

Will of Mary Mordaunt née Howe (c1700-1749)

Note: Paragraph breaks have been added to make the will easier to read; underlines _____ indicate words that I could not read; square brackets [] are words where I am uncertain of the transcription.

N^o 1

Parsons Green April the 17th 1748.

I Mary¹ Wife of the Honourable John Mordaunt² commonly called Countess Dowager of Pembroke do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament

I desire my remains may be Interred in the most private and less expensive manner as is possible

I constitute and appoint my Husband the Honourable John Mordaunt sole Executor and Residuary Legatee referring for particulars to a Letter writt by me to the said M^r Mordaunt Witness my Hand and Seal — *M. Pembroke*.

N^o 2

My Dear Husband this Letter is referred to in my Will

I wish you my Sisters and all my friends all manner Worldly Happiness and that we may all meet Joyfull in that blessed place where through the Mercy of Almighty God and by the Merritts of our blessed Saviour and Redeemer I trust I am going to

If it will not be too much Expense I should like to have my Remains Interred at Langar near those of my dearest Brother I desire there may be no Coach only the Hearse and two Livery Servants on Horseback and to be carried by my own Coachman and Horses but if my remains can be interred in some Country Church by this place it will be Just as well and that I leave to your Determination

There is a year next Lady Day due from my Pension from the King also half a Years Rent of my Jointure if Sir Everard ffaulkener has not already paid it to Mr Samuel Smith there is also a Years rent due for my House in Saint James's Square these with overpluss arising from my Jewels and whatever else you think proper to sell will I hope be much

¹ Mary Mordaunt née Howe (1700-1749), the Testatrix, daughter of Juliana née Alington (1665-1747) and Scrope Howe (1648-1713) [[Wikipedia](#)] 1st Viscount Howe, wife of (i) Thomas Herbert (1656-1733) [[Wikipedia](#)] 8th Earl of Pembroke and (ii) John Mordaunt (1708-1767) [[Wikipedia](#)].

² John Mordaunt (1708-1767) [[Wikipedia](#)], husband of (i) the Testatrix, son of Frances née Powlett (1674-1715) and John Mordaunt (1681-1710) [[Wikipedia](#)], husband of (ii) Elizabeth née Hamilton (1735-1797).

more than sufficient to pay my Servants Wages and Tradesmans Bills which I desire may be discharged first

I desire my Sister Page³ will accept of my Emerald EarRings set with little Diamonds and Rubies & also my Lapis Lazuli Snuff Box

I desire my Sister Mordaunt⁴ will accept my Gold Watch with the Queens Picture also my Cornelian Etique with all the Trinketts belonging to it

I desire my Rich Cloaths may be sold and the Money divided equally between Katherine Peach and Elizabeth Launt that my other wearing Apparel Linnen and so forth may be equally divided between them with some share given to Elizabeth the Chambermaid I have taken here

wishing you once more Eternal Happy I shall die your affectionate Wife M. Pembroke.
Bath ffeb^{ry} 21st 1749

To the Hon^{ble} John Mordaunt

19th September 1749

Appeared personally John Barnard of the Parish of Saint John the Evangelist Westminster in the County of Middlesex Gentleman and William Prichard of ffrensham in the County of Southampton Servant and made Oath that they knew and were well acquainted with the Right Honourable Mary Countess Dowager if Pembroke (late Wife of the Honourable John Mordaunt Esquire) deceased for several Years before and to the Time of her death and have several Times seen her Write and Subscribe her Name or Title of Honour and thereby came to be well acquainted with the manner and Character of her Handwriting and Subscription and having now carefully viewed the Paper Writings hereunto annexed marked 1 and 2 purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of the said Deceased that Marked No 1. Bearing Date the Seventeenth of April one Thousand seven Hundred and forty eight beginning thus (Parsons Green April the 17th 1748 I Mary Wife of the Honourable John Mordaunt commonly called Countess Dowager of Pembroke do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament) and ending thus (referring for particulars to a Letter writt by me to the said M^r Mordaunt Witness my Hand and Seal) and Thus subscribed (M. Pembroke) and that marked No 2. Bearing date the Twenty first of ffebruary one Thousand seven Hundred and forty nine beginning thus (My Dear Husband this Letter is referred to in my Will) and ending thus (wishing you once more Eternal Happy I shall die your affectionate Wife) and thus subscribed (M Pembroke) they say that they verily believe the whole Series or Body of

³ Juliana née Howe (1701-1780), sister of the Testatrix, daughter of Juliana née Alington (1665-1747) and Scrope Howe (1648-1713) [[Wikipedia](#)] 1st Viscount Howe, wife of Thomas Page (1700-1763).

⁴ Anne née Howe (1704-1753), sister of the Testatrix, daughter of Juliana née Alington (1665-1747) and Scrope Howe (1648-1713) [[Wikipedia](#)] 1st Viscount Howe, wife of Charles Mordaunt (1708-1762)

the said Papers marked N^o 1. and 2. and the Names or Titles of Honour thereto respectively subscribed and the Words (To the Honble John Mordaunt) at the bottom of the said paper marked N^o 2. to be of the proper Handwriting of the said Right Honourable Mary Countess Dowager of Pembroke deceased. *J. Barnard — W^m Prichard* — Same Day the said John Barnard and William Prichard were sworn to the Truth of the Premises before me *Rob^t Chapman Surrogate — Present Rich^d Cheslyn Notary Publick.*

This Will was proved at London (with a Codicill annexed) on the nineteenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one Thousand seven Hundred and forty nine before the Worshipful Robert Chapman Doctor of Laws and Surrogate of the Right Worshipful John Bettesworth also Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the Oath of the Honourable John Mordaunt Esquire the Husband of the Deceased and Sole Executor 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. Ex^d/.

Transcribed from images on Ancestry.co.uk [here](#)