

Richard Oxley of Catsfield, Blacksmith

PBT/1/4/1792

Will made 5th January 1787, probate 24th November 1792

In the name of God Amen I Richard Oxley of Catsfield in the County of Sussex Blacksmith being infirm of body but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding (praised be God for the same) but considering the uncertainty of this mortal life and being desirous to prevent all unhappy disputes that may arise after my decease about my worldly estate wherewith it has pleased Almighty God to bless me do make publish and declare these presents to be my last Will and Testament In the first place I will and direct that all my just debts legacies funeral expenses and charges of proving this my Will be paid and satisfied by my Executor hereinafter named by and out of my personal estate but in case my personal estate shall not be sufficient for that purpose then I do hereby charge and direct my real estate hereinafter mentioned and devised to and with the payment of the deficiency Also I give and bequeath unto my **Cousin John Oxley** of Benenden in the County of Kent Blacksmith the sum of one shilling and no more to be paid him by my executor hereinafter named Also I give and bequeath unto **Elizabeth wife of Thomas Ellis** of Catsfield aforesaid Farmer the sum of fifty pounds of good and lawful money of Great Britain to be paid her by my executor hereinafter named in manner following (that is to say) the sum of twenty five pounds part thereof in six months next after my decease and the sum of twenty five pounds other part thereof in twelve months next after my decease Also I give and bequeath to **George Ellis Thomas Ellis Ann Ellis and Elizabeth Ellis sons and daughters of the said Thomas and Elizabeth Ellis** the sum of twenty pounds apiece of like lawful money to be paid them by my executor hereinafter named as they shall severally and respectively attain their ages of twenty one years Also I give and bequeath to my **Godson William Hanson** son of **William Hanson of Hurstgreen** in the parish of Salehurst in the said County of Sussex Innholder the sum of ten pounds of like lawful money to be paid him by my executor hereinafter named in six months next after my decease Also I give and devise unto **Thomas Ellis** of Catsfield aforesaid Farmer and his heirs all that my freehold messuage or tenement two barns blacksmith shop garden and seven acres of land more or less thereunto belonging situate near Ponts Green in the parish of Ashburnham in the said County of Sussex and now or late in the tenure or occupation of **John Noakes** his undertenants or assigns And also all those several pieces or parcells of freehold pasture and wood land containing by estimation ten acres be the same more or less All which said land and woodland are situate lying and being in Ashburnham aforesaid and now or late in the tenure or occupation of **William Butcher** his undertenants or assigns To hold the said messuage or tenement barns blacksmith shop garden land woodland and premisses with their and every of their appurtenances unto the said **Thomas Ellis** and his heirs for ever In Trust nevertheless that he pay and apply the net rents and profits thereof to my dear and loving **Wife Mary** for and during the term and time of her natural life if she so long continue my Widow And from and immediately after her decease or marrying again then in either case I give and devise all

those the messuage or tenement barns blacksmith shop garden land woodland and premisses unto the said **Thomas Ellis** his heirs and assigns absolutely and for ever Also I give and bequeath unto my said **Wife Mary** all my plate linen household furniture and implements of household Also all the rest residue and remainder of my monies securities for money goods chattels and effects (which said goods chattels and effects I do hereby direct my Executor hereinafter named to sell and dispose as soon as conveniently may be after my decease) after payment of my just debts legacies funeral expenses and charge of proving this my last Will and Testament I do hereby give and bequeath the same and every part thereof unto the said **Thomas Ellis** his executors and administrators In Trust nevertheless that he do place out the same on Government or some other good security or permit and suffer such monies as shall be placed out at the time of my death to remain and continue on such securities and the interest produce and proceed thereof as the same shall from time to time accrue and become payable pay and apply unto my said **Wife Mary** for and during the term and time of her natural life But if the rents and profits together with the interest of the said Trust estates and monies shall be insufficient for the maintenance of my said wife I do hereby direct the said **Thomas Ellis** his executors and administrators to apply so much of the principal money so to be placed out at interest as aforesaid as the said **Thomas Ellis** his executors and administrators shall think necessary not exceeding the sum of six pounds in any one year in aid of such maintenance and from and immediately after her decease then I give and bequeath the said trust monies unto the said **Thomas Ellis** his executors and administrators And I do hereby nominate constitute ordain and appoint the said **Thomas Ellis** sole executor of this my last Will and Testament And I do hereby revoke and make void all former and other wills by me at any time heretofore made and do declare this to be my last In witness whereof I the said Richard Oxley the testator have to this my last Will and Testament contained in three sheets of paper to the first two sheets thereof set my hand and to the last sheet my hand and seal the fifth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven

Richard Oxley

Signed sealed published and declared by the said Richard Oxley the testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses thereto at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other

The words " in aid of such maintenance" being first interlined in the thirty second line of the second sheet thereof

James Martin

Daniel Blackman

James Halloway

November 24th 1792 then was sworn Thomas Ellis executor in this will named, to whom was committed the burden of the execution thereof and also that the goods chattels and credits of the testator amount not to three hundred pounds

By us

W Whitear surrogate