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Record Society of
Lancashire and
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FOR THE

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RELATING TO

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

VOLUME XXX.

1896.

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OF
Lancashire and Cheshire
Wills

NOT NOW TO BE FOUND
IN
ANY PROBATE REGISTRY.

1301-1752.

EDITED BY

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

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Preface.

IT is with considerable diffidence that I have taken up the task of completing the editing of this volume, upon which the late Mr. Earwaker was engaged at the time of his death. The completion of a half-finished work is always attended with difficulties, and this has been no exception to the rule. Mr. Earwaker had done little more than arrange the transcripts of the first 157 pages of this volume, having in a few instances added those footnotes which he alone was capable of making, and which, if he had been able to complete, would have made this collection of Wills so much more useful and interesting than they will be as now presented to the members. Wherever these notes existed they have been printed, and the fact of their authorship indicated by the addition of J. P. E. in brackets.

One of the main difficulties to be contended with has been that I have had to deal with copies and not with originals, and in some instances these transcripts have evidently been made by a copyist not skilled in mediæval Latin, with the result that occasionally it has been necessary to print an apparently unintelligible passage, and in some cases the transcriber has placed marks of contractions where they are not needed, or written down wrong cases and tenses. My first impulse was to correct these so far as possible, but on consulting with some of the other members of the Council, it was decided to print the transcripts exactly as they had come into our hands, as it would be impossible to decide which were errors of the mediæval and which of the Victorian scribe. For the accuracy of the transcripts of the Wills in the rest of the volume (p. 158 onwards) I can vouch, as here I had the advantage of the originals or contemporary copies.

Except when otherwise stated, all the Wills printed in the Appendix are from The Bishop's Enrollment Books, now at The Diocesan Registry, Chester.

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Lancashire and Cheshire Wills

NOT NOW TO BE FOUND IN ANY PROBATE COURT.

ERRATA.

- Page 1, line 7, for testament read testament̄.*
" 1, " 9, for s̄cor̄e read s̄coꝝ.
" 1, " 10, for altar read altař.
" 1, " 17, for debit read debiř.
" 1, " 19, for eor̄e read eoꝝ.
" 1, " 25, for reddit read reddiř.
" 2, " 8, for altar̄e read altare.
" 2, note 1, line 2, for Dr. Jessop read Dr. Jessopp.

meior sey scneyk^r et ainpius iego et volo qu in capio geman
Angl q^ando tre mee quas heo de eor̄e fraternitař debent
ostendi et aĩa mea missis et orađoib; coĩmendari qđ vt q; fr̄es
minores et p̄dicatores h̄ent 20^s ad eor̄e pitanciã lego et volo
etiã qđ honesta p̄cipiãco fiat p me die sepulture mee aut de
lardario meo aut aliunde lego etiã Milicent vxi mee oēs terř
de Macclisfeud cū le Bothefeld ad toř viř suã vna cū Red-
dit ařs de Macclisř ita qđ de herediř sua pp¹a faceat libitū

¹ For a particulars of the family of Macclesfield, of which this Thomas is the earliest recorded member, see *East Cheshire*, Vol. ii., p. 165, and also p. 478.

² Now called Maelor Sarsneck or English Maelor [J. P. E.].

Lancashire and Cheshire Wills

NOT NOW TO BE FOUND IN ANY PROBATE COURT.

The Will of Thomas de Macclisfeld, dated 1301. Probed 1303.

In noīe p̄ris et filij et spirīt̄ sc̄i amen Die Jouis in vigt̄ b̄ti Thoīm āpli A° [M] īcentesimo p̄mo [20th December 1301]¹ Ego Thoīm de Macclisfeud Condo testament meū in hunc modū. In p̄mis lego aīam meā Deo et beať Marie v̄gini et oīb̄s sc̄is. Et corpus meū ad sepiliend̄ in eccl̄ia oīm sc̄oꝝ de Macclisfeud corā Altar̄ b̄te v̄ginis ex pte vbi Rič̄ fit meus iacet. Et corę corpe meo meliore equū meū noīe p̄cipalis. Lego opi eccte de Macclisfeud vnū aūiū Jumorē bonū et opi eccte de Lichefeld ij^s. Itm̄ lego fr̄ib̄s minorib̄s Cestr̄ 40^s et fr̄ib̄s p̄dicatorib̄s ib̄dm̄ 40^s. Et fr̄ibs minorib̄s de Sallopiā 40^s. Et fr̄ibs p̄dicatorib̄s ib̄id̄ 40^s. Et fr̄ib̄s de Monte Carmel Cestr̄ d̄j m̄c̄. Itm̄ lego fr̄i Ric. Andreu 20^s. Et fr̄i Rob̄to filio meo 40^s. Ista lagata fr̄ib̄s bene possuit levāri de bonis et debit̄ meis apud Overton et Meleor sey scneyk² et amplius lego et volo qđ in caplo gen̄ali Angl̄ q̄ndo tre mee quas h̄eo de corę fraternitať Debent ostendi et aīa mea missis et orač̄oib̄z coīmendari qđ vt q3 fr̄es minores et p̄dicatores h̄ent 20^s ad corę pitanciā lego et volo etiā qđ honesta p̄ticipāco fiat p̄ me die sepulture mee aut de lardario meo aut aliunde lego etiā Milicent v̄xi mee oēs terr̄ de Macclisfeud cū le Bothefeld ad toť viť suā vna cū Reddit̄ āss̄ de Macclisf̄ ita qđ de herediť sua pp̄a faciat libitū

¹ For a particulars of the family of Macclisfield, of which this Thomas is the earliest recorded member, see *East Cheshire*, Vol. ii., p. 165, and also p. 478.

² Now called Maelor Sarsneck or English Maelor [J. P. E.].

suū volo etiā qđ iĥa hēaĥ terĥ de halleleġ et de ambab^s hurdesfeld dum continēĥ et sine viro vixerit et qđ nichil interim clamaĥ possit de alijs terĥ et tenĥ n^o in Wallia n^o alibi lego etiā eiđ Milicent^s oīa vtensilia mea domus et alia iocalia mea saluis Rog^o filio meo duab^s ollis eueis vna pelve cū lavatoria duab^s mappis cū Maunġgijs et vna macera cū pede. Et qđ dĥa Milicent inueniat vñ vestiment^s ad altarē beate Marie valde ydoneū cuius casula¹ et parure cū stola erunt de auro context^o in quo Cappellan^s ibiđ celebrans possit honestius beate virgīn^s deservire et corpus xpī conficere quot die sabbati lego etiā eiđ Miliscent vxi mee 16 boues de meliorib^s 20 vaccas de meliorib^s et 100 bidentes masĥlos vel femellos p libitu suo eligendos et duos affros lego etiā Isabelle filie mee 2q^{li} vna cū blado in terĥ seminaĥ apud Gouzeworthe. Ita qđ hēat ibiđ semen et forigiū p terĥ suā p seminand^s tpe quadragesimaĥ lego etiā eiđ pullauū meū reveñ² qui est apud Overton lego etiā Milicent de Davenport 6 boues 6 vacĥ et 6 aūia iuniora 20 bidentes 10 porĥ et 2 Jumenca cū secta quar^e 1 est in foresta et alia in pco lego etiā Jordano filio meo 10 boues qui sunt apud Mottram cū blado et foragio ibiđ existentib^s set qđ bidentes de Stanleġ³ possint sustentari de feno ibiđ existent^s hoc hyeme lego etiā eiđ Jurdano 1 pullauū bay qui est in pco lego etiā trib^s pueris Cecillie filie mee 6 vaccas et 12 Juuencule vna cū 6 marcis quas eisđ debeo, et alijs catallis suis que p^us hērunt lego magistro Joĥe frī meo pullauū meum bay qui est apud Overton et aliū equū ferrat qui est ibiđ lego etiā seruiĥ be Marie vnū aūiū ydoneū. Itm

¹ *Query* for capsula, a case or covering into which anything is put [J. P. E.]. I am, however, indebted to Dr. Jessop for the following explanation of this passage, he writes: "The *Casula* is undoubtedly the Chasuble, the word is frequently used in that sense; *parure* is the ordinary French word for a robe, and is now and then used in the form *parura*, for any dress in Mediæval Latin, in this instance it must, I think, mean the Dalmatic, which got to be a very splendid garment in the 13th and 14th centuries. When the bishop or priest lifted his hands for ministrations at the altar or in blessing the people, he of course raised the sides of the sleeveless chasuble, and so exposed to view the Dalmatic that was under it. These dalmatics were often very splendid.

Millicent was to provide a suit of vestments, the stole, dalmatic, and chasuble being all of cloth of gold" [W. F. I.].

² *Query* roueñ = roan.

³ *Query* Stauleġ [J. P. E.]. The Macclesfields owned the township of Stavelegh, or Stayley as it is now written, at this time.

recluse de Macclisfeud 40^d. Itm̄ dño Ad decano de Macclisf. 1 vacē. Itm̄ cuiſ cap̄plo pochiali istius Decanatus 6d. Itm̄ cuiſ de pueris Robti de Staueleḡ¹ 1 averiū ydoneū. Itm̄ Thoñ de hegham 20^s. Wiffo de Rauenok 2 boues et 2 vacē et 2 aũia iuniora et Robam de russet. Itm̄ Ričo fr̄i meo 1 bouē et 1 vacē et 1 aũia iuniorem et vnā de rob̄ meis s. suptunicā de virid̄ cū tunica ptinenē. Itm̄ Ad fr̄i meo 1 bouē 1 vacē et vn̄ averiā iuniore cū alijs catallis que hēt de me et Conono ei debitū in q^o mⁱ tenet. Itm̄ Thome de Tyderinton 4 vaccas 4 aueria iunioř et robā meā novā. Itm̄ Emme ancille mee 2^s. Et si quid de bonis meis residuū fuerit in distincte legatū volo qđ executores mei inde facient et ordinent scđm qđ ad salutē aīe mee melius viderint expedire, huius autem testamenti mei ordino et constituo executores meos subscriptos viſt magistrū Johem frēm meū magistrū Jordañ fit meū Milicent uxem meā Adam Byran Roḡ fit meū et Wifm̄ de Rauenok q'b^s oib^s et singulis do et Concedo plena libam potestatem administrandi in oib^s bonis meis sicut ego p̄sens essem in cuius rei testimoniū p̄senti scripto sigiff meū apposui et sigiff executorē meorē apponi pcurauī.

Die m̄curij p̄x p^t festū sc̄i hillař A^o Dñi 1302² corā nobis Offic̄ Dñi Archidi Cestř p̄sens p̄batū extitit testamentū et Concessa est administraçō in forma Constituçōis magistro J. de Vpton Mağro Jordano fit dci defuncti Rogo fit eiusđ Ad Byran et Wiffo de Rauenok executorē in testamento noīatis Ita qđ Milisand vř dci defuncti sit eisđ supintēd et iuxta eorē conciliū cōmune faciat ea que de bonis testatoris sup^adci.

Will of Richard Hul, dated 1349.³

In dei nomine Amen, Die Sabbathi p^t f̄m Translaçōis Sc̄i Thomæ Martyris [11th July] A^o Dñi 1349. Ego Riçus

¹ In 1 Edward I. [1272-3] Thomas de Macclesfeld as Lord of Stavelegh remitted to *Robert de Stavelegh*, in marriage with Dionysia his daughter, certain annual rent, which he was wont to pay for lands in Stavelegh.—*East Cheshire*, Vol. ii., p. 165.

² 17th January 1302/3.

³ *Baronagium Cestria*, p. 259d, *penes me* [J. P. E.].

Hul Condo Testamentū meū in hunc modum. Imprimis Lego Animā meā Deo et bñæ Mariæ et omnibus Sçis et Corpus meū ad sepeliendum in Cimiterio bñæ Mariæ sup montem Cestriæ iuxta Castrū Cestř. Item Lego Margaretæ et Lucię filiabus meis illā Domū quā emi de Robto frē meo in quarera in Honebrug et unū selionem et Dimidiū selionem quos emi a Dño Symone de Monialib; viz. Pređcis Margaretæ et Lucię et eoř heređ de Corpibus eorum procreař. Et si Decedant sine herede de eorum Corporibus legitime procreař tunc lego pređcam Domū et Dços Selionē et Dimidiū cū ptiñ Agneti ux̄ meæ et Assiğ suis. Item lego Agneti uxōř meæ totū Teñtum in fforgetestreete ad totā vitā pređcæ Agnetis Quod quid teñtum Yourd frater meus Legavit mihi et Dcæ Agneti ux̄ meæ ad totā vitam nřam et cuilibet nřum diutius vixerit. Item lego predict Teñtum post mortem nřam Joħi W° et Robto filijs nřis equaliter se dividend. Item lego totū redditū oiūm bonorū meorę &c. [*sic*].

The Will of Hugh de Aldersey, dated 1354.¹

In the name of God, Amen, I Hugh de Aldersey² on Sunday next after the feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle [June 15] A.D. 1354, being in good memory make my testāment in manner following. Imprimis I bequeath my soul to God, and my body to be buried in the church of St. Mary of Codyntun, and to the Rector of the church of Codyntun for licence for my body to be buried there 2s. I bequeath to Sir [dño] Thomas, parochial chaplain, 2s, and to Philip the clerk 12d. I bequeath to Hugh de Aytun le Crope fem' one place of meadow to me.

The residue of my goods, my debts and legacies being paid, to my wife and my son, and to see this testament fulfilled and faithfully performed I make and constitute Hugh

¹ A translation from the original among the Aldersey Deeds [J. P. E.].

² For a pedigree of the Alderseys of Aldersey, see *Ormerod (Helsby)*, Vol. ii., p. 739.

de Ledsam and my wife my executors. In testimony of which thing I have placed my seal. Given the day and place abovesaid.

[Seal gone.]

The Will of Jordan de Macclesfield, dated 1356.

In Dei noīe Amen Ego Jordan^s de Macclesfeld¹ A^o Dñi 1356 condo tesf in hunc modū Imp^{ria} lego aīā meā deo &c. Itm lego Dño Ričo Pigott sextiū librū decretaliū.² Itm lego Johi fit meo oēs alios libros meos et vñ Calicē et duo coclearia et vñ ciphū argenteū cum longo pede et cooptorio et vñ ciphū argenteū anglice Godet Ma^rgarete fit mee. Itm lego Milesencie fit mee vñ ciphū argēf. Itm lego Marione fit mee vñ ciphū argēf. Et ad execuōe istius tēsif ordio p̄dcū Johem meū executorē.

The Will of Randle Whytlof, dated 1361.³

Will of Randle Whytlof made the Thursday next after the feast of St. Edward the Bishop,⁴ 1361.

His body to be buried in the church of Prestbury. He leaves to Margaret his wife all his lands &c in Macclesfield, and after her decease that place of land which he had by the gift and feoffment of John the son of Jordan de Macclesfield, lying between the land of John Hayneson on the one part,

¹ Jordan de Macclesfield was a younger son of Thomas de Macclesfield, whose will is printed on page 1. He succeeded to the property before 1312, on the death of his brother Roger. His *Inquisitio post mortem* was taken in 1356. He had three sons and three daughters, John, his second son, who is mentioned above, died in 1369 without issue, whereupon the property passed to Richard de Moreton, son of his sister Margaret, who had married John de Moreton. *East Cheshire*, Vol. ii., p. 478.

² The Book of the Decretals of Sextius.

³ *Cotton MSS.* (Brit. Mus.), *Cleopatra*, *Dvj.* f. 114.

⁴ In Sir Harris Nicholas' list of saints' days this feast does not appear.

and the land of John del Whyk on the other part, to Adam his son and his heirs under this condition, that if Adam marries Alicia le Flecher then the said place of land shall pass to William brother of the said Adam, and if Adam die without heirs, then the place to remain to the said William. And if William die without heirs then to Richard brother of the said William and his heirs, and in case of default, then to revert to the right heirs of the said Randle. And for the half of the burgage which he had of the feoffment of John de Sutton and others in Macclesfield, lying between the half of a burgage of Alexander le Mercer's of the one part and the common bakehouse [*furnum*] of the other part, And that curtilage in Macclesfield which lies between the curtilage which Reginald le Barker formerly held on the one part, and the land of John the son of Robert de Oclegh of the other part, And that place of his land with a certain Grainge in Macclesfield in "le dedestrete" which he had of the feoffment of Agnes le Sumnor, And a certain annual rent of 2^d arising from the heirs of Alice de Hagerstowe, to William his son and his heirs, with remainder as aforesaid. And that acre of land which is called Daleacre lying between the land of Richard del Rowe of the one part, and the way which leads to the mill of Tydrynton of the other part, and that little place of land which he had by demise of the Lord near "le Mothall" in Macclesfield which pays to the Lord 8^d per annum, And that half burgage with a little place of land adjacent which we had by the feoffment of John the son of Jordan de Macclesfield, lying between the land of William del Dounes of Shryglegh of the one part, and the King's high way of the other part, to Richard his son and his heirs, with remainder as before. And he leaves to William his son two marks of silver coming from Roger de Falymbrom. And he leaves to the Brothers of Werynton half a mark "unam duodenam ferri et duas duodenas pergameni." To the Blessed Mary of Prestbury half a mark. To the Blessed Mary of Macclesfield 2s. To the Blessed Katherine of Macclesfield 12d. And to the altar of the Holy Trinity there 12d. And to the new altar there 12d. To St. Peter of Prestbury 2s. To the Blessed Margaret of

Macclesfield 6d. And to the Blessed Mary Magdalen there 6d. To the Blessed Katherine of Prestbury 12d. And in lights for his body 6lbs. of wax of the price of 6s. And to the fraternity [*fr'nitati*] of St. Cedde 3^d. To the Blessed Mary of Coventry 3^d. To St. John of Chester 3^d. And to distribute for his soul and all Christian souls 13s. 4d. And in oblations on the day of his burial 2s. And to the building of Wolmesbrug 12d. To Henry the clerk 3s. 4d. To Alice Wadylof his niece or handmaid [*ancille*] 3s. 4d. And for two Trental of Masses 5s. To the Carmelites of Chester 2s. To the Friars minor there 2s. To the Friars preachers there 2s. To the Friars preachers of the Castell 2s. To Alice his daughter 20s. To Anker de Stopport 4^d. And to the chaplain to celebrate mass for half a year 2 marks and 10^d.

The residue of his goods to his wife, and he constitutes William le Povere and Margaret his wife his executors.

The Will of Roger de Swetenham, dated 1366.¹

In the name of God, Amen, I Roger de Swetenham² on Tuesday next after the feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul [June 30] A.D. 1366, make my testament in this manner. Imprimis I leave my soul to God and the Blessed Mary, and my body to be buried where God shall provide, and for the name of my principal my best beast or 13s. 4d. Item I leave to the belltower [*Campanili*] of Astbury 13s. 4d. Item to the Brothers Minor of Chester, and the Brothers of Mount Carmel in Chester, and the Brothers of Werington, and the Brothers of Newcastle, each 30s. 3d. I leave to Alice my daughter, by the oversight of Thomas de Dauenport and John de Dauenport and her relations, 20 marks of silver. Item I leave all the residue of all my goods to Cecily my wife, and Thomas my son and Randle my son, according

¹ *Swettenham Chartulary*, written c. 1636, p. 30 [J. P. E.].

² Of Somerford Booths. See pedigree, *East Cheshire*, Vol. ii., p. 646.

to their good carriage, by the oversight of the said Thomas and John and my kindred [*parentam meore*].

And to see this my testament faithfully executed, I ordain, make, and constitute Cecily my wife and Thomas my son my executors.

The Will of Matthew de Haydok, dated 1394.¹

In the name of God Amen.

On the Monday next following the feast of the Holy Trinity [15th June] in the year of our Lord one thousand three hundred and ninety-four. I Mathew de Haydok,² being of sound memory though weak in body, do duly make my testament in this manner:

First I bequeath my soul to God, to the Blessed Mary and all his Saints and my body to be buried in the conventual church of the friars of the order of Carmelites of the convent at London.

Next I bequeath my best beast by way of principal on the day of my burial and all and several my other goods moveable and immoveable, wheresoever they be, to the sole direction and disposition of my beloved brother Gilbert de Haydok, lord of Haydok, and Edmund de Standish my cousin.

Moreover I make and appoint as executors of this my last will or testament my well-beloved in Christ Robert de Wodecroft and Thomas de Birkedale, my executors by the supervision of the aforesaid Gilbert and Edmund.

In witness whereof I attached my seal to these presents.

Given on the day and year of our Lord aforesaid.

¹ A translation from the original among the Lyme Deeds, Box S.I., No. 1. [J. P. E.].

² Matthew de Haydock was a brother of Gilbert de Haydock, Lord of Haydock, whose name occurs frequently in deeds about this time. *Vide* Gregson's Fragments (Harland's Edition) pp. 100, 104, 106, 108.

(At the bottom of the will is written in Latin)

My lord has approved [?] this present will but because the executors of the same are in London, my lord wishes that you in his stead should grant administration of goods to the executors when they come.

HALLUM.

To Master John Lynton
Registrar of the Court of Canterbury

The probate of the will is attached to it.

By the tenour of these presents we John Lynton commissary general of the reverend father in Christ and lord William, by the grace of God lord Archbishop of Canterbury, primate of all England and legate of the Apostolic See.

The Will of Peter de Swettenham, dated 1408.¹

In the name of God, Amen, the 14 Sept. 1408. I Peter de Swetenham² made my testament in this manner.

Imprimis I leave my soul to God Almighty, the Blessed Mary, and all the Saints, and my body to be buried in the territory [*territio*³] of Astbery. I leave my best beast [to go] before my body in the name of my principal [mortuary]. I leave to be burnt in wax about my body the day of my burial 5^{li}. I leave in offerings 12d. I leave to Roger de Swetenham my little son [*filiolo meo*] one acre and three roods of land which I had of the gift of Roger de Swetenham, my brother.

Item I leave all the residue of all my goods not bequeathed to Agnes my wife. And to see this testament

¹ *Swettenham Chartulary*, p. 28 [J. P. E.].

² A brother of Roger de Swettenham whose will is printed p. 7. *Vide* Note 2 on that page.

³ *Query* cimiterio [W. F. I.].

well and faithfully performed I constitute Agnes my wife and Roger Swetenham my executors.

17 Dec. 1408. This testament was proved before the Dean of Middlewich in the church of Astbery, and administration granted to the executors.

The Will of Roger Jodrell, Esq., dated 1423.¹

In the name of God, Amen. I Roger Joudrell² Esquire being of sound mind but weak in body and seeing the danger of my decease do make my Will in this form. First I bequeath my soul to God the Blessed Mary and all his Saints and my body to be buried in the Chancel of the Church of Tackessale. Also I leave my best beast before my body in the name of a principal. Also I give to be expended about my body on the day of my burial so much as to my executors shall seem fit.

Also I leave to Nicholas del Sherd my servant 10 shillings of silver. Also I leave to the same Nicholas one green coat and another with a hood of the same cloth. Also to the same Nicholas one bay market horse marked with a horse shoe upon the hip in the land of Gower londes. Also I bequeath all the armour of my body to James my son. Also to Roger my son an helmet fastened with silver, also to John my son a skullcap inlaid with silver. Also I bequeath to William my son my silver collar. Also I bequeath to Nicholas my son one horse or a stag, the best next after the one chosen for the principal. Also to Ralph my son one other horse or stag in the same manner and form. Also I leave to

¹ A translation from the original among the Jodrell papers [J. P. E.].

² Roger Jodrell, of Yeadsley in the County of Chester, Esquire. Eldest son of William Jodrell, by his wife Agnes, daughter of Robert de Bradshaw. Roger Jodrell served in Ireland under Richard the Second, and afterwards fought at Agincourt. He married twice, first, Alice, daughter of Robert de Thornton, a citizen of York, by whom he does not appear to have had any children, and on her death about 1400 Joan, probably daughter of Benedict de Assheton of Whalley, who survived him. *Vide East Cheshire*, Vol. ii., p. 538.

Joan my wife all my jewells. Also I leave to a priest to celebrate mass for the salvation of my soul a reasonable salary for a year or a half a year as to my executors shall best seem expedient.

Also I bequeath to Anne my daughter a book called "Sidrac." Also I bequeath to Alice my daughter a book called "Porthouse." Also to Margaret my daughter a Psalter. Also I bequeath all the residue of my goods (my body being buried debts paid) equally to be divided between Joan my wife and all my children except George¹ my son and my married daughters by the disposition of my executors. Also I leave to Oliver my son one "fisse bote" in the land of Gower. Also I leave to the church of Tackessale one garment of worsted to make a vestment. Also to Roger my son one doublet of green damask. Also I leave to Joan my wife a gown furred with white. Also I leave to Nicholas del Sherd one doublet of black velvet.

And that this will may be well and faithfully executed I make ordain and appoint William my son and the aforesaid Nicholas del Sherd my executors.

Dated at Irdesley on Monday next after the feast of St. Michael the Archangel in the year of our Lord 1423 [Oct 4, 1423].

This will was entered and lawfully proved before the Dean of Macclesfield in the Chapel of the same on the ninth day of the month of November the year within written, And administration of all the goods of the within named deceased was granted to the Executors named in the testament in the form as of right. In witness whereof to these presents I have put my Seal of Office.

Dated day and year above written.

¹ George was his eldest son, and married, in or before 1417, Matilda, daughter of John Sutton, of Sutton, Co. Chester.

**The Will of Sir Geoffrey Massey, Knt.,
dated 1456.¹**

In the name of the blesset trinite Amen The first day of Marche In the yere of our lord Ihu crist a thousand faur hundredth & LVI. I Geoffrey Massey² Knyght beyng holl in body & myghty of mynde make my testament in this mañ. In the firste I bewethe my saule to all myghty god and to oure ladye saynt Mary & to al the halowes of heven & my body to be buryet in a newe chapelle wheche I have made in the south side of the chauncell of the pēssh chirche of oure lady saynt Mary at Eccles Also I bewethe my best beest in the name of my p'ncipall: Also I bewethe xij white gounes to xij por men to bere xij torches bifor & aboute my body the day of my burynes; also I bewethe XLs. to distribute ymong por peple the day of my burynes or hastely aft by the avyse of myne executor^s. Also I bewethe to the erectōn fundaçōn ordeñce & makyng of the chauntre of a p'ist to sing for eᵛ in the said newe chapell XL^{li} & that to be ordeignet & made accordyng to a will by me afor this tyme so made by endētur under the seall of myne armes of Tatton except y^r shall be first in the said fundaçōn namet such p'son or p'sons assemes to Rauf Longley p'son of Prestwiche Margy my wyfe John my son & to myne executor^s & then to Geoffrey Massey son of Wittm Massey as yin is rehcet & speciefet & this to be done by gode avyse of consull of lawe And I also wille y^t yai amortise all landes ordeignet to the said chūnt^r & do yin by the avyse of the said consull accordyng to my said entent & as true faith and co'science will in all thyngs Also I bewethe xx marks to bye an averlay of marbul to lye in the said chappell aᵛr my body w^t II ymages y'opon of copur & aᵛrgilde oon aft me aᵛoy of my said wyfe

¹ From the *Langton MSS.* [J. P. E.].

² According to Sir Peter Leycester (*p.* 371), Sir Geoffrey was the second son of Sir John Massey, of Tatton, who probably fell in the battle of Shrewsbury. Sir Geoffrey married Margery, the daughter of John Hulton, of Farnworth in Lancashire, and, according to both Sir Peter and Dr. Ormerod, had no lawful issue, but left most of his property to his bastard son John Massey, who founded the family of Massey of Denfield and Audlem.

& a reson aboute the stone what day & yere I decesset w^t IIII skochens y'upon by the avyse of my said executor^s And if the said fundaçõn & aŵrlay will coste mor yen I have bewhethen thai to take a resonable qũntite more if hit will serve And if yai coste lasse my said executor^s to dispose that Also I bewhette to the Abbot of Whalley for my tithes & oblaçõns averhippet or foryeton in full remission y'of xxs. Also I bewhette to ychon of the IIII orders of freres to syng ychon a trentall of masses & to p̄ye for me xiiis. iiiid. Also I bewhette to my sr̄vnts y^t yai praie for me & to be gode & true to me my said Wyfe & to my worship—first to the said John my son xx marke To Marget his wyfe xls. To Honkyn Hulton x marke To John Hulton xls. To Jankyn Hulton xl^s. To Geffrey Hulton xl^s. To George Hulton ii marke To James Mascy xx^s. To Heñr Valentyne vjs. viijd. To Wiffm Dodeson vjs. viijd. To P'kyn Hyne vjs. viijd. To John Par xiijs. ivd. To James Worsley xiijs. ivd. To Rauf Worsley xiijs. ivd. To Laurence Gelibronde vjs. viijd. To Laurence Skot vjs. viijd. To Sr Rog^e Bentley vjs. viijd. To Denys Holand vjs. viijd. To Heñr Galey vjs. viijd. To Peres Grenehalgh xld. To R̄ic Guldene xld. To Thomas Dodeson xld. To Rauf Henr'son xld. To R̄obt Worsley iis. To Edward Bury iis. To R̄ic Morys iis. To Jhonet Norres vis. viijd. To Jhonet Mader xld. To Marg'y Tyldesley a cowe. Also wh̄er I am enformed y^t certein untrue & fals peple bycause yai supposet I was gretely diseaset w^t sekenes sklanddert & noyset in the cuñtr y^t I shuld ogh yaĩ certein dettes & fees yat is to wete John Valentyne Alis hys wyfe Nicolas Hulton y^t has weddet a str̄mpt & a bastard dõght of my brother Wiffm, Fondull [?] Bromeley and Raynald Legh : yai bene all yin fals & untrue I ogh yaĩ noght as I will onswar afor god & y'for I ch̄ge myne executor^s to paie yaĩ noght And I thonke al myghty god I ogh nor am in dette to any other p'son Forthermor if Wiffm Mascy his heirs or any other p'son or p'sons by yeir excitaçõn p'curig abettement consaill maky^s or assent do or p'cur any bodely harme to be done to me the said Geffrey Mascy my wyfe John my son or to my sr̄vnts or to suche p'sons y^t have late been w^t me & the said Marg'y & John in our mãts or if the said Willm his heirs or any other p'son or p'sons by yair

pr'cur^r making consaill excita^on abettement or assent enter or make maistres or wronges in my maⁿs of Worsley or Tatton w^t the ap^ptence agenys the Will of me the said Geffrey or Marg'y duryng my lyfe & duryng the time the said Marg'y after my decesse happens to dwelle & abyde in the said maⁿs : or if the said Witm his heirs or any other suche said p'son or p'sons by his excita^on consaill abettement maky^r p'curyng or assent distresse ravysse or take away the said Marg'y or disseise or pytt oute the said Marg'y or feffes to hir use or the said John or feffes to his use of any landes by me or my feffes to yaⁱ gyven : or if the said Witm or suche said p'sons take wrongfully any godes or catells wheche; longet or p'teignet to me the said Geffrey Then I bewheth & gif to Thomas lord Stanley all the glasen wyndowes klokke belles fournesses & ledes in my maⁿs of Worsley & Tatton & all dorres wyndowes lovers yates bedde trees brigge & planke & the skrenes & side bordes stondyng or beyng in the said maⁿs w^t the ap^ptence and if the said Witm & suche said p'sons fulfille & trespasse not in forme as is bifor rehced then the said Marg'y & my said executor^r to dispose & have these thyngs afor to the said Thomas bewhethen & yaⁱ by yair discre^on to dispose Furthermor I bewheth to the said Thomas xx^{ti} marke besechyng hym as I most trist his gode lordship to be gode lorde & to se to my said wyfe y^t she may be at hir li^bte to demene hirsself & not co'straynet ageyns hir wyll disseiset spoilet nor robbet of hir lands nor godes ne in lyke wyse the said John nor my said executor^r Also I bewheth to Thomas Assheton Knyght x^{ti} he truly as I trist hym to helpe my said wyfe and John my son & to a^vr se y^t my said will be p'formed & fulfilled Also I wyll & ch^ge myne executor^r y^t Witm Masy have by yaⁱr assent & wyll all those godes y^t longet to me opon lesse y^t he rule & demene hym truly in all thynge an^edes me my said wyfe John my son myne executor^r & sr^vnts accordyng to myne entent as is bifor rehced & y^t my said wyfe & executor^r if yai lyke to leve & gif hym by yair discre^on suche thyngs as yai semes to hym necessaries Forthermor I wyll y^t a cedula wheche shall be encloset wⁱn this my writyng under my seall all things yⁱn writen & conteignet be my full wyll & p^r of my said testament and the residue of all my godes my dettes whitte my

body buryet & all my bewhestes paiet & obſrvet I bewhethē to the said Margy my wyfe she to dispose yaī to my saule heel aft myne enformaḋōn & entent to hir by me declaret as she will onswar afor god And to this my full will & testament to be fulfilled & execute I ordeigne & make suche ii p'sons as the said Marg'y & John my son after my decesse wyll lymyte & ordeigne to be my executor^s And if yai noon lymyte then I ordeigne & wyll the said John my son & Honkyn Hulton to be my said executor^s In to wyttenes whereof to this my full Will & Testament ended I the said Geffrey have sette the seall of myne armes Gyven the day & yere aforesaid.

[*The Schedule.*]

Also I bewhethē to the making of Salford lone xxx. Also I wyll & by thes p'sents I gif to John my son his heires & assignes all the dedes mynyments records & evidences wheche p'teignen or longen to the landes or teñts or any p'cell of yaī gifen by me or my feffes to the said John & certein feffes to his use whersmever & in whos handes the said dedes mynyments records & evidence happen to come or be. Also I gif to the said John & his heirs the armes of Aldelem & Wrenebury To have all the said dedes mynymēts recordes & evidence & armes to the said John & his heirs & assignes for ever: Also I wyll y^t the wīn writen Rōg Bentley p'ist aft the decesse of John Gartside p'ist have & rejoise to frme of his lyve the chuntre that I have ordeignet at Eccles Kirke w^t all the lands & teñts y'to longyng yf so be y^t myne executores thynke y^t he be able to s̄rve hit.

[Seal, on a heater-shaped shield quarterly, a label of four points, within the legend *Sigillum Galfridi Mascie de Tatton.*¹]

¹ In Helsby's Edition of *Ormerod*, Vol. i., p. 442, is what purports to be an engraving of this seal, but it is quarterly, in the first quarter a lion passant, in the second quarter a label of two points, and the legend *Sigillum Galfridi Mascie de Tatton*. In *Sir Peter Leycester*, p. 369, is a woodcut of the arms of Tatton, quarterly, a label of five points.

The Will of Ralph Staveley, dated 1456.¹

"In dei noīe amen anno dñi Miffo CCCC^o quinquagesimo vj^o vicesimo nono die mensis Septem̄b. Ego Radulphus Stalay² compos mentis & bone memorie condo testamentū meū in hunc qui sequit̄ modū In p'mis lego Deo oīi beate marie & oīib; scīs animā meam corpus q; meū sepelliend̄ in ecclia v̄ cimitorio scī Martini leycesf̄ Item lego meū optimū equū noīe p̄ncipalis v̄ mortuarij Itm volo q̄ filia mea sit nupta filio Johis ashton heredi Thome ashton Miliř p̄ Centū libris & volo vt ille Centū libre disponāt p̄ aīa mea put meli^s viderint eīes mei Itm lego vicario scī Martini vnū equū ambulatorē Itm volo q̄ oīia debita mea fidelit̄ soluanť Itm volo q̄ vxor mea hēat dotem suā & meli^s de tenement^s & bonis meis Itm lego meā crucē aureā cū reliq̄is s' quā nūc porto circa collū meū ecclie poch̄ de Motterhm Itm lego edmundō vernon iij^s iiij^d Itm lego Radulpho Staveley quadraginta solid̄ & duas vaccas Itm lego Johi Staveley quadraginta solid̄ & duas vaccas Itm lego Benedicco seruienti meo custodi eq^ore meore viginti solid̄ & vnā vaccā Itm lego cuilibet ūienciū meore xiiij^s iiij^d Cetera vero bonore meore nō legatore do & lego executorib; meis quos ordinos Dūm Thomam Asshton & Thomā Dampport vt ip̄i disponāt p̄ me put viderint meli^s p̄ salute anime mee et vt vellent me p̄ eis disponere si essent in tali casu Et vt disponant oēm voluntatē meā in alio testamento meo p'antea condito et in domo mea antea recondito Dať leycesf̄ anno & die sup^a dicc^s Signat³ sigillo meo in veritať testimoniū."

¹ From the *Dodsworth MSS.* 1890 [J. P. E].

² Ralph Staveley, of Staveley, Esq., son of Thomas de Staveley who died about 1440. Ralph Staveley left an only daughter, Elizabeth, who fulfilled the desire to which the testator gives utterance above and married Thomas Ashton (afterwards knighted), son of John de Ashton and nephew and heir of Sir Thomas de Ashton. *Vide East Cheshire*, Vol. ii., p. 167.

³ Seal gone. Attached to this will are the two letters of administration under the seals of the Archbishops of York and Canterbury respectively; these seals are much broken. Proved at York 29 April, 1457, and at Lambeth 23 May, 1457.

The Will of John Huntingdon, Warden of Manchester, dated 1458.¹

In dei Nomine Amen. Septimo die mensis Novembris Anno domini Millesimo CCCC^{mo} lvij^o Ego Johannes Huntington clericus Magister sive Custos Collegii [beatæ Mariæ] de Mancestria gravi ægritudine corporis vexatus mente tamen et corde in deo per veram spem et amorem totaliter convexus primo peto peccatorum meorum veniam ut sit anima mea (Christi imago) per lacrimarum penitencias detersa ab omni inquinamento [carn]is et spiritus sui creatoris oculis sit habilis representanda. Et utinam habilis et suo creatori acceptabilis sit hæc anima mea quam nunc in principio testamenti mei divinis manibus hoc est dei misericordiæ et pietati suæque matris [*sic*] Reginæ virginum beatæ Mariæ peccatorum omnium propiciatrici et benignissimæ pro peccatoribus interven-trici Necnon sanctorum patronorum meorum angelorum et archangelorum manibus et protectione [*sic*] offero devoto corde et ore commendo. Corpusque meum statuo sepeliri in ipso gradu summi altaris in quo cotidianus [for quotidi-anus] sacerdos missam incipit per generalem confessionem. Item lego cuilibet consociorum meorum in die sepulturæ meæ exequiis interessenti vj^s viij^d et cuilibet iiij^{or} clericorum iij^s iiij^d Item cuilibet choristarum xij^d, clericis parochialibus inter se iij^s iiij^d et Johanni Belman xij^d. Item lego Willielmo Rutter Johannæ uxori ejus Richardo Rutter Thomæ Rutter Willielmo Rutter et Alicæ Rutter filiis prædictorum Wil-lielmi et Johannæ Rutter ac etiam Cecilie sorori uxoris præ-dicti Willielmi cum eisdem commoranti quatuor vaccas quatuor vitulos duas juvenas cum tribus *stirkes* inter eosdem dividendos. Item lego Johannæ uxori prædicti Willielmi Rutter unam crateram argenteam *pouncet* cum uno cooper-torio *pouncet* ex opere alio scilicet rosarum, ut habeat memo-riam mei et oret pro anima mea omnibus diebus vitæ suæ.

¹ A translation of this will, with some notes on the life of Warden Hunting-don, is to be found in the "Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Anti-quarian Society" for 1885.

Item do et lego Elisabethæ Barret unum burgagium jacens in Chesterfeld quod emi a Richardo Barret patre dicti Elisabethæ cum juribus et pertinenciis suis quibuscunque. Item do et lego omnia burgagia terras et tenementa mea infra Mancestriam et Salfordiam adjacentia Jacobo Brid et Nicholao Ravald capellanis hæredibus et assignatis suis imperpetuum prout patet in certis cartis illis inde plenitus confectis. Item do et lego prædictis Jacobo et Nicholao hæredibus et assignatis suis totum jus et clameum quod habeo ex dono et feoffamento Reginaldi West, domini la Warre in Overaldport et Netheraldport ad terminos certos mihi heredibus et assignatis meis a prædicto domino la Warre concessis prout patet in certis cartis mihi inde plenitus confectis. Item cetera omnia bona mea mobilia et immobilia non superius disposita vel legata do et lego prædictis Jacobis et Nicholao capellanis Quos ordino et constituo meos hæredes et fideles executores ut ipsi deum præ oculis habentes ordinent et disponant pro salute animæ meæ prout volunt respondere coram summo iudice. Et insuper ne forte gens indomita contra me solita debagans [*sic* for debacchans] feritate quæ mea sunt vel mihi debentur rapiendo istam meam ultimam voluntatem ut virtualement dispositionem minime sortiatur finaliter impediat. Ideo me ipsum ac executorum meorum insufficienciam sub ipsius tuicionis vexillo cujus bonitas immensa ac suffragium singulare mihi absque meis meritis semper actinus [*sic* for hactenus] perimpenditur totaliter immitto, Reverendissimum in Christo patrem et dominum et dominum meum singularissimum Willielmum permissione divina Eboracensem Archiepiscopum humiliter implorando quatinus consueta sua pietas pro [nunc ?] finaliter dilatata sui tentorii fimbria mihi funiculos suos faciens longiores ex sua largiflua bonitate¹ testamenti mei supervisor et executorum meorum protector existere dig-

¹ The testator is plainly alluding to and slightly paraphrasing Isaiah liv. 2, "Dilata locum tentorii tui et pelles tabernaculorum tuorum extende, ne parcas; longos fac funiculos tuos et clavos tuos consolida," or, as the English version has it, "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes." For this and other suggestions I am much indebted to C. S. Perceval, Esq., F.S.A. [J. P. E.]

netur graciosus ut cunctis mortalibus merito preconizari poterit qualiter invincibilis illa caritas qua me dilexit clemencia pastoralis in vita, etiam in morte non aufertur set [*for sed*] munifica largicione dilatatur copiose. In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti testamento sigillum meum apposui.¹ Datum die et anno supradictis.

Endorsed on the back of the will :

Istud testamentum fuit legitime probatum coram nobis decano Mamcestriæ et administracio omnium bonorum et catallorum terrarum et tenementum mobilium et immobilium infrascriptorum Johannis defuncti concessa est executoribus infrascriptis in forma juris. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum officii² nostri presentibus est appositum. Dat' vicesimo secundo die mensis Novembris anno infrascripto.

Also endorsed in a different hand :

Testamentum Johannis Huntyngton clerici magistri sive custodis ecclesiæ Collegii beatæ Mariæ de Mancestria.

Will of Ralph Brayen, of Spurstow, dated 1475.³

In the name of God, Amen, the 7 Sept. 1475. I Ralph Brayen constitute my testament in this manner. Inprimis I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and my body to be buried within the cemetery of the Collegiate Church of St. Boniface of Bonbor [Bunbury], and I give my best beast for my principal. Item I bequeath to the work of the church aforesaid, 6s. 8d. Item I bequeath to the work of the Collegiate Church of St. John, Chester, one great oak. Item I give and bequeath all my lands and tenements to Katherine my wife during her life, and after the decease

¹ This seal is now missing.

² Most unfortunately this seal, which has been affixed on the surface of the parchment, is now quite gone. No perfect example of the seal of the Rural Deans of Manchester is known. I have a worn impression, but the lettering is very indistinct. [J. P. E.]

³ From the Aldersey Deeds [J. P. E.].

of the aforesaid Katherine I will that they shall remain to Henry Aldursley and his heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. Item be it known to all that Morgan Masse owes me four marks and 3s. 4d. Item Thomas Aldfort 26s. 8d. Item John Betteley 5s. Item James Dod 5s. 4d., John Bostoke of Chester 3s. 4d. Item be it known to all that I the aforesaid Ralph owe the wife of Thomas Crewe 3s. 4d., and to see this my testament well and faithfully performed I constitute and ordain my faithful executors, Katherine my wife and my heir Henry Aldursley.

In testimony of which thing I have placed my seal, these being witnesses William Bulkeley, Henry Aldursley, John Halghton and others. Given at my house at Spursto the day and year abovesaid.

[Small seal of red wax not heraldic.]

Endorsed on the back [in Latin]—

Proved before the Dean of the Deanery of Wich Malbank the 17th September in the year within written, and administration granted to the executors.

Will of Isabella Mapleton, Widow, dated 1483.¹

5 May 1483.

In the name of God, Amen. I Isabella lately wife of John Mapulton. To be buried in the Collegiate Church of Manchester. I give to the said Church my best cow for my principal. I give to Agnes my daughter my right in a house near a bridge called the Irk, for the term of her life. Remainder to William Ravald upon certain conditions, which unfulfilled remainder to the service of the Blessed Virgin of Manchester.

Agnes my daughter executrix.

Witnesses—John Bamford chaplain [?],
William Bamford and others.

Proved 12 June 1483.

¹ Abstract from the Chetham Deeds [J. P. E.].

**The Will of Richard Leigh, of High Leigh,
Esq., dated 1484.¹**

In the name of God, Amen, 12 August 1484. I Richard Legh Esq. I bequeath my soul to Christ Almighty and the blessed Mary his mother and all the saints. My body to be buried in the chapel of the blessed Mary of Raustorne.

Item I bequeath to my daughters, viz., Joan, Emma, and Isabella, forty pounds.

The rest of my goods to my son and heir Thomas Legh, senior, and I appoint him executor.

List of Debts, &c.

Witnesses, Geoffrey Starkey of Stretton, Thomas Legh of Northwood, Sir (*dñs*) Richard Karynton, chaplain of the parish of Raustorne, and Sir (*dñs*) John Assheby and others.

**Will of Richard Leigh, of High Leigh,
dated 1485.²**

In the name of God, Amen, I Richard Legh of Hee Legh.

To be buried in the church of Rostorn in the chapel of St. James on the south side of the said church.

I leave to my daughters £40.

Thomas my son and heir to have the residuc of my goods.

List of debts owed by testator and owed to him.

Given at Legh 10 January 1484[-5].

These being witnesses, Geoffrey Starkey of Stretton, Esq.,

¹ A translation from the original among the High Leigh Deeds, West Hall.

² A later will of the same Richard Leigh (*vide* preceding will). A translation from the very illegible Latin original, now among the West Hall papers-[J. P. E.]

Thomas Legh of Northwood, Sir (*āns*) Nicholas Devyas rector of the church of Lyñe, Richard Carington curate of the church of Rostorne, and others.

Probate [?] endorsed on the back—not now legible.

**Will of Thomas Leigh, of High Leigh, Esq.,
dated 1485.¹**

“ In dei noie Amen ego Thomas Legh de Hekh Legh armig cōdo testamētū meū indentatū in huius modū in primis lego aīam meā deo oīpotiēti corpusq; meū ad sepe-liēdū ubi deo placuit.

“ All so yt ys my wyll y^t my feoffs to my vse schall make to my iiij sons ichon of thaym an astate of londs & teñts y^e qwych y^t thay be seasyt of to to [*sic*] my vse to y^e valure of xiiij^s iiij^d by zer to haue & to hold to thaym for ŷme of thayr lyves vnð this cōdicion tyll thay be p̄motyt eūy of thaym to xl^s or above for ŷme of thayr lyves & then at qwat tyme y^t any of thaym be so p̄motyt to y^e sūme afor sayd y^e astate made be my feoffs to thaym so p̄motyt be voyd.

“ All so yt ys my wylle y^t my sayd feoffs schall make astate to John my broð of londs & teñts to y^e zerle valure of xxj^s viij^d for ŷme of hys lyffe. Allso yt ys my wylle y^t my sayd feoffs haue y^e warde & mariage of my son & heyr Riç & thay to deuide y^e mariage money to y^e mariage of Alys my doghtur & my cosyn Elizabeth Glegge & yf yt happyn oð of thaym to dye the toð to heue y^e qwalle & yf hyt happyn y^t thay bothe desesse vnmaret y^t then my sayd feoffs schall dispose y^e sayd money as thay thynke best. All so yt ys my wylle y^t my sayd feoffs haue y^e p̄fetts of all my londs & teñts vnto y^e tyme my sayd son cū to y^e age of xviii zerys to pay my detts & for to helpe my schyld

¹ From the High Leigh Deeds, West Hall. Query whether ever proved? [J. P. E.]

& to dispose for my soule as thay thynk best as thay wyll vnsware a fore god at y^e day of y^e grete jugement:

“All so yt ys my wylle y^t my broð John oon of my feoffs haue All y^e rule of my tefts & suads vnto y^e tyme y^t my sayd son cū to y^e age of xvij zer^s. All so I make be ys my last wylle Thom^s Leycestř son of John Leycestř Thom^s Hawardyne son of Thom^s of Hawardyne John off Helegh John Mere Ryč Moldeworth Wyll^m Leycestř John Legh broð of y^e sayd Thom^s Legh John Leycestř son of y^e sayd Thom^s Leycestř to be myne executors to haue y^e disposicion of all my go[o]ds moveabull. Allso yt ys my wylle y^t S^r Geffray Mascy knight Perus Werburton John y^e son of y^e sayd Perus John Leycestř of Nether Tabley esquiers to be supvisors ot ys my last wylle as eū I did thaym s^vice or may do to se y^t ys be execute & pformyt As fer as thayr power ys as thay wyll vnsware to me at y^e day of jugement.

“In wytenes hereof I y^e sayd Thom^s to ys my last wylle endētyt haue set to my seale These wytnes Hānet Maſcy of Ryxton Wyll^m Mere John Boydell.

“Wrytten at Legh in y^e fest of saynt oswald knyng In y^e zer of owr lord Ihu cryst Mcccclxxxv.”

