

Richard Gray of Eastnor, husbandman, 1591

Ref: Herefs. RO 19/4/5

In the name of God Amen on the eight day of December in the year of our Lord God 1591 etc. I Richard Gray of Eastnor in the county of Hereford, husbandman being sick in body but of good and perfect memory, thanks be given unto God, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. **First** I commend my soul to almighty God my redeemer and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Eastnor aforesaid in the county aforesaid.

And as concerning my worldly goods I give and bequeath them in manner and form as hereafter followeth. **Also** I give and bequeath to my two sons John and Ivo my two worst oxen and to every of them a sheep apiece, and to every of the said John and Ivo two pairs of hempen sheets apiece and to every of them two platters and to every of them one brass pot apiece and to every of them one coffer apiece and to every of them a brass candlestick apiece of the best I have. **Also** I give to Ivo my son one flock bed and a bolster and blanket and one coverlet.

Also I give and bequeath to Mary my eldest daughter my best black heifer, one featherbed whereupon I lie and all that belongeth to it, one flaxen sheet with a bonelace through the middle of him and two other pairs of sheets beside those that goeth with the bed, one hempen board cloth, one dozen of the table napkins and my best brazen cauldron, one platter and one pottinger and one brass candlestick, one coffer and one flaxen towel or cupboard cloth. **Also** I give and bequeath to Ann my second daughter one brown heifer a year old, one featherbed and all that belongeth to him and two pairs of sheets beside those that goeth with the bed, one table cloth of hempen, one platter, one pottinger, one brass candlestick and my second best cauldron, one coffer and one pillowbeer. **Also** I give and bequeath to Margery my youngest daughter one cow and a calf, one flockbed and all that belongeth to him, two pairs of sheets beside those that goeth with the bed, one flaxen table cloth, one pillowbeer, one platter and pottenger, my best brass pot, one brass candlestick and my great coffer and my little brass cauldron.

Also I give and bequeath to Alice Pert my servant my red ox calf and my great white sow, one pair of hempen sheets and the one half of a piece of hempen cloth at the weavers. All which

gifts and legacies bequeathed to my servant Alice I have given her in respect of wages and other debts that I owe her. **Also** I give and bequeath to Richard Williams alias Gabriel in respect of certain gages and other debts that I owe unto him as followeth (viz) my second best ox, one red cow one bacon 'hodge' [hog?].

Also my will is that if either of my said children happen to decease before the goods to them or either of them bequeathed be delivered to them or to some friend or friends to the use of them or either of them who shall take care and charge of the bringing up of them or either of them, that such goods of such child or children that shall happen so to decease as aforesaid, shall be and remain equally to my child or children that then shall be living.

All the rest of my goods cattle, debts and chattels unbequeathed, the rest of my debts (if any be and my funeral expenses discharged) I give and bequeath to Francis my eldest son whom I make my full and whole executor to see my said debts paid and my said funeral expenses fulfilled and discharged.

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And I appoint my loving friend and neighbour William Danford my overseer to see this my last will and testament performed as I specially trust him.

[Witnesses] William St. Barbe, Ivo Clinton, William Danford, John Danford, Richard Williams *alias* Gabriel, John Bralad

Debts due unto me:

Firstly John Hoskins owes me 4s.

Item Thomas Bache, 3s.

Item Robert Howse, 12d.

Note: Richard Gray was buried on 11 February 1594 [Herefs. RO BO93/1]