

National Archive Prob 11/36**Will of William Clerke, of Churchill, 1553**

In the name of god Amen The yere of o[ur] Lorde god A Thousand five hundreth
fiftie and three and in the first yere of o[ur] sov[er]aigne Ladye Marie by the grace of god Quene of
England
Francke and Irelande Defender of the faithe and in earthe of the church of England and Irelande
supreme head I Willyam Clerke of Churchill in the Countie of Oxford yeman being of hole
mynde and perfect remembrance thanks be to god and calling to my remembrance and that ther is
nothings
more uncertayn in this worlde than is this transitorie lief and nothing more certeyn then death I
therefore
do make this my testament and last will in maner and forme folowing First I bequeathe my soule to the
mercie of Almightye god and my bodye to be buried there and where as in such place as my friends
shall thinke
moste convenyent Also I give and bequeathe unto the poore people of the towne of Churchill aforesaid
xl^s to be
equally and indifferentlye distributed amongst theym by th[eh]ands of myn[e] Overseers whose names
hereafter
appereth and I will that the said poore people shall have also tenn lodes of wood amongst theym
divided by my
said Overseers Item I give and bequeathe unto the poore people of the towne of Newente and p[ar]ishe
of the same
in the Countie of Gloucester iiij^{li} of money in likewise indefarently to be distributed amongst theym
by my
said overseers Item I give and bequeathe unto my brother John Clerke Junior imediatlye after my
decease and the
decease of my wief Alice nowe being my wief the full power scale and of my lease or indenture of my
farm
or growing of Churchill aforesaid to have and to hold to hym duringe the termes of lease or indenture
And after hys decease unto John his sonne And yf it fortune the said John his sonne to decease before
his

entre and before the yeres of the said lease be determined then I will that the said lease or indenture to remayne
unto William brother unto the said John duringe the full yeres within the said lease or indenture
expresses And
yf it fortune the said William to decease then I will the said lease or indenture with th[e]foresaid farm
or growing
to Remayne unto Margret the sister of the aforesaid John and William and her assignes duringe the
terme of
th[e]foresaid Lease Item I give and bequeathe Unto the same Margret twentie poundes in money or
money
worthe and if she fortune to decease befor her marriage then I will the same xx^{li} to be to thouse of the
children
of Thomas Clerke of Malsek in the countie of Gloucester severer [?] And also I give and bequeathe
unto Alice
my syster the somme of one hundrethe markes in money or money worthe to be delyvered Unto the
said Alice my syster by
th[eh]andes of my aforesaid Overseers or by eny of them Immediatly after my decease And if it fortune
the said
Alice to decease before the said somme of money be delyvered and before her marriage then I will yt
shall remayne
unto my said brother John Clerke and his children forever Item I give and bequeathe Unto my syster
Joane the
wief of henry Sponer the some of tenne poundes in money or money worthe Item I give and bequeathe
unto my
Sisters Ellyn Sybill and Mergery twenty poundes in money to be distributed and devyded between
them
by equall portions by the discretion of my said Overseers Item I give and bequeathe Unto my Cosyn
Thomas
Clerke of Malsek aforesaid the some of twenty markes in money or money worthe Item I give and
bequeathe
Unto my Cosyn John Clerke brother Unto the said Thomas the some of fyve markes in mony or money
worthe

Item I give and bequeathe Unto my M^r master Thomas Bridges esquire the some of vj ^{li} xiii ^s iiiij^d Item unto M^r

Gyles Bridges sonne and heyre of my said M^r [aste]r vj ^{li} xiiij ^s iiiij ^d Item I bequeathe and give unto henry Farrand &

Alice his wief thuse of ther Children equally to be devyded between the said Children twentie markes Item I

give and bequeathe to every of my godchildren iij ^s iiiij ^d And for the mending and repairing of the highwayes w[ith]in

the lordshipp of Churchill aforesaid xx^s The residue of my goodes not bequeathed my detts beinge paide and the

sommes of money hereafter mentioned excepted I give and bequeathe unto Alice my wief and unto John Clerke

my said brother whome I make myne Executrix and Executor of this my testament and last will Item I will

And make myne Overseers of this my last will John Amorgan of Okull in the countie of Gloucester gent xp[Christ]ofer

Hucvale of Shorth[a]mpton in the countie of Oxford gent Thomas Clerke of Malsyke in the countie of Gloucester

yoman Anthonie ployer of tangley Raff Tailis of Taynton henry Farrand of Kenkh[a]m in the said Countie of

Oxford yoman To whome and to ev[er]y of them I give and bequeathe for their labour and paynes as they and every

of theym shall susteyne and take to sorse from tyme to tyme this my testament and last will to be acomplised and

performyd and fulfilled xl^s In witness hereunto William Rex and Marrye Mollington of Churchill aforesaid

Robert Heydon of Fifelde and John Hucvale of Shorthampton in the Countie of Oxford yoman to whome &

to every of them I give and bequeathe iij^s iiiij^d And unto the poore people of Chepingnorton in the said countie

of Oxford fourtie shillings and twenty lodes of woode to be indifferently and equallye devyded amongst

theym by the discretion of my said Overseers by mr John Hacvale

*Probate granted in London on 23rd October 1553 by William Dalbye procurator to Alice Clerke relic
and executrix & John Clerk executor*

Transcribed by the Churchill and Sarsden Probate Group 2016