

Moses Chester of Naseby (1675-1751) and his family
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Extract from map by John Speed, 1610¹

¹ <https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/view/PR-ATLAS-00002-00061-00001/46>

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Introduction

This account of the life of Moses Chester also includes his Chester ancestors and some of his relatives.

Thank you to:

- The National Archives and Northamptonshire Archives for curating and making available parish registers, probate and other historical documents.
- Internet Archive, the National Library of Scotland, Cambridge University Library and Wikimedia Commons for making freely available online digitised versions of books, maps, pictures and other resources.
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The Internet links cited were checked on the date of this Introduction. If you find one that no longer works or its destination has changed for the worse, the Wayback Machine may be able to help you find the material that used to be there.²

Unless otherwise stated:

- The baptisms, marriages and burials mentioned were originally recorded in Naseby parish register
- Probates referred to were granted by authority of Northampton Archdeaconry Court
- When transcribing documents, the original spellings are kept. Where this is likely to assist navigation and understanding, such text has been arranged in paragraphs.
- Names and phrases included in the narrative that have been copied as they were written in original documents are shown within single inverted commas.
- Otherwise, the names of people and places are written in their modern form and obvious abbreviations used in other documents are silently expanded.
- Numbers that were originally written in Roman figures are silently converted to Arabic.

Moses is an ancestor of numerous individuals scattered across the world, who are alive today. These include members of the Bodfish (now Bott) family at Naseby and their descendants; an outline of that connection is displayed in Appendix A.

Moses Chester was my 6x great grandfather.

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14 May 2026
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² <https://web.archive.org/>

Naseby

Naseby is a parish in Northamptonshire, close to the border with Leicestershire. It is situated about 80 miles from the centre of London.

The hearth tax schedule for the year ending 25 March 1675 records 75 householders at Naseby, which suggests that the population then amounted to about 400.³ The 1801 census reported 538 inhabitants as being present.



Naseby in 1795 by Samuel Ireland⁴

The parish church is dedicated to All Saints and a grade II* listed building.⁵ The oldest parish register for Naseby starts in 1563 and provides records of the majority of baptisms, marriages and burials in the parish from that date. However, for some periods such entries are not fully recorded in the registers.⁶ Particularly from the 18th century onwards, some local people worshipped at nonconformist chapels which arranged their own baptisms and/or burials.

Probate records can be a very helpful source of information about individuals and families and sometimes survive from earlier dates than the beginning of the parish register. However, only a small proportion of the adult population made wills and some local wills and their associated inventories have been lost. We do not know for how long the Chester family may have been connected with Naseby prior to Thomas Chester's will of 1566.

³ The National Archives: E179/254/14.

⁴ *Picturesque views of the Upper, or Warwickshire Avon* by Samuel Ireland, image facing page 1.
https://archive.org/details/bib_fict_4103270/page/n35/mode/2up

⁵ <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1343441?section=official-list-entry>

⁶ <https://archive.org/details/nrs0023/page/16/mode/2up>

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The following photograph of Back Street (now the High Street) was taken by Rev William Law in 1855 and shows some of the dwellings there before redevelopment took place.



There are many publications about the Battle of Naseby which took place on 14 June 1645 in the fields to the north of the village, when Parliament's New Model Army defeated the forces of King Charles I. These books and articles focus on the parish itself and some of its inhabitants:

- *Naseby: A Parish History* edited by R L Greenall. This results from work by a team of 22 members of a local history course there which was led by Ron Greenall.
<https://archive.org/details/nrs0023>
- *Nineteenth Century Naseby Farm Workers* by Pamela Horn
<https://www.northamptonshirerecordsociety.org.uk/pdf/npp/volume-4/npp-v4-n3.pdf>
(the article starts on page 167)
- *Origins of the Bodfish family at Naseby* by Francis Howcutt
<https://archive.org/details/origins-bodfish-naseby-v01>
- *A history of the Haddons of Naseby and their descendants 1701-1914* by William George Cruft
<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/85492/#page=1&viewer=picture&o=info&n=0&q=> (before accessing this item it is necessary to create a free FamilySearch account)
- *A Georgian Country Parson: The Rev John Mastin of Naseby* edited by Christine Vials and Kay Collins <https://www.northamptonshirerecordsociety.org.uk/vhm/john-mastin>
- *Who and where was 'Widow Bott at Naseby'?* by Francis Howcutt
<https://archive.org/details/who-where-widow-bott-naseby>
- *Pictures assembled by Marjorie Clipstone* – this album includes photographs of members of the Bott and Burdett families at Naseby
<https://www.northamptonshirerecordsociety.org.uk/pdf/archive/nrs0025.pdf>

Thomas Chester & Cecily: 2x great grandparents

Thomas Chester was buried on 7 February 1566/7.

