

SODBURY WILLS 1571-1580

1571/15

In the name of God, Amen. The 28th April the 13th year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith etc I Catherine Rodman of the parish of Yate in the county of Gloucester, widow, do here make my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to God my saviour and redeemer and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Yate at the discretion of my executor. I give unto Ralph my son one coffer. I give unto Nicholas James my son my cupboard. I give unto Christian Edmonde's daughter 7 pieces of pewter which is the garnish of the cupboard & 2 candlesticks. I give unto Margaret Edmonde's daughter my tache hooks and my pin and 2 posnets & one coffer. I give unto Isabel Rodman my best frock. I give unto Edie Rodman one kerchief. I give unto my 2 godchildren 4d apiece. All my other goods moveable and unmoveable I give and bequeath it unto Edmund James whom I make whole executor to see this my will fulfilled, to take and to pay my debts.

In witness hereof: John Cooke, Ralph James, John Sifford & Thomas Jonnes, minister

Probate: 3 August 1571

1571/52

In the name of God, Amen. The 11th March 1569 I John Joacham of the parish of Wapley in the diocese of Gloucester, sick in body, whole in mind & perfect of remembrance, make my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my maker and redeemer, my body to be buried in the churchyard of Wapley. I make John Joacham my eldest son my whole executor, my goods being divided in three parts. I give to John my eldest son two parts for to keep my sister withal, The other part I give to Marion my wife to see me brought on earth and my debts and legacies to be paid out of these three parts. First I give to John my youngest son £6 13s 4d. Item to my parish church 5s. Item to the poor of the parish 5s, to the poor of Westerleigh 3s 4d, to the poor of Sodbury 6s 8d. Item to Edmund Evans one heifer of two years old. Item to his son John a yearling calf. Item to Thomas my son one heifer of two years old & one calf. Item to Harry Gayle one heifer of two years old. Item to Thomas Dorney one yearling calf. Item to Anthony Parker one heifer of two years old. Item to John Jocham one cow. Item to Thomas Pacham of Westerleigh 12d. Item to every one of their children's children 12d. Item to Elizabeth Smythe 12d. Item to Agnes my daughter one cow, to John Nashe 12d. Item to John Gwyn 12d. Item to Anne Dorney one pot. I make my overseers William Nashe, Harry Elysse.

These being witness: Sir Thomas Brerehaust, vicar, Harry Clyffe, Robert Smythe, Arthur Parker

Probate: 12 June 1571

1571/63

In the name of God, Amen. The 4th February 1570 I John Gefferye of the parish of Wapley in the diocese of Gloucester, husbandman, sick in body but of a perfect remembrance, thanks be to God, do make my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my maker, redeemer & comforter, and my body to be buried in Christian burial within the churchyard of Wapley. Item I give & bequeath to George my son a bed which he lies upon with the appurtenances thereunto, a pair of wain wheels, an acre of wheat in the Worthey,

two bushels of wheat in the rick and one plough string. Item I give & bequeath to Agnes my daughter one cow, 10s of current money, a bed, a bolster, a pair of sheets, a coverlet, a lockram sheet and a crock. Item I give & bequeath unto Elizabeth my daughter half the wheat in the rick, a cow, a feather bed, a bolster, a coverlet, a candlestick, a lockram sheet, a cauldron, a towel, a yearling calf, a pair of sheets and a crock. Item I give & bequeath unto Christopher my son a young heifer with a calf. Item I give & bequeath unto William Lee two bushels of wheat, two sheep. Item I give & bequeath to Ellen Lee two ewes and two lambs. Item I give & bequeath to John Gefferye, the son of my son John, a cow. Item I give & bequeath to John Dagger two sheep. All the rest of my goods not bequeathed moveable and unmoveable I give and bequeath to John Gefferye my son whom I make my whole executor of this my last will and testament.

In the presence of: Thomas Brerehust, vicar of Wapley, John Harwell, Andrew Jacob with others

Probate: 2 October 1571

1571/215

In the name of God, Amen. The 24th January 1570 I Thomas Rymar of the parish of Wapley in the diocese of Gloucester, sick in body but of a perfect remembrance, thanks be to God, do make my last will & testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker & redeemer and my body to be buried in Christian burial within the churchyard of Wapley. Item I give unto Thomas my son all my raiment, one ox, one wain, two yokes, two strings, 4 ox bows & a sarp-cloth*. Item I give to Margery my daughter one ox & a crock. Item I give to Gillian my daughter one ox, a pan. Item to the same Margery & Gillian my daughters one cow between them. Item I give to Denise Baker a platter. Item I will that the rest of my household stuff be equally divided between my three daughters Ellen, Margery & Gillian. Item I will that my children Thomas, Ellen, Margery and Gillian shall have all my corn & hay to keep their cattle withal. All the rest of my goods unbequeathed moveable & unmoveable I give & bequeath to Ellen my daughter whom I make my whole executrix. Also I appoint William Nashe and Henry Cliffe overseers of this my last will and testament.

In the presence of Thomas Bryerhurst, vicar there, William Nashe & Henry Cliffe witnesses

Thomas Clarke owes me	18s 4d
I do owe to Nicholas Humfre	20s
I do owe to John Humfre	4s

Probate: 30 October 1571

* *sarp-cloth* = a large sack

1572/11

In the name of God, Amen. The 26th February 1571 I Alice Pavye of the parish of Little Sodbury in the county of Gloucester, poor widow, make my will and testament after this manner following. First I commend my soul unto Almighty God through the merits of our saviour Jesus Christ and my body unto Christian man's burial. Also I will unto the mother church of Gloucester 4d. I will to Old Sodbury's church one bushel of barley and also unto Little Sodbury church one bushel of barley and unto the poor man's box 4d. Also I give unto Alice Browne a cow and my best wort pan and I give Margery Bysshop a cow, my whole bed that I lie on and all my apparel, my best crock and my best cauldron. Also I give unto Anne Smyth a cow whose name is Nightingale and cow calf, 2 sheep, a cauldron, a pan and a sheet. Also I give unto Thomas Bysshop an ox calf and a crock and I give unto Joan Goughe otherwise called Pavye a cow calf. Also I give unto John Pavye 2 sheep and I give unto Ellen

Adeane a ewe and a lamb. Also I give unto William Bysshope, my brother's son, a sheep. Also I give unto Christopher Stonburne a sheep. All other goods not given nor bequeathed I will that my brother William Bysshope have, paying my debts, whom I make my whole executor.

