

This document was obtained from Ancestry Website on the 7th of May 2023 and relates to a Will belonging to Thomas Gatward dated 30th November 1612. It was renounced by the executor in favour of his wife in 1616 due to the responsibility of five small children

Where needed I have converted the spelling into a more modern-day format.

This second part was in Latin and I have included the English Translation

In the name of God Amen. I Thomas Gatward of Keyston in the County of Cambridge yeoman, being sick in body, but of perfect remembrance thanks be to God, do make and ordain this my last will and testament this last day of November in the year of our Lord 1612 in manner and form following.

First, I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God, the lord my God thorough Christ, & shall be partaker of the blessed resurrection of the just

And my body I dispose to be buried in the Church or Church yard of Keyston

And as for my worldly goods I bequeath as follows,

First my will is that my goods and chattels shall be sold for to pay my debts

And if there be any remainder I will that it be put forth for the best profit of my wife and children equally to be divided amongst them

And if it shall happen that my said goods and chattels do not amount to so much as to discharge my debts then my will is that so much of my lands shall be sold as to make full payment of my debts

Item after my debts paid, my will is that my houses and lands be equally divided amongst my five sons, when the eldest of them shall come to the age of One and twenty years.

And in the mean while my will is that the rent of my houses and lands shall be employed to the maintenance and bringing up of my children

Item I make my brother Robert Gatward, my sole Executor of this my last will and testament

And my Edward Waller of Ashwell overseer

And in witness hereof I have hereto set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

The mark of Thomas Gatward

Witnesses hereto Gerrard Stanton, Thomas Archer, Thomas Turner, Thomas Gray

On the seventh day of the month of May in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and sixteen, a commission issued forth concerning Thomas, John, James, Robert, and William Gatward, children and sworn, and Thomas Gatward, late of Keyston in the County of Cambridge.

To the guardians of the sworn children of Thomas Gatward, late of Keyston, etc., to administer the goods, rights, and credits of this kind according to the tenor and effect of the testament of the same, during the minority age of the children of the same deceased.

For the reason that Robert Gatward, the Executor named in the said testament, for certain causes moving him and his mind in that part, has renounced the burden of execution of the said testament.

Sworn upon the Holy Gospels of God to well and faithfully administer the same.

Administration was dispatched, otherwise by authority of the same court, committed to Agnes Gatward, widow of the said deceased, and committed to the sworn parties to be introduced, etc.