Will of John Hulton, of Farnworth, Esq., dated 1486.¹

“In dei noīe Amen quīto die mens̄ Nouembris Anno dñi Miffio CCCC^o octogesimo vj^{to} [1486] Ego Johes Hulton de ffarneworth Armiḡ compos ment^s & sane memorie Condo testamentū ac volūtātē meā vltimā dispono in hūc modū. In p^rmis lego aīam meā oipotēti dō beate marie ma^r ei^s & oib^z sc̄is corp^sq^z meū ad sepiliend̄ in Ecclia poch de Deyne. Itm lego optimū meū Auliū nōie mortuar̄ ad p^rsentād Aīam meā corā altissio iudice. Itm lego & do viginti Marč ad edificand̄

¹ From the original in possession of W. B. Hulton, Esquire, 1887. John Hulton died November, 1487. [J. P. E.]

vnā Capellā ex pte & laſe boriat dicte eccie de Deyne. Itm do & lego duodec̄ Marč adinvēienđ honestū p'sbitū ac discretū celebrare dicē ac devote celebrare orare duob; ānis p̄ aīa mea ac pentū meorę. Itm lego x mrc̄ ad ſuiciū beate marie ſustendād in dca ecclia q̄ti^s deuot^s capellan^s ppetualif̄ iveniaf̄ celebratur p̄ bñfactorib; & sustentatoř dicē ſuic̄. Itm lego Johi Chaydocke filiolo meo vnā vaccā & vitulū ad augmentand & creſtend ad p̄ficiū suū. Itm lego dño Jacobo Smetheley cognato meo xl^s. Itm lego cuilibet famuloř ac famulare m̄ in domo & ſuico ſuientf̄ ac veste mea noīe liberaf̄ vtenf̄ alias sū alio m^o nō pmoř cū aliq^o releuamie tēpe decessus mei vj^s viij^d in monē Et in aliis bonis ad valorē. Allso my will is y^t my wyfe Johan shall haue the thrid pte of al my londez y^e qwhich thrid pte berez y^e suñe of xxxiiij Mrc̄ ij^s viij^d lying in Rūworth Heyton Lostoche Snythill in Halghton and Okynbothū in Breghtmeyt if she wyl be agreabull ȳto. Allso my will is y^t xx^{li} of my lyvelode lying in Machest^r Denton Gorton Okynshawe [*sic* for Openshawe] & Yrlame w^t the free rentez of Thoñs Hoppewode & Thoñs Valentyne & Also pte in Ffarneworth shal goo to y^e paymentez of the mariagez of my ij dogh^ts Elsabeth & Alic vnto y^e Suñez of myn agrementez be content & payde And allso more oū y^t my dogh^t Elsabeth to haue xx mrc̄ & Alic x mrc̄ opon y^t cōdicion y^t thay nor thair husbandez do not trobull nor vexe Any of myn heyerez male nor my ffeoffe to pfo[r]me this my will of Any of my londez And y^t my broder Cristofer y^e qwhich is my feoffe to execute y^{is} my will shal paye of y^e yssuez & pfettez of y^e said xx^{li} worth of londez my broder Thoñs Hawarden for y^e mariağ of my dogh^t Elsabeth and y^e said xx^{li} mrc̄ moř to my said doght^r Elsabeth And in like wyse to paye & cōtent Rog^o Hulton for y^e mariage of my said doght^r Alič if y^e mariage goo furth & pcede Acording to our pmysez & cou^udez As we ben Sworne And if it happen y^t y^e said Adm Hulton son & heyer of y^e said Rog^o Hulton decesse or ellez y^t y^e mariage goo not forth nor pcede acording to our cou^udez afor seid That yen y^e said Xp̄ofer shal pvide & se y^t my doght^r Alič may be maryd to An As gud or A betf̄ as y^e said Adm of y^e yssuez & pfettez of y^e londez afor reheryd And Allso it is my will y^t yf my goodez wil not p̄fōme my will As in makynge of A chapell

& in fynding of A pst to syng ij zeñ And Also in gyffyng x m^{rc} to y^e sustentacion & vppeholding of y^e devine s^ui^{ic} of our ladye afor seid And allso yf y^t my goodez wilnot p^fome y^t & y^e residue of y^{is} my will Than my will is y^t wher as my goodez lakyth y^t it shalbe taken vppe of y^e residue of y^e livelode y^t remayneth Aft^r y^e discrecion of my saide Broder X^pofer y^t is my feoffe Also my will is y^t my Brethe^r & Sisterez nowe being At y^e Hopehey or other placez shall ther honestly be founden for t^{me} of yeir lyvez of y^e yssuez & p^fettez ther rysing yf yay wyll be Rulyd & Gyded by y^e said X^pofer my Broder & y^e said X^pofer to haue y^e disposicion gyding & goun^{ance} of yeyme & of al y^e lyvelode to se yeyme honestly kepyd rulyd & Gyded to y^e sauacion & saking of yayme & the lyvelode And if it so be y^t Any of my Brederes and Sisterez Afor Seyd wil not so be gouned than my will is y^t yai haue noo p^{te} therof bot those y^t will be rulyd & Gyded As is afor said And also my wil is y^t ther be leyfte at the saide place y^e Hopehay by y^e avice of myn executo^r viij keyn beyng melch & iiij horses & marez & halfe y^e Cornez y^t ther shall happen to be groyng o^ywyse w^t All othir Stufe of howshalde ther being at y^t tyme allso my will is y^t myn said wyfe & myn ij dogh^{ts} Elsabeth & Ali^c haue All myn othir Stufe of howshald deptyd euenly Among yayme excepte such goodes as ben heyerez lomez & the q^whech I be q^wheth to be heyer lomez be longyng to y^e heyerez male As a chalez w^t y^e best masse boke w^t all othir vestmentez & Au^tclothes w^t halfe a dosen Sil^l Sponez & a salt seler & a bassen & a lauer the best pott w^t a grete Brendreth And also a Hengytt Bedd y^t is to say the best ma^{less} ij cou^lettez a payr of Shetes of y^e Smalest w^t ij pyllow^s Also all Burdez [boards] f^omez crestes Standing Bedstockez & whele bedstockez w^t Standing f^ornesez & ledes w^t a malt Arke & a mele Arke w^t vj Brode disshows vj potyng^{ez} & vj Savsers w^t ij Chaundelers And allso I beq^wheth my othir masse boke to be longyng to y^e chapell y^t shalbe Byggett at y^e said chirch of y^e Deyne Also it is my will y^t my Broder X^pofer for the faythfull love & trist y^t I haue to hym to be true & stidfast to y^e intentt of y^{is} my will shall haue x m^{rc} zerly for t^{me} of his lyve he to take it vppe of y^e lyvelode of Harphey & of

y^e teñtez and placez of Robt Barlow & Geffron Barlow & the residue to y^e said Suñe of x M^{rs} in Farneworth And also my wil is y^t my Broder X^pofer aft^r the maria^g money paid for myn ij doghts & my will fulfyld shall take & resayue of my londez to y^e suñe of ij C Marks toward his p^moting Authir in his maria^g or ellez in p^{ch}asing of londez to his p^mocion Also hit is my will y^t my Brothir Ri^c shall haue x^{li} in worth of my londez for t^{me} of his lyve to fynde hym & his wyfe op^{on} Also it is my wyll y^t my Broder X^pofer Aft^r my will p^fomed make an astate of v m^{rs} to myn Broder Jamez & Robt for t^{me} of yeir lyvez of londez in Denton the remayd^r the^r of to y^e heyerez male of my Broder Ri^c Also it is my will y^t my Broder John Chaidocke zerly durynge his fa^d lyve to haue vj^s viij^d op^{on} y^t condicion y^t he endevoir hym to y^e p^forms of y^{is} my wyll & it to be taken of such londez as best can be thoght by my said Broder Cristofer fforther mo^r my wil is y^t ther shall be made an ou^ley [overlay or tombstone] of marbull in y^e said Chapell y^t shalbe bygged w^t y^e ymage of me & my ij wyfesz w^t my ij doghts g^uen [graven] of laton in y^e same marbull and y^t the bonez of my fa^d & mo^d w^t othir of myn Ancesterez be broght & leyde there in y^e same chapell And after then y^t all bequestez as is afor rehersyd be fulfyllid and don my will is y^t all my hole enherit^{ance} may descende vnto my Broder Ri^c & his heyers male to y^e helping of his child yf god send hym any & so furth to eu^ly of my Breder Acording to ryght & consciance And now be it knownen by yis my last will y^t sithen y^t I made myn vncl^e Thūstan Tyldesley & my Broder Cristofer Hulton w^t othir my ffeoffes to execute y^{is} my last will And also to p^{ro}vide & see y^t Aft^r this my last will be p^fomed & doñ y^t y^e hole enherit^{ance} may groo & descende op^{on} my said Broder Ri^c & his heyerez male Apon he be avysyd & rulyd by my said Broder Cristofer & so furth apon my Broder Thurstan & his heyerez male & for faute of yssue of yayme Apon myn next eldest Broder & so furth Acording to yair ryght letting all peple wete y^t sythen y^e ffeffamēt maide vnto my said vncl^e Thurstan & vnto my Brother X^pofer & other y^t yai so being seased to m^{yn} vse afore seid lete all y^e saidez londez to me Agayme for t^{me} of my lyfe And Sithen y^t tyme I neu^l made lessez bot for terme of m^{yn} Awne lyve

or ellez for þme of zeres Acordynge to my pmesseze maide to my saidez ffeoffes And so be they seased & by me sythn y^t ffeoffamentt made neu^l disseased And zett y^t that nowe it is pte oute of remembrance of y^e said ffeoffamentt made to my said vncle Thurstan & vnto my Broder Xpöfer I haue maide an other feoffamentt to my said Broder Xpöfer sufficient in lawe. Residuū oifn bonorē meorē nō legatoř do & lego Johane vñ mee & Cristofero fri meo & p̄pes ordino et constituo executores meos vt ipi deū p'octis heñt oia p'dict s^m hanc volūtātē meā ordinēt & disponā vt si meli⁹ videbit^r p̄fice p salute aīe mee q̄ti⁹ corā altissio iudice volūint respondere & Robertū Workesley & Thomā Tyldesley de Wordeley desiđo & facio eē supvisores vt volūtas mea p omnia Ad impleat^r In Cui⁹ rei Testiōm huic sc̄p̄t indentat^r Ac volūtati mee vltime Sigillū meū Apposui Hiis Testibus Thoma Hawarden Ranulpho Sonke Thoma Tyldesley de Pele John Bradshawe Sir Giť Lever y^e vicar of Bolton Dame Yssabell Radcliff & Rič hir Son Jane Barton Sir Jamez Smetheley Sir Jamez Holden & aliis Allso hit is my will & Also I gyffe vnto Johan my wiffe xx^d Marke to be taken of my Cornez and catellez be syde her pte of the Stuffe of my householde yf she will take & agree there to Also hit is my will y^t my ij norisshez Aythur [either] to haue v⁹ Also hit is my will y^t my ij godsons Huğ son of Chet^m & Robyn Haliwall aythur to haue xl^d."

**Will of Matthew Legh, of Swinehead,
dated 1512.**

In dei noīe Amen. The iiijth day of octobr in y^e yeare of o^r lord god 1512. I Mathew Legh hole in mynd and sike in bodie doe [make] my testament and last will in manner and forme following.

Inprimis I bequeth my sole to almightie god and to his blessed mode^r seynt Mary, and to all the selestiall company In heuen and my bodie to be buried in the Chappell of Seynt Anne wthin the pish Church of Handley or there were it shall please allmightie god to call for me at his pleasure.

Itm I will and bequeth to Jane my wife the thyrd pte of my goods both moueable and vnmoueable. Itm I will and bequeth to my two dowzters Dorothey and Mary, all the Rest of my goods toward there p'ferment in mariage. Also I will if ought come to either of my saied dowzters that is to wit if either of them doe fortune to decease before that she be married, that then the Rest of the saied goods shall come and revert vnto thother daughter that is Longer Luer.

Itm I bequeth to Gawen my yonger son six mks of anutie for terme of his life the w^{ch} I excepted at the marieing mariage of my sonne Richard Leghe. Also I enstitute and make Jane my wife, Dorothey and Mary my daughters my true and Lawfull executors condisionally that yf Jane my wife do mari or else be against the pformance of this my last will to take effect, then I doe ordayne constitute and make Dorothey and Mary my daughters my executores of this my last will and Testament, and giue them full autoritie and power to see it pformed and fulfilled to the true intent thereof, these being witnesses S^r Hugh Sankie my goastly father, Oliuer Kimesford, Richard Cluworth wth others the day and yeare aboue written.

Inuentyory of Mathew Leigh deceased.

Inprimis xxiiij Kie and a Bull	...	...	xx marks
Itm horses mares Colts and geldings	...	...	xx marks
Itm oxen yonge bests and neats	...	...	xx mks
Itm xx fatt Catell	...	...	xx mks
Itm Corne and hey	...	...	xx mks
Itm bedding brase and peauter w th other household stuffe	...	...	xx mks
Itm in apparell	...	...	xx mks
Itm for a tacke by Vpton for y ^e belieffes son	...	...	xx ^{li}
Itm of Swyne gese Capons & hens w th other pullen	...	...	xl ^s

Sum is Cxv^{li} vj^s viij^d.

**The Will of George Atherton, of Atherton,
Esquire, dated 1513.¹**

This is y^e last will and testament of me George Atherton Esq. made 23 Nov. 5 Henry VIII. [1513]. "If I fortune to be married my wief to have a joynture." John Atherton his son and heir then in his nonage. To Isabell his bastard daughter for her marriage £40. To Elizabeth Harrington his sister 6 marks. To an honest prest to pray devoutly for his soule in Leigh church 40 shillings per annum for 14 yeres. John Atherton son of my brother John the bastard, to have 40^s per annum for 14 yere to bring him upp at scole. Twenty marks to the buylding of the steple and bells in Legh church, and other moneys to the buylding of our Ladies Chappell in the said Legh church. "John Atherton, bastard brother of me the said George Atherton," mentioned in remainder. "My body to be buryed in Leghe church, nere the bones of my father and Anne late my wief." His daughter Margaret, borne since the making of the above will, to have 200 marks for her marriage, &c. John Atherton, son and heir and aged 5 years and more, is his next heir, and the said John Atherton was married by the said George Atherton his father, in his lifetime, to a certain Elizabeth daughter of Sir Alexander Radcliffe, Knt.

¹ The above is an abstract of the will of George Atherton, of Atherton, Esq., as made by Dodsworth from the *Inquisition post mortem* [Dodsworth MSS., vol. 58], taken at Lancaster, 2 Sept., 10 Henry VIII. [1518], before James Worsley, Esq., Escheator, by the oath of Sir Henry Kyghley, Knt., Henry Ffaryngton, Esq., John Holcroft, Esq., Thomas Penkith, John Newport, Esq., Richard Holcroft, Roland Kirkby, William Browne, Thomas Redmayne, Brian Redmayne, &c. His manors of Atherton, &c., were by a charter, dated 23 Nov., 5 Henry VIII. [1513], granted to Sir Alexander Radclyfe and Sir William Leylond Knts., Richard Assheton, Peter Shakerley, Thurstan Tyldesley, and John Hopwood, Esquires, Thomas Longeley, clerk, and John Starkey, gent., as trustees for the uses declared in his last will and testament which is as above. [J. P. E.]

Will of William Swettenham, dated 1521.¹

In the name of God, Amen, the 20th August 1521. I William Swetenham² make my testament in this manner.

“First I bequeth my soule to God to his Moder S^t Marye, & to all the holy companie of Heavyn. My bodie to be buried in the Paroche Chu: of Astbury, before the Image of blessed Lady. Also I bequeath my best beast in the name of a Mortuarye. Also I bequeth for my buriall & vnto o^r Ladies worke to be prayed for 13^s 4^d.”

I give and bequeath to Elizabeth my wite 5 Mosseplaces with their appurtenances during her life, now in the holding of Agnes Strag, Richard Bore, Sybill Huett, John Lee, Ralph Wylkinson, with a field called Hasulsha and a croft lying within the same, so that she shall take William my son in signing of tenancies, reserving the profits to herself.

Also I give to Thomas my son one mose place with the appurtenances lying in Nether Somerford, during his life, now in the holding of William Deyne, of the annual rent of 21s. 1d., so that the said Thomas pay to the chief lord his rent, or to William Swetenham his elder brother 13d. yearly.

Also I bequeath to Roger my son, one mose place with the appurtenances during his life, in Over Somerford, now in the holding of John Bromall of the rent of 20s.

Also I give to William my son, the residue of all my lands and tenements and the land lying in Congleton with the appurtenances, to him and his heirs male for ever.

Also I give to Sir Hugh Hulse 20d.

Also I bequeath the residue of all my goods when my body is buried, to Elizabeth my wife the third part. Also the residue of all my goods not bequeathed and debts I give to my three daughters for their marriages.

¹ From the *Swettenham Chartulary*, p. 27 [J. P. E.].

² William Swettenham, of Somerford Booths, Esquire, was fifth in direct descent from the Roger de Swettenham whose will is printed on page 7. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Christofer Savege, of Macclesfield, and had issue, at least three sons and three daughters. *Vide pedigree, East Cheshire*, Vol. ii., p. 646.

Also I will that my executors and overseers shall receive my debts due to me and pay my debts.

Also I ordain and make Elizabeth my wife, and William my son and heir, my executors, and Thomas Dauenport of Henbury the elder, Esq., Thomas Manwaring of Caringam, and John Moreton of Moreton, overseers of this my will.

Witnesses, Edmund Key priest at
Morton, Robert Stabbes,
William Deyne, with others.

This will was proved before the Dean of the Deanery of Middlewich, and administration of the goods of the deceased granted to the executors within named, 12 Sept. 1521.

**Will of Sir Piers Legh, of Lyme, Knt. and
Priest, dated 1521.¹**

This is the last will of me Peris Leigh Knyght and prest maide the furst day of February in the xijth yere of the reigne of Kyng Henry the viijth of all such lands and tent^s & annuell Rentes to and of the yerely value of xl^{li} res'ved to me the said S^r Peris to giff and to gr^{unt} to certen psonez sev'ally to terme of ther lyves not only so couen^{nted} among-ist other things in the Indenturez of mariage made betwix me the said S^r Peris Legh Knyght Apon that oon ptie and S^r Tho^{ms} Gerard Knyght decessed apon that other ptie bering dat the xijth day of Septem^{br} the thrid yere of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the vij Botalso as shall accorde w^t the Indenturez of mariage made betwene S^r Tho^{ms} Buttler Knyght and Tho^{ms} Buttler his son and heire apparunt of the other [*sic*] ptie and me the said S^r Peris and Peris my son and heire appar^{unt} of the other ptie bering dat the xxijth day of July the xxijth yere of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the vijth. And in like case according to the Indenturez of mariage

¹ From the Legh of Lyme Deeds, Box S.I., No. 2 [J. P. E.].

made betwene S^r Thom^s Gerard Knyght that now is on the oon ptie And me the said S^r Peris and Peris my son and heire apparunt on the other ptie bering dat the xvijth day of July in the ixth yere of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the viijth. The which landez and tent^s of the yerely value of xl^{li} at evy the said mariagez so res'ved I the said S^r Peris by se^vall dedis and lyve of season [livery of seizin] therof haue yeuen and grunted in forme folowing that is to sey. To my son John landez and tentz to the value of x mrks by yere. To my son Gother landez and tentz to and of the yerely value of xx mrks to my son Richard iiij mrks by yere. To my brodr Rob^t xliij^s yerely to my cosyn James Dounbill xl^s by yere to my S^und Rob^t Ardren xl^s by ye^r. To Matheu Arosmyth xxix^s yerely. To Peris Legh my brother son xxxiiij^s iiij^d by yere. To my sust^r son Rob^t Orrell xxvij^s by yere. To John Kyghley my S^und [servant] xxvj^s viij^d yerely. To James Atherton xxvj^s viij^d by yere. To Will^m Naillo^r xl^s yerely. To Henry Arosmyth xx^s by ye^r, and to Rob^t Smyth xx^s yerely. All which landez and ten^{ts} of the yerely value of xl^{li} so giffen and grunted by me the said S^r Peris unto my said sonez brodr cosyns ffrends and S^unds I will that thay and eu^y of thame shall haue occupie and injoye the same and eu^y p^ocell thereof w^h the app^rteⁿcs therto belonging during tha^r se^vall lyvez according to the teno^r and effecte of tha^r grunts made or to be made. And I the said S^r Peris will that all my feoffez and Reco^uers of and in the pmiss and tha^r heirez and the heirez of me the said S^r Peris shall not lett vex nor trouble my said sonez brodr cosyns ffrends and S^unds nor Any of thame the occupacion and vse thereof contry to the teno^r of tha^r dedis thereof and that my said feoffez and Reco^uers shall stande and be seased therin to the same vsez and intents aslone as the cause therof shall indu^r. And I will that my said feoffez and Reco^uers and thar heirez shalbe seased of all the said landez and tent^s of the yerely value of xl^{li} as thay shall happen to come aft^r the deith of any of my said sonez brodr cosyns ffrends or S^unds ten^{antez} in the same for terme of lyve to the vse of me the said S^r Peris to thentent that of all the said lands & tentz of the said yerely value of xl^{li} and of evy p^ocell therof that shall discende or come to me the said S^r Peris by deithe of

any of my saids sonez brodr^r cosyns or S^ruñds at any tyme in my lyve. That then it shalbe lauffull vnto me the said S^r Peris to giff and graunt by my w^riting the same landez & tentz and evy pcell therof or other landez of like yerely value vnto such other psones as it shall please me the said S^r Peris for terme of tha^r lyvez only. And I will that if Any such giff or grunt therof in like forme happen to be made at any tyme heraft^r by me the said S^r Peris that then my said feoffez and Recou^rers shall so long stande and be seased in the same and in eu'y pcell thereof to the same vsez and intents above mencyoned and aft^rwards my said feoffez and Recou^rers and tha^r heirez shall stande and be seased of all and evy the singl^r pmiss as the same shall happen to fall come And det^rmyn by Reason of deithe of the said psonez and of eu'y of thame as the case therof shall fortune to thuse of me the said Peris and of my Right heires for eu^r. In Witnes wherof I the said S^r Peris Legh Knyght and p^rst herunto haue set my seale of Armez & subsc^rbid the sam^e w^t my hand the day & yer aboue rehersed.

[Signed] p me PET LEGH K^t & P.

**Will of Sir Piers Legh, Knt. and Priest,
dated 1522.¹**

This is the last Will and testament of me Peris Legh knyght & prest made the furst day of Decem^r in the xiiijth yere of the Reigne of king Henry the viijth of all my goods & Catalls aswell whik as deid that I now haue or shall haue the tyme of my decease The whch goods & Catalls I will shalbe distribued by Edward Molenex pson of Sefton Thurstan Tildisley esquier Wiffm Trafford squier James Downbill squier & Robt Ardren gentilmã myn executo^rs as heraft^r

¹ From the Legh of Lyme Deeds, Box S.I., No. 2; this will relates to his funeral [J. P. E.].

folowith. In the furst I giff & beqwethe my saule to all myghty god o^r lady sant Mare & to all the Saynts in Heven And will that my said executo^rs of the Costs of my said goods cause my body to be buryed in the Trinite Chapell of Wynwhik afo^r the myddist of the altur the^r Whe^ras the prest shall alwais the tyme of consecra^{ti}on stand even ou^t & apon my harte Thed^r to be borne w^t my ^sunds & oth^r cristenpeople And my best Beist be bro^ght to the Church for my mortuary And that my Standert bano^r & Coote Armo^r be had afo^r my body to the Church in such condici^on as shalbe thoght most c^ouenyent by the adu^yse of myn Executo^rs & the same then to be dely^ued into my Chapell at WynWhik the^r to Remyⁿ aft^rwards. And if it fortune me to dece^se the space of xx^{ti} myles or aboue from the said Chapell Then it is my will to be bro^ght thed^r upon A horse littur cou^led and the horses to be trap^ed & cou^led with blacke and myn Armes to be sett on eu^y syde of the litto^r And the said Trappo^rs and cou^lyngs I^ontyn^et aft^r to be devyded & dalt amongist poor folks And that my said Executo^rs apon my said goods & Catalls shall bye xl^{ti} gownes of blacke Clothe & devyde thame by tha^r discreci^ons to such p^oson & p^osons as be of my howse and in my wagez and other my freinds And those & eu^y of thame to go abowte my body. Also I will that my said executo^rs of the said goods & Catalls shall bye xxiiiij^{ti} gownes of white clothe & by thame to be giffen to xxiiiij^{ti} of the porest of my tenⁿds and eu^y of thame to be^r A Torche in tha^r hands and be^r thame abowte my body till I come to the Church & be buryed, wech torchs I will that my said Executo^rs shall bye w^t the cost of the saids goods & Cata^lts And theropon to giffe the halfe of thame to the said Trinite Chapell and the oth^r halfe to be giffen & deli^ued vnto o^r lady Chapell at Distley. And also I will my said Executo^rs of thissues & p^ofetts of my said goods & Catalls shall dispose for my saule the day of my buryall in massez & other almez at the Churche xx^{ti} pownds And a c^ouenyent dyⁿ be ordyned of my goods at Bradley to all such gentilmen & other honest people as shalbe at my buryeng. Also I will that my said Executo^rs of my said goods & Catalls w^tin A monethe Imediatly aft^r my dece^se shall cause A hundreth prests to say for me A hundreth massez & dirigs apon oon day that is to wett xx^{ti} massez of

l̄hs xx^{ti} of the fyve wounds xx^{ti} of o^r lady xx^{ti} of the holy
 gost x of the Trinite & x of Requiem And euỹ prest to haue
 for the same iiij^d And euỹ prest to gett hym A Clerk to
 helpe hym say dirige & masse And euỹ of thame to haue ij^d
 And at euỹ masse afořsaid be offered A peny at the lauatory
 for me. Also I will my said Executo^rs of the said goods and
 Catalls shall bye Anoūley [an overlay] of Marbull & lay apon
 me w^t A picto^r aft^r me & my wieff and o^r Armes to be set in
 atho^r of o^r Coots and A supsc^opcion to be set on the said
 Oūley shewing o^r names & the dais and yeris of o^r decesez.
 Also I will that my said Executo^rs of the said goods & Catalls
 euỹ good ffryday vij yeris to geth^rs next aft^r my decese shall
 distribuet ij^s vj^d amongs the porest of my tenēds wⁱⁿ Wering-
 ton pich and WynWhik pishe And also euỹ even of o^r lady
 fyve yeris to gethu^rs next ensuyng my decese the^r to be
 giffen of the same goods to fyve of the porest of my said
 tenēds seūally iiij^d and euỹ of thame be required to knele
 apon tha^r knees wⁱⁿ the said Trinite Chapell the said evens
 and euỹ of thame therfor to say A lady sauto^r for my saule.
 Also I will that my said Executo^rs of the same goods &
 Catalls giff vnto euỹ gentilman of my howseholde besids tha^r
 waġs xiiij^s iiij^d euỹ yoman vj^s viij^d And euỹ laborer iij^s iiij^d
 And to kepe thame and euỹ of thame togeth^rs apon my Cost
 A monethe aft^r my decease if thay will abyde. Also I will
 that may son Peris shall haue all the residue of my goods not
 beqwethed by writing nor by mothe afoř Recorde remayneng
 oū the expens^o of my buryall and the accomplishment of this
 my will & willez fulfilled condicionally that he suff^r myn exe-
 cuto^rs and distributo^rs aswell of my goods as of my lands to
 execute the same & all other my willez & euỹ article therof
 w^owt vexacion of hym or any other by his p̄curing or consent
 and ellis he to haue no pte therof And if my said Executo^rs
 will not execute this my said will according as is aboue cōpsed
 w^out delay or plonging of tyme that so pved Then I will
 thay no forthur therin shall in̄medill in Any Wise And
 theropō then I will myn especial good lord Cuthberte now
 busshop of London S^r Wiffm Molenex & S^r Wiffm Stanley
 shall distribuete & dispose euỹ pte of all my sing^r goods &
 Catalls according to the vse & intents herin specified. In
 Witnes wherof I the said S^r Peris herunto haue sett my seale

of Armez And subscribed the same w^t my hande the day and yere afor̄ said.

[Signed] p. me PET LEGH k^t & prest.

[A large circular seal circumscribed SIGILL. PETRI DE LEGH, bearing a shield quarterly, 1st and 4th a cross and in the dexter chief a fleur de lys [*Haydock*], 2nd and 3rd a cross indented [*Legh*]. The shield is surmounted by an esquire's helm and a mantlet with the crest of a ram's head upon a wreath.¹]

**Will of Sir Piers Legh, Knt. and Priest,
dated 1522.²**

This is the last Will of me Peris Legh knyght and prest made the furst day of Decem̄r in the xiiijth yere of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the viiith [1522] of all my lands & teñts w^t tha^r App^tenncs in Hanley Wytnesith that whea^r at the Shi^r holden at Chest^r the tuysday aftur clausū pashe in the vj yere of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the viiith [1515] Wiffm Stanley of Hoton knyght Alexand^r Radcliff of Ordishall knyght Rauff Ardron esquier Rog^o Downes esquier John Sutton esquier Ranulph ffyton Clerc Wiffm Bruge Clerk Ranulph Hylton Chaplen and Rog^o Lewins Chaplen Recouled agaynest me the said S^r Peris Lēgh knyght and prest all my landez & teñts w^t tha^r app^tenncs in Hanley by the name of xxxv^{ti} mesuagez oon wat^r mylne CC Acres of lānde lx Acres of medoo CCCC Acres of pastu^r A thosaūnd Acres of wood too thosaund Acres of more w^t thapp^tenncs in Hanley Alwech Recouy^r was and shalbe to thuse of me the said S^r Peris And of myn heirez malez & to the p^rformacionⁱ of this my last will therof to be declared Wherupon I the said S^r peris declare my last will in the p^rmissez in maⁿ & forme folowyng that is to say ffurst I the said S^r Peris will

¹ In these arms the quarters are transposed and the cross of the Legh coat is indented instead of engrailed.

² From the Lyme Deeds, Box S.I., No. 3; relates to Disley Chapel [J. P. E.].

that the said Sr Wiffm Stanley of Hoton knyght & all others his forsaid Joynt Recou's shall stande & be seased of and in all the said Mesuags lands & teñts w^t tha^r app^rtenncs in Hanley afo^r said to the vse of me the said Sr Peris during my lyef And that thay shall stande & be seased therof to thaym and thayr heirez during the terme of tenne yeris Imediatly aft^r the decesse of me the said Sr Peris to thusez & intents ensuyng That is to wete, that the said Sr Wiffm Stanley & all others his Joynt Recou's of and in the sing^r p^rmissz shall suff^r Edward Molenex p^rson of Sefton Thurstan Tildisley esquier Wiffm Trafford esquier James Downbill esquier & Robt Ardrongent whome I make myn executo's of this my p^rsent will to take & Receyue all thissuez & profetts of the same mesuags lands & teñts w^t tha^r app^rtenncs cōphended & specified in the said Recouy during all the said terme of tenne yeris all which issuez & p^rfetts therof to be taken & Receyued by my said executo's I will shalbe cōvehid vnto the monas^ty of Sant Werburs in Chest^r & to be put in saue keping in A substanciall Cofor locked the^r to be standeing & Remaynyng of my Costs & Chargz And that eu^y of my said Executo's shall haue A se^uall locke & key ap^on the same and that my said executo's in as shorte space aft^r my decesse as thay in any wise cōuenyently can shall w^t the issuez and p^rfetts of the same mesuags lands & teñts w^t tha^r App^rtenncs in Hanley p^rchase lands or Rents in fegh simple to and of the yerely value of tenne pownds or asmoche therof as I the said Sr Peris aff^r the da^r herof in my lyue do not purchase wech lands & teñts or Rents so purchased I will shalbe to thuse & intents conteynedd in c^ten indentures made or heraft^r to be made concⁿyng the sustenta^cion of A Chapell that is by me the said Sr Peris edified in Distley in the Countie of Chest^r in the hono^r of o^r lady for eu^y mo^r P^ruydait alwais that I the said Sr Peris will that the said Sr Wiffm Stanley of hoton knyght & all oth^r his Joynt Recou's of & in the p^rmiss & tha^r heirez shall stande and be seased of and in the Cheffe place cald Lyme in Hanley w^t certen lands in Hanley afo^r said cald Lyme pk in Hanley And the wat^r mylne w^tin the same pk p^rcell of the said mesuags lands & tents mēcioned in the same Recouy to thuse of my son Peris or of hym that shall happen to be myn heire male of my

body lawfully begotton cōdicionally that thay suff^r my feoffez Recouers & Executo^rs to accomlishe & pforme all & eu^y article cōphendit in this my Will or any oth^r my Willez of lands or goods w^owt lett or dist^rbaūnce of my said herez malez or of any other pson or psones in tha^r names or by tha^r pcuring abbetting or consent And if it happen att any tyme heraft^r any of my said heirez malez or any other pson or psons in tha^r names by tha^r good will or consent let or dist^rbe my said feoffez Recou^s or executo^rs to pfo^rme & fulfill this my said will & all oth^r my said willez or Any Article therof That then I will that the said S^r Wiffm Stanley and all oth^rs his Joynt Recouers feoffez and executo^rs shall suff^r my sing^r good lord Cuthberte now busshoppe of London S^r Wiffm Molenex knyght & S^r Wiffm Stanley knyght Whom I make supviso^rs of this my will to haue occupie and Inioye to thame & tha^r heirez or assignez the said Cheffe place cald Lyme in Hanley And the oth^r said certen lands in Hanley calde Lyme pk in Hanley and the wat^r mylne W^tin the said pke to tha^r awne vsez and p^rfetts during the space of xx^{ti} yeris next and Imediatly aft^r my decesse that thay in consida^on therof may Ayde my said executo^rs that thay may peaseable pforme this my will and all others my willez accordingly Providait also that I will my said supviso^rs during all the same yerez shall resaonably vse the game the^r And w^t pcell of the said Reuenez & p^rfetts therof shall vpholde & Repa^r the saids Cheffe place & oth^r buyldings the^r edified And in lyke case the Ryng pale of the same pke in su^r and sufficient maner And w^t the p^rfetts of the said Receipts discharge tha^r Chargs & expens^s in that behalfe Also I the said S^r Peris will that all my executors in the fest of Sant John baptist come Atwelmond aft^r my decesse o^r w^tin xx^{ti} dais then next aft^r apon my Costs & Chargs to be taken of pcell of the saids mesuags lands & tefts shall come vnto o^r lady Chapell of Distley the^r and then to haue A due accompts & Reconyng of all tha^r Receipts had & taken And so furth yerely aft^r the same forme during the said teⁿe yerez or as long therof as thay shall haue cause for the execucion of this my will of & in the p^rmiss And for the p^rvision of such Anornaments & od^r necessariss & expens^s that most be had

for the said Chapell conteyned in my will of my mano^r of Dalton that then shall happen not to be completely made or vnpvidait And then & so from tyme to tyme at euỹ such meting of my said executo^rs thay do comyn to gethurs & conclude for the most spede of the Accomplishment of my said willez in euỹ condicion according to the true intents of the same And if my said executors do not applye thame selfe for the good expedicion of this my will according to the true intents herof in euỹ ptic^r clause & poynt of the sam^e w^owt omytting tyme that p^rved Then I will that thay ner any of thame shall any forth^r medill as myn executors bot vtt^rly cease tha^r hands from the same & euỹ p^rcell therof And that then I will that all my said Reco^uers of and in the p^rmiss shall suff^r my said sing^r good lord Cuthbert busshop of London & the said S^r Wiffm Molenex & S^r Wiffm Stanley to take & Receyue the hoole issuez & p^rfetts of the said mesuags lands & te^rts in Hanley during all seasonz & termez aboue expressed to thentent that thay therw^t may plenarily accomlishe this my said last will & euỹ p^rte therof w^owt plonging of tyme according to the sing^r intents rehersed And aft^r this my will aboue rehersed be fully in euỹ condicion cōpletly executed & p^rformed according to the Articles of the declara^oion therof & the conclusion of the same Then I the said S^r Peris will that then & from thense furthe the said S^r Wiffm Stanley of Hoton knyght and all other his Joynt Reco^uers and tha^r heirez & assignes shall stande and be seased of all the cheffe place cald Lyme in Hanley and the said other lands cald Lyme p^rke in Hanley & the wat^r mylne w^oin the same p^rke And of all others the said mesuags lands & te^rts medowez pasturez morez and woods w^t tha^r sing^r app^rtenncs & lybtiez in Hanley afo^r saids Imediatly aft^r the vsez therof & of euỹ p^rcell of the same as thay be de^rmynded & endit by Reason aboue declared that is to say to the vse of the heirez malez of the body of me the said S^r Peris laufully begotton and for defaut of such issue male to thuse of myn heirez malez of myn Au^rncesto^uns made in tymes past according to the euydence and Au^rnceunt talez of the sam^e In witnes wherof I the said S^r Peris Legh knyght & p^rst vnto these p^rsents haue set my seale of Armez

& subsc'bet the same w^t my hande the day & yere aboue Rehersted.

p. me PET LEGH. K^t et prest.

Endorsed.

This is the will of S^r Peres Legh knyght & preist wherin is appoynted Rents to be levied in Hanley to purchase lands for the mayntefnce of s^vice at Distley.

The Will of Thomas Dabnport, of Wylmslow, dated 1523.¹

In dei noīe Amē Anno dñi Millesimo quīgentesimo vicesimo tercio vicesimo octavo die Novembris y^t I Thom^{as} Dauēport hole in body & hole in mynd make my Wyll in y^e man' & forme foloyng ffyrste I beqwethe my saule to Almyghty god & to hys blesset mod' owr lady saynt Mary & to all y^e holy cūpeny of heyven & my body to be buryet in y^e chyrche of our blesset lady of Wylmyslow afore y^e chancell zette. Also I gyffe my best beeste to be in y^e name of my mortuary. Also I gyffe all my londes & godes aft' my decesse to Alys my wyffe excepte ij^s of y^e londes & tenements now in y^e holding of . . . ^[Erasure.] . . . Jeffrey Alcoke which I have gyffen to owr lady s'vice aft' my deptyng duryng her lyffe & aft' her decess iij^s iiij^d of y^e same londez which I haue gyffen by my dede to owr lady s'vice for eu'. And also excepte xxvj^s viij^d whiche I wyll shall be gyffen to Jone Dauēport. Also I wyll y^t iiij bushell of whete be delte to por' pepull at my bryngyng whome yf I deyle it not in my lyffe. Also I wyll y^t it to be knowen to all mē y^t I have made noe feoffemēt nor astate bot y^t my wyffe may pleseably occupye all suche londez & tenements as I haue gyffen by a feoffement to Henry Trafford pson of Wylmyslow & Wyll^{am} Wylme of Oghtrynton & other & y^t I take apon my charge. Also I wyll y^t non of my heyrys shall haue nor clayme no heyre lomys for my fad' nor I haue neu' non. Also I make my executors Alys my wyffe & S^r Rob^t Deveas truly to execute y^e my

¹ From the Fulshaw Deeds, p. 182 [J. P. E.].

wyll. Also I wyll y^t Mays^t Edmūd Trafford of Trafforde suyer & Henr' Trafford pson of Wyllmyslowe be my ou'seers of y^s my laste wyll which I haue sette my seale in y^e p'sence of Robert Walt^r Syr Thom^s Hut Syr Rog' Hoghe Randull Dauēport Rauffe Lycestr John Halderhed Thom^s Hogthe Wyll^m Alcoke George Mosse.

On a small sheet of parchment. Endorsed that it was proved xxiiij day of July 1526.

**The Will of Sir Richard Sutton, Knight,
dated 1524.¹**

² Q̄ua media vita in morte sumus & omnes eñ morim^r & quasi aqua in terram dilabim^r que non reu'tetur 2 Reg. 4 [for 14] Ideo Saluator noster volens nos omnes paratos invenire nos ortatur Et estote parati quia qua hora non putatis filius hñis veniet. luce. 3^o [for 12] Sed quia mortis tempus incretū est Nescit homo finem suū Ecclī 9^o. Et vt inquit stultū est in tali statu viuere que quis non audet mori Ideo &c.

IN THE NAME OF OURE LORD JHŪ CRIST ETĈ I RYCHARD SUTTON KNIGHT of hoole mynde by the helpe and grace of the most gloryfied Trynite the xvj day of marche yn the xv yere of the reign of kyng Henry the viijth orden & make my last wyll & testament yn forme folowyng FFYRST I bequeyeth my sowle unto the blyssid Trynite throgh the meke p^ayer of the most pure & mekest vyrgyn the mother of Jhū cryste my body to be buryed afore the ymage of oure lady Mer as hytt schall fortune me to dyscease with this Antem of oure lady Apon my grave Stone SUB TUAM PROTECCIONEM CONFIDIM; UBI INFIRMI ACCEPERUNT

¹ Sir Richard Sutton, of Sutton, co-founder of Brasenose College, Oxford.

² The quotations are from the Vulgate, and should be as follows:—

- (a) Omnes morimur et quasi aquæ dilabimur in terram quæ non reuertuntur. ii. Reg. xiiij. [now called ii. Samuel].
- (b) Et vos estote parati quia qua hora non putatis Filius hominis veniet. Luca xij.
- (c) Nescit homo finem suum. Ecclesiastes ix.

VIRTUTEM ET pPTER HOC TIBI PSALLIMUS DEI GENITRIX VIRGO. ITEM I bequeyeth to the mast' of the Temple for my tythes & offeryngs forgotten & nott payde and also to praye for me xx^s yf hytt happen me to discease ther. ITEM I bequeyeth to eūy [every] preist of the Temple by cause they schall say eūy nyght dyrige duryng the moneth and masse of Requyem on the morowe w^t note iij^s iiij^d yf hytt happen me dyscease ther. ITEM I wyll that at the day of my buryenye be deyled [dealt] to poore men v^{li} [£5] eūy man a penny. ITEM I wyll that A vertuose priest be founde at Sutton or at Macclesfeld w^t the pffetts of suche landys as I haue purchased yn Ches^shyre to pray for my sowle my fader & mother & all the pgenye sowles And for the sowles of kyng Edward the fourth quene Elyzabeth his wyffe Elyzabeth duches of Suffolk my lord Ryvers my lord Rychard my lord Thomas late marcus [Marquis] Dorsett Nycholas Talbott Crystofer Hyde And for all the sowles that god and I wold have prayde for. ITEM I wyll that the sayd preist schall eūy weke for eu' [ever] on munday Wednesday & ffryday saye dyrige w^t placebo for my sowle & the sowles afore sayd and saye mass wekely on munday of the Annūcyacon of oure blessyd lady on Wednysday of the fyve woundes of oure lord Jhū on ffryday of Jhū And so for eū [ever] & all other dayes schall saye masse of the daye Except a resonable cause lett the same. AND I wyll that my cosyn John Sutton and hys heyres haue power to putt yn the sayd preist into the sayd chauntre and he be of mysgydyng to putt hym owte & putt yn another. PROVIDED that my sayd cosyn or hys heyres putt in a vertuose preist into the s'uice [service] w^tin iiij weks orells [or else] I wyll that the bysshoppe of Chestre for the tyme beyng do putt yn a vertuose preist ynto the sayd s'uice to do as ys aforesayd. PROVIDED that hytt be nott piudyciall [prejudicial] unto my sayd Nevewe nor to ys heyres for the puttyng yn of the sayd preist into the sayd s'uice but alonly for that tyme a defawte schalbe yn hym or them. ITEM I wyll that the sayd preist haue yerely iiij^{li} xiijs iiij^d [£4. 13^s 4^d] for hys wages and that he haue lands appoynted unto hym for the payment of the same. ITEM I bequeyeth to my Nevewe John Sutton wyffe on of my gownes. ITEM I bequeyeth to Clements yn [Clement's Inn] xx^s. ITEM I for

gyff Roger Legh of Pech^m viij^h that I lent hym when he was fyrst maryed and also I bequeyeth vnto hym a gowne & xx^s.

ITEM I wyll that my Obytt be kept yerely at Macclesfeld for eu' at suche tyme of the yere as hytt schall please god to call me oute of thys worlde And that diryge & masse be kept there And that eūy preist therat beyng present schall haue v^d And the scole mast' of the gramer scole viij^d hertly [heartily] praynge hym that all the chyldren of the gramer scole may be ther to saye dyryge for my sowle and the sowles that god & I wolde haue prayed fore And I wyll that the sayde chyldren schall haue yerely ij^d yf thay do as ys aforesayd and yn lykewyse I wyll that my father & mothers Obytt be keptt yerely both at one tyme And the preist scole mast' & chyldren doynge as is aforesayd haue at dyryge & masse of eūy yeres mynde of my sayd father & mother and me as is aboue rehersyd at my yeres mynde And I wyll that xx^s of the yssues & pffetts of my londes yn Chesshyre go eūy yere to the pformacon of eūy of the sayd ij Obyttys yn Chesshyre And that remayneth of the sayd xx^s I wyll hytt be delyd amongs poore folkys at the sayd Obytt. ITEM I wyll & pray my cosyn John Sutton and my ffeeffees of my landys yn Chesshyre to pforme my wyll aforesayd and yf all my ffeeffees dye except iij then I wyll that those iij that ou' lyve make a newe feofment to x psons of my lovers & frends to thentent aforesayd and so from tyme to tyme as ofte as nede schall requyre for eu'. ITEM I wyll that xl^s be spent abowte the makynge of the hygh wayes abowte Seynt Gyles yn the ffelde. ITEM I will that my lady Abbasse of the monasterye of Syon haue xxli to praye for me as I entend theyr weyle [weal] most lowly besechyng theym of their grett charyte to do the same to my powre sowle & to forgyve me. ITEM I the sayd Rychard wyll that all suche psons and theyr heyres that stande & be possessyd & seased of my howses & tefits yn Braynforthende whiche I late purchased of Jane Wolmer wydowe and of a close that I haue on the north syde of the Kyngs hygh waye ther shall stande be possessyd & seased therof to the vse of me the sayd Rychard and myn heyres And to pforme my last wyll to thentent that w^t the pffetts of the same as fer [far] they wyll extende they schall goo towards the ffyndynge of an honest

preist to pray for my sowle and all the sowles that god & I wolde haue prayde fore. And that the sayd preist schall haue all the pffetts of the same towarde hys wages to teche all those women that yntende to be pfessyd & admytted vnto the howse of Syon & my lady Abbasse yf hytt please her to gyff the sayd preist meete & drynke & loggyng And the sayd preist to saye grace dayly and to gyff attendaunce apon the Steward of the sayd howse of Syon at dynner & supp' And to do dyvyne s'uice afore hym. ALSO I wyll that my sayd ffeoffees schall stande and be seased of the pmysses yn Braynforthende to thentent afore sayd vnto suche tyme my sayd lady Abbasse or her Successors may opteyne & gett of the kyngs grace hys heyres or Successors suffycient lycence of the mortifyenge of the premysses to the sayd Abbasse & her Successors. And also lycence of the lordys medyate & immedyate And aft' suche lycence by theym opteyned & hadd of the pmisses then my said ffeoffees shall stande & be seased of the pmisses to the vse of my sayd Lady Abbas & her Successors for eu'. And that my feoffees schall make a suffycient astate & feoffment to my said lady Abbas & her Successors of the pmisses for eu' to thentent afore sayd so that the sayd lycence be ofteyned [obtained] & gotten wⁱⁿ the space of xx^{tie} yeres next aft' my dyscease.

ITEM I wyll & bequeyeth to Thomas Sutton my berehowse at Braynforth brigge ende to hym and to hys heyres male of his body puyded [provided] allwey that the sayd Thomas do well kepe the repaõns [reparations] of the same & paye the chefe rent therof & res'uyd [reserved] & exceptyd vnto me & vnto my heyres the Thackyd howse on the west syde of the berehowse. ITEM I bequeyeth to Wyffm Sutton hys brother v^h. ITEM I bequeyeth to George Sutton hys brother beyng yn the newe College yn Oxford xl^s toward his ffyndyng. ITEM I bequeyeth to the sayd Thomas Sutton hys hoole yeres wages aforehonde vnto the tyme he may gett hym a newe mast' w^{yn} the same yere.

ITEM I wyll that my newewe John Sutton of Sutton and hys heyres haue all the pffetts of my landes yn Chesshyre Schropshyre & Derbyschyre ymmedyatly aft' my dyscease so that they truely & yerely pforme thys my last wyll and so that he nor hys heyres do nott sell any pte of them but

kepe a good howseholde and kepe his chyldren to the scole and help to sett loue [love] charyte Amongs hys neyburns. ITEM I wyll that my sayd newewe haue the pffetts of all my lands yn Totenhall Courte aft' the dyscease of my cosyn George Sutton & of all my other lands & heredytaments in Mydylsex except the lands and heredytaments afore bequeythyd to my lady Abbas of Syon & except the fflode mede whiche I gyff & bequeyth to my cosyn George Sutton of the quenys howse for t'me [term] of hys lyffe And except other lands bequeythyd. ITEM I wyll that Rychard Sutton yeoman of the Chamber w^t the qwenes g'ce [grace] shall haue all those lands the which Lawrans Ledam holdyth to ferme in Istyllworth which be yerely v^h & more. ITEM I wyll that my lady of Darfforde haue x marks to py [pray] for my sowle and those sowles that god & I wolde haue p'yed for And also I wyll that my lady of Dennyne haue xl^s to doo lyke wyse. I wyll that my cosyn Ellyn Coplond haue v marks to py [pray] for me. ITEM I bequeyth to my newewe John Sutton of Sutton my beddyng & my howshold stuff that I haue yn the Syon & yn the Temple & at Seynt Gyles. And I wyll that he haue my Krymesyn veluet dublett & one of my best gownes & my cosyn hys wyffe an other gowne for to pray for my sowle & for thos sowles that god & I wold haue prayd fore. ITEM I wyll that my fvneralls & my dettes payd which ys non to knowlege that the money that remaynyth schall go to my cosyn John Sutton of Sutton [underneath erased and altered to "the pncypall & schollers of Brasynnose to pray for my sowle & thos that god & I wolde haue prayd fore."].

ITEM to the executyng of thys my last wyll and testament yn the pmisses I orden and make the reu^dende [reuerend] ffather yn god John bysshoppe of Calepole & mast' of Seynt Thomas of Akers yn London my newewe John Sutton of Sutton, my cosyn Rychard Snede John Poorte s'geaunt at the lawe & Rychard Lyst' and Rog' Legh of Rygge my executors lowly besechyng them to doo for me & my sowle as they wolde be done fore and charytable to se my wyll executed. Wherefore I wyll that the sayd John Poorte haue v marks for hys labure Rychard Lyst' v marks & Rych' Snede v marks And that all my sayd executors

charytably do for my sowle. ITEM I orden & make my sayd lady abbas of Syon & M^r John Ffewterer gen'all confessor of the said monasterye And mast' Alexaunder Bell my gostly ffader ou'seers of this my p^sent last wyll and testament most humble beseechyng^e them to forgyff me that I haue offendyd them yn worde warke or thought And of theyr Charyte that hytt may please them to pray for me w^t all the hole covent as I trust I schall pray for them in hevyn. I YE SAYD RYCHARD revoke all other fformer wylls except thys present wyll AND YN WITNES of the pmisses I haue subscribyd this w^t my seke hande by me S^r Ryc Sutton
Kneght.

The Will of Sir John Stanley,¹ of Handforth, dated 1527.

In Dei Nomine Amen This the laste wyll of me Sir John Stanley of Honford Knyght In this my wrytyng^e Indented vnder my seale declared and specyfyed concernyng^e the disposicyon of all the Mano^r's mesuages Burgages landes Teñts Rents Comodites Reuercyons and fines with theyr appurteñces in Honford Bosden Asheton Sale

¹ Sir John Stanley was the natural son of the celebrated Bishop of Ely and Warden of Manchester. The Bishop was well known as a gallant soldier, and is commemorated in some of the contemporary poems recording incidents at the Battle of Flodden, at which battle Sir John Stanley, then barely more than a boy, himself took a distinguished part.

Sir John married Margaret, only daughter and heiress of William Hondford, of Hondford, who fell at Flodden. They appear to have had one son John, who married, but died subsequently without issue, when the estates passed to Sir Urian Brereton, who had married the widow of Sir John Stanley.

In January, 1527-8, that is, six months after the making of the above will, the testator purchased "letters of fraternity" for himself, his wife Dame Margaret, his son and heir apparent John Stanley, and his sister Anne Stanley, from the Abbot of Westminster, and a few months later Sir John and Lady Margaret obtained a divorce from one another, so that they might severally devote themselves to a religious life. Sir John became a monk at Westminster, and probably died there; his wife, however, as stated above, subsequently married Sir Urian Brereton, Knt.

