

## CHELTENHAM WILLS 1561 – 1570

**1562/92**

In the name of God, Amen. The 9<sup>th</sup> July 1561 I Richard Querne of the parish of Cheltenham within the diocese of Gloucester, being sick in my body but, I give the Lord praises, in good and perfect mind and good memory, and in the same mind I do make my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I commend my soul unto the merciful hands of our Almighty God and Lord, beseeching him of his great mercies and I commit my body when it shall please God to end this my mortal life to be buried in Christian burial among other Christian bodies. And of my worldly goods first I do give & bequeath to Richard Querne my son and Thomas Querne my son, unto either of them four pounds of lawful money of England. And also I do give and bequeath to Eleanor Querne and Margaret Querne my daughters, unto every one of them four pounds of lawful money of England. And also I give and bequeath unto the said Richard Querne and Thomas Querne, to Eleanor Querne and Margaret Querne, three sheep at the deliverance of their mother being my executrix. Item I bequeath unto Richard Querne and Thomas Querne aforesaid unto every one of them one yearling heifer either unto every one of them to be paid by my executrix one mark in lawful English money. Item I bequeath unto Eleanor and Margaret Querne unto every one of them one yearling heifer either to be paid unto every one of them by my executrix one mark in lawful English money. Item I do give and bequeath unto the foresaid Richard Querne my son my best pan and I will that the same Richard shall never sell neither give the same pan to any other person but that the said pan shall always remain to the name of the said Quernes and to the next of kin of them. Item I give unto Thomas Querne my said son the best garnard with the covering. Item I give unto Richard Querne my son the next best garnard without covering. Item I give unto Annis Fynche my daughter five nobles of lawful money of England. Item I do give unto Thomas Fynche my son-in-law my sorrel kirtle. Item I do give and bequeath unto John Querne my brother twenty shillings of lawful English money and my best coat also unto him and my best doublet. Item I do give unto John Horne my sister's son two sheep. Item I do give unto my sister Elizabeth two bushels of corn, such corn that my wife, being my executrix, may best spare. Item I do give unto Annis my sister two bushels of corn at the deliverance and discretion of my executrix. Item I do give and bequeath to be distributed unto the poor people of Cheltenham ten shillings in money. Item I do give unto the foresaid John Horne my kinsman my best russet coat. Item further I do give unto Thomas Finche my son-in-law also my white gelding. Item I will that Elizabeth my wife for to enjoy the lease of this my house that I do now dwell in during her life if she so long live. If that she do die before the years of the lease be expired that then I will that Richard Querne and Thomas Querne my sons for to enjoy the foresaid lease during the said years. And if that my said wife and sons do not continue their life or lives for to enjoy the term of years in the same lease then I will that Eleanor and Margaret my daughters to enjoy the foresaid lease. And for lack of any of them then I will the state of the said lease for to remain unto John Querne my brother and so from him to the next of kin. Item I do give unto John Smyth my friend one plough in all her timber work ready without irons. Item I do give and bequeath my great brass pot unto Thomas my son and from him to remain unto the name of the Quernes and next of kin unto them for ever and ever. Item I bequeath unto Nicholas Hixe my cousin, son unto Richard Hixe of Forthampton 40d of lawful money. Provided that if it happens that Richard Querne, Thomas Querne, my sons, and Eleanor and Margaret my daughters or any of them do depart or die before they or any of them come unto their lawful age or the day of marriage that then I will the part of legacy or bequest unto them or any of them so dead or departed for to remain unto the rest living or the longest liver of them. And if they all do die then I will the same legacies and bequests for to remain unto Elizabeth

my wife during her life and after her decease the said legacies for to remain equally to be divided between John my brother and my foresaid two sisters. Further remembered that I will the legacies unto my sons Richard and Thomas for the gift of the pan, the two garnards and brass pot I will them to remain in the keeping and occupying of Elizabeth my wife during her widowhood. And if that she do marry then I will the said legacies to be delivered unto the said Richard and Thomas at their day of marriage or lawful age. And all the rest of my goods unbequeathed, my debts paid and funeral discharged, I do give & bequeath unto Elizabeth my wife which I do make my only executrix. And I do make and ordain to be my overseers to see this my last will and testament to be performed and truly done John Smyth and Peter Wharton and for lack of any of them I will and ordain Richard Lane to be one of my overseers for the same and for their painstaking in that behalf I give unto every one of them 40d.

