

### **Moses Gill, will – 1761/1768**

In the name of God Amen I Moses Gill of the Parish of Great Oakley in the County of Essex Farmer being Health of Body and of sound and disposing Mind and Memory (praised be Almighty God) considering the Certainty of Death and the Uncertainty o the Time thereof and revoking all former Wills by me heretofore do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in Manner and Form following (that is to say)

First and principally I command my Soul to Almerciful God my Creator hoping through the Mediation of Jesus Christ to obtain Pardon and Remission of all my Sins and to inherit eternal Life my Body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried according to the Direction of my Executrix and Executors herein after named.

And as to the worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased or shall please God to bless me I order and dispose of as follows

I give devise and bequeath unto my Daughter Elizabeth (who was born to me of Mary my former Wife) the Sum of five Hundred Pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain to be paid unto her at her Age of twenty one years And I direct the same in the mean Time with all convenient Speed to be placed out at Interest upon Government or Land Security for her use and Benefit and if she shall happen to die before she shall attain her said Age of twenty one years then I give devise and bequeath the said Sum of five hundred Pounds unto my Daughter Mary (born to me by Sarah my present Wife) at her Age of twenty one years And I direct that the Interest thereof in the mean Time be also applied to her use and for her Benefit but in Case of my said Daughter Elizabeth shall survive my said Daughter Mary and afterward die before she my said Daughter Elizabeth shall attain her said Age of twenty one years then I give devise and bequeath the aforesaid Sum of five hundred Pounds unto and among my Brother John and my Sister Mary and Hannah and their lawful Issue to be divided in like Manner as among Tenants in Common.

Also I give devise and bequeath unto my said Daughter Mary the like sum of five hundred Pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain to be paid unto her at her Age of twenty one Years over and above any other Sum or Sums of Money unto which she may be initiated by or under any Contract Bond or other Provision made before my Marriage with her Mother my said present Wife Sarah and I direct my said last mentioned Legacy of five hundred Pounds in the mean Time until she my said Daughter Mary shall attain her said Age of twenty one Years to be placed out with all convenient Speed at Interest upon Government or Land Security for her use and Benefit but in Case my said Daughter Mary shall happen to die before she shall attain her said Age of twenty one Years the I give devise and bequeath the said last mentioned Sum of five hundred Pounds unto and among my said Daughter Elizabeth and Thomas William Sarah and Rebecca Allen (Children of my present Wife by her former Husband) and the lawful Issue of them the said Elizabeth Thomas William Sarah and Rebecca to be divided in like Manner as among Tenents in Common.

Also I give and bequeath unto my said Wife Sarah the use and Wear of my silver pint Mug of my two silver Pepper Casters of my two silver salt Cellars of my silver Punch Ladle and of my silver quart Tankard for and during the Term of her natural Life And from and immediately after the Decease of my said Wife Sarah I give and bequeath unto my said Daughter Elizabeth my said silver Pint Mug

either of the said silver Pepper Casters which she shall chuse and either of the said silver Salt Cellars which she shall chuse and the said silver Punch Ladle as her own Property

And I give and bequeath unto my said Daughter Mary from and immediately after the Death of her said Mother the other silver Pepper Caster the other silver Salt Cellar and the said silver quart Tankard as her own Property

Also I give devise and bequeath all the Rest Residue and Remainder of my Goods and Chattels Rights Credits and Estate whatsoever and wheresoever real and personal of what Nature or Kindsoever which I shall die possessed of interested in or intituled (after Payment of my just Debts the Charges of my Funeral and proving this my Will and other incident Charges and the Legacies herein before given) unto my said Wife Sarah her Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns

And I do nominate and appoint my Uncle John Gill of London to be one of the Executors of this my Will and Intendant of so much thereof as regards my said Daughter Elizabeth or wherein she hath or shall or may have any Concern or Benefit to see my Will performed on her Behalf And I appoint him Guardian and Curator of her Person and Fortune until she shall attain her said Age of twenty one Years.

And likewise I do nominate constitute and appoint my said Wife Sarah to be Executrix of this my Will and Intendant of so much thereof as regards herself and my said Daughter Mary or wherein they have or either of them hath or shall or may both or either of them have any Concern or Benefit And I appoint my said Wife Sarah Guardian and Curatrix of the Person and Fortune of my said Daughter Mary

And also I do nominate constitute and appoint my good Friend Mr Arthur Taylor of Harwich to be another Executor of this my Will and Supervisor to so much thereof as regards my said Wife Sarah and my said Daughter Mary or wherein they or either of them have or hath or shall or may have any Concern or Benefit and to see my Wife fulfilled on their Behaves or the Behalf of either of them

And in Case my said Wife Sarah shall happen to die during the Minority of my said Daughter Mary I will and appoint that the said Arthur Taylor shall then be Guardian and Curator of the Person and Fortune of my said Daughter Mary until she attain her said Age of twenty one Years

And I do hereby declare my Mind to be That my said Executrix and Executors shall every of them be answerable only for her or his own Acts Receipts and Payments and not for the Acts Receipts or Payments of the others of them And that she he or they shall and may be saved harmless and indemnified and deduct to her him or themselves by and out of my Estate and Effects or Monies according therefrom in her his or their Management from Time to Time all such Costs and Charges as she he or they shall pay sustain or be put to for or by Reason of the Execution of this my Will or her his or their Acting in Consequence thereof or for by Reason of her his or their Guardianship and Care of the Persons and Fortunes of my said Daughters or the Person or Fortune of either of them.

And lastly I do declare these Presents contained in four sheets of Paper to be my last Will and Testmaent In Witness whereof I the said Moses Gill the Testator have to every of the said Sheets subscribed my Name and to the Top of the first sheet where they are fastened together and to this last sheet have affixed my Seal this eleventh Day of November in the Year of our Lord Christ one thousand and seven hundred and sixty six and in the Seventh year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord

George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith  
&c.

Signed Moses Gill.

**Witnesses:** Jos. Culpack, Mary Dagnett, B. Didier.

**Proved:** 1<sup>st</sup> August 1768.

**ERO Document Reference:** D/ACW 32/4/25