Altryng^m Badeley Fadely Torkynton Burlond Bromley Stoke Yaiton Buglawton Holmewalfeld and Hawkeslegh wⁱn the forest of Maxffeld w^t thavouson of the Church of Ashton afforsayd in the countye of Chestur Off the wheche sayd Manors messuayges Burgages landes Tenements and other the premysse and of the rents proffits and Revenues therof commynge and growynge And also of all other manors landes and Teñts nowe beyng in reuercyone To Dame Mergaret wyffe vnto me the forsaid Sir John Stanley I the said Sir John Stanley maye lawfullye therof and of all other the premysse make and declare my laste will duryng the nonage of the heire apparant of me the said S^r John Stanley and of the said Dame Mergaret my wyffe of our bodies lawfully comynge accordynge to the couen^{antes} grauntes and Agrements made betwene me the said S^r John Stanley and the said Dame Mergaret my wiffe on the one and firste partie and Dame Kateryne Maynwairyng widowe on the second partye and Edmond Trafford of Trafford Esquier on the thyrde partye by Indentures triperyte thereof made betwyxte vs beryng date the xijth daye of February in the xvijth yere of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the viijth in manor and forme as in the same Indentures more at large it is declared specifyed and conteyned. Fyrste I the said Sir John Stanley by this my will declare and ordeigne That the warden vicaries and reves of the college churche of Manchestur in the countye of Lancastur and their successours for the tyme beyng immediatly after they haue receyvyd this present will Duryng the Nonayge of John Stanley the yonger sōne & heyre of the bodyes of me the said Sir John Stanley and Dame Mergaret my wyffe lawfully begotten beyng of thayge of thre yeres at the makynge of this present wyll shall have take levey and perceyve [*sic*] all Rentes proffites and Revenues of the sayd Manors mesuages Burgages landes Tenements and other the premysse Accordynge to the yerlye valew therof which yerlye valewe therof is estemed to be as it apperethe in a Rentale to thys my Wyll annexed to this use and Intente that the same Rentes proffites and Revenues by the said warden vicaries and Reves soo receyvid shalbe saffely layde up in a sure Coffe havynge tooe lockys thervnto wⁱn the said College And the said wardene and wycaries to

haue one key therof in theyr custodye and the sayd Reves for the tyme beyng to haue an other keye therof in ther custodye and then as well the said warden vycaries and theyr successours as the said Reves and theyr successours to dystribute and paye yerlye of the said Rentes proffittes and Revenues in fforme ffolowyng That is to wete ffyrste To paye and Delyuer yerlye iiii^{li} of the said Rentes proffytes and Revenues duryge the said nonayge vnto Sir John Bryddoke preste to thentent that he therfore shall synge Masse daylye at the greate awlter w^{thin} the newe Chapell of Sayntt John Baptiste vppon the Northsyde of the said college Church of Manchestur And there to praye for the sowles of James Stanley somtyme Bushope of Ely of me the said Sir John Stanley and Dame Mergaret my wyffe oure heyres and auncestres and for the sowles of Willm Honford Elen & Anne And for all crysten sowles Also I woll that vij^d sterlyng of the said Rentes proffittes and revenues shalbe euery weke yerly vppon the fryday Dystrybuted and gyven in almes by the said warden vicaries and Reves to vij Dyverse poore pepull in peny Dole w^{thin} the said newe chapell duryng and by all the tyme of the said nonayge Also I woll that xl^s of the said Rentes proffytes and Revenues shalbe euery lent yerely vppon good fryday Distrybuted and gyven in Almes by the said warden vicaryes and Reves to poore pepull in peny Dolle w^{thin} the said newe Chapell & church duryng and by all the tyme of the said Nonayge Also wheare as I am indettyd vnto the kynges grace for conduyt and preste money in the sōme of xlj^{li} v^s iiii^d and to the prior of Saint Oswaldes Nostell in Yorkeshyre in the sōme of xxiiij^{li} xij^s vi^d for a dett which James Stanley late Bushop of Ely owght to the said pryor I woll that the said warden vicaryes and Reves shall trewly content and paye of the said Rentes proffittes and Revenues the said sōmes vnto the kynges grace and to the said prior w^{thin} a yere and a halffe nexte after the syght and receyvyng of this wyll by the sayd warden vicares and Reves and when the said sōmes be soo payd vnto the kynges grace and to the said pryor Then I woll that the said warden vicaries and Reves shall frōme thensforth yerlye duryng the said nonayge ley vp xxv^{liii} of the said Rentes proffittes and Revenues by it selfe in the said Coffre w^{thin} the said College

vnto the tyme that the sōme of ccl. li be saffely leyd into the said Coffre w^t ye which ccl. li. I woll that the said warden vicaries and Reves shall bye and pourchace landes and tenementes to the clere yerly valew of xli. ouer all charges as shortly as they conveyently can ffynd suche landes to be solde soo that the said landes and Tenementes of the clere yerly valew of xli be boght and pourchassed wyth in xv yeres next after the receyvinge of this wyll by the said warden vycaries and Reves or theyr successours And I woll that the said landes and Tenementes of the clere yerly valew of xli soo porchassyd shalbe to thes vses and intentes That is to saye That vii of the Rents and proffytes therof shalbe yerly to thuse and ffyndyng of Sir John Bryddocke preste duryng his lyffe to synge masse as is abouesaid And then the said payment of iiijti to hym to be payd as it is afforsaid to ceysse and not to be payd And after his discease yerly for euer to thuse of an able Chaūtre preste to synge Masse dayly at the greate awlter wⁱⁿ the sayd newe chapell at Manchestur afforsaid And ther for euer to pray for the sowles aboue rehersed in this will and I woll that myn heyres of my bodey lawfully cōmyng shall alwaye haue the nomynacyone of the said chaūtre preste soo to be fownded and for deffaute of suche heyres I woll that the sayd warden and hys successours and the sayd Edmond Trafforde and hys heyres shall joyntlye for euer haue the nomynacyon of the said chauntre preste only to thuses and intentes before rehersed Also whear ther is one chauntre of iiijti yerly stablyshed and fownded by me the said Sir John Stanley for euer to endure to a chaūtre preste wⁱⁿ the said newe Chapell and for as moche as the sayd iiijti. yerlye is verely littell for a chaūtre preste to lyue theruppon I woll therfor that landes of the clere yerlye valewe of xx^s of the said landes of the yerly valewe of xli soo to be pourchassyd as is afforsayd shall yerly for euer goo and be to thuse of the said chauntre and to the augmentacyone therof to thentent that the chauntre preste therof shall yerly haue and take a C^s w^t the sayd iiijti. Also I woll that landes and tenementes of the clere yerly valewe of xxx^s of the said landes of the yerly valewe of xli soo to be pourchassed shalbe to this vse and intent that the rentes proffites and Revenues therof shall

yerlye for euer be distrybuted and gyven amonges the sayd warden vycaries Decons Querestours clerkes and Belmane officers of the sayd college churche and theyr successours to be ratyd and payd to theym indyfferently after theyr auneynt custume in such case vsyd And they to kepe therfore yerly foreuer a solempne Obyte wⁱⁿ the said newe Chapell the Mondaye next after the daye of the Concepcyon of our lady saynct Marye and a solempne Masse on the morowe nexte followynge and theratte to praye for the sowles before rehersyd And if it happen the said warden or eny of the said vicaries Decons Querestours Clerkes or other officers of the sayd College Churche at eny tyme to be absent and not present at the said Obyte or Masse then I woll that all suche sōmes and perceles of money of the sayd landes and tenementes of the yerly valewe of xxx^s soo pourchassed as shuld be distrybuted and gyven amonges theym soo beyng absent frome the sayd Obyte or Masse shalbe distributed and gyven to the tooe chaūntre prestes wⁱⁿ the said newe Chapell as ofte and at euery tyme as suche defawte in beyng absent is made by theym as is afforsaid Also I woll that landes and tenementes of the clere yerly valewe of xxx^s of the sayd landes of the yerly valewe of xxi. soo to be pourchassed as is afforsaid shalbe to thys vse and intent that the rentes proffytes and revenues theroffe shall by the said warden vycaries Reves and theyr successours yerely for euer be dystrybutyd and gyven in Almes every lent on good fryday to poore pepull in peny Dolle wⁱⁿ the sayd newe Chapell & church to praye ffor the sowles before rehersyd Also I woll that landes and tenementes of the clere yerly valewe of xx^s of the said landes soo to be pourchassed and the rentes proffyttes and revenues therof shall yerly goo and be to thentent and vse That the said Newe Chapell shalbe therw^t for euer vpholde and maynteyned and sufficyently repayred and to ffynd to the sayd Chapell ornamentes and all other thynges necessare as nede shall requyre alwayes hereafter by the ouersyght and appoyntment of myn heyres afforsaid and of the sayd warden vycares and churche reves and theyr successours Also I woll that the sayd warden vycaries reves and theyr successours shall delyuer and paye of the said rentes proffytes and revenues of the forsaid

manours landes and tenementes in the pryemes of thys wyll specyfyed to the pryor and convent of the Cathedrall Church of Ely or to theyr successours L. ti sterlynge wⁱⁿ vii yeres next after the receyvynge of this wyll by the said warden vycaries Reves or theyr successours and the said pryour and convent or their successours w^t the sayd L. ti shall pourchace landes and tenements to the clere yerly valewe of xl^s and the rentes proffyttes and revenues therof shall yerly goo and be and also made sure by the lawe to the sayd pryor and convent and to their successours for euer to be ratyd and dystributyed amonges theym yerly aftur theyr auntyent custume in suche case usyd and they to kepe therfor yerly for euer a solempne Obyte in the said Cathedrall Church of Ely the Monday next before the daye and feeste of the Anⁿncyacyon of our ladye Sayncte Marye or wⁱⁿ thre dayes therof and a solempne Masse on the Morowe nexte folowynge and theratt to praye for the sowles before rehersyd and for all crysten sowles and the sayd pryor or hys successours to purchase the same landes and tenementes wⁱⁿ the space of vii yeres nexte after the haue receyved the sayd L. ti. And yf it happen that they said landes and tenementes of the clere yerlye valewe of xl^s can not be boght and purchassyd wⁱⁿ y^e sayd Terme of vii yeres by the sayd pryor or hys successours as is afforsayd Then I woll that the sayd s^ome of L. ti shalbe yerly payd and dystributed to the vses and intentes aboue specyfyed in manour and forme as the rentes proffyttes and Revenues of the same landes and tenementes of the sayd yerly valewe of xl^s shuld haue bene dystributed as longe as the sayd L. ti wyll endure and streche And I woll that the sayd warden vycaries and Reves on their successours at the delyuere of the said L. ti. shall take a sure and sufficient bonde of the sayd pryour and C^ouent or of their successours vnder their Conuent seale in wrytynge of the s^ome of a C. ti. to performe and fullfyll the same in euerye condicyon accordynge to the trewe intent of thys wyll Also I woll that the sayd warden vycaries and Reves or their successours shall endeuer theyme to see that the sayd landes and tenementes of the said clere yerly valewe of x. li soo to be purchassyd as is afforsaid be made sure in the Tytyll therof by the lawe as lernyd Councell by them

appoynted shall devyse it to be made by fyne, ffeoffament
 release recouerye or otherwise to the vses and Intentes
 aboue rehersyd accordynge to the trew intent of this wyll the
 costes and charges in the lawe of the same suertye to be made
 to ryse growe and be of the forsayd rentes proffytes and
 Revenues of the sayd manors landes and tenementes in the
 Prymes of this wyll specyfyed in maner as herafter it is
 declaryd and specyfyed Also I woll that yf the sayd warden
 vycaries or theyr successours do not obserue kepe and per-
 forme all and euery artycle and condicyon on theyre partye
 and behalffe to be obseruyd and kepte in maner and fforme
 as it is before rehersyd concernynge the landes and tene-
 mentes of the sayd clere yerly valewe of xii. soo to be pour-
 chased and of the rentes proffyttes and Revenues therof
 comynge that then upon defawte therof made it shalbe law-
 full to the heyres of the bodye of me the sayd S^r John
 Stanley to entre in to the same landes and tenementes of the
 sayd yerly valewe of x. ii soo pourchased and theym to
 possede and haue onlye to thusen and intentes before
 rehersyd Or elles yf it shall happen me the sayd S^r John
 Stanley to haue none heyre ne heyres of my bodye lawfully
 begotten that then vpon suche defawte made in maner as it
 is before rehersyd by the sayd warden vycaries or their
 successours it shall be lawfull to the forsayd Edmond
 Trafford and S^r Alexander Rattclyffe of Hordesall Knyght
 and theyr heyres to enter into the sayd landes and tenementes
 of the sayd yerlye valewe of x. ii soo pourchased and theym
 to possede and haue foreuer onlye to thusen and Intentes
 beffore rehersyd Also I woll that Incōtinent after all the
 landes and tenementes of the sayd yerlye valewe of x. ii be
 pourchassyd establyshed and made sure by the lawe as it is
 afforsaid to the vses and intentes aboue rehersed That then
 wthin a monethe nexte after suche suertye as therof made the
 said warden vicaries and Reves or theyr successours shall of
 the said Rentes proffytes and Revenues of the forsaid
 manours landes and tenementes in the pryms of thys wyll
 specyfyed content and paye vnto the forsayed Edmond
 Trafford xx. ii. sterlynge for hys payne and laboure takyne
 to see thys my wyll fullfyllled and obserued in euery thyng
 and to be assistant and helpynge at all tymes to the

same Also I woll that the sayd warden vycares and Reves or their successours After all the said landes and tenementes of the sayd yerly valewe of x. li. be soo purchassed and made sure by the lawe as it is afforsayd to the vses and intentes aboue rehersyd that then w^tin the sayd space of a moneth next after suche suertye is therof made shall of the sayd rentes proffytes and revenues of the forsaid manours landes and tenementes in the primes of this wyll specyfyed take and receyve xx. li. sterlynge to their owne vses to be distrybuted amonges theym ratably after theyr behavoure in resonnable maner for theyr paynes and labours in this behalffe takyn and to thentent to see this my wyll obseruyd and fullfylled in euey thyng Also I woll yf it fortune that landes and tenementes of the sayd yerly valewe of x. li. can not be fully purchassyd w^tin the said space of xv yeres that then the sayd warden vycaryes and reves or theyr successours shall w^t the Resydewe of the sayd ccl. li. and w^t more of the sayd Rentes proffyttes and revenues of the sayd manours landes and tenementes in the primes of this wyll specyfyed as nede shall requyre purchasse an yerly Rent in ffee of the marchautes of the staple of Caleys after xxx^{ti} yeres purchase more or lesse as it can be hade and opteyned to make and fullfyll the sayd yerly valewe of x. li. soo to be purchassed And the same yerly rents to be made sure by thadvyce of lernyd Councell onely to thuses and intentes aboue rehersyd And if it fortune that the sayd yerelye Rent cāne not be soo purchassyd ne opteyned of the sayd marchaunts ne landes and tenementes to the sayd clere yerly valewe of x. li. as is afforsayd Then I woll that the Resydewe of the sayde CCL. li. remeynyng at the sayd xv yeres ende which shuld haue goone to the purchassyng and opteyngnyng of the said landes or rentes of the said yerly valewe of x. li. soo vnpurchassid shalbe yerly payd and distrybuted to the same vses and intentes aboue specyfyed in maner and forme as the rentes proffytes and revenues of the same landes and rentes of the sayd yerly valewe of x. li. shuld haue bene dystrybutyd as longe as the resydewe of the sayd CCL. li. soo remaynyng wyll endure and streche Also I woll that iijti. sterlynge of the

rentes proffites and revenues of the manours landes and tenementes in the primes of this wyll specified shall yerly be kepte and layde in a sure place w^tin the sayd college as is afforsayd to and for the costes and charges to be spent in the lawe to make the sayd landes and tenementes of the sayd yerly valewe of x. ii. soo to be pourchassyd as it is afforsayd sure and lawfull to the uses and intentes aboue rehersyd and to and for the Defence and other costes resonnable as well of and for the same landes and reparacyons of the same as of and for the deffence and reparacyons and other costes resonnable of the sayd manours lands and tenementes in the primes of this wyll specyfyed as nede shall requyre at any tyme herafter by the good ouersyght of the said Edmond Trafford and his heyres Also I woll that the said warden vycares and reves or their successours shall content and paye of the rentes proffites and revenues of the forsaid manours landes and tenementes in the pryemes of this wyll specyfyed xv. ii. sterlynge yerely durynge the sayd nonayge at the feestes of the Natyvite of Sayncte John Baptyste and Saynte Marten in wynter by evyn porcyons to the Abbes and Conuent of the Nonnere & Monasterye of Barckynge or to theyr successours for performance of suche couueñts and agrementes as be conteyned in wrytynge made betwene the sayd Abbes and Conuente and me the sayd Sir John Stanley Also I woll that the sayd warden vycaires and reves or theyr successours shall content and paye of the rentes proffyttes and revenues of the forsaid manours landes and tenementes in the pryemes of this wyll specyfyed x. ii. sterlynge yerly durynge the sayd nonayge at the said feestes of the Natyvite of Sayncte John Baptyste and Saynct Marten in wynter by evyn porcyons to thabbot and conuent of the Monastere of Westmynster or to their successours for performance of suche couueñtes and agrementes as be conteyned in wrytynge made betwene the sayd Abbot and Conuent and me the said Sir John Stanley Also I woll that after the discease of me the said Sir John and of Dame Mergaret my wyffe the forsaid Edmonde Trafford shall receyve and take all the rentes proffyttes and revenues of the Manor of Ashton vppon Mercey Banke whych is esteemed to be of the yerly valewe of xl. ii. to the onely

vse and ffyndyng of my said sōne and heyre Apparaunte tyll he come and be of the full ayge of xxith yeres And I woll that my sayd sone and heyre shalbe in the custodye and keypyng of the said Abbes of Barckynge tyll he accomplyshe and be of thayge of xii yeres and after the sayd age of xii yeres I woll that he shall be in the custodye and gudyng of the sayd Abbot of Westmynster tyll he come and be of hys full ayge of xxi yeres Also I woll that the sayd Edmond Trafford or hys heyres after the discease of me the sayd S^r John and Dame Mergaret my wyffe shall content and paye of the rentes proffytes and revenues of the sayd Maner of Ashton xx. ii yerely duryng the sayd nonayge at the sayd feestes of the Natyvite of Saynct John Baptyste and Saynct Marten in wynter by even porcyons to the sayd Abbes of Barckynge and to the sayd Abbot of Westmynstur or to theyr successours to fynde my sayd sōne and heyre and hys serūntes meyte drynke and wayges conuenient and all other thyng necessare vnto theym duryng and by all the tyme that he shalbe in the rule and gudyng of the sayd Abbess and the sayd Abbot as it is afforsayd And I woll that in the meane seasson immedyatly after the forsaid sōmes be payd vnto the kinges grace and to the sayd Pryor of Sayncte Oswoldes as is afforsayd the sayd warden vycaryes and reves shall content and paye of the rentes proffytes and revenues of the sayd Manor of Ashtone xx. ii yerly at the sayd feestes by evyn porcyons vnto the sayd Abbess and Abbot for the fyndyng of my sayd sōne and heyr and his serūntes as is afforsayd Also I woll that all the Resydewe of the rentes proffytes and Revenues of the sayd Manor of Ashton ouer and besydes the charges aboue rehersyd remeynyng after the discease of me the said Sir John and Dame Mergaret my wyffe shalbe delyueryd and payd by the sayd Edmond Trafford or his heyres vnto my sayd sōne and heyre when he shall come and be at his full ayge of xxith yeres to haue to hys owne propre vse And I woll that my sayd sōne and heyre shall not be maryed tyll he come and be of the ayge of xxith yeres and then yf he be mynded to marye I woll that he shall chose his wyffe hymselfe by the good advice and Councill of the sayd Abbot of Westmynstur and of the sayd Edmond Trafford And I woll that he shall haue

all the proffyte of his maryage money to his owne vse to be to hym delyueryd at hys full ayge of xxi^{th} yeris And wheare as the sayd Edmond Trafford hathe an yerly fee or pencyon of xl^{s} goynge owte of the landes and tenementes in Honford afforsayd to thentent to see this my wyll fullfyllid and kepte in euery thyng I woll that he soo dooyng shall haue and enioye the sayd yerly pencyone of xl^{s} accordyng to hys patent therof made Also I woll that the sayd warden vicaries and reves yerlye duryng the said nonayge shall trewly content and paye of the rentes proffytes and revenues of the forsaid manours landes and tenementes in the pryms of this wyll specyfyed vnto Kyrstouer Ashley $xxvi^{\text{s}}$ $viiij^{\text{d}}$ To Thomas Hunte xx^{s} to Roberte Delahaye $xiiij^{\text{s}}$ $iiij^{\text{d}}$ To Roger Cooke $xiiij^{\text{s}}$ $iiij^{\text{d}}$ To Gyles Halywall $xiiij^{\text{s}}$ $iiij^{\text{d}}$ some tyme my housholde serūntes Also wheare as Thomas Sneyd lernyd in the lawe and Roger Leegh haue ether of theym an yerly fee or pencyon of me the sayd Sir John Stanley of $xxvi^{\text{s}}$ $viiij^{\text{d}}$ And wheare also George Leegh of Manchestur hath an yerly fee or pencyone of xx^{s} And also wheare Geffraye Browne hath an yerly fee of vi^{s} $viiij^{\text{d}}$ I woll that they and euery of theym be trewly content and payd the sayd yerly fee or pencyone duryng the nonayge of my sayd sōne and heyre soo and vpon condicyon that they and euery of theym be aydyng helpynge and assistynge w^t theyr best councell labor and advice at eny tyme when they or eny of theym shalbe resonably requyred by the sayd Warden vycares or reves or by the sayd Edmond Trafford to and for the performyng and fullfyllynge of thys my wyll accordyng to the trewe Intent therof Also I woll that the sayd warden vicares and reves shall paye yerly duryng the said nonayge to Alexandre Marten xx^{s} To Anne Stanly syster vnto me the sayd S^r John or to her assignes xx^{s} To Mode Peers x^{s} To Agnes Davye wydowe $xiiij^{\text{s}}$ $iiij^{\text{d}}$ To Ales Byrome $xiiij^{\text{s}}$ $iiij^{\text{d}}$ Provided alwayes that the sayd warden vicares and reves shall yerlye paye the forsaid sōme of $xv. \text{ii}$ vnto the sayd Dame Mergaret Stanley my wyffe or to her assignes duryng her lyffe And also shall paye the forsaid some of $x. \text{ii}$ and the sayd sōme of $xx. \text{ii}$ of the rentes of Ashton afforsaid vnto me the said S^r John Stanley or to myn assignes duryng my lyffe at the feestes afforsaid and after our disceasses then the sayd sōmes to be

payd in maner and forme as it is aboue specyfyed vnto the sayd Abbesse and to the sayd Abbot accordyng to the trewe intent of thys wyll And I woll that all and euery the paymentes aboue rehersed excepte the payment of L. ii aboue specyfyed to the forsaid pryor of Ely shalbegynne to be payd and delyuered Immedyatly after the receyving of this wyll by the sayd warden vycares and Reves or theyr successours And the sayd paymentes frome thensforthe to contynewe and be payd yerlye at the feestes afforsaid by evyn porcyons duryng the sayd nonayge accordyng to the trewe menyng and intent of thys will as it is aboue specyfyed Also I woll that after all and euery of the premysses be obseruyd kepte and performyd accordyng to this wyll in maner beffore rehersed that then the resydewe and ouerplus of the rentes proffytes and revenues of the sayd Manours landes and tenementes specyfyed in the pymes of this wyll remeynyng shalbe by the sayd warden vycares and reves or by theyr successours devyded in to iiij parties and one parte therof to goo and be yerly to thuse of the sayd College Church and newe Chapell of Manchestur and the seconde parte therof to be yerly to thuse of the church of Chedyll in the countye of Chestur and the thryd parte therof to goo and be yerlye to thuse of the Church of Ashton afforsaid and the fowrhte parte therof to be distrybuted yerly by the said warden vycares and reves euery lent on goode frydaye to poore pepull in peny dole duryng the said nonaige wthin the said thre churches And they to pray for the sowles aboue rehersed And as to the reuersyone of the forsaid manours landes and tenementes in the pymes of this wyll specyfyed which shall come and be to theires of me the said Sir John Stanley and Dame Margaret my wyffe lawfully comyng after the dethe of Sybill Warren and Margery Holford I woll that after the discease of the said Sibill and Margere or eyther of theym the rentes proffytes and revenues of the same manours landes and tenementes soo beyng in reuercyone excepte the landes and Tenentes percell of the said maner of Ashton shalbe yerly devyded by the said warden vycares and reves or their successours into fowre partyes wherof one parte shalbe by theym distrybuted yerly to the vses of the said thre churches and the seconde parte therof

yerly to be by the sayd warden vycaryes and Reves distry-
 buted in Almes to poore pepull euery lente on good frydaye
 in peny dole w^tin the sayd thre churches and the thyrd
 parte therof yerly to be by the sayd warden vycares and
 reves gyven to poore wydowes indyfferently to be delyuered
 to theym by evyn porcyons and the fowrhte parte therof
 yerly to be dystrybuted and gyffen by theym to poore
 maydens w^tin the said thre parysshes durynge the sayd
 nonayge equallye soo that one of theym haue noo more
 therof then another Also I woll that all tenautes and
 ffermours that nowe be in possessyone or revercyone of the
 forsaid maners landes and tenementes in the pryemes of this
 wyll specyfyed which haue taken eny howse or lande to ferme
 of me the said S^r John Stanley by lease promyse or otherwyse
 duely proved that they and euery of theym shall haue holde
 and enioye suche landes and tenementes soo takyn in ferme
 durynge theyr leasses and grauntes w^toute paynge of eny
 fyne or income. And I woll that the said Edmond Trafford
 after the dethe of euery Teñte or Tefñtes of the said
 manours landes and tenementes in the primes of this wyll
 expressyd shall appoynte newe Tenautes w^toute takynge of
 theym eny fyne or income And I woll that the reuerende
 ffaders in God Cuthberte Tunstall Busshoppe of London and
 Edwarde Erle of Derbye and Thomas Lord la Ware & John
 Abbot of Westmynster and the forsaid Edmond Trafford S^r
 Alex^r Ratclyffe knyght and my sayd sōne and heyre ap-
 paraunte and their heyres and successours to be supervysours
 ayders helpers and assystentes to and for the obseruyng
 performance and executynge of this my laste wyll accordynge
 to the trewe intente theroffe in maner and forme as it is
 beffore declared and specyfyed whome I require and in the
 way of charite desyre to see that this my wyll be performed
 and fullfyled in euery behalfe In witnes of the premysses
 to eyther partye of this wrytynge indentyd I the said Sir
 John Stanley haue putt to my seale Yovin at Westmynstur
 the xxxth daye of June the yere of oure Lord God A.
 mccccxxvijth

[Signed] JOHN STANLEY K. †

The original will, of which the foregoing is an accurate copy, I found in August, 1867, among the muniments of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, and is contained in one large sheet of parchment. The seal was then quite legible, but broken into two pieces. The arms thereon were . . . 3 eagles' legs . . . on a chief indented 3 bucks' heads caboshed . . . Impaling, Quarterly 1 and 4 . . . an estoile . . . 2 and 3 . . . a scythe . . . Crest, an eagle's head erased . . . holding in its beak an eagle's leg. . . .

Attached to the will was another sheet containing the rental mentioned, as follows :—

[J. L. CHESTER.]

Rentale omniū terrarū et teritorē
Johis Stanley militis infra com̄ Cestř
pro festo S̄i Johis Baptiste A^o R^e H.
Octa^{vi}

Honford.

Imprimis the demayne lands }
of Honford To the gresse } xvⁱⁱ

Rycharde Hardey xx^s

Uxor Rauffe Benet xiiii^s

John Astyll vii^s vii^d and xxi^d o^b

Uxor Thomas Ryle ix^s and xxiii^d o^b

Thomas Hunt for John Ryles howse
xii^s vii^d and xxiii^d o^b

Uxor James Dave xviii^d

Roger Cooke for Merget Holmes
howse xii^d

John Mosse xii^d

John Neldes x^d

John Mosse for the Mylne xx^s

S̄m xixⁱⁱ xiiij^s o^b.

Rentale omniū terrarū et teritorē
Johis Stanley militē infra Com̄ Cestř
pro festo S̄i Martini in hyeme anno
R^e Henrici octavi

Honford.

Imprimis the demayne landes }
of Honford to the gresse } xvⁱⁱ

Richard Hardey xx^s and xviii^d

Uxor Rauffe Benet xiiii^d

John Astyll vii^s vii^d tač ij^d and xxi^d o^b

Uxor Thomas Ryle ix^s tač ij^d and
xxi^d o^b

Thomas Hunt for John Ryles House
xii^s v^d tač ij^d and xxij^d o^b

Uxor James Dave xvij^d

Roger Cooke for Merget Holmes
howse xii^d

John Mosse xii^d

John Neldes x^d

John Mosse for the Mylne xx^s

Geffron Brownes Benets and } xviii^d

Astiles for Mosse Chekyns }

Roger Downes for chieff } xii^d

Rent of little Evangreff }

S̄m xixⁱⁱ xvii^s iiij^d o^b

Fadely.

Imprimis William Wilbram xxiii^s viij^d

Thomas Palyn xxi^d aⁿs iiiij^d

Thomas Sheynton xlvi^s vi^d aⁿs iiiij^d

Dave Woodwere xx^d

Ryč Bull x^s vi^d aⁿs iiiij^d

John Botteley ij^s

James Huxley xxij^s vi^d aⁿs iiiij^d

Thomas Cartwryght xvi^s aⁿs iiiij^d

Thomas Palyn v^s viij^d

Agnes Pollet vi^d

Cristouer Brayne vi^s ix^d aⁿs iiiij^d

Fadely.

Imprimis Will^m Wylbram xxij^s viij^d

Thomas Palyn xxi^d aⁿs iiiij^d

Thomas Sheynton xlvi^s vi^d aⁿs iiiij^d

Dave Woodwere xx^d

Ryč Bull x^s vi^d aⁿs iiiij^d

John Botteley ij^s

James Huxley xxii^s vi^d aⁿs iiiij^d

Thomas Cartwright xvi^s aⁿs iiiij^d

Thomas Palyn v^s viij^d

Agnes Pollet vi^d

Cristouer Brayne vi^s ix^d aⁿs iiiij^d

Thomas Hurlbote iiij^s viij^d
 Will^m Wryght xi^s vi^d ams iiij^d
 Hughe Crage ix^s ams iiij^d
 Robert Hurlbote xiii^s viij^d ams iiij^d
 John Yevynson xxv^s ams iiij^d
 John Aleyne ix^s vi^d ams iiij^d
 Wyll^m Huxley xv^s vi^d ams iiij^d
 Uxor Thomas Yevynson xxiii^s ij^d ams
 iiij^d
 John Dampont xiiij^s vi^d ams iiij^d
 Robert Brayne x^s ij^d ams iiij^d
 Roger Crecheley ij^s viii^d
 John Whythed x^s ams iiij^d
 Hugh Maynwayrynge iiij^s
 Hughe Rawlynson viij^s ams iiij^d
 Robt Sayvill xi^s viij^d ams iiij^d
 Randall Sheynton ii^s vi^d
 Rauffe Betteley ij^s vi^d
 Will^m Hatton v^s ij^d ams iiij^d
 Rychard Woodward xxij^d
 Cheff Rent of } Wyll^m Wilbram x^d
 Fadeley }
 Wyll^m Wilbram for Thomas Dune
 viij^d
 Wylliam Brayne ix^d
 Theyres of Rydley vi^d
 Thomas Bromley ij^d
 John Maynwayrynge xviiij^d
 Roger Maynwayrynge ij^d
 John Botteley ii^s vi^d
 Theyres of Rychard Chomley ij^d
 John Itell ii^s vi^d
 John Brayne ij^d
 Peres Egerton x^d
 Theyres of Herry Halghton ij^d
 Ryč Egeley ij^d
 Homfray Wylbram xviiij^d
 John Aleyn iiiij^d
 John Badcoke xiiij^d
 Theyres of Roger Graylay oḅ
 Homfray Wylbram for Wylkynson oḅ
 Theyres of Hugh Halywell par seroti-
 cař j^d
 Sñ xvij^{ll} x^s

Altringham.

Thomas Devyas v^s
 Uxor Wyll^m Herryson xxij^d
 Horsfall ij^d
 Sñ vii^s j^d

Thomas Hurlbote iiij^s viij^d
 Wyll^m Wryght xi^s vi^d ams iiij^d
 Hughe Crage ix^s ams iiij^d
 Robt, Hurlbote xiii^s viij^d ams iiij^d
 John Yevynson xxv^s ams iiij^d
 John Aleyn ix^s vi^d ams iiij^d
 Wyll^m Huxley xv^s vi^d ams iiij^d
 Uxor Thomas Yevynson xxiii^s ij^d
 ams iiij^d
 John Damporte xiii^s vi^d ams iiij^d
 Robert Brayne x^s ij^d ams iiij^d
 Roger Crecheley ij^s viij^d
 John Whythed x^s ams iiij^d
 Hugh Maynwayrynge iiij^s
 Hughe Rawlynson viij^s ams iiij^d
 Robt Saywyll xi^s viij^d ams iiij^d
 Randall Sheynton ij^s vi^d
 Rauffe Betteley ij^s vi^d
 Wyll^m Hatton v^s ij^d ams iiij^d
 Rychard Woodward xxij^d
 Cheff Rent of } Wyll^m Wylbram x^d
 Fadeley }
 Wyll^m Wylbrā for Thomas Dune
 viij^d
 Wylliam Brayne ix^d
 Theires of Rydley vi^d
 Thomas Bromley ij^d
 John Maynwayrynge xviiij^d
 Roger Maynwayrynge ij^d
 John Botteley ii^s vi^d
 Theyres of Rychard Chomley ij^d
 John Itell ii^s vi^d
 John Brayne ij^d
 Peres Egerton x^d
 Theyres of Herry Halghton ij^d
 Ryč Egeley ij^d
 Homfray Wylbram xviiij^d
 John Aleyn iiiij^d
 John Badcoke xiiij^d
 Theyres of Roger Grayley oḅ
 Homfray Wylbram for Wylkynson oḅ
 Theyres of Hugh Halywell par seroti-
 cař j^d
 Sñ xvij^{ll} x^s

Altringham.

Thomas Devias v^s
 Uxor Will^m Herryson xxii^d
 Horsfall ij^d
 Sñ vii^s j^d

Ashton.

Imprimis John Arrall v^s iij^d a^ms xvij^d

Will^m Johnson xij^s iij^d a^mc xvij^d

John Thomasson ix^s iij^d

John Thomassō for the brode acre & the yorde } iij^s x^d

Rādale Barlow and James Barlow for Caballs } xxviii^s

James Barlowe for Cloghes howse xij^s ij^d a^mc xvij^d

Rychard Torner xi^s a^ms xvij^d

Robt Thomasson v^s xi^d a^ms ix^d

Will^m Barlowe xij^s ij^d a^mc ix^d

George Barlow viij^s a^mc xvij^d

Randall Barlow xii^s ij^d a^mc xvij^d

The children of Bryan Hyndes ix^s a^mc xvij^d

John Barlowe viii^s xi^d a^mc xvij^d

John Whitlege iij^s i^d o^b a^mc xvij^d

The chyldren of Will^m Devyas xij^s iv^d a^mc xvij^d

Herry Chorleton iij^s x^d a^mc xvij^d

Wyllam Johnson for a lond of ground iij^d

James Taylour iij^s a^mc xiiij^d

James Holynpreste et ux^r Robt Ashton } viij^s a^mc xvij^d

John Holande v^s

Uxor John Ferror ii^s vi^d

Gylbert Arowsmythe iij^s

James Holynpreste ix^d

Wyll^m Myllyngton iijij^d

Rawfe Kempe ix^d

Wyll^m Johnson for the Mylne hyll ij^d

Robt Thomasson, James Barlowe, John Chorleton, Elisabeth Barlowe wydowe for the wood hey } xl^s

Item for Turves to be solde yerely on Ashton mosse } xx^s

S^m xiiij^l x^s o^b.

S^m totalis per annum lxxx.xix^l

Memorand in Sibill Waren handes for her Joyntor and dower by the holle yere xxxv^l x^d

Memorand in Margery Holfordes handes for her Joyntor and dower by the holle yere xi^l iij^s j^d

Ashton.

Imprimis John Arralle

Will^m Johnson

John Thomasson

John Thomassō for the brode acre and the yorde iij^s x^d

James Barlowe for Cloghts howse } xiiij^s ij^d a^mc xx^d

Ry^c Turner xi^s a^mc xvij^d

Robt Thomasson v^s xi^d a^mc x^d

Uxor James Barlowe xiii^s v^d a^mc x^d

George Barlowe viii^s a^mc xx^d

Randall Barlowe xii^s ij^d a^mc vij^d

The children of Bryan Hyndes ix^s a^ms xij^d

John Barlowe viij^s xi^d a^mc vij^d

Rauffe Devyas iij^s i^d o^b a^mc xvij^d

The chyldren of William Devias } xiiij^s iij^d a^mc vij^d

Henry Chorleton iij^s x^d a^mc xiiij^d

William Johnson for a lond of grownd } iij^d

James Taylour iij^s a^mc vij^d

James Holynpreste & the wyf of Robt Ashtō } viij^s a^mc vij^d

John Holand v^s

Uxor John Ferror ij^s v^d

Gylbert Arowsmyth iij^s

James Holynprest ix^d

Wyll^m Myllyngton iijij^d

Rawfe Kempe ix^d

Wyll^m Johnson for the mylne hyll } ij^d

Robert Thomassone, James Barlowe, John Chorletone, Elsabet Barlowe wydowe for the woodhey } xl^s

S^m xi^l xvi^s iijij^d o^b

The Will of Robert Langley, of Agecroft, Esq., proved 1528.¹

In dei noīe Amen Anno dnī M^{lmo} D^{mo} xxiiij^{mo} die mensis february vicesio secūdo : [1524-5] Ego Robert^s Longley armig^r Cōpos ment^s et Sane memorie (videns mūdū hūc fore Caducū ejsq; timēs fragilitatem & ne subito me mors occupet) Condo meū testamētū siue meamultiām volūtatem in hūc modū. In p̄mis lego āiā meā deo ōipotentib̄te marie ōibsq; sc̄is et Corpus quoq; meū sepeliendū in noua Capella ex pte australi pochialis ecclie b̄te Marie de P̄stwyche. Iť lego meū aūiū noīe mortuarij mei. Iť when my funhall expens^s and my detts ben payed I will the residue of my goods by my executors be deuided into iij pts. On pte therof to the p̄formāce of this my will as here after dothe ensue. Iť the secūde pte therof to Aelenowre my wiff. Iť the thride pte therof vnto my ij Sons Edmūd Longley and Lawrens Longley Equally by my executors to be deuyded to them. Iť I will my execuťors shall take of my said thride pte to y^e flaggyng of y^e flore of y^e said new Chapell. Iť I beqweth to y^e Byldyng of y^e poche churche of owre lady of Eccles vj^h xiiij^s iiij^d to be payed and delyuered to y^e said werke by my executors as the werke gothe ffurthe [*above the amount is interlined* "soluť iiij^h". Iť solť xxvj^s viij^d. Iť soluť xxxiiij^s iiij^d"]. Iť I will that if eny goods of my said pte doyth remayne my executors shall dispose hit as they shall thynke most Conueniand. Iť I beqweth to my Cosyn Robert Langley heire apparent vnto me the seid Robert A sylū pese wť A Couľ to y^e same My Best fether-bedde ij Couľ-letts ij blanketts A payre of schets A bolstur and ij peloyss my Best hangyng of y^e Chamber wť y^e best Couľyng belongyng to y^e Same bedde Also all th̄yges appartenyng vnto y^e Chapell that is to witt A Chales A masse boke Al vestimēts for A p̄st to saye masse wť An altare portatile wť oý) Cloths belongyng to y^e awť Also I beqweth to y^e seid Robert on wayne A plozgh wť ij zoke of oxen my gratts potte

¹ From the Agecroft Deeds; the document is on paper and signed by the testator, and bears probate endorsement [J. P. E.].

my sylū) spones And a dosen of brode pewř dyschys A dosen of narrow pewř dyschys allso all thyngs apptenyng vnto y^e hall as qwecionse w^t y^e hengyng of y^e Hall. Itm̄ I beqweth vnto my dogh^t Anne Grenehalgh ij key w^t ij Calves. Itm̄ I will y^t Elenore Longley And Johane Longley doghters of my son Thomas Longley if they will be rulet and Conselde by theyre broy^l) Robert Longley and by my executors and allso opon Condicion y^t Cicile my doght^l) in low late wyfe to my foreseid son Thomas Langley will be gud and kynde Maystrys vnto Thomas Schols his wiff and chylderyn and vnto all o^y) of hyr tenandes either of them v marks toworde theyre Mariage. Itm̄ I will on trentall of masses be songyn for me at Pstwyche y^e daye of my buriall if so mony psts Cam yed^t that daye to saye masse. Itm̄ I will an o^y) trentall of masses shalbe sayde for my sawle at Māches^l) as hastely as Can be aft^r my deceasse all opon an o^y) daye. Itm̄ I will y^t my p^t Syr John Mosse shall saye a thrydde trentall for my sawle Anone aft^r my decesse. Itm̄ I will the seid S John Mosse shall do and saye diuine ſui^c at Pstwyche for oñ yere for my Saule and all Crystyn Sawles and shall hafe for his stipende vj Markes weche vj Marks my execut^{rs}) shall take vp of my p^te of goods. Itm̄ I orden my execu^{ts}) my broy^l) S Thomas Langley late p^{son} of Pstwyche My son Wiffm Langley p^{son} of Pstwyche And Aelenowre my wiff To execute p^{forme} and ffulfill this my testamēt and last will accordyng to y^e pmiss^s). In wittnesse wher of I the seid Robert Langley hafe sett my Seall and Sigmanuell Yeven the Daye and yere aforeseid.

[On the back is this line in the same handwriting as the will.]

“Payed vnto Jone Longley to hyr Maredegh v Marks.”

[Endorsed.]

Proved at Chester 1 April 1528.

[Seal gone.]

The Will of Nicholas Jodrell, of Beardsley, proved 1528.¹

In the name of God, Amen, the 15th day of y^e monyth of Maye the yere of our Lord Jhu anno M^lccccxxvii^o I Nicholas Jawdrell² of Erdesley beying in age and hole of body & mynde dredyng the uncerteyn tyme of deth make my testament & last wyll as well of my soule & body as of my londez & goodez ffirst I wyll bequeth my Soule to almyghty god the fader y^e son and the holy gost one god & persons 3, the verry holy trynyte our lady Seynt Mary & alle the Blesed Company in heyven & my body to be buried in Takkeshall Church among my ancestours & my best catall for my mortuarie & principall. Also I wyll y^t myn executourz shall w^t my goodez bryng me to the church ther to have dirige & masse of requiem as the man' is & to pay my dettez & incontynent after 5 massez of the blessed woundez to be seid for my soule also I wyll y^t one kowe shall be geven & delyv'ed to y^e servyce of our lady of Thakkeshall aforesaid, there to be prayd for.

Also I wyll y^t my soñ and heire apparaunt have alle my londez except as here after foloweth y^t is to say I wyll y^t M'get my wife have her dower & the 3rd part of alle my londez & goodez assigned w'out cost & trouble by my seid soñ & heir apparaunt & such as she will call of her counseill and also I wyll y^t she shall have y^t hous & londez nowe in y^e holdyng of William Benet in y^e Towne of Buggesworth in y^e countie of Derby of y^e same rent as it is rented at y^e making herof to be in pte of her dower also I wyll that Otywell my soñ have duryng his life the hous & londez of Raufe Davenport clerely to the yerely value of 20s. discharged of alle chief rents and y^e ov'plus to be delyv'ed in money to John my son w^t the hous and londez of Richard Nicson discharged of alle chief rent to y^e yerely value of 20s. & where as y^e seis hous & londes is nat yerely to y^e value I wyll y^t my son &

¹ From the Jodrell papers [J. P. E.].

² For the Jodrell pedigree, *vide East Cheshire*, Vol. ii. p. 538.

heir apparaunt shall make hym a sure graunt of an annuell rent as moch as wyll make it out 20s. yerely to be yerely paid unto y^e seid John at Midsomer & Martilmas by even porcions by my seid soñ & heir apparant & this to be made sure upon the cost of my seid soñ & heir apparaunt for terme of y^e life of the seid John.

Also I wyll y^t my seid soñ & heir apparaunt shall pay alle Kyngrents for alle my seid londe for t[']me of lyve & lyvez of my seid wife & my yonger sonz Otywell & John & y^e longest lyver and after ev[']y of their decessez then. I wyll y^t my seid son & heir apparaunt have alle y^e seid rev[']sions & his heirez of my seid londez according to the p[']port of my olde dedez evydencez & copiez as by the same more pleyntly appereth also I wyll y^t Alice Berd have 1 heffer of 3 yere old or older & 6 shepe Also I wyll y^t Anne Berd her suster have 1 heffer & 4 shepe. Also I wyll y^t Anne my daughter have a kowe.

Also I wyll y^t Margaret my wife & Roger my seid soñ & heir apparaunt be myn executorz to & for the p[']formans of this my last wyll, also I wyll y^t John Davenport be ov[']seer y^t my seid wyll be p[']formed. In wittenes wherof I the said Nicholas Jawdrell to this my last wyll have set my seall y^e day & yer abovesaid in p[']sens of

Humfrey Newton

S^r John Honsard curatt

of Tacksall beeyng true w[r]ytt['].

¹ This present will was proved, approved, and taken before us the Dean of Macclesfield the 18th day of the month of May in the year of our Lord 1528, on which day and year administration of all and singular the goods and chattels of the within written deceased was granted to the executors within named sworn in the right form. Saving the right of every one. In witness whereof to these presents we have put our Seal of Office which we use.

¹ Translation of endorsement.

The Will and Feoffment of John Aldersey, of Spurstowe, dated 1528.¹

“ In the name of god Amen the xxiiij day of the moneth of Septembr in the yere of our lord god M^oCCCCxxviiij^{us} and in the yere of the Reign of kyng Henry the eght aft the conquest of Englonde the xx I John Aldsey of Spurstowe wthin the Countie of Ches^{re} hole of mynde & body thanked be o^r lord god declar^e this my last wyll conc^{ern}nyng my Measez lands & teñts wth their appurten^{anc}s in Spurstow Aldersey Acton & Hatton in the Countie of Ches^{re} of Which Measez lands & teñts I the seid John Aldersey by my dede indented beryng date the xxiiij day of Septembr the xx yere of o^r sou^{er}eign lord kyng Henry the eght [1528] haue enfeoffed my Ryght trusty bredern And frends Robt Aldsey of Ches^{re} Aldmann and Hugh Aldersey of Ches^{re} m^{ai}chaunt Riç Aldsey of Pykton and Riç Bridde of Teu^{er}ton to haue & hold the same to them & to their heyres to the vse of me the seid John & my heyrez & to fulfill & p^{er}forme the last will of me the seid John Aldersey like as apperith by my seid dede indented here vnto annexed which my wyll & Entent cō^{cern}nyng the p^{ro}misses is as hereaft^{er} foloyth ffirst I Wyll that my seid feoffes stonde and be seaset of all my seid lands & teñts wth their appurten^{anc}s to the vse of me the seid John Aldersey duryng my lyff And aft^{er} my decesse I will that my seid feoffez shall suffre my wyff to dwell in my best place & howse in Spurstowe and to haue & occupye the same And all & singl^{er} the lands & teñts pasturez medowes & leoses to the same belongyng wth it app^{er}ten^{anc}s to her most Adv^{an}tage And p^{ro}fett in name of her hole dower & Joynt^{er} as long as she will dwell there & be sole & vnmarried And to thentent to kepe Nurrysh & fyndne my Child^{ren} & herez toged^{er} & bryng them upp wth the p^{ro}fetts & issues thereof And yff she will not do soc but mary her self then I will that my seid feoffez shall ord^{er} And assign to my seid wyf her dower & thrydds of all my seids lands and teñts wth it app^{er}tn^{anc}s Accordyng to the Course

¹ From the Aldersey papers [J. P. E.].

& ord^r of the Comyn lawe Also I will that my seid feoffes shall take aft^r my decesse all & eu^ly the Rents issues & p^fetts of all & sing^lr my seid lands & teñts in Spurstowe Aldersey Acton & Hatton excepted afore by me willet & putt in vse as is aforesaid And therew^t do pay all thexpenses & Costs of my funeraçon the day of my buriall And also to pay all my detts whiche I shall forten to ogh And be indetted in the tyme of my deth And aft^r all the p^rmisses fulfilled I will that my seid feoffez shall stonde & be seased And possessit not oonly of all & eu^ly the seid Measez lands and teñts w^t it appurten^ancs but also aft^r the dissesse of my seid wyff of the reu^lcion of all such lands & teñts as it shall forten my seid Wyff to haue to her dower as is aforsaid to the vse of my ryght heyres Accordyng to y^e old evidens for eu^l And he to be restowred therunto when he cūyth to his leafull age In wittnes wherof to this my will endented I haue annexed my seid dede of feoffement endented And haue put to my Seale yeuen the day & yere Aboue written.”

¹ Let all present and future know that I John Aldersey of Spurstowe, co. Chester, “gentilman,” have given, granted, and by this my present charter indented confirmed to Robert Aldersey, of Chester, Alderman, Hugh Aldersey, of Chester, merchant, Richard Aldersey, of Pykton, brothers of me the aforesaid John, and Richard Bridde, of Teurerton, co. Chester, all and singular my messuages, lands, and tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, rents, reversions, services, woods and underwoods, with the appurtenances in Aldersey, Spurstow, Acton, and Hatton, co. Chester. To have and to hold all and singular the said messuages, &c., to the said Robert Aldersey, &c., their heirs and assigns for ever, to the use of me the aforesaid John and my heirs, and to fulfil and perform my last will to this my present charter indented annexed.

With clause of warranty.

¹ The rest of the document is in Latin, of which the above is a translation.

Ralph Aldersey, chaplain, and Randle Bomville are appointed attorneys to deliver seisin.

Given at Spurstowe aforesaid the 23rd Sept. 20 Henry viii. [1528].

[Seal of red wax not heraldic.]

Seisin delivered by the within named attorneys to the within named Hugh Aldersey and Richard Aldersey in the name of all the said feoffees at Aldersey in the presence of Thomas Horton, Thomas Dod, Wylyam Horton, John Aldersey, Thomas Nevell, Thomas Danyell, John Horton, and John Brid.

**Will of Roger Jodrell, of Heardsley,
dated 1529.**

In the name of God, Amen, the 21st day of the moneyth of January the yere of our Lorde God a thousand fyve hundrethe twenty and eght, I Roger Jawdrell of Erdesley beyng hole of wytt mynd & remembraunce dreding the uncerteyne tyme of deithe declare my last wyll & testament in man' & forme foloyng.

First I bewheithe my sawle to godd our Lady and all the Seynts in heyyvn and my body to be buried in the churche of Takkeshall nere unto suche place wher ar my fadurs bonez lien. And my best catel to go unto the parson of the sam churche in the name of my mortuarie. Also I wole that myn executours withe parcell of my goodez dispose for thelthe of my sawle as well in meyts & drynks diriges & masseze in thowse aft' my decesse as also for like doying and obs'vance to be hade at the churche in the buryeng of my bodye with oders charitable dispoision & ordre theremends as shalbe thocht by them discretion most convenyent.

Also I wole that all suche detts as I shall fortune to be oghing the tym of my departing be satisfiett of my goodez & catells in asshorte space upon my deithe as my said executours can make leyvye thereof. Also I wole that all and singuler

the contents of the last wyll & testament made by my fader bering date the 15th day of Maye the yere of o^r Lord Jhu anno M^cccccxxvij as towching the behalfe of Margarete my moder and of Otwell and John my brethren & of ev'y of theym shalbe fferme stable & effectuall and as moche as in me liethe by these p'sents I do ratifie & conferme the sam & ev'y parte therof for their more assurance therin. Itm̄ I bewheithe to the Rode of Chester a heyffur. Itm̄ unto the Churchwardens of our lady in the Chappell at Disley then to be praid for a gowne. Itm̄ to the Reef of our Lady at Takkeshall a stokk condicionally that John Downez wole suffer the landez of o^r Lady [to] go forthewards unto hir use & els nott. Itm̄ to Leonard Shalcrosse a styrke. Itm̄ towards the making of Wayleybrigge a stirk. Itm̄ to Alyce Beyrde a stirke. Itm̄ to my suster Amye a gowne bowndyn with purpyll velvett that was my wieffs.

Itm̄ I wole that the rest of my goodez & cattals ov' the p'mishez remayning except suche p'ticuler things as I shall hereafter in writing or by mowthe afor record gyff or graunt shall holy descende and come unto thuse of Margarete my moder also I orden make and constitute the said Margarete my moder and the said Otwell my broder myn executours to & for the p'formans of this my last wyll. Also I wole that Antony Shalcross and Nicholes Berde my brethren in lawe shalbe overseers & supervisours of this my p'nt last wyll to thentent they may see & cause the contents hereof fulfilled without delay or p'longyne of tyme consonant withe the tenor true entent & meianyng thereof.

In witnes of whiche things I the said Roger Jawdrell hereunto have sett my seale the day and yere beforewritten in the p'sence of Thomas Lewyns p'son of Rothewell, Thomas Dampport chapleyn, and Olyver Clerk preist curate of the said church of Takkeshall, with divers others.

[Not proved.]

