

an honor testamento inquit ac approbatum et confirmatum. Et commissa sunt administratio omnis singularis  
bonorum suorum, creditorum et defuncte predicti executori De bene et fidele administrandi ut de pleno et  
fidei faveat sed die sua cum prius factum exhibebit, non obstante et vero computo reddendis illis sum  
Dei Evangelia faciat.

Coffin Seal  
Collyer

**In the name of god amen**

The xxviii day of January in the year of  
our Lord god a thousand fyre hundred xxxij. I Richard Collyer attorney and mercer of London  
being in hole mynde and good memorye larde be unto almighty god my maker and redeemer ioydeyn  
and make thilke my last testament and last will in manner and forme folowynge that it to say  
I bequeath my soule to almighty god and to the most gloriouse Virgin our lady and to all thyt holy  
companys of heryn and my body to be buried in holy sepulture and after my body buried I will  
that all my deths that I owe of right and conscience to be quide by myn executors or by theym  
ordened to be paide and after that done I will that all my goodes chattell and deths be devide  
into thre equall parts after the custome of London belonging wherof I will that ony part shall  
remain to latrym my wifre in name of her properte or dureye according to the custome of the  
Cite of London. The thred parte I geve and bequeath to George my sonne and Dorothee my daught  
equally to be devide and to them to be delivered when they shall come to their full age of xxiiij years  
or be married and if it shall happen any of them to decease or they come to their full age of xxiiij  
years or be married then I will that the partie of them haue the parte of the childre for  
deceased and if so be that both dye or they come to their full age of xxiiij years and not married then  
I will that their partes be devide into two equall parts wherof I will that latrym my wifre  
have ony parte of the bechyd hysing to do therwith what she wille to her ony proprie tye and  
the other parte therof to my self and to myn executors to the excomynicte of my bequeyst here  
after written and also the thred parte of my goodes chattell and deths the whiche of right to me  
longith. I residue also to my self and to myn executors to the excomynicte of my bequeyst hereafter  
folowynge first I bequeath to the high ayre of saint paulnes where I am entred for my tylles or  
oblations of any be forgotten in my deths. Also I bequeath to the poor prisoneys of Newgate dyng and to the  
poore prisoneys of Ludgate dyng and to cches of the Comteys vs and to the same orders of freres in  
London vs to every of the same ordery. Also I will that there be in the forsayd churche of saint  
pauynce for me an obite for the spore of fyre yeres next after my decease bifornynge aboute the same  
yeare dyng to prestys and clerkes and other charges paide and the residue therof to be distributed to  
the poore inhabitanys dwellyng vpon the same poysse also I will there be gyrym in the same poysse  
and the parisshe of our lady of swone by yeres during every yere in chyche of the said parisshe  
on lyke of chely to the poore inhabitanys of the same poysse. Also I will in the poysse churche  
of herffyn in sussex wher I was borne to haue an obite in the same churche with placys and  
dinge and masse of Regement by note prayng specially for my soule my fathres and mothes soule  
and all my kinnes and to haue xxviij the yere for the spore of fyre yeres next after my decease  
and the money to be delivred to the churche wardeyns and they to paye the prestys also tylles and  
other thinges according to the custome of the same poysse and to noo prestys of noon other poysse. The  
enclups to be spente in bred ale and chely according to the custome ther used at the distencion  
of the said churche wardeyns. Also I will that the same churche wardeyns haue delivred to them by myn  
executors thre pounds yearly for the spore of fyre yeres and therwith to lyue in leyt in herffyn or in  
other salt fylly as they thynke best and to be distributed and gyrym to the poore inhabitanys dwellyng  
vpon the same parisshe and the same churche wardeyns to haue for their labours my tylles and  
above the forsayd thre pounds to the intent that they shal take payne to bifornyn it well and profitably  
for the conforte of the poore people. Also I wolt that ther be fiftyn pounds sterlunge bifornyn on the  
high way betwene herffyn and Crawley in the County of sussex at the distencion of hym of both  
the said parisshes that it to say by of herffyn to be indifferently chosen of the same poysse at they shall  
think best such as be good and charitable men and wylle take payne for the honouer of god and the  
comforte of the travellis of the same poysse and in like maner hym to be chosen by the inhabitanys  
of Crawley to make the full nombre of my abonesaid. Also I will that ther be bifornyn fiftyn  
pounds sterlunge upon the high way betwene Crawley aforesaid and the parisshe of herffyn  
and that it be ordred by myn executors to be of the parisshe of herffyn and hym of the poysse  
of Crawley and fiftyn of the poysse of herffyn to be good men to be choyn by either of the inhabitanys  
in manner and forme aforesaid. Also I bequeath to my mother of she be lyving yericly during her  
lyfe byt yng my self and a blak gownd at my deth. Also I bequeath unto Dorothee my sister to be my  
widow a blak gyronne price xvij mrs also I will that alise my sister haue dyng and a blak gownd  
price xvij mrs also I will that Jane Gente my sister haue a blak gyronne price xvij. Also I will  
that my deth son Elizabeth ffremayn the wyfe of John ffremayn goldsmith haue a blak gownd

