

[ENGLAND]

Thomas Guy's Will, 1724

Testamentum
Thomas
Guy [1]

In the Name of God Amen

I Thomas Guy of the Parish of *St Mary Woolnoth* in *London* Esquire being of sound and disposing mind and memory considering the uncertainty of Life do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say

[1] First I commit my Soul to Almighty God in hopes through his mercy and the merits of my Saviour *Jesus Christ* to enjoy eternal Rest

and my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors, herein after named

And as for such temporal Estate as it hath pleased God to blefs me with I give and dispose thereof as followeth

[2] *Imprimis* I Will that all my debts and Funeral Charges be first payd and discharged

[3] *Item* I give and devise unto my Cozen *George Orton* Son of my Cozen *Mary Orton* deceased his Heirs and Afsigns for ever to his and their use All those my Mejsuages Lands Tenements and Hereditaments in *Tamworth* and *Wiggington* in the County of *Stafford* or elsewhere which I purchased of *Archdale Palmer* and *Anne* his Wife

[4] *Item* I give devise and bequeath, unto my Cozen *John Voughton* Grandson of my Uncle *John Voughton* all that Mejsuage Burgage or Tene-ment, Lands and Hereditaments in *Tamworth* and *Wiggington* in the County of *Stafford* or else-where which I purchased of his Father *John Voughton* To hold unto my said Cozen *John Voughton* his Heirs and Afsigns for ever to his and their use

[5] *Item* all the rest and residue of my Lands Tene-ments and Hereditaments and reall Estate whatsoever in the Countyes of *Stafford* *Warwick* and *Derby* or any of them other than and except the Almshouses and Library with their Appurtenances hereinafter mentioned and devised I give and devise unto and between *Elizabeth Hurt* and *John Hurt* the Grand children of my late Sister *Anne*

Varnam their Heirs and Afsigns for ever To hold as Tenants in common and not as joint Tenants

Item I give and bequeath to *Thomas Hurt* (one of the Grandchildren of my late Sister *Anne Varnam*) during his natural life one Annuity or yearly Sum of One hundred and sixty pounds [2] (which with Forty pounds [3] *per Annum* I am already bound to pay him makes up Two hundred pounds [4] *per Annum*) to be payd by equal quarterly payments and to commence from my Decease

Item I give unto my cousin *John Voughton* son and Heir of my said Uncle *John Voughton* deceased during his natural life one Annuity or yearly Sum of thirty pounds [5] to be payd by equal half yearly payments to commence from the end of three Calendar Months next after my decease over and above the Sum of Twenty pounds [6] *per Annum* which I am obliged to pay him by my Bond;

And Also I do forgive and remit unto him all moneys that he doth or shall owe me at the time of my decease as Heir or Executor of his said late Father or otherwise howsoever

Item I give and bequeath unto *Thomas Voughton* *Humphry Voughton* and *Martha Voughton* children of my said Couzen *John Voughton* One thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the Capital Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures made forth for the debt due to the Army by an Act of Parliament pafsed in the fourth year of the reign of his Majesty King *George* and attended with Annuities after the rate of Four pounds *per centum per annum*

[1] [UK National Archives, *Records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury*, PROB11/601/31, pp. 56-64. See also: *A True Copy of the Last Will and Testament of Thomas Guy, Esq.* (London, 1725); *Copy of the Last Will and Testament of Thomas Guy Esq. with an Act for incorporating the Executors of the said Will* (London, printed for the Governors of Guy's Hospital, 1815). The probate copy of the will is one long block of English text; the version presented here shows each sentence or clause as a distinct paragraph numbered in the margin.]

[2] [In 1724 the English pound represented 3.58 troy ounces of silver. The modern (2022) Canadian price of silver is \$28.33 per troy ounce. So that pound equates to Can\$101 in silver, and a gift of £160 would be like Can\$16,000. A more elaborate comparison based on prevailing income levels (GDP *per capita*) in England in 1724 (£12) and in Canada in 2022 (about Can\$70,000) suggests this gift would be more like Can\$900,000 today.]

[3] [£40: Can\$4,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$200,000.]

[4] [£200: Can\$20,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$1.3M.]

[5] [£30: Can\$3,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$175,000.]

[6] [£20: Can\$2,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$120,000.]

[7] [£1,000: Can\$100,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$5.8M.]