Witnesses: Thomas Berser, John Dyer, William Bysshope, Richard Browne, Thomas Bysshope with others

Probate: 11 August 1572

1572/162

In the name of God, Amen. The 14th June 1572 I Thomas Apersonadge of the parish of Old Sodbury, being sick in body but whole & perfect in mind & memory, laud & praise be to the everlasting God, do make my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I beseech our saviour Jesus Christ to receive my soul in whose blood shedding I trust to be saved and my body to be buried in the church of Chipping Sodbury. And such goods as God has given me in this present world to be divided as hereafter follows. Item I give to the poor of Chipping Sodbury 16s 8d. Item to the poor men's box of Old Sodbury 3s 4d. Item I give to Alice my wife all my household stuff moveable or unmoveable. Item I give to her 12 kine & a bull. Item I give her a yoke of oxen of the best. Item I give her half my corn at home or in the field in what estate soever it be. Item I give her half the grass & hay that is upon Hole Farm in as ample manner as it can or may. Item I give her the best mare & a colt which she will choose. Item I give her half my sheep and lambs equally to be divided. Moreover I give her 10 of the swine that be about the house at her choice. Item I give to Thomas Apersonadge, my son's son, 10 heifers of the age of 2 or 3 years old & 40 sheep. Item I give unto the aforesaid Thomas Apersonadge, my son's son, the black mare and I will that the boy and legacy to be at the discretion of my wife, his grandmother. Item I give to William Cotton my servant one yearling heifer. Item I give to Edie Haines one cow. Item I give to Thomas Haines one calf. Item I give to Alice Spinner one yearling heifer. Item I give to Francis my brother one heifer and my black coat & my grey cloak. Item I give to Thomas Apersonadge, Francis's son, one heifer. Item I give to John Haines my best hose and my black leather jerkin. Item the residue of my goods not bequeathed I give to Nicholas my son provided always that he be good to his mother as duty requires, the which Nicholas I make my sole executor to see this my last will fulfilled, my debts paid & my body honestly brought to earth. Item I do ordain and appoint to be my overseers Richard Boxe and Harry Weste.

In witness hereof: Thomas Powell, Edie Darke, Joan Darke with others

Probate: 24 September 1572

1572/213

In the name of God, Amen. The 29th August 1572 and in the 14th year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, of England, France and Ireland Queen, defender of the faith etc I William Corbett of the parish of Yate and county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick in body but whole and perfect in mind and memory, laud and praise be to the eternal God, therefore do here make my last will and testament in manner and form following. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul to the Almighty God my maker and redeemer and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Yate at the discretion of my overseers. I give to the 3 children of John Corbett my son a sheep apiece. I give to my son Thomas Corbett one cow and 4 sheep. I give unto my 6 godchildren 12d apiece provided that if my son Thomas die before he marries then the cow and the sheep above named return to William my son if William so long live or to the longest liver of my children. If John's children die either one or two or all before they be married the aforesaid sheep to return to the father and mother. I will that these 3 sheep be put forth to the increase of these 3 children. All my other goods

moveable and unmoveable I give unto my wife Annis whom I make my sole executrix, to pay and to take up my debts and to see this my will be accomplished and fulfilled.

In witness hereof to be a true and lawful will: Thomas Baynam, Henry Cooke, Robert Shorte and Thomas Jonnes alias Lewes, minister

Probate: 24 September 1572

1573/27

In the name of God, Amen. The 2nd May 1571 I Edmond Askue of Chipping Sodbury in the diocese of Gloucester, sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance, laud & praise be unto Almighty God, therefore do make this my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker & to Jesus Christ his only son my only saviour & redeemer by whose precious blood-shedding I do fully trust to have remission of my sins & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Chipping Sodbury aforesaid. Item I give & bequeath to John my son one great pan, one crock, one posnet, one platter, one pottinger, one saucer & one coffer in the shop. Item I give & bequeath to Edith my daughter the little coffer, the least pan, one crock, a platter, a pottinger & one saucer. The residue of all & singular my goods moveable & unmoveable not before bequeathed, my debts, legacies & funeral expenses discharged & paid, I give & bequeath them to Joan my wife whom I make executrix of this my last will & testament. Overseer of this my last will & testament I make & ordain Henry Weste to see it performed in all points.

These bearing witness: Thomas Powell, clerk

Probate: 21 July 1573

1573/106

In the name of God, Amen. The 17th August 1572 I Joan Allesope, widow, of the parish of West Littleton in the county of Gloucester, being sick in body but perfect in mind and memory, thanks be unto Almighty God, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God, trusting to be saved by Christ's death and passion and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Littleton and therefore I give to the reparations of the said church the sum of 2s. Item I give unto my son John Allesope 26s 8d. Item I give unto my son William Allesope 26s 8d. Item I give unto my son Robert Allesope 28s. Item I give unto my son Philip Allesope 5s. Item I give unto Ede Smythe 10s. Item I give unto Richard Smythe 12d and to their two children Ann and Cicely 12d apiece. Item I give unto Richard Tere 12d and to Isabel his daughter 12d. Item I give unto Margaret my daughter 2s. Item I give unto Joan Allesope, the daughter of Philip Allesope, 12d. Item I give unto Richard Tere dwelling in Siston in the county of Gloucester the sum of £3 6s 8d upon the condition that he do buy the living that he now dwell in unto his wife Margaret my daughter and if it so happen that Margaret my daughter do decease before the said living be bought unto her that then the said £3 6s 8d shall remain among my four sons, Robert Allesope, Philip Allesope, John Allesope and William Allesope in equal portions amongst them to be divided and my son Philip Allesope shall have the government of it immediately after my decease until such time as it must be paid unto the said Richard Terye or else after the decease of Margaret my daughter his wife to be distributed unto my four sons as before is mentioned. Item I give unto my daughter Ede Smythe my best coat, a smock, a kerchief & an apron. Item I give unto my daughter Agnes Paskall a coat, a smock, an apron & a kerchief. Item I give unto Margaret Terye a coat & a kerchief. Item I give unto Agnes Allesope a kerchief. Item I give unto Ede Vowll a kerchief. Item I give unto John Allesope a flock bed, a bolster, a blanket & a coverlet. Item I

give unto William Allesope my son a sheet & a little crock. Item I give unto Alice Paskall a sheep. Item I give unto Philip Allesope's daughter Joan a sheep. Item I give unto Agnes Smythe a coffer. Item I give unto all my godchildren 4d apiece. All these my goods which I have herein bequested shall be delivered and paid at a year's end after my decease. And all the rest of my goods and chattels unbequeathed I give wholly unto Robert Allesope my son whom I ordain and make my lawful executor to receive and pay all charges of my funeral. And this my will to be faithfully performed and kept I do ordain and make my well-beloved in Christ Philip Allesope & John Allesope overseers and for their pains I give them 4d apiece.