The Will of William Clifton, Esquire, of Westby Hall, in Kirkham, dated 1537.¹

In dei nôie. Amen. 5th daye of y^e moneth of Jañ in y^e yer of our L^d God Mccccxxxvj I W^m Clyfton Sqyer Beynge in gude & pfyte mynde & remembrance & seyke & deseasyd in my bodye make my testament & last wyll in mañ & forme folowyng fyrst I bequeth my soule to Almyghty god & to our Ladye saynte Marye & all y^e saints in hevyn & my bodye to be buryed in y^e pyshe church of Kyrkham in y^e place wher my ancestors are buryed. Also it is my wyll that Syr Alisander Osbalston Knyght & Wyff^m Kyrkbye Squyer & their assignes shall take into theyr hands & kepyng af^l my decease all the chylder parte of goods belongyng to Elyn my doïgh^l with all proffetts tharof & the same to dyspose for & upon hyr mariage. And I will that y^e sayd Syr Alisander & Wyff^m Kyrkbye & their assignes shall have y^e custodye & govnance of y^e sayd Elyn af^l my decease to se that she be maried accordyng to hyr degre as my speciall trist is in theyme. Also it is my mynd & wyll that all my 3^vnts dwell- yng w^t me shall have af^l my decease evy of theyme their hole wags truly payed for their 3^vyce done and this their halffe yer wags o^v to helpe theyme to s^vyce also it is my wyll that Thom^s my son & heyr shall have all mañ heyr loymez Remaynyng at my mañ place of Westbye w^towte any lett or denyenge. Also I gyffe & bequath to the sayd Tho^s my son vj of my best Incalffe qwyez [cows] & vj bullocks whyche wer pastured in the Pele the last sommⁿ. Also it is my wyll that the forsaid Syr Alisander & hys assignez shall have af^l my decease for y^e use & behoffe holly of Tho^s my son & heyr all my leace & bargan whyche I have of y^e Abbot & c^vent of y^e Vale Ryall & for y^e entēt that y^e sayd Syr Alisander may labur & take y^e same bargayne of y^e sayd Abbot & c^vent longer time for my sayd son & heir. Also I wyll that y^e sayd Syr Alisander Osbalston Knyght shall kepe Wyff^m my son to y^e Scole & fynd hym meyte drynke & cloths unto Thom^s my son & heyr come to

¹ From the *Dodsworth MSS.*, Vol. 79, p. 150. *Piccoppe MSS.*, Vol. iii., 169. [J. P. E.]

hs full age And then y^e sayd Thom^s to do ye same tyll y^e sayd
 Wyll^m be xxj yers of age. Also I wyll that Elyn my doigh^d
 shalbe fownden in lyke manⁿ meyte drynke & cloths tyll suche
 tyme she be maried upon the p^rfetts & advantags of my tacke
 y^e whyche I have of y^e Abbot & c^vent of y^e Vale Ryall.
 Also I wyll that Wyll^m my son shall have y^e teyth^s wⁱn y^e
 pyshe of Kyrkh^m vjⁱⁱ xiiij^s & iiij^d of ye nexte that falleth dur-
 ynge my tacke he payenge tharfor to Thom^s hys broth^r y^e old
 Rente accustomed. Also I dysyr & p^rye y^e sayd Sir Alisander
 to Speyke w^t our receyv^or Thurstane Tyldysleye Squyer to
 helpe to gytt a graunte of a certeyne pastur callyd y^e Pele
 nowe beyng in my occupacion for y^e use & behoffe of y^e
 forsayd my son Thom^s. Also it is my wyll and dyssyr that
 y^e forsayd Syr Alisander Osbalston Knyght Wyll^m Kyrkbye
 Squyer & their assignes shall [have] the custodye Rule & order
 of Wyll^m my yonger son & all hys chylds parte of guds w^t
 all profetts tyll hym belongyng & also hys aⁿuytye & all
 y^e same to order & dyspose to hys most proffet unto suche
 tyme as he shalbe of lawful age & sufficiēt dyscretion to
 have & gou^ve all y^e same hymselffe. Also I wyll that Roger
 Banyster my brothinlawe have a fote of Kyllermer tythe, for
 the t^hme of xii yers next ensewyng y^e date herof payeinge y^e
 old Rente accustomed also I wyll that Wyll^m Forshawe have
 anothe^r fote for y^e same t^hme payeinge the old Rente accustomed.
 Also I gyff & bequeythe to y^e freers of Preston a cowe
 & calfe to say a trētally of messez for my saule & a bullocke
 w^t a cut taylor to p^rye for my saule & for y^e saule of Wyll^m
 Haydocke. Also I gyffe & bequeithe to y^e forsayd Syr
 Alisander Osbalston a balde stag to be gude frende &
 father to my chylder as my trust is in him. Also I gyffe &
 bequeith to y^e forsayde Wyll^m Kyrkbye Squyer a gray
 trottyng may^y whyche was occupied y^e som^m last past. Also
 I gyffe & bequeith to y^e stoke of our Ladye of Kyrkh^m iiij
 whyez [cows] to p^rye for my saule & to John Hall on quye
 [cow] of y^e age of one yer & to John Herrison one quye [cow]
 of y^e age of ij yers And to Syr Wyll^m Strynger p^rst vj^s & viij^d
 & to Syr Thom^s P^rmet my chauntre p^rst vj^s & viij^d to p^rye for
 my saule & all c^vsten saulez and I dyssyr ye forsayd Syr
 Alisander Osbalston & my son & heyr to be gude maysters
 to y^e sayd Syr Thom^s P^rmet for my sake & to se that no

man do him wronge. Morov̄ it is my wyll that yf it fortune the sayd chauntre p'st to depte to Gods m̄cye afore my son & heyre shall be of age of xxj yers completyd then I wyll that y^e forsayd Syr Alisander shall have full power & autorytye by this my wyll to name admytt & put in a honest & well dysposyd p'st to y^e same ſvyce & chauntre whyche can syng to mayteynynge of Gods ſvyce at Kyrkh^m aforſayd. Also I gyffe & bequeith to y^e Churche of Kyrkh^m toward emendynge of owr Ladyez warke & oth^r plac ther whyche neds most iij^{li} vj^s & viij^d and to Syr Wyll^m Mosseoke p'st iij^s iiij^d. Also I gyffe & bequeth to Syr Jamys Sheryngton p'st shall take & receyve for hys wags of Nicholas Shelicorne Squyer xl^s & oth^r xl^s of Henry Fysher of y^e p̄yshe of Pulton whyche they awe me. Also it is my mynde & wyll that Isabell my wyffe schall have y^e manⁿ place of Westbye to ye entent to kepe howse ther kepyng hyr wydowe & also to have y^e demayne tharto belongynge to hyr awne use & proffet. Also I wyll that she shall have to hyr awne use & behoffe to helpe to kepe hyr howse w^t at Westbye all y^e tythe of y^e townshyppe of Westbye she payenge tharfor the yerly Rente dew & accustomyd. Also I wyll that Isabell my wyffe shall have the halffe of all manⁿ of Incomes & profetts of all y^e tythe of Kyrkh^m p̄yshe when they fall tyll my son & heyr be of lawfull age. Also I wyll that the sayd Syr Alisander Osbalston ner Thom^s my son & heyr & Isabell my wyffe shall not hurte no tennant ner Farmer whyche I have remytted in my tyme & ye residew of all my guds ov̄ & besyde my legacs after my detts payed my buriall dyschargyd I gyffe & bequeth to my sayd wyffe, Wyll^m my son, & Elyn my doighte, to be distributyd emong them accordyng to ryght & gude consiens. And I ordene & ^[Tom^{out}.] Isabell my wyffe Thom^s my son Syr Alisander Osbalston knyght & Wyll^m Kyrkbye Squyer my tru & lawfull executo^rs to see ths my p'sent testament & last wyll be truly fulfyllyd & accomplysed in all thyngs in manⁿ & forme above specified & reheryd as my speciall trust is in theyme. In wytnes wherof to ths my p'sent testament I y^e sayd Wyll^m Clyfton Squyer have set to my seale y^e day & y^e yer above wrytten. M^d that these bene y^e names of all those p̄sons whyche wer at y^e sealyng of ths my last wyll wrytten y^e vth daye of Januarii y^e xxvijth

yer of y^e reigne of Kyng Henrye y^e viijth [1536-7] Syr Wyll^m Strynger pyshe pst Syr Thom^s P^{met} chauntre pst Syr Jamys Sheryngton hs chapleyne Roger Banyster Wyll^m Forshawe Hewghe Lathū John Herrison Hewghe Blevyn John Bonye John Hall &c. p me Nicholaū Thornburghe. p me Thoma P^{met} pst.

The Will of Piers Legh, of Bradley, dated 1539.¹

Thys Indenture comprehending and menconyng the last will off me Peres Legh of Bradley in the County of Lanĉ Esquier soñ and heyr of Peres Legh Knygh and preist made the Syxte day of Septemb in the xxxjth yeŕ of the Reigne of kyng Henŕ the Eght [1539] in yerthe vndur cryste supreme hedde of the Churchē in englande Concernyng the disposiĉion of my Mano^r off Dalton in the County byforsaid And of all my Mesuags l^{unds} teñts Rents and s'uics with thar appurten^{ancs} in Hutton or elsewhere belongyng to the said Mano^r Aswell as of those l^{unds} and teñts of myñ lyeng in Querburton and Aykbanke in the County of Westm^lunde Wittenesythe that Wheyas the said S^r Peres in hys lyeff off Truste Enfeoffed John Laurence Esquier Edward Redmayn esquier John Irel^{unde} esquier Rauff Lēgh of Stockewell esquier Wifm Wall Clerke Rauff Orrell and Rauff Ayscuo of and in the said Mano^r of Dalton and in the saids Mesuags l^{unds} teñts & other the syngler p'myss As Appairthe by hys Dede theroff Bearyng date the xijth day of Marche in the xjth yeŕ of the Reigñ of kyngē henŕ the vij^t [1496] to the Entent that suche Will & Wills as he therupon asturwards schuld make and declaŕ myght and schuld subst^{ancially} be done & executed The Wheche Mano^r mesuags l^{unds} & teñts with other thair appurten^{ancs} for the moŕ Assur^{unce} theroff Cristofur Dacre knyght Adam Hulton esquier Henŕ ffaryngton then esquier & nowe knyght Thomas Lewyns Clerke and Wifm Plumptre Clerke now lievyng together With John Astoñ

¹ From the Lyme Deeds, Box S.I., No. 4 [J. P. E.].

knyght Edmūde Trafforde knyght Wiſſm Chetwyñ esquier Richard Aston esquier Henr̄ Redmayñ esquier Laurence Dutton esquier Thomas Kyñsley esquier Wiſſm Handforth esquier John Whytyngton esquier Symond Byrom Clerke Reynold Lewyns Clerke Humfride Newton gen̄ Wiſſm Colwyche gen̄ Rauff Ascuo gen̄ and Wiſſm Sergeant gen̄ deceased lately Amangest other thyngs by Wrytt of entre opon disseason in the Post at the sessyons Holden at Lanĉ the Monday next aftur the ffeest of thassumption of owr ladye the virgyn the xxiiijth yeŕ of the Reigñ of kyng Henr̄ the vij^t [1508] byfoŕ the Justyces of Assyse of owr lorde the kynge ther Agaynest the said S^r Peres Lēgh knyght Recouled as by the Recorde therof moŕ playnly wole Appeŕ And theropon the sañ S^r Peres made and declared his Will & Willes theroff as appearithe by his Wrytyng vndur hys Seall & signe manuel made and subscribed bearyng date the ffirst day of decemb^r in the xiiijth yere of the Reigne of kyng Henry the Eght [1522] The contents Whearoff therein done Appeŕ by Wheche Will Amangs other thyngs it is menconed & specified that Immediatly aftur thuses & t^mes theroff declared executid & defmyned the saids ffeoffs & Recoulers or others that shall then haue eny estate or intēst therin shall stande & be possessed theroff & pmytt the sañ and euylly pcell theroff to descende Remayn growe & come to the right heires of the said S^r Peres Whose son and right heir I the said Peres Legh esquier now st^aunde The Wheche thyng & will w^t the c^umstaunce of all & syngler the p^umys^s amangs other thyngs is so founde p^usented & brought in by Inq^uesition hade at Wygan the xxviiijth day of Aprill in the xxth yeŕ of the Reign of kyng Henry theght [1528] Affore James Worseley knyght Escaeto^r of o^r lorde the kyng in the said County of Lanĉ vpon & Aftur the deith of the said S^r Peres by vertue of a Writt of Diem clausit extremū to hym theranends directyd as therby moŕ playnly the ma^u doith & may Appeŕ Wheche Will of the said S^r Peres Legh & all & syngler suche causes & entents as the said S^r Peres in the sañ hys said Will Wilned to be done & executyd be now Accomplished p^urformed & playnly discharged Wherupon I the said Peres Legh esquier by my Dedes Indented and lyūle of season therupon as in my

says dedes playnly Appereth haue yeuen gr^aunted & con-
 formed to S^r Marmaduke Tunstall knyght Andrew Barton
 Richard Holland esquiers And Wiffm Hache Chaplen All
 & syngler my Mesuags l^aunds teñts and hereditaments w^t
 thapp^ten^ances in Dalton and Hutton in the County of Lanĉ
 to thentent that thay therwith shalle Accomplyshe p^rforme
 & fullfill this my Will & Willes theroff made or to be made
 That is to Wete ffyrst I the said Peres Legh Will that the
 said S^r Marmaduke Tunstall k^r and the other my saysd
 Executours aftur the decesse of me the said Peres Legh
 shall yerly take & p^rceyue all thyssuez Reuenuys & p^rfetts
 of the said Mañ of Dalton & other the syngler p^rmyssz w^t
 thair App^ten^ances to thentent that thay my saysd Executo^rs
 ther w^t may content pay & discharge all & syngler suche
 detts as as [*sic*] I the said Peres Lēgh am oghyng to eny
 p^rson or p^rsons the tyme of my decesse all wheche detts be
 writen & menĉoned in a scedule to this my last Will Annexed
 Also I the said Peres Legh will that the said Marmaduke &
 all other my executors schall yerely take & p^rceyue all the
 saysd Rents reuenuys & p^rfetts of the said Mañ of Dalton
 Hutton & thair App^ten^ances as is Assigned menĉoned &
 declared in sundry deds of gyffte to thaym by me the said
 Peres Lēgh made & gr^aunted of my said Mañ of Dalton &
 others the p^rmyssz to thentent that thay w^t the sañ p^rfetts
 as is Abouesaid schall discharge content & pay all suche
 suñes of money as I the said Peres Legh will shall be content
 & payd to & for the Mariagez of my doghturs That is to
 Wete for the Mariage of my doghtur Elisabeth Legh CC marks
 and for the Mariage of Marye Legh my doght^r CC marks
 And in lykewise for the Mariage of my doght^r Alice CC
 Marks condiĉionally that the saysd Elsab^t Marye & Alice
 my saysd doghturs be Mareyd by thadvice of my saysd
 executo^rs and other my frends to such p^rsons and plac^s as
 by the said my executo^rs & frends shalbe thoght cōuenyent
 And if it Ch^aunce eny of the saysd my doght^rs of thair Awne
 syngler mynde to do contr^aye to this my Will in that behalfe
 of takyng a husbande then I will that my saysd executo^rs
 shall deducte the said suñe or suñes to eny of my said
 doght^r or doghturs so doyng as by thair discretion thay
 shall thynke conueniēt Accordyng to the havynge of the

man that thay or eny of thaym shall in this case of thair one syngler mynde take to husband contr^{ye} to the pport of this my will. Item I will that my saids executo^s with the saids Issuez & puffetts shall cause suche honest p^rste as I in my lieve shall name & assigne to celebte w^t in my Chapell at Wynwik for thelthe of my sawle and of those that I am most boundon to pray for duryng the space of seyven yers next aftur my decease and to have stipende therfo^r yerely ffyeve pounds And if I do not assigne eny p^rste therunto in my lieve Then it is my Will that the sa^m p^rste shalbe deputed & assigned therunto by myⁿ Executo^s. Item I will that eu^ly my said Executo^s shalhave for thair paynes & labur in executyng all & eu^ly my Wills ou^l & besyds thair resonable costs made concⁿyng the execution of my Wills seuerally ffyeve Marks to be taken of thissuez & puffetts of the saids Mano^r me^z l^unds & teⁿts w^t thair app^rten^{anc}s and the Moyte therof to be had & levyed to thair Awne vse the first yer next aftur my decease & the Reste & remaynent of the sa^m to be taken at suche tyme as this my p^rsent Will & all others my Wills beⁿ cluerly Accomplished and done Item I the sa^m Peres Legh esquier will that Immediatly aftur the syngler forsaid^s vses & t^{im}es be fully levyed doⁿ p^rformed & executeyd W^towt frawde gyle or collusyon That then and Immediatly afturwards all sutche p^rsons havyng eny estate in the said Mano^r of Dalton & others the p^rmyssz and thair heirs shall st^aunde & be seased of and in the said Mano^r of Dalton and in all and eu^ly others the saids se^ual Mesuags l^unds & teⁿts w^t thair app^rten^{anc}s to thuse of my Right heyres ffor eu^l In Witnesse Whearoff I the sa^m Perys Legh Squier vnto this my p^rsent Will have sett my Seall and Sygnemanuell the day and yere aboute Writen.

[Signed] PERES LEGHE.

Esquier.

[Large red seal, illegible.]

**The Will of John Booth,¹ Doctor of Divinity,
Archdeacon of Hereford, dated 1542.**

[In the nam]e of god amen the viijth daye off august in the yere off o^r lord god a M^dcccc[xlij] I John Bothe doctor off Devynitie and archdeacon off Herford off hoole mynde etc. doo make mye testament and last will in mañ and forme foloinge I bequeth my sowle to almightie god and to o^r blessed ladie and v^gen Synt [Mari]e, and to all the holye companye off heven and mye bodye to be buryed in Itm. I beq: one pece off arrasse off the storie off Thadeus contaynyng [in length] v yards and one quart^r and in breed iiij yards one quart^r and one neyle [to Ag]nes Bothe being mye heyre and itt to succede to the heyres off hydr bodye [lawfu]lly begotton as longe as itt maye indure. Itm I geve to the sayd Agnes off tawne saten. Itm to the sayd Agnes one standyng cuppe pcell w^t a Wice [?] and a cou^l [cover] having a sokyn [?] upon and one fyne carpet Itm eve to Frances Both and Barbara his wiff one flanders chiste off lenthe and iij quarters breed. Itm I gyve to M^rget Bothe my est wich I haue in the mañ place off Saghton accordinge he same w^t xvj^t oxen for ij^t tewmes x^t mylke kye eres ij heffers off ij yeres v sterks off one yere and iiij^t lj ewes, lj lābes ij^t horses wich is named lewes yff and beq: to Rog^e Bothe xⁱⁱ for one anuitie to be duryng his liff off and upon mye lands lyeng in Molyng[ton] cording to the teno^r and effecte of one dede of

¹ The testator, who was the second son of Roger Booth, of Mollington, co. Chester, Esquire, succeeded to the Mollington estates on the death of his elder brother, Thomas Booth, Esquire, in 1528, when he is described as being thirty-three years of age. He was educated at Brasenose College, Oxford, and is said to have been collated to the archdeaconry of Hereford in 1522. He died on the Saturday next before the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary [August 15], 34 Henry VIII., 1542, and his niece, Agnes Booth, daughter of his brother, Charles Booth, was found to be his heir and then aged nine years. (Ormerod's *Cheshire*, new edition, p. 380.) This copy is from the *Piccope MSS.*, Vol. 8, p. 156. [J. P. E.]

anuitie unto my chaplens xx^s a pece. Itm
 to ix of my household wages. Itm I giff
 to the Colledge of Brasennose in my boks.
 Itm I giff to M^rgett one cheste in Saghton
 pe ware as dothe appere bie a bill in the same
 shall haue pte therof. Itm I orden constitute my [trus]tie
 and welbeloued Wiffm Eccleston and Ro^d Bothe [my true and
 law]full executors to dispose my goods to the helth of [soul
 These] being Wytnes \overline{m} Doctor Wolsott \overline{m} Wiffm Standley
 Jac' Bibbe James Cower w^t others. Yeven
 the day [and yer]e written.

Witness off the same

George Bell	} examined afore \overline{m} Chancelor att
Thomas longton	

The Will of Richard Rowe, of Macclesfield, dated 1542.¹

IN THE NAME OF GOD amen the seconde daye of
 October In the yere of our lord god M^{lmo}cccc^oxliij^o and in
 the yere of our sou'ayn lord King Henry the eight the
 xxxiiij^h I Ric Rawe² of Macclesfeld goyng on warrefare
 make my testament & last wylle in man' of forme folowyng
 that is to wytte ffyrst I comend my Saule to allmyghty God
 the ffather the Sonne & the holy gost, to the blessed virgyn
 mary mother of Jesu Crist my Redemer & Saveour and to
 all the Saynts in heaven, And my body to be buried where
 it pleaseth god to dispose of it, And I bequeth my princi-
 pals according to the Kings acts Item I bequeth unto my
 iiij Sonnes Edmundē Williã Raphe John and to Elyzabeth
 my doughter to every of them five markes w^{ch} I woll that
 my Sonne and heir shall paye unto them, And if he denye so
 to doe then my wylle is that my Executors shall take and
 receyve yerely the Rents of these p'cells of ground folowyng

¹ From the Macclesfield Grammar School papers [J. P. E.].

² For a pedigree of the Rowe family, see *East Cheshire*, Vol. ii., p. 282.

that is to saye the Rents of the Pyrlewall, of the Essyncrofts of the litle Bullfeild with the mosse & croft Joyneing unto the same, unto such tyme as they shall receyve the whole Sume of xxvth marks for the use and profett of my said v children as aboue said ITEM I BEQUETH unto Alice my bastard doughter j heffer and ij shepe ITEM I WOLL AND CHARGE myne heire that he shall yerely pay & gyffe out of Haynes crofts xvj^d to make anniversarie of my Grandffather Richard Rawe which died the ixth daye of November to pray for his Saule and other as it woll apere by a ffeoffement for the same made to the maior of Macclesfeld to the Curat of the same Church and to other beyryng date Año Henrici septimi undecimo. ITEM I WOLL that my wyfe shall haue a waye throug out the litle Bullfeild to cary & recarye through the same Corne hey & mucke to the Great Bullfeild without disturbance of my heir, AND ALSOE I WOLL that my said wyfe shall haue tymbre of the Roughheye such as shalbe necessarie for her to buyld withall upon such ground as she hath in her dowry and Joynture at the delyverance of myne heire. The residue of all my goodes and Catalles my detts payd if ther be any and my bequests fulfilled I gyffe and bequeth unto my wife Werebur and to my three daughters Margrett Issabell and Alice, that is to say Corne Cattell Beddyng Brasse pewter . . . [Illegible in original.] . . . And of this my last wylle & testament I orden and make my Executors my wyfe Werebur and Edmunde my Sonne, And my kynsman Thomas Grēne of the Watier to be overseer of this my last wylle and testament And for such labor & busynes as the said Thomas shall for the overseeing of the same to be fulfilled & done I woll that my wyfe and children shall susteyn & beyre & giffe unto him for his costes These beyng wytnesses Thomas Marler the elder & Raphe Helegh Aldermen John Heginnbothom Geffrey Joneson and other And furthermore to this my last will & testament I the said Ric Rawe haue sett my Seale.

[Original on paper. Mounted on paper for its better preservation.]

**The Will of Roger Jodrell, of Yeadsley,
dated 1547.¹**

In the name of God, Amen. The fyrst daye of February in the yere of our lorde god a thousand fyve hundrethe fortie and vii and also in the second yere of the reigne of o^r most dread sov'aigne lorde Edward the syxte by the grace of God of England ffraunce and Ireland Kyng deffendor of the faithe and in yerthe next and immediatlye under god of the church of England and also of Ireland supreme heade. I² Roger Jodrell of Yerdysley in the countie of Chester gentylman sycke in body and p'fyte in remembrance do ordeyne and make this p'sent testament therein conteyned my last will in manor and forme foloeing, ffyrst I geve and beqwethe my saule unto almightie god to his mother Marye the virgyn w^t all the holie companye of heaven and my bodie to be buryed wⁱⁿ the p'yshe church of Saynt Leonard att Tackessall.

Itm I gyffe and beqwethe to every one of my servants one lambe. Itm I gyffe and beqwethe to my bastard sonne George Jodrell one heffer stryke of a yere olde. Itm I gyffe unto Wiffm Woodroffe a lambe also further all the residue and remaynder of my goods, my detts payde, my funerall costs made and my beqwests discharged of the hole I gyffe and beqwethe unto Ellyn my wyffe and unto my chyldren to be devided amungst theym according to the custome of the contrey, that is to wytte the hole to be devided in iij parties whereof one p'te to Ellyn my saied wyffe and ij parts to my chyldren to be devided equallye amungist theym.

Also I ordeyne constitute and make the affore said Ellyn my wyffe Richard Blackewall and Otewell Jodrell my brother my true and lawfull executors to see that this my p'sent tastament and last wyll be accomplished and fulfylled in all causes according to the entent and true meanyng of the same as my faithfull and especyall trust is in theym.

¹ From the Jodrell papers.

² Eldest son of Nicholas Jodrell, of Yeadsley, whose will is printed on page 64. For a pedigree of the family, see *East Cheshire*, Vol. ii., p. 538.

Thes beyng wittenes John Potte of the Dounge yeoman,
John More of Wayley smithe, Nycholas ffedeler preist and
pson at Tackessall w^t others.

Thes byn the detts and dutyes wiche I do oghe.

In primis to Otewell Jodrell my brother	...	...	6 ^{li}	11 ^s	10 ^d
Itm̃ to John Jodrell my brother	...	...	5	marks	
Itm̃ to Edmond Knolles	...	...	4	marks	
Itm̃ to John Potte of the Dounge	...	...	0	20 ^s	0
Itm̃ to my sister in lawe Elyzabethe Knut-					
tysforde	...	...	0	20 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Alexander Benett	...	...	10 ^{li}	17 ^s	4 ^d
Itm̃ to Wiffm Benett	...	...	3 ^{li}	2 ^s	4 ^d
Itm̃ to Hamnet Stockley	...	...	0	50 ^s	8 ^d
Itm̃ to John More	...	...	0	40 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Edward Downes	...	...	0	27 ^s	4 ^d
Itm̃ to Raffe Hurst	...	...	0	3 ^s	4 ^d
Itm̃ to Margaret Corker	...	...	0	13 ^s	8 ^d
Itm̃ to Henrye Claye	...	...	0	40 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Wiffm Broke	...	...	0	30 ^s	8 ^d
Itm̃ to Wyffm Corker	...	...	0	25 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Otewell Jodrell my brother	...	...	0	55 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Otewell Kyrke	...	...	0	18 ^s	0
Itm̃ to my sister Emme	...	...	0	10 ^s	0
Itm̃ to John Pownall	...	...	0	23 ^s	4 ^d
Itm̃ to Laurence Pownall	...	...	0	6 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Agnes Benett	...	...	0	6 ^s	4 ^d
Itm̃ to Alis Benett	...	...	0	11 ^s	0
Itm̃ to John Stafford	...	...	0	10 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Christopher Clayton	...	...	0	4 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Richard Mellor	...	...	0	13 ^s	4 ^d
Itm̃ to Emme Potte	...	...	0	0	20 ^d
Itm̃ to John Sharte	...	...	0	5 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Henrye Claye	...	...	0	2 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Wiffm Corker	...	...	0	3 ^s	2 ^d
Itm̃ to Syr James Broke	...	...	0	8 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Margerye Hadfeld	0	7 ^s	4 ^d
Itm̃ to Chrystofer Benet of Kedylsome	0	22 ^s	0
Itm̃ to Jams Waryngton	0	4 ^s	0

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Itm̄ to Thomas Benett	0	7 ^s	0
Itm̄ u ^x James Sharte	0	0	20 ^d

Thes ben the detts y^t byn owyng unto me.

Inprimis Edward Woullowe	...	...	...	0	6 ^s	1 ^d
Itm̄ the wiffe of Raffe Hyll	...	...	...	0	2 ^s	0

This present will was proved before us George Wymesleyen [Wylmesleye] Bachelor of Laws, Vicar in spiritualities to the most reverend Father in Christ Lord John by divine permission Bishop of Chester by the authority of the most illustrious Prince in Christ and our Lord Edward by the grace of God, King of England, &c. [No date.]

The Will of Ellin Jodrell, of Heardsley, Widow, dated 1548.¹

In dei noīe Amen, the 18th April 1548, I Elyn Jowdrell,² wedowe, late wief of Roger Jowdrell of Yourdisley, decessed. First I bequeth my soule to Almyghty god, besechyng our blessed lady, Seynt Mary the Vyrgyn and alle y^e holy company of heyven to pray for me. And my body to be buried in the pissh Church of Tackesall. Also after y^t my body be buryed, my funerall expences discharged, my detts and the detts of my said late husband contented and paid, the ressidue of all and syngler my goodes movable and unmovable, I gifue and bequeth to my son Otiwell, and to my daughters Mary, Grace, Ame, Elyn, Barbara, and Martha, to be equally and indeferently divided amongst them.

Also I gifue and grant to my seid son Otiwell for the term of his lif naturall one messuage and alle lands &c. to the same messuage belongyng in Twemlowe co. Chester, now in the tenure of Roger Cadman, And also thre closes or pastures, one called the great Seynlowes, and the other the Bromefeld

¹ From the Jodrell papers.

² See preceding will.

in Twemlowe aforesaid, nowe in the holding of my sister Elizabeth Knottesford, and the third called the little Seynlowes in Twemlowe aforesaid, now in the tenure of Hawys Taillior wedowe, And one pcell of ground in Twemlowe aforesaid, nowe in the tenure of Wiffm Kenworthey, to have, hold &c. alle the seid messuage, lands &c. to the said Otiwell and his assignes duryng his lif naturall, paying yerely therfor to y^e Kyngs Magestie, seyven shillyngs, six penyes, as hath been used to be paid out of such lands &c. which I haue in Twemlowe aforeseid. Alle which messuage, lands &c. I will shall be as sure and firme in y^e lawe to the said Otiwell for his life naturall, as by counsell lerned in y^e lawe can be devised.

Also all other messuages, lands &c. which I haue in Twemlowe and Knottesford in y^e Countie of Chester aforeseid, I gifue and bequeith to my seid daughters Mary, Grace, Ame, Elyn, Barbara, and Martha, to hold the same for the term of eightene yers next after my decesse. Also I will that myn executors shall receyve the issues of alle the seid messuages, lands &c. during the seid eightene yers aboue specified, to the behove and pfett of my daughters aforeseid, y^t is to wit, to pay to every one of theym, twenty merkes apece, towards their mariages or other pferments, at such times and after such manner as myn executors shall thynk most profitable for theym, so y^t every of my seid daughters shall haue fully twenty merks, or else so negh thereto as the said issues, rents &c. will extend, so that the reasonable costes of myn executors shall be at all tymes allowed of the issues of the prymysse, accordyng to the true intent and meanyng of this my last will.

Also I ordeyn and admytt Elizabeth Knottesford, my sister, Otiwell Jowdrell my brother in lawe, John Eyton, John Pot the elder of the Dunge, and S^r Jamys Broke, Chapleyn, to be my lawfull executors, truly to execute this my last will to be performed as they shall aunswer afor Almyghty god in y^t behalf. Also I will y^t this my testament and last will above expressed shall stand and be good, firme and stable. Alle oyer Wills afor this tyme made by me the seid Elyn to the contrary in eny wise notwithstanding.

These beyng Wittenes John Downes of the Bothoms, Wiffm Bennet, John More, John Sherle, Laurence Pownell,

John Pott the younger, and Rauff Taillior, and mony other, the day and year abovesaid.

The detts of me Elyn Jowdrell, wedowe, which I do ough as herafter folwyth.

ffirst to my brother in lawe Antony Shalcrosse	xl ^s
Iff to Mergaret Jowdrell daughter to my late husbond for a full satisfaccion and payment of and for her childs pte of her father[s] goodes	iiij ^{li}
Iff to John Pot the elder of the Dunge	vj ^s viij ^d

[Latin]

Proved by all the Executors before the Dean of
Macclesfield 25 April 3 Edward vi [1549].

[Signed] WILLIAM LEIGH, dean
of Macclesfeld.

The Will of Thomas Trafford, of Bridge Trafford, dated 1548.¹

"In dei Noīe amen The xxvjth of September the yere of o^r Lorde god A thousande fyue hundred forty And Eyghte & ynn the yere of the raigne of o^r most Dred soveraigne Lord Lord Edwarde the sixte by the grace of god of England ffrance & Ireland kinge Defendor of the ffaithe & yn Erthe immediate vnder Christe of the Churche of England & also of Ireland supreme heade the seconde I Thomas Trogheforde of Briggetroghforde in the County of Chester gentilman Sonne and heyre of Christofor Trogheford deceased beinge hole of body & of sane memory but fearinge the hower of deathe and yates therof w^{ch} is to euery person certaine & the hower & tyme therof vncertayne make my laste will & Testamente

¹ From a copy contemporaneous with original will, among the Barnston Deeds, Nov. 1890 [J. P. E.].

cōcerning not only all my mess^{es} lands tenements rents reversiones & servises whersoever the[y] lye or be but also of all my goodds chatteles taks & fermes as herafter ensueth. ffyrste I bequeath my sole vnto Almighty god & to o^r Lady Seynte Marye his blessed mother the virgin & to Al the blessed company in heaven and my body to be buryed at Plemstowe churche amongste others my Ancestors ther or else where yt shall fortune me to dye And I will that my buryall be ordered after & accordinge to the discrecsiō of myne executors hervnder named And furder I will grante & bequeath as well all & every my cheef howse of Briggetroghford wth all howses to the same belonginge And also all the lands medowes lesowes pastures woods & Coñmons in Briggetroghforde Chester Hale & Halewood in the Countys off Chester of the City of Chester & of Lancaster & elsewhere wth in the Realme of England but also all the Reversion of all suche meses lands & tenements wth ther appurtenances w^{ch} Ellen Troghforde my mother nowe hathe in Dower or Joynture when yt shall happen or fortune to come after her Decease vnto my welbeloved & trusty wyf Jane one of the dawghters of William Rodon of Burton wth in the lordship of Bromffield wth in the County of Denbighe To haue and houlde the same vnto the sayd Jane & she to receaue & take yerly the rents & proffits therof for terme of her lyfe to pay & contente my debts wth the same, and also to pay and satisfy my fower sisters towards ther seuerall mariages twenty pounds apeese w^{ch} was bequethed theame seuerally by my sayd ffathers laste will & testamente. And after the sayd debts and marriage money payde as is beforesayd & after her decease then the aforesayd lands and tenements Rents & reuersiones & servises holly to remayne to such yssue as my sayd wyff shall haue of her body by me lawfully begoten or for to be begoten And the remaynder to the heyres of that yssue lawfully begotten payinge vnto my fower sisters or to ther Children if ther be any lyvinge the some of fforty pounds over and besyds the porciōs lefte by my ffather. And yn defaute of suche yssue to remayne to my syster Elsabett & her heyres. And yf it happen the sayd meses lands and tenements and other the premises wth thear appurtenances to come and remayne vnto

the sayd Elsabett I will that the sayd Elsabett shall pay vnto euery one of my sayd sisters if they be then alyue or to there Children fowerscore pounds over & besyde the porcion lefte theame by my ffather w^{ch} is to euery of theme wth my said ffathers bequest & myne fforty pounds a peese And after the same payde then to remayne to the heyres of the body of the sayd Elsabett lawfully begotten And they to pay the same if any be vnpayde And yn defaute of suche her heyres to remayne to Margery an other of my Systers She payinge vnto the rest of my sayde sisters then lyvinge or to their Children as muche as shalbe behynde vnto theme and euery of theme vnpayd And to the heyres of the body of the sayd Margery lawfully begotten, And if it happen the sayd Margery to dye wthoute yssue of her body lawfully begotten then to remayne to Margrett & she to pay as muche as shalbe behynde & vnpayde of the aforesayd bequest of my ffathers and myne & to the heyres of the body of the sayd Margrett lawfully begotten And if it happen the sayd Margrett to dye wthoute yssue of her body lawfully begotten, then I will the sayd meses lands & tenements wth the appurtenances shall holy remayne vnto my Sister Mary & to the heyres of her body lawfully begotten she lykwyse payinge all suche money as shall fortune to be behynde and vnpayde, as is before appoynted. And ynn defaute of suche her yssue to remayne to my righte heyres for ever And also I will that wheras Christo- for Knolls hathe of the gifte of my sayd ffather A tenemente & Lands thervnto belonginge in Briggetroghford aforesayd for terme of his lyf I will that after the decease of the sayd Knolls and after my decease the sayd tenemente and lands & the reuersion therof shall remayne vnto Vter .^[Blank.] my servante And he for his faithfull servise to me done to haue the same tenemente & lands thervnto belonginge wth ther appurtenances duringe his lyf naturall wthoute paymente of any rente or other thinge for the same. And I bequeathe & giue vnto my sayd welbeloved wyf to pay other my debts heere not mençoed And after my sayd debts and expences of my funeration done then the resydue of my sayd gooddes and Chattells I giue holy to my sayde wyf and for the performance of this my laste will and testamente I constitute & make my sayd wyf Jane my sole executrix In wittnesse wherof I

haue put to my sygne and seale in presense of the witnesses whose names be indorsed.

“ These were presente att the sealinge of this will John Done Knighte Rondull Spurstowe esquier Hamlett Penketman yoman Hue Damporte sone & aſ of parente [apparent] to John Damporte gentillman In wittnesse herof John Done knighte & Randull Spurstow esquier haue subscribed hore names.”

The Will of Dabid ap Gruffith ap Llewellen, of Gwesany, dated 1548.

8 Dec. 1548. The last will and testament of DAVID AP GRUFFITH AP LLEWELLEN OF GWESANY,¹ of the lordship of Molesdale, co. Flint, Containing the following bequests;—
 “ Item. I do bequethe all my burialles sheattes [*sic*] and knelinge places in the sayde churche of Molde amongste my saide three sonns abouesseid for euermore, but only excepted that Margaret verch Jevan ap Res haithe the hieste seate of one of the benchese next to the alter of the southe syde of the churche:—Item, I do bequeath to Janet of Llŷn two yardes and a half of Yorkshier clothe to make her a cloke one hooge [*sic*] with a reade hedde . . . covered and two sheetis with a pillowe. Item iiij cheeses, Item one heffer with a wite face, Item a hoope of every manner of corne beyng in the bearne:—Item, I do bequeath to Margaret verch Robert one sheppe:—Item, to the church-worke iiij^s iiij^d at the sight and wylle of myne executours and ouerseers:—Item. I do bequeath vnto my goostly father Sir Davyd two shalynges.”

¹ Historical MSS. Commission, Sixth Report, p. 422, MSS. of P. B. Davies Cooke, Esq. [J. P. E.].

**Will of Richard Leigh, of Swinehead, co.
Chester, gent., dated 1551.**

In the name of God, Amen, the 1st Sept. 5 Edward vi [1551]. I Richard Leigh of Swinhead co. Chester, gent., sick in body and whole in mind. I bequeath my body to be buried in the Church of Rotherston before the Chancel [gate] there. I give and bequeath to Gawen Leigh my son, all that messuage with the appurtenances, lying in the Mosse howses within the dominion of High Leigh, and all those lands &c. thereto belonging, lately in the occupation of William Smith, of the yearly rent of 16s. 11d. to hold to the said Gawen and his assigns for his life, paying therefore yearly to Johan Leighe mother of me the said Richard, 7s. 3d. during her life. Provided always that it shall be lawful for the said Johan to occupy and enjoy the crofts commonly called the Marled Heye and Brode Heye, parcel of the premises, during her life.

I give and bequeath to Anthony Leighe my son the moiety of all that messuage with the appurtenances, lying in Comburbage, and the moiety of the lands &c. thereto belonging, now or late in the occupation of Thomas Berrowis, of the yearly rent of 23s. 6d., to hold to the said Anthony and his assigns during his life.

I give and bequeath to Hamnet Leigh my youngest son all that pasture with the appurtenances commonly called the Lee feild, lying in Swinhead, now or late in the occupation of Richard Robartson, and of me the said Richard Leigh, of the old rent of 13s. 4d., to hold to the said Hamnet and his assigns during his life, paying therefore yearly to Gawen Leigh my brother, and Margaret wife of the said Gawen, 13s. 4d. during their lives, and the survivor of them.

Also my will and mind is that Johan my wife shall find and give meat, drink, clothes, and lodging to my said three sons Gawen, Anthony, and Hamnet, and shall occupy and enjoy all the said premises which I have bequeathed to my said three sons until my said sons shall come to the age of 21 years. Provided also that if it happen my said wife to take her a husband and to be married, that then she shall not claim nor occupy anything which I have bequeathed to my

said three sons. I bequeath to Johan my bastard daughter, an in-calf heifer, which I will that my wife shall deliver to her within two years next after the date hereof.

Also "after that my bodie shall be brought to Christian buriall" and my funeral expences and legacies discharged, then I will that all my goods shall be equally divided into three parts, whereof I bequeath one part to my said wife. Also I bequeath to my said wife the other two parts to the use of my two daughters Margerie and Katherine. Also if it shall happen anything to be in this my last will, whereby any doubt or controversy might arise, then my executors and overseer shall expound and interpret all such doubt according to my true meaning.

And of this my last will I constitute Gawen Leigh my son, and Margerie and Katherine Leigh, my daughters, my executors, and Sir John Done, knight, my overseer.

These being witnesses, Richard Venables, Gawen Leigh gent., Johan Leigh mother of me the said Richard, Marie Venables sister of me the said Richard, Hamnet Leigh, and William Wilkinson.

The Will of John Davye, of Mold, dated 1558.

16 May, 1558. The last will and testament of John Davye¹ [of Mold, co. Flint], who bequeaths his soul to "Almightie God and to oure blessed ladye Saynte Mary and to all the celestiall company of heaven," and directs that his body shall be buried in "the mynster of Chester." Containing the following bequests,—“vnto the churche whiche is to the buylding of the same xx^s vnto the churche of Sainte Michaelles vj^s viij^d, and to Sainte Brides vj^s viij^d, and to Sainte Martyns vj^s viij^d, and to Sainte Johns withowte Norgate vj^s viij^d.” The testator continues, “also I bequeith vnto my buryall, In primis to Sir Thomas Fynlowe v^s to

¹ Historical MSS. Commission, 6th Report, MSS. of P. B. Davies Cooke, Esq., p. 422 [J. P. E.].

pray for my sowle, Further I leve and bequeithe a cowpell of oxson that I boughte the laste yere to the building of Moulde Church where I dwell; Also I bequieth a bullocke that I boughte of the Royde vnto the mendynge of the hye waie betwixte my howse and the Molld. . . . Also I bequieth vnto my brother in lawe John ap Edwarde a wood-knyfe and my best cote garded with veluet sad color; Also to my uncle William ap Edward a gowne which is furred with lame [? lamb] throughowte and fared [*sic*] with blacke conye; Also I bequieth vnto my father-in-lawe Thomas Salysbury of the Flynte a jerken of salten furred throughowte with lambe and fared [*sic*] with sables; Item, another jerken of veluet lyned with taffeta embroidered which I bequeith vnto my cousyn John Pavye constable of Harden:—Item, also I bequeith vnto my brother Roberte iii yerdes of crymsen satten with all the rest of my garmentes to bestowe them at his discretion.” The testator also bequeaths his “cheyne weying vij ounces and a half” to his son Robert, who, however, is not to have possession of the ornament until he shall have “come to his age.” The testator’s brother Robert, wife Jane, and son Robert are appointed full executors of the will: *i.e.* without an overseer to audit and pass their accounts.

The Will of Joan Legh, of Swinehead, Widow, dated 1558.

In the name of God, Amen, the 20th August 1558. I Johan Leigh, widow, being of health and of perfect memory. My body to be buried “wthin the pishe Church of Rosturne nere vnto the chauncell Doore there.”

I give and bequeath to my cousen¹ Richard Venables 20s. I give to my cousen¹ Thomas Venables brother of the said Richard, 20s. I bequeath to Elizabeth Venables and Ellyn Venables, sisters to the said Richard Venables, 20s. apiece. I

¹ Grandchild [J. P. E.].

give and bequeath to my cousen Gawen Leigh, 20s. To Anthony Leigh and Hamlet Leigh, brethren to the said Gawen, 20s. apiece. To Margaret Leigh sister of the said Gawen 20s. To Jane Leigh bastard daughter of my son Richard Leigh, 6s. 8d. if she be living at the time of my decease, but if dead, then the said legacy shall be given to the said Hamlet Leigh. To William Leigh son of Gawen Leigh my son, a cow. To Joane Leigh sister of the said William a pyed calf, and the feather bed I am accustomed to lie in, with all the clothes to the same belonging. To my daughter in law Margaret Leigh, all my waines, carts, whiles, ploughs, harrows, and ladders, and all other things to the same belonging. To my cousen Anne Crane my saddle and bridle.

All the residue of my goods &c. I bequeath to my cousens Thomas Leigh, William Leigh, John Leigh, Anne Crane, Elizabeth Norris, Bridget Leigh, Marie Leigh, Katherine Leigh, Jane Leigh, and Julian Leigh, children of my said son Gawen Leigh, equally amongst them. I give to George Grayne 6s. 8d. And of this my last will I make the said Thomas Leigh and William Leigh my executors, and desire M^r Grindich [Grimsdich] to be supervisor hereof.

These being witnesses Sir John Barlow, priest, John Glauegent., Robert Barlowe, yeoman.

Proved before John ffernehed, Dean of Frodsham, the 7th Feb. 1558[-9], and administration granted to the executors in the will named.

A true copy agreeing with the original, examined by Richard Eaton, Dean of Frodsham.

The Will of Richard Leigh, of High Leigh, co. Chester, Esquire, dated 1560.¹

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Forasmuch as I Richard Leghe of Hiege Leighe co. Chester, Esquire, am appointed to serve the Queenes Majestie

¹ From the West Hall Deeds [J. P. E.].

in her Grace's martial affairs, in the North parts, where I well consider my life (according to the course of warres) must needs be oft in peril and hasarded, and the escape and preservation from the same very . . . and doubtful. Therefore meaning to meet with that uncertentie of life, do make this my last will and testament to the intent therein to put in certentie my laste will, both how I would and purpose the most precious thing that God hath created in me, and also my worldly substance which it hath pleased the almightie God to lend me here in this life, should be bestowed and disposed.

And first of all I do committe both my body and sowle to the tuition and protection of the Blessed Trinitie so long as it shall please the same that my soule and life shall inhabite and dwell in that case of earthe, and whan these shalbe separate, than I do betake the same bodie to the earth whereof it came and is, and my soule to Abraham's bosome there to reste till the last trompet blow whan we shall all both quicke and dead awake and arise to receyue his iudgement that redeemed us with the effusion of his most precious blood, And in the same I most instantly and heartilie besече him to extend the same pitie and mercie upon me and to all others that beleve in him that he did upon these at the time of his most bitter and cruell passion, when he said this day thou shalt be with me in paradisē.

And secondly I bequeth all my goodes moveable and unmovable, my household stuffe excepted, unto my dearly beloved wife, paying my debtes that shall appeare in a Scedule to this my last will annexed. And my household stuffe I will shalbe disposed in this manner,—that myne executors shall vewe and see the same and to divide the same into three parts, whereof I will two partes to myne heire, and the third part to my said wife. Also I will that my said wife shall have the use and custodie of the said two partes gyven to myne heire if she wilbe bounde to delyver the same unto my said heire in as good plite and sorte as whan she receyveth it, whan he shall come and be of full age. Also I will that myne executors shall have, occupie, and enjoy all my lands, tenements &c. in the County of Chester, and receive the issues and profits thereof during the space of xi years, to the performance of certain legacies hereafter following.

I give to Elizabeth my daughter cxi^{li} to her marriage, which I will that my executors shall pay at the day of her marriage, which sum shall be levied in vij years, in this manner, of my Demeane at High Leghe, I will that my executors shall permit and suffer my said wife to occupy my Capital messuage &c. in High Leighe during the said xj years, paying yearly unto them therefore xx^{li} at such times as they shall agree upon. And also I will that the said revenue of the said Demeane, after the said cxi^{li} be levied, be employed upon Peter Leighe my younger son to keep him to learning in the Innes of Court or elsewhere my said executors shall think most convenient. I will that if my said daughter Elizabeth die before she be married, that then the aforesaid cxi^{li} be bestowed upon my said younger son to keep him to learning as aforesaid. And if it fortune him to die that then it shall be converted to the use of my eldest son, to keep him to learning or otherwise as my said executors shall think most profitable to my said son. Also I will that my said executors shall dispose the residue of the issues of my said lands &c. which I think will amount yearly to vj^{li} to the bringing up of my said two sons according to their good wisdoms, and I desire that they will not only take upon them execution of this my said last will, but that they will also use their wisdoms, as my children may justly give them hearty thanks, and deserve their goodness.

And I do constitute and appoint my dearly beloved Sir John Holcrofte, Knight, John Minshull, esquier, and Richard Birkhened, gentleman, my good and lawful executors of this my said last will, and my said dearly deloved wife, and Mr. Gilberte [Gerrard], the Queenes Majestie Attorney Generall, overseers thereof. And as I (if the departed from this life have power to pray for the lyvers here upon earthe) will have you in continual remembrance with well wishing. So do I desire you according to our wonted friendship used upon earth not to forget me or myne affairs.

Dated 6th Januarie, 2 Elizabeth [1560].

[Signed] RYCHARD LEGH.

[The seal gone.]

Theys bye the detts of Rychard Lygh.

Wyllyam Jhonson	...	...	...	...	x ^{li}
Thomas Aston	...	...	...	...	vj ^{li}
John Astbye [?]	...	...	...	...	iiij ^{li}
Syr John Barloue	...	...	...	...	iiij ^{li} vj ^s viij ^d .

[This will appears to have been cancelled as the seal is gone and it is cut through in two or three places.]

The Will of Thomas Shacklocke, of Moston, near Manchester, dated 1570.¹

In the Name of God, Amen, the 21st December 1570. I Thomas Shaclocke of Moston co. Lanc. yeoman, being somthinge greved or payned withe sicknes, make and ordeyne my testament wherein ys conteyned theeffect of my last will in maner and forme hereafter mencyoned. My bodie to be buried in the parrishe churche of Manchester in suche sorte as shalbe to the glorie of god and comforthe of my ffrendes. Also yt ys my will and mynde that Thomas Shaclocke my yonger sonne shall haue, hold, and occupie all that message or Tenement withe thappurtenances whiche he now hathe in his use, and occupation, together withe thre other closes called the Nanne ffilde, the Moore hey and the Pierre [?], to him and to his heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, for the term of 60 years, yeldinge and payinge therefore yerelic duringe the said terme to Robart Shaclocke my eldest sonne and his heirs 3s. 4d. at the feast of the Natyuitie of Saint John Bap^{te} or within ffourtie dayes then next after, yf it be lawfullie asked, for all maner of Rentes and demandes therfore dewe. And for wante of the heirs male of the said Thomas then the premises to reverte and come to Roberte Shaclocke my eldest sonne and his heirs male lawfullie begotten and to be begotten, for ever. And for want of such

¹ From the High Leigh Deeds, West Hall [J. P. E.].

yssue to my right heirs for ever. And yf it happen that the said Thomas my sonne or his heirs male doe goe about to alter, infringe, or breake this my said last will I meane do go about to bargaine, sell &c. the estate and estates of the premisses, or any part or parcel thereof from the person or persons, use and uses aforesaid, during the said term of 60 years, contrary to the meaning aforesaid, that then immediately the premises shall wholly, absolutely, freely, and clearly come to the use and uses only of the said Robart my sonne and his heirs and assigns for ever, any Gift, grant &c. to the contrary in any wise, notwithstanding. Also it is my will and mind and I do give and grant unto Robart Shaclocke my son and heir apparent all and singular my manors, messuages, lands &c. which I have within the parish of Manchester or elsewhere within the County of Lancaster, To have and to hold all and singular the said manors &c. to the said Robart Shaclocke and his heirs male lawfully begotten and to be begotten, for ever. And for want of such issue to the right heirs of me the said Thomas Shaclocke the elder for ever. And whereas I have married three daughters, one to Richard Picrofte, another to Randill Kempe, and another to Edwarde Bowkerr unto which daughters I have given to every of them their full child's part of goods &c. And also I have one other daughter which is not yet married, viz. Alis Shaclocke, unto whom I give the sum of £19 which is now in the hands of my said son Thomas Shaclocke, It is my will that she shall have the same immediately after my decease if she come to preferment in marriage or otherwise for her wealth. Also I give unto the wife of Richard Picrofte, one heifer, now in his holding. And to the wife of Randill Kempe xxvj^s viij^d and to the wife of Edwarde Bowkerr xxvj^s viij^d. Also I ordain, constitute, and make Elizabeth my wife, and Robart Shaclocke my son, my true and lawful executors. And I shall desire Thomas my son to be the supervisor and overseer of this my testament. In witness whereof I the said Thomas Shaclocke have caused this to be made, and have put my seal and subscribed the same with my hand the day and year first above mentioned in the presence and witness of Nicholas Gepson, Thomas Bicom, and John Gloverr the writer hereof, with others.

Debts which are owing unto me.

Imprimis of Sir Wilm Radclyff, knight, dec.	1 ^s
Iſm. of John Chetam, gent. for a Geldinge sold vnto him	ffoure mkes
Iſm. of Laurence Langley for lxxx loodes of blacke turves	xxiiij ^s

**The Will of Sir John Atherton, Knight,
dated 1573.¹**

Testamentum Iohis Atherton miſ. factum 18 Ap. 15 Eliz [1573] He willeth y^e his manors of Atherton Slingsby Ffryton & Hovingham in co York & Lanĉ shall after his death remayne to John Atherton his son & heir, & 800^d to his 2 daughters Elizabeth & Margaret for their mariages. A marigge to be made betwyxte John Atherton his son & heir & one of y^e daughters of John Byron of Newsted. Dame Margaret Atherton wief to y^e testat^r shall have Atherton for her lief, xl^s a yere to Tho^s Warmesley of Lincoln's Inn student att y^e Law for lyefe. His exōrs were John Byron his cosyn, John Atherton his son & heir, Edmund Asheton of Chatterton, Edm^d Hopwod of Hopwod in co. Lanc. Esq^r, James son & heir apparent of the s^d Edmund Asheton, Henry Towneley "my brother in law," in the said co. Esq^{rs}, James Stocke of y^e Cytty of York notary & W^m Rysheton his servant.

**The Will of Thomas Awarte, of Walton-in-the-
Dale, co. Lanc., Husbandman, dated 1573.²**

In the name of God, Amen, the 20 Nov^r 1573. I Thomas Awarte³ of Walton in the Dale co. Lanc., husbandman. "My Bodye to be Buryed in the churche yord of the Lawe at the

¹ From the *Dodsworth MSS.*, Vol. lviii. *Piccope MSS.*, Vol. iii., p. 44.

² From the Agecroft Collection, Poulton Deeds, No. 83 [J. P. E.].

³ In Deed No. 84, dated 1606, this family name is spelt "Orte," Edward Orte, of Walton-in-le-Dale, being there mentioned.

discrecon of my executors." Also my will is that Elizabeth my wife shall have and enjoy for her life, all my lands &c. in Walton in the Dale aforesaid, now in the holding of me the said Thomas Awarte, and after the decease of the said Elizabeth my wife, then the said lands &c. shall remain to Edward Awarte my eldest son, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. Remainder to Henry Awarte my younger son, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. Remainder to Alis Awart my eldest daughter, and the heirs male of her body lawfully begotten. Remainder to Jhone [Joan] Awart my youngest daughter and the heirs male of her body lawfully begotten. Remainder to the right heirs of me the said Thomas Awart for ever. All my goods and chattels shall be divided into three parts after my decease, one part to be reserved for my part, another part for my said wife, and the third part to be divided between my three children Henry Awart, Alis Awart, and Jhone Awart. To Edward Awart my eldest son, a plough and plough irons to the same, two harrows, "a yrne teame," a yoke, two arks, "a almerie," a long board standing in the house, two stone troughs, a corn wain, a turf wain, and a pair of wheels. To Henry Awarte my younger son £5. All the residue of my said third part after my debts &c. are discharged, I bequeath to my said two daughters Alis and Jhone equally between them. I constitute and make the said Elizabeth my wife, and William Wudcocke the elder, my lawful executors, and Christopher Smythe supervisor of this my last will and testament.

Witnesses—Robert Swansey, the said Christopher Smythe, Edmond Smythe, and Edward Swansey.

Debts owing unto me the said Thomas Awarte.