- [9] *Item* I give and bequeath unto my Cozen *John Weetman* the Father, in the County of *Stafford* Yeoman son of my Aunt *Weetman* during his natural life one Annuity or yearly Sum of Fifty pounds *sterling* [8] to be payd by equal half yearly payments to commence from the time of my decease
- [10] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Benedicta William Mary Eleanor Elizabeth Sarah* and *John* Children of my said Cozen *John Weetman* one thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock Erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- [11] *Item* I give and bequeath to my Cozen *Anne Woodcock* daughter of my said Aunt *Weetman* during her natural life one Annuity or yearly Sum of Fifty pounds *Sterling* [8] to be payd by equal half yearly payments to commence from my Decease
- [12] *Item* I give unto *John Moor William Moor Thomas Moor Josias Moor* and *Abigail Woodcock* (Children of my said cozen *Anne Woodcock*) One thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- [13] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *William John Thomas Clement Mary Anne* and *Joseph* the Children of *Thomas Weetman* deceased Six hundred pounds [9] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures, as aforesaid
- [14] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Mary Elizabeth* and *Thomas Blood* Children of *Thomas Blood* deceased one of the Sons of my Aunt *Blood* One thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share of the said Stock erected in lieu of Debentures, as aforesaid
- [15] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *John Thomas Benjamin* and *Samuel Mously* Children of my Cozen *Elizabeth Shepard* deceased by her former Husband One thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- [16] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Richard John* and *William Hudson*, the Children of *John Hudson* Lighterman deceased and Grand Children to my Aunt *Hudson* deceased One thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock Erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- Item* I give unto the Widow of the said *John Hudson* deceased during her natural life one Annuity of ten pounds *Sterling* [10] to be payd her by equal half yearly payments and to commence from my Decease
- Item* I give and bequeath to *Mary Hill* one other of the Children of the said *John Hudson* one Annuity or yearly Sum of twenty pounds *Sterling* [6] to be payd by equal half yearly payments during her natural life and to *James Charles* and *Sarah Hill* Children of the said *Mary Hill* I give and bequeath three hundred pounds [11] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of debentures as aforesaid
- Item* I give and bequeath unto my Cozen *John Blood* Yeoman living in or near *Tamworth* Son of my Aunt *Johanna Blood* during his natural life one Annuity or yearly Sum of Fifty pounds *Sterling* [8] to be payd by equal half yearly payments to commence from my Decease
- Item* I give unto *Sarah Robert Richard Anne John* and *Johanna Blood* Children of the said *John Blood* One thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- Item* I give and bequeath unto the Widow of *Thomas Voughton* deceased son of my Uncle *John Voughton* one Annuity or yearly Sum of Ten pounds [10] to be paid during her natural life by equal halfyearly payments to commence from my Decease
- Item* I give and bequeath unto the Children of the said *Thomas Voughton* Vizt *John Timothy Abigail Mary George Sarah Jonathan Anne* and *Benjamin* one thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- Item* I give and bequeath unto the Children of my Cozen *Mary Orton* deceased Vizt *Anne Mary Sarah* and *Elizabeth Orton* one thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- Item* I give and bequeath unto *John Cheatly* and *Mary Cheatly* the children of *Mary Cheatly* deceased who was Daughter of my Aunt *Weetman* one thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid

[8] [£50: Can\$5,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$290,000.]

[9] [£600: Can\$61,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$3.5M.]

[10] [£10: Can\$1,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$60,000.]

[11] [£300: Can\$30,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$1.7M.]

- [25] *Item To William Cheatly* Husband of the said *Mary Cheatly* deceased I give and bequeath during his natural life One Annuity or yearly Sum of ten pounds *Sterling* [10] to be payd him by equal half yearly payments and to commence from my decease
- [26] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Benedicta Cheatly* another Daughter of my aforesaid Aunt *Weetman* and now Wife of *John Cheatly* near *Tamworth* in the aforesaid County of *Stafford* Yeoman during her natural life one Annuity or yearly Sum of Fifty pounds *Sterling* [8] to be payd her by equal half yearly payments to commence from my decease
- [27] *Item* I give unto the Children of the said *Benedicta Cheatly* *Viz^t Lettice Dorothy Anne John William* and *Mary Cheatly* one thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest, or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- [28] *Item* I give unto my Cozen *Joseph Blood* in or near *Tamworth* aforesaid Clothier one other of the Sons of my said Aunt *Blood* One thousand pounds [7] Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- [29] *Item* I give and bequeath unto the Children of *Anne Harding* deceased who was Daughter of my said Aunt *Blood* *viz^t Anne* and *William* One thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- [30] *Item* I give to *Mary Alcock* Wife of *Arthur Alcock* Clothier (another Daughter of my said Aunt *Blood*) during her natural life One Annuity or yearly Sum of Fifty pounds *Sterling* [8], to be payd by equal half yearly payments to commence from my decease
- [31] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Johannah Anne* and *Sarah* the Children of the said *Mary Alcock* One thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures, as aforesaid
- [32] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Johannah Mitchell* Wife of *Benjamin Mitchell* (one other of the Daughters of my aforesaid Aunt *Blood*) during her natural life one Annuity or yearly Sum of Fifty pounds *Sterling* [8] to be payd by equal half yearly payments to commence from my decease
- [33] *Item* I give unto her Son *Joseph Mitchell* and to her Daughters *Elizabeth* and *Mary Mitchell* One thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- [34] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Joseph Osborne* (Son of my Aunt *Osborne*) during his natural life one annuity or yearly Sum of Fifty pounds *Sterling* [8] to be payd by equal half yearly payments to commence from my decease
- Item* I give unto *Sarah* and *Anne* Daughters of the said *Joseph Osborne* One thousand pounds [7] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures, as aforesaid
- Item* I give unto the two Children who are now living of *Elizabeth* another Daughter of the said *Joseph Osborn* Five hundred pounds [12] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in Lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- Item* I give and bequeath unto *John Wood* Currier and *Thomas Wood* hard Ware Man both of *Birmingham* and Grand Children of *Christopher Wood* deceased Two hundred and fifty pounds apiece [13] Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in lieu of Debentures, as aforesaid
- Item* I give and bequeath to *Anne Cawne* Widow and late Wife of *Robert Cawne* deceased during her natural life one Annuity or yearly Sum of twenty pounds *Sterling* [6] to be payd her by equal half yearly payments to commence from my decease
- Item* I give and bequeath to *William Cawn* Tallow Chandler Son of the said *Anne Cawn* Two hundred and fifty pounds [13] Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- Item* I give and bequeath unto *Sarah Coleman* *Elizabeth Silvester* Widow *Anne Shaw* Widow *Martha Lawson* now Wife of *Lawson* and *Margaret Allcock* Children of *Thomas Allcock* late of *Tamworth* Clothier deceased Two hundred and Fifty pounds [13] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- Item* To *Mary Allcock* one other of the Children of the said *Thomas Allcock* I give and bequeath one Annuity or yearly Sum of twenty pounds *Sterling* [6] to be payd her by equal half yearly payments during her natural life and to commence from my decease
- Item* I give and bequeath to each of the Children of *Jane Bayley* deceased and of *Mary Styleman* deceased Daughters of my late Uncle *Henry Voughton* Five hundred pounds [12] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in lieu of Debentures as aforesaid

[12] [£500: Can\$51,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$2.9M.]