Witness: Robert Tether, curate, Thomas Fowlls, Richard Rede and William Allesope
Probate: 9 April 1573

1573/113

In the name of God, Amen. The 21st March 1573 I John Ryver of Chipping Sodbury in the diocese of Gloucester, sick in body but of good & perfect mind & memory, laud & praise be unto Almighty God, do make this my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker & to Jesus Christ his only son my only saviour & redeemer by whose precious blood-shedding I do fully trust to have remission of my sins & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Chipping Sodbury aforesaid. Item I give & bequeath to Margaret my daughter a horse, a pan, a table board, a platter, a saucer. Item I give & bequeath to Anne my daughter a white mare, a pan, a platter & a saucer. The residue of all & singular my goods moveable & unmoveable not before bequeathed, my debts, legacies & funeral expenses discharged & paid, I give & bequeath them to Denise Ryver my wife whom I do make executrix of this my last will & testament.

These bearing witness: John Mann & Agnes Wichell with others
Probate: 21 July 1573

1573/216

In the name of God, Amen. The 1st May 1573 I William Rede the elder of Littleton in the parish of Tormarton in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, sick in body & in perfect mind & memory, thanks be unto Almighty God, do ordain and make this my last will & testament in manner & form following. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God, trusting to be saved by the merits of Christ's death and blessed passion and my body to be buried in the church of Littleton. Item I give to the said church of Littleton 12d. Item I give unto the church of Tormarton 12d. Item I give unto the poor of the parish of Marshfield 12d. Item I do give unto the poor of Chipping Sodbury 16d. Item I do give unto Richard Rede my great pan. Item I give unto my son William Rede my great crock. Item I give unto John Rede, Richard Rede's son, my table board & my dish board. No more I have to give for all the rest of my goods & chattels I have given unto Richard Rede and William Rede, my two sons, as does appear by a deed of gift bearing date the 12th day of October in the 8th year of the reign of our sovereign Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, defender of the faith.

These bearing witness: Robert Tether, curate, Nicholas Webe, Thomas Fowlls, John Frye, Edward Chestrow & Robert Allesope with others
Probate: 21 July 1573

1575/57

In the name of God, Amen. I John Ledge of Chipping Sodbury, sick in body but whole & perfect in mind and remembrance, laud and praise be to Almighty God, do make

and ordain this my last will and testament the 2nd December 1574 in manner and form following. First I give & bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker and redeemer and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Chipping Sodbury. Item I give to John Ledge, Robert & Anne my children either of them a cow & the said kine to be in the keeping of my wife as long as she keeps the said children. Item I give to John my son the millstone. Item I give to Robert my son the great pan. Item I give to Anne my daughter one cauldron & a brass pot. And the residue of my goods I give to Isaac my wife who I make my executor to see this my last will fulfilled and my body honestly put into the earth. Anything after that unbequeathed I give to Isaac my wife. Furthermore I do appoint Robert Ledge, John Coth, John Hellyer to be overseers.
Probate: 17 June 1575

1575/76

In the name of God, Amen. 1574 and the 20th September I John Stevens of Acton Turville in the diocese of Gloucester, sick and weak in body, do make this my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker, my body to be buried in Christian burial. Item I give to Catherine Stevens my daughter my best brass pot. Item I give to Denise Jarret my kinswoman a cupboard that stands in the hall. Item I give to John Stevens my eldest son my best coat. Item I give & bequeath to Elizabeth my wife all & singular the rest of my goods & chattels moveable & unmoveable who I do make my full & whole executrix of this my last will & testament to receive my debts & pay my debts.
These bearing witness: Robert Pontinge & Hugh Graunt with others & James Davys
Probate: 24 March 1575

1575/82

In the name of God, Amen. I John Walker of Chipping Sodbury the 3rd March 1572, sick in body, whole & perfect in mind & memory, laud & praise to God. First I humbly beseech our saviour Jesus Christ to receive my soul in whose blood shedding I trust to be saved and for such goods, lands & leases to be divided as hereafter follows. Item I give to the poor men's box of Chipping Sodbury 12d. Item I give unto Anne my wife and to the heirs of our two bodies between us lawfully begotten all my free lands in Chipping Sodbury in the county of Gloucester or elsewhere within the realm of England. And for lack of such issue to remain to my right heirs for ever. Also I will if it shall happen the said Anne my wife hereafter to marry she shall enter into bonds before any contract or solemnization of marriage to Thomas Powell otherwise Howells, vicar of Old Sodbury, & Richard Huis of Wotton under Edge or to the survivor of any them in the sum of one £ to make assignment of all such leases which she shall have of my purchases to the use of my children or any of them then living as then it shall be advised or devised by the learned counsel of the said Thomas or Richard. Item the residue of my goods not bequeathed I give it to Anne my wife to the bringing up of my children and at the time of their marriage my wife to give them at her discretion. Moreover I ordain and appoint Anne my wife to be my executrix to see my debts paid & my body honestly buried.
These being witness: Thomas Powell, vicar there, Richard Huys, Anthony Somer... and Walter Duswell
By me John Walker (*signed by him*) Thomas Powell, vicar there and Richard Huis, Notary Public
Probate: 2 May 1575

1575/84

1574 in the 16th year of the reign of Elizabeth 5th July. In the name of God, Amen. I James Walker of the parish of Yate, sick & feeble in body but of a whole & perfect memory, make my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God & my body to the earth from whence it came. Item I give to my daughter Mary a brown cow & a black heifer. Item I give unto Harry Russell, son to Sander Russell, a sheep. All other my goods whatever they be I give unto my wife & make & ordain her my sole & only executor, paying my debts & discharging the duties of my burial.

Debts which I owe

Unto Michael Neale	20s
I owe unto Robert Rycke of Hawkesbury	7s 10d

Debts owing unto me

Jones of Sodbury due to be paid at the Nativity of St John Baptist	4s
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Witnesses: John Cooke, Robert Shorte, John Corbett, John Syfforde, John Walters, clerk

Probate: 17 June 1575

1575/148

20th June 16th year of the Queen

In the name of God, Amen. I Thomas Amorgan, being sick of body but of a perfect mind & memory do make my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my only saviour and redeemer who has redeemed me with his precious blood and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Tormarton. Item I give to the poor man's box in Tormarton 12d. Item I give & bequeath to every one of my brother John's children a ewe and that each of them have the increase of them. Item I give and bequeath to my sister's children every one of them a lamb. When my debts be paid my will is that Henry Morgan, the son of my cousin Edward Morgan, shall have all such goods as be mine, my debts being paid, after the decease of my wife whom I make and ordain my only and sole executrix.

