

*Last Will and Testament of
William Davis (alias Taylor)
of Brinkworth - 1617*



William Davis als Taylor of Brinkworth - 1617

In the name of God Amen the 15th day of March in the year of our Lord according to the computation of the Church of England one thousand six hundred and seventeen. I William Davis als Taylor of Brinkworth in the county of Wilts yeoman being weak in body but thanks be unto Almighty God in perfect mind and memory do ordain and make by these present my testament containing therein my last will in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God to rest in the bosom of Abraham and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Brinkworth aforesaid there to remain until the resurrection when my soul shall receive the same body again to enter into life everlasting by a true and lively faith through Jesus Christ my Saviour and redeemer Amen. And as for my worldly goods I willingly dispose as followeth. First I give towards the relief of the poor people of the parish of Brinkworth aforesaid 3s 4d to be distributed amongst them on the day of my funeral. Also whereas Robert Rowles my son-in-law oweth unto me the sum of ten pounds of current English money as by bond appeareth if he the said Robert do purchase an estate of his house in Malmesbury with the commodities of the same, unto some of his children, then I give unto the said Robert towards the buying thereof the sum of six pounds of the said sum of ten pounds that he oweth as aforesaid. Also I give unto William Pitt my godson 12d. Also whereas I am indebted and do owe unto sundry persons certain sums of money if Thomas Davis als Taylor my son will discharge and pay all such debts as I owe, then I give and bequeath unto the said Thomas my son the messuage or tenement called Sabins wherein I dwell with all and singular the appurtanences to the same belonging during all the time term and number of years yet to come and unexpired. All the rest of my goods and chattles both moveable and unmoveable my legacies and debts being paid and my funeral expenses ended, I also give unto the said Thomas my son, whom I ordain and make my whole executor. And finally I ordain and make my well-beloved in Christ Robert Beale and Richard Spencer of Brinkworth aforesaid yeomen overseers of this my last will and testament, to see that all things accordingly justly and truly be delivered contented satisfied and paid, and for these pains taking therein I give unto them six pence a piece. Also I give unto Anthony Davis als Taylor my son my spice mortar and mustard mill. Also I give unto Christopher Lea my son-in-law one of my best shirt bands. Also I give unto my son-in-law Thomas Packer the best pair of my stockings. Also I give to my son-in-law William Norborne a black velvet gamble that is now in my chest

The inventorie of the goodes and chattles of William Davis als Tayler of Brinckworth in the countie of Wilts deceased which were att Weston Birt in the diocesse of Glouc att the time of his death, made and priced by William Ford and Walter Clerke the tenth day of May Anno Domini 1619.

Imprimis his apparrell there 10s
 Item one flocke bede 30s
 Item three coveringes 30s
 Item one blanket 10s
 Item one sheet 5s
 Item the little boxe 2s

William Ford his marke Walter Clerke his marke

Wiltes. A true and perfecte inventory of all and singuler the goodes and chattells of William Davis als Taylor late of Brinckworth in the county aforesaid deceased taken and praised by William Clarke and Richard Spencer of Brinckworth aforesaid yeomen the 17th day of May in the yere of our Lord God 1619.

In the hall

Imprimis the table board and frame 12s
 Item the pewter vessells 16s
 Item the brasen vessells 50s
 Item a paire of iron andirons a broache and a drippinge pann and other iron stuffe 8s
 Item the couperie vessells 8s

In the chamber over the hall

Item 2 chests one coffer 10s
 Item one litle round table board and frame 2s
 Item 3 joynd beddsteedes 35s
 Item one fetherbedd 2 fether boulsters one sheete and a coverlead 40s
 Item one carpett cloth 3 cushions 10s
 Item one meate cloth a towell and 2 table napkins 6s 8d
 Item certeyne tackes and shilfes about the howse 3s 4d

In the upper howse

Item a mault querne and a cheese presse 15s
 Item 2 hatchetts 3 peekes and other implements about the howse 10s
 Item his apparrell and money in his purse £6
 Item certeyne tymber and wood and 4 ladders and reyles for 2 rickhayes £5
 Item his chattell lease £300

Sume: £322 6s