

The will of Francis Newman of Westhouse in Piddletrenthide said to be dated 1794

from the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre - Reference: 754/187

To all whom there Presents (sic) may concern – This is the last Will and Testament of me Francis Newman of Westhouse in Piddletrenthide Dorset written with my own hand, whereby I strictly enjoin my Friends and Legatees not to raise any disputes whatever in the construction hereof disclaiming their Legacies void by so doing.

Promising this first, I give and devise unto my Dear Wife for the Term of her Widowhood only as thereto entitled by the Custom of the Manors of Piddletrenthide aforesaid – All that my dwelling house called Westhouse with the Estates and Lands thereto belonging now in my possession for her own benefaction only – I likewise give unto her the command and use of all my stock thereon, together with the use of all my implements in Husbandry by me used in the Farming way, firmly relying on her promise to leave the same in as good order and condition as she at my death finds it, together with the use of all my Furniture Household Goods, Stock of Liquors & everything else to me belonging & in my possession for the said Term of her Widowhood on her like promise of doing justice to her successor my grandson Francis James Newman Rogers to whom at her decease or Forfeiture by Marriage I give and devise my Dwelling House and Lands with all and singular its appurtenances as also all other Things before given to him as his own and sole propriety not without hopes of his making it his Place of residence in due time when it shall happen.

I likewise give and devise to my wife All that my new built house called Easthouse¹ now vacant with all its appurtenances, with the use of the Furniture and Household goods there found at my decease on the same terms as before mentioned on her like promise of leaving the whole in good order at the determination of her right therein to my said grandson Francis James Rogers to whom I give and devise the whole before given to her for all my estate ad interest therein then to come with the power to him only of renewal if occasion requires.

I likewise give unto my said Dear Wife an annuity in clean rent charge of one hundred and forty pounds to be paid to her at her house in Piddletrenthide by two equal half yearly payments on the 1st day of April and the 5th day of October in every year with the payment whereof ?? charges/changes ?? my real and Personal Estate whereof I shall die seized or possessed

I likewise give unto my aforesaid dear wife my postchaise and a pair of the best coach horses with their harness and the black mare for her servant and being well acquainted with her charitable good disposition to the deserving poor I give unto her the interest of the sum of two hundred pounds on four policies due on the Wincanton Turnpike to be distributed by her at her discretion amongst my old ??? servants, committing them to her care

I give unto my granddaughter Frances Charlotte Newman an annuity or clear sum of £40 payable to her guardian her uncle the Rev James Rogers during her father's life only when she will be otherwise well

¹ Francis wrote "Westhouse" in his original manuscript.

provided for, by two equal half yearly payments on the said 1st day of April and 5th day of October in every year.

To all my tenants to whom I have granted leases and copies of court roll as Lord of the several manors of North Cadbury South Cadbury and Sparkford except late servant John Ludwell who proved an unfaithful ungrateful servant and therefore I declare his lease void having received no consideration whatsoever for the same

To my grandson Francis James Rogers and his heirs all that my farm and lands with the titles and all other rights thereto belonging called the Parsonage and Improprate Rectory of Queen Camel in the county of Somerset and also all other my real and personal estate whatsoever whereof I shall be seized or possess hereby declaring and appointing him my sole heir and executor and his father the Rev James Rogers and my friend Mr Edwin Tomkins his trustees and guardians irreversible during his minority of 21 years

On the twenty sixth day of May in the Year of our Lord Seventeen Hundred and Ninety Seven administration (with the will annexed) of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of Francis Newman late of Westhouse in Piddletrenthide in the County of Dorset ??? was granted to the Reverend James Rogers clerk one of the residuary legatees in trust named in the said will during the minority of Francis James Newman Rogers the grandson of the said deceased and sole executor and residuary legatee named in the said will having been first sworn duly to administer.