Witness: William Bilberye, Thomas Edwards, Edward Ysake with others

Debts

First for 4 oxen for my daughter-in-law	£8
To George Russell	16s

Probate: 30th April 1575

1576/36

In the name of God, Amen. 31st July 1576 I Edward Rowch of Yate in the county of Gloucester, clothier, being sick of body but sound of mind & of perfect remembrance, do make my last will & testament on this wise. First I commend my soul into the hands of the Almighty and my body to earth until the general resurrection. Also I bequeath to my son Peter five pounds of current English money to remain in the hands & use of my wife during her widow estate but if she marry then to deliver it up presently to the use of my son at the discretion of the overseers until the one & twenty years of his age & then to have both the use & profit thereof to himself. Moreover I give him the loom with appurtenances, the warping bar & scarm to be delivered of my wife at his age aforesaid. Further I give him the board with the cupboard & the shelf after the decease of my wife. I bequeath also to my daughter Jane thirteen pounds of lawful English money with a flock bed & appurtenances, three platters & a candlestick to be delivered at the day of her marriage provided that if she marry not that then it be delivered according to the discretion of the overseers

at the 21st year of her age. Provided also further that if either of them shall decease before the time aforesaid that then the bequest of him or her so deceased to remain to the other yet living but if both shall so depart then to remain to my wife & if she die before them to the next of my kindred. Item to each of the poor in the church house with Annis Welles & Annis More 4d. Item the suit of apparel to my uncle William, to Richard Chandler a doublet & pair of stockings & to John Walker my weaver a jerkin & pair of stockings with 2s of money. Of all other goods moveable & unmoveable not bequeathed I make my wife Edith full & whole executrix to pay & discharge all my debts as to Alexander Nele £24 at the day appointed, to Francis Nele £3 8d, to George Belsierr £5 at the day agreed on & to Mr Emerie in London 11s. Last of all I ordain & appoint John Cooke & Thomas Collynes de Cawsey of Yate to be overseers that this my last will & testament be fulfilled.

Bearing witness: William Burnell, gentleman, Ralph Cooper & John Corbett

Probate: 22 September 1576

1576/15

In the name of God, Amen. The 20th September 1569 I John Simes of Acton Turville in the county of Gloucester, being of whole mind and good and perfect memory, laud & praise be unto Almighty God, make and ordain this my present testament concerning herein my last will in manner and form following. That is to say, first I commend my sole unto Almighty God my maker and redeemer and my body to be buried in the church or churchyard of Acton Turville. Item I give and bequeath to John Simes my son a bullock that is marked. Item I give to the said John an acre of wheat and an acre of barley and four sheep. Item I will that Margaret my wife shall sow to every one of her two sons, Edward Carpenter and Thomas Carpenter, an acre of barley. Item I give to Edward Davis, my sister's son, one sheep. Item to the mother church of Gloucester 2d. All the rest of my goods & chattels moveable & unmoveable I give and bequeath to Margaret my wife whom I make my whole executrix of this my last will and testament and my debts paid.

These bearing witness: John Whitt, Robert Godwine, Joan Freye & Agnes Davis with others

Debts due upon the testator

To John Davis, Robert Ponting's man	14s
To John Whitt, Thomas Ponting's man	13s
To Katherine Carpenter alias Reed fourteen bushels of barley price	15s 2d

Probate: 8 May 1576

1576/80

In the name of God, Amen. The 15th May 1576 in the 18th 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 Richard Theare of the parish of Wapley in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being very sick in body but whole & perfect in memory, I give God most hearty thanks for it, do make my last will & testament in manner & form as hereafter follows. First I give & bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my maker & redeemer & my body to be buried in the church or churchyard of the parish of Wapley. Item I give unto the use of the same church in money 12d. Item I give & bequeath unto Eleanor my daughter in money £10 to be delivered unto her at the day of her marriage. Also I give & bequeath unto Parnell my second daughter £6 13s 4d in money to be delivered unto her at the day of her marriage. Also I give & bequeath unto Mary my third daughter to be delivered unto her also at the day of her marriage. Also I give & bequeath unto Dorothy my fourth daughter £10 of money to be delivered unto her at the day of her marriage. Also I give & bequeath unto Bridget my youngest daughter £10 to be delivered unto her at the day of her marriage & if it

happen any of my daughters to die before their day of marriage that then or her part to remain unto my wife to be used according to her discretion. Also I give unto John my son £6 13s 4d to be delivered unto him when he is 21 years of age and if it happen that my son die before the age of 21 years then his part of money to remain unto his mother to be used at her discretion. Also I give & bequeath unto James Joacheam, the son of John Jocheam my godson 2s in money. All the rest of my goods unbequeathed both moveable & unmoveable, my funeral, debts & legacies once being paid, I give & bequeath unto Joan my wife whom I do make my lawful executrix of this my last will & testament. Furthermore I do ordain & appoint Edmund Belsyr & Harry Clyffe to be the overseers of this my last will & testament & for their pains I give each of them 20d.

Debts owed unto me

John Joacheam of Wapley owes unto me 25s 8d

Mr Harry Beaumonde of Gittsome in Devonshire owes unto me 18s

Debts that I do owe

I do owe unto Edmund Belsyr of Wapley 20s

These bearing witness: Mr Simon Codrington, esquire, Edmund Belsyr, Harry Clyffe & Thomas Parker with others

Written by me Thomas Cadle, vicar of Wapley

Probate: 7 January 1576

1577/24

17th January 1577. In the name of God, Amen. I Edward Kilberie of Tormarton being sick in body of perfect mind and memory do make my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my saviour and to be saved by his precious blood shedding and my body to the earth where hence it came. Item I give to the poor men's box of Tormarton 12d. Item I give and bequeath to my son Christopher 6 sheep and one beast. Item I give and bequeath to my son Henry 6 sheep and one beast. Item the rest of my goods unbequeathed I give and bequeath to Alice my wife whom I make and ordain my sole and only executrix.

Witness hereof: Edward Wickes, parson there, William Kilberie, Edward Isaac, Lawrence Rapson with others

Probate: 28 September 1577

1577/134

In the name of God, Amen. The 2nd May 1576 in the 18th 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 Robert Packer of the parish of Wapley in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being very sick in body but whole & perfect in memory, I praise & thank Almighty God for it, do make my last will & testament in manner & form as hereafter follows. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my maker and my redeemer, & my body to be buried in the church or churchyard of the parish of Wapley. Item I give to the use of the said church 4d. Also I give & bequeath unto John & George my 2 eldest sons, unto each of them one cauldron kettle of brass & every of them one yoke & one string belonging unto the plough. Also I give & bequeath unto my 4 daughters unto every of them one weaning calf & to each of them one platter & one pottinger & one saucer. And if it fortune any of my daughters to die before marrying then her part to be equally divided between the rest of her sisters. I will that the calves be reared or nourished up upon this my living by my wife & so of her or by her unto them at time convenient to be delivered. Also I give & bequeath unto Thomas & Harry my 2 youngest sons to each of them one yearling calf to be kept on my living & to be delivered by my wife in such sort as is said before of my daughters. All the rest of my goods both moveable & unmoveable, my debts &

legacies being once paid, I give & bequeath unto Anne my wife whom I do make my lawful executrix of this my last will and testament. Also I do appoint Thomas Parker of the bridge and John Poule my brother-in-law to be overseers of this my last will & testament and for their pains each of them to have paid unto them 4d.

