

Oxfordshire

HENLEY PROBATE DOCUMENTS

Thomas MEADES, gent of Henley upon Thames

Will 1677

The National Archives PROB 11/353

Numbering at left identifies line of original document

1 **In the Name of God Amen:** I Thomas
2 Meades of Henley upon Thames in the Countie of Oxon gent being weake of
3 Bodie, but of perfect mynd and memory doe make and ordaine this my last Will
4 and Testament in manner and forme following: First I give my Soule to God that
5 gave it And my bodie to be buried in Christian-like manner at the discretion
6 of my Executors hereafter named: Alsoe I give and bequeath unto Richard
7 Meads my elder brother twentie shillings of lawfull money of England, to be
8 payd unto him by my Executors within one yeaere next after my decease: Alsoe
9 I give and bequeath unto Robert Meads the sonne of the aforementioned Richard
10 Meads the Summe of tenn shillings of like lawfull moneys to be likewise
11 payd unto him by my Executors within one yeaere after my decease: Alsoe I
12 give unto my halfe Brother Ambrose Meades twentie pounds of lawfull
13 money of England, to be payd unto him by my Executors likewise within one
14 yeaere after my decease: Alsoe I give and bequeath unto my other halfe
15 Brother Edward Meades twentie pounds of like lawfull moneys to be payd unto
16 him by my Executors within one yeaere after my decease: Alsoe I give unto
17 my two halfe Sisters twentie shillings apeece of like lawfull moneys to be payd
18 unto them by my Executors likewise within one yerae after my decease. Alsoe
19 I give and bequeath unto my Brother Edward Meades his wife, and to my
20 Brother Ambrose his wife fortie shillings apeece, and to Ambrose his
21 daughter fortie shillings of like lawfull money to be payd unto them likewise
22 within one yeaere after my decease: Alsoe I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth
23 Pauling formerly my daughter Hellen the summe of five pounds of lawfull
24 money and her Mothers Ring and Bible And to her two Sonnes five pounds
25 apeece of like lawfull moneys to be payd unto them likewise within one yeaere
26 after my decease: Alsoe I give and bequeath unto the Poore of the Towne

27 of Henley upon Thames where I nowe live the summe of five Pounds of
28 lawfull moneys of England, to be geven unto them by the Overseers at my
29 funerall, or sodainely after, being payd unto them by my Executors at my
30 funerall or sodainely after: Alsoe I give and bequeath unto Thomas Allen
31 the younger of Henley aforesaid fortie shillings of like lawfull moneys to be
32 payd unto him likewise within one yeare after my decease: Alsoe I give and
33 bequeath unto James Maynard and John Beard my loving Friends tenn
34 Pounds apeece of like lawfull moneys whome I make and appoint to be my
35 full Executors of this my last will and Testament: Alsoe I give and
36 bequeath unto Robert Stiles nowe Apprentice to John Greene shoemaker
37 of Henley aforesaid fortie shillings of like lawfull moneys, And to his
38 Sisters twentie shillings apeece, to be payd unto them as they shall come
39 to the age of One and twentie yeares by my Executors aforenamed: Alsoe I
40 give and bequeath unto John Meades of Chynner in the Countie of Oxon
41 one Seale Ring of Gold with this Condicion, that hee bequeaths the said
42 Ring of Gold to the next Heire, and in the Name of the Meades when hee
43 dyeth and to none other: Alsoe I give and bequeath unto William Meades
44 of the same Parish of Chinner one Silver Bole to remaine to him and to
45 contynue in the name of the Meades soe long as there shall be any of that
46 Name or Generation living: Alsoe I give and bequeath unto John Beards
47 sonne that hee had by his wife Anne Maynard and to his daughter
48 that he hath by the wife hee nowe hath twentie shillings apeece of like
49 lawfull moneys to be payd by my Executors at their Ages of One and twentie
50 yeares. Alsoe my will is that my Executors shall have full power and autho-
51 ritie to sell and dispose of all my messuages Lands and Tenements whatsoever
52 for the Payment of my Debts and legacies And if it shall happen that my
53 messuages Lands and Tenements being sold shall amount to a greater Summe
54 then I owe or have given away by the Legacies herein mentioned or my Stocke
55 or houshold Goods being appraised and valued and likewise by them sold
56 towards the payment of my Debts and legacies as aforesaid Then my will is
57 that the Executors shall as equally divide the Overplus amongst the
58 Legatees as they possible may: Alsoe I doe desire that Thomas Allen the
59 elder of Henley aforesaid shall have the summe of twentie shillings of like
60 lawfull moneys to be payd likewise unto him by my Executors for his

61 paines in making this will upon the deliverie of it: In wnesse whereof I
62 have to the first Sheet set my hand and to this sheet set my hand and seale
63 and doe publish and declare this to be my last Will and Testament the ninth
64 day of December One thousand six hundred seventie six. The marke of
65 Thomas Meades in the presence of us: Tho[mas] Allen scr[iptor]. The marke of
66 Thomas Parlowe th[e]lder

[Summary of the Latin probate clause]

Date of probate: 9 April 1677
Place of Probate: London
Executor: John Beard and James Maynard
Court official: Henry Fauconberge surrogate for Lionel Jenkins
Inventory value £409 17s 5d *[from the inventory]*

From the parish registers: Mr Thomas Meades was buried on the 23rd March 1676[77]. ‘Mrs Meades’ (possibly his wife) died during the plague outbreak of the 1660s and was buried in July 1665. Ambrose Meades was buried in March 1678[79].

Transcribed by Janice Cliffe, January 2009, from a photocopy of the Register.

Checked by Barbara Allison August 2009

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