

Last Will and Testament of William Gilbert

TNA PROB/11/102

In the name of God Amen. The Foure and Twentithe daye of maye in the Firste yeare of the raigne of our soveraigne lord James by the grace of God Kinge of England, Scotland, France and Ireland defender of the Faithe. I Willyam Gilbert of London Esquire doctor of Phisicke beinge in p[er]fecte health of bodye and mynde doo ordayne and make this my laste will and Testamente written with myne owne hand in maner and forme followinge.

Firste I bequeathe and yeeld my soule to God the Father, Sonne, and holie Ghost. And I appointte my bodye to be buried in the parishe church of the blessed Trynitie in Collchester. And I will that my executors doo presently before in repayringe of that church the some of Tenne poundes, And distribute to the poore of that parishe Foure poundes. Also I geve to the poore of St Peters by Paules Wharfe and Marye Magdalen by oulde Fishe Streete in London to eache of the ___ parishes to be divided amongste the poore Three Poundes.

Item: I geve my house and landes with the appurtenances in Dovercourte called **Pantris**, my house and landes in Okeley called Hubriche Hall with the appurtenances there, or elsewhere. Also all my lands in Sainte ___ythes with the house and all other commodyties whatsoever, or wheresoever as they are nowe in the occupat[i]on of [blank] Spencer, to Ambrose Gilbert my brother during life. And after his decease to [blank] Gilbert his eldest sonne and to his herres forever.

Item: I geve to Willyam Gilbert my brother my house and landes in Thorpe or elsewhere in Suffolke whiche I boughte of Mr Cotton, And the landes called Bulles whiche I boughte of ____ and his partner. And all suche landes in Lanam, Thorpe, or elsewhere whiche I boughte of my cosen Eden duringe his naturall life. And after his decease I geve them to [blank] Gilbert his eldest sonne to hym and to his heres for ever.

Item: I geve my customary landes in Thorpe & Welye as also my heade house in Trynitie parishe with the Tenements belonginge to that, orchards and gardens. Also the meadowe by Rigate called the More to Willyam Harris my nephewe to him and his herres for ever. Item I geve to George Gilbert my brother my landes called Hamondes and S____pers to hym and his herres for ever with the all their appurtenances.

Item: I geve to Gilbert Millington my godson all that my capitall messuage with the Tenements belonginge to them in S[ain]te Martins parishe in Collchester.

Item: I geve to Ambrose Gilbert my landes and Tenements called E_____, R_____, and Riddelles, lienge in Wivenho and Ellmested to him and his herres for ever.

Item: I geve to my brother Willyam Gilbert my mannor and house with all the landes belonginge to that called Badlye Hall in Ardeley, as also my house and landes with the appurtenances called Parsons as nowe they are in the occupat[i]on of [blank] Leke to him and his herres for ever.

Item: I geve to my sister Agnes the wife of Willyam Smithe my house in London called by the name of Wingfields House to her and her herres for ever.

Item: I geve to my neece [blank] Harris my house and landes called Goldinges in Grensted.¹

Item: I geve to my sister Anne Barrette my house and landes called Crosses (where _ Smithe dwelleth) to her, and her herres for ever.

Item: I geve to Elizabeth my sister Johnes my house and landes called Freemans to her and her herres.

Item: I geve to my brother Ambrose Gilberd all that my leases that I have in the mannor of Ramsey, Muche _____, _____ Marshe __; as also the lease of Okeley Mill whiche I holde lykewyse of the Kinge, upon condit[i]on, and so that he paye and dischargde all reasonable demandes to the foure children of John Marven of Ramsey deceased. Otherwise after due _____ nenge made before the Bayliff of Collchester and twoe other of the eldest Alldermen to eache of them I geve Thirtene shillings foure pence, I will that they shall enter ad possesse those leases to their owne use so as that be not dischargded sufficiently within one year after each of them come of age, and after that that hathe bin demanded openly at the dwellinge house of the said Ambrose nowe in Dovercourte accordinge to that account.

Item: I geve to the college of Phisitions in London all my bookes in my librarye, my Globes and Instrumentes, and my cabenet of myneralles. And I geve sixe poundes to the Treasurer of the colledge towards chardges of remoovinge and bestowinge them in the colledge librarye.

Item: I geve Sixe poundes Thirteene shillings four pence the next quarter daye after my deathe to the bestowed by the Treasurer of the colledge to make them a dynner.

Item: I geve to my good Friendes Mr Harwood, Mr Chamberlaine, and my godson Abraham Campion, to eache of them a peece of plate of Sixe pound value.

Item: I geve to Mr Myddleton and Mr Lytton to the like value in plate to eache of them.

Item: I geve to Mr doctor Barnesdale the like value in plate.

Item: I geve to John Marvin, to James Jokin, and Susan Bratell to eache of them Wight poundes. Also I geve to everyone of my household and servants at the tyme of my deathe not named Three poundes sixe shillings eight pence. To Matthewe Rowe Sixe poundes Thirtene shillings foure pence.

All the residue of my goodes I geve to my executors my two bretheren Ambroae and Willyam Gilberd makinge them my executors. And if any person shall resisite,

¹ Greenstead, Colchester

and by order of law seeke to change or defeate any thinge comprehended in this my will, and the legacies geven to them to be frustrate. And id they persiste in suche controveesy that then the Sup[er]visors of my will shall enter upon suche landes, goods, and tenements to have, hould, and equally enjoye them for ever, excepte they geve over suche s__tes, and suffer this my will to be p[er]formed. And I appointe my supervisors Anthony Millington, *[blank]* Jones, and William Smithe my bretheren in lawe. And to eache of them for their paynes I geve Thirteene poundes sixe shillings eighte pence, revokinge by theis presents all other willes, granntes, feoffem[ent]s whatsoever had, done, or made before that date hereof. In wytnes whereof I have sette my hande and seale the daye and yeare before written.

W. Gilbert.

Sealed and delivered as the laste will and testamente of the said William Gilbert in the presence of us, Leonard Wallworthe S__, Roger Cressy, James Jekyn.