Imp ^r mis the late wife of Hugh Swansey	}	ijij ⁱⁱ ij ^s viij ^d
deceased and John Swansey her son		
for two "kye" 		
Itm Thomas Lussell of lent money		xxiiiij ^s

Proved 22 July 1574 by the Executors, before George Dobson, who signs himself as George Dobson Dean.

The Will of Dame Jane Gerard, dated 1575.¹

In the name of God Amen, the twentieth of Novemb^r in yere of o^r lord god a thowsand fyve hundreth seyventie and fyve and in the xviiijth yere of the Reigne of o^r Sou'aigne lady Elyzabeth &c. I Dame Jane Gerarde of Bromley in the countie of Staff. widowe of good and p^rfytt remembrance thanks be geven unto god and meyninge to bestowe suche goods as god hath lend [*sic*] me in this worlde do & constitute, ordeyne and make my last will and testament in mann' and forme folowinge, ffirst I will geve and bequeth unto my sonne S^r Thomas Gerard knyght one rynge of golde and one pece of gold of the valewe of xxx^s. Item I will and bequeth unto my daughter-in-law Dame Elyzabeth Gerard my velvet gowne and sixe peces of olde golde. Item I will and bequeth unto my saide sonnes chyldren twelve peces of olde golde to make eu'y one of them a rynge. Item I will geve and bequeth unto M'geret Tarbocke one hundryth m'kes. Item my will is that ffrances Tarbocke shall have twoe hundrethe m'kes so that she marye by thadvice consent and agreement of her Uncle my sonne her Uncle Tarbocke and my executors. And yf she marye withoute their consents then I will give and bequeth the one hunderte m'kes that the said ffrances shulde have unto her syster M'garet Tarbocke and the other hunderte m'kes I will give and bequeth unto my sonnes chyldren to bee equally devyded amongst them. Item I will geve and bequeth unto my brother S^r Peter Legh knyght, one gold rynge and one olde ryall. Item I geve and bequeth unto my cosyn Henry Eccleston xl^s. Item I will and bequeth unto my brother George Legh one yocke of draught oxen. Item I geve and bequeth unto my sonne in lawe Roberte Charnocke one gold rynge and one olde ryall. Item I will and bequeth unto my systre Ellen Standley my tafeyta gown. Item I will and bequeth unto my systre Elyzabeth Downes a velvet kertell, my best salt my cloke and my savegarde. Item I will and bequeth unto my systre Ales Rowley my best clothe gowne and vj^{lb} xiiij^s iiij^d

¹ Lyme Deeds, Box S.I., No. 5 [J. P. E.].

in money. Item I will and bequeth unto Jane Worsley my s'vaunt vj^{lb} xiiij^s iiij^d. Item I will and bequeth unto M'garet Allat fyve poundes in money, one peire of fyne fflaxen shetes and twoe pillowe beres. Item I will and bequeth unto ffraunces Whyte xl^s. Item I will and bequeth unto Ales Knoell iiij^{li} vj^s viij^d. Item I will and bequeth unto Rycharde Asseldey one heyver. Item I will and bequeth unto Edmunde Allat my s'vaunt my best geldinge. Item I geve and bequeth unto my s'vaunt John Langton a baye geldinge called Bruce. Item I will and bequeth unto Edmunde Davy one heyver. Item I will and bequeth unto M'gerey Langton vj^{lb} xiiij^s iiij^d. Item all the resydewe of my goods before not geven nor bequethed, my funerall expencs dyscharged my detts and legacies payde I will geve and bequeth the one half thereof to my sonnes chylde to be equally devyded amongst them And the other half I will geve and bequeth unto my executors to be equally devyded amongst them. And to see this my last will and testament well and trewly observed and kept accordinge to the trewe Intent and meyninge of the same, I doe constytute ordeyne and make my sonne S^r Thomas Gerarde knyght, my brother S^r Peter Legh knyght, my sonne in lawe Roberte Charnocke, my cosyn Henry Eccleston esquyers and my trustie s'vaunte Edmunde Allat my trewe and faythfull executors. In wytnes whereof I have subscribed this with my owne hand in the p'sence of thos whose names are wyrtten on the backe syde hereof.

Item I will & bequeth unto William Dorringe my s'vaunt xl^s yf he be dwellinge with me at the day of my death.

[Signed] JANE GERRARD.

On the back.

John Langton Wyllyam Doryngton

Mestris Elezabeth Downes

Ales Rowley.

Written on two large sheets of paper (written on one side only), fastened together at the top, and signed at the bottom of the second page, so evidently the *original* will [J. P. E.].

On the back of the first sheet is the following codicil.

H 2

ffurthermore my will is that yf John Deve of Wynington can not obteyne and gett that pte of his house as William Pker nowe hath in his occupacon then I will that he have payde hym agayne the x^b I had of hym for the same house. Item I will further that yf John Hynagenbotham [*sic*] do not agree with the widowe Haselhurst so that she meye not enioy the one half of her house, then I will that she shall have the iij^{lb} vj^s viij^d payde her agayne. Item I will and geve power and aucteritie to my executors that yf my goods will not extend to paye my detts, discharge my legacies and my funerall expences, w^{ch} ffunerall expences I referre to the dyscrecion of my executors, then I will and geve auctoritie to my saide executors to take twentie poundes of that pte or porcon as I have geven to ffraunces Tarbocke towards the dyscharge of the same And not otherwayes. Item I will geve and bequeth to my systre Downes one peire of shetes that lye on her bedde and one canopie hanginge over the same bedde.

[Signed] JANE GERRARD.

The Will of John Aldersey, of Spurstowe, dated 1581.¹

“ In the name of god amen the xxixth day of november in the year of our Lord god 1581, et anno Regni Dñæ nřæ Elyzabethe nunc Anglie Regiñ vicesimo quarto etc. I Jhon Auldersaye of Spurstow within the countie of Chester sicke in bodye but hole in mynd, and of perfect memorye prayed be god therfore yet neuerthesse dreading naturall Death to man vncertayn I doe ordayne and make this my last will and Testament in maner and forme as followethe, first I geue and bequeth my Soule to almightie god and to our blessed Ladye and to all the holy company of heaven trusting that by the merytes of christ Jesus my saviour I shalbe one of his elect and chosen people in his blessed kingdome of heaven, and my body to be buried in the parishe church

¹ From the Aldersey Deeds [J. P. E.].

yard of Bunbury nere vnto the buryall of M^r Rondle Spurstow. Itm my will and pleasure ys that Anne Aldersay my wyffe may haue and enioye all and singular my capital house in Spurstow with all the ground there vnto belonging with all thinges contay[n]ed within the said house or belonginge to the same for and during her lyffe naturall keping her selfe sole and vnmaryed. Item I geue and bequethe vnto the said Anne Aldersay my wyffe the reversion of an Indenture geuen and graunted vnto me and my assignes by Georg Spurstow of Spurstow for certayn yeres yet to come, as by the same Indenture better appereth Item my will and pleasure ys that the said Ann Aldersay my wyffe may haue my house in Bunburye, Item I geue and bequeth to Rondull Aldersaye my eldest sonne my gould ring with all my armor and harnesse within my house, with all my bedstedes boordes tables glasse and waynskote worke within my house and chambers, requiring the said Rondull to leave the same at his discease to Jhon Aldersay his eldest sonne. Item I geue and bequethe to Jhon Aldersay my second sonne dwelling in London the some of xxiiij^l xiiij^s iiij^d of lawfull englyshe money which Raffe Done of Flaxyards esquire oughethe vnto me, being due to be paid before the date herof. Item I geue and bequeth to Jhon Aldersaye my sonne Rondull his eldest sonne my grey nagge, my male saddle my best brydle and harnesse there vnto belonging, my swerd [sword] and Dagger. Alsoe I geue and bequethe to Jhon Cotton, my sonne Cotton his eldest sonne xl^s to be paid vnto him within one yere next after my decease. Item I geue and bequeth to Amye Mowson the some of vj^l xiiij^s iiij^d to be paid vnto her at the discretion of Anne Aldersay my wyffe, and Rondull Aldersay my sonne. Item I geue and bequeth to Catheryne Bebington my sonne Bebington his daughter the some of fyve poundes to be paid vnto her within one whole yere nest [*sic* for next] after my decease, Item I geue and bequeth to Elizabeth Egerton, my sonne Egerton his daughter a heffer calfe of one yere ould. Item I geue and bequeth to Joane Vernan my servant a heffer calfe of one year ould Item I geue and bequeth to euerye one of the Rest of my chylidrens chylidren vj^s viij^d to be paid vnto them by the discrecon

of my Executor hereafter named. Item the rest of all my goods moveable and vnmoveable quicke and dead whersoever or in whose handes the[y] are or may be found, I geue and bequeth to Anne Aldersay my wiffe to vse and dispose as she shall thincke convenient my fu[n]eralls being by her discharged and I honestly brought home Item I ordayne and make my trustie and welbeloved brother Thomas Aldersay of London my sole, turue [*sic* for true] and lawfull Executor, to se[e] that this my last will and Testament be well and truly accomplyshed fulfilled and discharged as my onely trust lyenth [*sic* for lieth] in him.

These are the deptes which are due vnto the Testator.

Imprimis M ^r Raffe Done of Flaxyardes Esquire ys Indeptcd vnto in the some of	xxiiij ^l xiiij ^s iiij ^d
Item M ^r George Spurstow of Spurstow esquire	xx ^s
Item M ^{rs} Helynor Spurstow wydow ...	xx ^s
Item the same wydow Spurstow for an ambling mare pryce	iiij ^{li}
Item the same wydow Spurstow for a fatte cow pryce	xxxiiij ^s iiij ^d
Item lend vnto the said wydow Spurstow a bushell of barlye	
Item lend vnto the same wydow Spurstow	viiij ^s
Item Rychard Spurstow late husband of the said wydow Spurstow as ap- pereth by his Specialtye	viiij ^{li}

These were wytnesses when the Testator Sealed this his last will and Testament and delyuered the same to the vse of his Executor aboue named as his full acte and dede.

[Signed with a mark]

John Eggerton Randall Aldersey Raffe Jelycose
William Dunne Raffe Mottram."

Endorsed on the back :—

"My fathers wyllc."

Also endorsed :—

“ Will of John Aldersey
29 Nov. 1581 24 Eliz.”

**The Will of Richard Legh, of Swinehead, in
High Legh, co. Chester, Gent., dated 1582.**

In the name of God, Amen, the 20 Oct. 1582. I Richard Leighe of Swinhead in High Leighe co. Chester, gent., sick in body but of perfect and sound remembrance. “ My bodie to be buried at my pische Church of Rostourne.”

I give and bequeath to Thomas Leighe my youngest son the sum of 20^{li} to be raised out of my goods &c. my debts and funeral expences being first discharged out of the whole. To my son John Leighe 10^{li} out of my goods as aforesaid. To my six daughters Katherine Leigh, Alice Leighe, Jane Leighe, Elizabeth Leighe, Anne Leigh, and Ellen Leighe, 100 marks apiece, chargeable on all my lands in the County of Chester.

And of this my last will I constitute and make Richard Leighe my son and heir, and Jane Leighe my wife, my true and lawful executors.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us Richard Leighe, W^m Willmatt, Richard Gregg, Raphe Willimat, John Simpson, John Gregg, John Wilkinson, Roger Bound with others.

**The Will of Jane Legh, of Swinehead, Widow,
dated 1585.**

In the name of God, Amen, the 8 Feb. 27 Eliz. [1584-5]. I Jane Leighe, widow, wife of Richard Leighe of Swinhead, gent., deceased, being sick of body but of good and perfect remembrance. “ My will and mind is that my dead bodie be

buried in the pische Church of Rostorne as neere to the place where my husband was buried as possiblie I maie."

I give and bequeath to my son John Leighe the sum of 10^{li} due to the said Richard Leigh my late husband by virtue of a lease by him granted to one Hamnett Warburton, of a messuage or tenement in Comberbache, and after the death of the said Richard, due to me the said Jane as his sole executor. Also I give to my said son John Leighe 13^{li} 6^s 8^d due to my said husband in his lifetime, by virtue of a lease by him granted to one Jerrard Leighe, of a messuage in Mollards-greene in the town of High Leighe, and after his death due to me the said Jane. Also I give to the said John Leighe 3^{li} 6^s 8^d due to the said Richard Leigh in his lifetime by virtue of a lease made to one John Broadhurst of a messuage in Mollardsgreene aforesaid, and after his death due to me the said Jane.

Also I give to my six daughters Katherine Leighe, Alice Leighe, Jane Leighe, Elizabeth Leighe, Anne Leighe, and Ellen Leighe, all my beds and bedding with all the furniture thereto belonging, and all my linen clothes belonging to the house, equally amongst them.

The rest of all my goods &c. I bequeath to my two sons John Leighe and Thomas Leighe and my said six daughters, equally amongst them. I bequeath to John Swan one bushel of rye. And of this my last will I constitute John Leighe my son and Elizabeth my daughter, executors.

These being witnesses, Richard Daniell, Ric. Swan,
Henrie Hatton, Tho: Asphall.

The Will of Richard Tipping, of Manchester, dated 1588.¹

In the Name of God, Amen, the xviiijth day of January 1588. I Richard Tippinge of Manchester co. Lanc. Lynnen-

¹ A contemporaneous copy *penes me* [J. P. E.].

drapar, being in good health and perfect remembrance, being mynded by gods assystance to sett such Lands and goods in order, which at this p^rsent the Lord hath bestowed vpon mee, ffor avoydyng of troubles, do make this my last will and testamente in manner and fforme followinge. My body to bee buryed in the p^rishe church of Manchest^r or wher it shall please god to dispossesse yt. Also yt is my will and I give and assigne over vnto Isabell now my wieffe, my lands which I lately purchased of James Travis now in the occupation of Rob^t. Buckley Appothecarye, and also my leases and tacks. To haue hould and enioy the saide Lands duryng her widdowhoode, And to enioy and occupy the leases also du^ring her widdowhood, yf the terme in the said leases shall happen so longe to endure. And after her mariage or decease, I give the said lands to Samwell Tippinge my yongest sonn, and to the heires of his body lawfully to be begotten. And ffor default of such issue I give the same lands to George Tippinge my seconnde sonn, and to the heires of his body lawfully to be begotten. And for default of such issue to John Tippinge my eldest sonn, and to the heires male of his body lawfully to be begotten. And for default of such issue to the ryght heires of mee y^e said Richard Tippinge for ever. And after y^e mariage or death of y^e said Isabell Tippinge my wieffe, I give the revercon of the yeares in the said lease to George Tippinge my said seconnd sonn and to his assignes for all such yeares as then shall bee to come, and to expire in the same lease. And as touchinge all the rest of my goods &c. yt is my will y^t after my debts are paid, if there be any to pay, and my ffuneralle discharged y^t the same shall be divided into three equal parts, whereof one part I reserve to myself to be bestowed by my executrix hereafter named in such manner as I shall hereafter in this my will appoint. The seconnd part I give to Isabell now my weiffe, and the third part I give to be equally divided amongst all my children, so that yf John Tippinge my eldest sonn looke to haue a part amongst them, yt is my will he shall be barred of the same, unless he will put in amongst them all the monney which I gave him y^e day of his mariage. And if he will do so, then he to divide, and take his fyliall por^{con} with them rattably as it shall please god to fall out. And as touchinge my parte of

goods, I do give £100 of the same to George Tippinge my sonn. Item, I bequeath to my brother in law Richard Brownsword a mournynge cloke, to my sonn John Tippinge a cloke, and to his weiffe a mournynge goun. Item, to my cossyn Thomas Brownsword a cloke, and to Isabell Brownsword a mournynge goun. Item, I bequeath to every one of my sonnes a cloke, and to every one of my daughters a goun. Item, I bequeath to my servent Alice Gee 40s. in monney and a goun. Item, to Rob^t Leighe I bequeath 5s. in Gould as a token of remembrance. And as touching y^e order of my funerall I refferre that wholly to y^e discreçon of Isabell my weiffe to be done as she shall think convenient. Item, all the rest of my part of goods I give to Isabell my weiffe to dispose at her discreçon. And I do make my said weiffe my solle executrix. And I do ordayne and make my two sonnes George Tippinge and Samwell Tippinge to be oversears of this my last will and testament.

RICHARDE TIPPINGE.

Signed and sealed in the presence of us whose names bee here vnder subscribed.

Roger Bexwicke
 Raphe Gee
 Raphe ffecher
 Robt Leigh.

[No date of probate.]

**The Will of John Massie, of Coddington,
 Esq., dated 1591.¹**

The Will of John Massie of Coddington Esq. dated 12 October 33 Elizabeth [1591].

Mary my wife; my younger son William Massie; my daughters Mary and Jane; Thomas my son; John my son;

¹ From the *Harleian MSS.*, 2,067, f. 7. This will is not now at Chester, and does not appear to be in the Volume of Transcripts in the Bishop's Registry. [J. P. E.]

my cousin Randle Brereton of Grafton [?]. The Coddington estate to my son John, remainder to William my son, remainder to me the said John Massie, remainder to George Massie of Poddington Esq, remainder to John Massie of Coughall brother of the said George, remainder to William Massie of Chester merchant; my brother Barnston, my nephews John Barnston and Thomas Barnston; my cousens William Massie of Chester, John Vaudrey, my lovinge kinsmen Richard Brereton, William Massie and John Massie and William Barnston Executors.

**The Will of Eleanor Hitchen, of Handley,
dated 1591.¹**

In the name of God, Amen, the 20th Feb. 33 Eliz. [1590-1]. I Elnoure Hytchen of Handelye. My body to be buried in Christian burial in such place as shall be thought good by my executors. I bequeath among the poor people of Handelye 5^s. To the mending of the highways of the same parish 10^s. To the reparation of Handelye Church 3^s 4^d. To every one of my god-children 12^d. To my cosen William Barnston one gilt spoon. To my son Antony Hitchen the messuage or tenement with all lands &c. situate in Milton which I purchased, To have and to hold to my said son and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such heirs, then to my daughter Mary and the heirs of her body lawfully begotten. Provided always and my full intent and meaning is, and I bequeath to my said daughter Mary, £80, to be paid by my said son Antony within the space of four years next after my decease, towards her preferment and better maintenance, and in default of payment the said estate shall revert to my said daughter Mary and the heirs of her body lawfully begotten. Provided also that if my said son Antony or any heir inheritable by force of this my will, shall make any

¹ Deeds in possession of Messrs. Boydell, Taylor & Flutt, Chester, Nov., 1889 [J. P. E.].

alienation of the premises, so as the same may not go according to this my will, Then the same shall remain to my said daughter and the heirs of her body lawfully begotten, with remainder to my cosen William Barneston and his heirs for ever. After my debts and legacies are paid, “& I onestelie brought,” I give all the rest of my goods equally betwixt my son Antony and daughter Marie. I make my cosen William Barnestone and my daughter Marie my executors, and my worshipful master M^r Hugh Colvile, my overseer.

Debts owing to me.

Jogene Getten 4^{li} 6^s 8^d

James Eince for a bushel of malt, 4^s 6^d

Jane Minshoue, 7^s and I have of hers two pewter dishes of London metal and a candlestick.

John Manynge my uncle Manynge's son 8^s, since he dwelled in the parsonage of Handley.

My cosen Rauffe Bostocke of Tatnall in ready money out of purse, 40^s

**The Will of Henry Moss, of Brockhurst in
Pinnington, co. Lanc., Yeoman, dated 1597.¹**

In the name of God, Amen, the 14 July 1597. I Henry Moese of Brockehurst in Pynnington co. Lanc., yeoman. My body to be buried in my parish churchyard of Leigh. First my will is that all my goods &c. shall remain in the custody and government of Isabell now my wife during her life (if she so long keep herself a widow), and upon the same condition I will that she shall enjoy the messuage and tenement now in my possession. And if the said Isabell after my decease marry any person, then I appoint that John Moesc my reputed son begotten of the said Isabell shall have and enjoy to his proper use the full moiety of all my said goods &c. together also with all the said messuage and tenement in

¹ From deeds in possession of W. Ecroyd, Esq., Nelson, near Burnley, A.D. 1893 [J. P. E.].

Brockehurst aforesaid and Pynnington, now in my occupation, of the ancient yearly rent of 4^s 10^d, to hold to the said John Moese and his assigns during my term therein, and after the decease of the said Isabell my wife, my will is that the said John Moese shall enjoy all and singular the said goods &c. I give and release to Richard Moese my brother all that 3^{li} 13^s 4^d which he oweth me, together which 6s 8d more which I appoint my executors to pay to the said Richard for the use of his four children, upon condition that he suffer the said 4^{li} to be at interest or otherwise used for the best profit of the said children by James Crofte, James Sorocoulde, and William Moyle. I give to the said Richard Moese one blue coat, one pair of stockings, one dagger, and a girdle, and to Raufe my servant one pair of breeches, a pair of stockings, and a pair of shoes. I forgive and release to the said William Moyle all that debt of 15^s 6^d which he oweth me. I constitute, ordain, and make the said John Moese my son and Isabell my wife, my true and lawful executors.

I owe to Thomas Darwall 48^s

Debts owing to me the said Henry.

John Strange of Lawton 50^s 6^d

Roger Bruch Esq. and Henry Corleis have covenanted to deliver to me or my executors 16 bushels of oats within one fortnight after Michaelmas next, for which I have paid them 7^{li} 4^s

Peter Keigheley 13^s

The same Peter hath covenanted to deliver me 2 bushels of beans between Christmas and Purification upon demand.

George Thomassonne 39^s 8^d

John Hasleden son of Roger Hasleden... .. 29^s

William Lyptrote of Weastleigh... .. 19^s 4^d

Adam Hulme upon his pledge viz. a ring 20^s

Alyce Arrowsmyth widow, Junior 3^s

John Wigan for work 18^d

Raufe Sothewoorth for meal 6^s

Henry Maddocke of Bedforth 8^s

Witnesses—James Crofte, William Moyle, and James Sorocoulde, with others.

Proved at Chester 28 Sept. 1597 by John Moese one of the executors, power reserved to Isabell the relict and other executor.

The Will of Thomas Clayton, Serbant to Mr. Justice Walmisley, dated 1601.¹

In the name of God, Amen, the 18th Nov. 44 Elizabeth [1601]. I Thomas Claiton servant to M^r Justice Walmisley. My body to Christian burial. Item I give, bequeath, and assign to Bridgett my wife, all the interest that I have in the house that I now dwell in, in Huntcote co. Lanc., and all the grounds whatsoever in Huntcote and Ackerington, which I have from Thomas Collynson or of Richard Aytoughs or otherwise, and all my horses, mares, oxen, kine, cattle, corn, and hay, whatsoever in Huntcote and Ackerynton aforesaid. I give to the said Bridget my wife all my household stuff and goods in my said house at Huntcote, saving only two "roñe" candlesticks and the bedsteads in the parlour at Huntcote drest with yellow say, and the bed, bolster, pillows &c. which I give to my brother John Clayton, to remain at his house at Litleharwood. Also I give to my said wife Bridget all such sums of money as she hath of mine in her custody, or owing to me by reason of any specialty, from M^r Grymeshay of Clayton, M^r Holden of Holden or any other for him, M^{rs} Birtwysle, John Jackson, or William Rishton. Whereas I have a judgment upon a recognizance of £500 against M^r Francis Tunstall my wife's father, I will that my said wife shall only have to do therewith, to her own profit and good. Also whereas I have divers sums of money in the custody of my brother John Clayton, it is my will that he do bestow £20 thereof to the poor people within the parish of Blackburn, at the discretion of himself, Henry Mawdsley, Henry ffielden, and Hugh Marsden of Blackborne, and also that he give to the school of Blackborne 40^s, and

¹ From deeds in possession W. Ecroyd, Esquire, Nelson, near Burnley, A. D. 1892 [J. P. E.].

to the said Henry ffilden, Henry Mawdesley, and Hugh Marsden, each of them 10^s as a token of my love to them, and to each servant in my house at the day of my death, one year's wages, as a legacy, and to each of his own tenants in Little Harwood, and also to my tenant Lawrence Whalley and his mother, each one years rent, and to each of my sisters children other than to George, William, and Jame[s] Abbott, and other than Thomas, John, and Christopher Whalley, 40s. apiece, and to the said William Abbott £6. 13. 4., and to the said Christopher Whalley £10, and the residue of such sums of money I bequeath to himself and my brother Edward equally between them, saving that it is not my meaning that my brother Edward shall have any part of that sum of £200 for which there is a specialty from my brother John to me, in the custody of John of Roberts, for that sum I do release and freely give as a legacy to my said brother John solely. And also whereas there are divers sums of money of mine in the custody of my brother Rauffe, my will is that he pay to George or Henry Walmysley £24. 14s. which I received this term, as money recovered of one John Myles, saving that my said brother Rauffe is to retain £7. 10s. thereof which I have already paid to Charles Haworth, and I would desire George and Henry Walmysley bestow somewhat on John Myles' wife, which if they refuse to do then it is my will that my said brother Rauffe give unto her of my said proper money so in his custody 40^s. Also I will that my said brother Rauffe give to the poor in every prison in London, Southwark, and Westminster, 20^s with the privity of my cosen Randell Caterall and M^r Thomas Brockholls of Claughton, and also to the said M^r Brockholls, Randle Caterall, John Whalley, James Abbott, my brother William and himself, each of them four marks or cloth for mourning of the worth of four marks at their own choice. I will that my said brother Rauffe give to my said cozen John Whalley £40, and to my said cozen James Abbott £10, and to M^r Doctor Wooten for a token of my love towards him two sovereigns in gold, and one angel in gold to his wife, and all the residue of my said money so in the custody of my said brother Rauffe, I bequeath to him the said Rauffe Clayton my brother and to my said brother or half-brother William Clayton now dwelling with him, equally

between them. And I make my said four brethren John, Edward, Raphe, and William, my executors, and the said M^r Brockholls and Randell Caterall my Supervisors. In witness whereof and to the intent that one part of this my will may remain with my said brother John and the other part with my said brother Rauffe, I have caused the same to be indented.

[Signed] p me THOMAM CLAITON.

Sealed &c. in the presence of

[Signed]	Thomas Brockholes	William Clayton
	John Rea	John Whalley
	Raphe Clayton.	

Codicil

If the said Bridgett my wife shall in any point go about by pretence of custom or law, to entitle herself to the thirds of all my goods, and attempt any suit against my executors, then she shall not have to do with the said Recognizance and Judgment nor any of my household goods &c. but that all the same be to my executors jointly.

[Signed as above.]

[No date of probate.]

The Will of Mr. Edward Legh, of Hallam, co. Chester, dated 1606.¹

God bee mercifull vnto mee, and bless mee etc. Amen. In the name of the father & of the sonn & of the holie gost, so bee it: I Edwarde Legh² of Hallam wthin the Countie of Chester beinge verie pfect of remembrance and of sane Memorie at this p'sent prayed be god thearfore do make this my last will and Testament wth my owne hand writinge in

¹ From Lyme Deeds, Box S.I., No. 10 [J. P. E.].

² Brother of Sir Peter Legh [J. P. E.].

maner & forme followinge ffirst I bequeath my soule in to the hands of the holie Trinitie, hopinge to bee saued by y^e paynfull passion of my deare sweete sauour Ihesu Christ & his merrits & by the merritts and meanes off no other creature either Saint or Angell And my bodie to bee buried in the Chapell of my louinge brother S^r Peter Legh at Winwick by his leaue and licence in the Tombe and buriall place wheare my good graundfather was layde, accordinge to his wish & will that as many of his sonns and sonns sonns as would, might lye by him. For my lands and Tenements goods and chattells w^{ch} almightie god hath lent mee or made mee owner of I bequeath them whollie & solelie to my most faithfull kinde wife, and to my dearest brother M^r Thomas Legh Caruer to y^e Kings most Excellent Ma^{tie} in maner & forme followinge ffirst out of the whole to discharge my depts & legacies and to pforme my funerall in decent sort viz. my Seruingmen to mourne in cotes and a dozen poore ould men in gownes wheareof I will that Rondle Dale & Robert Coppock bee ij of them, if they will goe to the said Church of Winwick, Also I will that xx^{li} at the least bee bestowed vppon a dinner vppon my frends and Kynd Neighbours about Hallam and such as will take paynes to goe wth my corps to the buryall & a convenient so^{me} to the poore that are theare or by the way to bee bestowed vppon ould charitable & younge fatherles children at the discretione of my executors: Item I bequeath vnto my deare cosin Legh pson of Standish a mourninge cloke & xx^s in money to bestowe a godlie ffunerall Sermon at my buryall vppon the Auditorie Itē I geue and bequeath to my right worshipfull louinge brothe^r S^r Peter Legh Knight xx angells in gould to bee paid him wthin a yeare after my death, vppon condition that hee make no clayme to any of my goods & Chattells and do suffer my bodie to lye by the bodie of S^r Pears Legh deceased in the same Tombe. Item I geue and bequeath to my deare onlie Sister M^{ris} Elizabeth Lathom xx angells likewise in gould to bee paid her wthin a yeare, and vj in calfe heffers to be puided her agaynst May day after shee goeth to continve & keepe house at Alertonn [?] desiringe her most dearlie & brotherly to haue a continvall motherlie care of her children, and as shee will answeare mee in an other world not to marrie but

fo^r the bettringe of her selfe & children wth the aduise and consent of S^r Peter Legh & my deare brother Thomas ; who I beseech of all dearnes & loues to continve faithfull brothers & vnclcs to her & her Children. Item I bequeath vnto my Nephwe Lathom of Parbold my Rapier and dagger desiringe him & his bedfellowe to honor god wth prayers and thanksgeuinge daylie in their house at Parbold and in so doinge god will bless them & theirs both in their house & in the feilds : Itē I geue to euerie one of my vnclc Mainyaringes children & ech of my Aunte Collyers children that shall bee liuinge at my death x^s a peece to buy them ech one a bible or a small ringe to weare fo^r my sake Item I geue to euerie one that I haue beene godfather vnto vj^s viij^d a peece to buy them nve [new] Testaments wth or other prayer books to hono^r god vppon : Item I geue to euerie Seruingman that hath serued mee a yeare in my house halfe a yeares wages to bee paid him wthin vj months after my death and namelie I geue to Thomas Erlam that hath serued mee longe xx nobles & to Edmund Taylor xx^s to buy him a fayre bible wthall whom god hath blessed wth much riches, and thearfore I geue him less then the others : Though I haue cause to loue him greatlie Itē I geue to the Church or Chapell of Darsburie towards the findinge of a preacher theare xx^{li} prayinge god to stirr vpp the rightworshipfull Justices, Gentlemen, and the rest of the inhabitants harts to contribute & mayntayne a preacher theare wherein I would haue beene verie earnest & forward if I had liued : Itē I desier my deare wife & my faithfull louinge brother Thomas to agree together in great vnitie & loue, and not to part the houshold goods & chattells but to inioy them ioyntlie as brother & Sister or rather like man & wife, as also to inioy ioyntlie together the Capitall messuage & demayne of Yarlett wthin the County of Stafford duringe the minoritie of my cosin Edward Collyere whom I desier may bee kept to learninge and to inioy Joyntlie the p^rfits out of Whitley Hallam, Berkett, a Tack I haue neare litle Budworth called Shawes and a Tack of ground beinge p^rcell of the nve manor ffarme All w^{ch} my lands & Tenements goods & chattells whatsoever & whearsoeuer I giue and bequeath them to my said deare louinge wife Katherin Legh and to my dearest brother Thomas Legh To haue, hould, & inioy the said Lands

& Tenements goods and Chattells to the said Katherin my wife, and to the said Thomas Legh my brothere for and duringe the naturall life of the said Katherin, and after the death of the said Katherin, then the said lands & Tenements goods & chattells to remayne & cume whollie vndeuided or as many of them as shall bee vnspent vnto the said Thomas Legh his executors and Administrators To this intent and purpose That hee the said Thomas Legh his executors & Administrators shall (as hee will answere me before the Judgment seate of god) wth the p^{ro}fits of the p^{ro}misses help to mayntayne & bringe vpp Edward Lathom, Peter Lathom, W^m Lathom, Richard Lathom, John Lathom & Katherin Lathom sonns and daughter of the said Elizabeth Lathom my naturall deare Sistar vntill they come to p^{ro}ferment or the age of xxj yeares If they will bee aduised & followe the direction of the said Thomas Legh, Prouided alwaies and neuer the less my will & mynd is, that if the said Katherin Legh my deare wife shall refuse and mislike to p^{ro}forme this my last will And shall not enter into bond wth suertie wth her wthin vj months, for the p^{ro}forminge of this my will vnto my said brother Thomas, in such Summe as hee shall thinke fitt for the quiett inioyinge of the p^{ro}misses ioyntlie & vndeuided as aforesaid and after the death of the said Katherin that the lands & tenements goods & chattells before bequeathed so longe as the said Katherin by law had right to her p^{ro}te: That then the said Katherin my will is shall haue the Capitall messuage and demayne of Yarlett aforesaid or a C marcks in money yearly out of the same onlie in satisfaction of all the interest title clayme & demande w^{ch} shee the said Katherin shall or may make to any of my Lands, Tenements, goods & chattells before mentioned And my will is that shee the said Katherin shall bee debarred & concluded for challenginge any of my goods & chatells taxes or leases Accordinge to the true meaninge of certen assurances w^{ch} god willinge I intend to make to the vse of my said brother Thomas for the inioyinge of the p^{ro}misses accordinge to the effect & purport hearof: Itē my will & desier is that all such writinges and Euidences that concerne others, that are in my Custodie may bee deliuered by my brother Thomas to the right owners whearof sume I haue that were left wth mee by reason of my office of Eschea-

tor, Also my mynd & will is, that if any haue iust cause of wronge doone them by mee by coulour of my said office of Escheator wthout their owne concent & agreement, that my brother Thomas in some sort make satisfaction vnto them & I desier god & the p^ties to remitt & forgiue mee. Item whearas there are certen writings in my Custodie made betwix mee and one Sefton of Barrow p^{ish} concerninge the payment of xv^{li} p anⁿ at euerie quarter a portion of the said xv^{li} fo^r vj years frō the makinge of the said writings the truth and true meaninge is that the said xv^{li} fo^r vj years is due wth the interest & p^{fit}t of the same vnto my louinge Godsonn Iohn Lathom fo^r his mother my deare Sister disbursed & paid lx^{li} fo^r the buyinge of the said Anvitie of xv^{li} of the said Sefton whearfore my will is and I charge my brother Thomas & my deare wife to pay & account to the vse of the said Iohn Lathom the said xv^{li} fo^r so manie years as aforesaid wth the p^{fit}t that shall bee made of the same.

Depts owinge by mee as followeth :

Imp^rmis to my deare brother Thomas about lv^{li} for w^{ch} hee hath a bill or bond being p^{te} of the money hee receaued of M^r Brooke : Item to my Sister Lathom w^{ch} shee lent mee about Martinmas anno domini 1605, l^{li}. Item that shee lent mee scince about xiiij^{li}. Item to my said brother Thomas owinge w^{ch} I scince had of S^r Robert Needham xl^{li} whearof I sent my said brother x^{li} in Gould to London p^{te} of the said xl^{li}. Itē owinge to one George Mills iiij^{li} vj^s viij^d p^{cell} of x^{li} for w^{ch} hee hath a bill of my hand, but xx nobles was paid by my cosin Iohn Legh about Easter last : Itē owinge to a litle brode black man in Cheapsyde wth whom George Mills sonn was prentise about xxxiiij^s iiij^d w^{ch} I would haue made vpp xl^s because I haue ough it him for million fustian longe. Item I will that W^m Pker of Bradkerke & Thomas Shawe his halfe brother or heire next of blood haue v^{li} paid them w^{ch} I in conscience ough to their brother Robert Shawe sumetyme my fellowe student in Grayes Ine wthin ij .yeares after my death. Item there is viij^{li} yearlie to bee paid to the vse of Timothie Harpur viz. at Midsumer & Martinmas or wthin iiij dayes after at Darsburie Church duringe her life or els the Stanrie feild & Mikell Hallom are forfeited for none payment

thearof and after the death of the said Tymothie there is lxxx^{li} to bee paid to Thomas Harpur her husband wthin iij months (as I take it) after her death.

Depts owinge vnto mee as followeth.

Imp^rmis S^r Peter Legh oweth mee for viij yeares Anvitie w^{ch} my grandfather S^r Pears Legh made mee issuinge out of all his lands xx^{li} yearlie w^{ch} cumeth vnto a hundreth & iij score pounds, Item my Nephwe Edward Vawdrey oweth mee x^{li} as appeareth by his bond, Itē Richard Hicock oweth mee iij^{li} to bee paid at Midsummer next & other iij^{li} to bee paid at Midsummer come twelmonth as appeareth by his bill; Of this my last will & Testament I ordayne and make my dearest brother Thomas now by gods blessing & p^rferment the Kings Ma^{ties} Caruer in Ordinarie, and my most kynd & Louinge wife my lawfull & . . . Executors of this my last will and Testament, desyringe intreatinge and con[iur]inge them both by all the loues that they or either of them did euer beare vnto mee, and as they will answeare mee before the tribunall & Judgment seate of god to p^rforme this my said will in all poynts as neare as they can accordinge to the true meaninge: P^ruided neuertheless & vpon this condition, That if the said Katherin my wife do in any sort disagree and refuse to Joyne wth my said brother Thomas in the p^ruing & p^rformance of this my last will & Testament, Then my will & meaninge is that shee shall bee no Executrix of this my will, nor clayme any benefite thearby, but bee vtterie debarred frō hauinge any Title or culler of clayminge any thinge whatsoever by vertue of the same. Item of this my last will and Testament I most humblie pray & beseech the right Reuerend ffather in god George Lord Bushopp of Chester, and my right worshipfull euer deare frend Sir Peter Warburtō one of his Ma^{ties} Iustices of the comon pleas to bee faithfull ouerseers and furtherers to the vttermost of their indeuours, and that for gods cause, to cause & see this my will p^rformed as neare as may bee accordinge to the true meaninge thearof. In witnesse hearof I the said Edward Legh beinge in p^rfect & sane memorie at the makinge hearof prayse, honour & thanks I render vnto almightie god thearfore haue hearunto put my hande & seale the xxvijth day of Aprill in the yeare of the Raigne

of Iames by the grace of god Kinge of England, ffrence and Ireland the iijth and of Scotland the xxxixth defendor of the faith &c. 1606.

William Bate. He^r Sumners.

EDWARD LEGH. [Signed.]

Sealed & deli^ued by mee Edward
Leigh in the p^rsence of Richard
Hicoke Thomas Lathom
Richard Dobson
Robert Millington
William Dauempport.

[Endorsed.]

27 April 1606.

The will of M^r Edw^d Legh of Hallom
brother to S^r Peter Legh.

Administration of the goods of Elizabeth Swetenham, of Hurdsfeld, Widow, dated 1608.¹

Bond by which Edmund Swetenham of Somerford near Marton co. Chester, gent., and John Alcocke of Sumerdford near Brereton in the county aforesaid, yeoman, are bound to the Bishop of Chester in £10.

Dated 10 Aug. 6 James, 1608.

The condition is that the above bounden Edmund Swetenham well and truly administer all the goods &c. of Elizabeth Swetenham late of Hurdsfeld, widow, deceased, and exhibit a true and perfect inventory of all the goods &c. which the said deceased died possessed of at or before the 20 Sept. next ensuing.

Letters of Administration of the goods &c. of Elizabeth

¹ From the *Swettenham Chartulary*, p. 29 [J. P. E.].

widow of Lawrence Swettenham¹ granted to her son Edmond, 10 Aug. 1608. Her inventory was dated the same day.

The Will of William Leche, of Chester, dated 1614.²

In the name of God, Amen, the 13th Oct. 1614. I William Leche of the City of Chester, vintner.³ My body to be buried in the parish church of St. Brides in the City of Chester or elsewhere at the discretion of my executors in a decent and seemly manner. Item whereas heretofore William Mordant late of Okelye co. Bedford, Esq. deceased, and Agnes his then wife, did by their Indenture of lease bearing date the 15th Augst 19 Elizabeth [1577] demise unto me certain messuages, cottages, lands &c. situate in the Manor, Lordship, or Hamlet of Hargraue within the parish of Neston in Wirhall co. Chester, for the term of 50 years from the feast of St. Michael the Archangel next after the date of the said Indenture, which lease and all my term in the said premises was afterwards by me and my son in law Thomas Boothe (according to an award of William Aldersey and Edward Dutton of the City of Chester, Aldermen, bearing date the 27th Feb. 5 James [1607]) conveyed and assigned to Thomas Trafford Esq. and Robert Whitbie of the said City

¹ The will of Lawrence Swettenham of Somerford, gent., proved in 1597, has been printed by the Chetham Society, Vol. iii., N.S., p. 131 [J. P. E.].

² From the High Legh Deeds, 1884 [J. P. E.].

³ There is a previous will of the above named William Leche, dated 29th June, 1611, in which he is described as William Leche of the City of Chester, mercer. There is mention of "the Children of my daughter Iane Lothor"; "Iohn Leche w^{ch} was the sonne of my brother Richard Leche"; "my kinsmen William Leche geñ & Charles Leche m̄chaunte."

(Signed) Willm Leche.

Witnesses
Peter Drinkwater
William Drinkwater
Thomas Price.
1611.

Red seal bearing a chevron between two cross-crosslets fitchee in chief and a serpent nowed in base.
Crest (?) a small bird.

[J. P. E.]

of Chester, Alderman, to such uses as by the said award and the said conveyance thereupon made are limited, that is to say, to the use of the said Thomas Boothe and his assigns during so many years of the said term as the said Thomas Boothe and Anne his then wief should live, upon such considerations as in the said award &c. are expressed, and immediately after the decease of the said Thomas Booth or of the said Anne (which Anne is now dead) then to the use of me the said William Leeche, and to the use of such of my children or friends to whom by my last will I should devise the same for the residue of the said term. I do hereby devise the same to Thomas Whitbie of the City of Chester, gent., and Peter Drinckwater of the same City, Ironmonger, to their own proper use, paying therefore yearly after my decease during so many years as then shall be unexpired of the said term, such legacies and annuities as are hereafter limited, that is to say, £10 to my son Iohn Leeche for his life, if the said term shall so long continue, and also £4 yearly to Mary Ball my daughter wife of Henry Ball during her life if the said term shall so long continue. Item my will is that if I shall at any time hereafter by any writing under my hand and seal give any annuity to any other person or persons that the same shall be taken as parcel of this my last will, and shall be paid accordingly by the said Thomas Whitbie and Peter Drinckwater or the one of them. Provided always that the said annuity so to be given, together with the annuities hereby already devised, do not exceed the yearly sum of 40 marks per annum. Item I hereby further will that the said Thomas Whitbie and Peter Drinckwater shall yearly pay for the said premises after my decease during the residue of the said term, the yearly rent of £5 reserved by the said Indenture of lease to such person as by the same Indenture it ought to be paid, and also discharge all such duties &c. as after my decease during the said term shall become payable. My will is that in case of any suits concerning the said premises, the said Thomas Whitby and Peter Drinckwater shall deduct out of the said annuities so much money as they shall necessarily expend in the defence of any such suits. Item the residue of all my goods &c. (after my debts, legacies, and

funeral expenses are discharged) to the use of my executors. And of this my last will I nominate and appoint the said Thomas Whitbie and Peter Drinckwater my executors.

[Signed] by me Wifm Leche.

Sealed &c. in the presence of
Ed. Whitby Robt Bennett Wifm Allen
Thomas Allarton Ric: Hobs.

**The Will of Robert Mather, of Westleigh, co.
Lanc., Yeoman, dated 1617.¹**

In the name of God, Amen, the 29th May 1617. I Robert Mather of Westleighe co. Lanc. yeoman. My body to be buried in Christian burial. First I give to William, John, Marie, Anne, and Jenett Ptington Children of John Partington of Tildisley, 2s. 6d. apiece. And to Christopher, Elizabeth, Ellin, and William Manne children of James Manne of Tildisley aforesaid every one 2s. 6d. And to Jenet, Katherin, Margrett, Elizabeth, and Anne Liptrott, daughters of William Liptrott of Westleigh aforesaid, every one 2s. 6d. And to Richard Hawghton, Nicholas and Anne Hawghton, children of James Hawghton, late of Arburie, deceased, every one 2s. 6d. And to Symon Mather, Geffrey Mather, Robert, John, James, and Ellin Mather, children of Geofrey Mather my brother, £5 equally to be divided amongst them. To Symon Mather alias Morton my base son, £13. 6s. 8d., and if he die before he attain the age of 14 years I give the same sum of £13. 6s. 8d. to the said six children of my said brother Geffrey Mather in manner aforesaid. I give to Elline Mather alias Morton my base daughter £6. 13s. 4d., and if she die before she come to the age of 14 years, then I give the same sum of £6. 13s. 4d. to the said six children of

¹ From deeds in the possession of W. Ecroyd, Esq., of Nelson, near Burnley [J. P. E.]

my said brother Geffrey Mather in manner aforesaid. To Anne Mather now wife of the said Geoffrey Mather, my sister in law, £5. To Robert Whittell alias Brownlowe, William Manne, and Robert Whittell whom I am godfather vnto, every one 12^d. And to my said brother Geoffrey Mather I give my trunk, and to the said Anne my chest. I give all the residue of my goods &c. besides the discharging of my funeral expenses and legacies, to the said Geoffrey Mather my brother, and I make the said Geoffrey Mather my brother and James Sorrowcoulede my true and lawful executors.

Sealed &c. in the
presence of

[The mark of Robert
Mather.]

[Signed] Geffrey Mather Junior
Robert Mather Jū
John Whittells.

Proved at Chester by the executors 4 July 1618.

The Will of Henry Nutter, alias Parker, of the Carrhale, co. Lanc., Yeoman, dated 1617.¹

In the name of god Amen the nynthe daye of Julye Anno R. Rīs Jacobi Angt̄ etc. decimo sexto et Scotie quinquagessimo primo fidei defensor' &c annoq̄ dñi 1617 I Henrie Nutter als Pker [Parker] of the Carrhale in the countie of Lancaster yeoman sicke in bodie butt of good and pfecte memorie, I give god thankes for it, doe make this my last will and testam^t in manⁿ and forme followeing, ffirst I give and bequeathe my soule into the handes of allmightie god, my maker trustinge onelie throughe his m^cie and the merittes of Christ Jesus to bee saved, It^m I give my bodie to Christian Buriall att the discretion of my executors hereafter named, It^m Con^cninge all my goodes Chattles and Cattles

¹ From deeds in the possession of W. Ecroyd, Esq., of Nelson, near Burnley [J. P. E.].

debtes moveable and unmoveable of what nature and in whose handes soeⁿ I doe give and bequeathe the same in manⁿ and forme followeing that is to saye all my debtes unto me oweinge by anye psonn whatsoeⁿ and my funerall expences beinge trulie paide out of my whole goodes then I doe devyde the remaynder of all my said goodes chattles and cattles and debtes into twoe Equall partes, thone hallffe I give unto Elline my wyffe accordinge to the custome of the Cuntree and the other hallffe of my saide goodes Chattles Cattles and debtes I give unto Lawrence Townley of the Carrhale in the countie of Lancaster Esquire, And lastlie I doe hereby constitute ordayne make and appoynte the afforesaide Lawrence Townley and Elline¹ my wyffe executors of this my last will and testam^t hopeinge they will pforme the same as my trust is in them In witnes whereof to this my last will & testam^t I haue putt my hand and seale the daie and yeare first aboue written.

Witnesses hereof

[No signature.]

Robert Townley Ju^r
 Richard Towneley Ju^r
 Robart Whalley Ju^r.

Proved 9 Jan. 1618[-19] in the Court of the Rural Deanery of Blackbourne by Lawrence Townley the executor.

The Will of Richard Legh, of Swinehead, co. Chester, Gent., dated 1618.

In the name of God, Amen, the 18 July 1618. I Richard Leighe of Swinhead co. Chester, gent., being of good and perfect memory and reasonable good health. My body to the earth whereof it is made.

As concerning all my household goods, husbandry imple-

¹ Over Ellen's name is written the word *renunciavit*

ments &c. I bequeath the same and every part thereof to Mathew Leigh, gent., now my son and heir, for the better enabling him to keep hospitality, he the said Mathew discharging all my funeral expences, legacies &c. I give and bequeath to Lawrence Leigh my son, 10s. in full discharge of his filial portion, being otherwise provided for. I give and bequeath to Jane my daughter, wife to Edmond Latham, gent., £10, in full satisfaction of her filial portion, being preferred in competent manner formerly in marriage by me with the said Edmond Latham. I give and bequeath to her four children, Edmund, John, Mary, and Margaret Latham, £5 each. To Thomas Leighe, gent., my brother, all my apparel whatsoever.

I give and bequeath towards the reparations of the Parish Church of Rawstorne 10s., and to the poor of the same parish 20s. to be distributed at the discretion of my executor or overseer. And of this my last will I constitute the said Mathew Leighe my son, sole Executor, and desire my worshipful nephew Thomas Leighe of High Leighe, Esq., to be supervisor of the same.

RICHARD LEIGHE [Signed.]

Witnesses hereof,

Thomas Leighe

George Cooke

Henry Bradhurst

Peter ffurnehead

Thomas Leighe the yonger

John Rawstorne.

Proved before David Yale, Doctor of Laws, the 14 Jan^y 1618[-19], and administration granted to the sole executor.

**The Will of Alice Orte, of Walton-in-lee-Dale,
co. Lanc., Spinster, dated 1620.¹**

In the name of God, the 2 Sept. 1620. I Alice Orte of Walton in lee Dale co. Lanc., spinster. "My bodie to be Buried in the pische Churche yorde or Chappell of the Lowe

¹ From the Agecroft collection, Poulton Deeds, No. 85 [J. P. E].

nerer the Buriall place whear my ffather and mother lieth." I give to Thomas Cowper son of John, my great pan. To Edward Cowper brother of the said Thomas, my great pot. To the three children of the said John Cowper, Thomas, Edward, and Elline, the half of my pewter dishes equally amongst them, and the other half thereof to be at the disposition of my executors. I give to the said John Cowper my best silver spoon. I give to the said Thomas Cowper my least silver spoon. And my mind is that my executors shall have the disposing of the other three silver spoons. To Thomas Cowper son of James Cowper, 40s. To Thomas Orte 6s. 8d. To Thomas Dyconson 4s. To Jane Procter 2s. To Elline Parke 12d. All the residue of my goods and chattels after my funeral expences and legacies are discharged, shall be divided into three equal parts, one part to remain to the said John Cowper, the second part equally amongst the said three children of the said John Cowper, and the third part to be distributed at the discretion of my executors. I make the said John Cowper and William Balshawe, Executors of this my last will, and humbly request my "neese" Thomas Cowper to be supervisor hereof.

Debts owing unto me.

Inp^rmis William Balshawe and Elizabeth Cowper 8^{li} 3^s 4^d.

Witnesses hereof—John Balshawe
James ffarclough.

Proved by the Executors before John Morres, M.A.,
Dean of the Deanery of Blackborne, the 7 Nov.
1620.

**The Will of Thomas Legh, of Hallom, Esq.,
dated 1623.¹**

In the name of god amen I Tho: Legh of Halhom Esq
being in perfect memory &c. My body to be buried yf I dye

¹ From the Lyme Deeds, Box S.I., No. 13 [J. P. E.].

in Chest : or Lanch : at Winwick or Disley w^t the licence of my worthy br. Sr. P. Legh kn. Whom I much respect. I most kindly entreate my choice beloved neph : Fran. Legh to bee my sole executor, to him I give all my leases goods & chattells, wishing & most earnestly entreating that he will out of them perform these legacies following. First I give to his noble fath. my br. my velvit cloake. Item to my niece Bold & my niece Sherburn the two trunks in my chamber at Halhom & the stuff in them to bee divided by his discretion betwene them. Item to my sister Lathom the ring whose posie is Wⁱⁿ Advised admits no change. Item to my neph : Tho : Lathom fiftie pounds. Item to Dugles Chapel by Perbold xx^{li} praying the good old parson of Standish my old maister & the parson of Ecleston to do their best to roote out popery & do good & not to set them selvs too much of the of this world but to strive to winn soules to god w^{ch} is their best function. Item to Whitley Chapel in Budworth parish xx^{li} towards the maintenance of a preacher or schoole or both. Item to Dasberie church towards the maintenance of a preacher or schoole or both xx^{li} wishing & most earnestly entreating S^r Richard Brook that as his fath : & hee having had the tythes a long continuance & the parishioners comformable yf this worthy deed of agreement might be made by him M^r Daniell & the Vertuous widows M^{rs} Brooke & M^{rs} Ashton, who hath benefit & do give help now yearely. I give a gold ring w^{ch} was M^r Leghs sealing ring to my special frend M^r Hary Bradshawe of Marple. To my servants in liverye (named) x^s, the other three servants is my house v^s apiece.

Dated xijth day of October. 1623.

[Signed] THOMAS LEGH.

[Entirely autograph.]

Sealed in the presence of

John Dande Edw : Creswell.

Geo : Bowdon

[Proved 3 Nov. 1626.]