His will (see Appendix B) was made on 8 January 1566/7, with probate granted on 2 March 1566/7.⁷ Discrepancies between the original text and the office copy which was written at the time of probate include a serious omission. This reminds us that contemporary documents are not necessarily accurate and can be misleading.

The will mentioned Thomas' wife 'Cycily' and seven children. Clement was the oldest son but the sequence of the other children is unknown. All were identified in the will with the surname Chester, which indicates that the girls were single at that time. The children are listed here in the order in which they appear in the will, along with other details that relate or may relate to the relevant individuals.

Name	Notes
Clement	
William	Naseby parish register records the marriage on 19 January 1571/2 of Wylliam Chester & Ann Marson and the burial on 5 November 1617 of William Chester
George	
Agnes	Naseby parish register records the burial on 17 November 1602 of Agnes Chester
Alice	
Grace	
Isabel	St Sepulchre Northampton parish register records the marriage on 28 November 1579 of 'William Swinscor' & 'Isabell Chester'

The daughters were all referred to in the will with the surname Chester, indicating that they were still single when it was made. Provision in Thomas' will for what should happen if his wife should remarry suggests that Cecily was not particularly old at the time.

Naseby's parish register commences only three years before that date of the will and does not include the marriage of Thomas and Cecily or the christening of any of their offspring. As the bequest in the will to Agnes is qualified by the phrase 'after the death of her mother', Agnes was clearly Cecily's child. However, we cannot be certain whether Cecily was also the mother of any or all of Thomas' other offspring as we cannot rule out the possibility of an earlier marriage or marriages.

'Cicilie Chester' was buried on 14 March 1589/90.

⁷ Northampton Archdeaconry Court: 1st series, book P, folio 100, number 264. The date of probate is recorded in Latin as 'iido die mensis maii Anno dni 1566'. which means 2 May 1566. However, that date is earlier than the date of the will or burial. It therefore appears that 'mai' was a mistake for 'martii' which would make the probate date 2 March 1566/7.

George Chester & Agnes Symons: great grandparents

George Chester and Agnes Symons were married on 17 November 1578.

There are no earlier references to people with her surname in the Naseby parish register or of later burials there of anyone with the name who might be her parent. Many Northamptonshire parishes lack surviving registers from sufficiently early to include her baptism. It is feasible but certainly not proved, that she might have been the daughter of John Simons, a husbandman of Great Billing (15 miles from Naseby). His will was made on 30 June 1578 and proved on 2 October of the same year.⁸ It includes a bequest of £4 and two sheep to be delivered to his daughter Agnes at the age of 20 years. The parish register of Great Billing does not survive from earlier than 1662; no record has been found elsewhere in Northamptonshire of John's marriage to his wife Elizabeth or of baptisms that could be of his seven named children to whom John left bequests.

George and Agnes were evidently the parents of these children; the baptism register itself does not record the parents' names at all but all three of the names appear as his children in George's will (see Appendix C):

	Baptised	Married	Buried
Elizabeth	1580	Thomas Lovell 1620	
Alice	1582/3		
Thomas	1586	Sarah Bate 1625/6 Anne (1631-1654)	1656

Agnes Chester was buried on 17 November 1602.

George Chester was buried on 7 March 1622/3 and his will was proved on 4 April 1623. He left six pence to his daughter Elizabeth, with the residue to be divided equally between his daughter Alice and his son Thomas.

On 28 March 1623, a detailed inventory of George's 'goodes and cattell' (i.e. not including any land that he may have owned) was compiled and appraised by Vincent Tarry, Samuel Bosworth and William Bate. The text of that document is also included in Appendix C. It mentions three specific rooms in the house – the hall, parlour and chamber over the parlour. The valuations provided come to a total of £10.7s.6d.