Witnesses unto this will: Sir Thomas Champnys, curate, John Smyth, Peter Wharton, Richard Lane

Debts owing unto me the said Richard Querne

William Butler owing £4

Thomas Lucas owing £5 12s

Probate: 4 July 1562

### **1562/100**

In the name of God, Amen. The 19<sup>th</sup> January 1561 I Richard Lane of the parish of Cheltenham within the diocese of Gloucester, being sick in body and of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be to Almighty God, make and ordain this my last will & testament in manner & form following. First before all things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker and redeemer, beseeching him to take me to his mercy, and my body to be buried within the churchyard of the parish church of Cheltenham aforesaid. Also I ordain and make my overseers of this my present will & testament William Reynolds, Thomas Stoormye and Walter Frenche and they to see my funeral expenses honestly performed & all other my bequests and they to have for their pains to be taken herein 12d apiece. Item I will all my debts to be paid if there be any man that can justly demand any. Item the debts which be owing to me are these. Item Mr Thomas Clotterbooke of Gloucester owes me £3 and 5 bushels of malt at 14d the bushel which comes to 5s 10d. Item John Shelde of Badgeworth owes me 6s 8d. Item John Tryppsham my brother-in-law of the parish of Hampnett owes me 31s. Item he owes me for one year's board of Thomas, his wife's son, saving fortnight. Item John Wekis of Burford owes me 44s. Item first I bequeath to the parish church of Cheltenham 4d. Item I bequeath to my godson Robert Lane 12d. Item I bequeath to Walter Lane my eldest son a weigh of barley to be delivered to him at the age of 17 years. Item more a bullock of 2 years to be delivered to him then. Item I bequeath to my daughter Margaret Lane half a weigh of barley to be delivered to her at the age of 16 years. Item I will that my wife shall enjoy the house & bargain that I have of my mother towards the bringing up of my children. Item I bequeath to my 2 sisters Alice Wyckens and Agnes Corke 12d apiece. Item I bequeath to my mother Eleanor Lanr a ewe and a lamb. Item I bequeath to Richard Wickens & Robert Corke either of them a wether hog to be delivered to them at Holy Rood next. Item I bequeath to Joan Mochell my mother-in-law a ewe & a lamb to be delivered to her at Holy Rood day next. The residue of all my goods & chatels moveable & unmoveable, my legacies paid and my funeral expenses honestly performed I give & bequeath to Alice Lane my wife whom I make my whole executrix of this my last will & testament.

These being witnesses: Sir Thomas Champnys, curate, John Lane, William Benfelde, Richard Clarke & others

Probate: 15 December 1562

**1565/76**

In the name of God, Amen. Upon the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1565 I Richard Hawsted the elder of the parish of Cheltenham within the diocese of Gloucester, being sick in my body but I praise and thank our Almighty God and saviour of perfect mind and in good memory, do make & establish this my last will and testament in manner and form following and all other my former wills I will and grant to be void. First I commend my soul unto the merciful hands of Almighty God, beseeching him of his great mercies and I commit my body to be buried in the parish churchyard of Cheltenham amongst other Christian bodies there. Item I give and bequeath of my worldly goods first unto Richard Hawsted and Ellis Hawsted, my two sons, unto every one of them four bushels of malt and I do give & bequeath unto the said Richard my son four bushels of barley all these my carpenter's tools except & reserved from the said Richard one axe & hatchet, one framing saw and one hand saw. Item I do give & bequeath unto Eleanor Hawsted, the daughter of Ellis my son, my cow colour red tagged. Item I do give & bequeath unto the four children of John Est my son-in-law unto every one of them one bushel of barley. Item I do give & bequeath to be distributed among the poor people of Cheltenham six shillings. And all the rest of my goods unbequeathed or ungiven, my debts owing unto me received and the debts that I do owe paid, my funeral discharged, I do give & bequeath unto Joan Hawsted my wife which I do make my only executrix of this my said last will & testament.

Witnesses unto this my said will and testament: Richard Machyn, William Frenche als Lane and Richard Frenche als Lane

Debts owing unto me the foresaid Richard Hawsted  
First Henry Hawsted of the parish of Westbury in the  
county of Gloucester do owe unto me for malt and ought

