

**William Cape of Newnham, clerk, 1654**

**Ref: TNA PROB 11/234/653**

**In the name of God Amen** the fifteenth of July in the year of our Lord God everlasting 1654, I William Cape of Newnham in the county of Southampton clerk, being sick and weak of body but of sound and perfect mind and memory, thanks be to God, do make and ordain this my present testament concerning herein my last will in manner and form following (that is to say), **first** I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Creator and Redeemer in assurance of salvation through the mercy of God, and the merits of Saviour Jesus Christ. **And my** body to be decently buried in the chancel or churchyard of Newnham aforesaid in expectation of a joyful resurrection. **And I** bequeath towards the reparation of the Church of Newnham in the shingles thereof 13s 4d. **Item** I bequeath towards the repairing of the church of Mapledurwell 10s. **Item** I will that all such debts as I do owe of right to any man be well and truly paid by my executor hereafter named. **And after** my debts paid and funeral duties performed I will that such goods and chattels as God has endowed me withal, be fairly and honestly prized. **And therefore** I bequeath unto my cousin Mathew Cape of London the sum of 20s. **And to** my godson William Smyth 5s. **And unto** Anis Upton my god-daughter 5s. **And to** be distributed amongst the poor of Newnham 10s. **And amongst** the poor of Mapledurwell 10s. **And to** the preacher of my funeral sermon 20s. **Item** I give and bequeath to my three younger daughters Elizabeth, Anne and Annie to every of the £200 in money. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my son William Cape my two tenements called or known by the names of Springold and Cheekes situate, lying and being in Swallowfield with the lands lying unto them. **As also** my lands called by the name of Childerland lying and being in Sherfield *on Loddon* with the appurtenances, writing and evidences of all the foresaid lands unto him and his heirs forever. **Item** I give unto my said son the sum of £20 and my table in the hall and my best bedstead with the furniture belonging thereto. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my eldest daughter Barbara Cape my tenement called or known by the name of Highhams and all my lands situate, lying and being in the fields belonging to Basingstoke together with the evidences thereof to her and her heirs forever. **Item** I give and bequeath to my said daughter Barbara the sum of thirty pounds in money desiring this my said son and daughter to be loving and assisting the one to the other, and to be helpful to their 3 younger sisters as they shall have occasion. **And** concerning the residue and remainder of my goods and chattels which are not hereby disposed of I give them wholly to my above named son and daughters to be equally distributed amongst them. **And I** do appoint and constitute my said daughter Barbara Cape to be the sole executrix of this my will and testament. **And I** do entreat my loving cousin Mathew Cape and my brother in law John Clapshew to be overseers of the same desiring them to be helpful to my children by their advice and counsel. **And to** either of them for their care therein I bequeath 10s. **And so** revoking all former wills and testaments by me at any time and form truly made, I constitute and ordain this to be my last will and testament, in witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal. William Cape. **In the** presence of us Edward Segrove, Thomas Eares.

**This will** was proved at Westminster the second day of November 1654 before the Judges and by the oath of Barbara the daughter sole executrix and to whom administration was committed she being first legally sworn truly to administer.