In the Name of the blessed Trinity

the father, the Sonne, and the holy Ghost in whom I

Believe, as also in the holy Catholick Church, the Communion

of Saints, the forgiveness of Sinne, the rysing again=

of the Body, and the Life everlasting Amen, the

Two and twentieth Day of August in the yeare of our

Lord God 79 by the permission and Sufferance of

Almighty God I Richard Watts

of Satis neere the City of Rochester, in the Countie

of Kent yeoman being sicke of Body, yet and of perfect

Remembrance, thanked be unto Almighty God, mak=

ing my Testament and Last will as touching such tem=

porall things wch the Almighty God hath

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I do willed to come into my Rule and Government in the
Mistrable world in manner and form as hereafter
follow[illegible] desiring Almighty God to give me grace
that this that shall injoy them may use them unto his
Glory. Amen. First I bequeath my
Soule unto the holy Trinity as yt aforesaid
and my Body to be buried in the Cathedrall church
of Rochester aforesaid next unto the Steple and
Stairs going up into the Quire on the South
side of the same Stairs. Item I will that
the Curat of the parish Church of S[illegible] Nicholas
in Rochester aforesaid with so many Fryty Canons

Clerks and singing Children as then shall be and remain
in the said Cathedrall Church shall come in their Surplices
unto my said house and there receive my Corps and carry
it orderly unto the Quyre of the same Cathedrall Church
and there to remain all the Time of the divine Service
there at that time said or sung, and during the time of
One Sermon then and there to be given by, and
afterward to be conveyed unto the Earth in the
Place before-named I Will and Ordain
unto the Preacher of the said Sermon by my Executrix
to be appointed xx s. And I Will to the said Vicars
of St Nicholas aforesaid iij s. iiij d. and to every

my Dr. Hrs Paye. and my Generalls Giving accomplished —

I the said Richard Watts the Testator wch —

Signeth unto Mary my wedded wife our Executrix

Marks of Lawfull Money of England I do hav-

injoy and dispose the same at her owne will and —

pleasure I will that the same Mary —

shall have the Use only of all my Lands plate —

and all other my Good and Chattells as wells Reall as

personall so long as the same Mary on shall continue —

my sole widow, And I will and Signeth unto the —

said Mary, as she shall remaine and continue —

my Sole widow, all my Lands Tenements —

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Annuitie & other Hereditamts wtsoever wtin &c

appurtenc sett lying and being wthin the Parishe of

St Nicholas aforesaid Chittham Cuckstone St-

Margarett next Rochester Shore in the said Counte-

of Kent in the Citie of London or elsewhere wthin

the Realme of England. And if the said Maryan

may againe Then I will into the same Maryan

one Annuitie or Yrly. Rent of twenty marke by

the Yeare issuing and going out of all my Landes

and Tenemts in Chittham St. Margarett Cuxstone &

London during the Natural Life of my Trusty in the

Yeare, that is the Annuciacon of our Lady the Nativity

of St. John the Baptist the feaste of Michell

the Archangell, & the Nativity of our Lord & ymediate Successor

and for Lack of Payment it shall be Lawfull for the

said Mayan and her Assigns to distreine in the p'mises

or any parte p'cell of the said Mayan after the said Marriage

or dyeing of the said Mayan We the said

Richard Watts the Testator further will & that

the Mayor of the said Cittye of Rochester at Hall

tyme being, together with William Stratton William Hall

Richard Wilkinson now Principall Citizen of the said

Cittye, and George Maplesden of the same Cittye my

brother in Law, George Swanton of Shyle of

Shirye, and John Nicolson of Wrotham the elder in

the said County, or any iiij or iij of the Survivors of them

or for default or Lack of iiij or vij of them being Desiased

Item that the said Mayor & Corporac aforesaid for the

time being together wth iiij Principall Citizens of the same

city for the time being shall sell my said Principall

house or Tenement called Satyn and the Messuage

or house thereunto annexed wth John Slyer now dwelling

in, together with all the Cloose Orchards Gardens and

other the Membrs & Appurtenncs belonging unto the

same, and all my Stuff of furniture plate Utensills

of houshold & houshold stuffe sett down within and

contained in an Inventory by me already made, and all my

said Leases and Estate of Yeares yet to come and unexpired.

