

Source: *Canterbury Cathedral Archives, Microfilm copy of original Will.*

**PRC 17/101/322a Will of John Kemp, Fisherman and Dredger of Whitstable, dated  
17<sup>th</sup> October 1788 and Proved 6<sup>th</sup> November 1788**

*All spelling etc. is as in the original document.*

In the Name of God Amen I **John Kemp** of the parish of Whitstable in the County of Kent Fisherman and Dredger being ill in Body but of sound perfect and disposing Mind Memory and Understanding (God be praised therefore) Do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in writing in manner and form following (that is to say)

First and principally I recommend my Soul to God And my Body to the Earth to be buried Decently at the discretion of my Executor hereafter named And as for such Wordily Estate as it pleased Almighty God to bestow upon my after my Burial Fees and Debts are all paid I dispose thereof as followeth

Imprimis I give unto my **Daughter Mary Kemp** my Two Dwelling Houses in the parish of Whitstable in the County of Kent for her and at her Liberty to dispose of as she shall think proper

I give unto my well beloved **Wife Ann Kemp** all and singular my Household Goods Boat Store Houses Cash Plate and all other things whatsoever and wheresoever to her and the Heirs of her Body by me for ever if in case my said Wife and Child by her Body by me should die then the whole and Real Estate to be the sole property of my **Daughter Mary Kemp** before mentioned for her to dispose thereof as she shall [think] proper

And I do hereby make nominate ordain and appoint my said **Wife Ann Kemp** Executrix of this my last Will and Testament And I do hereby revoke and make void all former Wills and Testaments by me at any time heretofore made And I do hereby publish this and no other to be my last Will and Testament

In Witness whereof I the said **John Kemp** the Testator have to this my last Will and testament in one Sheet of Paper contained Set my Hand and Seal the 17<sup>th</sup> Day of October in the Twenty eighth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland Defender of the Faith and so forth and in the year of our Lord God One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty eight

This is to Certify likewise that I have appointed John Backman Sen<sup>r</sup> and my **Brother Oz<sup>s</sup> Kemp [Ozias Kemp]** both of Whitstaple (*sic*) aforesaid Guardians of my **Daughter Mary Kemp** in this Will before mentioned And likewise my **Sister Esabella [Isabella] Hunt** to take and Board the said **Mary Kemp my Daughter** and the rents of the two Dwelling Houses to pay for the Maintaining and bringing up the said Child

**John Kemp** his mark

Signed sealed published and Declared by the said **John Kemp** the Testator to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who subscribed our names as Witnesses hereunto in the Presence and at the Request of the said Testator

Witnesses hereunto **Wm. Cheall Charles Tevelain**

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The before Registered Will of **John Kemp** deceased was proved the Twenty sixth day of November 1788 before the Reverend Joshua Dix Clerk Surrogate to the Worshipful Sir William Scott Knight Doctor of Laws Official General to the Reverend the Archdeacon of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the Oath of **Ann Kemp Widow** the Relict and Sole Executrix named in the said Will she being first Sworn duly to perform the same

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Notes:

**John Kemp** was the son of **Michael** and **Mary (nee Castle) Kemp**, thus:

**Michael Kemp** was the son of **Ozias and Elizabeth Kemp**, christened 30 Mar 1724 at All Saints, Whitstable. **Michael Kemp** married Mary Castle, Widow on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1747 at Harbledown, Kent.

Children (all christened at All Saints, Whitstable):

18 Mar 1748	<b>Isabella;</b>	3 Feb 1750(1)	<b>Ozias;</b>	16 Sep 1753	<b>William;</b>
23 Dec 1755	<b>Mary;</b>	14 Nov 1757	<b>John;</b>	14 Nov 1759	<b>Phillip.</b>

**John Kemp** of Whitstable married Ann Murton by Licence on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1788 at Newington-next-Sittingbourne.

Mary's christening is not found.