

COWBRIDGE

COWBRIDGE FREE SCHOOL
AND
JESUS COLLEGE, OXFORD.

AN ABRIDGEMENT
OF THE
WILL OF SIR LEOLINE JENKINS, KNIGHT,
A MUNIFICENT BENEFACTOR TO THOSE INSTITUTIONS.

The will bears date the 20th of June, 1685, and commences in these words:—

“IN THE NAME OF GOD. AMEN.

“I, SIR LEOLINE JENKINS, of Doctors’ Commons, London, Knight, being of sound and disposing mind and memory; and, considering the shortness of this life, and my own ill estate of health, do make this my last Will and Testament as followeth:—My soul I do most humbly commend into the hands of Almighty God, my Creator, and through the merits and intercession of my blessed Redeemer, Jesus Christ, hoping through His blood for pardon of my sins and life in the world to come. And I do declare that, by the grace of God, I die

a Christian, in the communion of the Church of England, as it stands now established by God's Providence and the laws in force; and I do believe this church to be a true and sound member of Christ's Catholic Church, which he has purchased with his blood.—Cloath her, O Lord, with a strict and exemplary holiness in her priests and people, and maintain her in truth, peace, and patrimony, to the end of the world. *Amen.*"

The testator devises to the principal, fellows, and scholars of Jesus College, and their successors, a property "in the parish of Lantrissant, in the county of Glamorgan, and in other parishes near thereabouts," which he held in trust for the college, and which had been purchased, partly with the money, or other estate, of Francis Mansell, D.D., his predecessor in the headship of the college, and partly with the money of William Bassett, of Miskin, D.C.L., who, by way of free gift, furnished him with 200 twenty-shilling pieces of gold towards compassing the purchase—both which benefactors Sir Leoline thought himself obliged to mention in honour of their memory.

He then devises to the principal, fellows, and scholars, and their successors, his manor of Moulton, and farms called Sutton, *alias* Southden, Lydmore, *alias* Lydmorston, and Whitton, in the parishes of Lancarvan and Wenvoe, with farms in the parishes of Eglwysllan and Carphilly, all in the county of Glamorgan, chargeable as after-mentioned.

He further devises to the principal, fellows, and scholars, and their successors (subject to the disposal and trust after specified) a certain school and school-house, with yards, garden, and orchard, in the town of Cowbridge, in the county of Glamorgan, commonly called or known by the name of the "Free-school," lately purchased by him of Sir Edward Stradling, of Saint Donat's Castle, Baronet; which, yet, he reckoned of the free gift of Sir Edward to the college, and desired he might be reputed their benefactor and donor thereof.

A further devise to the principal, fellows, and scholars, and their successors, is then made of 10 acres of land, with houses, buildings, and wharfs thereon, near the Archbishop of Canterbury's marsh, in the parish of Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, of lands in the parishes of Blackesby, Plumpton, Weston, and Weaden, in the county of Northampton, and of lands in the parishes of Dumbleton and Borington, in the county of Gloucester.

It is declared that all estates so devised to the college were intended to bear a charge of pious and charitable uses, in the manner and order following:—

"*IMPRIMIS, £100 yearly, for ever, to the following uses:—*

"To the schoolmaster of Cowbridge aforesaid, for the time being (and to be nominated and appointed by the principal of the said college, for the time being) so long as he doth not undertake any cure

of souls, but keep himself wholly to his business of this school, £10 per annum, besides the use of the school and school-house, and appurtenances free, he, in consideration thereof, allowing to the five pensioners of the said school hereafter mentioned, their teaching and schooling gratis. 110

"Item. To five scholars, to be known and distinguished by the name of pensioners in the said school, £6 a piece; and their pensions to continue to be paid for four years each, and no longer: provided that they have no allowance made to them, but that deductions be made for any time that they shall be absent from school, and those deductions to be divided amongst those pensioners which shall be present. The said five scholars, and those that are to succeed in their places, when vacant, being to be nominated by the schoolmaster, and approved of by the principal of the said college, for the time being, and none is to be admitted pensioner unless he be full twelve years of age or upwards, nor after he shall be completely sixteen years of age. 110

"Item. To three of such pensioners as shall be found fit for the University, and settled in the said college, an exhibition of £10 a year for four years, in case they be not in the mean time elected to a scholarship of the house or fellowship in the said college."