to have been paid at midsummer last past 15s

William Lane of Cheltenham do owe unto me 13s

Sum 28s

Probate: 26 November 1565

**1566/141**

In the name of God, Amen. The 24<sup>th</sup> August 1566 being in the eighth year of the reign of our gracious sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God most worthy Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith and of the church of England and also of Ireland in earth the supreme head, I Thomas Stormey of the parish of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being now at this present time of good, whole and perfect mind & remembrance but as God knows feeble and sick in body, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First and principally I bequeath my soul into Almighty God my maker and redeemer and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham. Then for my worldly goods I thus give and dispose them as here ensues or follows. First I give & bequeath all my lands unto Harry my son for the space and term of 8 years first ensuing the date hereof and Joan my daughter yearly to receive and take the third part of all their profits & commodities thereof during the space of the aforesaid term of 8 years and the said Harry my son to maintain, keep and repair all the said lands in all manner of reparations during the aforesaid term of 8 years. Second I will that the said Harry my son & Joan my daughter shall pay or cause to be paid unto Thomas my son when his apprenticeship is out or fully ended the whole and entire sum of 40s of good and lawful money of England. Furthermore I give and bequeath to Margaret my daughter the number of 8 ewes to deliver immediately after his decease in or at the day of her marriage with 2 platters, a saucer, a pottinger and in like manner I give and bequeath unto my daughter's daughters, the one named Katherine Doole & the other Elizabeth Doole, one sheep apiece. After the same

manner I will that my eldest son's sons, the one named Thomas & the other Richard, shall have one sheep apiece. Thirdly I give and bequeath to Thomas my son 4 lambs. I will that a quarter of barley be given or paid unto the said Thomas my son, the which is due unto him. Item I give unto the same Thomas a ham... of boards Furthermore I bequeath and give unto John my eldest son an acre of ground with all the profits thereof being in a place called Sand Field, the space and term of 8 years. In like manner I give and bequeath to my son Harry 2 kine and a bullock. Also I bequeath & give to John my son one ca.. & all standards with a cistern, a pan, a cupboard, a press and all boards that be necessary within the house, the said Harry to leave them all after the term of his time. I give the said Harry also the occupying of all my iron-bound wain, the plough with all yokes and 2 strings, leaving them all after him as good as he found them. Item I give and bequeath to John my youngest son the best bed with the best helling & all that belongs thereto. Furthermore I give unto John my eldest son's sons 2 pair of sheets. In like manner I give & bequeath to Thomas my son 2 pair of sheets. Item I give unto Margaret my daughter 3 pair of sheets. Furthermore I bequeath unto my 3 daughters 3 meat cloths & Margaret my daughter to have her cheese thereof. Item I give unto the same Margaret my best towel. I will that my best brazen pot be given unto John my youngest son. I bequeath & give also unto Margaret my daughter a quarter of barley. Furthermore I bequeath & give unto John my youngest son my best platter, a pottinger with a saucer. Item that my executors shall leave 2 stalls of bees unto my heir. Item I give unto my heir my basin. Item I give & bequeath unto Thomas my son a platter, a pottinger and a saucer. Item I give & bequeath unto Thomas Mathew the youngest a stall of bees. Finally I give unto John Doolle my son-in-law my grey mare. And last of all I make my executors Harry my son & Joan my daughter unto whom I bequeath all the rest of my goods moveable & unmoveable ungiven nor bequeathed. I ordain, make & constitute my overseers Thomas Mathewe & Walter Loom to whom I give a stall of bees for their painstaking to see this my last will & testament performed.

Probate: 1 February 1566

### 1566/170

In the name of God, Amen. The 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 1565 I William Rich of the parish of Cheltenham in the county & diocese of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick of body & of perfect mind & remembrance, thanks be to Almighty God, do make this my testament containing therein my last will in manner & form as hereafter ensues. First and before all things I bequeath my soul to God the Father Almighty assuredly believing that he will mercifully receive the same by the merits of the death & passion of his dearly beloved son, my saviour & redeemer Jesus Christ, and my body to be buried decently & honestly according to the discretion of my executor & overseers herein to be named. And as concerning my worldly goods, chattels & lands my will is that they shall be distributed between my wife & children in such sort & manner as no cause of variance or strife shall or may hereafter ensue between them for the same but that they & every of them to take such part & portion of my said goods, chattels & lands as herein shall be to them given & bequeathed by this my last will & testament. First I give & bequeath unto my son William Rich the sum of £10 of good & lawful money of England to be paid to him at the day of his full age viz. at the age of 21 years or if he should be bound apprentice then to be delivered to his said master to the use of him the said William Rich & that to be at the discretion of his said mother. Item I give unto all the rest of my said children viz. Thomas Rich, John Rich, John Rich & Henry Rich & Joan Rich the sum of £10 apiece to be paid & delivered to them as is before to the foresaid William Rich, that is at their full age or if they be bound apprentice at the discretion of their mother. (*torn*) the part of him or her so dying (*torn*) shall be distributed equally between the rest. Item I give one quarter of barley to be delivered to the poor of Cheltenham viz. to Daffi half a bushel & to old Raynolds

half a bushel & to old Skinner half a bushel & the rest of the part to be given to every house a peck so far as it will go at the discretion of my overseers.

Debts that I do owe

First I owe my sister Jane Packer of her father's legacies the sum of £15

Item I owe to John Hoper of Gloucester £6 due to be paid 14 days in Lent next coming.

