

Richard Finch the Elder, Bosbury, 1612 [1613 NS]

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Ref: Herefs. RO 16/4/17

Anno Regni Regis Jacobi Anglie decimo Quinto Februarii Anno Domini 1612 [5 February 1613 NS]

In the name of God Amen I Richard Finch the elder of Bosbury in the county of Hereford do constitute and make this my last will and testament in manner and form as followeth. **Imprimis** I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of Jesus Christ my redeemer who hath bought it with his most precious blood and my body to be buried in the parish churchyard of Bosbury and concerning all my worldly goods I do dispose as followeth.

First my will and pleasure is that Joan my wife for the space of three years after my death shall permit and suffer my son Richard to have the whole occupation and enjoying of my whole living in consideration that he hath taken upon him the discharge of my debts and funeral paying unto my wife, during the term of the said three years, ten shillings a year and giving unto her eight sheep for her own proper use which for the said time he shall carefully keep with the like pasture and fodder as he doth his own. He shall also sow and manure one hemp ridge [ridge of land sown with hemp] for her yearly and the commodity and increase thereof bring home to be employed to her proper use at her pleasure.

Item I give unto my wife for her proper use the chamber wherein I do now lie with the solar over it. **Item** two featherbeds 7 pairs of sheets two bolsters two rugs one blanket two coverlets two board cloths one hempen another flaxen two towels ten table-napkins the greatest brass pot, one cauldron of two gallons 6 pieces of pewter of the better sort. **Item** I give unto my son John four pounds to buy him a nag. **Item** I give unto my daughter Joan one heifer of two years old. **Item** I give unto my daughter Elianor another two-year-old heifer. **Item** my will is that my daughter Anne shall be maintained with my son Richard in the nature of a servant with competent food and clothing in lieu of her service till such time as she shall be married in such a match as with the consent of her mother and said brother shall be thought fit for her at which time of her said fit matching and marriage my will is that my son Richard shall pay unto her in preferment of marriage ten pounds.

Item my will is that my son Richard besides the bequest to his mother before specified, shall for the space of the foresaid three years for the consideration aforesaid in the duty of a child tender his mother with competent food and fire suffering her to have free ingress, egress and regress into such other rooms of the house as for her necessity she shall require use of during the said three years after the expiration of the which said years my will is that for my wife's further contentment my son Richard shall pay unto my wife four pounds yearly besides her maintenance of food and houseroom the foresaid sum of ten shillings ceasing. And if there shall happen any dislike to be betwixt my wife and my son or that she shall be desirous to sojourn with any of her other children or elsewhere, then my will is that for my wife's further maintenance my said son shall give her after the rate of five pounds a year during the time that she shall sojourn from him. **Item** I give the three children of my son Richard ten shillings a piece to be laid onto for them for their best advantage within two years after my decease.

Item I give to my parish church of Bosbury toward the repairing thereof 3s. 4d. and I give to the poor of Bosbury 3s. 4d. The rest of my substance my cow in the barn and on the ground my cattle and team tackling with all other my goods moveable and unmoveable whatsoever I give and

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bequeath to my son Richard whom I do make my sole and full executor of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal.

Read and sealed in the presence of George Wall, John Farley, John Allen, Thomas Stevens
The mark of Richard Finch

Proved 12 March 1613 [NS]... ..