

*The Will of Joseph Browne of the Parish of Rusper in the County of Sussex, Clerk,  
written 16 Jun 1633.*

In the name of God amen the eighteenth day of June in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and three and thirty and in the ninth years of the reign of our said . . . . . Lord Charles by the grace of God of England Scotland . . . . . and Ireland king defender of the faith . . . . . I Joseph Browne clerke parson of Rusper in the County of Sussex and diocess of Chichester being of perfect mynde and memory I thank god for it I ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following

first I recommend my soule unto the hands of almighty god my saviour and Redeemer And my bodie to the earth to be buried in the church yard of Rusper or where else it shall please Almighty god

Then I give to 40 poore of the parish of Rusper Ten shillings to be distributed at the discretion of myn executor hereundernamed

Then I give to the use of the poor there to put into the chest for the poor three shillings foure pence

Then my will is that my mayde Mary ffowler shall have in respect of her faithfull service as I shall have . . . . . to . . . . . to her only use and to the use of her assignees free without paying anything therefore an hye[?] chamber in the southend of my house wherein Robert Mathew dwelleth in Rusper aforsaid during her natural life with free liberty of ingress . . . . . and regress to and from the said chamber with liberty to make fire for her use either in the hall with them that dwell there or else against the stocke where the oven is and to use the oven when the dwellers in the house doe not use it And my will is further that the bedsteddle that standith in the chamber over the millhouse wherein my men persanly use . . . . . at . . . . . chamber for her use and remains there after her decease as a standard to the said . . . . . I will also that she shall have a little garden plott on the Southend of the sayd house for . . . . . and to set and sew beans Then I will that she shall have one annuity or yearly rent of Twenty Shillings a yeare issuing and going out of the rent of the said house and land wood in the occupation of the said Robert Mathew to have hold levie and wreive[?] the same yearly and every year during her naturall life at four terms at feasts of the year . . . . . usuall viz the feast of St Michael archangell the birth of our Lord God The . . . . . of St Mary the blessed virgin and the feast of St John the Baptist by equal portions yearely to be payd the fist payment thereof to begin at that feast of the feast above said which shall next happen after my decease Then I give more unto the said Mary ffowler my best flock bed save one a flock boalster a resonable good coverlett two blankets and a pair of good towen[?] sheets

Then I give unto my mayd servant Elinor Evershed twenty shillings

Item I give unto Joseph Bristowe twenty shillings and to Arthur ffenner tenn shillings and the chest in my study

Item I give unto my daughter in law Elizabeth Old[?] fferty shillings to be payd unto her within a year next after my decease and I forgive her the one pound she borrowed of me

Item I give unto Phebe Leachford the daughter of my daughter Susan ffive pounds to be payd unto her ffather and mother to her use within one year next after my decease

Item I give unto my son William Browne my best table cloth

Item I give unto his son John Browne my wynded table in the parlour and all the ---nd worbe there and in the chamber . . . . . of his ffather and. . . . . give unto all and every one of my grand children not before named tenn shillings a peice to be payd unto the hands of their ffather and mother to their use within one year next after my decease

Item I give unto my daughter Sara the wife of Arthur ffenner gent tenn pounds and half a quarter of wheate and the little brass pan which I bought of her

Item I give unto my daughter Susan the wife of Thomas Leachford tenn pounds and a little brass pott

Item I give unto my daughter Phebe the wife of William Simons tenn pounds and half a quarter of wheate

Item I give unto . . . . . according to my promise to her my best feather bed save one a feather boulster the next to the best my best coverlett and two blanketts

Item I give unto my said three daughters Sara Susan and Phebe all my linnen not before given and half all my pewter

Item my will is that myne executor shall presently after my decease dwell by the chamber above granted to Mary ffowler healling and walling it well

Item I give unto my son William and to Jane his wife my house barne and land in Rusper above said above named for and during their naturall lives and the naturall life of the longer lives of them and after their decease I will and bequeathe the same to their two sons Thomas Browne and Henry Browne and their heires forever to the onely[?] use of the said Thomas and Henry their heirs assignes fore ever

All the residue of my goods not before given my debts paid my legacies performed and my body honestly buried I give and bequest to the above named William Browne my sonn whome I make full and whole executor of this my last will and testament and I do ordaine and appoynt Oversers of this my last will and testament . . . . . Benjamin Browne of lfeild my brother and Arthur ffenner gent my son in law and I doe give to each of them for their paynes tenn shillings and I doe hereby revoke all former wills by me made aknowledging this to be my very true and last will

In witnes whereof I have written it with myne own hand and sett thereto my name  
and seal Joseph Browne