
Will of Thomas Bromley 1587 (PRO, ref. PROB 11/70 Image 162)

Summary

Testator: Thomas Bromley, knight Lord Chancellor of England
Executors: son Henry Bromley & brother in law Thomas Parry
Date: 10 April 1587, proved 27 April 1587
Witnesses: Richard Branthwaite, John Glascock, Roger Screven, Robert Heynes
Will: - well beloved wife Dame Elizabeth £100 and £200 in plate
- daughter Meryell Bromley £1000 on marriage
- daughter Meryell Bromley £100 per year until marriage and £40 in plate
- three sons Thomas Gerrard and Edward Bromley £100 apiece
- sons Thomas Gerrard and Edward Bromley share Manor of Red Castle during the minority of the heirs of Robert Corbett esquire deceased
- sons Thomas Gerrard and Edward Bromley share £15 per year
- gold ring to brother Sir George Bromley & his wife, Sir William Pelham, Sir Henry Cromwell, Lodwick Grevyle esquire, brothers in law John and Thomas Fortescue esquires, married daughters and sons in law, brother Raphe Egerton esquire & his wife, brother in law Sandford esquire & his wife, brother in law Thomas Vernon esquire & his wife, brother in law Thomas Parry esquire & his wife
- brother Parry £10 in plate
- his gentlemen attending him in ordinary four marks apiece, his yeomen attending upon him in ordinary 40s apiece
- servant Robert Heynes annuity of £10 for life
- servant Richard Cope annuity of £5 for life
- gold ring to John Glascock gent
- rest to son Henry Bromley

Text

In the name of God amen

1. I Sir Thomas Bromley knight Lord Chancellor of England calling to my remembrance that nothing is more certain than death nor nothing more uncertain than the hour of death minding therefore to set those things which God has given me and which I have not yet disposed in an order do make my last Will and Testament in manner and form following
2. First I do render and give again into the hands of my Lord God my spirit which he gave me when he first fashioned me in my mother's womb nothing doubting but that he for his mercy sake set forth in the blood of my Lord and only savior Jesus Christ will receive my soul into his glory
3. My body I commend unto the earth to be buried in decent and convenient order according to my estate and calling as shall seem fit by my executors most assuredly believing that at the great day of the general resurrection when we shall all appear before the judgment seat of Christ I shall receive it again an incorruptible and immortal body in all points like unto the glorious body of my Lord and savior Jesus Christ
4. Next I will and do most earnestly desire that my debts be paid in convenient time as may be
5. Item do give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife Dame Elizabeth Bromley all the chains rings bracelets jewels linen and apparel which she does usually wear I do also give

- unto her one hundred pounds in money and plate to the value of two hundred pounds and also so much household stuff as shall be thought fit and convenient by my executors for her to have
6. Item I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Meryell Bromley one thousand pounds in money to be paid unto her within twenty and eight days next after her marriage And if she die before her marriage Then I will that the same thousand pounds shall be paid within twenty and eight days next after her decease unto her executors or administrators or to such person or persons to whom by her last will and testament she shall give or bequeath the same
 7. Also I do give and bequeath unto my said daughter Meryell yearly until she be ? for and towards her maintenance one hundred pounds of good and lawful English money to be paid unto her at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of our Lady the Virgin Mary by even portions
 8. And my will and mind is that Henry Bromley esquire my son and heir apparent shall furnish her at the day of her marriage with convenient apparel and jewels
 9. Item I do give and bequeath unto my said daughter Meryell plate to the value of forty pounds
 10. Item I do give and bequeath unto my three sons Thomas Gerrard and Edward Bromley one hundred pounds apiece in money to be paid unto every of them when as tthey and every of them shall severally accomplish his of their age of twenty and one years
 11. Item I do give and bequeath unto the said Thomas Gerrard and Edward Bromley equally between them all the estate term and interest which I have in the Manor of Rodd Castle and other lands thereunto belonging in the County of Salop during the minority of the heirs of Robert Corbett esquire deceased
 12. Item I do give and bequeath unto my said sons Thomas and Gerrard Bromley equally between them all the estate term and interest which I have of and in a certain rent of yearly payment of fifteen pounds issuing and going out of Saint Oswalds in the County of Worcester
 13. Item I do give and bequeath unto my brother Sir George Bromley knight and unto my sister his wife and unto Sir William Pelham knight and to Sir Henry Cromwell knight and Lodwick Grevyle esquire and unto my brothers in law John Fortescue and Thomas Fortescue esquires and to all my daughters who be married and to my sons in law their husbands and to my brother Raphe Egerton esquire and to his wife To my brother in law Sandford esquire and his wife my brother in law Thomas Vernon esquire and his wife unto every of them a ring of gold of the value of four marks
 14. Item I do give and bequeath unto my brother in law Thomas Parry esquire and to his wife to ever of them one ring of gold to the value of four marks
 15. Item I do give and bequeath unto my said brother Parry one piece of plate of the value of ten pounds

16. Item I do give and bequeath unto every one of my gentlemen attending upon me in ordinary four marks in money apiece And to every one of my yeomen attending upon me in ordinary forty shillings apiece
17. Item I do give and bequeath unto my servant Robert Heynes for the term of his natural life in consideration of his faithful and good service done unto me one annuity or yearly rent of ten pounds to be issuing and going out of my Lordship or Manor of Dyther or Deother in the County of Montgomery payable at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of our Lady the Virgin Mary by even portions And if it shall fortune the said yearly rent to be behind and unpaid in part or in all after any of the feasts in which it ought to be paid that then it shall be lawful to and for the said Robert Heynes into the said Manor to enter and distrain?
18. Item I do give and bequeath unto my servant Richard Cope for the term of his life in consideration of his pains taken with me in my sickness one annuity or yearly rent of five pounds to be issuing and going out of my Manor of Dyther or Deother payable at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of our Lady the Virgin Mary by even portions And if it shall fortune the said yearly rent to be behind and unpaid in part or in all after any of the feasts in which it ought to be paid that then it shall be lawful to and for the said Richard Cope into the said Manor to enter and distrain?
19. Item I do give and bequeath unto John Glascock gent one ring of gold of the value of four marks
20. All the residue of my goods and chattels my funeral debts and legacies being paid and discharged I do give and confirm unto my said son Henry Bromley according to one deed of gift thereof by me to him heretofore made
21. And I also do make ordain and constitute my said son Henry Bromley and my said brother in law Thomas Parry my only executors of this my last Will and Testament
22. In witness whereof I the said Sir Thomas Bromley have to this my said last Will and Testament set my hand and seal the tenth day of April in the nine and twentieth year of the reign of our sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England France and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith etc. T. Bromley ? Signed and sealed in the presence of Richard Branthwaite John Glascock Roger Screven Robert Heynes

Probatum 27 April 1587 Henry Bromley & Thomas Parry executors