

Will of William Gower, made 7/2/1592

being sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance (laud and praise to Almighty God)

Item 1: I bequeath my soul to Almighty God; my body to be buried in the parish church of Great Witley

Item 2: 6s 8d to the church of Witley [but see later – “£20 to bury me”]

Item 3: to the poor householders of Great Witley: Thomas Henley, William Childe, William Kemsey, William Bradley, Hugh Croxon, Robert Tirrye, William Ingram, Thomas Tirrye, James George, Roger Atheridge, John Macke, Edmond Brian, Elizabeth Hey, and Alice Macke), each 1 stricke (two bushels) of rye.

Item 4: to my **eldest daughter Anne Rotheram**: £20, silver/gilt goblet, two silver spoons, best cushion, two oxen two kyne, best feather bed, bolster, pillow and pillowbeere (pillow case), pair of fustian blankets, the best covering, two pair flaxen sheets, two pair of hempen sheets, two pairs of hurden sheets, one dozen napkins, two table cloths, three of my newest platters, three of my newest pottingers, three of my newest saucers, my second brass pot, my best candle stick and a coffer.

Item 5: to my **second daughter Ursula Nashe**: 6 silver spoons

Item 6: to my **third daughter Barbara Roode**[she was **Barbara Russell**: miscopied?]: £20, an earthen “crnst” with cover and foot of silver and gilt, (probably an earthenware vessel (crest) mounted with silver/gilt cover and foot) my second best cushion, two oxen, two kyne, my second best feather bed, one bolster, one pillow, and pillowbeere, one pair of blankets, my second best covering, two pair of flaxen sheets, two pair of hempen and two pair of hurden sheets, one dozen napkins, two tablecloths, three of the second newest platters three of the second newest pottingers (probably = porringer), three of the second newest saucers, my third best pot, my second best candlestick and a coffer

Item 7: to my **daughter Margaret Reynolds**: £20, a nutt of silver and gilt, one stock of four oxen, twenty kyne, and a bull, which is at Hawkley in the parish of Pensax, my newest feather bed, one bolster, one pillow, and pillowbeere, one pair of blankets, one covering, two pair flaxen sheets, two pair of hempen sheets, two pairs of hurden sheets, one dozen of napkins and two tablecloths, three of my third newest platters, three of the third newest pottingers, three of the third newest saucers, my fourth best pot, my third best candlestick and a coffer

Item 8: to **Robert Adams, son of Ursula**: £10, one feather bed, one bolster, one pair of blankets, one covering, two pair flaxen sheets, two pair of hempen sheets, two pairs of hurden sheets,

Item 9: to **All my Servants** living with me at the time of my death; £2 each, six ells of hempen cloth each

The residue of all my goods not bequeathed (my legacy paid for my funeral discharged) I give and bequeath to **John Russell my son in law** whom I ordain as my executor on the condition that he well and truly discharges the legacy within the space of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a year – contrarywise, I make my **son-in-law Thomas Reynolds** my executor.

Witnessed: John ap Powell alias Evans, Thomas Nott, Franing Croxon

There is in a casket £20 for every one of my daughters to bestow among their children as two honest men shall think best and all other of my money I leave behind (save £20 to bury me). My casket is in the storehouse behind the barn that goeth outward the house and the key in my coffer in the same house, and the rest of the money unbequeathed I will these honest men shall distribute among the rest of my daughters' children.