[13] [£250: Can\$25,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$1.5M.]

- [43] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Margarett Guy* and *Samuel Guy* the Children of *Samuel Guy* late of *Egham* in the County of *Surrey* deceased Five hundred pounds [12] apiece Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- [44] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Ann Jenkyns* Daughter of *Thomas Hudson* deceased one Annuity or yearly Sum of One hundred pounds *Sterling* [14] to be payd her by half yearly payments during her natural life and to commence from my decease
- [45] *Item* to the Widow of *Thomas Hudson* deceased I give one Annuity or yearly Sum of ten pounds *Sterling* [10] to be payd her by equal half yearly payments during her natural life and to commence from my decease
- [46] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *John Morling* Son of *Elizabeth Morling* late of *Oakingham* Widow deceased Five hundred pounds [12] Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- [47] *Item* I give and bequeath to *Jane Whittaker* Widow and one of the Daughters of my late Aunt *Hudson* during her natural life one Annuity or yearly Sum of Fifty pounds *Sterling* [8] to be payd her by equal half yearly payments to commence from my decease
- [48] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Anne Rowney* Daughter to the aforesaid *Anne Cawn* during her natural life one Annuity or yearly Sum of twenty pounds [6] to be payd her by equal half yearly payments to commence from my decease
- [49] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Thomas Batman* Clothier Son of *Joseph Batman* deceased One hundred and fifty pounds [15] Interest or Share in the said Stock erected in lieu of Debentures as aforesaid
- [50] and my Will is and I do hereby direct and appoint that the said several Annuities or yearly Sums hereby before bequeathed be payd from time to time by my Executors hereinafter named or by the Corporation hereinafter mentioned and intended when the same shall be obtained and take Effect or their Treasurer for the time being out of the Residue of my Estate hereinafter devised or the Interest Dividends Rents or other profits thereof during the several lives for which they are made respectively payable, as aforesaid
- And as for and concerning as well the said several Annuities for life as the several Shares in the said Stock erected as aforesaid in this my Will given to the said *Anne Woodcock Mary Hill Benedicta Cheatly* Wife of *John Cheatly Mary Allcock* Wife of *Arthur Allcock Johanna* Wife of *Benjamin Mitchell Anne Rowney Martha Lawson, Margaret Guy* and *Anne Jenkyns* I do hereby order,
- that the said Annuities and Stock so given to them respectively as aforesaid shall be paid or assigned to their own proper hands or order respectively, and for their own separate use and benefit whether sole or covert and
- that their respective Receipts alone shall be sufficient Discharges for the same notwithstanding their or any of their Covertures
- And my Mind and Will is that the said several Sums or parcels of Stock hereinbefore bequeathed to my several Legatees abovenamed who at my decease shall be under Age and unmarried shall not be payd or payable or transferred or to be transferred by my said Executors or the said intended Corporation until they shall arrive respectively the Men to the Age of twenty one years and the Women to such Age of twenty one years or their day of Marriage and which of them shall first happen
- and that during such the Infancy or single State of my said Legatees respectively my Will is, that my Executors hereinafter named or the said hereinafter mentioned and intended Corporation or their Treasurer for the time being
- allow for the maintenance and Education of my said several Legatees, the Interest Dividends and Produce of the Stock to them respectively given and
- also shall allow out of the respective Legacies or Stock of such as shall want to be put forth Apprentices such Sums of money as my said Executors or the said intended Corporation or their Treasurer, shall think fitt
- which said several Allowances and sums of money shall be payd to the Fathers Mothers Guardians or Masters of such Legatees respectively,
- and their Receipts respectively shall be sufficient discharges for the same
- and my Mind and Will is that the several Legacies Share or Shares of Stock or so much thereof as shall not have been applied to the uses last above mentioned of such of my abovementioned Legatees as shall depart this life before they shall arrive respectively to their age of twenty one years or be married as aforesaid

[14] [£100: Can\$10,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$600,000.]

[15] [£150: Can\$15,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$900,000.]

shall from and after and in case of their decease as aforesaid go to, and be deemed part of the residuary part of my Estate hereinafter devised, and

shall by my said Executors be applyed or assigned to and for such uses intents and purposes as are in this my last Will directed and appointed in respect of the said residuary part of my Estate

[54] *Item* I give and bequeath unto *Charles Joy John Kenrick*, and *John Wade* Esquires *Mr Thomas Dance* *Mr John Sprint* and *Mr John Osborn* the Sum of One thousand pounds *Sterling* [7] upon this special Trust and Confidence that they or the survivors or survivor of them shall within twelve months after my decease or sooner if it may be dispose and disburse the same for the releasing and discharging of poor Prisoners for debt out of any Prisons within the City of *London* or Countyes of *Middlesex* and *Surry* not exceeding the Sum of Five pounds [16] for the discharge of any one Person