⁸ Northampton Archdeaconry Court: 1st series, book T, folio 246, number 554.

Thomas Chester & Sarah Bate: grandparents

Thomas Chester & Sarah Bate were married on 26 January 1625/6. The locations of their families' homes indicate that Thomas and Sarah did not have far to travel when they were courting.

A map of the manor of Naseby dating from 1630⁹ clearly shows individual dwellings with the names of their occupiers. It includes the locations of:

- the house of 'Tho Chest' on the west side of the road now known as the High Street a short distance north of its junction with the road now called School Lane, and
- a house labelled 'Bate', which was to the south of Cromwell Cottage and on the opposite side of the High Street. The Bate house was located roughly where a Victorian property with the number 52 High Street now stands facing the School Lane junction.

The building currently standing on the site of Thomas Chester's house has a thatched roof with cob walls¹⁰ and the modern name of 'Cromwell Cottage'. It is one of the very few older cottages to have survived the rebuilding of most of Naseby that has taken place since 1870. The Valuation Office Survey compiled after the Finance Act 1910 described the property as then consisting of two 'mud and thatch cottages' which were let to separate tenants.¹¹ Historic England has designated the structure as a grade II listed building and states it is probably mid-18th century.¹² Nevertheless, it is feasible that the property may include at least some elements from the dwelling that was Thomas Chester's home in the early 17th century.



Cromwell Cottage, Naseby

⁹ Original in the Fitzgerald papers at Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich.

¹⁰ Cob walls were built in layers of a mixture of earth, water, stone and straw above a solid stone plinth.

¹¹ The National Archives: IR58/59246, items 305 & 306.

¹² <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1343542?section=official-list-entry>

Thomas & Sarah Chester were the parents of three children:

	Baptised	Married	Buried
Anne	1626		
William	1628	Mary	1711
Richard	1630		

Sarah, wife of Thomas Chester, was buried on 7 July 1631. This was eight months after her son Richard was baptised which suggests that she may have succumbed to the effects of an unsuccessful further pregnancy.

Thomas married again after Sarah's death, as 'Anne, wife of Thomas Chester' was buried on 10 April 1654, but no record has been found of their wedding or of any children from their marriage.

'Thomas Chester' was buried on 7 June 1656

The Bate family

No baptism has been found recorded at Naseby that could be of Sarah or a sibling. However, the will of Joane Bate, a widow of 'Navesbie', was made on 9 May 1625 and mentions her eight children including a daughter 'Sarra Bate'. Joane was already 'sick and diseased' when making the will and she was buried only six days later. The will was proved on 27 June 1625, with the total valuation of the inventory of her chattels coming to £34-12-10d. The text of the inventory does not survive but the detailed provisions set out in the will (see Appendix D) provide evidence of many of her possessions.¹³

It is almost certain likely that Joane's husband was John Bate who was buried on 30 July 1623 and had served as a churchwarden at Naseby in 1614. No baptisms of their children are recorded at Naseby, so it is likely that their eight children were born before 1614. This hardly leaves time for them to be the same individuals as the couple 'John Bates and Joane Hewet' who had married on 30 August 1600 at Ashby St Ledgers, which is a parish eleven miles from Naseby.

¹³ Northampton Archdeaconry Court: 1st series, book AV, number 237.

William Chester & Mary: parents

'Willm. Chester the sone of Thomas Chester & of Sarah his wyfe' was baptised on 3 August 1628. No record has been found of his marriage.

William was a young man in 1645 when the Battle of Naseby took place. He would not have fought there; the armies had only very recently arrived in the area and there was no fighting in the village itself which was behind the lines of the victorious army. The parish would have suffered losses from the arrival of thousands of troops whose baggage train probably did not cater for all of their needs. The battle did, however, offer a silver lining for the local people. Writing in the next century, John Mastin said that the grandson of a boy who was present at the burial of the dead told him it was 'done by the country people coming in from all quarters; some were stripped, others buried in their cloaths'.¹⁴ Presumably, some of the dead soldiers were accompanied by valuables such as plunder from the recent sack of Leicester.

