

Dated February 11<sup>th</sup> 1867

Copy **Will**  
— of —  
The Reverend William  
Cotton Risley

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Uptons Johnson & Upton  
20 Austin Friars

This is the last Will of me The  
Reverend William Cotton Risley of Deddington  
in the County of Oxford Clerk I desire to be buried by  
the side of my Wife in the Family Vault at Adderbury  
and that my funeral may be performed in the quietest  
manner possible And I particularly wish that my body  
may not be enclosed in lead but in an oaken shell and a  
coffin made of the same wood of one inch in thickness and  
that my coffin may not be covered with cloth of any kind  
I bequeath to Hannah Rose if in my service at my  
decease One hundred pounds free of legacy duty for her  
sole and separate use and also a suit of mourning and  
to each of my present servants engaged in or about my  
house who shall be in my service at my decease six  
months wages and a suit of mourning I devise the  
Cottages and premises situate at or near Adderbury  
aforesaid in the County of Oxford which I have purchased  
during my life To the uses upon the trusts and with  
and subject to the powers and provisions to upon with  
and subject to which the Barber and Cotton Estates in  
the County of Oxford of which I am tenant for life in  
possession shall stand limited at my decease I am  
desirous that the Diamonds which belonged to my  
late Wife (but over which I have an absolute power of  
disposal) and also the silver Urn presented to me by  
the late Earl of Eldon should be preserved in the family  
as long as possible and with that object I declare that  
my eldest son Holford Cotton Risley shall have the use

and enjoyment of the said Diamonds (except the Ear-rings  
and Brooch hereinafter bequeathed) and the said Urn  
during his life, and that after his decease the said Diamonds  
(except as aforesaid) and Urn shall be held by my Executors  
Upon trust for such one of his Children as shall first  
attain the age of twenty one years and become entitled  
in possession to the said Barber and Cotton Estates (of  
which I am now tenant for life) or either of such Estates  
And if there shall be no such Child of my son then  
Upon trust for such other son of mine (if any) as shall  
after the death of my said eldest son first succeed to  
the possession of the said Estates Provided and notwith-  
standing the trusts above declared and with the object  
aforesaid and so far as I lawfully can I hereby  
empower my said eldest son to include the said  
Diamonds (except as aforesaid) in any Resettlement of  
the said Estates to be made by us in my lifetime or  
by him after my death I direct my Executors hereinafter  
named to separate from the rest of my plate all plate  
bearing the Crests of the Barber and Cotton families  
respectively or which can otherwise be identified as  
plate formerly belonging to either of those families And  
also to separate from the rest of my China all China  
which belonged to the said Barber and Cotton families  
respectively And in like manner I direct my said  
Executors to separate from the rest of my pictures the  
family and other portraits which belonged to the Barber  
and Cotton families respectively And it is my Will

7 and I hereby declare that the aforesaid Barber and  
Cotton plate (so far as I can dispose of the same by Will)  
and Barber and Cotton China and Barber Cotton and  
Risley portraits shall be held by my Executors upon the  
like trusts and subject to the like power as are hereinbefore  
declared and contained concerning and in respect of the  
Diamonds (except as aforesaid) of my Wife and the  
Urn hereinbefore bequeathed And I hereby direct  
that as soon as may be after my death an Inventory  
shall be taken of the said Diamonds plate portraits  
and China hereinbefore intended to be settled and one  
copy of the said Inventory signed by my said eldest  
son and another copy by my other Executors and the  
said Chattels shall be kept adequately insured against  
loss or damage by fire (so far as the same are capable  
of being so insured) and properly preserved by and at  
the expense of my said eldest son Provided that  
after the signing of the said Inventories my Executors  
(other than the said Holford Cotton Risley) shall not  
be responsible for any neglect on the part of the said  
Holford Cotton Risley to insure or preserve the said  
Chattels but they shall have full power at their  
discretion to interfere for the protection thereof I  
bequeath my Cabinets of Coins and all books relating  
thereto and also the Diamond Ear-rings (formerly Miss  
Bradshaws) to my son William Cotton Risley I  
bequeath my Microscope and the Diamond Brooch  
which belonged to my Wife to my son John Barber

Risley I bequeath my Gold Watch Chain and seals  
to my son Robert Wells Risley I bequeath all my  
linen equally amongst my four sons And I hereby  
declare my Will to be that my eldest son Holford  
Cotton Risley shall have the option of purchasing my  
House Stables and Outbuildings at Deddington with  
the land adjoining Timber yard Cottages &c and also  
the furniture in and about my said house within  
three calendar months from my death at such price  
as my residuary legatees may think fit to name  
Provided that such option shall not extend to less  
than the whole of the furniture and that the said  
Holford Cotton Risley shall at the time of declaring  
such option as to my property at Deddington (and this  
is a condition precedent) pay to my residuary legatees  
or secure the payment to them to their satisfaction  
of all principal monies which I shall or may have  
paid in my lifetime in discharge of any mortgage  
or incumbrance affecting my said property the said  
sums so to be paid by my said eldest son to form part  
of my residuary estate And I make the repayment  
of these principal sums as aforesaid a condition of my  
said eldest son having the right to exercise the option  
I have given to him because the sums that I have  
paid in discharge of any such mortgage or incumbrance  
as above mentioned have been trust monies which  
(subject to my life interest) belong absolutely to my  
three younger sons under my marriage settlement

My eldest son is so amply provided for as tenant in tail male of the various estates of which I am tenant for life that (except as above) I have not made any provision for him under my Will I devise and bequeath my said messuage and premises at 20 Deddington aforesaid and the furniture in or about my said house (subject to the option of purchase aforesaid) and also the furniture which belongs to me in and about my late Uncle's house at Adderbury and all the residue of my real and personal Estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever unto and for the absolute use and benefit of my three sons William Cotton Risley John Barber Risley and Robert Wells Risley their respective heirs executors administrators and assigns in equal shares as tenants in common subject nevertheless to the payment thereof of my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses and the pecuniary legacies hereby or to be by any Codicil hereto-given Provided nevertheless and it is my express Will that my furniture (subject to the option aforesaid) books horses carriages and all other household effects (except pictures engravings china and plate) forming part of my residuary Estate shall not be divided in specie among my three younger sons but shall be sold upon my death and the net proceeds of sale equally divided amongst them I devise and bequeath all Estates vested in me solely upon trust or on mortgage unto my said four

sons upon the trusts and subject to the equities ~~and~~  
affecting the same respectively I appoint my four  
sons Holford Cotton Risley William Cotton Risley  
John Barber Risley and Robert Wells Risley ~~and~~  
Executors of this my Will And I hereby revoke  
all other testamentary dispositions by me at any  
time heretofore made In witness whereof I the  
said William Cotton Risley the Testator have to  
this my last Will set my hand this eleventh day  
of February in the year of our Lord One thousand  
eight hundred and sixty seven

Signed and acknowledged  
by the said William Cotton Risley  
the Testator as and for his last  
Will in the presence of us present  
at the same time who in his  
presence at his request and in the  
presence of each other have hereunto  
subscribed our names as Witnesses

William Cotton Risley

Zachariah Walden Stilgoe  
John Davis