

## George GATES (1747-1792)

*Transcript of the Will of George Gates dated 5 Mar 1787 and proved at London 17 Apr 1792 – Prerogative Court of Canterbury Prob 11/1217*

This is the last Will and Testament of me George Gates of the parish of Saint Margaret ... the City of Rochester in the County of Kent Gentleman made published and declared in sound mind and with ... understanding the fifth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and [87?] in manner following (that is to say) ... I make nominate and appoint [my brother-in-law William Baker](#) of Town ... in the said County of Kent Gentleman and [Thomas Knightengale of the City of Rochester](#) aforesaid Esquire joint Executors of this my Will. Also I give unto [my sisters Frances Baker, Catherine Gates and Ann Tait?](#) twenty guineas apiece to be paid to them respectively by my said Executors within three months next after my decease. Also I give and devise all ... my freehold messuages lands tenaments and ... parts and ... of messuages lands tenaments and ... situate lying and being in the several parishes of Saint Nicholas Rochester ... ... Saint Mary's? and ... or ... in the said County of Kent unto [Sarah Gates the widow of my late brother Edward Gates](#) and ... assigns during [the minority of her Son George Gates my nephew](#) the ... to enable her by and with the rents and profits thereof to bring up and educate her son during his minority and when and as soon as he shall have attained his age of twenty one years then I give and devise one moiety or half part of my said freehold estate unto him the said [George Gates](#) his heirs and assigns for ever and I give and devise the other moiety or half part thereof unto the said [Sarah Gates](#) and her assigns for and during the term of her natural life in Case she shall so long continue her present widowhood and from and immediately after her Decease or ... marriage then I ... and Devise the said moiety or half part unto the said [George Gates](#) his heirs and assigns forever if the said [George Gates](#) ... live to attain his age of twenty one years but in case the said [George Gates](#) shall be under that age and without ... of his Body lawfully begotten then I give and devise all and every my said freehold estates subject to the Estate for Life of the said [Sarah Gates](#) as to ... moiety or half part thereof [unto my niece Frances Gates \(daughter of ... said Sarah Gates\)](#) her heirs and assigns for ever. Also I give unto the said [William Baker and Thomas Knightengale](#) the sum of two hundred pounds upon trust that they and the ... survivor of them and the Executors or Admins of ... survivor shall and so put and place the same out at interest in their names on Government or other Securities and pay and apply the Dividends and Interest thereof for and towards the bringing up of my said \_\_\_ [Frances Gates](#) during her minority and which and so soon as she have attained an age of twenty one years then to pay assign or transfer the same to the said [Frances Gates](#) her executors \_\_\_ and assigns to whom I give and bequeath the same but in case of her death under age and without having any child or children of her body the I give and bequeath the said sum of two hundred pounds unto [my said nephew George Gates](#) at his age of twenty one years and so desire and direct my said Trustees to pay and apply the Interest or Dividends thereof in the meantime for and towards his maintenance and education. Also I give to [my said nephew George Gates](#) my \_\_\_ and Seals. Also I give unto the said [William Baker and Thomas Nightengale](#) all that message \_\_\_ tenaments wherein I now \_\_\_ with the Yard Garden and Land thereto belonging and which \_\_\_ by virtue of a Lease from the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Rochester and all and every my household page linen china and furniture and all my ready money and securities for money matters effects and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever and not herin before or hereby specifically given or disposed of Upon Trust that they the said [William Baker and Thomas Nightingale](#) and the \_\_\_ survivor of them and the Executors or \_\_\_ of such survivor shall and do as soon after my decease as immediately may be sell and dispose of my said \_\_\_ leasehold message or tenament lands and premises and my said household goods and effects (except such goods effects and furniture as shall be thought \_\_\_ to be reserved) for the most money that can he had or gotten for the same and out of the money arising by such sale together with all other my monies and personal estate shall and do pay and discharge any just debts \_\_\_ funeral expenses and other incidental charges and afterwards put and \_\_\_ out the remainder thereof in their names on Government or other good securities and pay and moiety or half part of the Interest or Dividends of such money so to be \_\_\_ out as aforesaid unto the said [Sarah Gates](#) or her assigns for

