

THE WILLS OF DAME KATHERINE AND ADMIRAL SIR RICHARD GRINDALL

(as transcribed and interpreted by Mike Hollis, Wickham History Society)

Notes: Where I could not fully understand a word I have added a question mark after that word (?). Where there are words that I could not read at all I have written //////. Some observations of my own I have added in brackets and italics. MH

Admiral Grindall is buried in St Nicholas Churchyard in Wickham, Hampshire. His widow, Dame Katherine Grindall, (nee Festing), resided in Westbury House, Fareham, (just north of Westbury Manor, now the town museum), for a while. On her death she joined her husband. Two of their six children, Edmund and Festing Horatio, are buried with their parents.



Westbury House, Fareham

“This is the Last Will and Testament of me, Dame Katherine Green Mary Ann Nathaniel Grindall widow of Westbury House in the parish of Fareham in the county of Southampton whereby I give leave (?) and bequeath all and singular my whole State of whatever fund and maters and whatsoever situated together also with all and singular my personal Estate and Effects unto my son, Rivers (*Sir Richard’s father’s forename*) Francis Grindall of Calcutta in the East Indies, his active heirs, executors and assigns arising to the different terms thereof, and I do constitute and appoint my representative (?) Robert Morgan George Festing of Andover in the said county of Southampton, Esquire, a post captain in the Royal Navy and now cosseting with my sole Executor of my last will and testament, in witness who-so-of I have become to act my hand and seal the seventh (?) day of February, one thousand eight hundred and twenty three.

Katherine G. M. A. N. Grindall (Sd), signed, sealed, published and declared by the same
Katherine Green Mary Ann Nathaniel Grindall (Sd) and as for her last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in her presence at her request and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names at witnesses thereto.

W^m Harrison Kier of Fareham.

William Mordman Servant to Lady Grindall.

Chas. B. Longstaff, Solicitor, Havant, Hants."



This is the Last Will and Testament of me,

Richard Grindall in the county of Southampton, by me, Admiral of the White Squadron, being of sound disposing and memory and understanding whereby I give service (?) and bequeath all that my freehold messuage incumbent of Swolling House, with its garden and acreditments and appertuments situant and being at Dover in the county of Kent, to my son, Rivers Francis Grindall, now in India in civil employ, his sons and accessors for ever. Also I give and bequeath the several valuable gold and silver jewels, ornaments and other artifices, accumulated, particularly mentioned, that is to say, my silver ring, // ring, silver ink stand, family tankard, gold medal, (*probably his Trafalgar medal*), circular picture of Nell Gwynne and glass, sword from the Patriotic Fund, (*awarded by Lloyds for courage against the elements or enemy that resulted in the saving of merchant shipping and sailor's lives*), gold wafer



Admiral Sir Richard Grindall

watch and chain, my diamond ring and topaz ring set round with brilliants, and also my library unto my said son, Rivers Francis Grindall, to be delivered to him by my Executors hereafter named immediately after my decease. Also all and every of interests, dividends and proceeds which shall mature annually, arise and become due and payable from and out of all and every in capital stock would, which I now give or may actualise in of or be of actualise outfitted unto any of the Public Funds or securities prospect of this Kingdom, or any other securities whatsoever.

I give and bequeath unto my wife, Katherine Green Mary Ann Nathaniel Grindall for and during the term of her natural life and from and immediately after my decease, then I give and bequeath all and every in the said capital stock, monies and securities for monies, (save and except so much and such part as shall have been served, sold and disposed of by my Executors for the purpose of procuring and providing of several primary and other legacies and to discharge my just debts, financial and testamentary expects as after mentioned, together will all the interest and drawards from, and from the accumulation to arise and become successful and payable for the same unto my said son, Rivers Francis Grindall, his executors, auditors and assessors, married and marriageable, eventual to and with the payment of once ever annuity or sum of seventy pounds yearly, and every year unto Mary Lucy Young, Spinster, (*possibly a beloved family retainer*), now living with us for and during her natural life.

Also I hereby give and bequeath to my said wife, Katherine Green Mary Ann Nathaniel Grindall, the use of the whole of my plate, linen, china, household goods and furniture, (except the gold and silver artefacts



Richard Grindall as a Post Captain, with Katherine, Rivers and his other sons, including Edmond and Festing Horatio, (who had been at Trafalgar in HMS Victory as a midshipman), who pre-deceased their father, and Richard Henry Festing.

The complete list of Richard and Katherine's offspring is:

*Richard Henry Festing Grindall,
Rivers Francis Grindall,
Festing Horatio Grindall,
Catherine Latitia Grindall,
Edmund Grindall,
Amelia Grindall*

(continued)

accounted for specifically, and given bequeaths to my son, Rivers Francis Grindall, which shall be in my Swolling House at the time of my decease), to hold use, occupy and possess the same during her life, from and immediately after all stated. I give and bequeath the said plate, linen, china, household goods and furniture unto my son, Rivers Francis Grindall, his executors, auditors and assessors. *(So, while Sir Richard gives use of his chattels to his wife, his son retains ownership).*

Also I give and bequeath unto my friend, John Dickenson, Esquire, of St John Street, London, one hundred pounds to purchase a ring and accoutrements. *(So that he can afford to get married?)*

Unto my cozens, Richard Grindall Festing and Francis Grindall Bartwell, one hundred pounds cash, and unto my goddaughter, Charlotte Agnes (?) Maria Groll, one hundred pounds. Unto my brothers-in-law, John Bult and Jac Rivers and Francis Festing, and my sisters, Rachel Chloe (?) and Bonie Festing, care of a mourning ring, all which said several last unmentioned legacies and mourning rings.

I will and direct shall be raised, paid and provided by my said wife and executor out of my said capital stock should the heretofore mentioned, and I hereby give full power and authority to my said wife to sell out and dispose of so much of the principle of that as will be adequate enough, and also to pay and satisfy all my just debts, financial expenditure and monies of proving this my will and carrying the same unto extraction.

Also, all except and residue of my money, goods and chattels and effects of what nature and kind, several not accruing me before specifically given



The Grindall family grave in St Nicholas Churchyard, Wickham. Two of his sons, Edmund and Festing Horatio, pre-deceased their father and were the first to be buried on the plot.

(continued)

I give and bequeath unto my said son, Rivers Francis Grindall, his executors, administrators and assessors.

And lastly I do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint my said wife, Katherine Green Mary Ann Nathaniel Grindall, sole executor of this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all former and other will and wills by me at any time heretofore made, in witness thereof I, the said Richard Grindall, the testator, have to this, my last Will and Testament, in these my sheets of paper, to the first two sheets hereof set my hand, and to this first and last sheet hereof set my hand and seal this thirtieth day of September in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twelve.

Richard Grindall (Sd) signed, sealed, published and demanded by the said Richard Grindall, the testator, as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request, and in the presence of such other advisors, subscribed our names as witnesses hereto unto.

Eleanor Bullen

Charles Bullen

Charles B. Longstaff,
Havant."

*Acknowledgements:
The National Archives
National Maritime Museum
National Portrait Gallery*

