

John Branche of Eastnor, 1583

Ref. Herefs RO 9/3/46

7 June 1583

In the name of God, Amen. I John Branche of Eastnor in the county of Herefordshire, yeoman, being sick in body, but thanks be to God, of 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 my maker and redeemer, and my body to be buried in Christian burial. **Item** I give to my four daughters, Elizabeth, Margery, Margaret and Anne to each of them a silver spoon. **Item** I give to Roger Branche my son a silver arrow. **Item** I give to Elizabeth the daughter of Thomas Wall a feather bed, a bolster, a pair [of] flaxen sheets with other the appurtenances belonging to the same. **Item** I give to my son-in-law Thomas Danford the iron-bound wains with ploughs, harrows and all other belonging to the said tack, he paying out the same unto the two sons of my son Thomas Thomas Branche, to either of them at the age of 21 years, 6s. 8d. **Also** I give to the said Thomas Danford a great brass pan, he paying out of the same unto John Ffawkes my son-in-law 6s. 8d. **Item** I give unto Thomas Wall my son-in-law (the lord's heriot being paid) my best beast, to Thomas Danford my second, to John Fawkes my third and to Elizabeth the daughter of Thomas Wall, a heifer. **Item** I give to Thomas Wall, Thomas Danford and to John Fawkes 10 pieces of pewter to be equally distributed betwixt them. **Also** to either of them a flaxen sheet and 7 pipes to be distributed betwixt them. **Item** I give to Anne the daughter of Thomas Danford a brass pot, and to Elizabeth his daughter a posnet, and to Elizabeth the daughter of Thomas Wall a cauldron. **Item** I give all my corn now growing upon the ground to my forenamed three son- in-law, the same to be brought into the barn and there equally to be parted to either of them by the bushel, the straw thereof to remain to the house. **Item** I give to Thomas Danford my son-in-law my best blue coat. **All other** my goods unbequeathed and given, my debts and funeral expenses discharged, I give to my two sons-in-law Thomas Wall and Thomas Danford, whom I make my executors to this my last will and testament. **Witnesses** to the same as the making thereof: William Clinton, clerk; Samuel Hinton, gentleman; Thomas Burnell; John Webley; Thomas Turner

Debts owing unto me John Branche

Richard Harford	21s 10d
Roger Gennis?	11s 7d
Henry Hernet the elder	23d
Richard Branche of Churchend	22d.

Proved 3 April 1584

Note: there is a gap in the parish register of burials from 1578 to 1591. [Herefs. RO B093/1]