

Translation of the Will of Thomas Poulton 1695

Know all men – by these presents that I, Thomas Poulton, Commander of his Majesties ship Charles Galley have and by these presents do make, ordain and constitute John an Poulton, my brother of Southwark in St. _____ parish, my true and Lawful attorney irrevocable for me and in my name and for my use to aske, demand and retriue of and from the right honourable the Treasurer or Paymaster of their Majesties Navy and Commissions for prize money and whome else it may concern. As well all such wages etc. and pay, bounty money, prize money and all other sume and sumes of money whatsoever as now is and which hereafter shall or may be due or payable unto me pursueant to their Majesties gracious Declaraton of the 23rd of May 1689. And, also all such pensions, salaries, smart money and all other moneys and things whatsoever which now and at any time hereafter is and shall be due to me for myselfe and servants service or otherwise in any of their Majesties ships, ffreygotts or vessalls, or any merchants ship or ships. And also to demand, recover and retriue of all other person and persons whatsoever whome it doth or may concern all and singular such other sume and sumes of money, goods, wares, effects, wages, debts, dues, claimes and demands whatsoever which now and hereafter is or shall be due and payable unto me either by bonds, bill books, account or otherwise howsoever. And moreover in my name and for my proper use to demise and lett by lease in writing or an otherwise all or any of my messuages, Lands or Tenaments to such person or persons and for such terme of yeares, conditions and reservatons as my said Attorney or his Councell shall thinke fit and convenient. Giving and hereby granting unto my said Attorney my full and whole power in the promisses and to recover and retriue all and singular the sume and sumes of money matters and things aforesaid and upon noue an payment thereof or any parte thereof all such person and persons whome it may concerne and where need shall require their Executors, Administrators and goods to sue, arrest, attache, seize, imprison, prosecute, and condemne and to compound and agree and out of prison to release and discharge. And upon receipt of the said promisses or any parte thereof, Acquittances, Releases or any other discharges for me and in my name to make, seale and deliver and one Attorney or more to substitute and at pleasure to revoke and generall to act and doe all other acts, matters and things whatsoever needfull and necessary to be done in and touching the promisses as fully and effectually as I ought or could doe if I were personally present. Ratifying and allowing for firme and valid and irrevocable all and whatsoever my said

Attorney shall lawfully doe or cause to be done in or touching those promisses by virtue of these presents. And if the said Thomas Poulton considering the incertainty of this transitory life doe make and declare these presents to containe my last Will and Testament that is to say I have likewise made, nominated and constituted the said John Poulton my own brother now my Attorney sole Executor giving him all such wages, sune and sumes of money, Lands, Tenements, goods, chattells and estate whatsoever wherewith at the time of my decease I shall be possessed or invested or which shall then belong or of right appertaine unto me I doe give, devise and bequeath unto the said John Poulton my said Attorney. And doe hereby nominate and appointe the said John Poulton to be sole Executor of this my last Will. And doe revoke all former Wills and Deeds of Guift by me at any time heretofore made and doe ordaine these an presents to stand and be for and as my only last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale the first day of March Anno Domini 1694/5. And in the sixth yeare of the Reigne of our Sovereigne Lord King William. Thomas Poulton. Signed, sealed, published and declared in the presence of C. Allanby, Master, Thomas Sone, gunner, Rouse Rickthorne, Clarke.

'Provision for Wounded Seamen.'

Ordered, That Sir Richard Onslow, Sir Matth. Andrews, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, be added to the Committee to whom it is referred to consider how a Provision may be made for such Seamen as are or shall be wounded in their Majesties Service; and for the Wives and Children of such as are or shall be slain therein.'

'House of Commons Journal Volume 10: 23 May 1689'
Journal of the House of Commons: Volume 10: 1688-1693 (1802), pp. 144-150.

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GLOSSARY

Smart money. A term used for compensation due if injured in the course of active duty, smart being an old word for pain.

Prize money. If an enemy's merchant was captured, the value of its cargo would be shared out between the crewmen. A Captain could expect to receive about a quarter of its worth.

Messuage.. A house and its land.