The baptisms of six children of William Chester are recorded in Naseby parish register with a specific date against each one: Thomas 1657, Marie 1661, William 1663, Sarah 1664/5, Joseph 1669 and Richard 1673. The entry 'Richard Chester sone of William Chester and Mary his wife' is the only one that provides the names of both parents

The parish register also has five consecutive entries later in the book, the first of which says: 'Anne Chaster was Baptized in ye year of our Lord god 1659'

The same details, not stating the parents' names, appear for the others in the list: Anne Chester 1659, Mare Chester 1661, William Chester 1663, Asten Chester 1666 and Moses Chester 1675. This implies that Anne, Asten and Moses were siblings of the children of William Chester previously recorded; an interpretation which is supported by hearth tax records for that period. In the year ending 25 March 1675, William Chester was the only householder recorded at Naseby who was liable to pay tax on his one hearth. No Chester at Naseby was shown as exempt from payment.¹⁵

The nine children in the family were:

	Baptised	Married	Buried
Thomas	1657		
Anne	1659		
Marie	1661		
William	1663		
Sarah	1664/5	n/a	1664/5
Asten	1666		
Joseph	1669		
Richard	1673		
Moses	1675	Abigail Lole 1704	1711

'Mary wife of William Chester', was buried on 22 December 1706.

'William Chester' was buried on 22 December 1711.

¹⁴ <https://archive.org/details/historyandantiq00mastgoog/page/n160/mode/2up> - see page 117.

¹⁵ The National Archives: E179/254/14.

Moses Chester:

Moses Chester was baptised in 1675, without an exact date recorded.

'Moses Chester and Abegile Lole' were married on 2 July 1704. These children of Moses Chester were baptised, the mother's name only being recorded on one occasion (as 'Abigal' in the bishop's transcript for 1710):

	Baptised	Married	Buried
John	1704/5		
Mary	1705/6	Thomas Bramley 1737	1738 Holdenby
Anne	1708	n/a	1739/40
Sarah	1710	George Bodfish 1734	1775
Abigail	1714/5	n/a	1726
Moses	1716	Ann Falkner 1741	1773
Hannah	1719	John Garrett 1740	1803
William	1722/3		(alive in 1749)
Thomas	1725		(alive in 1749)

'Abigail the wife of Moses Chester' was buried on 2 February 1727/8. Her son Thomas had been baptised on 5 October 1725 – 28 months before her burial – which suggest that she and a younger child may have succumbed to a final pregnancy.

'Moses Chester sener' was buried on 12 April 1751.¹⁶ He had been in poor health for some time as his will dated 3 April 1749 describes him as 'being very weak in body'. The will (see Appendix E) was proved on 4 May 1751. The lack of a legacy to his son John suggests that John had already died though it may be that as the oldest son he was already better provided for than his siblings. Moses was described as a yeoman in his will. He made a mark rather than signing his name; as he was so ill at the time, this does not prove illiteracy.

Abigail Lole: wife

'Abigail Lole daughter of John Lole and of Dorothe his wife' was baptised at Cold Ashby on 26 December 1683, the only known child of her parents. Their marriage on 6 November 1681 was recorded in Guilsborough parish register as 'John Lole of Husbands Bosworth in Leicestershire & Dorothy Wiggons of ye parish of Guilsborough in the county of Northampton'. No record has been found of the burial of John Lole, which probably reflects the total lack of burials recorded in the Cold Ashby register between 1679/80 and 1691/2.

Guilsborough parish register records the burial on 21 July 1691 of 'Dorothy Lole'. On 26 January 1691/2 administration of the estate of Dorothy Lole of Cold Ashby, widow, was granted to Edmund Wiggins, a shepherd, the brother, for the benefit of Abigail Lole, daughter of the deceased. Therefore, Abigail was probably less than eight years old when she became a full orphan. Despite the Christian name discrepancy, it is probable that Abigail's uncle was the 'Edward Wiggins who died at Naseby' whose burial on 30 March 1716 is recorded in the Guilsborough parish register.

¹⁶ This burial is not to be confused with the burial at Naseby on 18 May 1751 of 'Moses Chester juner', who had been baptised on 30 December 1750 and was his grandson.

