

William Stone, rector of Eastnor, 1701

Ref: TNA, PROB 11/467 and PROB 4/22662

PROB 11/467

In the name of God Amen The 9th of December 1701 in the 13th year of the reign of King William III, I William Stone, rector of the parish church of Eastnor in the county of Hereford, being sick and weak in body but of sound and perfect memory (praise be given to God for the same), and knowing the uncertainty of this life on earth and being desirous to settle things in order, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say: **First** and principally I commend my soul to Almighty God my creator, assuredly believing that I shall receive full pardon and free remission of all my sins and be saved by the previous death and merits of my blessed saviour and redeemer Christ Jesus, and my body to the earth from whence it was taken, to be buried in such decent and Christian manner as to my executrix hereafter named shall be thought meet and convenient. **And** as touching such worldly estate as the Lord in mercy hath lent me, my will and meaning is the same shall be employed and bestowed as hereafter by this my will is expressed. And first I do revoke and renounce, frustrate and make void all wills by me formerly made, and declare and appoint this my last will and testament. **Item** I give and bequeath to my brother Richard Stone the sum of £20, if he comes to demand the same, to be paid by my executrix within six months after my decease. If not, I give and bequeath the said sum of £20 to my executrix. **Item** I give and bequeath to my brother Robert Stone's youngest son Henry the sum of £10, to be paid by my Executrix towards the placing of him an apprentice; and if it happens that he dies before he is placed as an apprentice, then my will is that the said £10 should be equally divided amongst the rest of my brother Robert Stone's children when they shall attain to the age of 21 years. **Item** I give and bequeath to Benjamin Danford the sum of 10s. **Item** I give and bequeath 20s. apiece to the rest of my brother Robert Stone's children when they shall come to the age of 21 years. **Item** my will is that my executrix hereafter named should pay to my cousin John Stone, son of my brother Thomas Stone, deceased, the sum of 20s., desiring him the said John Stone, his heirs and assigns, to lay out the interest of the same for the 'Gryaring' of the graves of my father and mother and brother Robert Stone yearly. **Item** my will is that my executrix hereafter named shall pay to the succeeding rector and churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the parish church of Eastnor the sum of £5; the interest of the said £5 my will and meaning that it shall be paid yearly by them and their successors for the instructing one poor child born in the parish of Eastnor aforesaid in the learning of the English tongue and church catechism. **And** I also give for the instructing one poor child in the parish of Bromsberrow the sum of £5, which said sum of £5 I desire my uncle Thomas Baker and my cousin John Stone their heirs and assigns to receive, and pay the interest of the same for the instruction of one poor child in the English tongue and church catechism yearly. **Item** all the rest of my goods, cattle, chattels, ready money I give to my cousin Mrs Mary Stone, daughter of my brother Thomas Stone and Mary his wife deceased, she paying my funeral expenses and legacies, who I do make the sole executrix of this my last will and testament. **And** my will is that my executrix shall bestow 30s. upon three stones to put at the heads of my father and mother and my brother Robert Stone. **In witness** whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal the day and year first above written. William Stone

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Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said testator to be his last will and testament, with the words viz. to the rest of my brother Stone's children interlined and the word John interlined in another place, before the sealing and publishing hereof, and subscribed and attested in the presence of Benjamin Prichard, Richard Eaton, Anne Eaton.

Probate 3 December 1702

[Stone seems to have been a member of a Bromsberrow family; See Glos RO **D1262/1** (1366-1743)]

Note: There is a gap in the Eastnor burial register 1678-1734. It appears from the registers, and an inscription on one of the bells in the church, that William Stone became rector of Eastnor in 1681 (Herefs. RO BO93/2).

PROB 4/22662 Probate inventory of William Stone 1702

[Very faded]

A True and Perfect inventory ... William Stone late of the ... [date faded] December [year faded]

Imprimis the deceadents wearing apparel and money in his purse £16

In the Kitchen

Item one tableboard & frame one joynte forme and one Little Round Table one Cupboard somegon Chairs
quision one pair of Bellows ..atie one pair of [cobirons] one iron .resh..
... of [andirons?] And one Chafing dish Iron grate back & ... & hooks
For the Burning of Coals one steel ... Gadd ... dripping pan one
[posnet?] one little one hammer
One pair of l... .. one flour box
One Grid iron one ... £1 12s 1d

Item brass & pewter ... of Several
Sorts value £2 19s 11d

In the Parlour

[section faded, has seal over and hole]
Item one table board & frame
one little table six chaires one
... .. ss one pair of Iron
... Andirons one pair of Tongs and
[one] fire shovel £5?

Item Linnen of severall sorts £2 11ss.

In the chamber over the Parlour

Item one bedstead mat & cord one
Feather bed and bolster two blankets one
... one set of curtains one close stool
One ... press one couch one little Trunk
One other ... bed cord £4 2s

In the Chamber over the Kitchen

Item one joyned bedstead with a mat and
... one pillow bear one pillow one flock
& ... two blankets one rug one set of
Curtains & valences one set of rods... one little
salt Tub & Salt one Lipe £2 13s

In the chamber over the Buttery

Item a small quantity of Corn some apples
Cheese and Pears one Jack three ...
... a ... French beans? & feather ... Ch... £?

In the Chamber over the Cyder house

Item one new bedstead & parcel of hops a parcel
Of Brick Tile one other old bedstead
Also a parcel of glass bottles 16s

In the Cyder house

Item two hogsheads of Cyder one filled of
Perry two other small Casks about one
Th... of a hogshead of Cyder two hams
One hogshead and a barrel in another
Little House adjoining to the said Cyder
House £3 12s.

Item in the buttery meat of all sorts and
Elsewhere £2 10s.

In the old Kitchen

Item two hogsheads of Perry & cyder six casks
Three other small Casks four Tubs one
Tundish five Ladders a parcel of Lath
Item ?ay in Several flads? £1 10s.

In the Milhouse

Item one Cyder mill with all its appurtenances
& also a parcel of p[er/ar]eached Timber £4

In the Barn

Item a parcel of pease unthrashed and

Also a parcel of pease straw 16s.

Item one biged betle [beetle – heavy hammer] & three wedges &
other Implements of husbandry and

housewiferyfery 10s.

Item debts owing on bonds some good and

Some desperate £48 11s. 3d

Item books of all sorts £1 10s.

Item plate of all sorts £1 10s.

Item a parcel of Stone Coale & one grinding

Stone Some cord Wood & Petty Lumber

Things that may be omitted £1 4s..

Summa totalis £152 15s. 6d.]

Exhibited 3 December 1702