



Septemb^r. the 13th. day 1742.

In the Name of God Amen

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S^t. Helier in Jersey Septemb^r. the thirteen one thousand seven hundred and fourty two. I Francis Best Lieutenant Governour of his Majesty's Island of Jersey and Commander in Chief of all the Castles, Forts, and Forces etc. And formerly Maj.^r in his Maj^{ties} own Royall Regiment of Dragoons, being in perfect health and perfect Memory thank be given unto God do make this my last Will and Testament that is to say, principally and first of all I give and recommand my soul into the hand of Almighty God that gave it and my body I recommand to the Earth to be buried at the Decent Christian Burial in the parish where I shall die.

The Charges for my Burial to be one hundred and fifty pounds Sterling, and no more, every Officer and friends that shall honoured with their presence my Burial to have a Gold Ring, a Scarf, a Hatband and a pair of white Gloves: this 150 pound to be taken out of the Cash that are by me, and Bank Bills or in case it should not answer it is to be taken from the Debts due to me or other things left by me, I not now been in Debt to any body _____ } £¹: 150 :

I give and bequeath of the above Dito Cash to every Servant with me when I die twenty pound each to buy themselves Mourning Cloathes £ 20 p.^o each _____ }

I bequeath to the poor of the before mentioned parish where I shall be buried of the above Dito Cash etc. left by me one hundred pound. } £: 100 :-

As touching such Worldly Goods and Estate which God has blessed me with I give and devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form,

¹ ,Livre = pound sterling' (Grun S. 146); hier: Pfund Sterling, Wahrung in Grobritannien.

Imprimis I give and bequeath at my deceased to my beloved Nephew Frederick Paul Behse on autrement Comme il Signe en Anglais Frederick Best who is now here with me, the two thousand pound Bank Stock which I have at the Bank of England and subscribed in my Name. I make my said Nephew Frederick Best the Executor of this my last Will Jointly with Mr. Simeon Behse per wig maker and Mr. W^m. Chisholm of Newport street and ~~Mr. Stephan Gardes Broker in Sissill court.~~ _____

} £: 2000 -

Witness my self and seal Francis Best (LS)

St. Helier, in Jersey as on the other side, the 13.th of Septemb.^r 1742 as follow,

Item I also give and bequeath to my beloved Brother Ferdinand Behse now Capitaine in the Regiment a Mons^r. Le Collonel de Leyden now in Gar[n]ison in Namur in the state of Holland service one thousand pound stairling of the two thousand pound South Sea Stock of mine and which is subscribed in my name, but if I do survive my said Brother Ferdinand Behse then the said mentioned South Sea thousand pound Stock I give to my before mentioned (on the other side) said Nephew Frederick Best at my deceased _____

} £: 1000 -

Item I give and bequeath to my beloved Nephew Henry Bartolomew Behse one thousand pound of the before said 2000 pound South Sea Stock which I have and subscribed in my name in the said fund, my said Nephew Hen[ry] Bart. Behse is now Cornet dans le Regiment de Dragon de Mons^r. Le Collonel Baron de Matha A present en Cartier a Bergen Op Zoom en Brabant et an service D' Hollande _____

} £: 1000 -

Item of the four thousand and four hundred pound which I now have in the Bank, and subscribed in my name in the fund called three per Cent I give and bequeath (out of the said sum) to my beloved Nephew Otto frederic Behse or to his heir, that is if I should survived him, he is at present in Hornbach a la Conté des Deus pont, il est Chatelin et Maistre Drapier. I give and bequeath to the said Otto Frederic Behse three thousand four hundred pound out of the before said sum _____

} £: 3400 -

Item I give and bequeath to Francis Behse my Godson three hundred pound of the above Dito sum of the 4400 pound which I have in the fund of the said three per cent, if in case the said Francis Behse survived me and if he does it not it shall fall to his Father Simeon Behse per wig maker (living near St. Ann Church) if he survived me. And I make the said Simeon Behse one of the Executor of this my last Will and Testament jointly with my Nephew frederick Paul Behse and Mr. W^m. Chisholme and ~~Mr. Stephan Gardes Broker in Sissill court~~ all three 2 mentioned in this Testament. } £: 300 -

