APPENDIX

Will of John Rastrick, 1727[1]

/82/ IN The Name of God Amen I John Rastrick of Kings Lynn in the County of Norfolk Clerk being mindfull of my mortality and the uncertainty of this present Life and being Sommon'd by age and infirmities to bethink my Self of my Departure out of this world and having thro' Gods mercy the free use of my reason and understanding Do make this my last Will and Testament, written all with my own hand in manner and form following first I Comitt my Soul into the hands of Jesus Christ my Glorified Redeemer and Intercessor and by his mediation into the hands of [2] God my reconciled father with trust and hope of the heavenly felicity and my Body to be decently Interr'd without Unnecessary Expences at the Discretion of my Executrix in hopes of a glorious Resurrection to eternall Life thro' the merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour and as Concerning that Earthly Estate wherewith God hath blessed me which I Shall leave behind me I dispose thereof as followeth Imprimis I doe hereby ratifye and confirm the Joynture that I have given to my dear wife Elizabeth by Indent[3] bearing date the 29th day of May Anno Domini 1696 of my Estate in Heckington and Asgaby[4] in the County of Lincoln willing that it goe according to the Tenor of the said Joynture and Settlement as also that Estate in Sutton St Marys and in Holland in Lincolnshire which Jane the quondam wife of James Horn Enjoyed as her Joynture by her said Husband and unto which my Son William Rastrick is heir at Law this (with the forementioned Estate at Heckington and Asgarby) I do hereby as far as I have power ratifye and confirm to the said my Son William as his Inheritance to be Enjoyed by him after the decease of his mother my present <dear> wife Elizabeth above mentioned Item I give and bequeath my now Dwelling house with the Gardens and appurtenances Situate lying and being in Spinner Lane in Kings Lynn in Norfolk aforesaid which I purchased of my good friend

[1] Norfolk Record Office, Norwich, Will Register, Kirke, 82–84 (Will of John Rastrick of King's Lynn, 1727). Both wills are transcribed keeping original spelling, capitalization, and punctuation. Abbreviations have been expanded.

[2] *Jesus Christ* struck through.

[3] *Indent*: Indenture.

[4] *Asgaby*: Asgarby, Lincs.

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Mr John Williamson Deceased as also that Close or pasture conteining by Estimation four acres more or less lying in Kirkton near Boston in Lincolnshire near the gate called Forefen Stow which I bought of Gregory Mapleson late in the tenure of widow Lee of Brother Toft as also that three acres of pasture lying in Sutton St Marys in Holland in Lincolnshire aforesaid Given to my wife Elizabeth by her great uncle Mr John Horne /83/ of Lynn Regis in Norfolk aforesaid Unto my five Daughters Sarah Martha Hannah Ann and Deborah Willing and appointing that the said lands be sold and the money be Divided amongst them for their portions at the Discretion of their Mother my present dear wife Elizabeth aforesaid She having hereby bequeathed to her a power to Live in the said my mansion house in Spinner Lane in Lyn as long as She pleases and to retein or hold the other Lands in this paragraph bequeathed for her and her familys maintenance till her said Daughters Shall marry or be Some other honest way Disposed of by or with her their said Mothers liking and Consent and if any of them Dye before they be soe disposed of I will that the monys raised upon the said Lands be divided amongst the Survivors at her/their mothers Discretion Item my Will is that if my Son William Should Depart this Life having no family or heir of his own that then (after my wife Elizabeth's Decease) all my Estate and lands before mentioned or value of them when Sold (Excepting my four acres in Kirkton) shall be equally Divided amongst my Daughters aforesaid Share and Share like and if any of them die while Single her portion Shall be equally divided amongst her Surviving Sisters and my Will is that in case my Son William Should die without heir of his own Body that then the before Excepted four acres in Kirkton Shall be accounted no part of my Estate so Divided but it Shall be given and I hereby bequeath it in that case only to the Church of Kirkton in Holland aforesaid where I was Sometime Minister as an augmentation to the vicaridge there for Ever according to and by virtue of an act of parliament not Long Since made in such cases provided that is impowering and to make and so Setling such augmentactions and this Conditional provision I make partly in Consideration of a legacy once left me and given to me as minister there and partly also because my Daughters will in the said Case of their Brothers Death have Competent portions without the said pasture Item I give all my Books manuscripts mathematical Instruments Tellescopes Double Barometer and all other things whatsoever of that kind found in my study and parler adjoining Shelves Drawers Cases &c as also my picture done by Deconing[5] To my Son William Rastrick provided

[5]Presumably Daniel de Koninck (1660–after 1720), whose portrait of Lord Chancellor Peter King (1669–1734) is in the National Portrait Gallery, London (NPG 470).

