

Will of Francis Cave 1583 (Ancestry PCC Wills 1384-1858, TNA, PROB 11/66/161)

Summary

Testator: Francis Cave of Baggrave, Leics, esq.
 Executors: brother Brian Cave, son Thomas Cave
 Overseers: sons Anthony Cave, Brian Cave, Henry Cave, Lysley Cave & William Cave
 Date: 19 March 1582 [1583], proved 25 November 1583
 Witnesses: Brian Cave, Tho: Cave, John Dalby, Thomas Marshall
 Will:

- buried in Hungarton Church near to the place where my wife is buried
- £5 to the poor
- piece of silver plate of £5 as a memorial to son Thomas
- greatest piece of old gold to his wife
- one pair of gilt salts with one cover to son Thomas and to the heirs of Baggrave Hall according to his grandfather's will
- piece of silver plate of £5 as a memorial to each younger natural son & daughter
- £20 to each of youngest sons Brian, Henry and William
- one of his best gowns to brother Mr. Brian Cave
- lease of land in Gaddesby to old servant William Dracott for 21 years, rent to son Thomas, then to Arthur Yeavamat when 21; when expired to Arthur for life, then to son Thomas & his heirs
- similar arrangement for old servant Thomas Marshall
- £5 to another old servant Bartholomew Cave
- all his land in Barsby to son Thomas giving 10s per year for repairs to the church in Hungarton
- 40s to John Dalby brother Bryan Cave's man for writing this will
- rest to son Thomas

Modernized spelling

The will of God almighty the father the son and the holy ghost three distinct for but one God only be done upon me now for ever Amen

1. I Francis Cave of Baggrave in the County of Leicester esquire being by God his permission and goodness at this present sick in body and of good and perfect remembrance this nineteenth day of March in the year of our Lord God one thousand five hundred eighty two And in the five 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. do ordain and make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following
2. First as charity moves me to begin at myself so with all my ? and power I will bequeath & commend my soul and body to Jesus Christ our Lord the only Saviour of me and mankind my soul I say immediately after it shall by God's will be separated from my carnal body And my body and soul to him at the general resurrection where my soul and body shall be again united and joined together and see my Saviour and hear him pronounce the long thirsted for sentence of all his elect and chosen the members of his holy catholic church of which church I faithfully and without doubt believe and perfectly know that I am one of the lively members by God's only mercy And therefore do hope with an earnest desire to hear the most comfortable sentence of our Saviour Jesus Christ: Come come to me you blessed of my father etc. And from then resorting? To joy and glorify God in his saints and with his saints for ever and ever Amen

3. Lastly my whole endeavour in all the residue of this my will shall be so to dispose those lands possessions and worldly goods which God of his goodness has given me as I may show myself thankful towards him which is the giver of all? of my family, children and servants which he has committed to my charge and commanded my to provide for And for that it is commendable and a decent order and so is used generally through Christendom for the most part that the bodies of the dead are buried in such sort as their vocation does require not that there does thereby redound any benefit to the soul or body departed So I will and refer the order and execution of my funeral and burial of my body to the discretion of my executors and overseers hereafter appointed in this my will when God shall call me to his merit
4. It is my desire to be buried in Hongerton [Hungarton] Church near to the place where my wife is buried
5. Also I do by these presents revoke and annul all other wills and testaments by me heretofore devised or made And do declare and publish this my last will and testament is contained in these presents only
6. Item I give and bequeath to the poor the sum of five pounds to be distributed amongst them by the discretion of my executors
7. And concerning the disposition of the rest of my goods and chattels
8. First and before all other things I will that all my debts which I do owe of right or in conscience to any person or persons be truly paid by my executors hereafter named
9. Also whereas I have heretofore bestowed sundry things upon my son Thomas Cave the which I think very well bestowed and with their wear better I do now also give and bequeath unto my said dearly beloved son Thomas Cave one piece of silver plate for a memorial of me to the value of five pounds
10. my greatest piece of old gold I give and bequeath to my well-beloved daughter his wife
11. Also I do give and bequeath to my said son Thomas one pair of gilt salts with one cover praying him that the said great salts may remain to the heirs of the house of Baggrave according to his grandfather's will not doubting but that he will show himself loving grateful and natural towards his younger brothers and sisters my dear sons and daughter his next kin and friends as I have dearly loved him
12. Then as concerning the residue of my said loving sons and daughter
13. First my will is that all annuities heretofore granted to any of them be truly paid to every of them according to the true meaning of their several grants of the same And that all such former articles as are heretofore agreed upon between my son Thomas and his brothers by writing indented concerning a lease to be made unto them of Watson's close with a stock of twenty score ewes by my appointment be truly performed to every of them according to the true meaning of the same
14. Also I will and bequeath to every of my younger natural sons and daughter for a further memorial of me a piece of silver plate to be made all of one fashion by the discretion and appointment of my executors to the value of five pounds apiece