Be it known that I do owe unto Richard Hendy £3 8s.

These bearing witness: Mr Simon Codrington, esquire, Thomas Cadle, vicar of Wapley & John Poule with others

Written by me Thomas Cadle, vicar of Wapley

Probate: 27 April 1577

1578/21

In the name of God, Amen. I Clement Colymore of Chipping Sodbury the 12th April 1577, being sick in body, whole & perfect in mind & memory, laud & praise be to God. First I beseech our saviour Jesus to receive my soul in whose blood shedding I trust to be saved and such goods as God has lent me to be divided as hereafter follows. Item I give to Richard Colymore my son a great pot conditionally that if he has no son then to remain to Edward my son & to his sons. Item I give to Margaret my daughter one featherbed with the appurtenances. Item I give to Elizabeth my daughter one flock bed with the appurtenances. Item I give to Anthony Colymore, the son of Edward Colymore, one osset loom. Item the residue of my goods not bequeathed I give to Alice my wife who I make my sole executrix to see this my will performed, my debts paid, my body honestly brought to earth.

These being witness: John Hill the elder, John Hill the younger, Edward Colymore with others

Probate: 2 June 1578

1578/62

The 10th April in the 20th 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. In the name of God, Amen. I John Iles junior of the parish of Yate in the county of Gloucester, sick of body but of whole and perfect memory, thanks be to Almighty God, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my creator and redeemer by whose death and mercy I trust to be saved and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Yate. Item I will and give unto my eldest daughter Joan Iles £6 13s 4d. Item I will and give unto my other daughter Margaret Iles £6 13s 4d. All the rest of my goods moveable and unmoveable I will and give unto Mary Iles my wife whom I make and appoint my sole executrix to this my last will and testament. Item be it further provided that if either of my daughters do die or decease before she comes to the age 16 years that then her part that is deceased shall remain and be due to the other alive. This will was appointed in the presence of John Iles, the elder, William Hancoke and John Hobbes.

All the debts that were owing unto John Iles, deceased, at his death. Item that John Iles his father did owe him £5.

Probate: 11 June 1578

1578/86

In the name of God, Amen. April 4th 1578 & the 20th year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth etc, I John Somers of Yate in the county of Gloucester, yeoman, sick in body but sound in mind, do in this my last will first bequeath my spirit into the hands of the Almighty & my body to earth. Item I give to my daughter Joan £6 13s 4d, two silver spoons & a platter. Item to my daughter Anne £6 13s 4d, two silver

spoons & a platter. Item to my son £6 13s 4d, two silver spoons & a platter, provided that the sums aforesaid of money due to the maidens shall be put forth at sixteen years of each their ages to their most advantage but their spoons & platter shall be delivered them at their marriages. But if my wife Anne shall hereafter buy to my son John an estate in the house then towards the charge thereof she shall take his whole legacy to her own use & possession, otherwise to pay it him at the 20th year of his age to his proper use. Finally I make my wife Anne sole & whole executrix of all my goods not given nor bequeathed & to take all such debts as are due to me viz of Mr P Barkeley fifty shillings. Item of Thomas Harding of Cam, gentleman, £9 11s 10d & do ordain & appoint William Burnell of Yate my overseer of this will.

Bearing witness: Thomas Bayneham, rector here, William Burnell, gentleman, Richard Browne

Probate: 11 June 1578

1578/105

In the name of God, Amen. I James Frenche the 19th October in the 19th year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith etc, sick in body, whole & perfect in mind & body, laud & praise be to God, do make my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I beseech our saviour Jesus Christ to receive my soul in whose blood shedding I trust to be saved and for the goods as God has lent me to be divided as hereafter follows. Item I give to my sister Anne a cow & the heir withal when her covenant is out. Item I give to my brother John a mare & a colt & a forest bill. Item I give to my father a colt that is at Yate. Item I give the 40s that my master owes me & also 40s that is in my coffer & the 40s that John Colles owes me & also 10s that Simon Neale owes me with the cow to my 3 sisters & to be divided at the discretion of my brother William without any strife. Also I give my 3 sisters and my brother John all my grounds that I have bargained for to be divided equally among them. Item I give to William Bryngfelde my apparel that I have here. Item the rest of my goods not bequeathed I give to my brother William who I ordain & appoint to be sole executor to see my debts, my body honestly buried.

By me James Frenche

Probate: June 1578 for James French of Yate

1578/129

In the name of God, Amen. The 20th February 1577 I Nicholas Neale of the parish of Yate in the county of Gloucester being of perfect mind and memory but sick in body, thanks be unto God, do make my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath and commend my soul to Almighty God and I do steadfastly believe that God will forgive me all my sins for Jesus Christ's sake. Also I bequeath my body to be buried in Yate churchyard. Item I bequeath unto my daughter Joan Neale 2 kine. And all the rest of my goods unbequeathed I give unto my wife Margaret Neale. In witness whereof this my present testament concerning herein my last will.

Witnesses: Thomas Burnell, gentleman, John Rogers & William Neale with others

Probate: 11 June 1578

1578/152

In the name of God, Amen. The 1st September 1577 and in the nineteenth year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, witness that I Ralph Coper of the parish of Yate being sick in body but whole of mind and of good memory, God be praised, do ordain and make my last testament in form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty

God and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Yate. Item I bequeath unto my son Harry Coper three kine. Item I bequeath unto Edie Coper my daughter three kine and a bed with his appurtenances. And the rest of my goods moveable and unmoveable not bequeathed I give unto Mary my wife whom I do make my whole executrix to receive my debts and to pay my debts and to see me brought on earth. And I do ordain and appoint Thomas Collynes and Simon Nelle to be my overseers of this my last will and testament. Item I give unto John Pache 4d and to Annis Clarke 4d and to Annis Wales 4d and to Annis Baynam 4d and to Annis More 4d. And item I will that my wife shall have the use of my two children's bequests until they shall accomplish their several ages of 16 years and if she do not marry before. And if she do marry then I do will that they shall have the use and profit thereof themselves but yet at the discretion of the overseers of my will. And I will that if Mary my wife do buy the house unto my son Harry then all his legacy shall go to the payment of the fine if my overseers think it good.