[55] *Item*, I give to the President and Governours of *Christ's Hospital* in *London* and their Succesors for ever one Annuity or yearly Sum of Four hundred pounds [17] to be payd

by my said Executors till such intended Corporation shall be obtained and take Effect and

then by such intended Corporation or their Treasurer for the time being

provided neverthelefs and upon this condition that my said Executors and such intended Corporation and their Succesors, shall

have liberty from time to time to nominate and put into *Christs Hospital* aforesaid yearly and every year for ever at *Easter* or within six Months after such four poor Children Boys or Girls whether Orphans or otherwise or the Children of Freemen of the City of *London* or unfreemen not lefs than seven or more than ten years of Age as my said Executors or the said intended Corporation and their Succesors shall think fitt with preference to my Relations as often as any such shall offer themselves who shall be received into the said Hospital, and

have the maintenance and education thereof and be continued therein in like manner as other Children are maintained and educated in the said Hospital

[56] And my My Will is that in case and as often as the said President and Governours of *Christ Church Hospital* shall neglect or refuse to take in

and maintain the said Number of Boys and Girls to them nominated and qualified as aforesaid it shall be lawful to my said Executors and the said intended Corporation and they are hereby directed and desired to apply the said Annual Sum of Four hundred pounds [17] to the Education and maintenance of such four poor Children as aforesaid in such other School or place and in such other manner as they shall think fit

And Whereas the Masters Keepers Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mistery of Stationers of the City of *London* are in and by one Bond or Obligation under their common Seal bearing date on or about the third day of *February Anno Domini* one thousand seven hundred and seventeen become bound unto the Governours of the Hospital of *St Thomas the Apostle* in *Southwark* in the County of *Surry* in the Penal Sum of Five thousand five hundred pounds [18] conditioned for the payment of one hundred and twenty five pounds [19] by them and their Succesors for ever by half yearly payments free from all manner of Deductions whatsoever in manner following *Vizt* to me the said *Thomas Guy* during my natural life and from and after my decease to such Person and Persons Uses Intents and purposes as I by my last Will and Testament in Writing or any other Writings under my hand and Seal subscribed in the presence of three or more credible Witnesses should declare limit and appoint as in and by the said Obligation and Condition relation being thereunto had may more fully and at large appear

Now I give and devise unto *John Cheatly* and *John Blood* Yeomen *Joseph Blood* and *Arthur Allcock* Clothiers *Thomas Orton* Yeoman *John Radford* *Robert Blood* and the said *John Osborn* Citizen and Stationer of *London* All that my Almshouse or Building containing sixteen Rooms fourteen of which said Rooms are now used and employed for the Habitation of fourteen poor Men and Women and the other two Rooms being laid together are used for a Library with the House of Office Gardens and Appurtenances thereto belonging situate lying and being partly in *Gumgate Street* and partly in *Schoolhouse Lane* in *Tamworth* in the County of *Warwick* To hold to them the said *John Cheatly* *John Blood* *Joseph Blood* *Arthur Allcock* *Thomas Orton* *John Radford* *Robert Blood* and *John Osborn* their Heirs and Assigns for ever In Trust neverthelefs and to and for the uses intents and purposes hereinafter mentioned that is to say, that my said Trustees and the Survivors of them and such others as shall succeed and be chosen in their Room or place by

[57]

[16] [£5: Can\$500 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$29,000.]

[17] [£400: Can\$41,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$2.3M.]

[18] [£5,500: Can\$560,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$32M.]

[19] [£125: Can\$13,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$730,000.]

virtue of the Clauses hereinafter in that behalf mentioned or the major part of them shall and do from time to time admit and place in the said Rooms fourteen poor Persons Men or Women Inhabitants of the Towns Villages or Parishes of *Wincoate Glafscoate Bolehall Street Ammington Wiggington and Hoppus* or any of them my poor Relations being first to be admitted in case any such shall offer themselves whom they shall think proper Objects of such Charity and as often as any of them shall dye to place others in their stead

[58] and in case any such of the said poor Persons shall misbehave themselves my said Trustees for the time being or the Major part of them shall from time to time displace such, and put others in their stead, as they shall think fitt

[59] and that the two Rooms above mentioned to be used for a Library shall continue to be so used or for such other uses for the better accommodation of the Persons that shall dwell in the said fourteen Rooms as the said Trustees for the time being or the Major part of them, shall think fitt

[60] And my Mind and Will is that when and so often as any of the said Trustees shall happen to dye the survivors of them shall choose in another Person to succeed and be a trustee who shall act with them in all respects as if he had been particularly named with the other Trustees in this my Will

[61] and to prevent the legal interest of the said last mentioned Premises from going to the heir of a Surviving Trustee It is my mind and Will that as often as my present or future Trustees in whom the legal Estates of the same Premises shall rest shall be by death reduced to two that such two or the Survivor of them shall forthwith convey the same Premises to such other Trustees and their Heirs upon the Trusts aforesaid as my then acting Trustees or the major part of them shall think fitt or direct

[62] And I do hereby order limit declare and appoint that the said yearly Sum of One hundred twenty five pounds [19] be payd by the Masters and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of Stationers above mentioned and their Successors by half yearly payments at the Feast day of *St John* the Baptist and the birth of our Lord God in every year for ever

to my said Executors until such intended Corporation as aforesaid shall be obtained and take Effect and

then to such intended corporation and their Successors

to the Intent that my said Executors or the said intended Corporation and their Successors do and

may thereout pay the Sum of One hundred and fifteen pounds [20] *per Annum* part thereof by like half yearly payments unto the said *John Cheatly John Blood Joseph Blood Arthur Allcock Thomas Orton John Radford Robert Blood and John Osborn* and the Survivors of them and such as shall succeed them as aforesaid for ever In Trust and to and for the uses intents and purposes hereinafter mentioned that is to say