Debts owing to me

First Mr William Lygon does owe to me for one barrel of fish price 30s

The same Mr Ligon for a quarter of hops 3s 9d & for the carriage 7d

Edmund Harries for two oxen £3 18s 4d

Item a brewer in Gloucester does owe me for 4 quarters of malt at the price of 19d the bushel to be paid 4s a month from Christmas last past until the feast of St Michael the Archangel & then to pay the whole that remains.

Walter Cox of Bristol owes me for 3 bushels and a peck of wheat at the price of 23d the bushel.

John Hammons of Swindon does owe me for 8 bushels of malt to be paid as I or my wife do tell any day between this & Michaelmas.

Thomas Clarke of Cheltenham (*torn*)

Robert Powlett 8s & 2s 4d

Alice Fardeton does owe me 20s which she must pay me at Easter next coming.

The rest of all my goods, chattels and lands not given nor bequeathed, my debts & legacies paid & my funeral charges discharged I give & bequeath to my wife

Katherine Rich whom I make my whole executrix.

Item I make my brother Thomas & Edward Packer my overseers to this my last will & testament

Witnesses: Richard Machus & John Smythe

Probate: 11 June 1566

### 1567/101

In the name of God, Amen. The 17<sup>th</sup> April 1567 I Richard Machin of the parish of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, sick in body but of perfect memory and of good remembrance, make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First and before all things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and my body to the earth. Item I give and bequeath to the cathedral church of Gloucester 12d. Item I give and bequeath to Agnes Machin my daughter the rent of my house for twelve years wherein Robert Ancote now dwells which is in sum 26s 8d by the year. Item I give and bequeath unto her one feather bed with one coverlet, one bolster and pair of sheets. Item I give unto her three platters, three pottingers, three saucers, one brass pot, one brass pan and I give unto her two heifers, the one of two years of age, the other of three years of age. Item I give unto her 6 sheep whereof three shall be wethers and the other three ewes. Also I give unto her one acre of barley lying next unto Cakebridge Hedge. Item I give unto Reginald Machin my son the rent of my house wherein Thomas Elborow now dwells for twelve years which is in sum by the year 18s. Item I give unto him tow heifers, the one of two years of age, the other of three years of age. I give also unto him one acre of barley lying next but one to Cakebridge Hedge. Item I give unto him six sheep which shall be 3 wethers and three ewes and one colt of three years of age being of a roan colour. All the residue of my goods moveable and unmoveable I give and bequeath unto Anthony Machin my son whom I make my sole executor willing and commanding him to content and pay all such debts as shall seem due and payable and to see this my last will performed using the advice of William Brinde and Thomas Coxe whom I make my overseers of this my last will and testament.

These bearing witness: Thomas Coxe and Richard Packer

Probate: 18 September 1567

**1567/128**

In the name of God, Amen. The 20<sup>th</sup> October 1567 and in the ninth year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, defender of the faith etc I Thomas Bicke of Alstone within the parish of Cheltenham within the diocese of Gloucester, being sick in my body nevertheless, I give praises & thanks to our Almighty God, of good mind & perfect memory, and so do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First and principally I commend my soul unto the merciful hands of our Almighty God and by the merits of his son our lord Jesus Christ our redeemer & only saviour I beseech him of his manifold mercies forgiveness of my sins as I faithfully hope he will do. And I commit my mortal body to be buried within the parish churchyard of Cheltenham aforesaid amongst other Christian bodies there. And my worldly goods I do thus dispose. First I give and bequeath to every one of my eldest children, Robert Bycke, Alice Bycke and Annis Bycke twenty nobles apiece in lawful money of England. Item I give and bequeath unto John Bycke my youngest son five pounds of lawful money of England. Item I give & bequeath unto my brother Harry Bycke's nine children to every one of them twelve pence apiece of lawful money of England. Item I do give & bequeath to every one of my godchildren four pence apiece. Item I give & bequeath unto my goddaughter Eleanor Bycke one theave\* sheep. Item I give & bequeath unto [blank] Wheler my godson and son unto Richard Wheler one theave sheep. Item I give & bequeath unto Robert Hollieday, a poor man, my russet coat, a doublet and a pair of hose. Item I give & bequeath unto John Kemot of Alstone, a poor man, my blue coat & a pair of hose. Item I give & bequeath unto John Gyles, a poor man, my black russet jerkin & a pair of my hose. Item I give & bequeath unto the poor people a curnock of wheat to be made in bread by my executrix and to be distributed unto them by the discretion of the overseers of this my last will and testament. And all the rest of my goods & chattels not before given nor bequeathed I do give & bequeath unto Elizabeth my wife whom I make my sole executrix of this my testament & last will. And I do ordain Thomas Mathewe & Henry Bycke to be overseers of my said last will & testament to see it truly & justly done & performed and I do give to the same Thomas & Harry for their painstaking therein to every one of them forty pence apiece. In witness whereof I the foresaid Thomas Bicke have & do publish this my foresaid last will & testament in the presence of Thomas Mathewe, Henry Bicke and [blank] Debts owing unto me the above said Thomas Bicke

First John Bloxam of Cheltenham have in his hands between him & me, the said Thomas Bicke, the sum of £6 in money whereof is due unto me £3 3s 4d & half the rest of the £6.