No allowance to be made to exhibitioners absent from the college above thirty days, either *continuis* or *diversis vicibus* in one year upon any pretence whatever; and such allowance not to accrue by terms, quarters, or weeks, but *de die in diem*, as they should be present and have their *victum et cubile* in the college, and attend the public prayers and exercises there; and that those absent for more than thirty days in one year should have deductions made, *pro rata*, out of their allowance, and such deductions should be divided amongst the exhibitioners resident. The choosing of such exhibitioners, when they presented themselves from the school, as also upon all vacancies, was referred to the principal.

"Item. Whereas there may be in the said school other hopeful youths for their learning, besides the five pensioners aforesaid, I do appoint £10 a year more to the schoolmaster for his schooling and teaching of ten youths, the most towardly in his school, to be named and selected by him out of the said town of Cowbridge and the neighbouring parishes, being the children of such who are not well able to pay for their schooling." 110

Item. The remaining twenty pounds per annum is given for binding apprentices poor children born in the parishes of Lantrissant, Lanblethian, the town of Cowbridge, and the parish of Ystradowen, in the county of Glamorgan, or the clothing of old poor people dwelling in one of the three parishes or town, at the discretion of the schoolmaster of the said school for the time being, first consulting with the respective vicars, rectors, or ministers of the said three parishes and town, but the determination to be left to himself. The 110

three parishes and the town to receive the benefit, not the fourth part yearly, but the whole £20 every fourth year for ever. The schoolmaster to give an account in writing of what he should have so ordered and done year by year to the principal.

Item. The principal's allowance not being suitable to the trust and dignity of that place, the testator bequeathed to him and his successors £50 per annum for ever, to be paid him at such time and times as his previous allowance of £50 per annum was payable to him by the statutes and usage of the college.

Item. It being feared that the allowance and maintenance assigned and appointed by the statutes and usage of the college, for 16 fellows and 16 scholars, with the £50 a year to the principal, and other charges incident to the government of the college, could not well be raised out of the then revenues thereof, without either defalking from the maintenance of each fellow and scholar, or else leaving some of the said fellows and scholars to remain without maintenance; and in order that the greater respect might be paid to the memory of all benefactors, that had founded and endowed any fellowship or scholarship, and that there might be no more honorary fellows or scholars so termed, but that all the 16 fellows and scholars might equally receive their full allowance and stipends, the testator bequeathed £120 a year, for ever, to be added to the present revenue of the college, and to be employed in the filling and making up of the respective fellowships and scholarships £20 a year for each fellow, and £10 a year for each scholar; but if the existing revenue of the college were sufficient to answer the former allowance of the principal, at the rate of £50, and 16 fellows at £20 a piece, and of the scholars at £10 a piece, with other charges, then the £120, or the remaining part of it, was to be divided between the said fellows and scholars for an augmentation of their fellowships and scholarships—every scholar having one half of what would fall to a fellow for his share. Then follow directions for filling up the fellowships and scholarships, according to the diocese, county, town, place, or family, appointed by the founders and donors; or if any were not appropriated by particular donors, a scheme was to be prepared for appropriating the same as to diocese, counties, and places, with strict regard to the donations and dispositions of particular benefactors; and the scheme was to be settled as to diocese, county, town, place, or family, for all future times; and the principal and fellows were to renounce all right to elect a fellow or scholar, not qualified as to place of birth, or otherwise, according to such scheme. And in case of such scheme not being settled within a year after the donor's death, his executors had power to dispose of the £120 a year, towards the augmenting and better ordering of the charities above mentioned, relating to Cowbridge school, and poor or other charities, for the better service of the church in Wales, and for the advance-

ment of learning in the college, as to them should seem most for the Glory of God.