Wch Sale shall be made by the Wittnes aforesaid

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at the first Eyre that they may or can make publick

Notice thereof given in the parish Church of St Nicholas

aforesaid on two Several Sonday's at the most Assembly

of People there And also by publick Notice to

be given upon one Market day holden in Rochester

aforesaid, That the said Testator aforesaid and other Her

Majesties, shall be sold and the Money thereof had and

received shall be bestowed and imployed towards Her

intents and purposes as hereafter shall be expressed

that is to wit, To my brother Edward Watts and unto

his Children and to the Survivor of them or the

Parents amongst them and of the Residue Our Stock

the said Testator shall put forth the same to gain profit by Land

yearly profits to be bestowed employed

and Proportion of Money to be made and continued for

1

9

and towards the yearly and perpetuall Relief comfort and

Sustentacon of an Hono[ur]able howse and such poore people as

shall be hereafter limitted named and expressed, that it be with

first that the said Almes howse already erected

and standing by the Market Crosse within the Citie of

Rochester aforesaid, wch Almes howse shall likewise

and Dilye be that there be redified added and provided

wth such Roomes as be there allready provided six

Severall Roomes wth Chimneyes for the Comfort placing

and abiding of the poore wthin the said Citie, And also

to be made apte and Convenient place therein for by good

Materiall or Stockadt and other good and Sufficient

Inmates to harbor or lodge in poore Travellers or a-

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Wayfaring Men, being no common Rogues nor Gypsies, and

they the said Wayfaring Men, to harbor and lodge therein

no longer then one Night unless Sickness or the Cause further

And that Poor folks dwelling shall keep the

house Sweet, make the Beds ready to the Inmates, keep

the same sweet, and orderly intreate the said Poor

Travellers, and to every of the said poor Travellers at

their first coming in to have iiij^d, and they shall warm

them at the Fyre, of the Resident within the said house

if need be, with Change of the poor Travellers aforesaid

shall be maintained & continued of the yearly profits

rysing of the said Stock lying unemployed to the

said purpose And I will that the said Mayor

//

or Mayo.r & other p'sons after named for the building amending

and intarging of the said Almes howse at the begynning shall

have full power & Authority by these p'sents to fell

cutt downe all such Timbr & other woode as shall growe

upon any of my Landes sett and lyeing in Chittham aforesaid

& other places, and also every xxx yeare then following

to be felled as aforesaid for the p'petuall Contynuance and

Maintenance of the said Almes howse and the Inmates

of the same, the Spring thereof at every felling to be

made knowne to the p'sents. Provided

allwaies that the Stock wyring of the sale of

all the p'misses reckoned and maintained to the

uttermost of their power by such as be trusted for

with soe as the yearly profitts and Improvements therof

may be improved by the Mr aforesaid soe that the

Stock be not diminished as nigh as may be And

will and ordeyne unto the Maior & principall

Citizens or Commonalte of the Citty of Rothebie aforesaid

or by any other Name or Name as they be incorporated

& theire Successors for ever all my Landes Tenemts

Hereditamts with the Appurtenances except

my Copiehold Tenemt called Batts and the Tenemt

that John Fryer dwelleth in with the Appurtenances

wch I forbeare I have willed to be sold & the yearly

profitts and Rents of the said Landes shall be

the buylding and repayring & increasing of this aforesaid

& Allowe howse or abiding howse neare the Corne rowe in
Dorchester aforesaid, And for the prouision of flotes hemp
Iron wood & other Necessary Stuffe wth the prof
of the said Office & worke, according vnto the Purvey of
& Certeine Estatute made at Westminster in the xiijth Ye-
yeare of the Reigne of our most gracious Ladye Elizabeth
an Act for
touching the Building of the Loope & worke, & the
auoiding of Idlenesse, & for the further Reliefe of such
as bee poore & impotent, of the Statutes of this Realme
will grant & allow vnto Ye yearly profitt of my a
Landes I haue graunted downe & called and valued
at thirty & nine yearly Lett, at this present, That is to
say, my Landes and Tenements in Chatham aforesaid
xiijli vjs. viijd & My Landes & Tenements in St Margarets

v. £ My Lands and Tenem^ts in Haylton £8 My lands £
Tenem^ts in Cockston £4 My Windmill at Skerm^r vj £
Also my Tenem^t at Longlan^d in London viij £
Summa Totalis xxxxvij . xvj^s . viij^d Q^d wherof—

for^r I the said Testator have w^th my Principall hous-
hold Stuff wth the Appurtenc^s & my said Lease-
hold & Howsholde to be sold and to be vsed & imployed
as ye aforesaid So, my mind & will is that the
said Playes^r for the time being and the other ye-
forappointed to make the said Sale, shall have—
towards their Costs charges and paines ther-
in xxxx^s
Provided alwaies & my will is that ye Major
and all the Citizens and Comminalty aforesaid and their