Appendix A: Descent of Thomas Bodfish from Thomas Chester

Thomas CHESTER married buried 1566/7 Naseby	Cecily buried 1589/90 Naseby
George CHESTER married 1578 Naseby buried 1622/3 Naseby	Agnes SYMONS buried 1602 Naseby
Thomas CHESTER baptised 1586 Naseby married 1625/6 Naseby buried 1656 Naseby	Sarah BATE buried 1631 Naseby
William CHESTER baptised 1628 Naseby married buried 1711 Naseby	Mary buried 1706 Naseby
Moses CHESTER baptised 1675 Naseby married 1704 Naseby buried 1751 Naseby	Abigail LOLE baptised 1683 Cold Ashby buried 1727/8 Naseby
Sarah CHESTER baptised 1710 Naseby married 1734 Naseby buried 1775 Naseby	George BODFISH baptised 1705 Sibbertoft buried 1786 Naseby
Thomas BODFISH baptised 1739 Naseby married 1775 Naseby buried 1814 Naseby	Leah HITCHCOCK baptised 1752 Spratton buried 1808 Naseby
Thomas BODFISH born c.1783 Naseby married 1803 Haselbech died 1853 Naseby	Hannah JERSON baptised 1784 Haselbech died 1864 Naseby

Appendix B: Will of Thomas Chester, probate 1566/7

Discrepancies

There are many small discrepancies, mainly of spelling, between the Original will and the Office copy. By far the most important one is that the Office copy omits the bequest included in the Original will to Thomas' daughter Grace Chester.

Text of the Original will¹⁷

In the name of God Amen the [?] day of Januarye in the yere of our Lord god 1566 And in the Raighn of oure soveraigne Ladie Elizabeth by the grace of god Quene of england the seventh etc I Thomas Chester of Navesbye beinge in good and perfect memorye do make this my laste will & testament in manner and Forme following Fyrste I bequethe my soule to Almightye god & my bodie to be buryed in the churche yarde of Navesbye aforesaid

Item I geve to Cleament Chester my eldeste sonne the beste beaste brasse pott and three ewe shepe

Item I geve to Wylliam Chester my sone a brasse pott and three shepe

Item I geve to George Chester my sonne three shepe

Item I geve to Agnes Chester my dawter my greatest brasse panne after the death of her mother and two ewe shepe and one hoggrell

Item I geve to Alys Chester my dawghter towe ewe shepe and one hoggerill

Item I geve to Grace Chester my dawghter towe ewe shepe and one hoggerill

Item I geve to Isabell Chester my dawghter one hoggryll

The Resydewe of my goodes not geven and bequethed I geve and Bequethe to Cycilie my wife whome I make my full executrix to se my deptes paid and this my woll performyd

Allso I ordayne and make Richard mownford and morris Wade oversears and supervisoures of this my Last will and testament

also I wyll that yf Cicilie my wife do marye after my departure that Fowre poundes thirteen shillinges Foure pence equallie to be devyded A mongest my chillderne at the day of her marrage

wittenes this will

William Weston curat therr

Richard mownford

Morris Wade

Willyam Morton

[the document is entirely in the same handwriting and does not include signatures of either the testator or witnesses]

¹⁷ Northampton Archdeaconry Court: C&D series, book C, number 138.

Text of the Office copy of the will¹⁸

Testamentum Thomae Chester de nassbei defuncti
[will of Thomas Chester of Naseby deceased]

In the name of God Amen the eight day of January in the yere of our Lord god 1566 I Thomas Chester of Nassbei beinge in Good and perfect memorye do make this my last will and testament in manner and forme following

fyrst I Bequeth my soule unto almightie god and my body to be Buryed in the church yard of Navesbey aforesaid

Item I geve to Cleament chester my eldest sone my best brasse pott and three shepe

Item I geve to Wylliam chester my sone a brasse pott and three shepe

Item I geve to George chester my sone three shepe

Item I geve to agnes chester my daughter my greatest brasse panne after the death of her mother and two ewe shepe and one hoggrell

Item I geve to Alys chester my daughter two ewe shepe and one hoggryll

Item I to Isabell chester my daughter one hoggryll

The Resydue of my goodes not geven nor bequethed I geve and Bequeth to Cycilye my wiffe whome I make my full executryx to se my debtes paid and this my woll performyd allso I ordayne and make Richard mownford and Moris Wade oversears and supervysoures of this my last will and testament

also I wyll that yf Cicyly my wiffe do mary after my departure that foure poundes thirteen shillings and foure pence equally to be devyded amongst my children at the daye of her marage

wittenes William Weston curat theire Rychard mownford Moris Wade and William Morton with more.