And since the persons in holy orders employed in his Majesty's fleets at sea and foreign plantations, were too few for the charge and cure of souls, arising in those fleets and plantations, the testator founded two additional fellowships, with such allowances and maintenance as the 16 existing fellows had or might have—the first of those fellows, and his successors, was to be distinguished by the name of the 'Scholar and Alumnus of King Charles the Second;' and, the second of those fellows, and his successors, by the name of the 'Scholar and Alumnus of King James the Second;' the said two additional fellows and their successors, to be under an indispensable obligation to take upon them holy orders of priesthood, so soon as they should be of age capable of them; and, afterwards, that they should go to sea in any of his Majesty's fleets, when summoned by the Lord High Admiral: and, in case they should not take upon them orders of priesthood, so soon as they were of age, as aforesaid, or else should refuse or delay to obey such summons, that their places should be *ipso facto* void, and others chosen in their room, as if they were naturally dead; and, in case of there being no use of their service at sea, and of their being called by the Lord Bishop of London, for the time being, to go out into any of his Majesty's foreign plantations, there to take upon them a cure of souls, and exercise their ministerial functions under his lordship's directions and obedience; and of their refusing to go, their place or places should be declared immediately void and supplied by a new election, as if they were naturally dead. And that they might not be without a further encouragement in regard of the extraordinary obligation and duty they were to be under, they were to receive £20 a year a piece, over and above the salaries of the other fellows, while actually in either of those services. No person to be chosen full fellow after his year of probation into those two additional fellowships, unless in holy orders of priesthood and a native of the diocese of Landaff or Saint Davids; and that among them a first respect should be had *cæteris paribus* to those bred at Cowbridge school, and all elections to those two fellowships not so qualified are declared to be utterly void.

Two out of the three exhibitioners from Cowbridge school, to be two additional scholars of the house and foundation men, equally with the other 16. The two additional fellows, and their successors, to be chosen out of the two additional scholars, preferably to all others if, *cæteris paribus*, equal to other candidates.

The college are then recommended to settle some lectures for the opening and explaining of classical authors, in Greek and Latin, to the undergraduates, for the advantage of raw youths from country schools in Wales, as they may best profit by it, and the lecturers seek *their* good and not their own vanity. Some encouragement was

to be assigned to the auditors—to such who should make it appear, that they profited by, and were assiduous at, those lectures. He thought £15 a year to two lecturers and 50 shillings a year amongst the auditors of each, might be a competent reward; but he would not have any read by proxy, but earn his salary, *de die in diem*, as he reads and not pretend to it by weeks, quarters, or terms.

As the primary intent of most of the foundations in the university is to enable men to set forth with more fitness, to do service in church or state, and not to continue in college all their life time, and that the season most proper so to fit themselves, is after the first five years of their being in the university, the testator recommended an allowance to four or five of the fellows £8 or £10 a year a piece, to be enjoyed by them respectively, from the first time of their being five years standing, and to be paid them yearly during the four years immediately to follow and no longer; the said fellows being chosen to succeed into those places by the principal and fellows, as in the case of electing probationers to be full fellows and no otherwise, he that is of the most virtuous and studious life being to be preferred in the choice.

The will then proceeds as follows:—

“Whereas there is a chapel of ease, called Capel Talygarn, in the parish of Lantrissent aforesaid, very near the place where I was born, that is now quite out of repair, I appoint my executors to purchase the site of that chapel, if they can get it at a reasonable rate, and to put the same in good repair; and, in case this be done, I further charge the said estates of Moulton and Dumbleton, when they come in, and what other real estates or estate I, or my executors, shall hereafter purchase, with the payment of £10 a year for ever towards the maintaining of divine service in the said chapel.”

There follows a bequest of £10 per annum for ever, to be paid to the incumbent, whether rector or vicar, for the time being, of St. Bennets, Paul's Wharf, London, for his better encouragement in reading daily the service of the church.

And for the better support of the charities mentioned herein, the testator declared his will to be—that the principal, fellows, and scholars, should not, at any time, by taking any fine or consideration, sink or lower the then rent of the Lambeth property (£85 per annum), nor above one-fourth of the rents of the other property, unless there were inevitable necessity, and license in writing were first had from the Lord Visitor for the time being, such license expressing the cause of his granting the same; but not to be extended further or longer than such necessities should require. And, since the lowering of one-fourth was only in order to secure the rest, and not to get any fine or dividend, he desired the principal and fellows, when they lowered any part of the rent and took a fine, that the fine should not be divided amongst the society, but be laid out in purchasing other lands, in order to keep up the then rents and values of the lands charged with charitable uses,

that were intended to last to perpetuity; but, in case any fine were to be taken for renewing leases, without lowering the rent, as it would sometimes happen, such fines might be taken and divided as was most usual.