Witness to this my last will and testament are these: Thomas Collynes, Simon Nelle, William Nelle and Thomas Jocham, the scribe hereof

What debts I do owe

I owe unto William Coper my brother one cow and one heifer

I owe unto Thomas Colens £3 5s 4d

I owe unto my brother Alexander Coper £3 3s 4d

I owe unto my brother-in-law William Nelle 10s

I owe unto Thomas Joham of Sodbury 5s

Debts owing unto me

Richard Norres of Sodbury 19s

My brother William Coper 20s

John Nell of Church End 2s 6d

Probate: 15 April 1578

1578/198

In the name of God, Amen. The 14th February 1577 I Thomas Jocham of Chipping Sodbury in the county of Gloucester, being sick in body but perfect of remembrance, thanks be to Almighty God, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my saviour and redeemer and my body to be buried in the church or churchyard of Chipping Sodbury. Item I give and bequeath to my brother John Jocham five pounds to be paid unto him at St James tide the next ensuing the date hereof. Item I give and bequeath to my brother John Jocham's children either of them five pounds to be paid unto them at their several ages of sixteen years. Item I give and bequeath to my brother-in-law Christopher Dorney's children either of them five pounds to be paid unto them at their several ages of sixteen years. Item I give and bequeath to Gillian Jocham's children either of them five pounds, except John Jocham my godson, to be paid unto them at their several ages of sixteen years. Item I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Collins, daughter of Thomas Collins of Yate, five pounds to be paid unto her at the feast of St Michael the Archangel next ensuing the date hereof. Item I give and bequeath to Edith Burdge that kept me 10s to be paid unto her at St James tide next ensuing the date hereof. Item I give and bequeath to Henry Coper my godson 10s to be paid unto him at his age of sixteen years. Item I give and bequeath to Edmund Tayler's children either of them 3s 4d to be paid unto them at their several ages of sixteen years. Item I will that my landlord Butt's son shall have my little sword of whom I had him of. Item I give and bequeath to the poor people of Sodbury 20s to be paid unto them at St James tide next ensuing the date hereof. Item I give and bequeath to the poor people in Wapley 6s 8d to be paid unto them at St James Tide

next ensuing the date hereof. Item I give and bequeath to the poor people in Yate 6s 8d to be paid unto them at St James tide next ensuing the date hereof. Item I give and bequeath to either of my overseers 20s to be paid unto them at the feast of St John the Baptist next ensuing the date hereof. Item my will is that Richard Norys shall have my andirons that were Mistress Week's. Item I give and bequeath to my godson John Jocham all my land in Sodbury with all deeds, writings, evidence and specialties that I now have or hereafter ought to have by any ways or means whatsoever in whose custody soever they may be found. All my goods not given nor bequeathed I give and bequeath to the same John Jocham whom I make my sole executor to receive my debts and to pay my debts.

Debts owing unto me Thomas Joachym

John Horwell	£13		
Thomas Surynge	£11		
Thomas Peglar		25s	
Edmund Tayler		46s	
William Isacke and Matthew Tester	£4	16s	
William Attwoode	£10		
Giles Hedge	£8	6s	8d
William Pavie	£3		
Robert Tyther and Henry Walker		13s	4d
George Whytborne	£3	3s	4d
John Cotes		20s	
William Beste	£3	10s	
Richard Peryn	£5		
Richard Hendy and John Powle		20s	
John Howell and the vicar		26s	
Christopher Dornege	£18	16s	3d
Richard Perkes	£5		
Hugh Damsell		10s	
George Powle			22d

Probate: 10 June 1578

1579/31

In the name of God, Amen. The 29th March 1577 in the nineteenth year of the reign of our sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth, I Edmund Davys of Acton Turville, husbandman, do make my last will & testament as follows. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker & my redeemer & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Acton Turville & I do give to the parish one bushel of barley. Item I give & bequeath to my son Robert ten pounds & my wife to deliver it as soon as I am dead & a crock, a pan & a quern mill, an iron bar, a wain yoke & strings & two wedges to be delivered as soon as my wife do marry & in the meantime she to use it & make it good at her day of marriage or hour of death which shall first happen to come. Item I give to my daughter Annis ten pounds to be delivered within half year after my death & a crock & a pan & a press to be delivered as soon as my wife do marry & to John Sefford's wife a platter, a pottinger & a saucer to be delivered when my wife do marry & to John Syfford's daughter a beast of two years of age to be delivered as soon as I am gone. Item I give to Edmund, John Davys's son, my godson, a beast of two years age, a little crock, a little broach & andiron & a pair of new wheels unbound, a mattock & two wedges to be delivered when my wife do marry or lawful age of the child, which shall first happen to come & to Joan Davys a young beast of two years age to be delivered when my wife do marry or at the lawful age of the said Joan, which shall first happen to come. Item to Margaret, James Davis's daughter, a bushel of wheat, to Constance Jay a bushel of wheat, to Avise Fry twelve pence to be delivered at their marriage, provided always that if my wife do marry then my will is

that Robert & Annis my children shall have the one half with her of all my goods & chattels residue & of this my last will & testament I ordain & make Christian my wife my executrix.

Witness hereunto: James Bysse & John Woodman

Debts owing to Edmund Davys

Thomas Typper of Marshfield owes 5 nobles for barley	33s	4d
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The same Typper owes for oats	3s	6d
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William Robyns of Marshfield which I lent him	10s	
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Elizabeth Merry of Tormarton owes for money lent her husband	20s	8d
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Robert Godwyn owes for money lent him	8s	
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William Estmeade owes half a bushel of wheat & money lent		12d
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Probate: 19 May 1579

1579/157

In the name of God, Amen. The 15th September in the 21st year of the reign of our sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queen of England, France & Ireland, defender of the faith etc, Thomas Bayley of the parish of Chipping Sodbury in the county of Gloucester made his last will & testament as follows. Item he did give and bequeath his house unto his son Richard Bayley.

Witnesses to the same: Henry Hyum, John Man, John Wickway, Edward Cullimore & Christopher Parker

Probate: 17 January 1579

1580/8

In the name of God, Amen. I Alexander Smithe of Sodbury the 4th July 1579, sick in body but whole & perfect in mind & memory, laud & praise be to God, do make my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I beseech our saviour Jesus Christ to receive my soul in whose blood shedding I trust to be saved. And such goods as God has lent me to be divided as hereafter follows. Item I give to my sons John, Richard & Thomas the shop & all the implements thereof & my will is the shop should remain wholly to my son John when he comes to the age of 21 years so that the said John do pay or cause to be paid to his brothers Richard & Thomas £6 13s 4d apiece. Item I give to my wife my dwelling house with the furniture thereof. Item I give to my daughter Margaret a calf & the said calf to be bred to a cow. Item I give to my daughter Annis a calf to be bred likewise. Item I give the rents of the Shambles unto my daughters for 20 years & the said rents to be equally divided at the discretion of my overseers. Item the residue of my goods not bequeathed, my debts paid, my body honestly buried, I give to my son John who I make my sole executor. Moreover I ordain & appoint to be my overseers Nicholas Tocker & Richard Harvy my brother-in-laws.