Witness my self and seal Francis Best (LS)
Item as follow in the annex

St. Helier in Jersey as annex the 13.th of Septemb.^r 1742 as follows.
Item I give and bequeath of Dito sum of tree p^r. Cent to my Godson Francis Godfrey of Southampton Street in Covent Garden one hundred pound. _ } £: 100 -

Item of the Dito three p^r. Cent as mentioned above and on the other side I give and bequeath to my GodDaughter fany Hüe of Newport street two hundred pound _ _ _ _ _ } £: 200 -

Item I give and bequeath of the Dito three p^r. Cent as mentioned above to my GodDaughter _ _ _ _ _ Barber Daughter to Quarter Mr. Barber now of Horse Blew the sum of one hundred pound _ _ _ _ _ } £: 100 -

Item I give and bequeath of Dito three p^r. Cent to Mr. W^m. Chisholme of Newport Street my Executor of this my last Will jointly with my beloved Nephew Frederick Paul Best and Mr. Simeon Behse ~~and Mr. Stephan Gardes Broker in Sissill court~~, all mentioned this Will and Testament. I give and bequeath to the said Mr. W^m. Chisholme one hundred and twenty five pound _ _ _ _ _ } £: 125 -

~~Item I give and bequeath of Dito three p^r. Cent one hundred and twenty five pound to Mr. Stephan Gardes B... of my Executor of this last Will and Testament jointly with all.~~
Beloved Nephew Frederick Paul Best and Mr. Simeon Behse and Mr. W^m. Chisholm all mentioned in this will and Testament which gentleman are all desired to see this last Will of mine fairly Executed _ _ _ _ _ } £: 125 -

Nota Bene. it is my Will that if any person die before me to whom I bequeath any legacy, the same falls and Devolve to my Nephew Frederick Paul Best who I make the whole Heir of the same in Witness my self and seal, Francis Best. (LS)

Codicill, Jersey Septemb.^r the 13.th 1742. I Francis Best L^t. Govener etc. do make my beloved Nephew Frederick Paul Best now here with me my sole and only Heir and Executor for what Goods, Money, and Bills which I shall or may have by me at my deceased if I die how in Jersey: And out of the said Goods Money and Bills he the said Frederick Paul Best is to defray and pay the Charges of my Burial and Debts if any of which at this time I do declare my self clear Witness my Hand. f. Best.

16th. January 1753

(source: Extracted from the Registry of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury— www.englishorigins.com)

On which day Appeared personally Nicholas James of the parish of St. James Westminster in the Country of Middlesex Gentleman and Jane Sawyer, Wife of John Sawyer of the same parish Cabinet Maker and being sworn on the holy Evangelists to depose the truth made oath that very well know and were acquainted with Francis Best late Lieutenant Governor of the Island of Jersey but in the said parish of Saint James Westminster in the said Country of Middlesex Esquire deceased, the said Nicholas James for about four years and the said Jane Sawyer for about year next before and to the time of his death which happened on Friday the twelfth day of the Month of January Instant at his Lodgings at the House of the said Jane Sawyer in the said parish of St. James Westminster. And the Deponent Nicholas James for himself further make th[e] oath that the Deponent did on Friday the said twelfth day of January instant go to visit the said deceased Francis Best at his said Lodgings he the deponent being very intimate with him and he the deponent then and there found the said deceased in a languishing condition and totally senseless and in about on hour afterwards he the said deceased departed this life in the presence of him the Dep.^t and of one Simeon Behse and others and soon afterwards both these Deponents together with the said Simeon Behse made a search for a Will of the said deceased and in a Hair trunk which was in the closet adjoining or contiguous to his Bed Chamber and among papers of consequence he the Deponent Nicholas James found the paper writing hereinto annext purporting to be the last Will and Testament of the said deceased beginning thus "Septembr. the 13th. day 1742. In the Name of God Amen St. Helier on Jersey Septembr. the thirteen one thousand seven hundred and fourty two I francis Best Lieutenant Governour of his Majesty's Island of Jersey" whereupon he the said Nicholas James read the same over Audibly and distinctly to the said Simeon Behse and the said Jane Sawyer and others all of whom did then see and observe the obliterations appearing therein to wit of the words "and Mr. Stephen Gardes Broker in Sisill Court" in the last line of the first side or page thereof of the words "and Mr. Stephen Gardes in the last line of the second page thereof of the words" Mr. Stephen Gardes Broker of Sisill Court in the thirteenth and fourteenth Lines and the words "Item I give and bequeath of Ditto tree per Cent one hundred and twenty five pound to Mr. Stephen Gardes Broker of Sisill Court my Executor of this my last Will and Testament jointly with my in the sixteenth seventeenth and eighteenth lines of the third side or page thereof and also the several interlineations therein And both these deponents having now again viewed and carefully perused the said Will hereunto annext as aforces did they do verily and in their consciences believe the same to be now in the same plight order and condition in every respect with regard to the several obliterations and interlineations appearing therein as it was when found after the said deceased death as aforer

