

Richard Archdale's will.

The testament of Richard Archdale of Whateley in the county of Oxon gentleman.

In the name of the most glorious trinitie Amen I Richard Archdalle of good and perfytt remembraunce I thancke god thoughe sicke in body make this my last wyll and Testament as well for my landes and goods the 21st daye of July in the 19th yeare of the Raigne of Quene Elizabeth the as Followeth. First I most humblye beseache thalmightie for his deare sonnes sake Jesus Christe to be mercyfull unto my soule and to take it in to his rest, where yt maye one everlastinge daye glorifye his name for ever, I beseache the moste glorious and pure virgine marie mother of my Saviour Christe to praye for me it may be so, my bodye to be buryed in the middest of the Crosse waye in Cuddesdon church againste where the Crucifixe dyd stande and I truste in god again shall stande for the good remembraunce of our redemer And I give to the churchwardens to the use of the church there 2 0s for breakinge of the place of my buryall & reparacions of the church. I give to my deare and most lovinge wyffe Mary 20s in monie, her chamber and iewells I give to John my sonne and heire apparent my golde Ringe, I give to Abraham Cipriane and Virgin my sonnes to everye of them severall annuities of sixe pounds thirteene shillings foure pence During everye their lyves at the Feast of St Michaell tharchangell and Thannunciation of our Lorde by even porcions And yf yt fortune the sayed yerelye rentes of £6 - 13 - 4d a peace to be behinde unpayed at anie of the sayed Feastes at which yt ought to be payed Than & so often yt shalbe lawfull for everye of my sayed three younger sonnes to enter and Distraine in my manor of Whateley, and all my landes and tenements in Whateley in the Countie of Oxforde, and the distress and distresses there so founde to leade drive and carrye awaye, and with them and everye of them to withholde and kepe, untyll of the sayed annuities with the arreragies thereof yt be to everye my sayed three younger sonnes fullye Satisfyed and payed. I give to John my sonne all my manor landes tenements and hereditaments in Whateley and Oxforde his mothers thirde part excepted to have and enioye to him duringe his naturall lyffe so he be ordered by his mother duringe her lyffe. And after his decease all my sayed manor landes tenements and hereditaments to remayne to Abraham my sonne during his lyffe And after his decease all the same manor landes tenements and hereditaments to remayne to Cipriane my sonne during his lyffe And after his decease all my manor landes tenements and hereditaments to remayne to Virgin my sonne during his lyffe And after his decease all my manor landes tenements and hereditaments aforesaid to remayne to the heires males of the bodye of the sayed Abraham and for lacke of suche issue all my manor landes tenements and hereditaments to remayne to the heires males of the bodye of Cypriane my sonne, lawfully begotten And for lacke of suche issue to remayne to the heires males of the bodye of Virgin my sonne lawfully begotten And for lacke of suche issue all the same to remayne to the heires males of suche as my wyffe goeth withall yf it be a sonne lawfully begotten and that sonne to be used in lyke annuitie of £6 - 13 - 4d with lyke remedie so come by the same as by his other three brothers shall have by waye Of distresse And allso to have all my landes, tenements, and hereditaments after his foure brothers decease duringe his lyffe And [if] my sonne John future to dye then the eldest of my sayed sonnes then lyvinge to have none annuitie but all the youngest of my sonnes borne and to be borne then lyvinge to have 10s of yearely annuitie a peace duringe their lyves at the sayed Feastes with lyke remedie for recoverye thereof my waye of distresse as