Witness unto this will: Robert Weret

Probate: 15 April 1580

1580/23

In the name of God, Amen. The 13th June 1580 in the 22nd year of the reign of our sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth etc, I Edith Camerie als Sowtharde of Tormarton in the county of Gloucester, widow, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God my saviour and redeemer by whose death and passion I look to be saved and none otherwise and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Tormarton aforesaid. Item I give and bequeath to Anne my daughter all my pewter and brass and my bed with all the

appurtenances thereto belonging. Item I give and bequeath unto the said Anne six sheep. Item I give unto her a frying pan, a broach, a coffer with all the linen and woollen in it, a pair of pothooks, a kneading cool & pot hangings, a wheel, two pots with butter and a pot with honey, an oatmeal kipe* and oatmeal in it, two flitches of bacon, a powdering pail with all the flesh in it. Item I give unto her 7 bushels of barley, 12 bushels of oats and dredge, 5 pecks of wheat, an acre of wheat on the ground, a pig of a quarter old, a stand and a pail. Item a temser*. Item I give and bequeath more unto her a acre of barley, she finding seed and her brother Edward to sow it and dress it for her. Item I give and bequeath to Jane my daughter a sheep. Item I give and bequeath to Abraham Camerye, my son Edward's son, a ewe. Item i give to my godson John Lewis als Butler a bushel of barley. Item I give to Marian Tilley my goddaughter a lamb and my black working-day cassock. Item I give to Ellen Dunson, the wife of Roger Dunson, a working-day coat. Item I give to the poor men's box 12d. item I give and bequeath to the reparations of the church 6d and more to the same 13d which Edward Butler the younger owes me for a bushel of barley. Item I give and bequeath to Sir Edward Warde the curate a fleece of wool or else the value thereof in money. The rest of my goods moveable and unmoveable unbequeathed and my legacies performed I give and bequeath to Edward my son whom I make full executor of this my last will & testament. And John Curteis and John Tanner my overseers and I give to each of them for their pains 2d. These being witnesses: William Kilburie, Edward Lewis the elder, Roger Dunson, Edward Warde, curate
 Probate: 8 February 1580
a kipe = a basket; a temser = a sieve

1580/25

In the name of God, Amen. The 2nd October 1579 Edmund Tayler of Chipping Sodbury in the county of Gloucester, being sick in body but perfect of remembrance, thanks be to God, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my saviour and redeemer and my body to the earth. Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Ellen one cow and one flock bed with the appurtenances. Also I give and bequeath to my said daughter Ellen the third part of my pewter and brass, my executors to take the first choice. Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Margery one heifer. Item I give Ellen Geale the board in the porch chamber. Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Alice a ewe and a charger. The rest of my goods not given nor bequeathed I give and bequeath unto my son Edmund and my daughter Marian whom I make my whole and sole executors to see my will performed and my debts paid. Overseers of this my last will I desire Henry Weste and Richard Noryce.

Witnesses to this: Christopher Parker, John Smyth and Ellen Geale

Debts owing to me Edmund Tayler

Item Joan Wyckam owes me 24s 9d whereof William Attwoode of the Beach did give his word for sixteen shillings.

Debts that I Edmund Tayler do owe

To William Wodam of Wrackfold	£3 8s 8d
To Gillian Turner	32s
To William Barnes a cow and a calf	<i>not given</i>
To Thomas Collins of Yate	20s

Probate: 10 September 1580

1580/37

In the name of God, Amen. The 1st December in the 23rd year of the reign of our sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth etc, I George Belsyre of Yate within the county of Gloucester, yeoman, being sick in body but of perfect memory, thanks be to God, do make this my last will and testament in form following. First I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God, hoping to be saved by his death and passion, and my body to be buried in Christian burial. Item I give and bequeath unto Mary Belsyre my daughter £30. Item I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Belsyre my daughter £30. Item I give and bequeath unto Henry Belsyre my son £30 and also my lease and time of years as are unexpired of and in a tenement with the appurtenances which one William Bryngfyld now does dwell in, situating within the parish of Winson within the county of Gloucester which tenement aforesaid my will is that my son Henry shall enjoy at the full age of 21 years. And if he die before that then the years thereof unexpired to remain to Thomas my son. Item I give unto Thomas my son £30. Item I give unto George my son £30. Item I give unto Edith my daughter £30. Item I give unto Edmund my son £30, all which several sums of money my will is that it be paid and delivered to every of them by my executor with the advice of my overseers as they shall grow and be of full age of 21 years. Item I give unto William Dyer the bay mare's colt. Item I give to the poor at my burial 5s. All other goods and chattels moveable and unmoveable, lands, leases, the patent with the fee thereof, my tithing of Rangeworthy, annuities, profits with commodities whatsoever as did remain and was due to me by any means whatsoever (except before excepted) and unbequeathed I do fully give and bequeath unto John Belsyre my son whom I make my sole executor to pay my legacies and debts and to receive my debts that are owing me. And to see this my last will be accomplished I do appoint to be my overseers Alexander Neale and Henry Beynam provided that if John my son do refuse to be my executor and to pay the said legacies that then my will is and I do fully give and authorise my said overseers and Mr Neale of Lassington, Christopher Browne and Edmund Belsyre to sell, let out, lease out and use to their discretion all the said goods, chattels, lands, leases, copyhold patent and the fee thereof, tithings and other commodity whatsoever, to this effect, that is to the paying of the said legacies according to the true meaning of the testator as aforesaid. In witness whereof I the said George Belsyre have hereunto put my hand the day and year within written.

Debts owing me

Mr Bridge of Winson owes me	52s
Edward West of Rangeworthy	8s
William Cowles of Old Sodbury owes	8s
Richard Deane of Hawkesbury	£5
Edmund Lauxson of Preston on Stow in Gloucester	40s

Debts that I owe

I owe William Dyer	£11
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Witness hereunto Thomas Burnell, Edmund Belsyre, William Dyer, Thomas Walker

By me George Belsyre

Probate: 29 February 1580

1580/52

In the name of God, Amen. The 15th November 1580 I John Packer of Yate being sick in body but of perfect mind and remembrance, thanks be unto God, make this my last will and testament in manner & form as hereafter follows. First I do give and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my maker and redeemer, trusting by his mercy to be saved. Item I do give unto Thomas Wyllys of Rangeworthy one coat and a pair of breeches. Item all the rest of my goods moveable & unmoveable I do give unto Joan my wife whom I do make my whole executrix of this my last will & testament.