24

put one and a kyng of golde price doys Item I bequeath to George Polynsay myne a blak gonne and  
my wif another Item I bequeath to Owynd Hawkynd myner a blak gonne dud I do ordyn and make  
Eateryn my wif and Nicolai Lereson Citerin and mercer of London myn exentours dud I geve unto  
the same Nicolai twenty pounds sterling for his laboure and payme and hymself a blak gonne and his  
wif another dud I make myn cosyn John Carrill and humfrey Daixington myn exentours dud either  
of them to haue for thair labours yle and either of them a blak gonne and either of thair wifes  
all the residue of my goodis Catallis and debts subiect thereto I will that Eateryn my wif haue thair  
to thair owne proper use to doo therwith what she wille dud if my said wif happen to decease and  
my chylde both afore her or they come to thair full age or be married than I will that the  
wardens of the mister of the mercers of the Cite of London shall haue myn twoo chyldeis parts  
to thuse hereafter folowing that is to say to distribute to the poore bretheryn of the same ffelshipp to  
pay for my sonke and all open burles and the same wardens for thair payme taking to haue ye of  
every pound to do it indifferently wher as is most medfult and for the helping of the almyt that  
goeth out of the eare box of the said ffelshipp of misteris and I will that with yle of the said  
money there be a dinner and to haue a dinge and masse at the p'sh church of saint Pantreas  
to pray for my sonke and all open burles.

183

*Solitaria voluntaria  
enficiam nos*

This is the last wolle of me the forsaid Richard Colyer made the day and yere abovesaid  
to the dissencion of all my londes and tenementis with thapperteyns whiche I haue or any other  
osome or oþer have or hath to my use I will that Eateryn my wif haue all my londes and tenementis  
that I haue or any oþer to myn wif hath in hoxton in the posse of saint Leonard in Shoreditch duryng  
her naturall lyfe dud after her decease to remayn to George Colyer my sonne also I will that George  
Colyer my sonne aforesaid haue all my londes and tentys with thapperteyns wherewer they be that I  
haue or any to myn wif hath to him and to his heires lawfully of his body begotten dud if I decease befor  
the said George my sonne shall come to his lawfull age of xxij years than I will that the wardens  
of the mister of the mercers of the Cite of London recorde the yearly rents and profits of all my said londes  
and tenementis wth thapperteyns and haue the custodie therof and to be delvered to the said George  
wher he shall come to the lawfull age of xxij years and the said wardens to haue for thair payme  
takeing yearly enþer wardenship yng my sonne to his sonne Except and almyt reserved the mesnage  
wth thapperteyns called the key wherim I do inhabite whiche I will that Eateryn my wif shall  
haue unto þer hym as the said George shall come to the said age of xxij years of þe so longe lyfe  
dud if it shall happen the said George my sonne to decease before he shall come to his full age of xxij  
years hadding noo childe or chylde in mariage than I will that Dorothie Colyer my daugter  
haue the revenues and profits of my londes and tenementis wth thapperteyns to her and to her  
heires of her body lawfully begotten in the same maner and forme as the said George Colyer shalld  
haue had the same as aforesie reþerved Except þe money to be delvered to her afer the age of xxij  
yeare of þe be maried at or above the age of xxij yeare than I will that þe haue the said revenues  
of my londes and tenementis aferwards at þer said mariage clere to her proper use dud if my  
said twoo chylde happen both to decease afer they shall come to their full age of xxij years wþout  
hem of þer body lawfully begotten or born Eateryn my wif than being alyue than I will my  
said wif haue all suche londes and tenementis as afores begetted to her tyme of þer life in hoxton  
That þe to haue þe said londes and tenementis to her and to her heires to geve and to sell to her  
proper use to do therwote what she wille also I will that all the residue of my londes and tentys  
wth thapperteyns my forsaid twoo chylde being so deceased wþout hem of þer bodies lawfully  
begotten or borne be þold as aþoneis be þold to þer by myn exentours and they to haue  
for thair labours twenty pounds that is to say I will that my mesnage called the Sonne wth thapperteyns  
in the parshie of our lady at Rose in london be by þem folde to the most aduantage dud  
the money recyded þerof to be þestored in byng and buylding of a howse to kepe a ffrescole in hoxton  
in the Countie of Sussex wher I was boorne by þadvis of myn exentours and the Cite of þe said p'sh  
Church of hoxton and the Church wardenys of the same and fourre of the moost honest men of the  
same posse indifferentely to be chosen by þe Inhabitants of þe same posse in whiche house to be  
þe nombre of þre stow seolaris dud the master of the said stole to haue for þer wages or salary  
tenne pounds a yere and þe wþches tenne mrs a yere and they to be admittid by þe p'sh church  
wardens and þm of þe moost honest men of the said posse and mo ab they thinke best but not  
fewer in nombre dud the said seolaris to be at no charge of þer scole hire but freely wþout any  
money payng þerfor but to pray for þe soule of me the said Richard Colyer and Eateryn  
my wif and all open burles wth Deprofudib every day at the deþting of the said stole þe  
said seolaris to be admittid by þe p'sh and Churche wardenys of the said church and twoo honest  
men of the same parshie as the said parshionys shall thinke moost indifferent the said twoo men to