Probate

The date of probate is recorded in Latin as 'iido die menss maii Anno dni 1566', which means 2 May 1566. However, that is earlier than the dates when the will was made and of Thomas' burial. It therefore appears that 'maii' was a mistake for 'martii' which would make the true probate date 2 March 1566/7.

¹⁸ Northampton Archdeaconry Court: 1st series, book P, folios 1011 & 101.

Appendix C: Will and Inventory of George Chester, probate 1623

Text of the Office copy of the Will¹⁹

March 12 [year not stated]

In the name of god amen I George Chester of Navsbee do make my laste will and testament in maner and forme following

First I give unto my daughter Elizabeth six pence

Item I give unto my daughter Alce one halfe of my goodes and to my sonne Thomas the other halfe which I make my full executour

Vincent Tarrie T his mark

William Bate

Probate

A note at the bottom of the Office copy states that the will was proved on 4 April 1623.

Inventory²⁰

An Inventory of all the goodes and cattell of George Chester of Navesby in the countie of Northampton Laborer deceased taken and made the 28th day of March 1623 and prised by us Vincent Tarrie Samwell Bosworth and William Bate.

	£	shillings	pence
Inprimis in the hall one table and a forme one cheare a wollen wheele an old caffer two little brase potts and a brase pan a little cettle an old lande Iron a pare of tongs and poot hangles two stooles with other smale implements prised at		30	
Item in the parler one bedsted one cubarde one caffer five peeces of putter one candle sticke one salte and foure putter spoones prised at		26	8
Item more in the parler fore hillinges three blankites one old matteris two old bolsters two pillows five paire of sheetes one towell two pillowbeares drawers one borde clorth and three table napkines prised at		46	8
Item in the chamber over the parler one old bedsted one olde arke one olde cuffer two cheese boordes with other smale implementes prised at		3	4
Item two tubes two pailles prised at		2	8
Item two beaste prised at	3	6	8
Item the croope in the fielde prised at		20	
Item his apparrell prised at		11	
Item if there bee any thinge forgotten for wante of memorie wee alowe			6

[No figure is recorded in the document for the grand total but the individual amounts if added together come to £10.7s.6d]

¹⁹ Northampton Archdeaconry Court: 2nd series, book M, folio 251.

²⁰ Northampton Archdeaconry Court: C&D series, book C, number 285.

Appendix D: Will of Joane Bate, probate 1625

Text of the Office copy of the Will²¹

In the name of God Amen I Joane Bate of Navesbie in the county of Northton widowe beinge sicke & diseased in bodie but of perfitt minde & memory praised be god doe make this my last will & testament in manner & forme following

First I give & bequeath my soule into the hands of Allmighty god my Creator redeemer & sanctifier & my bodie to the earth to be buried in the churchyard of Navesbie a Foresaid

Item I give to my daughter Ann Barnard six pence

Item I give to my daughter Mary Elliott six pence

Item I give to my daughter Joane Ringrose I give six pence and three pare of hempen sheets

Item I give to my sonne William Bate six pence

Item I give to my daughter dorathie knight six pence

I give to my daughter Sarra Bate one bedstead one featherbed one mattresse one Coverlett two blanketts a feather bolster two pillows one pillowbeene of blacke woll [twoo?] payre of Flaxen sheets three paire of hempen sheets, one towell one christuning sheet one bordcloth two table napkins one face Cloth one penne one brasse pann, one great brasse pott too kettles one Chafindish one Candlesticke one salt fower peeces of pewter one pewter Cupp two chests two coffers one bedstead one round table two bufft stooles, one wollen wheale two linen wheeles one tubb one paile one kinnell one kneadinge trough, one Cheese presse too barrells one olde arke one black Cowe, one yearling bullock one Red weaning Calfe