Item John Grenewey of Cheltenham do owe unto me £3 11s the which must & is due to be paid at Candlemas next coming.

Item Richard Walter of Gloucester do owe unto me £3 7s the which is due to be paid within two weeks next after All Hallows Day next coming.

Item William Nicolson of Badgeworth do owe me 17s

Item William Welsshe the younger do owe unto me £3 3s 4d

Item Ralph Wilcox of Cheltenham, baker, do owe unto me 26s 8d.

Item John Clarke of Cheltenham do owe unto me 6s

Item William Welshe the elder do owe unto me 2s 8d

Item I paid unto William Bicke for half a weigh of barley the sum of 33s 6d the which barley the said William Bicke bought of William Bysshop of Haydon & is due to be brought in & delivered unto me betwixt All Hallows Tide & Christmas next coming

Item Robert Browne of Newnham do owe unto me 33s 8d

Sum total £20 6s 6d

Debts that I Thomas Bicke do owe

First I do owe unto William Carpynter of [blank] five marks  
Item I do owe unto the church of Cheltenham 31s whereof I have paid 16d  
Item I do owe unto my brother Robert Bicke 20s  
Item I do owe unto Thomas Higges 18d  
Item I do owe unto William Smyth of Leckhampton 18d  
Sum total £6 3s 3d  
Probate: 12 December 1567  
*Theave sheep = a young ewe*

### **1568/98**

In the name of God, Amen. The 5<sup>th</sup> July I Richard Style of the town of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick in body but in whole mind and memory, do make my last will and testament in manner an form following. First I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God and my body to be buried in the earth same. Of all my goods I make Elizabeth my wife whole executrix. Item I bequeath unto Edith my eldest daughter one half burgage. Item I give to Margery my second daughter one quantity of a burgage. Item if my wife do marry again then my will is that she my said wife shall make Thomas my son worth £20 at the day of her marriage. And my will is that she shall give to John Style my eldest son at the day of her marriage ten pounds. And if it shall happen my said son John to decease that then the ten pounds unto him given shall remain to the rest of my children surviving amongst them equally to be divided. Item I give to my five children five kine. Item I give to Joan Style my daughter £6 13s 4d. Item William Frenche owes unto me £8 12s and a quarter of barley. Item Robert Soxe does owe unto me 26s. Item Thomas Knowlles of Westbury owes to me £3 6s 8d. The same Knowlles' mother owes 46s 8d. Item the goodwife Goughe owes me 20s and her son 30s. Item Richard Walter of Gloucester owes me £4 8s. Item I give to Edith my daughter a feather bed and that that to the same belongs. Item to Margery my daughter a feather bed and that thereunto as belongs. Item I give to John Smyth and Harry Mayler whom I appoint overseers of this will 6s 8d apiece.

*No witness names*

Probate: 24 July 1568

### **1569/28**

In the name of God, Amen. The 5<sup>th</sup> October 1569 I Henry Mayles of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, being sick in my body but of good and perfect memory, do dispose and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I commend, give and bequeath my soul unto the merciful hands of Almighty God my maker and redeemer and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham. Item I give and bequeath unto the poor people of the parish of the said Cheltenham the sum of ten shillings of money. Item I give unto my mother twenty shillings to be paid unto her after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto John Mayles my brother ten shillings in money. Item I give and bequeath unto William Mayles my brother ten shillings. Item I give and bequeath unto Margaret Butler my sister ten shillings. Item I give and bequeath unto Margaret Butler, the daughter of the aforesaid Margaret my sister, ten shillings and I will that all this said money to be paid to every one of them as aforesaid within one month next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto William Mayles my brother all my best apparel that belongs unto my body and all the rest of my apparel I give and bequeath unto John Mayles my brother. Item I give and bequeath unto Joyce Jones my cousin ten shillings. Item I give and bequeath unto John Este twenty shillings to be paid unto