in respect of Eighty pounds [21] *per Annum* part of the said yearly Sum of One hundred and fifteen pounds [20] upon trust and to the intent that

they do and shall pay thereout unto each of the said fourteen poor people and such others as shall from time to time be chosen in their stead the Sum of two Shillings [22] *per Week* for their maintenance and

what shall be remaining of the said Eighty pounds [21] *per Annum* over and above such weekly payments shall be expended and applied by my said Trustees for Reparation of the said Almshouses and Premises and for such other uses relating thereto as my said Trustees or the Major part of them shall from time to time think fitt and appoint

and for and in respect of the Sum of Thirty five pounds [23] remainder of the said yearly Sum of One hundred and Fifteen pounds [20] upon trust and to the Intent that my said last mentioned Trustees and such as shall succeed them as aforesaid for ever shall and do apply the same to the putting out Children Apprentice Nursing, or such like charitable Deed of four six or eight such poor Persons of the Family of the *Voughtons* or *Woods* or proceeding therefrom as they shall think fitt and if none or not sufficient of such can be found then of such other Person or Persons as they shall find to be proper Objects of Charity

and for and in respect of Ten pounds [10] *per Annum* the remainder of the said Sum of One hundred and twenty five pounds [19] *per Annum* aforementioned my Will is that my said Executors and such intended Corporation and their Successors shall and do pay the same from time to time by like half yearly payments for ever unto *Joseph Hughes of Oakingham* in the County of *Berks* Gentleman *Abraham Chitty* Citizen and

[63]

[20] [£115: Can\$12,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$670,000.]

[21] [£80: Can\$8,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$470,000.]

[22] [2 s = £0.10: Can\$10 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$580.]

[23] [£35: Can\$3,500 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$200,000.]

Cooper of London Josias Chitty Citizen and Grocer of London Joseph Chitty of London Merchant and the said John Osborn and such others as shall from time to time be elected and chosen in their Room and stead as any of them dye in like manner as is above mentioned concerning the Trust of the aforesaid Almshouse for ever In Trust that they apply the same to the putting out of Children Apprentice nursing or such like charitable Deeds of two or more such poor Persons of the Family of the Guys or proceeding therefrom as they shall think fitt and if no such can be found thereof such other Person or Persons as they shall find to be proper Objects of Charity

[64] Item I give and bequeath unto Charles Joy John Lade John Kenrick Esquires Mr John Darby Mr Thomas Dance Mr John Sprint and Mr John Osborn the Sum of One thousand pounds Sterling [7] Two hundred pounds [6] part of which shall be payd unto them or to such Person or Persons as they or the Major part of them shall appoint by Writing under their hands at the end of three Months next after my decease and so from time to time at the end of every three Months until the said Sum of One thousand pounds [7] be fully payd In Trust that they the Survivors or Survivor of them shall and do from time to time distribute the same for the relief and maintenance of such poor People being Housekeepers as in their Judgment shall be thought convenient;

[65] And my Mind and Will is, that my said last mentioned Trustees shall not be accountable to my Executors for the same and shall be allowed their Charges in the Execution of the same Trust out of the moneys to be payd to them from time to time as aforesaid

[66] Item I give to the said John Osborne Stationer, the Sum of one hundred pounds [14] desiring him to assist my Executors in the Execution of this my Will

[67] Item I give to Anne Gorton Servant of Mr Osborne—the Sum of Fifty pounds [8] if she be living in the house with me at the time of my decease

[68] Item To my said hereinafter named Executors for Mourning I give and bequeath the Sum of twenty Guineas [24] apiece

[69] All the Rest and Residue of my Estate whatsoever and wheresoever both reall and personal after the payment of my debts Legacies and Funeral Charges as aforesaid and subject to the payment of the said several Annuities and yearly Sums, herein before bequeathed I give bequeath and devise unto Sir Gregory Page Baronett

Charles Joy Esquire Treasurer of the present Hospital of St Thomas & William Clayton of Marden in the County of Surrey Esquire Mr Thomas Hollis Senior John Kenrick and John Lade Esquires and Governours of the said present Hospital of St Thomas Doctor Richard Mead Moses Raper Esquire and Mr John Sprint Governours likewise of the same present Hospital their Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns respectively upon the trusts and for such uses intents and purposes as are hereinafter by this my Will directed and appointed

and I do hereby likewise ordain constitute and appoint the said Sir Gregory Page Baronett Charles Joy and William Clayton Esquires Mr Thomas Hollis senior John Kenrick and John Lade Esquires Doctor Richard Mead Moses Raper Esquire and Mr John Sprint Executors of this my said last Will on Trust as aforesaid [70]

And my Mind and Will is that until such Incorporation by Letters Patent or Act of Parliament as hereinafter directed can be obtained and take Effect they my said Executors and last mentioned Trustees their Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns and afterwards such Corporation shall and do, out of the Residuum of my Estate or the Rents Interest or other profits thereof [71]

carry on erect finish and fitt up

the two new Squares of Building in Southwark by me some time since began and intended for an Hospital for Reception of such sick Persons as are hereinafter mentioned and

such other Erections Offices and Buildings as shall in the opinion of my said Executors and Trustees be for that purpose further necessary and

also provide and furnish the same with Beds and all other conveniencies for the reception of and receive and entertain therein four hundred poor Persons or upwards labouring under any Distempers infirmities or disorders thought capable of relief by Physick or Surgery but who by reason of the small hopes there may be of their Cure or the length of time which for that purpose may be required or thought necessary are or may be adjudged or called incurable and as such not proper Objects to be received into or continued in the present Hospital of St Thomas or other Hospitals in and by which no Provision has been made for distempers deemed or called incurable of whom my mind is that they receive and entertain