aid. Nicholas James und Jane Sawyer The same day the said Nicholas James and Jane Sawyer were duly sworn to the truth of the promises Before me Arthur Collier Surrogate. present Mark Holman Junior Notary publick,

16.th January 1753.

(source: Extracted from the Registry of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury– www.englishorigins.com)

On which day appeared personally Stephen Gardes of Rathbone place in the parish of St. Mary' le bone in the Country of Middlesex, Gentleman and Isaac Reynous of the same place Gentleman and being sworn an the Holy Evangelists to depose the truth made oath that they very well knew and were acquainted with Francis Best late Lieutenant Governour of the Island of Jersey but in the said parish of Saint James Westminster in the said Country of Middlesex Esquire deceased, for several years before and to the time of his death which happened on or about the twelfth day of the Month of January instant and with his manner and Character of Handwriting and Subscription having often soon him write and subscribe his name to Writings and both these Deponents having now carefully viewed and perused the paper writing hereunto annext purporting to be the last Will and Testament of the said deceased beginning thus "Septemb.^r the 13th. day 1742. In the Name of God Amen St. Helier on Jersey Septemb.^r the thirteen one thousand seven hundred and fourty two I francis Best Lieutenant Governour of his Majesty's Island of Jersey" and ending thus "who I make the whole Heir of the same In Witness my self and seal" and thus subscribed "francis Best" and having now also viewed and perused the codicil or addition thereto wrote at the foot or bottom of the third side or page of the said Will beginning thus "Codicil Jersey Septembr. the 13.th 1742 I francis Best Lt. Governer etc." and ending thus "I do declare my self clear Witness my hand" and thus subscribed "f. Best" they Deponents do verily and in their consciences believe the said Will beginning and ending also as afores aid and also the said codicil beginning and ending also as afores aid and the name f. Best wrote at the foot totally wrote dated and subscribed by and with the proper hand of the said Francis Best deceased. S. Gardes, Isaac Reynous. The same day the said Stephen Gardes and Isaac Reynous were duly sworn to the truth of the promises Before me Arth.^r Collier Surrog.^{te} present Ben. Sockyer Notary Publick,

16.th January 1753

(source: Extracted from the Registry of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury– www.englishorigins.com)

This Will was proved at London with a Codicil the sixteenth day of January in the Year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty three before the Worshipful Arthur Collier Doctor of Laws and surrogate to the Right Honourable Sir George Lee Knight also Doctor of Laws, Master Keeper or Commissary of the prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the Oath so Simeon Behse and William Chisholme the surviving Executors named in the said Will to whom Administration was granted of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of the said deceased being first sworn duly to administer. / ...