In witness hereof: Morris Nealle, John Turner with others
Probate: 17 February 1580

1580/91

In the name of God, Amen. The 10th October 1579 John West of Chipping Sodbury in the county of Gloucester, being sick in body but perfect in remembrance, thanks be to God, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my saviour and redeemer and my body to the earth. Item I give and bequeath to Thomas Clerke one yearling. All the rest of my goods I give and bequeath to my son Harry whom I make my whole and sole executor. Also I desire my brother Henry West and Richard Noryce to be my overseers and for their pains I give six pence each.

Witness hereunto: Thomas Tegull and Joan Venton
Probate: 10 September 1580

1580/124

In the name of God, Amen. 1580 and 23rd year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland Queen, defender of the faith etc, I Richard Browne the younger of Yate, being sick in body but of perfect memory, thanks be given to Almighty God, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath unto my brother-in-law Richard Tomson all my apparel. Item I give unto Francis Plome my osset loom with the apparel. Item I give unto Elizabeth Collyns such title and right as does appertain unto me by virtue of a deed of gift which my father gave, being of in-ground called Hales Meadow and one half meadow called The Gaskyns. Item I give unto William Nell all such title and right which I ought to have of my father's house and grounds as it does plainly appear by a deed of gift which my father gave me, whatsoever does unto me belong except that ground which I have given unto Elizabeth Collyns as it does appear here in my will. Also I do ordain and make the same William Nell, brother to Simon Nell, my lawful executor to see this my last will and testament performed.

Witnesses hereunto: Richard Chatton, Simon Nell and Thomas Collyns

Debts owing the testator

First my father owes me	12s
Simon Nell owes me	3s 4d
John Nell the carpenter owes me	8d
Robert Petres, collier, owes me to be paid at Our Lady Day next	17d
Item I owe to William Nell	3s

Probate: 30 January 1580

1580/138

In the name of God, Amen. The 14th December 1580 in the 23rd year of the reign of our sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland, defender of the faith etc, I Richard Browne the elder of Yate, being sick in body but of perfect memory, thanks be given to Almighty God, do make my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul into the hands of the Almighty God and my body unto earth in the churchyard. Item I give unto my son John 4 wedges, my great brass pot and billhook. Item I give & bequeath to Joan Tomson 20s. Item I give & bequeath unto Joan Haynes one bushel of wheat & Jane Watman one bushel of wheat at harvest next ensuing. Item to Joan Awnsell 4d and 8d to be distributed amongst the other poor of the church house. Item I make my wife Annis executrix of all my goods. Item I constitute William Burnell and John Browne

the overseers of this my last will and testament to be executed according to the true meaning hereof, giving each of them for their pains 20d.

Bearing witness: Thomas Beynham, clerk, James Kylberye, William Burnell

I owe unto Elizabeth Joacham 33s 4d

Probate: 30 January 1580

1580/158

In the name of God, Amen. The 16th February 1578 and in the 21st year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God etc I Thomas Fowles of West Littleton in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick in body but, thanks be given to God, of good & perfect remembrance, do make this my last will and testament in manner & form following. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my saviour and redeemer by whose only passion, death & blood-shedding I look to be saved and no otherwise and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Littleton aforesaid. Item I give and bequeath to the poor people of the same parish one bushel of barley. Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Margaret Fowle 40s in money, a ewe & a lamb, a platter and a saucer. Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Alice Fowles 40s in money, a ewe & a lamb, a platter and a saucer. Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Agnes Fowles a ewe & a lamb, a platter and a saucer and 40s in money. And I give and bequeath to John Warren and Thomas Warren, my daughter Edith's children, a ewe and a lamb betwixt them and the longer liver of them both to have the increase of the whole. Item I give and bequeath to Richard Noode one sheep. Item I give and bequeath to my godson William Reed one bushel of wheat. Item I give and bequeath to every of the rest of my godchildren 4d apiece. Item I give and bequeath to my son James Fowles a yoke and a string, a sallow, a shear & coulter. Item I give and bequeath to Edith Fowles my wife and John Fowles my son all the rest of the wain harness or belonging to the plough so that if it please God to call my said wife to his mercy before John my son then she to leave all the whole harness to him and his behalf. Item I give and bequeath to my said son John Fowles 20 sheep one with another as they run forth of the fold or hurdle. Item I give and bequeath unto him one yoke of my best oxen after my heriots be answered. Item I give and bequeath unto my said son John a bay mare colt of 3 years old. Item I give and bequeath to Edith my wife and James Fowles my son, after my debts be paid and my legacies performed, one half of the rest of my goods and chattels moveable and unmoveable unbequeathed and the other half I give and bequeath to the above named John Fowles whom I make executor with my wife Edith, his mother, and James, his brother, of this my last will and testament. Item my will and mind is that if it shall please God to call any of my said children to his mercy before their marriage then I will that his or their legacy so departing shall be and remain to the use of the rest then living equally to be divided amongst them. Item I give and bequeath to William Kilburye and Thomas Burfford to each of them one bushel of barley whom I make overseers and supervisors of this my last will and testament.

Witnesses to the same: Richard Reed, Nicholas Smart, Edward Warde, curate

Probate: 6 February 1580

1580/161

In the name of God, Amen. The 11th July in the 22nd year of the reign of our sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth I Thomas Edwards of Tormarton within the county of Gloucester, husbandman, sick in body yet, God be thanked, perfect in remembrance, do make this my will & testament in manner & form following. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker and redeemer by whose death and passion I look to be saved and not otherwise and my body to be buried in the

churchyard of Tormarton aforesaid. Item I give and bequeath unto Thomas Butler's 3 children to each of them a lamb. Item to Peter, John Stephenes's son, a lamb. Item [to] Julian Taylor, John Tailor's daughter, a lamb. All the rest of my goods moveable and unmoveable I give to Joan my wife whom I make my whole executrix of this my last will and testament.

These witnesses: John Curties, Edward Butler, the elder, William Russell, Thomas Butler, Edward Warde, curate

Probate: 10 September 1580

1580/202

In the name of God, Amen. I William Blake of the parish of Little Sodbury the 18th August 1579, being sick in body but whole & perfect in mind & memory, laud & praise be to God. First I beseech our saviour Jesus Christ to receive my soul in whose blood-shedding I trust to be saved and such goods as God has lent me to be divided as hereafter follows. Item I give to our parish church a bushel of barley. Item I give to Old Sodbury church a bushel of barley. Item I give to Edmund Gaykes a quern with the furniture and a whitch. Item I give to William Wayde otherwise Blake two great pans of brass & the great crock & 3 platters upon the cupboard. The residue of my goods not bequeathed I give to Isabel my wife & to William Wayde alias Blake & to either of them & to the longest liver of them who I ordain to be my executors to see this my will performed, my debts paid & my body honestly brought to earth.

These being witnesses: Thomas Powell, vicar, John Dyer, Harry Stanburne

Probate: 10 September 1580