

## John Brown of Bosbury, husbandman, 1589

Ref: Herefs. RO 9/1/56

In the name of God, Amen. 24 March in the year of Our Lord God 1588 [1589 NS] and in the year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England France and Ireland, queen, defender of the faith etc. I John Browne of the parish of Bosbury in the county of Hereford, husbandman, sick in body, but whole in mind, and in perfect remembrance, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following ; **First** I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Bosbury. **Item** I give the church of Bosbury 12d. **Item** I give to the poor man's box 12d., to be paid that day I am buried. **Item** I give to my children by my last wife Richard Browne, John Browne, William Browne, Frances Browne, Margaret Browne and Elizabeth Browne, 4 kyne, 2 bullocks, 1 horse, which horse if the lord Bishop have him, then I give them 3 oxen, 5 young beasts, 9 sheep, a standing bed in the parlour and all the wainscot there. **Item** I give unto Richard Browne an iron bound wain. **Item** I give to Elizabeth Browne the little wench a pan which is at her grandmother's. **Item** I give to John Browne my base son a red heifer, 4 bushells of muncorn, a ewe and a lamb, all which goods shall be delivered before my wife doth marry and if she doth not marry before the children, then at their days of marriage, and if either of the children do die, then that part shall remain among the rest. **Item** All my goods not given I give to my wife Anne Browne, whom I make my executrix. **Item** I make Richard Morton, gent, Richard Turner, John Nash and Anthony Turner, my overseers and to prize my goods.

Proved 8 November 1589

**Memorandum** that I John Brown, late of the parish of Bosbury and in the county of Hereford, being in perfect mind and sound memory, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1589 and in the year of the reign of [Latin] Elizabeth 31<sup>st</sup> speak and utter these word following in the presence of the persons subscribed: that is to say upon condition that my eldest son William Brown do content him self and not hereafter molest nor trouble nor cause to be molested nor troubled my wife Anne Brown nor any of my children by me of her begotten of and concerning the interest use and possession of 2 messuages and the lands thereunto belonging called Hillhouse and Old House alias Addis. That then my will is that my wife shall give unto the said William Brown my son the sum of £10 for his legacy. Witnesses there at the speaking of these words  
William Dike clerk  
The mark of Richard Turner  
John ?Oped and Alice Tucker

**Memoranda** That the above named John Brown being in perfect mind and sound memory, the 9<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year aforesaid, upon the condition above written

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and at the earnest request of Mrs Blanche Morton the wife of Richard Morton, gent, did speak and utter these words in the presence of the persons subscribed. That if his son William Brown did content himself and not to molest nor trouble his wife Anne Brown, nor his children as is above written, that then his will was his wife should give him £5 more for to make it £15 which words were spoken in the presence of Henry Whoper [Hooper], John Brown alias ?Kreleley, Amy Dowdinge, Anne Kynnett

**An Inventory** of all the goods chattels and debts of John Brown late of the parish of Bosbury, deceased, taken and appraised by William Apowell, Richard Broking, John Nash, William Turner and Richard Turner The 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May A.D. 1589

**Imprimis** his apparel 20s. 7d.

**Item** 2 oxen, 4 kine £12.

**Item** 1 horse price 43s 4d.

**Item** 1 heifer and 4 calves price £3.

**Item** 9 sheep at 33s. 4d.

**Item** 1 standing bed and wainscot in the parlour priced at £3 3s. 4d.

Sum £22

All which parcels above said are given unto the children by this woman excepting apparel.

**Item** 1 red heifer and a coal coloured dam 30s.

**Item** 9 store Kyne price 26s. 8d.

**Item** 2 geese, 8 hens and a cock and 6 young ducks price 6s.

**Item** 2 featherbeds, 2 flockbeds with coverlets and blankets £4.

**Item** 6 pair of sheets and 1 tablecloth with other napery ware at 30s.

**Item** 2 brass pots, 3 cauldrons and a brass pan, 1 posnet and a skimmer 40s.

**Item** 13 'barweas' [?barrells] and cooperyware 20s.

**Item** 3 bedsteads, 4 coffer price 7s.

**Item** 12 pewter dishes, 5 saucers, 3 salts, 2 candlesticks 20s.

**Item** 1 cupboard, a dozen of spoons, a tableboard with formes, chairs, glass of windows, stools and cushions, price 13s. 4d.

**Item** A broach and cobirons, a frying pan and gridiron 3s.

**Item** The corn in the houses and corn in the fields £6.

**Item** A corn wain and tack of the team with other things belonging to husbandry 40s.

**Item** The fire links and brandiron 20d.

**Item** A stall of bees 2s 8d.

**Item** A musk [sic 'must']mill price 10s.

Total sum of this inventory [Latin] £45 10s. 4d.