them within one month next after my decease. Item that I owe unto Thomas Sturmy my apprentice the sum of thirty shillings when that his apprenticeship carries out but if God do his will by me at this present time I do forgive him the rest of his years of his apprenticeship to come and I will and make the said thirty shillings unto him forty shillings and that to be paid at the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord next ensuing. Item I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Hayward my servant three shillings and four pence. Item I give and bequeath unto Joan Newman my servant three shillings and four pence. Item I will and give to the four ringers that ring at my burial four shillings. And all the residue of my goods moveable and unmoveable and all my debts as are underwritten I give and bequeath them unto Joan Mayles my wife whom I make my sole executrix of this my last will and testament and the said Joan to see my legacies to be paid and my funerals discharged. Item I make and ordain to be my overseers of this my last will and testament to be observed and kept William Pate and John Greneway and I give unto every one of them three shillings and four pence for their painstaking in this behalf.

In witness whereof I have this my last will and testament made in the presence of: Sir Thomas Jones, curate of the above said parish, John Este, Thomas Wells & William Bycke

Debts that be owing unto me the foresaid Henry Mayles

First Henry Smyth of Bristol, my brother-in-law owes unto me	£5
William Marten of Bengeworth by Evesham owes unto me	£10 10s
Sir Thomas Chamberlayne of Prestbury, knight, owes unto me	5s
John Kinge owes unto me	7s 4d

Edward Bartram of Cheltenham owes unto me one weigh of barley of value	40s
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Richard Robyns owes unto me half a weigh of barley of value	20s
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and the said Richard to receive 12d when that he shall bring in this said barley un(*torn*)

Ralph Wilcox of Cheltenham, baker, owes unto me five bushels of wheat all which I do forgive him freely but he to give what his goodwill shall be at my b(*torn*)

Sum	£11
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Debts that I the abovesaid Henry do owe

First unto William Tichet my brother-in-law of Charlton Kings (*torn*)

Elizabeth Churches of Cheltenham (*torn*)

Ellis Hawstid of Cheltenham, butcher (*torn*)

Sum	£6
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Probate: 2 November 1569

### 1569/93

In the name of God, Amen. The 15<sup>th</sup> November 1569 I Richard Hale of Cheltenham within the diocese of Gloucester, being sick in my body but, I praise Our Lord, of perfect mind and good memory, do make this my last will & testament in manner and form following. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost first I commend my soul unto Almighty God and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham etc. Item I give and bequeath of my goods unto every one of my children forty shillings apiece of lawful money and to be paid unto these my nine children as after mentioned. That is to say first within the first year after my decease unto my Richard my eldest son 40s and unto my daughter Margery the next year following 40s and so unto William my son the next year following 40s and unto Thomas my son the year so immediately following 40s and unto Joan my daughter so then next following 40s and so unto the next of my children to be paid unto every one of them their 40s one after the other according unto their age within nine years year by year next after my death. And all the rest of my goods unbequeathed and ungiven afore I



give and bequeath them unto Julian my wife which I make my sole executrix of this my last will and testament. And I do make and ordain to be overseers to see this my last will and testament to be performed justly and truly done as my trusty friends William Pate, Henry Cotmore als Mawle & John Greneway.

In witness whereof I have made this my foresaid last will and testament in the presence of these persons after named: William Pate, Henry Cotemore, John Greneway, Richard Lane, Thomas Yearington, Ralph Cowlerne.

Debts that i the foresaid Richard Hale do owe

First I owe unto Richard my son 50s

I do owe unto the same Richard a brass pot which pot were of the gift of my mother unto him and to be dd [given] unto him immediately after my death

Probate: 13 January 1569

#### **1570/2**

In the name of God, Amen. The 28<sup>th</sup> January 1570 and in the 12<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, defender of the faith etc I Annis Wefer of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, being sick in body nevertheless being of and in perfect mind and memory, laud and praise be to Almighty God, do make my present testament containing herein my last will in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my creator, maker and redeemer and my body to the earth. Item I give and bequeath to the poor people of Cheltenham foresaid 20s to be distributed amongst them by the discretion of my master Thomas Chester. Item I give and bequeath to Margery Jhonsones two coats. Item I give and bequeath to Gillian Chester my dame my best petticoat. Item I give and bequeath to Joan Elkoxe one kerchief, one pinner and two coats, one is a red petticoat and the other a black frock. Item I give and bequeath to Anne Elkoxe two kerchiefs and a pinner. Item I give and bequeath the rest of all my goods not before given nor bequeathed to Thomas Chester my master whom I make my whole executor.

