

### Will of Sir William Bassett, Knight, Blore, 1553

*In dei nomine Amen I william Bassett of bloore in County of Staff knight beinge in good and perfytte remembrans And whole in my bodie Consyderinge the uncertaintie of my lyff & willinge the healthe & socurre of my wyff & my childeren & the paimenter of my dettes & for the performance of this my last will & testamente and for the welthe of my soll, make this my last will & testamente in manner & forme folowinge Firste I bequethe my soll unto almightie god our ladie sainte Mary & to all the holye companie of heven & my bodie to be buried in the parishe churche att Bloore, if my chaunce be to departe forthe of this wretched world within the space of 40 myles therof, att the which buriall, I will that all thinges be done accordinge after my degre att the discrecion of my executors, Also I will that by this my laste will & testament that thes my landes & tenementes & hereditamentes the which I the said William Bassett have putt in feofimete to the use of Dame Elyn Bassett my wiff, that the same feoffees off the said landes tenementes and hereditamentes, shall from hensfurthe & after my decease stand & be seased to the use of the same Elyn for Terme of her liff accordinge to the performance of suche Covenaintes grauntes & agrementes as be specfied and conteined in a pair of Indentures made betwixte me the forsaid William Bassett on the one partie & Edward littleton esquier my brother in lawe on the other partie, as by the same Indentures more plainelie it dothe appere*

*Also I will that my feoffes of my manor of Maynell Langley shall stand & be seifed to the performans of this my last will, that is to say that I will that Dame Elyn Bassett my wiff shall have the said manor with th appertenances for terme of her liff in manner & forme folowinge, that is to say, painge therfore yerelie £ xl the which rentes of £ xl I will shalbe [-] for the performans of this my last will, that i[s to] say unto such tyme my dettes & legaces be paid, then I will that my sonne & heire shall receive the rentes before specifaidd to his owne use Also I will that all suche my houshold stuff except my pla[-] as shall fortune to be att my howse att blore or langley att the tyme of my death shalbe divided in iii partes wherof one parte therof I will my son & heire shall have & the other ii partes, to be to my wiff & my yonger sonne Also I will that my son & heire shall have the hangyng of Arysse for the greatt chamber at Bloore to do the house wurship with all prov [-] always that he leve hitt to the heires males that shall fortune to inheritt the same howse of bloore*

*Also I will that my said son & heire shall have my beste salte of Silver & my beste standing bolle with the Cover & half a dozen spones, my best gowne Jacket and doblett and all my harnes leavinge the same harnes unto the forsaid heires males Excepte it channce to be laste in the kinge servyce Also I will that all my moveable goodes as well plate as all other thinges my dettes paid my bequestes performed & my funerall expences discharged shalbe Divided betwixt Elyn my wyff & Thomas bassett my younger son. Also I will & commaunde my sone & heire uppon my blessinge that he shall performe & suffer all suche persones as I have mad any leasse unto att any tyme here before of my landes & tenementes as I have made unto them in leashe to enioy the same accordinge to the forsaid leashe And likewyse Dame Elyn bassett my wiff to do the same on her parte of all*

*suche landes as is assigned to her in the name of Jointer or dower Also I will that myne executors shall kepe myne household together the space of xl days after my deathe att my costes & charges and att the ende of xl days then I will that myne executors shall gyve every one of my servaunts their wages dewe unto them att that tyme, And also all my yomen & officers within my said howse every one of them one half yeres wages, & my chapleine also, and every one of them to have a blacke coote and my chapleine a black gowne*

*Also I will that Thomas Coole my sone in lawe for his good service he hath done me shall have Annuitie of one yerely rente goinge owte of my manor of bloore of £ iii vi s viiid by yere. And also I will that the said Thomas Coole att the tyme of my death, have my best horse or geldinge save one one £ xx off money with goddes blessinge & myne. Also I will that my sonne Richard Coole shall have my thirde geldinge & £ x of money or in suche stocke or goodes as my executors shall thinke mete for him to succurre his wiff & Childerne with all and godes blessinge and myne. Also I will that the parson of Blore shall have som porcion of my goodes the which be wurthe xl s or ells xls in money of my executors to pray for my soll and all Christian solls, Also myne executors shall pay all my dettes as I am indetted unto according as I have written in a certaine bill of myne owne hand somoche as can come to my remembrans and if the be anye that be furth of my remembrans and that specialties can be shewyd for the same I will itt be paid likewyse. Also I will that the parson of Kingsley shall have one horse colt wurthe £ x or ells £ x in money*