Successors of the City of Rochester or by any other Name
or Names they be more graced immediately after the Sale
of my said Wares called Salt & other the premises
shall become bound & obliged unto my next heir
or heirs Male or my Eldest heir female in Blood for Lack
of heirs male, in a Double Summe of Money of the
Value of the said Salt or Stock that they shall be
the Uttermost of their power to see and maintain the
Stock aforesaid, and the yearly Gain & profitt
thereof arising shall employ unto the Vse & purpose
aforesaid. But chiefly and principally to the relief &
comfort of the said poor strangers or wayfaring
people And also I will that my heir or heirs

make Accompt unto my Heirs or Assigns as yt aforesaid

That then if the said Testator his Sonne that my next Heir

in Blood shall have and hold unto him & his Heirs for

ever unto the Only Use of the poor and to the Intents

& Limitacions afore Expressed Especially for the Relife and

the Comfort of the poor and Wayfaring men & not to

any other Uses intents or Purposes all the Money or

Stock made or arising of the Sale of the said hous-

ed Satisfy and other the premisses And they my

said next Heirs in Blood shall Bind Bownden unto the

said Mayr. Principall Citizens Commonalty of Roch-ster

aforesaid or by whatever the Name or Names they be in-

corporated by their Seuerall & Double Seales

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of the said Stock to do and execute in all things as the
same Mayor Aldermen & for-named should have done and
accomplished And if my said Wife or Heirs &c fail-
to do and in as ye aforesaid I will that the
Executors & Feoffees in God Edmond Archbishop of Canterbury
John Bishop of Rochester if they or then Living
or to their Successors shall have the Rule & govern-
of the Stock of the Premises to such Uses intents and
Limitations as before in this my present Testament and
last will are assigned directed and prescribed as I hope
in God they will do. Provided allwai-
that neither the said Mayor Principall Citi-
Commonalty or their Successors nor any of their
or their holding the Premises according unto my

my said Wife and Executrix shall not Let forth nor

Lend in part of the said Stock or money to any other per-

sons the Citizens of the said City of Rochester, and not to Cor-

Lent or putt forth to any person above 7 Years at the

most. And that there be good Bond taken for the repaying

of the same And not to take by the years above 7. in the

same And also my will is that the said Mayor.

Aldermen and Citizens & Commonalty aforesaid and their

Successors shall not demise or Lett to farme any of the

Lands Tenements and Hereditaments aforesaid over and

above Twenty and one Years, and for such yearly Rent

or Farme as shall be reasonably worth without

fraud or Dissymulation, to be imployed and Bestowed as y

aforesaid, And the former or old Farmers of the premises

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shall not be removed as long as they will & truely pay
as much as any others or that the same is reasonable worth
AND if any Ambiguity Doubt or Question shall
hereafter arise or grow upon any sentence clause or
word in this my Will and Testament that the
same from time to time shall & may be explained construed
and expounded by the said Two Reverend ffathers in
Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Rochester
or their Successors and the same Lords and Directors
the said Testator will and Ordains to be the
full Explanacon and Judgment of the same for
ever any thing or things to the Contrary in any wise
notwithstanding AND I ordaine and make the

Lord Mayor my Welbeloved wife, my sole Executrix
of this my will and Testament to accomplish the same
in all points accordingly And I do make my
Brother in Law John Swanton, and my Cousin
John Nicolson the Younger of the same, Esqrs
being Witnesses. By me,

Ric[d] Watts.

Concordat cum Testamento
Originali facto d. Bitæ Collacon
Per Me

Jo. Rhodes
Notarium Publicum.

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Mr Whatts
this will

CHW/A2/A/1