage, and in paiement of all her expectations I give unto Lovisa my wife  
 to her proper ffifteene hundredth poulded in money, And if my said wife shall live ffor  
 monethes after my decease, Then I doe give her ffive hundredth poulded more in full of all  
 her portion, willinge likewise that she shall keepe house and spend upon my mayntenance  
 untill she have received one thousand pould in part of her owne portion, After which I doe  
 give unto my eldest Silbertwister or their widowed, and unto Chjuty or more of my eldest  
 Silbertwister one hundredth poulded to be distributed unto them within sixe monethes after  
 my decease, by such unequall portions as my wife shall then appointe, I give another  
 hundredth poulded to be distributed by unequall parts unto such English poore of my parish  
 of St. Dionis Barthelemew, and to such poore of St. Bartholomew hospital, and to such  
 poore of Ludgate and the two Counters in London, as it then shall please Lovisa my wife  
 four to appointe within one yeare after my decease, I give to the poore of the Dutty congregation  
 in London one hundredth poulded to be paid unto their ordinarie Deacons, I give to the poore  
 of the ffuty congregation in London, twenty poulded to be paid to their ordinarie Deacons  
 I give to the Deacons and other poore in Wygate and new Wygate the somme of some  
 poulded to be distributed unto such of them, and such unequall portions as shall please  
 my wife aforesaid, I give unto the poore of the city of Antwerp wher I brought my  
 best portion the somme of One hundredth poulded, ffenish, to be paid to St. Nicholas Torrey  
 knight or to the two Chalmers of the said City, I doe give to Thomas Sintgens Guyllem  
 Gershoen, James Leddorte, Mary Knaibornow and to Sara Hoo thet pould a peere I doe  
 give unto Abraham Vandelden, Abraham Derfunderd (And vnto Jandley) Benjamin  
 Duer. St. Nicholas Torrey knight, Doctor <sup>John</sup> Brovacke Lutherine, widower of Jand vnder  
 Bush and to ffive or sixe of my Silbertwister or to cutt out of them one ounce of Gold for a  
 ringe (if they please), I doe requite unto Abraham Derfunderd, Isaac Chene James  
 ffvolcke, and John Bigland all they owe me, and give unto Isaac Chene twenty pould  
 And unto John Bigland twenty pould with condition That it maie be bestowed to the  
 purpose of the said Isaac and Nan without any inbravement of any of their credits  
 I give unto Margrett Laakson now my servant twenty pould, I give unto Guyllem  
 Matthijs Bouth, unto Ambrosius Keyserwertter, ffredrick Funler, to Mary  
 Bronacke, and to Elizabeth Griffeth her sister and to Mary Chene, unto cutt out of  
 them some poulded, I give unto Henry and Peter Cole my Nephewes in full paiement  
 of all their portions ordeinanted they receyve from me or my goodes, unto cutt out of  
 them the somme of ffower hundredth poulded, and will that the countyng be ffor ever triple  
 that of, the other herein shall be his give, And doe give full power unto my executor  
 to paie the said two ffor hundredth pould unto Henry and Peter aforesaid either at their  
 souerall one and twentieth or ffower and twentieth yeare after my decease as they my executor  
 shall then iudge it most convenient I give likewise unto Abraham Benjamin Elizabeth  
 Susan Bush my sister children in full paiement of all their portions ordeinanted they receyve  
 from me or my goodes unto cutt out of them Two hundredth and ffifty pould I doe  
 give to James ffvolcke my nephew, in full of all he hath to demand out of me the somme of ffifty  
 pould and to cutt out of his children out living me Twenty pould a peere, I give to  
 Martin my sister daughter and her two youngest children one hundredth pould to be  
 bestowed upon any of them as my sister Bush and my executor shall thinke ffit  
 I give to my sonne my Gosen fforty poulded, and I give to ffranis Williamson