As the estates were so considerable as to deserve a special inspection into their management, the testator desired that the senior pursuer, for the time being, might have the receiving and issuing out of the rents, profits, and perquisites of the estates, in the same manner as he received and paid out the other estates of the college; and, that he should receive for so doing £8 in and for his year's pursership, to be allowed him without defalcation; and he gave minute directions as to the keeping of such accounts. And, he declared it to be his will that the entries of the accounts aforesaid, and all other things incident to them, being made and kept in account books, separate from all other account books of the college, should be produced when any Bishop or Archdeacon of the diocese of Llandaff, for the time being, (whom he appointed jointly and severally inspectors and auditors of the said accounts, and overseers of his will, as far forth as any person of the diocese of Llandaff should be concerned in the execution thereof) should desire to see the same.

A bequest is then made of the advowson or rectory of Rotherford Peppard, in the county of Oxford, to the principal, fellows, and scholars, and their successors, upon trust that on every vacancy the principal, for the time being, should be presented thereto.

As for his personal estate, the testator gave the same to the then Archbishop of Canterbury, to the then Bishop of Oxford, and to Dr. Lloyd, then Principal of Jesus College and Vice-chancellor of the University, and to Mr. Thomas Bedford, whom he constituted executors of his will, in trust to dispose of the same for the performance of his will, and for increasing [and] augmenting the exhibitions, pensions, additional allowances, and endowments, before bequeathed, or for new founding more [or] additional fellowships, and also scholarships; or for any other public and pious uses relating to the college, in such manner and with preference of one charitable use before the other as to his Grace and Lordship should seem meet; and in case they, or the survivor, should find any bequest, settlement, or disposition impracticable, and might be changed for the better, he gave his executors full power to alter the same and to re-settle it, as they should find it most practicable and most tending to the charitable use.

A codicil, dated the 16th June, 1685, contains the following bequest:—To the end that the just veneration the testator had for Archbishop Sheldon's memory, might not expire with the testator, but be in some sort transmitted to those who should come after, he willed and ordained that, out of those revenues and rents that he had, through God's great mercy to him, given and devised to Jesus College,

the principal should set aside and give 20 shillings to him, that he should appoint to make a speech in the college chapel, upon every 9th of November, and that it might be performed with that decency and piety that become so worthy a subject, he appointed that the speech should be made by one of the fellows in holy orders of priesthood.

And he further appointed the like sum of 20 shillings to be by the principal, in the same manner, set aside and given yearly to one of the fellows being in full orders that, by his appointment, should make a speech in the college in commemoration of Francis Mansell, D.D., his honoured patron and predecessor in that headship, and the best benefactor the college then had—such speech to be made on the anniversary of his decease, the feast of St. Philip and St. Jacob, 1665. The allowing or not allowing of double commons in the hall on those days, he left wholly to the discretion of the principal; but his desire was that there might be no excess or abuse.

The advowson or patronage, for one turn in three for ever, of the rectory of Nutfield; in the county of Surrey, is alluded to as having under general words in his will, been given to the principal, fellows, and scholars, of the college.

He gave to the society of Doctors' Commons, 40 vols., in folio or quarto, of laws or other books, to begin their library. The rest of his books he gave to the principal, fellows, and scholars, desiring the principal to give to Cowbridge school, such of them as he should think fit to be sent to a grammar school.

In a second codicil, bearing date the 16th June, 1685, Sir Leoline gives to the parish of Lanblethian a bell of the value of £70 to [make] their ring of bells complete.

In a third codicil, dated the 22d June, 1685, is contained, the following bequest:—

“The chalice that I used at Nimeguen I give to the perpetual use of the chapel [of] Talygarn, mentioned in my will, to be used as a chalice there.”

There are three other codicils but their contents are not material.