Lunaticks adjudged or called as aforesaid incurable not exceeding twenty in number at one time such poor persons to be chosen and appointed by my said Executors and Trustees out

[24] [20 guineas = £21: Can\$2,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$120,000.]

of such Patients and Persons who shall be discharged out of the Hospital of *St Thomas* or *Bethlehem* or other Hospitals on Account of the small hopes of their Cure or the great length of time for that purpose required or thought necessary and on such or any other Account adjudged and called incurable and not fit to be continued in the said Hospital of *St Thomas* or *Bethlehem* or other Hospitals or

such other poor sick Persons or Lunatics as under such or the like Circumstances shall apply to my said Executors and Trustees for Relief at the discretion and pleasure of my said Executors and Trustees to whom I submit the several Species or kinds of sick Persons deemed or called incurables who shall be admitted into the said intended Hospital

and that my said Executors and Trustees shall and do provide suitable and proper dyet Physick and all other necessaries for the maintenance relief or cure of such sick Persons during their lives or for so long time as my said Executors and Trustees shall think fit to continue them under their Care in the said intended Hospital

[72] And my Will is that, such poor sick Persons received into and entertained in the said intended Hospital shall be

subject at all times to my said Executors and Trustees and to such Rules and Orders as they shall think fitt to make for their behaviour in the said intended Hospital and

lyable to be expelled from thence and removed at the pleasure of my said Executors and Trustees and other like sick Persons admitted and entertained in their Room

[73] And my Mind and Will further is that if my said Executors and Trustees shall not find Cause or shall on any Account whatsoever not think fitt to keep all or great part of the Beds or Wards in the said intended Hospital filled and supplied with sick Persons deemed or called incurable as aforesaid it shall and may be lawful for them to cause any number of the said Beds or Wards to be filled and made use of in like manner and with like Patients, as the Beds in the Hospital of *St Thomas* are ordinarily used

for all which Patients so to be received and taken in from time to time into the said intended Hospital as incurable or otherwise my mind and Will is that my said Executors and Trustees should provide in all things as near as may be according to the course customs and usage of late years prevailing and practised in the said present Hospital of *St Thomas*

[74] And my Mind and Will further is and for the better and more regular Disposition and Manage-

ment of the Affairs and business of the said intended Hospital and for perpetuating the Charity hereby intended and the Provision for the same I do hereby order and appoint and earnestly desire and intreat my said Executors and Trustees forthwith after my decease by humble Application to his Majesty or to the Legislature to endeavour to obtain Letters Patent under the great Seal or an Act of Parliament incorporating them my said Executors and last named Trustees together with

Mr *Benjamin Brain* senior Mr *Thomas Clarke* *William Cole* Esquire Doctor *Thomas Crow* Doctor *Francis Fauquier* Mr *Joshua Gee* Mr *Mathew Howard* Doctor *Edward Hulse* Mr *Samuel Lejsingham* Mr *Henry Lovel* Mr *Samuel Monck* Mr *Joseph Paice* senior Mr *Daniel Powle* Mr *Thomas Stiles* Senior and also *Robert Atwood* *Robert Bristow* *Jonathan. Blackwell* Esquires Mr *James Brooks* Deputy *Richard Chauncy* *Richard Chiswell* Esquire Deputy *John Carbonnell* *William Dawson* and *Richard Ducane* Esquires *Sir Peter Eaton* Knight *Sir Nathaniel Gould* Knight *Thomas Gearing* and *Peter Godfrey* Esquires Mr *John Gunston* Mr *Nathaniel Garland* *Edmund Halsey* Esquire Mr *Henry Hankey* Mr *Thomas Hucks* Mr *William King* Mr *James Lambe* Mr *James Leaver* Mr *Percival Lewis* Captain *Daniel Lock* *John London* and *Thomas Maylyn* junior Esquires *Nathaniel Micklethwaite* Esquire Mr *Samuel Mayo* Mr *Thomas Martin* Mr *Francis Moulton* Mr *Josiah Nicholson* Mr *Nathaniel Newnham* *Jeremiah Sambrooke* Esquire Mr *Samuel Sheaff* *John Smith* Esquire *Sir John Tash* Knight *Peter Theobalds* Esquire Mr *James Townsend* of *Cheapside* the said Gentlemen being all now Governours of the said present Hospital of *St Thomas* or so many of the said Gentlemen as shall be living at the time of procuring such intended Corporation and willing to become Members thereof and

so many other Gentlemen Governours or reputed Governours of the present Hospital of *St Thomas* or others by my said Executors or the Major part of them to be appointed

as together with my said Executors and other the Gentlemen abovenamed shall make up the number Fifty at the least and not exceed Sixty and their Successors in manner by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament directed and expressed to be from time to time elected and admitted Members of such intended Corporation into one distinct and separate Body Politick and corporate

with perpetual Succession for the better managing and Governing of the said intended Hospital and for the better settling and applying the said Residue of my Estate for such uses as aforesaid

and for such other and further uses as are hereinafter appointed

with a President and Treasurer and such other Officers of the said intended Corporation as by my said Executors shall be thought necessary or convenient in such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament to be named and appointed and in manner therein directed to be from time to time for ever hereafter successively into such respective Offices elected and admitted by such name or names as to his Majesty or the Legislature shall seem proper and by such name or names, to have perpetual Succession

with power to have and to use a separate and distinct common Seal for the necessary Affairs of the said intended Corporation and

with power by such name or names as aforesaid to have hold take enjoy alien transfer and dispose of the said hereby before devised residuary part of my Estate and therewith or with any part thereof to purchase take and enjoy Messuages Lands Tenements Fee Farm Rents or other Estates of Inheritance for perpetuity or otherwise and to the value of the said residuary part of my Estate or to such further or other yearly value as to his said Majesty or the Legislature shall seem convenient and

with power and capacity in Law to sue and be sued implead and be impleaded answer and be answered unto by such name or names as aforesaid, in any Court or Courts of Record and else where and

with such other Powers Priviledges and Capacities in Law as to His Majesty or the Legislature shall seem meet to be granted