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my rosen three score pounds. I give unto Sulam and Lovisa Erthon having my Colms one  
 hundredth and ffiftie pounds a peece. I give likewise unto Abraham Erthon having all  
 my booke as well concerning my Satyne studie, as pirtuwinge; with all my pinteblis  
 putures. Shells, mai beres, statues, and all my antiquities and oke Coines and such like  
 rarities commonly shutt in my Counting house in myne streete together with the two  
 yestres out of Cabinctts thereto belonging; with commandment that he shall not sell,  
 change give awaye or alienate anye of them within one yere next after my decease.  
 Whatsoever now shall vesta stery deduynge of all my funerall charges, my wyres-  
 allowed how keeping, and all other y<sup>e</sup> pmisses, whether goodes, money debts, waies or  
 whatsoever (except guiftes following to my executours and Overseers) shall then be  
 remanynge, doe I wholly give unto Elizabeth Erthon my sister in full payment &  
 satisfaction of all that she maye layme over myn of me or my goodes. I have dede alwaies  
 that if my wife aforesaid either before or after my decease, shall be delivered of any my  
 childer or children, then doe I in part reuoke my former legacies and will that for my  
 childer or childrens portions my wife shall restore or leave to my executours the some of  
 ffive hundredth pounds. my sister Elizabeth shalven hundredth pounde Henry and Peter  
 Cole together three hundredth poundes Abraham, Beniamyn Elizabeth and  
 Susan Erthon all my land in Hounsey parishes and thre hundredth pounde. The whiche  
 land and eighte hundredth poundes, shall be the portion of my childer or children, provided  
 likewise that if it should chaunce my wife aforesaid should die before me or shortly after me  
 that she should not by this my will challenge any thing given hereafter, yet then will I  
 that among her sisters and her sisters children be by my executours distributed over and above  
 my fornamed legacies the some of ffive hundredth poundes; And likewise then my executours  
 shall at their discretion distribute the moneyes given to the poore according to my wydes  
 disposinge. Of this my will I make and name executours Dericke Foste Marchant  
 and Beniamyn Erthon now servant to the said Dericke Foste, charging them to be  
 sworne in y<sup>e</sup> performinge thereof, and requesting them to be respectiue to the two widows  
 my wife and my sister with in named, willing that they shall keepe all childrens portions  
 in their hands untill their full lawfull, or by me here in ordained ages allowinge in  
 y<sup>e</sup> meane while after ffive percentyn by y<sup>e</sup> yere for their maintenance, And for this  
 love and panyes here in to be shewed, I give to Dericke Foste one hundredth pounde and  
 for y<sup>e</sup> life to Beniamyn Erthon twenty pounde, I ordaine likewise Overseers in  
 the said Somersham and Mattheas Bourth desiring their helpe in need and give unto  
 every one of them a peece of Velate about ffye pound in value, I reuoke all former  
 wills and guiftes, and doe renounce as much as maye I to all lawes and Customs hat  
 myght alter any thing herein In witness whereof haue I James Cole aforesaid  
 written these six leaves of paper written on y<sup>e</sup> outside on the and haue sealed and signed  
 this last upon y<sup>e</sup> last daie of December Anno domini 1627 and in the thirde yere  
 of y<sup>e</sup> vaigant of our soveraigne Lord King Charles the first in London; James Cole.  
 The aforesaid James Cole beinge of good and perfect memorie and understanding  
 hath shewed unto the underwritten witnesses these six leaves of paper written on y<sup>e</sup>  
 the outside every leaf severally by him subscribed and declared the same to be y<sup>e</sup> last  
 will and testament of the said James Cole.  
 Witness. I James Cole Marchant confirming my former will subscribed by Charles Erthon  
 Notary on the thirde daie of the xxv<sup>th</sup> daye of March Anno domini 1628. I Isaac Erthon  
 reave of the said James Cole called Jesus Temple my fforty silver silver severall Countes  
 I give to the Consistorie of the same Church my finge of Jeronims death, I give to John  
 Sintgens his brother my finge of m<sup>r</sup> Alwyns death, I give to Anne Alwyn his  
 Daughter Co John Wolf Somersham and Mattheas Bourth, I give everye of them  
 pound more to be bestowed for them in Velate then my forsaid will doth allowe unto  
 them, they have shewed them selves my friends: If in Children have any thing

