

**will of William Armitstead 1852 of Upper Bentham Yeoman**

This is the last will and testament of me William Armitstead of Upper Bentham in the West Riding of the county of York Yeoman made whilst I am of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding. In the first place I order and direct all my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses to be paid and discharged by my executors hereinafter named. Then I give and bequeath unto my nephew Thomas Leeming the sum of £100. I give and bequeath unto my niece Alice the wife of Richard Turner of Bentham aforesaid the sum of £50 and to their son Nathaniel the sum of £50 to my nieces and the wife of Adam Lawson and Elizabeth the wife of James Dugdale the sum of £100 apiece. I also give and bequeath unto the three daughters of my late nephew Thomas Armitstead the sum of £100 apiece all which legacies I direct to be paid at the end of eighteen calendar months after my decease but if any of them my said nieces or daughters of my late nephew should happen to die without lawful issue before their said legacies become payable the legacy of her or them so dying shall go to the surviving sisters or sister but if any of them should die leaving lawful issue such issue shall have and be entitled to their deceased parents' legacy as well original as accruing if more than one share and share alike the interest thereof during their respective minorities to be applied for and towards their support. I give and bequeath unto George Sedgwick of Staggarth all my household goods and furniture chattels money and securities for money and all other my personal estates and affects whatsoever and wheresoever. I give and devise unto him the said George Sedgwick and to his heirs and assigns for ever all that my messuage or dwelling house now in the occupation of James Greenep together with the butcher's shop adjoining thereto situate in Upper Bentham aforesaid. Also all my moitie or half part of and in any pew in the South Gallery of Bentham church. Also all that my messuage tenement and estate called Gillbeck with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging situate and being in Mewith in the parish of Bentham and now in the possession of Christopher Bailey as tenant thereof. I give and devise unto William Sedgwick of Staggarth aforesaid for and during the term of his natural life all that my messuage tenement and estate with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging called and known by the name of Over Bottom situate and being in Mewith aforesaid and now in the possession of John Harrison as tenant thereof and from and after his decease I give and devise the same estate and premises unto and equally amongst all and every his lawful children their heirs and assigns for ever as tenants in common and not as joint tenants. Provided nevertheless that if the said William Sedgwick should die without leaving lawful issue then I give and devise the same estate and premises unto the right heirs of the said William Sedgwick his or her heirs and assigns for ever. I give and devise unto Elizabeth Sedgwick of Staggarth aforesaid for and during the term of her natural life all that my messuage tenement and cottage house lands and premises with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging situate in and near to Upper Bentham aforesaid with my allotments upon Bentham Moor all which premises I lately purchased from Richard Parkinson and others and are now in the possession of William Halstead or his undertenants and from and after her decease I give and devise the same estate and premises unto and equally amongst all and every her lawful children their heirs and assigns for ever as tenants in common and not as joint tenants. Provided nevertheless that if the said Elizabeth Sedgwick shall die without leaving lawful issue then I give and devise the same estate and

premises unto the right heirs of the said Elizabeth Sedgwick his or her heirs and assigns for ever. Provided also that she the said Elizabeth Sedgwick do pay unto my executor the sum of £300 for and towards payment of the legacies hereinbefore bequeathed and also that my executors do have and receive the rent of the estates and premises hereinbefore devised to the said William Sedgwick and Elizabeth Sedgwick for the period of eighteen calendar months from the time of my decease. And lastly I appoint the said George Sedgwick sole executor hereof. In witness whereof I the said William Armitstead have to the foot or end of this my last will and testament this 23rd day of April 1851

signed by the said William Armitstead in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses signed William Armitstead

Whaley Willam, John Bentham, Elizabeth Dark

On the third day of March in the year of our Lord 1852 this will of William Armitstead late of Upper Bentham in the parish of Bentham in the county of York within the archdeaconry of Richmond in the diocese of Ripon, yeoman, who departed this life on or about the 15th day of May 1851 was proved in common form, and George Sedgwick of Bentham, in the parish of Bentham in the county of York, the sole executor therein named was sworn well and faithfully to execute and perform the same, and so forth, and that according to the best of the knowledge information and belief of the said George Sedgwick the said sole executor the whole of the goods, chattels and credits of which the said testator William Armitstead died possessed within the Dioceses of Chester and Manchester and Archdeaconry of Richmond, in the Diocese of Ripon exclusive of what the said testator might have been possessed of, or intitled to as a trustee, for any other person or persons, and not beneficially, and without deducting anything on account of the debts due and owing, by and from the said testator, were under the value of £450.

Before me Richard Denny surrogate (?)

## **WILL of Elizabeth Tower of Bentham 1732**

### **Lancashire Record Office**

In the name of God Amen February the seventh day in the year of our Lord according to the computation of the church of England 1732 I Elizabeth Tower of Bentham in the parish of Bentham and county of York being sick and weak of body but of sound and perfect memory thanks be to god for the same and knowing the uncertainty of this transitory life and that all ... must yield to death when it shall please God to call do make and order in this my last will and Testament in manner and form following (viz) first and principally I commit and commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my maker trusting in and through the meritorious death and passion of Jesus Christ my merciful Redeemer to receive full free pardon and forgiveness of all my offences and my body to be buried in Christian manner at the discretion of my trustees hereafter named Robert Cumberland and Robert Overend both of Over Bentham in the county of York. I give to Anne Towers of Longrigg the sum of three pounds. I give to my grand son Henry Tower all the reversion and remainder of my manse and goods making and constituting Robert Cumberland and Robert Overend my sole trustees of this my last will and testament the[y] paying all my just debts and funeral expenses [I] hereby revoke and disannul all former and other wills by me heretofore made this to declare this my last will and testament likewise if Henry Tower my said grand son do not attain to the age of 20 years he only shall have the interest paid him yearly by my trustees for maintenance. If he the said Henry Tower my grandson do not attain 20 years old then I order and my son Henry Tower of Longrigg in the parish of Giggleswick to have a reversion and remainder of my manse and if he my said son do not claim to that time then to his children equally divided amongst them. In witness whereof I have said my hand and seal the day and year above written.

Elizabeth Tower her mark

Sealed signed read published and delivered in sight and presence of us

William Walker Giles Procter Elizabeth Overend

On the 11th day of May in the year of our Lord 1733 Robert Cumberland and Robert Overend joint executors in the within -written will named made oath that it is the last will and testament of the Elizabeth Tower late of Bentham in the parish of Bentham deceased and that they will well and truly execute and perform the same by paying her debts and legacies herein bequeathed as far as her goods and personal estate will extend and the law shall bind them and that to the best of their knowledge the inventory now exhibited is a true one. This oath was made before me  
Thomas Bowes Commissioner

A true inventory of the goods and chattels and money of Elizabeth Towers of  
Bentham widow deceased appraised by those whose names is hereunto subscribed this  
23rd of February 1732/3

Imprimis her purse and apparel	3-5-0
one pair of bedstocks and bedding for one bed	0-5-0
three pewter dishes	0-4-0
five ....	0-0-3
one bottle	-
four pots	0-0-2
one stool	0-0-1
two brass pans	0-2-0
a glass case	0-0-6
a frying pan	0-0-6
a range	0-6-0
a chest	0-5-0
some beef	0-2-6
debts owing to the deceased	25-8-6
	-----
	29-19-6

Prized by us  
William Walker John Howson James Tatham

Obligation in English