Witness to this my present testament and last will: William Danson, curate, James Dobyns, Richard Awood, John Life, Walsinghe Danson and Margery Jhonsones

Probate: 25 October 1570

#### **1570/44(i)**

In the name of God, Amen. The 14<sup>th</sup> July in the eleventh year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, defender of the faith etc I Henry Sturmy of Alston in the parish of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, sick of body but of good & perfect memory, do make & dispose of this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my maker and redeemer and my body to be buried in the parish churchyard of Cheltenham aforesaid. Item I give and bequeath unto the poor men's box of the same parish 12d. Item I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Sturmy my daughter 40s in money to be paid her at the day of her marriage or else at sixteen years of age. Item I give and bequeath unto John Sturmy my brother one acre of land set, lying & being in Sandyfield for the term of five years after the Feast of St Michael the Archangel next ensuing. Item that I make and ordain executrix of this my last will & testament Agnes Sturmy my wife, to the which Agnes I give & bequeath all manner of my goods moveable and unmoveable whatsoever they be, [and the term of my years] my legacies being paid and funerals discharged. Item I make and ordain my overseers Thomas Mathewe & Walter Lonne to see this my last will & testament in every point observed, fulfilled & kept as my singular trust is in

them and to every of them I give & bequeath a stall of bees for their pains hereafter to be taken.

In witness whereof I the said Henry Sturmy have caused this my will to be written by Sir Thomas Johnnes, curate of the said parish, in the presence of Henry Hurste and Robert Hibberte

Debts that the said testator does owe

I owe unto Thomas Sturmy my brother	20s
I owe unto Joan Sturmy my sister	53s 4d
I owe unto Walter Lone	7s
I owe unto Richard Sharphart	6s
I owe unto John Lone	3s 4d

I owe unto Margery Awoode a curnock of barley

Probate: 20 July 1570

*Note: there is a second copy of the will 44ii which is almost identical but includes the phrase in square brackets above. The second copy has no probate details*

### 1570/78

In the name of God, Amen. The 20<sup>th</sup> October 1570 and in the twelfth year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith etc I Joan Smithe of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, widow, being sick of body but I praise the Lord of good mind and perfect memory, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I commend my soul into the merciful hands of Almighty God my maker and redeemer and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham. And for my worldly goods I give and bequeath them as follows. First I give and bequeath to the poor people of Cheltenham twenty shillings of good and lawful money of England to be distributed unto them immediately after my death at the discretion of the overseers of this my last will and testament. Item I give and bequeath unto James Norton and his assigns for the first six years immediately after my death forty shillings by year to be paid unto the said James or his assigns at every half year as a yearly rent out of my messuage in base tenure by my heirs unto the said messuage. Item I give and bequeath unto Henry Whyte, son unto Joan Whyte my daughter, forty shillings by year for two years next after the foresaid six years for a yearly rent paid of my foresaid messuage by my heirs unto the foresaid messuage. Item I give and bequeath unto Margaret Norton, daughter unto the aforesaid James, my second cow. Item I give and bequeath unto John Norton, son of the aforesaid James, six shillings and 8d. Item I give and bequeath unto Ann Waterman my servant one pair of flaxen sheets and one pewter platter and six shillings of money above her wages. Item I give and bequeath unto Eleanor Peers my servant one pair of good flaxen sheets and one good pewter platter and five shillings of money besides her wages. Item my will is that Alice Whyte, daughter unto Joan Whyte my daughter, to be kept and brought up both with meat and drink and convenient and honest apparel during the twelve years after my death by those or them my heirs or that person that shall enjoy or occupy my foresaid messuage in base tenure at their own proper cost or charges. Item my will is that my great cistern which is my yoting cistern and the cisterns at the well and the furnace in the kitchen to be left for standards in my house with the board and forms and settles in the hall and the board with the settles in the parlour and with the wainscot and cupboard in the said parlour also to rest there as standards. And all the rest of my goods unbequeathed and ungiven, my funeral discharged, I give and bequeath unto Joan Whyte my daughter and James Norton my son-in-law whom I make my executors of this my last will and testament. And I will that all my goods and cattle and chattels unto these my executors resting and unto them left, bequeathed and given, that it shall equally be divided unto them, to every one his several part, by

the good discretion and advice of the overseers of this my last will and testament. And I do make and ordain and praying as my assured friends in God William Pates and Henry Mason to be my overseers of this my last will and testament for to see it truly and justly performed or done and I do give to every one of them for their pains in this behalf 3s 4d apiece in money.