and during the term of her natural life in case she shall so long remain a Widow and also pay and apply the other moiety or half part of with Interest or Dividends for and towards the maintenance or bringing up of [my said nephew George Gates](#) during his minority and when and so soon as he shall have attained his age of twenty one years then upon trust to pay assign or transfer one equal half part or share of the said money so to be placed out unto and to the use of him the said [George Gates](#) his executors assigns and from and immediately after the death or marriage of the said [Sarah Gates](#) then I do hereby order and direct the said Trustees to pay assign or transfer the other moiety or half part of the said money unto him the said [George Gates](#) at his age of twenty one years and apply the Interest or Dividends thereof for his use during his minority but in case [my said nephew George Gates](#) shall die under the age of twenty one years and without leaving any child or children of his body lawfully begotten then I give and bequeath the said money so to be placed out at interest as aforesaid subject to the Estate for Life of the said [Sarah Gates](#) as to the Dividends or Interest of one half part thereof as aforesaid unto my said [Frances Gates](#) at her age of twenty one years also I give to the said [William Baker](#) twenty guineas for his [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) and I direct that they my said Trustees and Executors shall from time to time deduct and retain out of the Trust Estate and premises all such charges and expenses as they [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) or any of them shall expend or [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) put into and that they shall not be answerable or accountable for any loss which shall or may happen unless the same shall be by or through his wilful neglect or default [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) shall one of them be [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) or accountable for the Arts Deeds receipts or payments of the other of them but oath for his own Arts Deeds Receipts payments executors and [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) only and I revoke all former Wills by me made witness whereof I the said [George Gates the Testator](#) [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) to this my last Will and Testament contained in three sheets of paper to [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) set my hand and this the last sheet affixed any my Seal the day and Year first above written Geo Gates signed sealed published and declared by the said George Gates the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses hereto. [R. Boghurst, Willm Harridge, John Sparks](#). This Will was proved at London the seventeenth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two before the Worshipful [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) Doctor of Law and Surrogate of the Right Honourable Sir William Wynne Knight also Doctor of Law Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of William Baker and Thomas Nightingale the Executors named in the said Will to whom administration of all and singular the goods chattels and [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) of the Deceased was granted having been first sworn duly to administer. [\[Note on the side\]](#) On the 30th day of June 1828 admns of the goods chattels and credits of George Gates late of the parish of Saint Margaret next the City of Rochester in the County of Kent Gentleman & left unadministered by William Baker and Thomas Nightingale Esquires the Exors and residuary legatees [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) first named in the said deceased will and also by [Sarah Gates Widow the relict](#) and one of the residuary legatees during life or widowhood named in the said will was granted to [Edward Leight Pemberton of Salisbury Square in the City of London Gentleman](#) as a [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) for the purpose named by and on the part and behalf of [Sir Henry Fitzherbert of Lissington? Hall in the County of Derby](#) [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) for only as concerns all the right title and [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) of [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) in and to certain messuages or tenaments land [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) and [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) situate in West Farleigh and [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) in the County of Kent and the residue and remainder of two certain terms of [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) therein [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) assigned to him the said decd by a certain [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) of three parts stated the 26 day of July 1776 and all benefit and advantage to be had recd and taken therefrom but no further [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) or otherwise in any other manner whatsoever having been first sworn duly to administer [the said Thomas Nightingale survived his Co Exor and died intestate](#). On the 1st day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety five administration (with the Will annexed) of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of George Gates late of the parish of Saint Margarets in the City of Rochester in the County of Kent deceased left unadministered by William Baker and Thomas Nightingale the Executors and residuary legatees in trust named in the said will now also deceased was granted to Sarah Gates widow one of the residuary legatees for life or during widowhood named in the said will having been first sworn duly to administer the said Thomas Nightingale surviving the said William Baker and dying intestate.

*Gentleman's Magazine 1792 p286*

The remains of the late Mr Geo Gates, attorney at law, coroner, and town clerk of Rochester, were deposited on the 23rd March last, in the parish church of St. Nicholas in that city. Naturally of a social and friendly disposition, in him was combined the gentleman, neighbour and friend, whose easy and pleasant deportment in every description of persons was invariably the same. In a political line his integrity was ever unimpeached; and the city of Rochester will long bear testimony of his independent principles, and that no influence whatever, either public or private, could estrange him from the cause he supported. In the prime of life he was a handsome, graceful figure, gay, lively, and of a sweet aspect, which, however, he retained but a few years, for the gout, an unenviable patrimony of his family, seized him at an early period of his life, and, by its reiterated attacks, at last totally undermined his constitution, and he fell a victim to that dreadful malady in the 44th year of his age, sincerely esteemed and lamented among a large and respectable circle of acquaintance.