

## Thomas Best 1848

Thomas Best late of the city of Worcester but now of Dodoak in the parish of Shrawley in the county of Worcester Esquire. I direct that my just debts, funeral expenses be paid by my Executors out of my personal estate .....". I confirm the settlement made on my marriage with my dear wife Mary Catherine Best. Whereby the sum of £6000 which is now secured on mortgage of my estate called Dodoak is settled on her for her life. I give and bequeath to my said dear wife Mary Catherine Best all my wine, liquors and housekeeping provisions. I gave her a legacy of £500 to be paid out of the first monies which shall come to the hands of my executors. I give and bequeath to my brother the Reverend Francis Best, Rector of Flyford Flavell and Abberton in the county of Worcester and Joseph Woodward of Birlingham in the same county Gentleman all my household goods and furniture, plate, linen, china, books and pictures upon trust to raise an inventory, thereof be taken as soon as maybe after my decease and to allow my said dear wife to have the use and enjoyment thereof during her life and on her decease upon trust to sell the same and to stand possessed of the money to arise therefrom upon the trusts hereinafter declared concerning my residuary real and personal estate. I give and devise unto my son Thomas Best Junior and his heirs all that close of pasture ground called Wagstaff's containing about 4 acres situated in the parish of Holy Cross in Pershore Worcestershire in occupation of William Done but in case my said son shall be under the age of 21 years then I give devise and bequeath the said close of land and promises to the said Rev Francis Best and Joseph Woodward and upon the said trust as hereinafter declared concerning my other real property thereinafter devised. I also give devise and bequeath unto the said Rev Francis Best Joseph Woodward all that my newly erected messuage or tenement with the farm and lands thereto belonging called Dodoak containing 122 acres or thereabouts situated in the parish of Shrawley in Worcestershire in my own occupation subject to the said mortgage debt of £6000 secured to the Trustees of my marriage settlement as aforesaid and the interest thereof and also all that my messuage situated on the south Parade in the parish of All Saints in the city of Worcester in the occupation my sister Miss Anna Best and also all that my building used as a warehouse and stabling situate In Quay Street in the parish of Saint Andrew in the same city in the occupation of Mr Luke Maybury and also all that my messuage or dwelling house with the skin yard and tenements buildings and land adjoining there to situate in Turkey Street In the parish of Saint Clements in the same city late in the occupation of Mr Edward Dare and others and also all those two dwelling houses and gardens situated in the Newland in the parish of Holycross in Pershore Worcestershire in the occupation of William (Hooks?) and Josiah Andrews and all other my real estate whatsoever and wheresoever not hereinbefore specifically disposed of. And also all my farming stock and crops and implements of husbandry upon on about my said estate called Dodoak at the time of my decease together with my monies and securities for money and all the residue of my personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever not hereby specifically bequeathed to hold the same unto the said Rev Francis Best and Joseph Woodward their heirs, Executors, administrators and assigns respectively according to the nature and tenure of the property upon and for the trusts intent and purposes following that is to say upon trust that they the said Francis Best and Joseph Woodward or their survivors of them or their heirs etc. of

such survivors do and shall sell my farming stock crops and implements of husbandry within 12 months after my decease and do and shall call in and convert into money all such other parts of my personal estate as shall not consist of money as soon as maybe after my decease and dispose of all or any part of my said messuage, dwelling houses, farmland buildings or real estate either by public auction or private contract unto any person or persons willing to purchase the same..... I give devise and bequeath all such estate as are vested in me as a trustee or by way of mortgage in fee and to the said Francis Best and Joseph Woodward upon the several trusts affecting the same. And I do hereby appoint them joint executors of this my Will and said dear wife Mary Catherine Best guardian of my children during their minorities. I give to France Best and Joseph Woodward a legacy of £25 each. In witness whereof I have to this my Will set my hand and seal this 28th day of May in the year 1842

Signed *Thomas Best*

In presence of James Best Solicitor, Thomas R Huxley and Thomas Ballard his clerks.

Proved in London 28th April 1848 by oaths of the Reverend Francis Best the brother, and Joseph Woodward the Executors to whom admon was granted having been first sworn by admon to duly administer.