

# WILL OF GEORGE WHITELOCK 1778

In the Name of God Amen, this is the last Will and Testament of me George Whitelock of Brumpton upon Swale in the County of York, Yeoman. First I give and bequeath to my son **Christopher Whitelock** the Sum of Fifty pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, also to my daughter **Ann Whitelock** the like sum of Fifty pounds to be paid when they attain to the age of Twenty one years, or sooner if they have occasion for it, or at the discretion of my Father **Christopher Whitelock**, and also of my two Brothers **Francis Whitelock** and **Richard Ellerton** my brother in law\* whom I appoint as Trustees, for the due execution of this my last Will and Testament. All the rest of my Goods, Chattels, Husbandry Gear, Household Furniture and whatsoever else I may die possessed of I give to my dear Wife, **Jane Whitelock**, whom I appoint Executrice of this my last Will and Testament, as Witness my Hand this Fourth Day of February and in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight

Signed: George Whitelock [his mark], Richard Greathead, Will Gray

Proved May 30, 1778 Richmond, Yorkshire

\* this is as written with brother in law added later.

Transcribed by Jennifer Oswald-Sealy from RD/AP1 150/61 from West Yorkshire Archive Service

George Whitelock of Brumpton upon Swale was buried on 7<sup>th</sup> February 1778 at Downholme

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At the end of this transcription Jennifer notes: "His other brother Christopher was still alive at the time of making this will but was buried 25<sup>th</sup> March 1778. Their brother Peter had predeceased George and Christopher. All three died of an "inflamed sore throat" according to the Downholme parish register."

"From the website of Keighley and District Family History Society's Epidemics Timeline written by David Feather it mentions the "sore throat" disease. It was evidently similar to scarlatina or scarlet fever of which there were epidemics in 1778 and 1788."

It is unusual for such detail to be provided in the burial registers but in this case there are several extra comments included and this is a very good example of why genealogists should always try to see the original source document.

The Downholme, Yorkshire, Register for the Year 1778 shows the following:

Janu'ry 29 Peter Whitelock of Thorp Buried

Feb'ry 7th George Whitelock of Brunton upon Swale Buried. These two were brothers and sons to Chr Whitelock of Dow

Feb'ry 26 An daughter of the above George Whitelock Buried

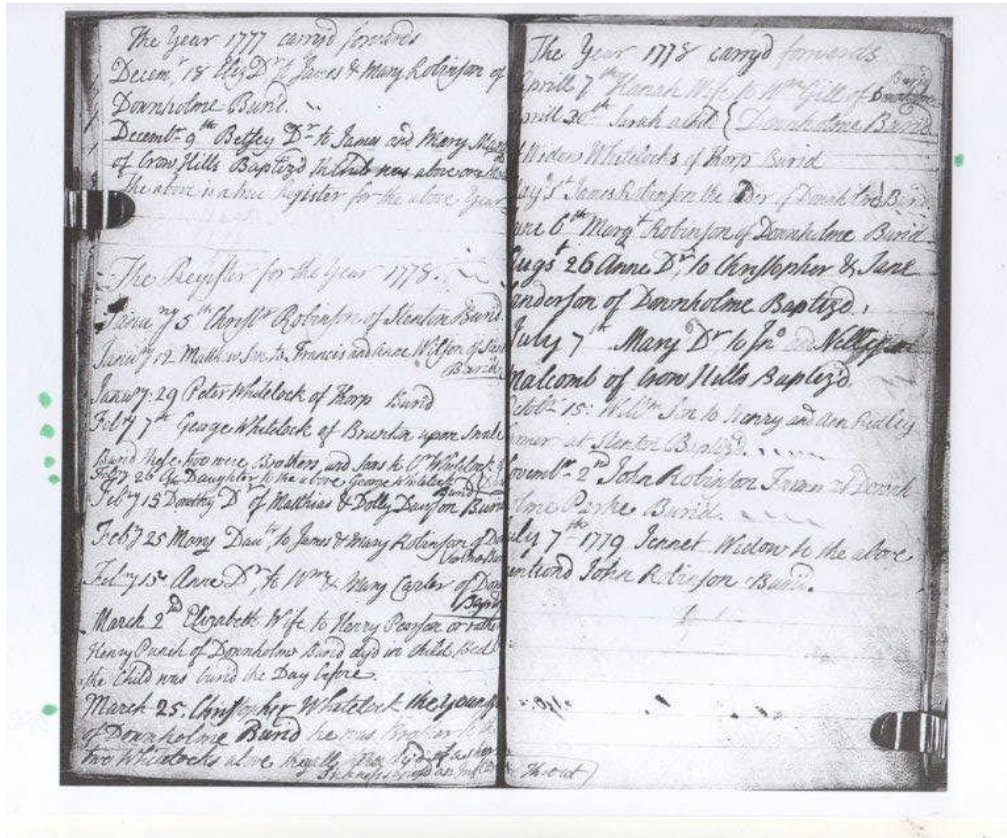
March 25 Christopher Whitelock the younger of Downholme Buried he was the Brother to the two Whitelocks above they all three died of a short sickness supposed an inflamed sore throat.

Aprill 30th Sarah a child of Widow Whitelocks of Thorp Buried

Between January and March 1778 three sons and two grandchildren of Christopher Whitelock (1705-1783) and his wife Catherine Ellerton (1708-1781) died, likely of scarlet fever. Jennifer makes the

comment: "These must have been hard times in the Dales."

Our thanks to Jennifer Oswald-Sealy for sharing her considerable research into the Downholme Whitelock families.



Downholme, Yorkshire Register of deaths 1778

SOURCES:R3756; CERT4215