The Will of Margerie Higson, of the Parish of Whitegate, co. Chester, Widow, dated 1623.¹

In the name of God, Amen, the 22 Oct. 1623. I Margerie Higson of the parish of Whitegate co. Chester, widow, being weakened by sickness yet of perfect mind. My body I do commit to the earth to be decently interred in Christian burial at the parish church of Over. And as concerning my worldly goods I give them to the world to be disposed of as follows. First I give and bequeath to my sister Margaret 10^s in money, and to her son John Nightgale £3. I give to the poor of the parish of Over (except Wetnall and Olton Loe) also to the poor of the parish of Whitegate (except Darnall), £20, which sum M^r Thomas Manwaringe of Marton Sand oweth me, and my mind is that the churchwardens of either parish shall take and receive the same money either by love or by law, of the said Thomas Manwaringe, and divide the same sum equally betwixt the said parishes, and to be put forth to the use of the said poor people of either parish by the said churchwardens, and to be a stock for the said poor and the interest thereof to remain to the said poor every year's end. And also the putting forth of the said stock into sufficient men's hands upon good security. And my mind also is that the Vicar of either parish and the churchwardens every year have out of the said interest every one 18^d for their pains. I give to the poor people that shall come to the house and place where it pleaseth God to call me away every one a penny, and to every of my godchildren 12^d. To Randle Baker son of Richard Baker 12^d. To Mary Higson daughter of Richard Higson 5^s. To the children of William Higson his brother, every one 12d. To Randle Barker son of Alis Barker, widow, 12d. To Peter Eloms 20^s in money. To John Hase and his wife, either 10^s in money, and to their servant John Smith 10^s. To Thomas Barker of Gavell Greene, one of my executors, all the debt he oweth me. To Raffe Barker my uncle 10^s in money. I give more to my sister

¹ Copied into the Whitegate Churchwardens Accounts 1601-1662 [J. P. E.].

Margaret my gown. All the rest of my goods whatsoever I give to my executors hereafter named to dispose of them as they best think good, with all debts, bills, bonds, and any debt that is due to me, they out of the whole to discharge all such legacies, funeral expenses, and to see me honestly buried. I give to Henry Chatterton 12^d.

Debts owing to me by bill and bond. Andrewe Burton 10^s George Maddocke 10^s Raffe Manwaringe 10^s William Higson 10^s Robert Penketh 10^s Robert Cleyton of the Northwich 10^s William fforster the younger, 10^s, Raffe Nightgale 3^s and his mother 2^s and his brother Peter 11^s.

I make my executors Peter Elloms of Over and Thomas Barker of Gale greene, and my overseer Thomas Baker to see this my last will performed.

Signū p'diċ MARGERIE HIGSON testatoř.

Witnesses—

Henry Chatterton
Mawde Hase wife of John Hase
with others.

Margerie Higson widow was buried at Over the 4th Dec. 1624.

The Will of John Clayton, of Little Harwood, co. Lanc., Gentleman, dated 1625.¹

In the name of God, Amen, the 24th January 1624[-5]. I John Clayton of Litle Harwoode co. Lanc., gentleman. My body to Christian burial in the parish church of Blackborne at the discretion of my executors, as near my ancestors and friends as conveniently may be. My debts to be first paid out of my goods and personal estate. Item whereas I stand seised to me and my heirs in fee simple, of and in one capital mesuage and tenement with the appurtenances in Upper Wyersdale in the said county, commonly called Lentworthe, and of

¹ From deeds in possession of W. Ecroyd, Esq., 1893 [J. P. E.].

and in divers other messuages, lands &c. in Over Wyersdale aforesaid, to the said capital messuage belonging. Now my will is and I hereby devise the same as follows. First I devise the said capital messuage and all the lands &c. aforesaid, to Thomas Clayton my nephew, younger son of Thomas Clayton my late brother deceased, and his assigns during his life. Remainder to the first and other sons of the said Thomas Clayton, successively, and their heirs male in tail. Remainder to John Clayton elder brother of the said Thomas Clayton during his life. Remainder to the first and other sons of the said John Clayton, my nephew, successively, and their heirs male in tail. Remainder to Edward Clayton of Manchester, gentleman, my brother, during his life. Remainder to the first and other sons of the said Edward Clayton, successively, and their heirs male in tail. Remainder to Rauffe Clayton, gentleman, one other of my brothers, during his life. Remainder to the first and other sons of the said Rauffe Clayton, successively, and their heirs male in tail. Remainder to the right heirs of me the said John Clayton for ever. Nevertheless it is my will that the said Thomas Clayton my nephew, shall within one year next after he shall come to the possession of the said premises cleared from the rent charge now payable forth of the same, pay to my executors hereafter named £300 as my said executors shall appoint, unless they see any just cause to make any abatement thereof, and in default of such payment the said sum shall be raised out of the said premises by my executors. And whereas I did formerly purchase in the name of my said brother Edward Clayton in trust for the use of myself and my heirs, one water corn mill called Lentworthe-Mylne, my will is and I heartily entreat my said brother that the said mill may be enjoyed and used with the said capital messuage and lands. And as touching my personal estate and goods, I give to my said nephew John Clayton all my standing goods, chattels, plate, household stuff and implements of husbandry, within or belonging to my dwelling house at Littleharwood where I now live (my corn and grain and all my cattle and quick goods only excepted). I give to my said nephew Thomas Clayton, all my dead goods and chattels and all implements of household and husbandry at or in my said dwelling house called Lentworthe (all my corn, cattle, sheep,

and other quick goods only excepted). I give to my Allyance Thomas Birtwisley and my niece Margrett his wife in full discharge of her filial portion and all other legacies the sum of £50. To my kinsman and godson George Abbott £10. To my kinsman William Abbott brother of the said George the sum of £30. To their two sisters Margery and Ellen either of them £10. To my kinsman Thomas Whalley £10, and to my godson John Whalley of London his brother £20. To Ellen now wife of Richard Mercer and sister to the said Thomas and John Whalley the sum of £10. To my kinsman and godson Myles Marsden £10. To Margrett and Margery his two sisters, either of them £10. To my said brothers Edward and Rauffe either of them £10, and to my brother William Clayton £20, and to my sister Ellen £10. To John Sharples the younger of Blackborne who married my kinswoman £10. To Mary Livesaye my servant, daughter of Thomas Livesaye of Sydbighte £10. I give all the residue of my goods &c. (my debts and legacies first discharged) to my executors hereafter named. And I constitute and make my said brothers Edward Clayton and Rauffe Clayton Executors of this my last will.

JOHN CLAYTON.

Witnesses—

William Clayton

Gyles Clayton

Henrye Clayton.

[A copy of the will on paper.]

**The Will of Sir Gilbert Ireland, of the Hutt,
co. Lanc., Knt., dated 1626.¹**

In the name of God, Amen, the 30th Jan^y 1st Charles
[1625-6] I S^r Gilberte Ireland of the Hutt co. Lanc. knight,

¹ From the High Legh Deeds, 1884 [J. P. E.].

being aged. My body to Christian burial. I give and bequeath to Dame Barbara Ireland my now welbeloved wife, all my new plate which was made for me by one Hulme a goldsmith, one Chain of gold of the value of 20^{li} or thereabouts, together with all rings, jewels, wearing apparel, chests, and trunks now in her own custody, together with the bedding and all other furniture in the great Chamber at Hale, and also the gelding with the saddle and other furniture belonging thereto, and whereupon she now usually rideth. Item to John Ireland my son and heir apparent, my best horse with all armours and furniture belonging to a Launce and all other armours, with the furniture belonging to the pykes and muskets wherewith I stand now charged, and also all other armours, pykes &c. which in any sort belong to Marshall discipline, and also the great broad silver knife used for a voyding knife at the table, the great horn garnished with silver and gilt, together with all the boards, forms, tables &c. which at the time of my decease shall happen to be at Croton co. Chester, so as he the said John Ireland hold himself satisfied with such legacies as are hereby given to him, and do not go about to infringe or alter the same, or do not put in suit a certain bond of £100 which was at the time of his marriage taken in his name to no other purpose, but to stir up and cause my Lady Yonge to be more open hearted and liberal to him and her daughter in future time, in respect of her former large promises made to me how good she would be to them, and what great gifts she would bestow on them after their marriage, and especially at their going to keep house, And so as he the said John Ireland do confirm all such leases as are heretofore made by me to any of my younger children. Item all the residue of my goods &c. I devise to be divided into three equal parts, the first part whereof I reserve to myself towards the paying of my debts, legacies, and funeral expenses, so as my funeral charges amount not above the sum of £30. The second part thereof I bequeath to the said Dame Barbara Ireland my dearly beloved wife. And the third part to all my younger children, equally to be divided amongst them. And as concerning the residue of my said part of goods, my debts &c. being first paid, I bequeath the same to my said younger children

equally amongst them. And further my will is that whereas I the said S^r Gilbert Ireland at the time of the ensealing hereof stand seised of a good and absolute estate in fee simple to me and my heirs of certain messuages, burgages, lands &c. within the City of Chester, and Manley co. Chester, And of certain messuages, lands &c. in Halewood, Halebancke, and Much Woolton co. Lanc. I bequeath the same to James Massie of Hindley co. Lanc. Esq. and Hamlett Massie gent. son and heir apparent of Richard Massie of Rixton co. Lanc. Esq^r and their heirs, to such intent and purpose that they the said James and Hamlett and their heirs shall bargain and sell or otherwise convey the same to any person or persons for the payment of the debts of the said S^r Gilberte, or for the preferment of all or any the younger children of the said S^r Gilberte, as he the said S^r Gilberte shall appoint. And my further will is that the said James and Hamlet and their heirs shall grant or convey to Gilberte Ireland youngest son of the said Sir Gilberte, and to his heirs and assigns for ever, for his better preferment, all that messuage, lands &c. with their appurtenances commonly called Ridleys farme, situate in Hunsterston, Hatherton, and Duddington alias Derrington co. Chester. Item Whereas Elizabeth Countess of Derby as by several notes under her hand aswell for money lent by John Ireland late of Hutt co. Lanc. Esq^r deceased, my brother as by several disbursements to others made by her appointment, was indebted to him in several great sums of money, which were conveyed to me for valuable considerations amongst other things by the executors of my late brother John Ireland, I the said S^r Gilberte for the better preferment of my daughter Katherine do bequeath to the said Katherine all such sums of money as can in any wise be gotten from any person or persons by reason of the said several writings. Item I bequeath to the said James Massie two 20 shilling pieces of gold to buy him a ring with. I constitute and make the said Dame Barbara Ireland my welbeloved wife, and Thomas Ireland one of my younger sons my true and lawful Executors.

GILBERT IRELAND.

Sealed &c. in the presence of

Witthm Sherlocke Clerke, John Minshull, John Parte,
Thomas Gleauē, Robte Whittle.

Copia hec Concordat Cum
Testam^{to} p^d defte penes
Regru^m Curie Con^s Cest^r
remanefi fca Colla^{oe} p me
Edw : Morgell
No^{rius} Pub^{ius}

exa^{iat} p me W^m Harding.

xxj^o die Aprilis 1641.

Shewed to wytness^a on the behaulf of the
deff^{ts} at the Castle of Chester & sworne
vnto before vs Geo : Bostocke
Da : Speed
Thom : Poole, John Mekeying [?]

The Will of Ralph Clayton, Citizen and Grocer, of London.¹

[Date torn off—probably 1626.]

I Ralfe Clayton Citizen and Grocer of London. Item I give to the Vicar, Churchwardens, and parishioners of Blackborne in Lancashire where I was borne, the sum of £30 to be preserved and kept for a perpetual stock in money or otherwise to be bestowed in lands, as they shall think most convenient, and that all the issues and profits thereof shall remain for ever to the use of such old and poor decayed parishioners of the same parish as shall stand in most need to be relieved, at the discretion of the said Churchwardens with four or six substantial parishioners yearly. Provided always that the sum of 14s. of the said yearly profits shall be yearly bestowed upon two Bibles of 7s. a Bible to give unto two poor children of the same parish, either son or daughter of any poor man,

¹ From deeds in the possession of Mr. Ecroyd, 1892 [J. P. E.].

that best fear God and are willing to learn, at or about the feast of the Annunciation of our Blessed Lady the Virgin.

[A true copy of so much of the will as concerns the Legacy given to Blackborne.]

The Will of Richard Twisse, of Ashton-in-Makerfield, co. Lanc., Waller, dated 1629.¹

In the name of God, Amen, I Richard Twisse of Ashton in Makerfeild co. Lanc., waller. My body to Christian burial in my parish church of Winwicke. My debts, legacies, and funeral expenses shall be discharged out of my whole goods, and then my goods shall be divided into three equal parts, two parts whereof shall remain to Margaret my wife, and one part to my son. And it is my will that John Winterbothom and Henry Birchall my brother in law shall have the government of my son's part of goods until he accomplish the age of 21 years, and as concerning my messuage, lands, and tenements, it is my will that Margaret my wife shall have the occupation of them all until John my son shall come to the age of 21 years. And it is my will that the housing shall be equally divided betwixt my wife and my son, and for the land my son shall have the South end and my wife the North end. And for the kiln and kiln yard I assign my whole estate thereof to Margaret my wife. I make my true and lawful executors hereof Margaret my wife, and Henry Birchall my brother in law.

Dated 17 Feb. 1628[-9].

Debts owing by the said Richard Twisse.

To John Ashton and his sons	6 ^{li} & the use.
To Elizabeth Derbyshire widow	4 ^{li} & the use.

¹ Original in the possession of W. Ecroyd, Esq., of Nelson, near Burnley [J. P. E.].

Debts owing to the said Richard

Hercules Eaton 21^s 6^d

[The whole of the debts.]

RIC TWISSE

Witnesses—

Thomas Birchall

John Birche.

his  m^rke

Proved by the executors before William Lewis, clerk,
Rural Dean of Warrington, 9 April 1629.

**The Will of Dorothy Helsby, of Chorlton, co.
Chester, Spinster, dated 1641.¹**

In the name of God Amen the last day of March in the
yeare of our lord god one thowsand sixe hundred forty and
one I Dorothy Helsby of Chorleton in the county of Chester
spinster daughter vnto Randle Helsby of Helsby in the afore-
said county gentleman decessid doe make and ordayne my
last will and testament in manner and forme following That
is to say I giue and bequeath vnto Leonard Grantham of
the cittye of Chester gentleman and to my kinswoman
Penelope his wife and to the heires and assignes of her the
said Penelope my house and garden with the appurtenauncs
in Chorlton aforesaid wherein I dwell and all my lands and
tenem^{ts} in the towne and feilds of Chorleton aforesaid which
my saide father gaue to me vpon Condiçon that they the said
Leonard Grantham and the said Penelope his wife my kyns-
woman shall well and sufficiently mayneteyne keepe and
looke to me dureing the terme of my lyfe wth meate drinke
clothyng washing and lodging in my said house wherein I
now dwell at Chorleton afforesaid Neu^rlesse I doe hereby
giue vnto Randulphe the son of my brother Thomas Helsby
of Kingsley gentleman the full summe of fforty pounds to be

¹ The original in the possession of Thos. Helsby, Esq., April, 1893 [J. P. E.].

payde him out of y^e p^rfitts of my said lands when I am buried. And I bequeathe my soul to God vpon w^{ch} Jesus haue mercie and my body to be buried in the Chapel of Aluonley And I doe hereby reuoke and make voyde all my former and other wills.

[Signed] DOROTHY HELSBY.

Signed sealed published and Declared in the p^rsence of

[Signed] Tho: ffrodsham Gilbert Gerrard

Elizth Chorleton Brydgett Helsby

Joane Boothe

Thomas Burges his  m̄k

**Will of Thomas Moulson, of Wheelock, co.
Chester, Esq., dated 1648.¹**

“In the name of God Amen I Thomas Moulson of Wheelocke in the County of Chester Esquire being somewhat weake in body but of p^rfect memory praised be God Doe Co^mitte my soule to God my heavenly father in the meritts & Death of my Redeemer Jesus Christ, And my body I Co^mitte to Christian buriall and to be interred in my owne Ile in the p^rishe Church of Sandbach in such Decent maner as is meete And I Doe make my last will and testament in Maner and forme following ffirst I giue and bequeathe vnto my Nephew Thomas Steephens All my Manors Mesuags lands tenem^{ts} & other hereditam^{ts} whatsoever To haue & to hold the same to him & to the heires males of his body lawfully to be begotten he or they Paying all such legacies and somes of Money as are heerein, or in the scedul heerevnto annexed given and bequeath[ed] expressed or men^coned to the se^vall & respectiue p^rsons either in this will or in the scedule or codicill annexed p^rticulerly nominated And for default of such Issue Then to the vse and behoofe of Edward Steephens brother of the sayd Thomas & of the heires

¹ Enrolled in the Hustings of Common Pleas, Guildhall, London, 1663 [J. P. E.].

males of the body of the said Edward lawfully to be begotten chardgeable in maner & forme as afores^d And for default of such Issue then To the vse and behoofe of Nicholas Ranton sonne of my sister Ranton and of the heires males of his body lawfully to be begotten chardgeable as aforesayd And for Default of such Issue to the vse and behoofe of Thomas Ranton annother sonne of my s^d sister Ranton & of the heires males of his body lawfully to be begotten chardged & chargeable as afores^d And for Default of such Issue to the vse and behoofe of the right heires of me the sayd Thomas Moulson for evermore. And Moreover my Mynd and will is and I doe giue devise and bequeath vnto my loveing Mother the yerely some of fitye pounds p Annū to be Issueing and going out of All my sayd lands aswell purchased lands as others Dureing hir life att the fouer most usuall & accustomed ffeast Dayes in the yeare the ffirst payment thereof to beginne at w^{ch} of the same feasts shall first happen after my death. And Alsoe I giue and bequeath vnto my brother John Steephens Esq^r the some of tenn pounds and to his wife the like some of tenn pounds, vnto Alderman Kenericke tenn pounds & to his wife tenn pounds vnto my cozen M^r Seriant Turnor tenn pounds & to his wife tenn pounds vnto my Cozen Edward his sonne x^{li} and to my Cozen Anne Calthropp Daughter to the said seriant the like sume of tenn pounds, vnto M^r ffrancis Rowland tenn pounds & to his wife tenn pounds vnto my Cozen Thomas Aldersey of Spurstow tenn pounds & to his wife tenn pounds to my Cozen Raven tenn pounds & to his wife tenn pounds vnto my uncle Huxley fife pounds to his sonne fife pounds & to his wife fife pounds & fife pounds to his grandchild vnto my Cozen Kynaston fife pounds & to his wife fife pounds To my Cozen Thomas Edwards tenn pounds & to his wife tenn pounds vnto my Cozen Bassnett fife pounds & to his wife fife pounds to my Aunt Amey Key forty pounds over and besids hir threescore pounds w^{ch} is in my hands, vnto my Cozen John Jones fife pounds & to his wife [fife] pounds, to my servant Richard Alexander fifty pounds to my servant Richard Roberts thirty pounds vnto my Neece Anne Steephens tenn pounds To my Neece Rebecka Ranton & to hir too sisters Anne &

Elizabeth tenn pounds a peece to euy of them, vnto my cozen Lee of Darnall fue pounds To the poore of the pishe Church of Sandbache tenn pounds towards [the] increase of theire stocke, vnto the poore of Namptwiche tenn pounds to be sett forth att the oversight of the Maior John Bromhall M^r Sabbath Church & M^r Thomas Noden To M^r Scinderland If he preache att my funnall fue pounds And I doe giue and bequeath to my sayd Cozen Thomas Steephens All my goods Catells Chatells plate Jewells & household [stuff] of what kynd or nature soever he paying the sayd respectiue somes of Money & Alsoe paying my debts if any be att the tyme of my death And my mynd and will likewise is that If the sayd debts legacies or somes of money can not be had & raised out of my psonall estate That my brother the s^d M^r John Steephens shall sell the mesuag and lands in London for the speedy payment thereof And I Doe ordayne And Appoint my sayd brother M^r John Steevens Executor of this my last will and testament And If he Dye that then his Executors shall sell the sayd mesuags & lands in London If need soe require And I Doe Appoint my sayd Cozens M^r Thomas Aldersey M^r Will^m Raven & M^r Thomas Edwards overseeres of this my last will and testament And I doe heereby Rennounce Revoke & frustrate All former or other wills or testam^{ts} And doe publishe & declare this to be my last will and Testament In wittnes whereof I haue heerevnto put my hand and seale this sixt Day of September in the fouer and twentieth yeare of the Raigne of our sou^laigne Lord Charles by the grace of God over England &c. Annoq, dñi 1648.

[Signed] THO: MOULSON.

Signed sealed and published in the pñce of

[Signed] Tho: Aldersey
Jo. Jones
Tho: Minshull
Rih. Alexander
Witt Meakin."

"This last will was shewed vnto Georġ Read [and] Richard Roberts."

“ The 24th of September 1648

Memorandum that I beinge in perfect memory doe bequeath ffurther Item to John Prachett & Margery his wiffe of Namptwich ffive poundes a peece : It : to Richard Proudeloue my bayliffe ffive poundes : It : to Willyam Symonds the sume of ffive poundes : It : to Henery Marstone my Cooke the sume of ffortie shillings : It : to my maide An : Willamson twentie shillings If to my man Anthony Howcroft twentie shillings : It : to my boy Will : Walker ten shillings : It : I giue to Docter Anthoney Marbury the sume of tenn poundes and the bond that he stands bound vnto me towards his Charges : If I giue & bequeath vnto George Reade the sume of tenn poundes and to be paid ffor all other thinges & charges that I haue caused him to disbursse ffor my vse : It : to the parrish of Sandbeach the sume of two poundes & tenn shillings to be disposed of at the day of my buriall by the Churchwardens & wth the assistance of 3 or 4 : of the ablest of the parish and to be disposed of in the towne of Sandbeach In wittnesse whereoff I haue herevnto put my hand & seale the day and yeare aboue written beinge the fouer and twentieth yeare of our lord kinge Charles by the grace of God over England &c. the 24th September Anno Doñi 1648.

[Signed] THO : MOULSON.

Signed seald & published
to be a Codicill to be anexed
to the will of the wthin named
Thomas Moulson Esq^r in the
psence of

[Armorial seal.¹]

[Signed] Richard Roberts
George Reade
Rich. Alexander.”

“ This Codicill was shewed
vnto George Read and Richard
Roberts.”

¹ An oval seal. Arms : a chevron between three mullets, Esquire's helm and mantling. Crest : a griffin segreant, in the dexter claw a mullet.

“Memorand That this will was inrolled in the Hustings of Coñon Pleas in y^e Guildhall On Munday the ffirst Day of June in the ffifteenth yeare of the raigne of our Soulaigne Lord King Charles the Second &c. [1663].

Rawlins.”

The Will of Mary Aldersey, of Foulk Stapleford, co. Chester, Widow, dated 1675.¹

“ In the name of God Amen on the Sixteenth day of July In the twenty sixth yeare of the Raigne of oure souveraine lord Charles the second by the grace of God Kinge of England Scotland Ffrance and Ierland Defender of the ffaith Anno Doñi 1675. I Mary Aldersey of Ffoulkstableford in the County of Chester widow beinge somewhat distempred in body but of good and perfect memory God’s holy name be thearfore praised yett Caleinge to minde my mortallity, beinge well ashewred that all flesh is borne to dy and the time thearof most vncertaine do thearfore make and ordaine this my last will and testamente for the Avoydinge of ffuture sutes and trubls in manner and forme followinge and first and principally I Comend my soule into the hands of almighty God hopeinge setfastly [stedfastly] through the merits of Jesus Christ my blesed saviour and Redeemer to be one of his Electt and to haue a ioyfull Resurrection att the last day, and my body I Comend to the Earth to be decently buried att the disreshon of my Execut^s heareafter named and as for that worldly Estate whearwith the lord hath blesed mee I giue and bequeth the same in manner and forme followinge and first I giue and bequeth vpon my sonn John Aldersey my whole Estate as itt stands performinge such things as shall be mentiond heareafter and my sonn John Aldersey is to pay out of the said Estate twenty two pounds to Henry Moors of Warton for the vse of Jesse Okell of the said toune

¹ From the Aldersey Deeds [J. P. E.].

sonn to Robert Okell and to Samuell Okell tenn shillings and to Samuell Smith tenn pounds hee beinge sonn to William Smith whearof fue pounds of itt is to be paid as soone as neede shall Require and the other fue pounds and the twenty two pounds which is left to the said Jesse Okell is to be paid att the End of three years or sooner if hee marry, and if the [said] Samuell dy before the tearme of seaven years be Expired then Henry Moors haueinge bond for itt of the said John Aldersey is to dispose of itt for the vse of Robert Okells Children likewise hee is to pay to his brother Hugh Aldersey the summ of fue pounds within the Compas of halfe a yeare and to pay to my maid Mary Hilton tenn shillings whenever shee Cales for itt and to Rose Okell all my wearinge Cloaths onely Exceptinge theose that I weare Every day and I leaue to Henry Moors a paire of gloues of halfe a crowne price to be giuen him, and the aforsaid Henry Moors is to take bond as is mentiond before and the said John Aldersey is to giue him such security as he liketh or Elce the said Henry Moors is to be in full powre to sell as much of the goods for the Raisinge of the sūms mentiond and the aforesaid John Aldersey is to pay vse for the said moneis the two hindmost years accordinge to the statute and I leaue to be giuen to my sister Amy Warburton one shilling.

Memorandum that I do hearby accordinge to the powre giuen mee by my late husband in his last will Charge the lands in Hargreave in the saide will mentiond with the paymente of the summ of ffowerscore pounds which ffowrescore pounds I do hearby giue and apoynte to be paid to my Cosen Thomas Aldersey of of [*sic*] the City of Chester wittnes my hand

MARY ALDERSEY. [Signed.]

In the presence of

Elizabeth Buckley Mary Hilton Edward Humston.

This copy was truely Examind and Compard by vs
wittnes our hands

Robert Okell
Jesse Okell.

The Will of John Partington, of Manchester, Chapman, dated 1677.¹

In the name of God, Amen. I John Partington of Manchester co. Lanc. Chapman. My body to the earth. First it is my will that my debts and funeral expenses shall be paid out of my personal estate. And out of the rest of my said estate I give the sum of £700 to be by my Executors hereinafter named laid forth so soon after my decease as conveniently may be in the purchase of lands &c. of a good estate in the law in fee simple in the name and to the use of my Executors and the survivor of them and their heirs for ever, to the intent that the same lands &c. after purchase thereof as aforesaid, may be settled and assured by my said Executors to two, three, or four honest persons such as my Executors shall elect for that purpose and to their heirs for ever, to the following uses, that is to say, To the use of Mary my now wife for her life. Remainder to the heirs male of the body of me the said John Partington by the said Mary my now wife begotten or to be begotten. Remainder to the heirs of the body of the said John Partington by the said Mary begotten or to be begotten. Remainder to the right heirs of me the said John Partington for ever. And my will is that the interest of the said £700 before such purchase as aforesaid shall be payable to the said Mary my wife. I give to my daughter Sarah Partington by Mary my first wife, £450, And to the child my now wife is in child with, the sum of £400, when 21, with benefit of survivorship. I bequeath to my brother Hobson Partington for the use of his children now living £100. I further give to my Executors hereinafter named, the sum of £100, to the intent that they or the survivor of them shall within one year after my decease, purchase lands &c. in fee simple in the name and to the use of my Executors and the survivor of them and their heirs for ever, to the intent that the same lands &c. after such

¹ From the Partington Charity Deeds, Manchester Corporation Records [J. P. E.].

purchase may be settled and assured unto six honest and able persons inhabiting within the town of Manchester, such as my Executors or the survivor of them shall elect for that purpose, To the use of my said Executors, and the said other six persons so to be elected as aforesaid, upon trust, that from such purchase and settlement, all the clear yearly rents &c. of all the said lands &c. so to be purchased as is last mentioned, shall for ever thereafter yearly be faithfully and wholly disposed of towards the succour and relief of such poor, aged, needy, and impotent people as for the time being shall inhabit and dwell within the town of Manchester, and by the discretions from time to time for ever of the overseers of the poor of the said town of Manchester shall be conceived to have need thereof. And my will is that when there shall be only two of the said persons so to be elected as aforesaid in full life, then the same two surviving persons shall enfeof other six honest and sufficient persons inhabiting within the said town of Manchester, and their heirs and assigns of the premises so to be purchased as is last mentioned, upon the like trust, and the like order to be kept for ever, when and as often as there shall be only two feoffees alive. I bequeath to M^r Henry Newcome the elder, £20. To M^r Henry ffinch £20. To M^r Robert Eaton £5. To M^r Henry Pendlebury £5. To William Ladds eldest son and heir of M^r William Ladds of the Three Kingdoms in Cheapside, London, £50 to be paid to him upon balancing of the accounts betwixt M^r Ladds and me with my Executors. I give to Nicholas Stratford D.D. Warden of the College of Christ in Manchester, £5, and desire him to preach my funeral sermon. To my fathers in law M^r John Tildeley and M^r William Williamson or either of them 20s. to buy them mourning rings, and I give to all my sisters in law 20s. apiece to buy mourning rings. To my brother in law M^r Richard Percivall and my loving friend Thomas Evans £10 apiece, and 20s. apiece more to buy them mourning rings. To my daughter Sarah Partington all the linens that I had in my first wife's time. All the residue of my personal estate I bequeath to Mary my now wife. And I hereby constitute and make the said M^r Richard Percivall my brother in law, and my said loving friend M^r Thomas Evans, Executors of this my last

will. I leave the tuition of my said daughter Sarah Partington and the management of her portion to my said father in law M^r William Williamson, and desire my Executors to pay the same portion into the hands of the said M^r Williamson within two years after my decease. Dated the 15th Sept. 1677.

Sealed &c. in the presence of John Eller, James Redich, Nathan Leech.

[Copy of the will.]

Endorsed on the back—

“The Second part of the Tytle to the Lands or yerly Rent of 5^l payable out of Lands in Little Lever.”

The Will of Richard Sharples, of Little Lever, co. Lanc., Yeoman, dated 1678.¹

In the name of God, Amen, the 8 Oct. 30 Charles II. 1678. I Richard Sharples of Litle Leaver co. Lanc. yeoman, being aged and somewhat infirm in body. My body to the earth from whence it was taken. Whereas I have sealed and executed a deed of feoffment bearing dated the 2 Nov. 1671, whereby I have settled all that and those my capital burgage, mansion, or dwelling house and outhousing, fulling milne or walk milne, and all those several closes commonly called the Bankes, the Bottomes, the Stable Field, the Highmost Field, and the Midlest Field, situate in Litle Leaver aforesaid wherein and whereupon I now dwell, to several uses in the said deed expressed, only reserving to myself in the said deed power to limit the said lands &c., to such uses (in case my daughter Anne wife of Joshua Dixon, die before the said Joshua, without issue of her body) as by my last will or other my deed lawfully executed shall be declared. I do therefore hereby declare that it is my will and in the aforesaid case I devise the said lands &c., with their appurtenances to the use

¹ From the Partington Charity Deeds, Manchester Corporation Records [J. P. E.].

of my daughter Mary, and the issue of her body lawfully begotten, always preferring the male before the female, and the elder before the younger, with remainder to the right heirs of me the said Richard Sharples for ever, upon condition that in the aforesaid case the sum of £50 be well and truly paid to the said Joshua Dixon, and that such issue of my said daughter Mary which shall happen to enjoy the same land and premises within 12 months next after entering upon the same, well and truly pay to the rest of the then living issue of my said daughter Mary lawfully begotten £100. And whereas I have secured jointly with my son in law William Crompton the payment of several sums of money amounting in all to £80 being his own proper debts. It is my will that the said sum of £80 be raised and paid out of my lands and personal estate by my Executors in manner hereinafter appointed (that is to say), that the sum of £40 be raised out of the yearly issues of the lands whereof I stand seised in fee, viz. out of the yearly issues of that messuage now in the possession of Raphe Leaver, John Leaver, and Katterin Pollett, and of two closes called the Great Common and the Little Common, and of four other closes called the Furthest Mythom, the Midle Mythom, the Delfe Hills, and one little plot or parcel of land lying at the River side, and of one other cottage or dwelling house now in the possession of Robert Pollitt, James Pollit and Mary Crompton, and of several other closes commonly called the Masters Crofte, the Rough Mythom, and the Little Mythome, all which said housing and parcels of land lie in Litle Leaver aforesaid. Provided always and I hereby devise the three closes abovementioned called the Midle Mythom, the Delphe Hills, and the little plot lying at the river side to my brother James during his life, upon condition that he pay the yearly sum of 20s. and all lays, taxations &c., imposed on the said closes and on that other close called the Furthest Mythom, which said sum of 20s. yearly shall be employed towards the payment of the said £40, and yearly added to the yearly profits of the other lands until the said sum of £40 be raised and paid as aforesaid, and afterwards to the use of such person or persons who shall have the inheritance of the land according to the devise hereafter expressed. And it is my will that after the sum of £40 hath been raised as aforesaid,

then I devise the said messuage now in the possession of Ralph Leaver, John Leaver, and Katterin Pollit, together with the new barn and those two closes called the Great Common and the Little Common with their appurtenances to my daughter Anne and the issue of her body lawfully begotten, always preferring the male before the female and the elder before the younger. Remainder to my daughter Mary and her issue in like manner. Remainder to the right heirs of me the said Richard Sharples for ever. And all the residue of the lands before mentioned, viz. that cottage now in the possession of Robert Pollit, James Pollit and Mary Crompton, and the said closes called the Furthest Mythome &c. after the discharge of the said sum of £40, I devise to my daughter Mary and her issue in manner aforesaid, with remainder to the right heirs of me the said Richard Sharples for ever, the said close devised to my brother James only excepted during his life, on the conditions aforesaid. And lastly it is my will that my debts and funeral expences be deducted out of my personal estate, and also £40 out of it to discharge the remainder or other moiety of my son in law William Crompton's debts for which I stand engaged as aforesaid. All the residue of my personal estate I bequeath to my daughter Anne. And of this my last will I nominate my two sons in law Joshua Dixon and William Crompton, Executors.

Sealed &c. in the presence of, John Mason, John Mason, John Sharples.

A true Copy examined 5 March 1679, by Tho. Lever
Geo: Haugh.

Endorsed on the back—

“y^e copy of Ri : Sharples will y^e original being agreed to be kept by Joⁿ Sharples betwixt Jos : Dixon & W^m Crompton May 7th 80, at J. Grimshaws.”

**The Nuncupative Will of Mary Travers,
Spinster, of Horton, co. Chester, dated 1684.¹**

Memorandum that the 4 Sept. 1683 Mary Travers, spinster, daughter of John Travers late of Horton co. Chester, gentleman, did in the presence of those whose names are underwritten declare her last will and mind to be That whereas the sum of £400 is charged upon the lands in Horton aforesaid for the portion of her the said Mary, and part thereof is already raised, she the said Mary did declare that it was her mind and purpose to dispose of £150 parcel of the said £400 in manner following, that is to say, that her four aunts Elizabeth Aldersey, Anne Aldersey, Mary Aldersey, and Martha Aldersey, spinsters should have £20 apiece, and her cozens Henry Travers and Thomas Travers both of Chester, £10 apiece, and her five cozens the sons and daughters of her uncle Thomas Aldersey Esq., 20s. apiece, and her four cozens the daughters of her cozen[s] Robert Aldersey and William Aldersey both of London, Gent, 20s. apiece. That all her uncles and aunts should have rings, and that her mother Rebecca Travers, widow, should have a ring of double the value of the former, and that her grandmother Aldersey should have a ring of like value with her mother's. That there should be a Dole dealt to the poor of about £3. And all the rest of the said £400 her will was that her brother John Travers gent., if he lived to attain the age of 21 years, should have the whole advantage of it, but if he died before the said age, that the same be divided between her said four aunt Alderseys. And that her said uncle Thomas Aldersey should be her sole executor and to see her decently buried.

Witnesses—Anne Edwardes, George Huxley, John Aldersey.

Proved at Chester the 9 April 1684 by the executor.

¹ From the Aldersey Deeds [J. P. E.].

**The Will of Elizabeth Chantrell, of Warrington,
Widow, dated 1689.¹**

In the name of God, Amen, the 29th Oct. 1689. I Elizabeth Chantrell of Warrington co. Lanc. widow. My body to the earth. And whereas by a certain Indenture of Assignment made between me the said Elizabeth Chantrell of the one part, and Sir Richard Brooke of Norton co. Chester, Bart. by the name of Richard Brooke son of Henry Brooke of Norton, Esq^r and Richard Legh of High Legh in the said county Esq^r by the name of Richard Legh son of Henry Legh of High Legh Esq^r of the other part, there is a proviso made, reserving power to me the said Elizabeth to charge my cosen Thomas Legh hereinafter named with any sum of money not exceeding the sum of £50 by any writing under my hand and seal in my life time. Now I the said Elizabeth Chantrell do by this my last will charge the said Thomas Legh with the several legacies hereinafter mentioned to be paid within the space of two years, if the said Thomas Legh shall receive so much money of the tenement mentioned in the said Indenture of Assignment. I bequeath to my sister Goulborne £10. Item to my sister Katharine Legh £10. Item to my cosen Jane Legh of Swinhed 20^s to buy her a ring. Item to my cosen Dorothy Legh 20^s. Item to Cosen Anne Brooke 20^s. Item to Cosen Mary Legh 20^s. Item to my cosen Thomas Goulborne 20^s to buy them rings. Item to my cosen Jane Legh of Swinhed my best gown. Item to my landlord Nicolls 10^s. Item to Samuel Haughton 10^s. Item to Netham Goulborne 10^s. And as concerning my household goods &c. and all other my personal estate I bequeath the same to my said Cosen Thomas Legh.

the marke of the said

Elizabeth **E C** Chantrell.

Signed, sealed &c. in the presence of

John Bent

the marke of

George Patten

Mary **M W** Wood.

¹ From the High Legh Deeds [J. P. E.].

**The Will of Catherine Legh, of Warrington,
dated 1693.¹**

25th March 1693.

I Katherine Legh of Warrington co. Lanc. spinster. My body to the earth to be decently interred in the Chapel that belongs to Bewsey within the Parish Church of Warrington. Imp^r Whereas my cousin [*i.e.*, nephew] Thomas Legh of Manchester is indebted to me in the sum of £42 my will is that all my debts and funeral expenses be paid out of the said sum. Item to my two nieces Dorothy and Mary Legh the sum of £6 to be divided equally betwixt them, and to be paid out of the said sum of £42. Item to my cosen Thomas Goulborne of Chester the sum of £3. Item to my cosen M^r Henry Leigh, of Leigh, 10^s, and to his sister Nanny. 10^s. Item to M^{rs} Kinaston 10^s; to Elizabeth Helsby 10^s; to George Petten and James Barrett 5^s equally betwixt them. Item I bequeath the sum of 30^s to be distributed amongst the poor such as I gave verbal directions about. Item I give to my cosen Adam Holland the sum of 20^s, and to Samuel Horton 5^s, and to Nathan Goulborn, 2s. 6d. Item to John Bent 40^s in consideration of rent, and for house trouble. Item whereas my cosen M^{rs} Jane Legh of Swinyard owes me the sum of £12, I give unto her the said sum. Item to my Niece Legh of High Lee my broad box marked K L Item I give my little cabinet to my little cosen Betty Legh of High Legh. Item I give my locket to my little cosen Mary Legh of High Legh her sister. Item I give to my loving friend Sarah Bent my new stuff hood. All the rest of my wearing apparel and household goods I have given to my servant Mary Woods as appears by note under my hand bearing date the 11th March 1692[-3] attested by John and Sarah Bent to that purpose, and moreover do now give to the said Mary Woods the sum of £2 to be paid to her within one month after my decease out of the sum of £20 which is now due to me from M^r Cook and the rest of Sir Gilbert Ireland's

¹ From the High Legh Deeds, East Hall [J. P. E.].

Executors. Item the remainder of my little estate I bequeath to my cosen Thomas Legh of Manchester, whom I hereby constitute my sole Executor.

[Signed] K LEIGH.

Signed, sealed &c. in the presence of,
William Crane Samuel Lyon Peter Aspinwall.

**The Will of Alice Billinge, of Cuxton, co. Lanc.,
Widow, dated 1724.¹**

In the name of God, Amen. I Alice Billinge of Euxton co. Lanc., widow, being aged and infirm in body. I will that my debts (if any) and funeral expences shall be paid. I give to my son Robert Billinge that fire grate standing in the Parlour Chamber. I give to Katharine his wife, 5s. I give to Elizabeth daughter of the said Robert and Katharine, 5^s. To Alice another daughter of the said Robert and Katharine, 5s. To Margery Almond my servant 20s. All the residue of my temporal estate I hereby direct shall be divided into two equal parts, one part whereof I bequeath to Alice, Ellen, and Margaret, daughters of William Almond of Shevington in the said County, yeoman, by my daughter, deceased, to be equally divided amongst them when 21 or married, with benefit of survivorship and the other part I bequeath to John, Thomas, and Alice, sons and daughter of Edward Cooper of Walton in le Dale in the said County, yeoman, equally between them in manner aforesaid. And of this my last will I hereby appoint the said William Almond and Edward Cooper, Executors.

Dated 2 Dec. 1724.

ALICE  BILLINGTON
her marke.

Sealed &c. in the presence of,
[Signed] W^m Oakenshaw Witt Smith J : Whitley.

¹ From Agecroft collection, Poulton Deeds, No. 93 [J. P. E.].

**The Will of Peter Shaw, of Leyland, co. Lanc.,
Musitioner, dated 1733.¹**

In the name of God, Amen, I Peter Shaw of Leyland co. Lanc., Musitioner. First I devise all that my moiety of a messuage and parcel of ground and lands of inheritance with the appurtenances, in Farington co. Lanc., by me purchased from Fleetwood Legh Esq., deceased, to Robert Winstanley of Farington aforesaid, miller, and Roger Mawdesley of Leyland aforesaid, innkeeper, to hold to them and their heirs in trust for the use of Hannah my loving wife during her life, and after her decease to sell the same, and apply the money thereby raised as hereinafter mentioned. And further I give all those my several leaseholds in Farington aforesaid, held by lease from Richard Croke late of Macclesfield co. Chester, Esq., deceased, and also my leasehold in Leyland aforesaid where I now dwell, held by lease under James Cowling gent., and William Cowling his son, and all my estates therein, to the aforesaid trustees, in trust to permit my said wife to enjoy the same during such term in the said leases as my said wife shall live, and after her decease to sell the same and apply the money thereby raised as hereinafter mentioned. I give my household goods and personal estate to my said dear wife. And concerning the moneys to be raised by sale of my lands of inheritance and leaseholds, I direct the same to be paid equally amongst my sons and daughters William Shaw, Peter Shaw, Margaret now wife of John Baxtonden, Mary now wife of Henry Mair, and my daughters Elizabeth Shaw and Hannah Shaw, deducting out of my son William's part £10 which I have already given him, £12 out of my said daughter Margaret's part, and £4 out of my said daughter Mary's part. I hereby nominate and appoint my said loving wife Hannah Shaw sole executrix.

Dated 25 April 1733.

Witnesses—

John Ditchfield
Richard Whittingham
Wrightington Woosey.

PETER SHAW

his  mark.

¹ From deeds in possession of Wm. Ecroyd, Esq., of Nelson, near Burnley [J. P. E.].

**The Will of Jane Aldersey, Widow, of
Spurstow, dated 1742.¹**

In the name of God, Amen, I Jane Aldersey widow and relict of Robert Aldersey late of Spurstow co. Chester, Esq., deceased. First my will is that all my debts and funeral expenses be paid out of my personal estate, and that my interment be performed in such a manner as I by my own handwriting shall direct. And as concerning all those my several messuages, cottages, lands &c. in the several townships of Middlewych and Newton near Middlewych co. Chester, wherein I have any estate, I devise the same with all the rents and profits thereof to my good friends Joseph Lancaster of Warrington co. Lanc., attorney, and Richard Craven of Spurstow co. Chester, Junior, and their assigns for the term of 500 years, upon trust to permit and suffer my beloved sister M^{rs} Ann Hulse to enjoy the same during her life. Remainder to my nephew John Hulse and his heirs male. Remainder to Ralph Hulse son of my said sister Ann Hulse and his heirs male. Remainder to my nephew Thomas Hulse and his heirs male. Remainder to my nephew William Hulse and his heirs male. Remainder to my nephew Robert Hulse and his heirs male. Remainder to my nephew Randle Hulse and his heirs male. Remainder to my two nieces Jane and Ann Hulse equally and jointly, and to their heirs male. And my will is that if my nephew Hugh Hulse third son of my aforesaid sister Ann Hulse be living and return again into England, then after the decease of my said sister Ann Hulse and my said nephews John Hulse and Ralph Hulse and their issue male, the said trustees shall permit the said Hugh Hulse and his heirs male to enjoy the said premises. Remainder to my own right heirs for ever. I give to my dear sister M^{rs} Ann Hulse £192. 1s. 6d. To my nephew John Hulse £20. To M^{rs} Sarah Grantham sister to my late cousin Daniel Aldersey £4. To the younger children of M^r

¹ From the Aldersey Deeds [J. P. E.].

William Watts late of Newton aforesaid, one guinea. To my cousin Elizabeth Markham of Tarporley one guinea. To my niece Kynaston 10s. To my late cousin Kendricks four daughters each 10s. To the younger children of M^r Cooper late of Middlewych, clerk, £10 equally amongst them. To the sister of M^{rs} Sarah Carrington late of Chester who suffered by the Stable we rented being fired 40s. To Mary the wife of Joshua Woods of Brombrow in Worrall my two long Cloaks and Caphoods, my gray broadcloth Cloak, and £4 8s., provided she is not paid the said sum in my lifetime. To my niece Mary Edwards the sum of £5. To my servant Samuel Stubs £10. I leave all the old family pictures which are or were in the great parlour at Spurstow, and mine and my late dear husband's picture to be kept and remain in the great parlour at Spurstow from generation to generation. All the residue of my goods &c. with the large table in the house in which William Badcock of Spurstow now dwells, after my debts, legacies, and funeral expenses are paid, I bequeath the same to my nephew Samuel Aldersey, clerk, whom I hereby constitute and appoint sole executor of this my last will.

Dated 10 Aug. 1742.

[Signed] JANE ALDERSEY.
[Armorial seal.¹]

Signed, sealed &c. in the presence of,

[Signed] Tho: Weaver
George Owen
John Owen.

**The Will of Ellen Crouchley, of Preston, co.
Lanc., Widow, dated 1746.²**

In the name of God, Amen. I Ellen Chrouchley of Preston co. Lanc., widow. First I give to George Crouchley

¹ An ornamental shield bearing a plain cross between four birds.

² From the Agecroft collection, Poulton Deeds, No. 96 [J. P. E.].

my son (after payment of my debts and funeral expences) is out of my personal estate. And the residue of all my personal estate I devise to Ellen Crouchley, my daughter. I hereby constitute and appoint M^r John Cooper of Walton sole executor hereof.

Dated 16 Augst 1746.

[The Mark of Ellen
Crouchley.]

Sealed &c. in the presence of,
W^m Rider
Arthur Shepherd
Jo. Cal ^[Tom.].

Proved the 18th Oct. 1746 by the Executor, before
The Rev. Randal Andrews, Clerk, Surrogate of
William Stratford, Doctor of Laws, Commissary
in and throughout the whole Archdeaconry of
Richmond and Diocese of Chester.

The Will of Thomas Leigh, Rector of Stoke Bruerne, co. Northampton, dated 1749.¹

“In the Name of God Amen I Thomas Leigh Rector of Stoke Bruerne in the County of Northampton, do make my last Will & Testament in manner following, In the first place I committ my Soul to the hands of Almighty God, and my Body to the Earth trusting & hoping in y^e infinite Mercies of God for a Resurrection to Eternall Life thro’ the alone Merritts & mediation of my Blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As to my Worldly Estate which it has pleased God to bestow on me, I will as follows, I Give and desire [*sic* for devise] my Estate of Land at Northwood in the Township of High Legh in y^e Parish of Rostern in Cheshire to Tho^s Leigh the Second Son of George Leigh of Oughterington

¹ From the High Legh Deeds [J. P. E.].

Esq. and to his Heirs E^xrs Ad^s & Ass^s for ever. I Give and desire my Tenement in Ollerton near Knutsford in Cheshire to Sam^l Leigh the 4th Son of Geo : Leigh of Oughterington Esq. and to his Heirs Ad^s & Ass^s for ever. I Give and desire my Es^t of Land on the side of Hill Cliffe in Appleton in Cheshire unto Thomas Case the Second Son of my Niece M^{rs} Margaret Case and to his Heirs Ad^s and Ass^s for ever. I Give to Eliz : Leigh the Eldest Da^ur of my Nephew Geo : Leigh of Ough : Esq^r the Sum of 300^l, and to his Eldest Son John Leigh y^e Sum of 50^l. I Give to Eliz : Case y^e Eldest Da^ur of my Niece Case y^e Sum of 300^l, to Jonathan Case Esq^r her Eldest Son y^e Sum of 50^l. I Give to my Niece Clayton y^e Sum of 100^l and to Katherine, George, Sarah, W^m, Ann and Hugh Hindley Leigh 50^l each viz : 300^l. To my Niece Parker's 2 Da^urs, & her Son W^m I give 50^l a piece, and to each of y^e ffive Da^urs of my Nephew Houghton I Give 50^l. I do hereby appoint and make my Niece M^{rs} Sarah Clayton of Liverpoole y^e Sole & Lawful E^xix of this my last Will and Testament, revoking all other Wills that have been formerly made by me All my Mortgages, Goods, Chattles, Credits, & p^{er}sonal Es^t I Give to my said Niece Sarah Clayton at whose expence I wo^d have all my Funerall Expences & other Lawful Debts to be discharged, I order all my Manuscripts of what kind soever they are to be burnt by my E^xix upon y^e ffirst Sight of 'em I Give to the Poor of the parish of Limm in Cheshire y^e Sum of Twenty Pounds to be distributed amongst 'em by the Two Churchwardens of the said Parish by and with the Consent and Approbation of the Owner of the Estate at Ough : I Give to the Poor of Appleton in the Parish of Budworth in Cheshire the Sum of 5^l and the Poor of Ollerton near Knutsford in Cheshire the Sum of 5^l and each of these Charities to be distributed by the direction of my Nephew Leigh of Ough : I Give to my Servant Elizth Atkinson as some requitall for her Care and Industry in y^e Managem^t of my Household affairs y^e Sum of 30^l. I w^d have all my Lawful Debts, Funeral Expences & Legacies to be discharged out of my personal Estate which his [*sic*] Chiefly in my Niece Claytons Hands. In With whereof I the said Thomas Leigh the Testator haue hereunto as to my last

Will and Test Set my hand and Seal this 29th day of April
in y^e Year of Our Lord 1749.¹

THO: LEIGH

Seal.

Signed, Sealed & Published by y^e Test & for his last Will
and Testam^t in our Sight who in his Presence Subscribed our
Names as W^s thereof.

John Webster
Timothy Smalley.”

“Note.—There is a Third Witness to the Will of
which this purports to be a Coppy, but the Clerk
by mistake Omitted it. The Originall Will is in
the hands of M^{rs} Sarah Clayton of Liverpoole the
Executrix.

J. L. L^d 5th May 1759.”

Administration of the Effects of Anna Maria Legh, dated 1752.²

Thomas by Divine Providence Archbishop of Canterbury
Primate of all England and Metropolitan To our welbeloved
in Christ George Legh Esq^r the lawful husband of Anna
Maria Legh late of the parish of Rosthern co. Chester,
deceased, greeting. Whereas the said Anna Maria Legh
lately died intestate having whilst living and at the time of
her death goods &c. in divers dioceses or Jurisdictions, by
reason whereof the administration of all the said goods &c.
doth appertain wholly to us. We being desirous that the
said goods &c. may be faithfully administered, Do therefore
by these presents grant full power to you to administer the

¹ This will was never proved in any Court of Probate, only acted upon. This
appears from subsequent proceedings and pleadings. [J. P. E.]

² From the High Legh Deeds, East Hall [J. P. E.]

said goods &c. and to make a true and perfect Inventory of all the said goods &c. and to exhibit the same into the Registry of our Prerogative Court of Canterbury on or before the last day of December next ensuing, and also to render a just account thereof on or before the last day of June 1753. Given at London the 2nd June 1752.

W^m Legurd }
Pet : S^t Eloy } Deputy Registers.
Hen: Stevens }

Extracted by me }
G : Gostling }
Proctor for the }
Administrator. }

Appendix.

The Will of Sir John Ireland, of Hale, dated 1411.¹

In Dei Noīe Amen ego Jokes de Irlond miles condo testamentū meū in hunc modum. Inp̄mis lego aīam meam Deo b̄e marie virgini et omnib; s̄ctis et corpus meū ad sepeliend̄ in capella de Hale. Et volo q^d omnib; debitis meis psolut' una cum expens' factis circa sepult' corpis mei p̄d̄ci residuū omnium bonoꝝ et cattalloꝝ meoꝝ distribuat' inl' Margiam uxem meam et Johannem et Katinam filias meas in auxili' maritagoꝝ suoꝝ. Et ad istud testamentū meū bn̄ et fidelī exequend̄ ordino et constituo p̄dict' Margiam uxem meam et Dūm Thomā de Burton Capellanū meos executores. Et Dauīd de Hulme, Thomā de Sotheworthe, c̄icum, et Wiſm Kendale, Capellanū, supuisores testamenti mei p̄d̄ti. In cuius rei testiōm hiis p̄sentib; sigillū meū apposui. Dat' quarto-decimo die Maii anno regni Regē Henrici quarti post conquestū Anglie duodecimo.