I have attested the said will and testament the said daie of April Anno domini 1628. I Isaac Erthon  
 Notary publick 1628

in my will; then I give hym Tenne poundes; The 24<sup>th</sup> of April 1628. in London  
Exeuted as before in my will; Item I quitte William Bourchall h<sup>e</sup> owethyme James  
Cole, with his wife Elizabeth, vnder the Seale of the Court of the  
Coke;

originals

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**Probatum** fuit testamentum suprascriptum apud London vnam  
foditillo coram iudice Williamo Samel Legum doctore Surrogato venerabilis viri  
Henrici Marten militis legum doctore Curia Privative Cant magistri Gualterio live  
Commissario vice et linc constitut vicesimo die mensis Maij Anno domini millesimo  
vicesimo octavo Juramento Juravit Joseph et Benjamin Rush Executores in  
eodem testamento nominat Qui commissa fuit Administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum  
vivum et hereditarium testatoris antedicti et eius testamentum huiusmodi qualiter in premissis  
de bene et fideliter administrando eadem ad sancta dei Evangelia Jurat. Et

**In the name of God amen** the Sixth day  
of November in the year of our lord god one thousand six hundred twenty and seven  
Benjamin Risdon of the Cittie of Exon being sick in body but of perfect  
minde and memorie lawde and praise be therfore given unto allmighty god doe voluntarily  
make this my last will and testament in manner and forme following; First, I give my  
soule into the hands of Allmighty god my Creator and vnder his hope by the death and  
meritts of our lord Iesus Christ to have remission of all my sinnes. For my body I bequeath  
it unto Christian buriall; Item I give unto the poore of the parish of St Dunstons of  
this Cittie three shillings and four pence, unto the poore of the parish of St Laurence  
five shillings and unto the poore of the parish of Shipwary in the countie of Devon  
five shillings Item I give and bequeath unto Anne Wynefy of Exon widow and Magarett  
Denny and Jane Quant my sisters in lawe each of them a mourning gowne to be by them  
worne at my funerall Item I give and bequeath unto my forer youngest children Robert and Anne  
and Jane Risdon the halfe of one third part of all my goodes and chattells my debts and funerall being  
fully paid and discharged. All the rest of my goodes and chattells not yet given and bequeath  
by this my last will and testament I give and bequeath unto Jane Risdon my deere and loving wife  
whom I make and ordaine the sole and onlie executrix of this my last will and testament Lastly  
I doe ordaine and appoynt John Wemyss, Christopher Osmond and George to be overseers of this  
my last will, and I doe hartely requyre them to aideinge and assiste unto my executrix in  
the performance thereof. And in recompence of their paines I give each of them tenne shillings  
And in witnes of the truth hereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale the day and yare  
first above written in the presence of those whose names are subscribed Benjamin Risdon  
Sealed published and delivered in the presence of Richard Gay Junier, the Signer of Mich<sup>l</sup> Wille  
The Signer of Martha Gaurmy.

**Probatum** fuit huiusmodi testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram  
venerabili viro domino Henrico Marten milite legum doctore Curia Privative Cant magistro  
live Commissario vice et linc constitut vicesimo die mensis Maij Anno domini millesimo  
secentesimo vicesimo octavo Juramento Jane relictæ et executrix in eodem testamento nominat  
Qui commissa fuit administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum vivum et hereditarium testatoris  
antedicti et eius testamentum huiusmodi qualiter in premissis  
de bene et fideliter administrando eadem ad sancta dei Evangelia iurat. Coram iudice Williamo Shavro Olivo vigore Commissionis Et Jurat

**In the name of God amen** Joane Phipps of  
little Rington in the countie of Gloucester widow being of perfect health and memory, thank  
be given to god, doe ordaine and make my last will and testament in manner and forme following  
First I bequeath my soule into the hands of Allmighty god doe ordaine and make my last will  
and testament in manner and forme following; First I bequeath my soule into the hands of