*Moreover I will that Dame Elyn my wiff and Thomas Bassett my youngar sonne shalbe myne assignes of my fermes of Tutburie and marston with the parsonage of Broughton accordinge to my indentures of the same after this manner folowinge that is to say that my said wiff shall have my howse att Tutburie and the demaines therto belonginge with the occupation of hobholme duringe her naturall liff if the terme lert so longe And my said son Thomas to have the house and demaines att marston And all the rest of my fermes to be devided betwixt them indifferently duringe the liff of the said Elyn my wiff and after her decease the holle fermes to remaine to the said Thomas Bassett my son and to his assignes*

*Also I ordeine and make by this my last will and testamente Dame Elyn my wiff Thomas Bassett my son Thomas Coole my son in lawe and Sir Robert Bruse parson of Kingslay my good and lawfull executors of this my last will and testament that thei havinge god before their Eyes do performe and execute this my last will and testament in every article therof accordinge to the tenor effecte and the intent of the same to the pleasure of god and welth of my soll Also I will and desyre my singlar good lorde Erle of Sherosburye and my brother Edward lyttleton esquier to be supervisors of this my laste will and testament to se that myne executors do truly execute and fulfill the same In witness whereof I have setto my seale and subscribed my name theis beinge wittnesses*

*Thomas Alsopp of Alsop in the Dale gent, George Warner, George Powyser, Richard goolde, John Addey miniior with other men in the xiiiith day of Jannuarie in the sixte yere*

*of the Reigne of our soverigne lord Edward the vith by the grace of god of England  
Fraunce and Ireland kinge defender of the faith and in earthe of the church of England  
and also Ireland supreme hedde*

*Also I will that the Right honorable and my good lorde Erle of Shrosburie have my littel  
sorelde nagge which I was wonte to Ryde uppon Also I will that a prieste do singe vii  
yeres for my soll and my father & mother soules and all Christian solls, that is to say  
every thursday overnight “ placebo et dirige” and on the friday masse of Requiem, which  
prieste shall have for his stipende viii marker yerelie goinge oute of my lordship of  
Menellanglay if my sonne and heire do nott other weys agre with the said prieste  
Provided allways that the prieste be of honest manner & condicions, & so beinge my  
sonne and heire to retaine that prieste tyll he otherwyse promote him Also I will that what  
tyme my executors shalbe trobled or take anye paines about this my will and testament  
that then they shall have their reasonable costs and charges borne of my manor and  
landes of Menellangley Also I gyve the blacke velvett to make a vestment for the prieste &  
a fronnte for the altare wheratt the prieste shall serve att the churche of bloore,*

*Also I will my sonne and heire shall have my chaine £ x under the wurthe and the rest of  
the money I gyve to my son Thomas Bassett iii doghters egally to be devided amongst  
them and to be made owte of my manor and lande of Menellangley to every one of them xl  
merkes & if my wyff decease before my dettes and legaces be fully paid I will that the Rest  
of my executors shall yerely receive oute of my manor and lande of menellanglay £40  
tyll that my dettes and legacys be fully contented and paid*

*Also I gyve to Richard goolde the geldinge he is wonte to Ryde on Item to william  
woodseyde one geldinge and xx s of money and putt him to my son william willing him to  
be good master unto him Item to William Bloore one cove to little William one heffer to  
James harryson vi s viii d more than his felowes, Also to the churche of grendon iiiii  
yardes and a half of Sattaine to make a frounte to the Altare those beinge witness John  
addey Chapleine Richard goolde James harryson with other men*

**Inventory of Sir William Bassett, Knight, Blore, 1553 [Extracts from]**

*The Inventorye of all the guds of Sir Wylliam Bassett knyght lately dyceased*

*Imprmis in the hall one longe borde 2 trestells one longe  
forme ii short formes for the bordes ende ii Cubbords* *x s*

*In the great chamber one Longe borde ii trestelles  
one forme* *iii s    iiiii d*

*Item ii Cubbordes* *x s*

*Item ix buffett Stooles* *v s*

<i>Item ii foote stooles</i>		<i>iiii d</i>
<i>Item his owne cheare</i>	<i>x s</i>	
<i>Item viii throne cheares</i>	<i>ii s</i>	
<i>Item ii other cheares</i>	<i>xx</i>	
<i>one Carpett for the table and a carpett for theCubborde</i>	<i>xiii s</i>	<i>iiii d</i>
<i>Item ii Lawndeyrons a fyer forke a fyre shovell</i>	<i>vi s</i>	<i>vii id</i>
<u><i>Suma totalis</i></u>	<u><i>iii li</i></u>	<u><i>ii s</i></u>
		<u><i>iiii d</i></u>