The Will of Ralph Haselhurst, of Colburne, dated 1512.

In dei noīe Amen the viijth daye of May In the yere of o^r Lord God a thowsand fyue hundrethe & xijth. Item, that I Rauff Hasselerst of Goburne & of the pishe of

¹ From the original in the possession of Robert Ireland-Blackburne, of Hale Hall, Esquire.

Wynwycke am sycke in Bodey & hole of mynd and memorye thankeþ be to God therefore I doe order & make this my last wyll & testament in maner & forme folowyng fyrst I bequethe my sowle to allmyghty God & to all the companye of heaven & my Bodey to be buried in the church of Wynwycke. Item I gyff & bequethe to the churche of Wynwycke towardþ the glasyng of the glass wyndowes xx^d. Item I gyff & bequethe to my sonne-in-lawe Rychard Houghton one Baye mare. Item I order & devyde my goodþ into iij ptþ one for myselfe & another for my wyff and a nother pt to my ij daughterþ Elizabeth Hasselerst & Elyn Hasselerst ecolye [*equally*] betwyxt theym bothe. Item it ys my wyll that Elyn Hasselerst shall haue the overplus of my ptþ of goodes that be laft ouer my Buryall Dettis Legacies dyscharged be sydes her owne ptþ. Item, yt is my wyll to lett yt be known to yow all that George Asmoll my sonne-in-lawe & Alyes Hasselerst my daughter haue had of M^r Rauff Hasselerst father to the aforesayd named Alys Asselerst [*sic*] haue had all her chyldþ part of goodþ savyng her pt of iiij Oxen & ij horses & one mare & this is the last pt of her goodþ that she cañe haue. Item yt is my wyll that yf yt shall please God that my wyff haue any chyld that yt shall [*have*] yt chyldþ pt of goodþ as my other daughterþ haue. And yt shall haue yt ptþ of my owne goodþ euen as Elen hath besyde yt owne ptþ. Also yt is my will yf God shall send me a sonne that then my daughterþ shall not be hurt of theyr chyldþ ptþ of goodþ But that then my wyff & my sonne shall make my daughterþ part of goodþ as good as the where [*they were*] at the makinge of this my last wyll of my wyffes cost & my sonnes together And then yt ys my will that Elizabeth my daughter shall haue her part of my goodþ anynest he[r] suster Elyn besydes her owne ptþ Also I order & make my true & Lawful executorþ of this my last wyll & testament Elizabeth my wyff & Elizabeth my daughter they ij to see that this my last wyll be truely pformed & kept as the wyll answer me at they last day.

The Dettþ that I doe owe

Impmis: to Robert Kyghley xx^s

Item :	to Rychard Houghton	...	...	xxx ^s
Item :	to Wyllyam Hopworthe	...	...	xix ^s
Item :	to Wyllyam Gandye	...	...	v ^s
Item :	to James Peycocke	...	...	v ^s

Dette owynge to me

Imp̄mis :	M ^r Wyllyam Aston	...	...	...	xl ^s
Item :	Nycholas Alen	...	...	...	iijs ^s iiij ^d
Item :	Elsabethe Healde	...	...	...	ij ^s

I order & make Supervysor & over syer of this my last wyll Rychard Houghton he to see that yt be pformed & kept.

Witnesses hereof

S^r Thomas Chesshryre curett of Wynwycke. Wyllyam Taylyor clarke. Wyllyam Heworthe John Onessworthe with others.

[No probate.]

The Will of Robert Newall, of Northwich, dated 1519.

In dei noīe Amen, duodecimo die Martii Anno Dñi Mil^{mo} quigen^{mo} xix^{mo} I Robt Newall of the Northwich hoall of mynde and sycke in Body make my testament i thys man^r as foloyth first I bequeth my Soule to Almighty God and to o^r lady Sanct Mary and to all the holly Company of hevyn & my body to be buryed in the chapell of Witton and my best [*sic*] to a mortuarye I devise & bequeth to Elyⁿ my wyff and my children by the said Ellyⁿ lawfully begoten the p̄me of my howse and off all my other takyngē wthin the Co^wty of Chest^r and all my goodē and catallē movable and unmoveable & dette what so euⁿ they be. Also I orden & make Ellyⁿ my wiffe my true & lawful executor to pfo^rme this my laste will & to dispose for my soule as she shall thinke cōvenyent In wittnes wherof to this my last wyll I have sette my seall the day & yere aboute said. These

being Witnesses to the sealinge off this testamēt. Robt Wynnynton John Wynnynton Edward Bradshaw John Kocker Rič Foxhots and other Dyūse.

**The Will of Thomas Cooke, of Eastham,
dated 1520.**

In dei noīe Amen Anno Dñi m^{mo} ccccc^{mo} xx^{mo} post festū Assumpcōis Bte marie virginis Ego Thomas Cooke sanus mente quis eger corpoř Condo testamentū meū hūc modū In primis Do et lego meam aiām Deo q̄ čauit et redemit eam suo p̄ciosō sangñe bte marie et omnib; sanctę et meū corpus sepeliř in Cimiterio ecclie de Esthñ Itñ lego meū optimū aiā esse mortuariū. Itñ lego ecclie de Stoycke quadragintos denarios et totidem denarios ecclie de Bacforth. Itñ do et lego Dño Ričo Baguley decī solidos p̄ aiā mea ad celebrandū unū trentalē. Itñ do et lego Alicie mea sorōri meā optimā zonam et sex aiālia tř annoř. Et Margere sorori mea alia sex aiālia. Silīt p̄dča Alicia, Margerea, et Wiffmus meus frař habebūt portionē reř patris et matris singulariř p̄ se undeci mcas sex solidos et octo denarios et fř meus . . . hēbit nouē libras apud dies reddituros ut pař endēturař inř nos specificē. Itñ do et lego Alicie et Margaree p̄dce totā lanā filatā et non filatam. Itñ lego et do Helene Ball et Eñ Ball duas vitulas unius Anni. Itñ lego et do Thome Fox unā tuniculā. Residuū oīm mear reř do et lego Wiffmo fratri siue germano meo (ex sęgis meis faciendę) ordino et fačo et constituo Wiffñ Qwytteff [Whytteoff] Joħem Hanlay meos executores ut hoc meū testamentū et ultimā voluntatem compleant scđm vim et illi⁹ effectū Et supvisores Mřm Ričū Būbury Ař et Thomā Ričson. In cui⁹ rei testimōn huic p̄senř testamento meo Sigillū meū apposui hiis testib;. Dño Henrico Clederow Dño Rčo Baguley Joħe Hanlay Thomā Ričson Joħe Bryscar Myles Coycke, Thomas ffox cū multis aliis.

**The Will of Dame Anne Molyneux, of Sefton,
dated 1520.**

In dei noīe Amen decimo octavo die mēsis Octobrꝝ Anno Dñi M^o ccccc^{mo} vicesimo Ego Anna Molyneux nup uxor Thome Moleneux militę vidua compos mentę saneq; memorie atq; egrotus corpe condo testm̄ meū in hūc modū Inprimis do et lego aiām meā dei patre ōipotenti et beate marie virgini corpusq; meū sepiliendū in ecclia poch de Sefton in mausolio dicti viri mei sūmi [?] altari ibm. Deinde volo q̄ expensa funālia meo gradui conveniēcia et cōgrua p̄cipiāt^r et disponant^r de bonis meis per manus dicti executoris mei. Residū vero om̄n bonoꝝ et cataſſ debitis creditorit; meis satisfactę et solutę executor' meo p̄dō ad euis solā discrecionē et ordinacioem disponendū. Ordino facio et constituto p̄dilecū filiū meū Edwardū Molenex Rectorē ecclie poch de Sefton hui⁹ testamēt' mei executorem amantissimūq; filiū meū Wiffimū Molenex militē dicti testamēti mei supvisorem ad hoc p̄sens testm̄ meū in ōib; fidelit̄ exsquēdū et psuplēt. In cuius rei test' huic p̄senti testamento Sigiff meū apposui, hiis testibus, Homfrido Hert Briano Morecrofte cap^{no} et Hugone David [?] et aliis. Dat die et anno p̄dict.

**The Will of Margery Beane, of Bowden,
dated 1521.**

In dei noīe Amen I Margeř Deyne make my will & testament in this maner ffirst I bequeth my sowle to almyghty God our Lady Sanct Marie & to all Seyntę & my body to Cristen buryall wthin ye church of Bowudon. Also I bequeth my best goodę to the church for my mortuary & principall mo^o ou^o I gyff & bequeth to S^r James Deayn my soñ all the residue of my goodę in qwois handę or what place thay be Apon this condiçōn that the said Sir James shall well & truly content & pay all my dettę as he shall unswař befor' almyghty

God att the great day of Jugement Also I orden make the forseid Sir James my executor & supvisor of this my will & testament. Into wittnes wherof I the said Margeř Deyñ have put to my seaff the xx^t day off August i the yeř of our Lord a thowsand v hundreth xxth and oon thes beyng Wittnes Sir Edward Leghe, Rauff Dene, & oỹ.

**The Will of Randle Pickmere, of Middlewich,
dated 1525.**

In dei noie Amen the xxvijth day of Aprill in the yeř of our lord God a thowsand cccccxxvth I Rondill Pykmeyr¹ of the Mydilwiche of holl mynd and remēbraunce seyng the perell of deith neght make my last will in manñ and form^o foloyng That is to wete I geve & beqweth my soule to Almyghte God owr lady Seynt Marye and all the Seynte in heyven Itm I will that my body be buryed in the church of Seynt Michael of the Medylwech Itm I geve and bequeth my best whik [quick] goodē to the pson of the said church in the name of my mortuarie Itm I geve and bequeth to Agnes my doghter the wyf of Richard Dampourt of Whelththrough a wiche howse lyeing in the Mydilwich neghe the Wiche Broke And an inset howse withe the app^ttenunce lyng in Bredur home otherwise called Parme to the said Agnes and hir heyers geñall, and for want of suche issue to Wiffm Pykmeyr and his heyers malez and for want of such issue to Rauff Pykmeyr and his heyers malez and for want of suche issue of them to the heyers malez next of the said Ronduls blod. Itm I geve and bequeth to the said Agnes my doght^r and hir heyers geñall the take and ŷme that I have of a wiche howse lyng at the Hypppyng stones for certen yeres which I have of Olyuer Bateson by entendures. Itm I will that my said

¹ There was a family of Pickmere of Hulse who were freeholders in 1578, but they do not appear in the 1580 *Visitation*. This will in Mr. Earwaker's Index (Vol. ii. *Rec. Soc.*) appears as of Randle Pickering.

doght^r Agnes and her heyers shall paye yerely duringe the tyme of the said howse to the churchwardens of the said Mydiff wiche toward the church werk vj^s viij^d Itm̄ I geve and beqweth to Wiffm Pikmer' all the takys of fee ferme of Wiffm Croxton and hys heyers lying in Newton to heys heyers malez and for want of such issue to Rauff Pykmeyr hys heyers malez except an Inset howse with a garden now in the holdyng of the said Rīc Dampont and Agnes his wyff wheche I wyll that the said Agnes shall haue for terme of hir liffe payinge thefor yerely to the said Wiffm Pykmeyr iijj^d Itm̄ I geve and beqweth to Rauff Pykmeyr the howse that I dwell in duryng my terme except the chambeñ benethe the fyř next the strete which I will that Elyñ Johnson shall haue for terme of her lyff. Itm̄ I geve and beqweth to the said Elyñ Johnson the thridd part of all my Instewe [?] of howsehold. Itm̄ I geve and beqweth to Wiffm Pikmeyr all myn Instewe of howsholld which is Irne ware. Itm̄ I geve and bequeth to Richard Dampont the youngē vj silv sponys and the high borde covert. Itm̄ I geve and bequeth to Agnes my doght^r and Marget hur doght^r the residue of all my goodē except my corne wheche I will Elyñ Johnson shall have the thridd pte off all whether it be in howse or in feld. Itm̄ I geve and bequeth to euly doght^r that Rauff Crosse hath unmarried vj^s viij^d and to his ij sones unmarried to ather iij^s iijj^d. Itm̄ I will thet Rauff Pykmeyr haue my ij wyche howses whereof I have the holdyng of my Lord of the Vale Ryall duryngc my terme. Itm̄ I geve unto John Pykmeyr all my lomes [?] in myñ awen smythe and xx^s of money.

Itm̄ I geve and bequeth to the blessed seynt Elyñ of Witton and her church werke xx^s. Itm̄ I geve & bequeth to by a sute for the high auter of Seynt Michaell for the prest to syng w^t xx^s. Itm̄ I geve and beqweth to Wynnsforth Bridge iij^s iijj^d Itm̄ I geve and bequeth to the Beth lawme iij^s iijj^d Itm̄ I will that all my landez & tackē w^t all manⁿ avauntagē & pfettē and occupaōns therto belonging stand & remayn to the use of myn executors to fulfill this my last will oñ yeř next aftur my deptyng. And to the my last will I haue constitute set & ordeynt Richard Dampont & William Pykmeyr to be my true & feithfull executors with the ousight off Sir John Crosby my gostely father In wittenes

whereof to the my testament and last will I have set my seale thees being wittnesses John Crosby clerke and my gostlye father, Richard Blakeborne, Rauff Byrchwood Wiffm Vernon with many others.

[Proved at Chester 22 June, 1527.]

**The Will of Thomas Haward, of Neston,
dated 1525.**

In dei noie Amen the viijth day of Januarii in y^e ye^r of o^r Lord god MCCCCXXV I Thomas Haward hole in mynd & secke in body make my last will & testament in manⁿ and forme foloyng. First I beqweth my sowle to allmyghtye God to his mother o^r blessed lady and to all the Sancte of hevyⁿ and my body to be buryed in the Church yord of Neston and my best beast to be my p^rincipall or mortuarye. Also I beqweth halff my goodez and catallz to Gilbert Haward that is to say the halff of money corne & catell, And also I beqwethe to ye said Gilbert my grettest pott my Jacke and sallett my plogh and my cartt. And I will that Elizabeth Anyon schall haue y^e ou^rsight & ordyng of the said Gilbert and y^e forsaid Goodez and catell to hym beqwethid. Also I beqweth to ye said Elizabeth Anyon ij shette ij cou^rlette, a blankett & x^s in money also a kow and vj busshellz of barley. Also I beqweth to Wiffm Anyon a kow and iij schepe. Also I beqweth to Tho^ms Helcoke a kow and iij schepe. Also I beqweth to S^r Wiffm Hesken vj^s viij^d and iij bushell barly. Also I beqweth to Alice Anyon halff of y^e residew of my beastez & schepe & a pott. Also I beqweth vj^s viij^d toward ye bying of a vestment, and to amenditt att y^e saying of y^e said S^r Wiffm. Also I beqweth to Tho^ms Anyon v busshellis of barley. Also I giff and beqweth to Edmud Elcoke an ox that he hath in his handez. Also I giff and beqweth to Henry Waryng v^s. Also I beqweth to Saint Martyn a hyve of beene to y^e kepyng of a light befor hym. And to y^{ls} my last will & testament to be truly p^rformyd exequitid & fulfilled in all

thynges I doo constitute & make Thōms Anyon & Edmūd Elcoke my execut^{ors} and S^r William Hesken to be oūlsee^r. And if thei will nott be said by hym then the said S^r William to take a mon att his pleasur̄. In witnes of all the p̄misses S^r Wiffm Hesken p̄st, Ric Russell, Robert Hawke and o^y moo were p̄sent & callid to yis my last will, yeven the day & ye^r aboute wrȳten.

[Proved — February, 1525-6.]

The Will of Ottswell Houghton, of Ormskirk, dated 1527.

In the Name of God Amen the xxviiith day off October the yere of o^{ur} Lord god mccccxxvijth I Otuell Hāghton orden and make my testament in this wyse In first I giff my sowle to Almyghty God to o^{ur} Lady and to all sentē off hevyn and my body to be buried wthin the church of Ormyskyrke Also I gyve my best goodē to be my pryncipall for my sawle. Also I wyll that Hugh my son haue all my purchest landē to hym & to hē Ayers for eūl. Also I wyll y^t Katyn my wiff haue & reyceue yerely [for] terme off hyr lyff xi^a off lawfull money of England of my purchest landis payd by the handez off my son Hugh. Also I gyve to the said Katyn my wyff thre cofurs oñ kow oñ bedde which she lyeth in. Also I gyve to O^{ur} Laydes werke att Ormyskyrke ij^a. The resydue of my goodes not beqwethed I giff and beqwethe thaim to my son Hugh afo^rsaid. And also I orden & make Katerin my wiff and Hugh my son my trew and lawfull executors.

In witenes wherof to this my p̄snt testament I have putto my Seall these beyng wittenez, Sir John Devyas Vicar off Ormyskyrke, Sir Rog^e Burschogh with oth^r Yeven the day & ye^r affo^rsaid.

Probat' ī eccl̄ co^{ll} S^ci Johis Cestr'
xxvij^o die Nouemb^r.

**The Will of Thomas Witter, of Torporley,
proved 1528.**

In the Name of God Amen the xxth day of December I Thoñs Wytur hoole of mynd & goð Remembraunce seke in body make my testament i this mañ ffyrst I bewethe my soule to God Almyghti to o^r Lady & to all the sainte i heyvyn my body to be buryed in the chauncell off the pich church of Torpurley. Also I bewethe for my mortuary according to the custome of the Cuntrie. Also I bewethe to a p̄list to pray for my Soul a yere vij markez. Also I wyll that oñ Wyndow i the northe yle be glased on my pp^r goodys & coste. Also I wyll that Elyñ my wyffe have my howse wth all the app^tynauncez therto belonging, and after the deceسه of the said Elyñ my wyff I will that Wiffm my sone have hit for the terme of his liff and aftur the deceسه of the s^d Wiffm I wyll that Elyñ my doghtur have hit for hyr lyffe & so to Jane Agnes Elizabeth and to who hit shall plese god my wyff ys cōseyved wth untyll the yere be complete and fulfilled according to my tacke my body buryed and all thinge according to the same pformed the Residue off all my goode I do giff and beweth to Elyñ my wyff & my children equally to be dyuyed according to the custome of the Cuntreth: And that this my last will be pformed & fulfilled I do orden constitute & make my true & lawful executors Wyffm Wytur Doctor of Decrees & Elyn my wyff these being p̄sent Wiffm Burghall p̄list John Welde John Robynson Wiffm Weth) all with other mowe.

[Proved in the Church of S. John Chester
xxij April, 1528.]

**The Will of Charles France, of Aspull,
dated 1530.¹**

In Dei Noie Amen Año Dñi MDXXX^o et xij^o die Maii
Ego Carolus Frañce de Aspull poch de Wigan Compos mēte

¹ Apparently only a fragment.

eger in corpore facio Testa^m meū in modo sequeñ In ꝑmis
 aīam meā comendo altissimo Deo Creatore meo et Diūe
 virgini Marie totiꝑ Curie celesti Corpusꝑ meū sepeliendꝑ in
 Cimiterio Om̄m scōrum de Wigan Itm̄ I make my wife, John
 France my sonne, Wiffm Wodd and Wiffm Aynscho, my
 faithfull Executo^re and Thoñs Gerrard of Ince Esquier Oūseer
 of this present will that hit may be fulfilled after my mynd
 to the pleasure of God & wealth of my Soull. Itm̄ I wyll
 that my wyfe haue my house duringe her life and after her
 decease I will that John France my sonne haue hit. Itm̄ I
 will that John France Robte Fronce Wiffm Fronce & Ric.
 Fronce haue the Title and Right of a Tenement lyeinge in
 Westhaughton callid Gorton house accordinge to the custome
 of the towne of Haughton aforesaid. Itm̄ I brought home
 and my will fulfilled I will that the Residue of all my goodꝑ
 be devided amongis my wife and Children. Itm̄ I bequeath
 to Riç Fronce my sonne iij^s iiij^d. Itm̄ to Robte Fronce my
 sonne iij^s iiij^d. Itm̄ to S^r Adam Plat xij^d.

**The Will of Thomas Ball, of Boughton,
 dated 1530.**

In the Name of God Amē ye xvijth day off Septēber in
 ye yer off o^r Lord God M^occcc^o & xxx^o I Thomas Ball of
 Boughton seke ī body & holle of mynde et remēbranse
 dredynge & abydyngē ye uncten tyme off deth make my
 testament & laste will ī man^r & forme as followeth first I will
 & bequeeth my sole to allmighty God & o^r lady Sanct Mary
 & to all ye holy cōpany off heuē & my body to be buret
 wthin ye church off ye monasterry off Sanct Wurbur ī Ches^r
 Also I will y^t Riç Ball my son have xx^s oul^l & beside his pte
 off goodꝑ to be payd at his need by ye appoynting of my
 executors & oūseers Also I will y^t Wiff Ball my son have ye
 heffur which was his one afortyme Also I will and beqwethe
 to Cicile Balle my doghter ye heffur whych is make [? for
mate] to ye said heffur beqweth to ye said Wiffm to goo
 forthward w^t her Also I giffe & beqweth to Thomas Ball my

son my Jacke Salet & bill Also I giffe unto Johan Ball my sust^r v^s to be payd at ye ou^ssyht off my said executors & ou^ssears Also I giffe and beqweth toward ye cou^lyngē of Sanct Anthonies all^d w^tin ye Pych Church of Sanct Oswaldē ī Ches^t iij^s iiij^d to be payd by my said executors Also I will & it is my full m^yd Will & Intent that Elyn my wiffe have all ye rest of my gudē & catellē moueable & unmoueable & wth ye same shall finde bryngē upe & kepe my cheld^d wth meitē drynkē cothis and other necessaries duryngē ye tyme & as long she kepis hyr wido if yay so long can agre toged^d and iff she be maret or y^t thay my said child^d & she can not agre toged^d then I will & it is my mynd that ye same my gudē and catellē except before beqwethed and except, shall be deuided in ij ptes equally accorydyng to ye lawe ye oⁿ pt thereof to my said wiffe and ye other pte ye^roff to my said child^d at ye poyntyng & ou^ssyht off ye said Elyn my wiffe & ye said Ric. Ball my son whom I make & cōstitute my exectores & off Wiffm Ball my bro^d & John Bradburne off Ches^t who I desyre & orden to be ou^ssears of ys my laste will & testamēt well & truly to be execut & p^rformet accordinge to my tru Intent & meaning therein at thayr discretions. Thes beyng^d p^rsent & wyttēnes of y^s my last will Sir John Ball p^rst my gostly fa^d John Bradburne Myles Coke Wiffm Ball & others.

The Will of Katherine Browne, of Chester, dated 1544.

In the Name of God Amen the xiiijth of Ap^rll Año 1544 I Catarin Browne widdowe of p^rfitt mynde and memorie make my Testament & last will as followithe. First and principallie I betake my soull to Almightye God o^r Ladie Saint Marie and all the Holie Companie of Heaven and my bodie to be buried on Saint Maries on the Hill in Chester, Secondlie I will that Tho^ms Browne sonne of Wiffm Browne decessed after my decesse have the Tenement or holdinge I now dwelle in and also one of my waines a plowhe iiij^{or} oxen wth other ap^ptiⁿncē to waine and plowghe and also Coffers beddcases

tables tressels [etc together with] the felde lyeinge wthin the Lordshippe of Pulford called the Oldefelde [etc] and I do bequeth to my S^r Henrie Browne [*sic*] a stagge by name called the balde stagge & also two kyne, one of the best & an other of meane sort & also oñ yoke of oxon. Also I bequeath to my sonne Thoñs Browne of Dunh^m xx^{ti} shepe of the shepcote that is to witt neither of the best nor of the worst & them to be there kept. Also I bequethe to the s^d Thoñs two bullocks. Moreo^u whereas my sonne Rog^g is indebted unto me for two oxon and v bushellis barlie I do forgyve unto hym the said frelie [etc] To my sonne-in-lawe Riç Halliwall two heffers stirke to the behove of his daughters, also I bequeth to my sonne-in-lawe Jeffrie Gronowe and Cicelie his wife oñ Cowe of the seconde sort wch I will shallbe a good oñ. Also I bequeath to John Gronwall sonne to the said Jeffrey oñ pied heffer & to Catherin my goddaughter sustor to the said John, & to the reste of the children of the said Jeffrey one heffer of two yere old, also I bequeth to Wiffm Grymsdich of Happesworth my sonne in law and Alis his wyfe two heffer stirke also I bequethe to Elizabeth Browne daughter to Roger Browne toward a bedd a cou^llett a paire of shetes a bolster a blanket and oñ cove. [If foresaid Thomas son of] Wiffm Browne decessed dye without issue [remainder of tenement] to the use of Thomas Browne of Dumh^m and his children [remainder to next of kin of testator].

[Executors] Thōs Browne of Dunham & Thōs son of W^m Brown afores^d & my brother Mathewe Ellis¹ & my sonne Sir Henrie Browne oūseers.

[Witnesses] S^r Henrie Browne Mathew Ellis S^r John Newton S^r Thomas Straitbarrell & others.

¹ See the will of Matthew Ellis, of Chester, dated 1547, p. 174.

The Will of Thomas Croxton, of Ravenscroft, dated 1544.

In the name of God Amen I Thomas Croxton of Rainscrofte¹ in the Countie of Chester beinge demanded to serve o^r Sovereigne Lord the Kinge in his graces warres in Frañce p^{ro}paringe myselfe toward the same accordinge to my bounden dutie and knowinge ther is nothing more sure than deathe and the tyme therof most uncerten and revoltinge [*sic*] to mynd that I have manie small children and smale store of goodę and cattalle to p^{ro}fferre them wth yf God call me unto his micie before they be p^{ro}fferred. And for that cause onlie of gret confidence and trust I have enfeoffed my spca^{ll} and trustie frendę Wi^m Vernon Wi^m Anderton and Ri^c Nicholas and their heires of and in all my mea^ses wyche houses Landę Tenemētę rentę reu^{er}ẽõns and s^{er}vices wth their ap^{ro}tuñcę in Rainscrofte aforesaid Drakley Brotherhome, Wyche Malbanke, Midlewich, or els where w^{thin} the Countie of Chester aforesaid and that they & theyr heyres shall stand seized of all & euery the p^{ro}misses except twoe wyche houses of xij leadę in Midlewich aforesaid to the use of me the said Thomas Croxton & my heires if I come & retourne unto Rainscrofte aforesaid from the s^{er}vise of o^r Sovereigne Lord the Kinge in his graces warres in Frañce.

And if I chaunce to die before I come & retourne to Rainscrofte afor^{sd} then the said feoffm^t shall be to the use [of the feoffes to certain uses, as contained in a pair of Indentures & a deed of Indenture bearing date 12 Ju^{ne}, xxxvj Henry viii]

I will [that the said feoffes] shall suffer Elizabeth wieff of me the said Tho^ms to have & occupie my chiefe mease place wth all the demaine landę & Tenemētę in Rainscrofte [etc] durenge the said terme of x yeres so that she do and will

¹ Thomas Croxton, of Ravenscroft in the parish of Middlewich, married according to Ormerod, Margaret, daughter of Charles Wright, of Middlewich, so that the Elizabeth mentioned in the will proves that he married twice. He is stated to have died on March 3, 1547. His mother was a daughter of Sir John Legh, of Booths, hence his appointment of his kinsman as overseer.

educate and bringe up all my children mulierlie begotten except^t Wi^m my sonne & heire apparent that is to say my sonnes in Learninge and Doughters in other convenient busines as shall appteine to their degrees [etc. Provision made for payment of xxvj^s viij^d chief rent to the King. Mention is made of] all my daughters.

Itm̄ I will unto Homfrey & Ric. Croxton bastard sonnes & to Elizabeth my bastard daughter & to euly of them xl^s sterlinge [etc]

[Moveable goods to be divided in three parts, one part to his wife, second part to children with certain exceptions and third part to payment of testator's debts etc. Provision is also made for a possible further son.]

[Executors, the three feoffes]

And I make the right worshipfull John Leghe of Bothe Knight ouseer of this my last will. In witnes wherof to this my p̄sent will I have putto my seale the xxth day of June in the xxxvjth yere of the reigne of o^r Sovereigne Lord Henrie the viijth [etc] Thes beinge present Raffe Holforde, John Cowper, John Holford Wifm̄ Holford cū ceter'

Inven : bonorū eiusd̄m̄ extendit ad valorē lxv^{li} xiijs^s

[Proved 16 May, 1547.]

The Will of John Hockenhull, of Hockenhull, dated 1546.

In Dei Noīe Amen xxx^o die Decembris Año mccccxlvj^o
Ego Johes Hoknehitt¹ armig^o cōpos mentis ac sane memorie
condo istud ultimū testamentū meū in hunc modū Imp̄mis do
et lego aīam meam Deo patri oīpotenti et ei⁹ unigenite filie et
Corpusq, meū ad sepiliend̄ infra eccliam meam parochialē de

¹ John Hockenhull, of Hockenhull and Shotwick, married Margery, daughter of John Minshull, of Minshull. Ormerod's pedigree is evidently incomplete at this period.

Tervin. Item I will & bequeth y^t aft^r my buriall expencis & dettē discharged of my whole goodē all ye residue ou^{er} remenyng to be bestoed according to ye order of ye law betwixt M^ggeret my wife & my naturall children not in my lif^e p^rferred & holpen. Also I will y^t my sofe & heare shall have herrelambe [*heirlooms*] of my goodē according as I had at ye decease of my fath^r. Also I will & bequeth y^t my executors or supvisor of theim shall receve & take yearely issues & p^rfitte of c^oten my meässes & tenementē w^{it} all landē meadowe pastures & other ap^ptuñces ap^ptenynge to ye same meässes & tenementē lying in Shotwick within ye Countie of Chester [etc] to wit of ye meässe in tenure of Ric Barton p^r añn ij^s of ye measu^g in tenure of Williā Coke p^r añn iiij^s of ye measu^g in tenure of Alis Meyre p^r añn ij^s of ye meassueg in tenure of Ric Otie p^r añn xxiiij^s of ye messuage in tenure of John Carrer p^r añn iiij^s of ye messueg in tenure of Tho^ms Bleyse p^r añn viij^s of ye tenemēt in tenure of Tho^ms Whit^r p^r añn xvj^s untill such tyme as ye o^r surviuo^r of them shall have taken & receued of ye yerely rentē issues & p^rfits to ye so^me of fourtie markes s^lying aft^r my decease to ye use & p^rfermēt of the marigis of my ij dough^d M^ggerie & Ann equally to be deuided betwix^t the tow. Provided & also I will y^t my sayd dough^tē or oth^r of them do mysord^r y^r bodies unhonestley & will not be ordered & maried by ye co^usell of my executor^s that then ye or oth^r of them so mysorderinge themselves or refusing ye co^usell in mariage as aforesaid shall not have any p^te or p^ccell of ye sayd rentē [etc]

[After said rents are taken] Then I will & bequeth y^t my tow young^g sofes Pet^r & Ri^c to receue & take & haue to y^r p^rfermēt of ye said meässes landē tenemētē [etc]. I cōstitute & orden & no^oiate Johⁿ Mynshull of Mynshull Esquiere Wiff^m Hokenhill of P^rnten gent, Rauf Hokenhill my bro^dr & Wiff^m Mynshull my bro^dr in law myne executorē also I bequeath to Pet^r Blithe a baye mare & a colte to M^ggaret my wief my graye geldinge. In witnes of this my last will & testamēt I haue cōfessed & declared the p^rmisses in ye p^rsens & testimony of Tho^ms Mynshull John Hokenhill, Tho^ms Helyn & oth^r also I bequeath to Wiff^m Hockēhyll & Rog^g Hokenhill eth^r of them a heffer of ij yeres old also to Sir Huges Parre to p^re for me ij^s

Inventorū omniū bonorū eius^d extendit ad valorē xlv^{li}
vij^s iij^d.

Sum Deb. vij^{li} vij^s ij^d

**The Will of Matthew Ellis, of Chester,
dated 1547.**

In dei Noīe Amen the vth day off February in the xxxviii^{ij} yeare¹ of the raygne off o^r Soueraigne lord Henry the eyght [etc]. I Mathew Elys holle off mynde neuerthelesse sicke in Bodye make [etc]. Fyrst I bequeth my sole to god [etc] & my bodye to be buryed in Seynt Maries church wthin the Ile where I walke. Also I geave & bequeth unto the meyn-teninge off Seynt Maryes ³uice and Seynt Katerines ³uice one steere worthe xx^s or els xx^s off mony equallye to be deuyded betweene them.

Itm I bequeth to my eldest dawghter Alice to the p^rferment off her marriage xxiiij^{li} in full contentation off her chyldes parte or porcyon w^{ch} some of xxiiij^{li} Christian Hope hath received ffor a Mariage to be had betwixt my seyde dawghter and Peter her soffe accordinge to the couenant^e as be comprysed in a peyre off Indentures made betwixt me & the said Xpian at the ordre and oversyght of my executors. And yff ytt chaunce my seyde dawghter Alice to dye afore the sayde mariage then I will & bequethe the xxiiij^{li} to my dawghter ElysaBeth to the p^rferment off her mariage wth the sayde Peter in full contentation off her chyldes portion. And yff the sayde Alicia chaunce to marye the sayde Peter then I bequeth to the sayde Elizabeth xx^{li}o markes in full cōtentation off her chyldes portion. And yff ytt chaunce the sayde Alice

¹ In Mr. Earwaker's Index this will is dated 1539, but in the original in the Bishop's Enrolment Book the will is clearly dated as here given. It is evident that 1539 must be incorrect, as Matthew Ellis witnessed Katherine Browne's will in 1544 (*vide* p. 170). The curious thing is that Henry the Eighth died on the 28th January, 1547, and one would think that the news of the event must have reached Chester in less than eight days, even allowing for possible snowstorms at this period of the year.

to dye and the seyde Elizabeth to be maryed to the sayd Peter then I geave & bequeath the sayd xx^{vs} markes to be deuyded betwixt my wyff and the residew off my chyldren.

[Residue of property], goodes lande howses and farmes [to wife "Marie" & other children for the space of 14 years & thereafter to] my soñe Mathew. Itm̄ I wyll that all soche closes as my syster Elizabeth hathe in her holdinge she to occupie and enioye them so longe as she liueth and after her deceasse the sayd closes to goe to the use & p̄fett of my soñe Mathew [etc., remainder to other children by his wife "Marie"]. Itm̄ I bequeth to Syr Edmond Burton iij^s iiij^d. Itm̄ to Syr Rychard Stancliffe ij^s. Itm̄ to Syr Henrye Browne¹ one ryng off Syluer gylte. Itm̄ to euerye Preeste off Seynt Maryes xij^d. Itm̄ I bequethe to my s̄vant John Walker one Styrke w^t greene hornes. Itm̄ to Raffe Pickerell one red jackett.

[Executors] Marye my wyffe & Robt Byrkenet my brother in law, these beinge witnes Jhōn Robyson, Wifm Barber, Roger Browne, John Jeñ [Jevan], weuer, Edmond Burton curate w^t others.

Debita que debentur testatori.

Imp̄mis John Haliwall off Pulford	...	...	vj ^s viij ^d
Itm̄ my ladye Dutton	...	...	xij ^s iiij ^d
Itm̄ Wifm Hylton	...	...	xij ^s iiij ^d
Itm̄ M ^r Rauffe Dutton	...	...	vj ^{li} xij ^s viij ^d
Itm̄ John Teylior	...	...	xl ^s
Itm̄ M ^r Rauffe Dutton	...	...	xl ^s
Itm̄ lent to Hughe Preste uppon a p̄ledge off a gyrdle	...	...	xij ^s iiij ^d
Itm̄ Riç Byran	...	...	xvij ^d
Itm̄ S ^r John Abravaghan	...	...	x ^s
& to his sonne Ric	...	...	x ^s
Itm̄ Ric Hewer	...	...	xl ^s x ^d

¹ See the will of Katherine Browne, of Chester, dated 1544, on p. 169:

The Will of Robert Birkhead,¹ dated 1549.

In dei Noie Amen I Robart Byrkhed of good & pfitie memorie make my laste wyll & testament in forme followinge First I bequethe my soulle to Almighty God the Father, the Sonne & the Holi Goost & my bodie to be buried where hitt shall please his deuyne maiesti. Also I wyll that myn executorē shall content & paye unto the ryght honorable Edward Erle of Darbie In recōpence of suche money as I haue had of his & for that he hath ben good Lord unto me as my speciall trust & desyre ys to haue hym to be good Lord unto my wyf & children lxxvj^{li} xiiij^s iiij^d. Also I doe oghe unto one Ric. Lowe ſuant unto the sayd Erle xl^s w^{ch} he lent me. Also unto Cristofer Gawen late Baylyff of Holland for a nagge xxvj^s viij^d. Also to Thoṃs Botill of Lathom ſuant to the sayd Erle iij^{li}. Also unto Robart Wyllyamson of the Lordship of Knoysley ſuant to the sayd Erle for a cowe. Also unto S^r Hugh Huxley xxvj^s viij^d whereof he hayth had v^s viij^d. Also I gyffe grant & assigne unto my wyff the howse wherein I doe nowe dwell according to ow^r purches w^{ch} is iontly to hyr & me, and after hyr decease to the heyres of ow^r two bodies begoten & for defaute of suche issue to the right heyres of [me] the sayd Robart for eu^l. Also I do orden & make my sayd wyff my sonnes Rauff & Edward my executors. Also to them I do gyff all my goodes & cattallē over & besydes the p^{ro}misses & my funerall expensis. Alsoe whereas my brother-in-lawe Hugh Arrow-smythe deuysed by hys last wyll alle his landē & teñtē in Manchester to me & my wiff & to the heyres of ow^r twoe bodies begoten I wyll that the sayd Landē & teñtē for default of such issue shall remaine unto Katheren Dale wyff of Robart Dale of Manchester [to her right heirs written 8 February 1549 (4 Edw: vj)].

By me Robart Byrkhed.

[No date of probate.]

¹ Probably of the parish of Prescott. This will appears in the Index (Vol. ii. *Rec. Soc.*) as of Robert Birkenhead, but there is nothing to show that this is the name in the will itself.

**The Will of John Whitmore, of Thurstaston,
dated 1553.**

In the Name of God Amen ye Fath ye Soñe & ye Holie Goste one God eternall Amen. I Jhon Whitmore [of] Thurstonton in ye countie of Ches^r Esquire being this xvijth daye of September in ye yere of o^r Lord God A thousand fiue hundreth fiftie & three of gud & pfect memory albeit yet something weake & sicke in bodie callyng to remēbrance how c^ten I am to die [etc] do make & orden my testamēt conteyning my last will in man^r & forme following that is to saye ffirste Comendinge my soule unto ye hande of Almighty [God] my Savi^{o^r} & Jesus Christ trusting by ye meritte & blude sheding to enherit his kyngdom I will y^t my bodie shalbe buryed in ye chaüsell of West Kirbye nere unto ye tomes or graues of my Auñceters there with such funurales obsequies as may be done unto Goddes glory wthout pompe or oth^r folishe solomnities:

Also I will y^t in ye morning of ye daye of my buriall afore my corpes be carried unto ye Church my executors distribute unto ye pore folkes thyder comyng xxvj^s viij^d in peny dole w^{ch} [1] do leue in olde pence for y^t ppas that eu^{er}yone of ye pore folkes haue a peny & for ye rest of ye oth^r thinges to be done at or about my saide funurales I do reserue ye same to be done by ye discrecion of my execut^re also where I haue geuen & assured all those my se^uall leases & Interest of & in ye tythe corne of Rabie & of & in a farme at Irbye w^{ch} Henry Tottie now occupieth to my cosine Wifm Hocknell of Prenton & his assignes for eu^{er} to ye use & behoufe of me for terme of lif & aft^r my decease to ye use of John Whitmore my cosin & heir apparante during his natural life. I will y^t my cosins haue hold & Injoye ye ocupacion of ye se^uall farmes accordingly.

Also I will & bequethe all my Interest & terme of yeres yet to com^o of & in a close in Yrbie called ye Grayte Hay w^{ch} I haue of Wifm Lee for ix yeres yet to com^o unto my cosin Wifm Benyt & his assignes for eu^{er}. Also I do remyte unto S^r John Anian xⁱⁱ pcell of -xxⁱⁱ w^{ch} he doth oughe unto me & ye oth^r xⁱⁱ residue I will & bequeth unto his broth^r & my

cosin Rič Anian also I will y^t my execut^re w^{hin} convenient & reasonable tyme aft^r my decease cōtente & paye unto my sis^tr Katheren Bostocke vj^{ll} xij^s iij^d also where[as] Rondull Stanley Esquier is Indebted unto me in ye so^me of a cxix^{ll} by specialities & oth^rwise I do geue & bequethe fortie pounde p^{cell} y^rof unto my wif & I will devise & bequethe lix^{ll} one oth^r p^{cell} of ye said so^me of cxix^{ll} & also viij^{ll} oweinge unto me by Wiffm Moston so^me & heire of Tho^ms Moston Esquire to my said cosin & heire John Whitmore to be deli^ued unto him at his age of xxj yer^s & if he do depte afore y^t age I will y^t William Whitmore shall haue ye se^uall so^mes of lix^{ll} & viij^{ll} at his age of xxi yer^s & if he do depte afore y^t age then I will ye same be distributed among my kinne by my executo^rs. Also I will y^t my executors apon my good^e sue & obtaine ye same se^uall somes & deli^u ye same accordinge to my full mynd & will & y^t ye[y] release no pte y^rof. Also I geue & bequeth unto ye said Wiff Whitmore xx^{ll} one oth^r p^{cell} of ye said so^me of cxix^{ll} also I do remyte & forgeue unto Wiffm Anyan x^{ll} of y^t he dothe owghe unto me & unto John Warton vj^{ll} of his dette & unto Henry Stanton xxij^s of his dette & unto John Braband half of ye debte he oughith me & unto Rog^e Pigote half of his dette unto me & unto Rič. Androes all his dette & unto Tho^ms Brid x^s of his dette & unto Wiffm Curtesse theld^r all his dette & unto Wiffm Whitmore all his dette sauinge Mydsom^r Rente laste due also I geue & bequeth unto Rič Anyan iij^{ll} w^{ch} Henry Stanton doth owe unto me to be payd me in three years aft^r xx^s ye yere. Also I do remyte & foregiue unto John Androwe xi^s of ye dette w^{ch} his owinge unto me & unto Henry Framewe [Framwell] xij^s iij^d of y^t he owgheth unto me & unto John Diall vj^s viij^d of his dette Also I geue to Wiffm Gregorie all his dette towards ye marriage of his daught^r Also I giue to Richard Moneley of his dette iij^s iij^d also I remyte & forgiue to Wiffm Gobbyn all his dette & to Hamlet Rummer all his dette excepte his last rent due at Mydsom^r last also I geue to my cosin Henry Whitmore one cove & to Henry Stephen my ^vvant one cove & to Blessen Wilbram a calf & to Da^y Edward a yeryng calf & to Blesse Andrew a calf also I geue to Nicholas Moneley of his dette ij^s also I geue to ye church of West Kirby xx^s

also I will ye churchwardens of Thurstanton haue ye occupation of my chalice of silu^u pcell gilte & a sute of vestment & all ye same to remain othwise in ye order of my heres also I will y^t my said cosin & heire John Whitmore & his broth William haue well & truly deliuided all such good & cattall & oth things as were y^r fathers Thom Whitmore & I will & bequeth to my cosin John Whitmore ye best bedde & [other household goods etc] within my house at Thurstanton wherein now I do dwell & [all husbandry gear plate etc]. Also I do geue to Wiffm Whitmore my silu^u pece & unto S^r John Anyan v sponnes w^{ch} I had in gage of his moth. To my said wif vj silu^u spones [etc] To my brother-in-law Rauffe Bostocke [etc] & to Wiffm Anyon of Geldyn Sutton a cove & I will y^t all ye rest & residue of my household stufte corne [etc not yet bequethed] funerales pformed & dett^e payd [go] to my said wif & cosins John Whitmore & his broth Wiffm & betwixte them equally deuyded [etc]

[Executors] Ric Wilbröme Rauf Worseley Esquiers Wiffm Hocknell of Prenton Rog^o Hurlton Wiffm Benyt & Sir John Anyan & S^r Thomas Sharpe Clarke John Whitmore¹

His testibus ē p^sentibus Ric Annian Rauf Bostocke & Henry Stevin, John Whitmore, Ric Harpur et multis aliis.

The Will of Ralph Hockenhull, of Shotwick, dated 1556.

In the Name of God Amen. I Rauffe Hockenell holle in mynd & Sycke in Bodye make my laste wyll & testament in manner & forme followinge fyrste I bequethe my soule to Allmightye God my maker redemer & Sauyor that ys to saye my bodye to be buried in the paryshe Church of Showycke & the charges thereof to arise & be taken of my holle goodes & my debtes to be paid of the same & after that I will &

¹ These names all follow one another as above, but it is doubtful whether they are meant to be all executors; the probability is that only the first two acted in this capacity, the others being overseers.

bequethe that my wyf shall have of my goodes iij coulette ij payre of shete ij feth^h beddes one mattris iij potengers of pewter & iij chargers ij kynes one brasse potte one pan her werynge clothes & one corral payres of beydes in recompence of hyr parte of such goodes & cattells as by th'order of the lawe after & by my deathe she shuld have & receyue of the same goodes & cattelles. And I wyll further that my Eldest daughter after her mariage shall have the same Corral beydes and if she die I wyll & bequethe the same to suche of my daughters as shall be nexte in age to my sayd eldest daughter at the tyme of her dethe. Item I bequethe to my said wyf twentye poundes of moneye. Item I wyll that the residewe of my goodes [etc] be deuided at the discretion of my Executors amongst my children & that my executors shall take all my children frome my sayd wyfe & bestowe them as the[y] shall thinke good for ther pferment. Moreover I wyll gyve & assigne to Peter Hocknell of Hockenell & to Wiffm Hockenell of Prenton my holle interest & terme of yeres to come wth I have of and in the ferme of Sutton with my coñat sealle concerninge the same & the profittes of the same to bestowe upon my children and [? for as] the same shall yerely fall & aryse accordinge to ther discretion. Item I bequethe to Master Wyllyam Massye a bassen & a ewer, & to Peter Hocknell my best gone, and to John Batmon my weringe russett gone, & to my cosyn Wyllyam Hocknell of Prenton my beast dawblett or gyrken & to his wyfe a rynge of golde, and I wyll that all the Resedewe of my Apparell to be bestowed by my executors for my solle[s] helthe. Item I wyll that my Executors shall give my mother a kyrtell. Item I gyve & bequethe to the parishe Church of Shotwyke so much of my goodes as shall be a vestment wth pares. Item I wyll & bequethe to Sir Thomas Hande clarke iij^s iij^d.

[Executors] Peter Hockenell of Hockenell & Wyllia Hockenell of Prenton & Wyllyam Massie of Puddington Esquire overseer [etc]

[Witnesses] Thomas Hande clarke, Thomas Heylen Richard Otey Thomas Taylor Edmund Whythedde Robart Warton Henry Harker Rychard Bradlay & others. Wrytten

the xvjth daye of Januarie in the yeare of O^r Lorde God
MDlvj [etc]

[No probate ; an Inventory without a total.]

**The Will of Roger Mason, Vicar of Huyton,
dated 1557.**

In the Name of God Amen the xijth daie of Maye in ye
yere of our Lorde Gode MCCCClvij [etc] I Rog^e Mason
clarke now Vicar of Huyton in ye countie of Lancastrie being
of gud & pfect remēbraunce [etc] do orden make & cōstitute
this my last will & testament in man^r & forme followinge
y^t is to say first I comite my soule unto Almightye God my
mak^r & redem^r by whose passion I trust to be a saued soule
& ptak^r of his evlastinge & glorious kingdom & my bodie to
be buried wthin ye pische churche of Huyton. Item I geue &
bequeth unto John Mason of ye Citie of Chest^r coruesor [?] xl^{li}
angels in gold togeth^r wth such somes of money and gud^e of
myne as ye same John hath at this tyme in his hands. Itm I
geue & bequeth unto George Mason broth^r unto the said
John Mason xl^{li} angeles in gold. Itm I geue & bequethe
unto Katerin now wife unto Tho^ms Linsley of Couentrie &
sis^t unto ye said John ten pound^e. Itm I geue & bequeth
unto M^rgeret Mason sis^t unto ye said Katherin xl pound^e to
& for ye pferment of ye honest & cōuenient mariage of ye
same M^rget if she wilbe maried at ye sight & advise of myn
execut^re. Item I geue & bequeth unto Tho^ms Masson th^eld^r
& broth^r unto ye said John vj^{li} xiijs^s iiij^d. Item I geue &
bequeth unto Tho^ms Mason yong^e & also broth^r unto ye said
John ten^{li} if he be in plaine lif at ye tyme of my decease. Itm
I geue & bequeth unto Wiffm Mason broth^r unto ye said
John xx^{li}. Item I geue & bequeth unto Edward Finney
Tho^ms Finney George Finney & James Fynney childrē unto
Elynⁿ Fynney now wif of John Finney of Whitston xiiij^{li}
vj^s viij^d to be used & impoyed to y^r use at ye sight &
appointmēt of my execut^re to go fortheward wth them. Im
I geue & bequeth unto M^rgery Gille now my sⁱuint ten

pounde & also ye bed y^t she usith to lie in & ten^s in money to bie a case to ye same togeth^r) w^t a cowe a brasse potte & a panne. Itm I geue unto Robart Fynney xⁱⁱ to goe fortheward w^t him. Itm I geue toward ye helpinge of xxⁱⁱ pore maid^e wⁱⁿ ye pishe [of] Huyton to cōueniente mariage xiiij^h vj^s viij^d to be paid & bestowed by myne executor at his discrecion wⁱⁿ one yere nexte aft^r) my decease. Itm I bequeth to ye helping & furth^r)ance of ye most poore & olde wⁱⁿ ye towne & lordshippe of Huyton, Robie & Wolfall xl^s to be deli^u)ed & bestowed by my executor at his discrecion wⁱⁿ one weeke next aft^r) my decease unto such as shalbe thoughte most ned^y)of.

[Similar bequests to the poor of Prescott, Ormskirk & to
 ✓Burscough x^s Walton x^s Wartrie [Wavertree] x^s Liverpool xl^s,
 & Farnworth xx^s.]

[Further bequests to] M^g)garet Cheshire my sist^s) daugh^t)
 & to Alis Cheshire my sist^s) daugh^t), [etc, to] Jane Parrie
 now my s^h)unt [to] Kathrin Rathbon now my s^h)unt, [to]
 Ri^c) Rathbon now my s^h)unt, [to] Elin Finnye a cowe Itm
 I bequeth unto ye mendinge of ye waye from Huyton
 unto Prescott xx^s. Itm I bequethe to ye mēdinge of
 Dichfelde lane xiiij^s iiij^d. Itm to M^g)garet Rathbon & Elen
 Rathbon sis^t)e unto ye said Katrin Rathbon to eith^r) of
 them x^s. Itm I geue & bequeth unto S^r) Hugh Huxley
 my late M^g) a riall of gold. Itm I geue & bequethe unto S^r)
 Wiffm Asmole an old angell noble togeth^r) w^t my win^t) gowne.
 Itm I geue & bequethe unto M^g)gret Walker, Elen Walker
 M^g)gerie Walk^r) & Anne Walker dought^r)e of Ri^c) Walker of
 [Blank.] unto e^u)y of them x^s a pece [etc] Itm I geue & bequeth
 unto Elen Ireland x^s, Itm I will y^t my executor upon the
 daye of my buriall shall bestowe at his discrecion among ye
 pore people y^t thither shall resort peny dole. Itm I bequeth
 unto e^u)y godchild that I have xij^d. Itm I will & do also
 geue & bequeth to my execu^t) to bestow among oth^r) my
 frend^e) beyng of ye porest sort yt stond to me at or wⁱⁿ ye
 thrid degrie y^t I haue bequethed nothing unto ye p^r)formance
 & accomplismente of my legacies & bequest^e) cōtened in
 this my last will & testament & upon charitable deedes at his
 discrecion all & e^u)y my good^e) & catteles [etc] y^t shall
 remene ou^l) & besid^e) my gift^e) & bequest^e) [etc]. Itm I

bequethe unto S^r John Rathbon my best gowne togeth^l) with my cloke. Itm̄ I geue & bequethe unto S^r Edward Lowe a gowne. Itm̄ I geue & bequethe unto S^r Gilbert Shrilacies my short gowne in recōpence of his wagis. Itm̄ I geue & bequeth unto Agnes Gille ij yardes of flaxen cloth. Itm̄ I wyll that my execu^r shall bie & deliū^d) unto eu^e)ye child of John Finneye now dwelling w^t him a whit cote. Itm̄ I will y^t my execu^r shall bestow among ye children of ye said John Finney & ye children of Tho^{m̄}s Kelbt my [?] pece of canvis to make y^m shirt^e w^tall [etc]

[Executor] S^r John Rathbon

[Overseer] S^r Edward Lowe.

[Witnesses] S^r Edward Lowe S^r George Wyllyamson S^r John Dorbie S^r Gilbert Shrilacies priestes, John Boner & John Pcivall yomen with others.