Item I give to my daughter Joane Bate one bedstead one trundle bed one Feather bed on mattresse one Coverlett two blanketts one Feather bolster two pillows too pillowbearies three paire of Flaxen sheets three paire of hempen sheets, one towell one christeninge sheet one table napkine one face Cloth one Cubbord one brasse pott one brass pann three kettles two Candlesticks one salt fower peeces of pewter one pewter k[?] too Chests too Coffers, one bo[rd?] too chaires one table twoe buffet stooles one wollen wheele too lynnens wheeles one Tubb one paile one kinnell one boltinge tubb one Cheesepresse stoole twoe barrells one olde fatt one browne Cowe on yearlinge heffer

All other my goods moveable & unmoveable I give and bequeth unto my well beloved sonne Thomas Bate whome I make my sole and full executor of this my last Will and testament Alsoe I make and ordaine overseers of this my will my nighbours Vincent Tary and Daniell hormer to be aidinge and assistinge unto my executor for the true performance heereof wee beinge wittnesss whose names are heere unto subscribed Edward Wright Vincent Tarry William Bate John Ringrose his marke

Alsoe I give unto my daughter Sara Bate one spice mortar and Fitye shillings

Item I give to my daughter Jane Bate fiftie shillings soe that my will is that if anie of my three children Thomas Sara or Jane shall depart this life before marriage that then the part or porcion of the deceaseinge shall equally come to the survivor or survivors

²¹ Northampton Archdeaconry Court: 1st series, book AV, folio 237.

Moses Chester of Naseby (1675-1751) and his family
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Probate

27 June 1625, Thomas Bate the son and executor sworn.

Inventory

Total valuation of the inventory was £34.12s.10d.

[The inventory itself has not been found]

Appendix E: Will of Moses Chester, probate 1751

In the Name of God Amen The third Day of April in the Year of Our Lord 1749. I Moses Chester of Naseby in the County of Northampton Yeoman being very weak in Body but of Perfect Mind and Memory Thanks be given unto God for the same But calling to Mind the Mortality of my Body and knowing that it is Appointed for all Men once to Die, do make and ordaine this my Last Will and Testament As Followeth.

First of all, I give and recommend my Soul to the Hands of Almighty God that gave it and my Body I recommend to the Earth, to be buried in a Christian Like and decent manner, and at the Direction of my after named Executor; nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again, by the mighty Power of God.

And as touching such Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me with in this Life, I give devise and Dispense of the same in the following manner and Form.

Imprimis, I give to my son William Chester, the sum of Twenty Pounds of Lawful Money of Great Britain, to be paid to him by my Executor Twelve Months after my Decease.

Item, I give to my Son Thomas Chester, the sum of Twenty Pounds of Lawful Money of Great Britain, to be paid to him by my Executor Twelve Months after my Decease.

I do also give and bequeath to my son Thomas Chester the Bedstead and Bedding in the Parlour except the Featherbed. I do also give him a Chest.

And if any of my Sons aforesaid Thomas Chester and William Chester shall Die before the time appointed for the Payment of the said Twenty Pounds and the Bedstead Bedding and Chest or any of them Die a Single Man then I give the said aid Twenty Pound equally among the rest of his or their Brothers and Sisters.

Item I give to my Daughter Sarah Boat a Featherbed.

Item I having given to my Daughter Hannah Garrett Fifteen Pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain and some goods and Her Husband having received it in full his Acquittance shall be my Executors Discharge in full for the same.

Item I give to my son George Boat One Shilling.

Item I give to my Son Thomas Bramley of Homeby One Shilling.

Item I give to my Son Moses Chester all my Good Chattels Credits and Personall Estate whatsoever or wheresoever, he paying all my Just Debts and Funerall Expenses and the Legacies above mentioned, and I do make my said Son Moses Chester my Sole Executor of this my Last Will and Testament.

And I do revoke and disannul all former Wills made by me Ratifying and Confirming this and no other to be my Last Will and Testament.

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto Set my Hand and Seal, the Day and Year above Written.
The mark (x) of Moses Chester

Signed, Sealed and pronounced by the said Moses Chester as his Last Will and Testament, in the presence of us the Subscribers. William Parker, John Watts, John Linit [all signed]

Probate from Northampton Archdeaconry Court: May 4th 1751 – Moses Chester the sole Executor named in the within Written Will was then at the petition of Smith his Proctor Sworne faithfully to fulfil the same and so forth before me E Watkin Surrogate.