

Simon Lawrence of Eastnor, yeoman, 1626

Ref: Herefs. RO 37/2/2

In the name of God, Amen. 12 October 1626 and in the year of the reign of our sovereign Lord Charles, by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith etc. the second, I Simon Lawrence of Eastnor, in the county of Hereford, yeoman, being sick in body but of good and perfect memory, God be thanked therefore, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following: **First** and principally I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my maker and to Jesus Christ my redeemer, trusting to be saved by the death and merits of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I bequeath my body to the earth. **Item** I give and bequeath unto the poor of the parish of Eastnor 13s. 4d. [in money] **Item** I give and bequeath unto the poor of the parish of Bromsberrow 6s. 8d. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my mother £5 in money. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my five sisters 5s. apiece. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my godchildren 5s. apiece. **Item** I give and bequeath unto John Jauncey my servant 2s. 6d. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Millberow Coxe my sister 2 year-old bullocks. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my three children viz. William, Mary and Elizabeth all my land lying in Bromsberrow, that is to say one messuage called the Dyekhouse with all lands thereunto belonging and all buildings, barns, stables, gardens and outhouses and one dovehouse to the same messuage belonging and two other parcels of land in Bromsberrow aforesaid, the one called Towpes Hill and the other called Cockhills, to have and to hold to them, the foresaid William, Mary and Elizabeth and to their heirs and assigns for ever. Provided always my will is, that if my son Anthony, when he shall accomplish the age of 21 years, shall give and pay unto my three children William, Mary and Elizabeth aforesaid the sum of £300 in money, equally to them or to the survivor of them, that then the same lands so bequeathed shall remain unto my said son Anthony and to his heirs and assigns for ever. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my son Anthony the tack of my team, all my tools of husbandry, my plate, 1 bedstead in the parlour, 1 table board with a form in the parlour with forms and benches thereto belonging, my 2 best brass pans, 1 cider mill and 1 green mill. **Item** all the rest of my movable goods, my debts and legacies paid and my funeral discharged, I give and bequeath unto my three younger children William, Mary and Elizabeth. **Item** I give and bequeath unto the said William, Mary and Elizabeth my [children] all my corn, cattle, chattels, debts and all other my goods unbequeathed. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my three children William, Mary and Elizabeth £50 worth of wood to be sold of my land in Eastnor at the discretion and appointment of my executor and overseers, hereafter named, and to be employed to the best use for my said children's profit. **Item** I do ordain and appoint William Coxe, my brother-in-law, to be my executor of this my last will and testament, to see it performed according to the true intent and meaning thereof, also allowing unto him, the said William, all his necessary and needful expenses in the execution of this my last will and testament. **Also** I do ordain and appoint John Beauchamp my brother-in-law and John Stone the younger, of Bromsberrow, to be overseers of this my last will and testament, these being witnesses: Mary Lawrence, Elizabeth Jauncey, Joyce Wade, John Beauchamp, John Jauncey

Note: Simon Laurence was buried on 16 October 1626 [Herefs. RO BO93/1]

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This is probably the Simon Lawrence who married Elizabeth Cox in 1619 [in which case he is still under 30yrs old] in Bromsberrow [from the I.G.I.] as his executor was William Cox his brother in law, and Millburowe Cox, his sister, was a beneficiary.