2

be admitted yearly within the Churchwardens be admitted and chosen And I will that the po<sup>o</sup> people  
in especiall of the same parish, and theri next aboute the same place shall be preferred to the said stoles  
afare any other for consideration gentilmen and other men be in better habilitie than poure men be  
that notwithstanding of the said parisshe of horsham coulde noon to be refused likely to come as in the  
discrecion of them abovefayld therforhment for the myntaine of the same also I will that the said Vicar  
and Churchwardens aforesaid present the said sole master and officer to the wardenys of the auctor  
of the mervs of the City of London and they to admitt him yf he be habill to occupie the same Rome  
or llys another be chosen by the said Vicar and Churchwardens and other abovefayld and the said  
wardens of the mervs to paye the yearly salarye of the said sole master and officer and the said  
wardens and ffelissipp of the said mervs of mercer to haue for the pfformance of the same  
the howse called the kyng worth thapperteyns in chepe fett and being in the parisshe of saint pauls  
in the wardenys of chepe to be made farr to the said ffelissipp and their entessore farrmore payng  
that aforis refred And the wardenys of the said ffelissipp yearly haue out of the same dyne yearly  
for their payng taking and mon to be taken out of the same whan it shalbe nedfull to see such reparacions  
as shalbe merte forto be doon to the myntaine of the same sole house and if the same wardenys and  
ffelissipp refuse the said house for the premisdes aforesaid than I will that the Vicar and church  
wardens of the parisshe Churche of horsham aforesaid perceyve the rentys that the wardenys of the  
mervs aforis refred shalde haue doon And the residue and overplus of the same more than the chargs  
of the scolehouse by them to be receyved yearly to be bestowred on the Reparacions of the said exchequer  
on the myntaine of high wayes aboute the said towne and parisshe of horsham wher at it shalbe nedfull  
so that it be not passing by myles from the said psses/chesse yf both my said children decess as aforesaid  
or they come to their lawfull age and without lawfull issue of their body or bodies than I will that  
all the residue of my londes and tenementys not before bequethed that I haue or any other to my use  
vpon the realme of Englonde that the wardenys of the ffelissipp of the mervs of London and the  
assistance make sale thereof at as good and iste price according as it is in value to good conchis  
and the my<sup>th</sup> parte of the money therof amounting to be reserved to the said ffelissipp of the mervs  
to their comynge to bere orwo the charged of suche farwel in dekay wheryn the same company  
and ffelissipp to be in powerte and feblis according to the discrecion of the wardenys and assistance  
of the hole company to pray for my soule and for the bretheren soules of the said ffelissipp and  
all other soules also I will that the other three parts that so comyngh of the londes aforesaid  
be in the custodie of the wardenys and ffelissipp of the mervs and within the space of thre yeres  
to be bestowred on the high wayes most nedfull wheryn dyng myles of the citie of London at  
the discrecion of the wardenys and the assistance of the said ffelissipp So that it be not doon  
of a singuler mynde that on of the said wardenys or the assistance may haue more to any myle  
wher they may haue any londe lyng or any other cause of pffulite but indifferently wher  
most ned of indifferencie to be doon on the northe est and west side of the citie and noon  
therof on the South side of the citie or thame And also to be taken out and paid of the said  
the partie of money aforesaid for the said expensys of the yere farr forward for a bault for the  
wardeny and assistance to devise as is aforesaid what is to be doon for the yere folowing in  
the said retayning and making of the said high wayes and to s<sup>t</sup> thacomplice of that as past  
In witnessesse wherof to this my present testament and last will I haue sett my Seal and  
subscribed my name the day and yere above rehersed per me Ric<sup>o</sup> Folger

**Probatum** fuit supra dictum testem Coram Magno Vicecomte Excent Secutoribus  
Dottore procuratice ecclesie apud Cantabrigiopolis ibidem vacans Commissario dñi die mensis -  
Marchi anno Domini millesimo quicunque anno instrumentum factum videlicet et executum nihil nisi testem  
notarii ac approbatum et confirmatum Et comissarius fuit admissus omnibus singularibus bonis furiis et creditoribus  
et definiti probatis excentoribus De hinc et fidei et amicitiae ac de plegis et fidelitate secundo die post  
festum Immaculatae Beatae Mariae proximi annuli die nono de Januarii anno compitis reddendis ad se de  
Ecclesia fuit. Subiat pte alteri excentore in hunc testem nouat et duxerit et c.

Cestus Tho<sup>r</sup>  
Soroyen

**In the name of god amen** The xxij<sup>th</sup> day of Januari in the yere of our  
lorde god a thousand fyre hundre and dynny iij<sup>th</sup> Howard Soroyen of Estneyefelde slym body and  
hole in remembraunce make my testament in maner and forme folowing In priuyn I bequest my  
soule to almyghty god to his gloriouse mother saint mary and to all the celstiall company in heven  
item I bequest my body to be buried vpon the Chapell of saint Nicolas in myselfe churche item I be-