[75] and my Will is and I further desire my said Executors and last named Trustees by such humble Application as aforesaid to His Majesty or the Legislature to endeavour to obtain and procure that by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament as aforesaid a Committee be appointed of twenty one of the Members of such intended Corporation for the more constant and ordinary management and Application of the said residuary part of my Estate and of the Charity hereby intended

to which Committee or to such number of them as shall be thought convenient when convened and assembled by and with the President and Treasurer of the said intended Corporation or one of them my Will and desire is that my said Executors and Trustees by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament as aforesaid endeavour to have granted and appointed such powers as may enable them in the most effectual manner to manage settle and apply the said residuary part of my Estate and the Rents Interests Dividends or other

profits or Produce thereof to such uses as by this my last Will are directed and appointed

and that by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament it may be provided that seven of the said Committee of twenty one or one third part thereof at the least may yearly and every year go out of and be excluded their respective places as Members of the said Committee by the Appointment of a general Court or Assembly of the Members of the said intended Corporation to be assembled and convened by the President or Treasurer of such intended Corporation yearly and every year at a time or times in such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament to be appointed

and that for that purpose at such general Court or Assembly as aforesaid fourteen of the Members of the said Committee for the year next preceding such general Court or Assembly be first elected and chosen Members of the said Committee for the year next ensuing and seven other Persons out of fourteen of the Members of the said intended Corporation who were not Members of the said Committee for the year then next preceding to be first nominated by the said Committee for the year then next preceding be by and at such general Court and Assembly as aforesaid elected and appointed Members of the said Committee for the year then next ensuing such Election

and that in and by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament it be further provided and appointed that the management and Accounts of the said Committee of twenty one be from time to time subject to the Approbation or Disallowance of a general Court or Assembly of the Members or Governours of such intended Corporation to be from time to time convened and summoned by proper and convenient notice by the President or Treasurer of such intended Corporation for the time being

And my mind and Will further is and I desire my said Executors by like humble Application as aforesaid to endeavour to procure and obtain that by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament as aforesaid,

the said Sir *Gregory Page* Baronet be appointed the first President of the said intended Corporation and

the said *Charles Joye* Esquire the first Treasurer thereof and

the said *William Clayton* Esquire Mr *Thomas Hollis* senior *John Kenrick* and *John Lade* Esquires Doctor *Richard Mead* *Moses Raper* Esquire and Mr *John Sprint* and the said Mr *Benjamin Brain* senior Mr *Thomas Clarke* *William Cole* Esquire Doctor *Thomas Crow* *Doctor Francis Fauquier* Mr *Joshua Gee* Mr *Mathew Howard* Doctor *Edward Hulse* Mr *Samuel Leftingham* Mr *Henry Lovell* Mr *Samuel Monk*

[76]

Mr Joseph Paice Mr Daniel Powle and Mr Thomas Styles, be appointed the first Members of the said hereinbefore mentioned and intended Committee for the more constant and ordinary Management of the said Residuary part of my Estate and Charity hereby intended or

in case of the Death of any of the said Gentlemen last above named or their refusal to accept of the respective Trusts hereby intended as President Treasurer or Members of the said Committee then such other fitt and able Persons to be named and appointed by my said Executors to be President Treasurer or Members of the said Committee making up the said number of twenty-one

and that by such Letters Patent, or Act of Parliament as aforesaid it be provided and granted

that the future Elections of the President and Treasurer of the said intended Corporation and also the Election of the Physicians and Surgeons and of the Register or Clerk and Sollicitor and of the Chaplain to be employed in and about the Charity hereby intended be referred to and reserved for the Members and Governours of the said intended Corporation or the Major part of them in general Court assembled as aforesaid as also their removal displacing and filling up and that the Offices of Apothecary Steward Matron, Cook Sisters and all other Officers to be employed in and about the said intended Hospital and Charity be referred to the Election of the said intended Committee and their Succesors and by them and at their pleasure to be altered and the respective Officers to be removed displaced supplied and filled up

[77] And my mind and Will further is that as soon as such intended Corporation can be obtained and take effect my said Executors do forthwith pay assign transferr and in due Form of Law convey and make over all the said residuary part of my Estate herein before devised to them or so much thereof as shall not have been applyed and expended in and about the Execution of this my Will to and for the uses thereby directed and appointed subject to the payment of the several Annuities herein before devised to the said hereby intended Corporation and their Succesors upon the Trusts and to be by them applyed from time to time to and for such uses intents and purposes as are in and by this my Will for that purpose directed and appointed