The Will of Adam Bank, of Wigan, dated 1557.

In the Name of God Amen [19 July 1557] I Adam Banke of Wigan in the Countie of Lanc. braser being visited wth sicknes [etc] I bequethe my sowle to Almightye God to have the frai^{co}n [fruition] of his prescence wth the Sainct^e & Angellis of heaven, my bodie I bequethe to Christian buriall at my parishe Churche [etc] [Goods to be divided into 3 parts, one part reserved for himself to pay debts funeral expenses etc, one part to his wife Grace Banke] and the thrid pte to my two sonnes Humfrey & Thomas. Also I geve to my sonne Humfrey Banke all my pewter moed^e [*moulds*] wth this Condi^{co}n and provision that he the said Humfrey shall p^mitt & suffer my sonnes Wiffm Banke & Tho^{m̄}s Banke to cast in them at ther pleasure & lib^t)tie at all tymes [etc]. Also hit is my wyll [etc] that the said Humfrey shall forsee that the said Tho^{m̄}s be set to learning in his childhoodd to the schole & then to his occupa^{co}n of the Pewterers Crafte wherbie he may be able to get his lyvinge wthall. Also hit is my will that Wiffm my sonne shall have xx^{li} of my whole good^e the

w^{ch} I promysed to hym at the tyme of his marriage. Also I geue to Humfrey my sonne all my leases & tacke that I now have at this pnt tyme the house that John Banke dwellithe in onlie excepted [etc] To Wiffm Ricrofte iij^u vj^s viij^d. To Wiffm Banke the sonne of Thomas Banke xx^s. To John Mather xx^s when he come to the age of xxj yeres. To Adam Ricrofte xx^s when he come to the age of xxj yeres. To Elizabeth Ricrofte xiiij^s iiij^d. To Grace Ricrofte vj^s viij^d. To Roger Ricrofte vj^s viij^d. To Cicelie Ricrofte my Redd heffer. Also I geue towarde the mendinge of the lane betwene the Stonne crosse and ye Laudmaryhead grene xx^s. To Adam Forstar iij^s iiij^d. To Raffe Forstar iij^s iiij^d

[Exōrs] Wife Grace Banke & sons William, Humfrey & Thomas Banke

[Overseer] Sethe Forstar

[Witnesses] S^r Wiffm Astley & S^r Raffe Scotte, prestis.

[Proved 14 January 1557.]

The Will of Richard Halsall, of Whiston, dated 1557.

In the Name of God Amen the xiiijth day of Novēbre in the yeare off owre Lord God a thowsand ffyve hundretht ffyfftye & seven I Richard Halsall off Quyston [*Whiston*] in the pise off Prescott Sycke in bodie [etc] do make my last will [etc] First I bequethe my sowle unto Almightye God & to owre Ladye Seynt Marye and to all the Holye Companye off Heavē & my bodie to be buried in the Church off All Sayntē in Prescott. Also I bequethe unto everye of my brotherē chyldere iiij^d & to there wyves every one iiij^d and to Margaret Hunter iiij^d. Also I bequeth unto Henry Halsall my sonne all my tacke off the Delffe off Coles wiche I have taken off Thoñs Nelson [etc] my wyffe having Coles free so longe as she lyvetht [etc] also [sundry garments] & a kappe w^t an egleffoote. Also I bequeth unto Riç Halsal my

some my brothered slyveles Jacket & my howse in Leidyate. [Bread dole at Funeral.] Also I bequethe unto the mending off the lane betwixt my house & the Twisse Greene x^s. [Goods to be devided into 3 parts, one part to self one to wife & third to children, & overplus of his own part to go] unto Elyn my dawghter yff she be ordered & cōwseled by my soñe Henrye [etc Present dwelling house to son Henry]

[Executors] Elsabetht my wyffe & Henry Halsal my soñe.

[Overseers] S^r Edward Garnett, Lawrence Potter & Robt Webstar.

[Witnesses] Boldweyne Justas Edward Holland, Thoñs Garnet & others.

Dettes owing unto me as appeareth.

Robert Webster off Eccleston	...	viiij ^{li}	xiiij ^s	ij ^d
Edward Esthed	... ..		viiij ^s	viiij ^d
Evan Blonchard	... ..		viiij ^s	
Uxor Edwardi Esthed	... ..			xviij ^d
Lawrence Potter	... ..	iiij ^{li}		ij ^d
Wifm Sutton of Wiston	... ..		viiij ^s	
Robt Webstar of Prescott	... ..	iiij ^{li}	vij ^s	iiij ^d

Whereof xx^s to be geaven ageyne & ye residew to be payd wthin vj yeares.

Edwarde Hollād off Prescott	...		xj ^s	
Evā Clefft	... ..		xx ^s	
Hughe Halsall	... ..			xviij ^d
Thoñs Garnett off Quyston	...		xx ^s	
Uxor Sedde Webstar	... ..			xij ^d
Henrye Heytñ	... ..		vj ^s	viiij ^d
Hughe Halsall of Knowley	...			vj ^d
Boldweyne Justes	... ..		xx ^s	
James Guldiker & his wiffe	...		viiij ^s	
Henrye Browne	... ..		vij ^s	vj ^d
Jhōn Burges of Pñton	... ..		vj ^s	viiij ^d
James Garstange	... ..		xiiij ^s	iiij ^d
Henry Coney off Ditton	... ..		xj ^s	iiij ^d
Uxor Hughe Kydde	... ..		iiij ^s	iiij ^d

Bađ uxor ffor Edmond Hulme ...		ix ^d
Henry Gowburne for heye ...	iiij ^s	iiij ^d
Jhōn Yate		ix ^d
Riċ Letherbarewe		ix ^d
Wyſm Gowburne		ix ^d
Jhōn Medoall	iiij ^s	iiij ^d
Roger Levesey	xvij ^s	j ^d
Wyſm Gowburne & hys wiff ...	xxvij ^s	viiij ^d
George Coyntree	iiij ^s	v ^d
Riċ Rawlynson & his wyff ...		xix ^d
Wyſm Leitherbape	iiij ^s	
James Cropper & the wyffe of Riċ Atherton	xix ^s	iiij ^d
Jhōn Shurlakers & the wyff of Peeres Letherlād		v ^s
Uxor Hughe Kydde & Edmond Holme... ..		ij ^s iiij ^d ob.
James Tatlocke	xiiiij ^s	
Rawfe Levesley		xiiiij ^d
Thoſms Lediate		xiiiij ^d
Jhōn Yate		xij ^d
Henrye Bartū	iiij ^s	vj ^d
Roger Brygge	[. . . .]	
Jhōn Halsall of Lathū	vij ^s	
James Cropper of Lathū and his wiffe	vj ^s	iiij ^d
George Ley of Heyton		xiiij ^d
Jhōn Halsall	iiij ^s	iiij ^d
Jhōn Justes		xjx ^d
William Flappesforthe	vij ^s	
Thoſms Morecroffte		xv ^d

Dette wh I owe here after

Imprimis to Jhōn Lawton ...	vj ^{li}
Itm to Lawrence Potter ...	[. . . .]

[No probate ; an Inventory without total.]

**The Will of William Bradshaw, of Aspull,
dated 1558.**

In the Name off God Amen. [12 August 1558] I Wyllia Bradshaw off Aspull in the Countye of Lanc. gen^t being sicke [etc] I bequethe my Sowle to God Almightye to haue the fruition off his presens w^t the Seint^e & Angells off heaven, my bodye I bequethe to Christian Buriall at my Parishe Church, and [of] my goodes [etc] I wyll that my soñe Humffrey shall haue all that the law wyll pmitt & suffer me to geave to him & I do constitute ordeyne & make the seyd Humffrey my sole executor to execute this my last wyll these being witnesses

Thomas Bilfrog
Gylbert Scott
Robert Newall
& Andrew Lathwatt w^t others

[Proved 12 Sept. 1558.]

**The Will of James Benet, of Thornton-le-
Moors, dated 1559.**

In the Name of God Amen the xxxth day of Februarye in ye yeare of o^r Lorde God MDLix I James Benet¹ of Thornton Mores beinge sicke in bodye & whoole in mynde make my testament & Last Will in manⁿ & forme followinge. First I bequeathe my soule to Almightye God o^r Ladie S^t Mary & all ye Holie cumpanie of Heven, my bodie to be buried in ye pishe Church of Thornton Mores nygh to ye S^t Marie Aulter. Also I geue to Xpofer Nowueff one incalf heaffer. Also I geve to eu^ly one of my godchildren iij^s iij^d. Also I geue to ye poore folk^e of this pishe foure busshell^e of wheat

¹ For a full account of this family see Vol. iii. of the *Proceedings of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, in a paper entitled "The Ancient Family of Bennet of Saughall-Massey, etc." by E. M. Hance, Esq.

to be delt by hoopes. Also I geue to ye mendinge of Frad-
some Bridge & to Trafford Bridge & to eyther of them vj^s
viij^d. Also I geue to my 3ünt Thoñs Xpofer one two yere
olde heaffer. Also I geue to Joan Ellum another ij yere old
heaffer. Also I will y^t my cubbord standinge & my dish-
bord standinge my counter borde, my Iron grate my fowre
beddes w^h their furniture a tie a dozen of sylue^r spones all my
plowes waynes, & all thinge thereto belonginge to be hayre-
lomes. [Rest of goods] to my soñe George & his childerne.
My purchased lande & morgaged lande I geue to my soñe
George & his two soñes

[Executors] sonne George, my brother Roger the Vicar of
S^t Warburres in Chester & my cosyn Christopher Bennet.

[Witnesses] S^r Roger Bennet Vicar, Chrystopher Bennet
Chrystopher Nowell, Thomas Christopher.

The Will of John Gryce, of Brombrough, dated 1560.

In dei Noie Amen [7 March 1560] I John Gryce sycke
[etc] my bodie to be buried in the churche of Brombro. Im-
primis I giue to Margaret Cottingham my bedde [etc] & I
leauē my house with the groundes thereto belonginge to
Margaret Cottingham the one halfe & William my sonne, his
brother, & sisters, the other halfe as much as in me doth re-
mayne. [Cattle] to be devyded into six pt^r to Margaret Cot-
tingham & my fyue children equallie to be devyded. To my
sonne George three calves. To my sonne William my wayne
[etc] [mentions] my three daughters. I giue to Wiltm Hey
of eu^lie grayne a busshell [etc]. Itm I geue the rest of my
goodes moueable & immoueable my legacies fulfilled & my
dett^r payd & I honestlie brought home of the whole to my
children. Itm I the said John Gryce do declare in this my
laste will that I neu^l made M^r Fletcher non assignment butt
one wch I made hym out of my covent seale onlie for the be-
hoof & p^rferment of my children.

[Executors] S^r Rowland Stanley knight & William Gryce my sonne hee beinge ruled by the saide S^r Rowlande Stanley.

Dette owing mee of yearlie payment to bee payd to mee by M^r Roger Sefton clarke pson of Billington [*sic* for Bebington].¹

Imprimis	xv ^s
and also yearelie dureing his lyfe to mee and						} xx ^s
my assignes whome I make my assignes Eliz :						
my daughter to receyve the same	...					
Itm I doe owe to M ^r Robt Fletcher and more I						} xv ^s
doe nott owe hym as I shall answere afore						
God another daie	...	...	....	...

[Witnesses] S^r Peter Jackson clarke & Deane of Wirral
 S^r Richard Cooke his ghostlie father
 John Whytehead
 John Lewes
 James Tunston
 Thomas Burge
 Roger Pinington wth others

[Proved 4 July 1560 by Exors named]

[Proved a second time by S^r Rowland Stanly 13 Jan : 1589.]

The Will of Ralph Bostock, of Chester, dated 1560.

In dei Noie Amen the fowrtht day of Januarye in the yeare off owre Lord God a thowsand ffyve hundretht and three score I Raffe Bostocke off the Citye of Chester in the pishe off Seynt Peeters Thus do make [etc] I bequethe my sowle unto Almightye God my saviour & redemer & to our Blessed

¹ John Grice was the patron of the living of Bebington for one turn, and presented the Rev. Roger Sefton to it in 1556.

Ladye Seynt Marye & all the Holy Companye of Heavē and my bodie to be buried in my paryshe churche in the Northt Ile as nighē unto my ffathers grave as mey convenientlye be. Secondlye I geave & bequethe all my goodes [etc] unto my wyffe Anne & my childrē that ys to sey Raffe Thoḿs Johne Williā & Jane to be devided amongst them according to the ancient custome off the contrey, [also] lease & tacked off thys my howse wherein I nowe dwell [to son Ralph when he come to full age]

[Executors] wyff Anne and my soñe Raffe Bostocke

[Overseers] my brother Wylliā Bostocke, my hücle Wylliā Bostocke & my uncle Jhōn Radfford

[Witnesses] Wylliam Fletcher Williā Bostocke, Adam Platt wth others

[Proved 3 Nov. before the Chancellor on the Visitation of the Metropolitan by Anne, relict of testator Ralph Bostocke, the other executor being dead.]

[Inventory of Chester goods taken 21 January 1561. & of his goods at "hys farme att Barrowe" on the 22 Jan. 1561.]

The Will of Sir Robert Langley, of Agercroft, dated 1561.

In the Name of God Amen the xix day of September [1561 etc] I Robert Langley¹ of Agercroft in the Countie of Lancastre Knight beyinge sicke in bodye [etc]. To John Ekersall my s^{uant} iiiij^{or} shepe. To John Dagle v^{ll} or a heffer. To Adam Gartside iiiij^{or} shepe. Item hit is my will that all the Residue of my s^{ūnt} other then such to whome I have graunted certen anuities for terme of their Lyues shall haue ewerye one of theym a quarters wagies towardē their p^{ferment} ou^{er} & besydes their wagis wch shall be due at the tyme of my decease. And hit [is] further my will and I geue & bequethe

¹ *Vide* Will of Robert Langley, p. 62.

to Dame Cicille my wyff all the residue of my goodē [etc after funeral expenses & debts have been paid]

[Exors] Cosin Edmund Trafford Esquir & Dame Cicely my wief

[Overseers] S^r Edmund Trafford S^r Wittm Radcliff Knightē,

[Witnesses] Robert Langly. Rič Gerrard. Rič Langton. & dyvers other.

[Proved xix Feb 1561]

**The Will of William Hockenhull, of Prenton,
dated 1563.**

In the Name of God Amen. I Wyllyam Hockenell of Prenton in the Countye of Chester Gentillman beyng sicke [etc]. I wyll & devise all & singuler my capitall howsse of Prenton in the Countie of Chester and all landē tentē reuercions [etc] beyng pcell of the demeane landē of the sayd Capitall howse [etc] to my wyff M^rgerie by name for & dureinge the terme of seven yeares nex^{to} ensueinge the daye of my deceasse to hyr owne use to the entent that therwth & wth the pfitte of the same like a good & a naturall mother shall bring up my daughters not preferred or by me advaunced in good norture & education paying yerely therefore the sume of iij^{li} vj^s viij^d to my heyre. And further I wyll & devise all & singuler my purchased landē tentē w^{ch} I haue and aⁿne seased of in the sayd Countie in demeane or reuercion to my sayd wyff for terme of hyr naturall lyff & after hyr decease to my right heyres.

[Dower of third part of the said lands after the expiration of the said term]

And further I wyll & devise to eu^{ry} of my daughters Katheren & M^rgarett toward there preferment se^uallye fyfthe poundē [etc]

And further I wyll & devise to eu^{ry} one of my younger sonnes the summe of fortye poundes [etc & a annuity of 20/- each issuing from lands in] Tranmar Houlle & Morton [etc]

to commence after the deathe of my saide wyff. And further I wyll & deuyse to my sonne in lawe Wyllyam Dod one howse of tenyment and all Lande therunto belonginge in Howe for terme of his lyffe & of Elizabeth his wyffe & the longer lyver [etc] paying to my sonne & heyre therefore xiiij^s iiij^d for all saruysses & demands. And also I gyve to my sister in lawe M^{rs} Bostocke a cow [etc]

[Executors] My wyff & my sonne-in-lawe Roger Glegg

[Overseers] John Whitmore Esquyer

[17 January 1563]

[Witnesses] John Norbury gent, Thomas Bellyne Hugh Glyn Doctor of fysycke. Foulke Aldersay Wyllyam Dod m^{ch}ant.

[No date of probate.]

The Will of Roger Glegg, of Grange,¹ dated 1564.

In dei noie Amen, in the yeare of ow^r Lord God a thousande fyue hundred thre score & foure the fyrst daye of Februarii I Roger Clegge sicke in bodie [etc] my bodie to be buried in Saynct Aswaldē church or ellē where it pleaseth God & my frendē. Itm I wyll my dette be payd my body brought home with my goodē. Itm I wyll my iiij children have the iiij heffers that be putt forth for them wth the profittē that cumeth of them besyde their childes parte. Itm I wyll my eldest sonne haue my beste ryngē wth the stone in hit & my best pott & yf the eldest departe afore the age of twentye and one yeres I will my yonger soñe have them. Itm I will my wiff have the order of all my Lande & goodē untill my eldest sonne be of the Age of xxi yeres & then my goodē to be devyded betwixt my wiff & my children yff the canne not agre wth there mother Alsoe whereas I haue payd to Robart

¹ In the parish of West Kirby. He was the son of John Glegg, the original grantee of the property, see *Ormerod (Helsby)*, Vol. ii., p. 492.

Maynwarynge for a close iiij yeaes rent aforehand I wyll that Thomas Bellen & Edward Smythe & Jane Taylyer have the close for ij yeres yett cuminge accordinge to my promes or ellę theire money agayne. I make my executor my wyff and I make Wyllyam' Dod ouerseer to see this my last wyll fulfilled. Thes by wittnese of this my last wyll puttinge to off ow^r handę Roger Bennett Vicar & Thomas Bellen marcer

[No date of probate.]

A trew Inventorye of the goodę & cattellę of Roger Clegge of the Grañge gentylmā praysed by Thomas Lynaker, Rychard Yonge, Thoñs Coventrye of the Grange.

[No total.]

The Will of Henry Bedford, of Liverpool, dated 1568.

The xxviiijth daye of October Anno Dñi 1568.

In the Name of God the father the sone & the Holyghoste thre psons and one god to whom be all honor & glory for euer & euer Amen, I Henry Bedford¹ of Lyuerpoole in the Countie of Lancaster Remēbring the uncerteyne state of mans liffe and that death is a thinge most certaine to come to euery lyving creature but when where or howe is reserved from mans knowledg to god onlye wisdome, that in tyme of sicknes it is most necessary and convenient to be quiet in mynde & to call for Gods great mercy & grace accordng to the duty of a christian man and not then to be troubled with worldly matters & vanities do therefore make & ordeyne this my last will & testament of all my goodę cattells Plate money & dettę in manner & form following FIRST I bequeath my sole unto

¹ I am indebted to E. M. Hance, Esq., for the following note: "Mr Henry Bedford" lived in Water Street, and in 1565 was assessed to the large amount of 16d. in the "Ley" for the repair of Walton Church. He does not seem to have been himself a burgess of Liverpool, but his second son, Henry, appears on the roll of 1589 as No. 113.

God the father almightie who hath made me of nothings & unto Jesu Christe his onlie soñe who by the merites of his most glorious & bitter passion hath mos^t mercifully & freely redeemed me from Damnacion my bodie to be buried within the pish of Lyuerpoll or els where it shall please god to call me without any pompe or symptuosnes FIRST I bequeath to Mergaret Bedford my wiff in money one hundreth markes I geue also to my wiff all my Plate & my howshold stuff & reparell trusting her to be good unto our two children wth a porcyon thereof as she shall seme best I geue unto William Bedford my eldest sonne one hundreth pounde and unto Henry Bedford my younger soñe another hundreth pounde [etc] More I geue to the poore of Lyuerpoll the some of xxx^s. I do make & ordeyne my executors my wyff Mergarett Bedforde & Wiffm Bedford my soñe & overseer of this my will I do desire good M^r Wiffm Glaseor Esquier for the which I will him to have a ringe made pryce iij^{li}. I geve to John Bennet & my sister Mary ech of them a rynges pryce xxvj^s viij^d a piece. I desire you John Bennet euen as I have loued you to loue nowe my wief & children [etc. Residue equally to wife & children].

I Henry Bedforde have written this with my owne hand euen the xxvijth of October By me Henry Bedforde

AND for dettē I owe none in the worlde but unto John Bennet my servant [etc]

Now as touching our children good wieff this is my mynde that when you have done & gathered in my dettē and appointed theyr porcyon I prey you lett them pcede in there lerninge and have you M^rGlaseour[']s]mynd & Thomas Gore[']s] opinion how that stocke may be best Imployed for increase to mainteyne ther learninge and you shall find M^r Gore y^r frend for I thank hym he hath bene eu^{er} myne & I know righte well he will not refuse to doo my children a good turne I have forgotten him whom I am moste bounden to remember therefore I pray you Lett him have a Ringe price iij^{li} such a one as M^r Glaseour most have.

[Proved. vij. January 1568. Admon. to widow, power reserved to other exor. owing to minority]

**The Will of Thomas Browne, of Hoole,
dated 1572.**

In dei Noie Amen. [14 May] Año Dni Milteo quingentõ Septuagẽo decimo [*sic*] I Thomas Browne of Hoole gent trobled somewhat wth certaine deceases in diu's pte of my bodie [etc]

To the pische church of Plemstowe xx^s

To Elizabeth Browne my wyff my lease of my farme at Broughtõ [etc] requiring her to suffer my father to have such portion thereof as she shall think convenient [etc] during his life & the life of my mother.

The lease of my house in Hoole & my lands [etc in Co. Flint & elsewhere to wife to bring up children until xx years]

[To sons Rich. & John lease of land in Upton "of which I have the fee simple."] [Mentions "a title booke remaining in my studie"]

Exor. wife Eliz & Richard Browne my sonne.

Sealed 14 Aug 1578

Wit. Francē Birkhened.

W^m Dorington.

John Hankie.

Dauid Dimocke.

Proved 12 Oct. 1578

Inv. 200^{li} 20^s 8^d

**The Will of William Massey, of Puddington,
dated 1579.**

"In dei noie Amen the xxiiijth daye of Apryll in the yeare of our Lorde God 1579," etc, "I William Massie of Puddington in the countie of Chester Esquier beinge of good & pfecte mynde" etc. "doe therefore make this my last Wyll & Testament as well of ðten my messuage lande Tenement & Hereditament as alsoe of all and singuler my gooder cattalls Teithes leases and chattells as heareafter by and in thees p'sentẽ ys and are mencioned specified & declared, fyrst I

render and bequeath my soule to Almighty God to Christ my savio^r and redeemer and my bodie to be buried in the yearth wthin the Chancell of the p^{is}he church of Burton in the place where ytt maie bee thowght convenient att the discrecion of the executors of this my last wyll & Testament ” etc.

“ I doe gyve & bequeath by this my last wyll & Testament to my executors heareafter in these p^{re}sents named all & singuler those my messuage landes Tenement^e rent^e reu^{er}end^{er} & hereditament^e with there appurtenanc^e in the said Countie of Chester to suche use and uses and in such mann^r & forme as heareafter foloweth, ffyrst I gyve to my sonne John Massie all my land^e in Newton wth there appurtenanc^e whatsoever wthin the p^{is}he of West Kirbie to haue & to hold to the saied John Massie and his heyres males for ever to be holden of the cheef lords of that fee by service therefore dwe & accustomed & for wante of heyres males of his bodie lawfullie begotten then to the heyres males of the lord & owner of the mann^r of Puddington bearinge the name of Massie for ever according to a farther devise thereof in lawe made by me the said William Massie provided alwaies that yf the saied John Massie doe die before such wyfe as hee shall hereafter happen to marrie then I wyll & Bequeath all the saied land^e & Tenement^e etc in the p^{is}he of Westkirbie to such his said wyfe for & during her n^{at}urall lyfe, the remainder thereof after her decease to the use aforesaid.”

“ It^m I gyve to my saied sonne John my lease wch I have of the Quenes Mat^{ie} of certen lands in the p^{is}he of Westkirbie to have & to hold” etc subject to the payment of Testators debts funeral expenses & legacies. [My will] “ys that my executors shall wthin one yeare next after my death cause one convenient Tombe or monument of Alabaster for my degree and vocacion wherein my corpes to bee buried and laied in the north Ile or chappell of the said p^{is}he Church of Burton for the makeinge whereof I gyve by this my wyll xiiijth vjth viijth d to bee employed on the same also I gyve & bequeath for the makeinge of better lightes and windowes in the said north Ile or chappell vjth vjth viijth d.

“ It^m I gyve to my sonne George for heyre lowmes the brwehowse standinge & the backhowse with all the vessels

thereto appteyning the bedstades in the chappell chamber & in Yardleis chamber, all the tables waynscote tressles & four great coffers in my chamber where I lye & in the closet, the cubberts in the plo^r & in the closet twoe beste brasse pottē & all in the lardar howse as ytt standeth ij best broches the Racke and Ireons of the Kychin & plo^r, the daie howse wth all the tryne ware & woden vessels, Itm̄ in the butterie the cubborde with a bason & yewer & ij great candelstickē the pottē & quartē of pewter. Item my beste salte of sylver & gylte to remaine to the howse. Itm̄, my beste sylver cuppe with a couer to remayne in lykewyse to the howse. Item” [sundry husbandry gear etc].

“Item I gyve to my sonne Venables his twoe young^r sonnes John & George my farm in Warrford late in the occupacion of Raphe Psons duringe their nraff lyves & the longest lyver of them paying the old and accustomed yearlie rentē” etc.

“Item I gyve to my sonne Meoles to hys iiij daughters twoe kye a peace & to hys sonnes to eulye of them xl^s excepte to Thomas his sonne to whome I gyve three powndes vj^s viij^d dureing my lease wch I have of the moitie of Walliesie psonage.”

“Item to my sonne Poole to hys daughter ij kye to hys sonnes ether xl^s. Item to my sonne Monelex to euerie of his daughters ij viijth kye [*sic*] & to his sonne xl^s. Item to my sonne Bamvill to eulye of his daughters twoe kye. Itm̄ To Rymyghton besydes his wagē fyve markes in money. To Rychard Walker fyve markes besydes his wagē. Item to Richard Leigh xl^s. Itm to Richard Ardnoe xl^s. Item to my servante Robert Smythe xx^s. Itm I gyve to my cosen Anne Masterson one Cowe. Item I give to widowe Pewe one cowe. Item to all my other servantē aswell men as wemen hynd-servantē & others one yeares wagē besydes what ys due att the tyme of my death. Item to Margery for her pferment in mariage xxⁱⁱ Item to my daughter Ales to her daughters ij kye a peace to William Trafford her sonne xx^{tiē} nobles towards keepinge hym to the schole. Item to my cosen S^r Thomas Venables a horse colte, Item to his sonne and heyre my younger Blacke fyllie of twoe yeares olde. Item to my cosen Richard Massie of Sale my blacke Trottinge Mare, Item

to my cosen William Glegg my blacke fyllie nott yett twoe yeares olde. Item to William Moulding fyve markes to be had yearlie out of Westkirbie for & during his nraff lyfe. To Thomas Deyne xl^s, Itm to Burton xl^s Itm to my sonne Frances Bamvyl & his wyfe a close called Lesser Paynes feild and a lade of haye yearlie to bee had att Coughall for the tearme of fortie yeares yf ether the saied Fraunces or his wyfe shall soe longe lyve Itm I gyve to Alice Woswall my servant yearlie duringe her nraff lyfe xx^s to bee taken yearlie out of the rent^e of my farme in Somerford in the saied Countie of Chester nowe in the occupa^on of James Thorley or his mother. Itm I gyve to my daughter Ellen Bamvyld & to her husbund dureinge my lease of the moitie of Wallesey psonage vj bushells of Barley twoe Bushells of Peasen, iij bushells of wheat & a Bushell of Rye to be yearlie pceyved & taken out of my saied psonage duringe all suche yeares as I have nowe to come in the sayde lease yf the saied Ellen and her saied husband Bamvill or anie of them soe longe doe lyve. I doe gyve & bequeathe to John Wesbie & to Thomas Bunburie Esquiers & to either of them v^{li} in gold wch saied John & Thomas together with John Massie my sonne I ordayne & make my executors to execute this my laste Will & Testamente & doe request my worshipfull & well beloved ffrendes M^r William Gerard, chancello^r of Ireland & M^r William Glaseor vice chamberlayne of Chester to bee my overseers to see the same fulfilled according to the true meaning hereof as my special truste ys in them to ether of wch my saied oulseers by these p^rsents I gyve v^{li} a peace in gold. In witness whereof to this my p^rsent Testament I the saied William Massie have subscribed my name the daie & yeare first wthin wrytten

WILLIAM MASSIE

Thees being Wittnes

Laurence Thorley Thomas Deyne

Robert Smyth & Alice Woswall.

[Proved 23 July 1579 by John Massie one of the Exors power reserved]

Addenda.

I am indebted to J. Paul Rylands, Esq., F.S.A., for the following abstracts of wills from a Danyers pedigree, a copy of which is in his possession. The original pedigree is on vellum, and was made in 1618, and continued by a later hand to 1726. It is now at Eaton, in the library of the Duke of Westminster.

The Will of Thomas Danyers the Elder, of Bradley, dated 1354-5.

Thomas Daniers¹ condidit testm a^o 28. E. 3 [1354-5] et dedit capello ad orand p aia sua et aia Thome filii sue 5 mcas et dedit Margete filie sue maritag Wm. fil. Riçi. de Buckley et Thome fil. suo custodiã terraz p d Wm. in Chedle et Henrico filio suo maritag heredis Wm. de Overtabley et Johi filio suo Juventu et M^gete filie Johis filii sui cert reddit' in Chedale et Katharine uxī—de Tabley et Margerie uxori Wm. de Tabley xx^s et fecit Joham uxem suã et Adam de Tabley executores suos (vide the box of willes).

¹ Thomas Daniers the elder of Bradley, within Appleton, co. Chester, married 1st. Margaret daughter of Adam son of William de Tabley and 2ndly. Johan le Norreys afterwards the wife of William Bostock. By his first marriage he had a son Thomas whose daughter and heiress married 1st. John Savage and 2ndly Peter Legh of Lyme. By his 2nd marriage he had a son Sir Thomas Daniers who married Katherine de Tabley.

**The Will of Sir Thomas Danpers, of Tabley,
dated 1383.**

Thomas Daniers¹ miles condidit testamentum suū 1383 et legavit Ričo. fr'i suo un chival et residua bonoꝝ suoꝝ Jonette filie sue et fecit Katherinam uxorem ejus et Rob'tū Daniers son Cosin executores suos et obiit eod' a^o 1383 6. R. 2.

**Administration of the Goods of Dame Katharine
Danpers, dated 1417.**

Katherina² nuper uxor Thome Daniers militis obiit intesta et Admračo bonoꝝ suoꝝ comissa est Thome Daniell fil. p'd Thome Daniell milit 1417. (Box willes A. b.)

**The Will of Thomas Danpers, of Tabley,
dated 1432.**

Thomas filius Thome Daniell³ miliĕ fecit testm̄ in festo scē Katharine virgiñ 1432. 10 H. 6. et p idem testm̄. legavit Johanne filie sue duas vaccas et Johanni filio ipsiuss Thome duas varas [vaccas?] et Johi fr'i ipius Thome xiiij^s iiij^d et eisdem bonoꝝ suoꝝ Thome fil: suo et heredi ad custodiendum Ricm̄ Daniell Henriĕ. Rogm̄ et Laurenĕ filios p'dci testatoris. Et fecit p'd Thom. executor.

¹ Sir Thomas Daniers of Tabley jure uxoris, married Katherine daughter and heiress of William son of Adam son of Adam de Tabley (Marriage Articles 27 Ed. III.).

² See preceding Note.

³ Thomas Daniers of Tabley, married Elizabeth dau. of Sir Richard Aston of Aston, co. Chester.

**The Will of Thomas Banpers, or Daniell,
of Tabley, dated 1494-5.**

Thomas Daniell Esq¹ made his last will in 10 H. 7. [1494-5 and thereby gave to Ellen Margy and M^garet his daughters 300 marks and the residue of his goods to Blanch his wife and to his children and to Thomas and Richard his sonnes [he gave] Annuities of vj m^kes a peece.

**The Will of Piers Daniell, of Tabley,
dated 1522.**

Piers Daniell Esq.² made his will in 1522. 14 H. 8. and gave Cheritreehurst to Robert Daniell his [2nd] sone for life and to Piers Daniell his 3 sonne xl^s annuity and xiiij^s iiij^d land in Stathom to John Daniell his bastard for life and certenne lande there to Raffe his bastard for lieff And xiiij^s iiij^d land in Lym to Homfray his Bastard for lief And to Anne Elizabeth and Purnell [his daughters] certen por^oons And to Julian his wife the third pt of his lands for lief And to Thomas his sone and heire apparent his lands according to the Covenants betweene the s^d Piers and Wm. Wilbram And x m^kes to Margaret his sister And to M^get Isabell & Anne his bastard daughters certen por^oons.

¹ Thomas Daniers, or Daniell, of Tabley, married Blanche dau. of Sir Peter or Piers Warburton of Arley, co. Chester, by whom, as well as the children named in his will, he had a son and heir Peter or Piers.

² Piers Daniell of Tabley married Juliana daughter of Peter Newton, Secretary to Prince Arthur, son of Henry VIII, by whom he had a son and heir, Thomas, and other issue.

The Will of Gilbert Skarisbrick, of Skarisbrick, dated 1359.¹

In dei noīe Amen die lune p̄x post f̄m̄ s̄ci Mathei Apti Anno D̄ni M^{mo} CCC^{mo} q̄nq^{agesimo} nono ego Gilbtus de Skarisbrec senior bene memorie condo testamentū meū in hūc modū. Inp̄mis lego aīam meā Deo oīpotēti et bē Marie et oībz s̄cis dei et corpus meū ad sepeliendū in antiq̄ capella ex pte boriali eccl̄ie de Burscogh juxta matrem meā et uxore meā et melius aūliū meū corā corpe meo noīe p̄ncipaī mei. Iŕ volo qđ oīa fuñalia facienda circa corpus meū sint in ordinacōe Henř filii mei et executorū meoz. Iŕ lego r̄siduū oīum bonoz meoz si q̄ bona remaneant post fuñacoñ corpis mei ad distribuendū eqli⁹ inŕ filias meas scđm ordinacōn et disposicōn Henř filii mei et executoroz meoz. Ad istud testamētū fidelit̄ exeq̄ndū Ricm̄ fratrem meū Ricm̄ de Lithirlond clericū et Robtū le Spens̄ de Birchekar ordino facio et cōstituo executores meos. In cui⁹ rei testimoñ istud testamētū meū in p̄sencia dictoz executoroz meoz et fr̄is Henř de Skarisbrec D̄ni Joh̄is de Kokirham et Joh̄is le Serja^{ant} de Skarisbrec clauder' feci s̄b sigillo meo.

[Proved before the Dean of Warrington in the Parish Church of Ormskirk Tuesday next after the Feast of S. Michael 1359 by the Executors within named.]

The Will of Thomas de Lathum, dated 1369.

In dei noīe amē die Sabi in crastino exaltacōis sc̄e c̄cis anno d̄ni M̄lto tricētiño lxix Ego Thomas de Lathū² san⁹ mente et corpore condo testm̄ meū in hūc modū. Imp̄mis

¹ This will and the two following are from the originals among the muniments at Skarisbrick Hall, and are here by the courtesy of the Rev. Edward Powell, of Lydiate.

² Sir Thomas de Lathum married Eleanor, daughter of Sir John de Ferrars, and died 1370 (*Gregson*, p. 202).

lego aīam meam Dō et bē Mar' et oīib; sc̄is et corpus meū ad sepeliend̄ in ecclia bī Nichi de Burscogh Et volo qđ funeraō et exeq̄e fiant sc̄dm disposiōnem executor̄ meoꝝ. In p̄mis lego priori et canoīcis bī Nichi de Burscogh ut me habeant in specialē memoriā p̄ me adorent c^o. Itm̄ frib; bī Augustīni ap^d Weryngton v m̄rc. Itm̄ frib; minorib; de Preston xl^o. Itm̄ frib; p̄dicatorib; Cestrie xl^o. Itm̄ ad pont^o de Doggles et Cald̄ ij m̄rc. Itm̄ cuidā capellō ydoneo p̄ celebraōne dīa p̄ v annos xx^{li}. Itm̄ Edwardo fit meo v m̄rc. Itm̄ Rob̄to fit meo v m̄rc. Itm̄ Rogo Banastr' v m̄rc. Itm̄ ad distribuend̄ fantos meos p̄ eoꝝ bono s̄uicio x m̄rc. Itm̄ Margie fit Phi xx^o. Et post soluōnem debitoꝝ volo qđ residuū bonoꝝ meoꝝ fiat in elemosina et celebraōne dīa sc̄dm disposiōnem executor̄ meoꝝ p̄ aīa mea et Alyanor' ux^o mee. Istius v^o tēsti t̄tes executor' constituo sicut volūt p̄ me responderē coram suō iudice Joh̄em de Kirkeby chiualer' Edwardū fit meū et Rob̄m fit meū p̄orem de Burscogh Henr' de Scarisbrek et Gilbtū de Ines de Aghton. In cui^o rei testm̄ p̄sentib; sigillū meū apposui die et anno sup̄dcis.

**The Will of Sir John Bold, of Bold,
dated 1407.¹**

In dei Noīe Amen I Jon of Bolde Knyghte make my testament at yis time, in ye begynnyng I bequethe my savle to Almyghtie God in trenete & to his moder Mare & to aīl his hole feleshepe of hevyn & my bodie to be bereet quere as his wil be. Itm̄ I bequethe my best beste to Prestecote in name of pryncepal. Itm̄ it is my will y^t all my dettes be payet of my godes. Itm̄ I bequethe to Crestean of Belfeld & Eddard hir soñ faurte markes & to Katharyn hir doghtar xl pound & ye remanant of my gods to be done for

¹ It will be seen from the concluding paragraph that this date is only probable, as it is not there stated which King Henry is meant, though the evidence points to its being Henry IV.

my savle. Itm̄ I haue ordaynet to be myn exsecutors Harř of Scharysbrec ye fader et Weř Daneel [?] for gřte trust to fulfyl my wil. Itm̄ I bequethe to aythir of ham xl^o for hor labur in ye witenes yis I haue set my sele ye date at Bolde ye xxij day of octobre ye ix yer of Kyng Harre.

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REPORT FOR 1894-5.



THE RECORD SOCIETY

FOR THE

PUBLICATION OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS

RELATING TO

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

President:

R. C. CHRISTIE, M.A., late Chancellor of the Diocese of Manchester, *Ribsdon, Bagshot, Surrey.*

Vice-Presidents:

The Hon. and Rev. G. T. O. BRIDGEMAN, M.A., Hon. Canon of Liverpool, *The Hall, Wigan.*

Lieut.-Col. HENRY FISHWICK, F.S.A., *The Heights, Rochdale.*

Sir HENRY H. HOWORTH, K.I.E., M.P., F.S.A., 30, *Collingham Place, Earl's Court, London, W.*

Other Members of the Council:

G. E. COKAYNE, M.A., F.S.A., Nonroy King of Arms, *Heralds' College, London, E.C.*

W. ECROYD, *Lomeshaye, Nelson, Lancashire.*

MAJOR JOHN PARKER, *Browsholme, Whitewell, Clitheroe.*

The Rev. J. H. STANNING, M.A., *The Vicarage, Leigh, Lancashire.*

HENRY TAYLOR, F.S.A., *Curzon Park, Chester.*

JOHN PAUL RYLANDS, F.S.A., *Heather Lea, Charlesville, Birkenhead,* HON. TREASURER.

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE, 18, *Devonshire Road, Claughton, Cheshire,* HON. SECRETARY.

RULES.

1.—That the Society shall be called the RECORD SOCIETY, and shall have for its object the transcribing and publishing of Original Documents relating to the counties of Lancaster and Chester.

2.—That the affairs of the Society shall be governed by a Council, consisting of a President and twelve Members, the former of whom shall be *annually* elected by the Council.

3.—That three Members of the Council shall form a quorum.

4.—That the subscription of Members of the Society shall be £1 1s. per annum, which shall entitle them to the publications for the year; but any Member whose subscription shall be two years in arrear shall thereupon be removed from the Society, and shall not be re-admitted until all arrears have been paid. The number of Members is limited to 350.

5.—That the subscriptions shall be due on the 30th of June in each year, and that no work shall be issued to any Member whose subscription is in arrear.

6.—That an Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held in the month of October, of which due notice shall be sent to all the Members. At this meeting a Report of the work of the Society, with a Statement of the Income and Expenditure, shall be presented. These shall be annually published, together with a List of Members and the Rules of the Society.

7.—That so long as the funds of the Society permit, two volumes at least shall be issued to the Members in each year.

8.—That no copies of the publications of the Society shall be sold to non-members, except at an increased price to be fixed by the Council.

9.—That no payment shall be made to any person for editing any work for the Society, but that the Editor of each volume shall be entitled to twenty copies of the work so edited by him.

10.—That the Treasurer's accounts shall be audited by two Members of the Society, who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.

11.—No alteration shall be made in any of the above Rules except at the Annual General Meeting. Notice of any proposed alterations must be sent to the Hon. Secretary a month before such General Meeting.

12.—That a Meeting of the Council of the Society shall be called by the Hon. Secretary at least once in every three months.

The Annual Subscription of £1 1s., entitling the Members to all the Volumes issued for that year, may be paid to the Hon. Treasurer, or to the credit of the Society at their Bankers, the Manchester and Liverpool District Banking Company, Limited, at any of their branches.

Report for the Year 1894-95.

*Read at the Annual Meeting, held in the Audit Room of the
Chetham Hospital, Manchester, July 30th, 1895.*

SINCE the last Annual Meeting, held on the 2nd of October last, the Society has suffered a severe loss in the death, after a lengthened illness, of Mr. John Parsons Earwaker, M.A., F.S.A., who has, from the commencement of the Society, of which he was himself one of the active founders, been its able and painstaking Secretary.

In addition to the work of General Secretary, Mr. Earwaker edited for the Society the seven volumes of the "Index to the Wills at Chester from 1545 to 1760," a work involving an immense amount of labour, but one the value of which to working antiquaries cannot be overrated. It is hardly necessary here to add anything more as to Mr. Earwaker's well-known works on the subject of local history. His monumental "History of East Cheshire" must be known to all members of this Society, as well as the numerous volumes of the "Manchester Court Leet Records," edited by him for the Corporation; and of his "Local Gleanings" and the numerous papers which he wrote for different Archæological Societies, there was a very wide circle of readers.

At a Meeting of the Council, held on the 27th of February, Mr. Wm. Fergusson Irvine was elected Honorary Secretary in the place of Mr. Earwaker.

The Council regret to announce that Mr. R. C. Christie, who for twelve years has acted as President to this Society, has been obliged to resign. The Council have already passed a resolution expressing their regret at the loss which the Society will sustain, and this feeling will no doubt be shared by the general body of members. At a meeting held to-day, the Council have appointed Lt.-Colonel Henry Fishwick President in Mr. Christie's place.

Although in the last Annual Report it was stated that two volumes were ready for the press, and a third would be put in hand very shortly, it was found after Mr. Earwaker's death that, owing to his long and painful illness, he had not been able to put any manuscript in the printers' hands.

Since then, however, the printing of four volumes has commenced; two of these are already in an advanced state, and it is hoped that they will be in the members' hands before the Autumn, and that two more will be issued at Christmas.

The first Volume in the press is Volume III. of the Royalist Composition Papers for Lancashire, which takes in the letters G and H, and will include an Index to the three volumes. Like its predecessors, it is being edited by the Rev. J. H. Stanning, M.A., vicar of Leigh.

The second Volume which will be ready is a collection of Lancashire and Cheshire Wills, none of the originals of which are now to be found in any Probate Registry. This had been begun by the late Secretary, and he had arranged transcripts of eighty Wills and Administrations extending from the year 1302 to 1752. The editing of these has been undertaken by Mr. Irvine, and all the matter left by Mr. Earwaker is now in type, but, as it does not make enough for an average sized Volume, Mr. Irvine is now engaged in transcribing several more Wills, to which he has access, and which are not now on record.

The third Volume is a miscellaneous one, and will consist of (a) a List of Cheshire Freeholders for the year 1579 with a complete account of the weapons they were required to furnish. (b) The Earliest Volume of Ordinations from the Episcopal Registry at Chester, from the year 1541 to 1558. This is a particularly interesting and valuable document. (c) Four complete Lists of the Clergy for the entire Diocese of Chester for the years 1548, 1554, 1563, and 1565. These lists are extremely interesting. Taken as they were in three different reigns, they show in a remarkable degree the continuity of the Clergy through all the religious changes of the sixteenth century. (a) "A Complete Lancashire Subsidy Roll for the Year 1332." At the last Council Meeting, a strong desire was expressed by several of the members that the Society should devote itself to an earlier class of record than it has hitherto done, and this early "Lancashire Subsidy Roll" is given as an example. The editing of it is in the hands of Mr. J. Paul Rylands, F.S.A., the Hon. Treasurer. (e) "An Early List of Tenants of Combermere Abbey." Mr. James Hall, of Nantwich, who has already edited a Volume (No. XIX.) for the Society, has kindly offered to edit this. The first three documents are being edited by Mr. Irvine.

The fourth Volume is Part II. of the "Plundered Ministers' Accounts," and, like Part I., is being edited by Mr. W. A.

Shaw, M.A. This volume contains a valuable series of records, hitherto almost unknown to historians, which Mr. Shaw has been fortunate enough to discover in the Record Office and at the Lambeth Library.

In addition to these four volumes actually in the press, Colonel Fishwick has the MS. of a volume of "Pleadings in the Court of the Duchy of Lancaster, *temp.* Hen. VII. and Hen. VIII.," ready for the printer, which will be proceeded with without delay.

The following is the complete list of the Society's publications already printed up to the present time:—

- | | | |
|----------|---|--|
| 1878-79. | { | I. Commonwealth Church Survey. |
| | | II. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1545 to 1620. |
| 1879-80. | { | III. Lancashire Inquisitions. Stuart Period.
Part I. 1603 to 1613. |
| | | IV. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1621 to 1650. |
| 1880-81. | { | V. The Register of Prestbury, co. Chester,
1560 to 1636. |
| | | VI. Cheshire and Lancashire Funeral Certificates, 1600 to 1678. |
| 1881-82. | { | VII. Lancashire and Cheshire Records. Part I. |
| 1882-83. | | VIII. Lancashire and Cheshire Records. Part II. |
| | { | IX. Preston Guild Rolls, 1397-1682. |
| 1883-84. | | X. Index to the Lancashire Wills proved at Richmond, 1457 to 1680. |
| | { | XI. Exchequer Depositions, 1558 to 1702. |
| 1884-85. | | XII. Miscellanies, Lancashire and Cheshire, Vol. I. |
| | { | XIII. Index to the Lancashire Wills proved at Richmond, 1680 to 1748. |
| 1885-86. | | XIV. Annales Cestrienses. |
| | { | XV. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1660-1680. |
| 1886-87. | | XVI. Lancashire Inquisitions. Stuart Period.
Part II. 1614 to 1622. |
| | { | XVII. Lancashire Inquisitions. Stuart Period.
Part III. 1622 to 1625. |
| 1887-88. | | XVIII. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1681 to 1700. |
| | { | XIX. Civil War in Cheshire. |
| 1888-89. | | XX. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1701 to 1720. |
| | { | XXI. The Register of Leyland, co. Lancaster,
1653 to 1715. |
| 1889-90. | | XXII. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1721 to 1740. |
| | { | XXIII. Index to the Lancashire Wills proved at Richmond, 1748 to 1792. |
| 1890-91. | | XXIV. The Royalist Composition Papers relating to Lancashire. Vol. I. A and B. |

- 1891-92. { XXV. Index to the Wills at Chester, 1741 to
1760.
XXVI. The Royalist Composition Papers relating to Lancashire. Vol.II. C to F.
- 1892-93. { XXVII. Lancashire Lay Subsidies, Henry III. to Edward I.
XXVIII. Plundered Ministers' Accounts, Lancashire and Cheshire. Part I. 1643-1654.

The Society has lost many of its members by death and other causes during the past few years, and the Council wish to direct special attention to the fact that the number of members is now much below the 350 names to which the Society is limited, and they are most anxious that this should be remedied. The volumes issued to the members are of great value for the history of Lancashire and Cheshire, and the Council think it cannot be a difficult matter for the present members to interest their friends in a Society which has done, and is doing, such good work.

☞ The Council must again refer to Rule 5, under which no volume can be delivered to any member whose subscription is in arrear.

RECORD SOCIETY—LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

Dr.

Receipts and Expenditure from 1st July, 1891, to 30th June, 1892.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.
Balance (Bank-book), 30th June, 1891	573	1	3
Subscriptions received, July to December, 1891	78	15	0
Subscriptions received, January to June, 1892	45	3	0
Books Sold	13	13	0
Bank Interest	6	12	8
	£717	4	11

	£	s.	d.
Insurance	0	12	0
Hon. Secretary, Clerk's work, Addressing Labels, 1888 to 1891	2	2	0
Hon. Secretary, Postages, 1888—1891 inclusive	5	3	0
Hon. Secretary, Transcripts and Translations for Miscellaneous Volume	9	3	0
Mr. R. Allwood, Transcripts of Lists of Wills at Lancaster	7	14	8
Hon. Treasurer, Postages, &c.	1	1	6
Mr. Mason, taking care of Stock, and sending out volumes	3	0	6
Mr. Nesbit, Rent of Stockroom for Three Quarters of a Year	9	0	0
Hansard Publishing Union, Printing and Binding "Memorials of Civil War in Cheshire." Vol. xix.	120	0	0
Bank Commission	0	8	4
Balance (Bank-book), 30th June, 1892	558	19	11
	£717	4	11

Examined and found correct,
 (Signed) JAMES E. WORSLEY, } *Auditors.*
 ANDREW E. P. GRAY }

(Signed) J. PAUL RYLANDS,
Hon. Treasurer.
 9th July, 1892.

RECORD SOCIETY—LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

Dr.

Receipts and Expenditure from 1st July, 1892, to 30th June, 1893.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance (Bank-book), 30th June, 1892	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Subscriptions paid, July to December, 1892	558	19	11	...	0	12	0
Subscriptions paid, January to June, 1893	71	8	0	...	9	4	3
Books sold	30	9	0	...	10	0	0
Received from Alliance Assurance Company for damage to stock of Books by fire	2	2	0	...	97	3	10
Bank Interest	4	0	0	...	0	6	9
	6	0	2	...	555	12	3
	<u>£672 19 1</u>				<u>£672 19 1</u>		

Audited and found correct,

(Signed) ANDREW E. P. GRAY, }
 JAMES E. WORSLEY, }
Auditors.

(Signed) J. PAUL RYLANDS,
Hon. Treasurer.

11th July 1893.

RECORD SOCIETY—LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

Dr.

Receipts and Expenditure from 1st July, 1894, to 30th June, 1895.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance (Bank-book) 30th June, 1894 ...	666	9	2			
Subscriptions received, July to December, 1894 ...	155	8	0	30	12	0
Subscriptions received, January to June, 1895 ...	75	5	0			
Boots Sold ...	11	0	6			
Bank Interest ...	4	4	8	0	10	6
TRANSCRIPTS.—						
Mr. Earwaker, Wills not on record in any Registry ...	30	0	0			
Mr. Boyd, Translation for same Volume ...	0	12	0			
Mr. Allnutt, Extracts from Bodleian MSS. for Volumes of Plundered Ministers' Accounts ...				30	12	0
Miss Walford, Duchy of Lancaster Pleadings, &c. ...				2	5	0
Mr. Irvine, Clergy Lists, Diocese of Chester, 16th Century, and Chester Ordination Books, for Miscellaneous Volume ...	0	10	6			
PRINTING AND STATIONERY.—						
Enmot & Co., Royalist Composition Papers, Vol. II. Reports, Balance Sheets, Labels, &c. ...	3	9	0	104	1	0
Wyman & Sons, Lancashire Lay Subsidies ... Vol. I. Postages, Packing, Notices, &c. ...	1	19	9			
Williams & Co., Wrappers, Circulars, &c. ...	4	12	2			
Barton, Wrappers, Letter-book, &c. ...	2	10	0			
	0	12	0			
SUNDRIES.—						
Molineux, Brown Paper for Packing ...	1	0	0			
Mason, Rent of Stock-rooms, Dec., 1893, to Dec., 1894 ...	6	13	0			
Expenses in packing and sending out volumes ...	1	0	11			
Taking care of Stock, Dec., 1893, to Dec., 1894 ...	2	13	6			
Clerical Help, Sending out Circulars ...	1	15	6			
Alliance Assurance Co., Fire Insurance of Stock of Books ...	0	12	0			
Clegg's Directory of Libraries, &c. ...	0	6	4			
Postages, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary ...	4	1	8			
Bank Commission ...	1	5	5			
Cheque-book ...	0	5	0			
Balance (Bank-book), 30th June, 1895 ...				18	2	11
				1	5	5
				374	10	9
				£912	7	4

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