(source: Extracted from the Registry of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury– www.englishorigins.com)

fo. 32 Memorand.^m: That Major Francis Best Lieut. Gov. of Jersey late of the parish of St. James: Westminster Dyed possessed of Six Thousand Three Hundred pounds 3 P Cent annuitif Stock Anno 1726 and by his last Will & Testament Dated 13. Septem.^r 1742 (with a Codicil annexed Dated D: J. he his Nephew Frederick Paul Best, Simeon Behse near St. Anns Church Peruke Maker & William Chisholme of Newport Street to be his Joint Executors. But Frederick Paul Best one of the Execu.r is since Dyed. – And in his said Will are the words following viz:

“Item of the Four Thousand & Four Hundred pounds or which I have now in the Bank and subscribed in my Name in the Fund called three per Cent

“I give Bequeath (out of the said Sum) to my beloved Nephew Otto Frederick Behse or to his Heir, that is if I should survive him

“he is at present in Hornbach a la Conté des [d]eus Pont it est Chatelin et Maistre drapier I give & Bequeath to the said Otto Frederick Behse Three Thousand & Four Hundred pound out of the before said Sum £ 3400 — Item I give & Bequeath to Francis Behse my Godson Three Hundred Pound of the above Ditto Sum of the £ 4400 pound which I have in the Fund of the said Tree p Cent if in case the said Francis Behse survive me and if he does it not, it shall fall to his Father Simeon Behse Peruke Maker Living near St. Anns Church if he survives me and I make the said Simeon Behse one of the Executors of the my last Will & Testament Jointly to my Nephew Frederick Paul Behse & Mr. William Chisholme all mentioned in this Testament £ 300 – Item I give & Bequeath of Ditto Sum of Tree per Cent ot my Godson Francis Godfrey of Southampton Street in Covent Garden [... see on top]

	£ 3400	To be Transf. to his Nephew Otto Friedrich Besse
	300	To his Godson Francis Behse, but at his decease to his Father Simeon Behse Peruke Maker near St. Anns Church
since Dyed	100	To his Godson Francis Godfrey of Southampton Street Covent Garden
since married	200	To his God Daug. ^r Frances Hue of Newport Str.
Thomas Viellsof newport St. Corner		
	100	To ----- Barber Daughter to Quarter Master Barber, Horse Blew
	125	To William Chisholme of Newport Street one of his Executors

	4225	
	2075	The Resid. ^m at the disposal of the Executors above ment und in mean Time they may Receive the Dividend, Viz. l Mes. ^r Simeon Besse & William Chisholme Surviving Executors
		The Probate dated at Doctor Commens 16. th January 1753
		Register d. 15. th February 1753

P. Paque

N.º 1396

St. Ann's Westminster **T** H E S E are to certify that *Francis Behse¹ a Man* was buried the 20. Day of June One Thousand Seven Hundred and fifty three as appears by the Register of Burials belonging to the Parish of St. Ann, Westminster, and extracted from the said Register this second Day of August 1753

Witness my Hand
Henry Pyeyot Curate and Register

Last Will of Simeon Behse, father of Francis Behse

B 48 Simeon Behse of Compton Street Soho Peruke maker due possessed of 400 pounds Stock in the three pCent Annuities 1726 and by his last Will and Testament data 31st of October 1780 appointed John Tilney and James Flaction etc. whom pro late (?) was granted at the Bishop of London Court 12 of September 1780. And is said will are the following word Voz.

I give to Rose Pran la loup wife of Abraham Pran la loup und Daughter of my Sister Catharine Strager af Genova Four Hundred pounds three pCent 1726 Bank Annuities.

Therefore the said £ 400 Stock must be transferred to the said Rose Pran la loup wife of Abraham Pran la loup.

Reg. 15th September 1781

Nathan Dell

(source: Registry of the Bank of England Will Extracts –www.englishorigins.com)

¹ François **Besse** (baptized 11.th of September 1737) Glasshouse Street And Leicester Fields French Huguenot, Westminster, London, Father: Simeon **Besse**, Mother: Helene (see www.familysearch.org).