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and upon condition that he continue a minister and preacher of the Gospell whether in a Conforming or nonConforming Capacity But if he should not be a minister or Continue a preacher So that he shall have little occasion for them or Should depart this life in a Single State and leave no Son a Scholler to Enjoy them or capable of using them that my will is that if any pious learned Studious minister Conformist or non conformist Shall marry any of my Daughters he Shall have all my Books manuscripts &c before mentioned over and above what her portion as before provided or bequeathed Shall be But if that Should not be then my will is that yet my said Library shall not be auctioned out or Sold to any Booksellers but be disposed of to raise a publick Library for the use of the Dissenting Ministers in the City of Norwich leaving it to their liberty what (by Collection made) to give my Surviving Children for them or my Son William if he live and yet desist from preaching or the Dissenting ministers there for the time being may treat /84/ with the City and upon agreement for their own free use of it add my library to theirs selling the lesser of the Duplicates and with that mony buying Such Books as Shall yet be leanting[6] to the whole and all to be managed at the Discretion of the said Dissenting ministers in Conjunction with an Equall number of the City Clergy whom they the Dissenting ministers shall chuse Item I give to my Son John Rastrick now or late in Carolina if he be yet living the Sum of five pounds of lawfull mony of England to be pay'd him within three months next after his return into England if he so return and also to his Children (if any such be prov'd to be) the Sum of twenty Shillings each to be paid them within the like terme after their arrival in England and if he or they Shall Settle and be diligent he in his Calling (which is that of a Stocking weaver) or they in any honest calling and Shall be of Sober life and Conversation then I hereby recommend to my Executrix to give him or them Such further Encouragement as She according to her ability and at her Discretion Shall think fitt Item I give unto my Son Samuel Rastrick at London Silk dyer the Sum of ten Shillings also to my Daughter Elizabeth the wife of Edmund Burton of Wisbich the Sum of five Shillings to be paid them within Six months after my Decease they having had their portions before Item I give to our maid Servant Susannah Hating (to be paid her within three months after my decease) the Sum of forty Shillings over and above her due wages Item all the rest of my goods and Chattles undisposed of I give and bequeath unto my said dear wife Elizabeth whom I do hereby constitute and appoint Sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament to see my debts discharged and my legacys or childrens portions paid and my Body decently

[6] *leanting*: leaning, supporting, tending to the character of the whole. *OED*.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0960116310000084 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Interr'd at the least Expence posable and I do desire my good friend Mr Nathaniel Kinderley of Sechy Bridg[7] to be Supervisor of this my last Will and Testament In witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal the Twenty Sixth day of July in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred twenty five John Rastrick Published and declared to be the last Will and Testament of John Rastrick the Testator and Signed and Sealed in the presence of us James Hackgill John Money Thomas Wilson

Will of Elizabeth Rastrick, 1733[8]

/289/ In the Name of God Amen I Elizabeth Rastrick of Kings Lynn in the County of Norfolk Widow being mindfull of my mortality and <the> uncertainty of this present Life and being Summon'd by age and Infirmitys to bethink my Self of my departure out of this world and having through Gods <mercy>[9] the free use of my Reason and Understanding do make this my last will and Testament in manner and form following First I commit my Soul into the hands of Jesus Christ my glorifyed Redeemer and Intercession [*sic*] and by his mediation into <the> hands of God my reconciled Father with trust and hope of the Heavenly Felicity and my Body to be decently interred without /290/ unnecessary Expences at the discretion of my Executor in hopes of a Glorious Resurrection to Eternal Life through the merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour and as concerning that part of my Earthly Estate (over and above what is dispos'd of by the will of my late Husband) consisting in money and Houshold Goods I dispose thereof amongst my Children as followeth. Inprimis I give and bequeath unto my five Daughters Sarah Martha Hannah Ann and Deborah that two hundred pounds which was left me by my Cousen John Horn late Schoolmaster at Lyn to be divided equally amongst my said Daughters Share and share alike my son William relinquishing his right or Title to any part or portion of the same Item I give to my Son William the Clock Standing in the Hall Mr Horns Picture my mourning Ring one Silver Spoon and the Drawers wherein my writings are kept To my Eldest Daughter Sarah I give the best Bed in the best Chamber the large oval Table in the Hall and my Silver Tankard To my Daughter Martha I give the best Chest of Drawers in the best Chamber the blue Bed wherein I used to lie in my own Lodging Chamber the Dutch

[7] *Sechy Bridg*: Setchey Bridge, Norfolk, four miles south of King's Lynn.

[8] Norfolk Record Office, Norwich, Will Register, Goats, 289–291 (Will of Elizabeth Rastrick, 1733).

[9] Replacing *grace*, above the line.

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painting which hangs in the Hall one of my lesser oval Tables and two Silver Spoons To my Daughter Hannah I give the green Bed in my Lodging Chamber one of the Lesser oval Tables and two Silver Spoons To my Daughter Ann I give the red Bed in the new Room the Table in the best Chamber and two Silver Spoons To my Daughter Deborah I give the Green Bed in the new Room the Table in my /291/ Lodging Chamber two Silver Spoons with all my China Ware and Tea Spoons and the least of the Dressing boxes To my Cousin Mary Buckingham I give my plain gold Ring To my maid Servant Susannah Hatin I give the Bed in the Garret wherein she lies with all that belongs to it as also so much of my wearing apparell as my Daughters shall think fit to Spare her desiring that the best thereof may be divided equally amongst my said Daughters Item I give and bequeath all my Books and Linnen pewter and brass to be divided equally amongst my Daughters aforesaid as they shall agree amongst themselves as also my Cane Chairs willing that each of them have one as likewise the rest of my Chests of Drawers not before disposed of to be divided amongst them willing and appointing that she who has the worst Chest of drawers have also my largest Dressing Box and as to the rest of my houshold goods and furniture my will is they likewise be divided equally <amongst my daughters or else to be sold and the money to be equally divided>[10] amongst them as they themselves shall think fit And I do hereby constitute and appoint my Son William Sole Executor of this my last will and Testament to See my debts discharged and my Body decently Interred at the least Expence possible. In witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this fourth day of June in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty Three

Elizabeth Rastrick

Published and declared to be the last will and Testament of Elizabeth Rastrick and Sign'd and Seal'd in the presence of us John Cary Jane Cary John Money. 4th December 1740

Mr William Rastrick Executor within named was legally Sworn before me Thomas Pyle Surrogate

[10]This line has been interlined and is probably a mistake of copying the will into the will register.

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