is above declared, And the eldest of my sonnes lyvinge one after an other to be used in all things towchinge my landes as is aforesayed Never the lesse my wyll is that Barnarde my brother And my Syster Annes his wyffe shall have the house they dwell in Oxforde rente free to wardes me and myne heires duringe the lyffe of the sayed Annes Kepinge reparacions thereof And I geve to the sayed Annes Dorothie and Beatrice her systers to everye of them fortie shillings to be payed to everye of them within three yeares after my decease I give to Marie Margaret Dorothie Frances Elizabeth and Barbara my daughters and to that my wyffe gooth withall yf it be a daughter an hundreth markes a peace to be payed unto them owte of the profytts of Rufford lease with all the stocke woods and trees thereof And yf yt shall fortune anie of my sayed daughters to dye before their marriages or before they shall accomplishe their severall ages of 21 yeares a peace which[ever] shall first happen then I wyll that all the porcion of them as shall so dye shall remayne emongst the rest of my daughters then lyvinge equallye to be devided amongst them so that everye of my daughters take and followe the advise and the good wyll of their mother and most parte as my wyffe and myne executors lyvinge otherwise saithe of them as shall not marrye and be ordered in all respectes by their mother and the moste part of myne executors to have but £40 a peace payed unto them within three yeares after their marriages, I give to Marie my daughter my sylver pott my syster gave me All the residewe of my plate I give equallye to be devided emongste all my children borne and to be borne by my myne executors immediatlye after my wyves decease but she to have the use thereof duringe her lyffe makinge iuste Inventorie thereof but my wyll is that my sayed younger sonnes annuitie shall not take place untill suche tyme as everye of theime shall accomplyshe their severall ages of 24 yeares yf shee their mother so longe lyve sole and unmarried And where I holde the one halffe of my howse I dwell in by two leasses at one Richard Bies hand one in parchment the other in paper And bothe trewe and verie good by the waye my soule shall goe, for abowte fortie yeares, my wyll is that my wyffe shall have the use and profytts thereof and all my landes, tenements and hereditaments and allso of my leasse and profytts in Rufford untill all my sonnes come to their severall ages of 24 yeares towards the bringinge uppe of all my chyldeyn yf shee so longe lyve sole and unmarried and I charge them all to be lovinge and obedient unto their sayed mother duringe her lyffe my apparell to be devided amongst all my sonnes borne and to be borne, at their mothers discretion I give to my verie lovinge brother Thomas Archdale foure poundes 6 shillings eight pence for a dosen of sylver spoones that weare my systers, my verie wyll and my mynde is that my wyffe and my brothers Thomas and Martyne with the hellppe of my gossep Thomas Parsons and suche as he shall thincke good of doo as sone as may be after my decease sell as manie trees in Whateley and Rufforde as shall make foure hundrethe poundes to paye my dettes withall, And where I have geven to Francis Warde divers summes of monie heretofore thoughe he delte evellye with me and drove me to mannye suetes in the lawe yet I give to all the children of the sayed Francis Warde of Tyllington besides Stafforde deceased £40 in monie in all not fourtie pounds a peace, to be payed employed and bestowed as their mother and the two Master Balyffes of Stafforde and my cosine Thomas Pallmer of Marston shalbe thoughte good & most meete for their profytts within three yeares nexte after my decease I give to Robert Webbe gentleman yf he be then lyvinge or to his wyffe and children within three yeares after my decease tenne poundes in all not £10 a peace, in discharge of my conscience for usance I once tooke of his He was wonte to have a house near the great condite in Flette Streete, I give to William

Waldren brother in lawe of Richarde Purlinge of Drayton £3 more which I once tooke of him in usance, I give to the wyffe of Thomas Cowper and her children now bussoppe of Lincolne £5 And to the children of Thomas Parsons late of Horsepath deceased other fyve poundes all these last sumes amountynge in the whole to £23 to be payed as myne executors shall thincke good within 7 yeares after my decease saving Webbes £10 because he is poore to be payed within foure yeares after my decease, I wyll myne executors as spedelye as the[y] maye after my decease see £16 disbursed towards poore mayedes mariages amendinge of highe wayes and exhibicion of poor scholars accordinge to Sir John Pollards wyll And because I have had much a doo with monie and have thereby byne verye slowe in disbursinge of the sume of £30 as I shoulde have done I thincke there is abowte £12 or £13 mowe remayninge, yet I wyll now that the sayed £16 shalbe payed towards some amends makinge. I doo give unto my brother Anthonie Fearne £6 - 13 - 4d to be payed unto him owte of my leasse of Rufforde from Michaelmas nexte duringe all my tearme therein to come at the Feastes of the annunciation of our blessed Ladle and St. Michael Tharchangell by even porcions And there yt shalbe lawfull for him to distreine in all the groundes in Rufforde for the same & the arreragies thereof. So that he shewe him sellffe lovinge and kynde to his sister and her children and make unto myne executors before Christmas nexte a good and perfytt graunte and release of all arreragies of all rentes interests and tytells that he may in anie way clayme or hynderance therein by anie meanes and lett him consider howe his interests beinge so feble as doethe appeare by his fathers wyll and hath fallen of late most manifestlye and I have made Frennds and taken yt at sundrie tymes at great charges and yet founde him at schoole at Oxford and never deducted paye for the same, I give to my lovinge brothers Thomas Archedale and

Martin Arhcedale my brother in lawe Anthonie Fearne to everye of them a Ringe of golde wayinge 26 scruples 8 pennyweights with deathe heades in them and to Mistress Margaret Yates wyffe to Richard Yates gentleman a ring of golde wayinge 20 scruples with a deaths head in performance of my promise longe agoe if I dyed firste. She promised unto mee the lyke yf shee dyed firste, my greate truste is that my brothers of London wyll stande good to all theire lytell Nevewes and Neces my children And yf they doo so within 3 or foure yeares after my decease my trees beinge sold to the valewe aforesayed owte of hande to goodmen that wyl paye whereof all the trees in the olde Dories levinge a fewe for shade for catall and the trees in and abowte the breache The rest of the best in the howe and at Rufforde butt all to be grubbed, myne executors wilbe in good case to helpe theire systems and theire poore kynred and be good to theire poor tenants and all the rest of all poore and impotent. Which greatly I charge them on my blessinge to doo as I truste they wyll I make my foure sonnes John Abraham Cipriane and Virgin myne executors of this my last wyll and my brothers Thomas Martynne and Anthonie Fearne my overseers for seeinge that myne executors entermeddle not with anie thinge duringe theire mothers lyffe lyvinge sole and unmarried let us bless the lord, thanks be to god by me Richard Archdale.

Will proved 19th October 1577. Value of inventory not given.

Source Oxon Wills and Admons. vol.187, folio 496.