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***Apparell for his Bodie***

<i>In Item a black gowne of damask faced wyth Blacke Satyn</i>	<i>iii li</i>	
<i>Item a marble clothe gowne gardyd with velvett</i>	<i>x s</i>	
<i>Item a Russett gowne furredde</i>	<i>viii s</i>	
<i>Item a nyght gowne of blacke fryse</i>	<i>vi s</i>	<i>viii d</i>
<i>Item a velvet shemer Layde abowt wythe bone Lace</i>	<i>iii li</i>	
<i>Item a Jackett of blacke velvett</i>	<i>xiii s</i>	<i>iiii d</i>
<i>Item a Jackett of checke damask tawney</i>	<i>x s</i>	
<i>Item a Coote of blacke Satyn Layde abowt with parchement Lace</i>	<i>x s</i>	
<i>Item ii blacke damaske Jacketts</i>	<i>x s</i>	
<i>Item a dowblett of Crymysyn Satyn</i>	<i>xxvi s</i>	<i>viii d</i>
<i>Item a dowwblett of Crymyson damaske</i>	<i>xx s</i>	
<i>Item a dowblett of tawney Satyn</i>	<i>xx s</i>	
<i>Item a dowblett of Satyn with crymysyn satyn sleves</i>	<i>x s</i>	

<i>Item a dowblett of whytt Sakkloth</i>	<i>vi s</i>	<i>viii d</i>
<i>Item a Body doole of Satyn</i>	<i>ii s</i>	
<i>Item a shemer of blacke clothe gardyd with velvett</i>	<i>x s</i>	
<i>Item a Clooke gardyd with velvett</i>	<i>x s</i>	
<i>Item a Clooke layd abowt with parchment lace</i>	<i>iii s</i>	<i>iiii d</i>
<i>Item a Gyrkyn gardyd with velvett</i>	<i>ii s</i>	
<i>Item viii yardes of blacke velvet</i>	<i>iiii s</i>	
<i>Item iiii yearde &amp; one halfe of black Satyn</i>	<i>xxiii s</i>	<i>iiii d</i>
<i>Item ii males one clothe Secke</i>	<i>iii s</i>	<i>iiii d</i>
<i>Item one hat with a bruche</i>	<i>iii s</i>	<i>iiii d</i>
<i>Summa Totallis</i>	<i>xxviii li</i>	<i>xxv s</i> <i>iiii d</i>

***Cattell***

<i>In primis xvi kye</i>	<i>x li</i>	
<i>Item ii bulle</i>	<i>xxvi s</i>	<i>viii d</i>
<i>Item Sevyn twynter bullocks</i>	<i>iii li</i>	
<i>Item iiii twynter heyfers</i>	<i>xxii s</i>	
<i>Item Syx yearelyng bullocks</i>	<i>xxx s</i>	
<i>Item fyve yearelyng heyfers</i>	<i>xx s</i>	
<i>Item viii waynyng calves</i>	<i>xvi s</i>	
<i>Summa totalis</i>	<i>xviii li</i>	<i>xiiiis</i> <i>viiiid</i>

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*for the kychyn*

*In primis vi oxen for the stall* *xiiii li*

*Item ix Runtt oxen* *ix li*

*Item viii kye* *v li*

*Summa totalis* *xxviii li*

*Shepe*

*Item owes with pychmarke lx* *v li*

*Item wethers with pychmark lxxx* *x li*

*Item xi blacke wylde sheype* *viii s*

*Item xxi wylde whyt shepe* *xxi s*

*Item xviii wethers for the kychyn* *iii li*

*Item xlv owes for the kychyn* *iii li* *vi s* *viiid*

*Item iii Ramms iii Rame hogges* *x s*

*Summa totalis* *xxiii li* *v s* *viiid*

*horse fleshe*

*In primes one bay horse* *iii li* *vi s* *viiid*

*Item one black horse* *x li*

*Item one blacke geldyng* *xlvi s* *viiid*

*Item one Sorelde nagge* *iii li*

*Item one olde gray geldyng the katers nagge the backhowse horse* *xl s*

*Item ii mares* *xxvi s* *viii d*

*Item one olde mare & a foole* *x s*

*Item one gray mare & a bay feyly* *xxx s*

*Item iii Colts* *iii li*

*Item fyve fooles* *xx s*

*Item Swyne* *xl vi d*

*Summa totalis* *xxii li vi s*