15. And for as much as I have as yet had the least consideration of my three sons that is to say Brian Cave Henry Cave and William Cave I do therefore now give & bequeath to every of them over and besides the former merited legacy and former gifts bestowed of them the sum of twenty pounds apiece if my goods and substance will so far amount unto If not fully to such then so near unto the said sum as may be (my funerals done, my debts paid and all the residue of this my last will being performed
16. I do give to my well-beloved brother Mr. Brian Cave one of my best gowns
17. Item I will and mind is that William Dracott my old servant and tenant in Gaddesby in consideration of his long painful and trusty service heretofore done unto me and for that I will the like service so shall be continued by him hereafter to my heir that my said heir at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel next after my decease shall make seal and deliver unto the said William Dracott for the consideration before merited a good and sufficient lease by writing indented of my farm and other the premises he now dwells in and occupies in Gaddesby aforesaid to have and to hold the same to him and his assigns from the said feast of St. Michael the Archangel for the full end and term of one and twenty years then next after fully to be complete and ended reserving only the old and accustomed rent yearly during the said term and keeping repairs to be paid yearly to my son Thomas Cave until such time as Arthur Yeavamat shall accomplish the full age of one and twenty years And then my will is that the said Arthur shall have the rent during the residue of the said term And after the expiry of the said term I do give and bequeath to the said Arthur all my said land in Gaddesby aforesaid for term of his natural life only The remainder thereof after his decease to my son Thomas Cave and his heirs
18. And also my mind and will is that Thomas Marshall one other of my old servants shall have in like consideration the interest and term of his farm in Hongerton [Hungarton] upon like condition and covenant as he now has the same And I will also that my executors shall do their best endeavour to obtain and get him the lease that one Mr. Hayes and Mr. Harvey or their assigns or any other now have thereof at my proper costs and charges so that the obtaining thereof do not exceed the sum of six pounds thirteen shillings four pence
19. Item I do give and bequeath to Bartholomew Cave one other of my old servants the sum of five pounds
20. Item I do give and bequeath to my son Thomas and his heirs all my lands in Baresbie [Barsby] bestowing yearly upon the repairs of some part of the church of Hongerton [Hungarton] about the feast of St. Michael yearly the sum of ten shillings by the appointment and consent of my executors during their lives and after their deceases by the appointment of my heirs
21. Item I do give and bequeath unto John Dalby my brother Bryan Cave's man whom I have bread and bear good will unto and for his pains taken in writing this my will the sum of forty shillings
22. The residue of all my goods chattels leases for years plate ready money household stuff debts and other goods and chattels whatsoever not before in these presents otherwise bestowed or bequeathed (after all my debts in law or conscience truly paid and discharged my legacies and bequests before expressed fully performed and my funeral charges according to my estate and calling liberally paid and discharged) I wholly and freely give

and bequeath to my said well beloved son Thomas Cave to have and enjoy to his proper use forever

23. And I ordain constitute and make my well-beloved brother Mr. Brian Cave and my said son Thomas Cave executors of this my present last will and testament desiring them to see the same fully performed according to my special trust in them reposed
24. And overseer of the same my testament and last will I ordain and make my well beloved sons Anthony Brian Henry Lysley and William Cave
25. In witness whereof I the said Francis Cave to this my present will and testament containing six pages of paper in writing have subscribed my name with my own hand thses being witnesses whose names are underwritten

by me Francis Cave

Brian Cave, Tho: Cave, John Dalby, Thomas Marshall

Probate at London 25 November 1683 Brian Cave & Thomas Cave executors