[78] And my mind and Will further is that the said President Treasurer Committee and Governours intended to be incorporated and when incorporated as aforesaid do as soon as the same can be done conveniently lay out the Surplus of the said residuary part of my personal Estate or so much

thereof as shall not be expended in building Furnishing & fitting up the said two new Squares of Building or other the necessary charges and disbursements for the purposes aforesaid in the purchase of Mejsuages Lands Ground Rents Fee Farm Rents or other Estates of Inheritance or the Reversions thereof in Fee Simple to the intent that the yearly or other Rents and profits of such purchases together with the Rents and profits of the said residuary part of my real Estate be from time to time applyed to and become a perpetual Provision for the maintenance and cure of such poor sick Persons as are to be received into and entertained in the said intended Hospital and for defraying and answering all other the constant necessary Charges and Expences in and about the same

and that until the said residuary part of my Personal Estate shall be layd out in purchases as aforesaid the Interest Dividends and other Income or profits thereof be from time to time applyed to such purposes as are before appointed for the Application of the Rents and profits of such purchases as aforesaid

And my mind and Will further is that if it shall appear to the said President Treasurer, and Governours to be incorporated as aforesaid that the yearly and other Rents and profits of the said residuary part of my reall Estate and of the Lands Mejsuages or other Estates to be purchased as aforesaid shall be more than sufficient to provide for and Answer the maintenance and cure of such poor sick Persons as are hereby directed to be received into and entertained in the said two new Squares of building and other necessary Charges and Expences upon or about the said intended Hospital it shall be lawful for the said President Treasurer and Governours incorporated as aforesaid in general Court to be assembled and convened as aforesaid or the Major part of them to lay out expend and apply or direct and impower the said Committee to lay out expend and apply such Surplus of the rents and profits of the said residuary part of my reall Estate and of other the Mejsuages Lands and other Estates to be purchased as aforesaid, to and for the releif of such other poor sick Persons or such other proper Objects of Compa[s]ion, as from time to time to the said President Treasurer and Governours incorporated as aforesaid shall appear most worthy and deserving of pity and relief or for such other publick and charitable uses and purposes as they shall think convenient

And I do hereby revoke and annull and declare to be null and void all and every other Will and Wills by me at any time or times heretofore made declaring this to be my only last Will and Testament

[79]

[80]

In Witnefs whereof I have to the same contained in seventeen Sheets of Paper and to one other part thereof contained in eleven sheets of Paper set my hand and Seal *Viz^t* my hand at the bottom of the said several Sheets of Paper and to the last of the said seventeen and eleven Sheets respectively my hand and Seal and my Seal to the place where the said seventeen and eleven Sheets are severally connected together on this fourth day of *September anno Domini* one thousand seven hundred and twenty four And in the eleventh year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord *George* over *great Britain* &c King Defender of the Faith &c

Thos Guy

Sealed published and declared by the above named Testator to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who Witnefsed the same in the said Testator's Presence,

John Oldfield W^m Pepys John Adlam Samuel Adlam

Probatum fuit hujusmodi Testamentum apud London quarto die Mensis Januarij Anno Domini millesimo septingentesimo vicesimo quarto [1] coram Venerabili Viro Gulielmo Phipps Legum Doctore Surregate Venerabilis et Egregij Viri Johannis Bettesworth Legum Doctoris Curiae Prærogativæ Cantuariensis Magistris Custodis sive Commisarij legitime constituti Juramentis Caroli Joye Armigeri Johannis Lade Armigeri et Johannis Kenrick Armigeri tribus Executorum in dicto Testamento nominatorum

quibus commissa fuit Administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum jurium et creditorum dicti defuncti de bene et fideliter Administrando eadem ad sancta Dei Evangelia jura

[This will was proved at London on the fourth day of the month of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twenty [five] before the venerable William Phipps, doctor of laws, surrogate, [and] the venerable and worshipful John Bettesworth, doctor of laws, master keeper or commissary of the prerogative court of Canterbury, as lawfully appointed, by the oaths of Charles Joy esquire, John Lade esquire and John Kenrick esquire, three of the executors named in the said will,

to whom was commissioned the administration of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased, having sworn to God on the holy gospels to well and faithfully administer the same;

& Reservata Potestate similem Commisisionem faciendi Domino Gregorio Page Baronetto Gulielmo Clayton Armigero Thomae Hollis seniori Richardo Mead in Medicinis Doctore Mosi Raper Armigero et Johannis Sprint caeteris Executoribus in dicto Testamento etiam nominatis cum venerint seu eorum aliquis venerit eandem petitur. Examinatur

and power was reserved for similar commissionings to be made to Sir Gregory Page baronet, William Clayton esquire, Thomas Hollis senior, Richard Mead doctor in medicine, Moses Raper esquire and John Sprint, other executors also named in the said will, when they shall come or any of them shall come requesting the same. So examined.]

[1] *Sic.* The probate date could not have been 4 January 1724, since Thomas Guy's will was dated 4 September 1724 and he died 27 December 1724. This must be an error for 1725.

[*Note:* These figures indicate that his closest relatives were made very rich indeed. Other relatives received lesser but generous legacies too; and servants received nice legacies as well. He then gave substantial amounts to several charitable purposes, first the equivalent of Can\$5.8M to pay the debts of and discharge at least 200 persons imprisoned for debt in London (para [54]; an annual income of Can\$2.3M to Christ's Hospital in London to yearly admit, board and educate four poor boys and girls (para [55], [56]); a fund to provide an annual income of Can\$730,000 to maintain fourteen paupers in his almshouse in Tamworth or provide apprenticeships to poor children there (para [57] to [63]); another Can\$5.8M to distribute as poor relief to housekeepers (para [64], [65]). The residue of his vast estate, not stated in the will but estimated at £219,499, comparable to Can\$1.3 billion today, he gave in trust to incorporate and finish building his enormous hospital for 400 "incurable" patients next door to and affiliated with St. Thomas hospital (para [69] to [79]). This was the first of the so-called "voluntary hospitals"—founded and financed privately.]