Witnesses unto this my foresaid will and testament: Robert Auckocke and Richard Frenche als Lane

Probate: 6 November 1570

### **1570/83**

In the name of God, Amen. The 6<sup>th</sup> October in the fifth & sixth years of the reign of our sovereign lord & lady Philip and Mary, by the grace of God King & Queen of England, Spain, Jerusalem and Ireland etc, I John Smythe of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick of body but whole of mind and of perfect memory, thanks be to God, do make this my last will and testament as hereafter follows. First and before all other things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my redeemer and saviour, to our blessed lady St Mary and all the holy company of heaven and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham aforesaid. Item I bequeath to the said church towards the maintenance of the light before the Blessed Sacrament 3s 4d. Item I bequeath to every of my godchildren 4d apiece. Item I bequeath to the poor people of the said parish 40s to be distributed amongst them in bread. Item I bequeath to James Norton my best coat, a curtail nag and 2s of money and my best doublet. Item I bequeath to John Cassolde my second best jerkin and 2s 4d of money. Item I bequeath to John Nicoles my worst coat and 12d of money. Item I bequeath to Richard Mawniel an old gown and a jerkin. Item I give and bequeath to Richard Querne my partner all my part belonging to the plough and he to help my wife to till her land. Item I confess Thomas Appary to have the house that he has taken of me for 4 years, the rent being paid aforesaid. The rest of my goods moveable & unmoveable, my debts and legacies being paid, I give and bequeath to Joan my wife who I make my full executrix to this my last will & testament and she to see my body honestly brought on earth.

These bearing witness: Sir Richard Coxe, priest, Harry Mason and Robert Awcocke and they two to have for their pains 5s betwixt them.

Probate: 5 July 1570

### **1570/97(i)**

In the name of God, Amen. The 19<sup>th</sup> July 1570 being in the twelfth year of the reign of our gracious sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God most worthy Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith & of the Church of England & also of Ireland & in earth the supreme head etc, I John Stormy of the parish of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being now of this present time of good, whole and perfect mind & remembrance but as God knows feeble & sick in body, do make this my last will & testament in manner & form following. First and principally I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my maker & redeemer & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Bisley in the county aforesaid. Then for my worldly goods I thus give and bestow them as ensuing. First I bequeath & give to John Dole 18s the which he has in his own hands & also I bequeath & give to my two sisters, that is to say Joan & Margaret, one feather bed with his appurtenances & also I give to the said John Dole one brass pot & to the above named Joan my sister one brass pot & also I give to John Dole's children 3 pieces of pewter, that is to say, John his son a saucer & to Catherine his daughter a charger & to Elizabeth his daughter a pottinger & also I give to John Stormy my brother one broach & also I give to Catherine Clements 26s 8d which lies in the hand of Annis Stormy, widow, late

wife to Harry Stormy of the parish of Cheltenham, which 26s 8d more plainly appear in a bill indented betwixt the said Annis & I. Now for all my other goods unbequeathed moveable & unmoveable I give them to Thomas Stormy my brother whom I make my sole executor of this my last will & testament & also I ordain, make & constitute my overseer John Dole.

Witness to the same: Harry Stormy & Alice Stormy, Alice Stormy, daughter, Jane Stormy, Catherine Clements, Alice Golofo

Probate: 21 March 1570

**1570/97(ii)**

In the name of God, Amen. The 25<sup>th</sup> July 1569 & in the eleventh year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, defender of the faith and in earth the supreme head of the Church of England & also of Ireland etc, I John Sturmy of the parish of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being now at this time of good, whole and perfect mind & remembrance but God knows feeble & sick in body, do make this my last will & testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my maker & redeemer and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham. Then for my worldly goods I give & bequeath as here follows. First I give & bequeath unto my brother-in-law John Dole one cow & one ox & one acre of land lying & being in the Sandfield, two of the three half acres. I give & bequeath to Joan & Margaret, my two sisters, one feather bed, a pair of sheets, one blanket, a coverlet, two (*torn*) & two pillows & that my sister Joan shall have the foresaid (*torn*) Joan shall pay unto Margaret the one half in money being (*torn*) two indifferent men. Furthermore I give to Elizabeth Sturmy (*torn*) of Harry Sturmy, my goddaughter, one yearling bullock & (*torn*) sheep & she shall receive of my brother John Dole the first cow calf (*torn*) comes of the cow that I gave him. Also I give to the same Elizabeth Sturmy one pottinger & a saucer. Item I give to Katherine Dole one charger. Item I give to my brother John Sturmy three sheep. Item I give unto Thomas my brother one pot & one pan & a cistern, a cupboard & a press, boards, forms, bedsteads & all such implements that be within the house or houses with all old & standards, an ironbound wain, a plough, yokes & strings with all that belongs to them. I give also Joan my sister one broach. Item I forgive Annis my sister-in-law a cow the which I should have had of her & all other dues or debts of money between us. Item I make Thomas my brother my whole executor. Also I make my brother-in-law John Dole & Thomas Raynoldes and Thomas Gotheryge my overseers to see this my last will and testament performed.