

*The Last Will and Testament
Of Richard Vivash
of Yatesbury
Will Proved
19th December 1625*



Prerogative Court of Canterbury
Original reference PROM11/147
Will Dated 25th June 1625

Testator:	Vivash	Richard	Husbandman of Yatesbury
Executors:			
Rydforde	William	Brother in Law	Joint Executor
Vivash	Robert	Brother	Joint Executor

Beneficiaries		Relationship to testator	Other Information
Surname	Given Names		
			The Poor of Yatesbury
Not Known	Jane	Wife's Daughter	Step Daughter but called Daughter in Law in Margin Note
Not Known	Joane	Wife's Daughter	Step Daughter but called Daughter in Law in Margin Note.
Rydforde	William	Brother in Law	
Vivash		Possible Son or Daughter	Bequest "If my Wife be with Child"
Vivash	Agnes	Sister	
Vivash	Anne	Daughter	
Vivash	Ellen	Wife	
Vivash	Margaret	Sister	
Vivash	Not Stated	Father	
Vivash	Not Stated	Mother	
Vivash	Olive	Sister	
Vivash	Robert	Brother	
Witnesses			
Caswell	Robert	Friend	Also Overseer
Ritche	Robert		
Other Names			
Broadfeild	William		Debtor of Testator

Chambers	Thomas		Of Locking - Debtor of Testator
Chilsester	John		Debtor of Testator
Cripps	Andrew		Creditor of Testator
Karlill	John		Debtor of Testator
Riche	Mr		Debtor of Testator
Smyth	Thomas	Friend	Farmer - Overseer
Stowe	William		Debtor of Testator
Styles	John		Debtor of Testator
Tombye	Jane		Creditor of Testator

The 25th June Anno Charoli Regni Primo Anno Domini 1625.

I Richard Vivash of Yatesbury in the Conty of Wilts, Husbandman, sick in body but in good and perfect minde and remembrance, I thank the Lord therefore, doe make my last will and testament in manner and forme following, the day and year first above written. Imprimis I give and bequesth my soule into the hands of God my faithfull creator, trusting through his sonne Jesus Christ my saviour to have my sinnes forgiven and my soule saved forever. Item my will is that my body be buried in the Churchyard of Yatesbury at the discretion of my executors. Item I give to the poore of Yatesbury three shillings and four pence to be distributed at the discretion of the parson and overseers thereof. Item I give and bequeath to my father and mother the use or interest of twenty pounds which my executors shall put out to their best advantage and pay the use of it to them at two terms of the year, that is at Our Lady Day and Michaelmas so long as they shall lyve. And my will is that after the decease of my said father and mother that my three sisters, Olive, Agnes and Margaret shall have and receive of my executors five pounds each of them a peece which I give as a legacie bequeathed unto them. Item I give to my daughter Anne the summe of twenty pounds of good Engliash money and my will is that the use of it be employed to the breeding and bringing up of her. Item if my wife Ellen be with child I give and bequeath unto that child the summe of ten pounds of good English money. But if she be not with child my will is that the ten pounds shall remayne also as a legacie to my said daughter Anne. Item I give to my wife's two daughters Joane and Jane of chilver sheepe to either of them one. Item I give and bequeath to my Wife Ellen all the goodes, household stuffe, chattels and cattels which be about the house and which she brought with her and also the summe of fifteen pounds of good English money besides whereof ten pounds she brought with her and five pounds shall remayne to her after the decease of my father and mother out of that twenty pounds which was put out for their use. Item I will that the hay in the orchard and shop shall remayne to my executors and the seeding of it until the anniversary of Our Lady next and that the woll also in the house and the pales about the garden shall be theirs. Item I give to my brother Robert my best suite of apparel and my cloak and my jerkin doublet and hose which is of darke colour I give to my father. The rest of my goods and chattels not given nor bequeathed, my debts and legacies paid and my funerall discharged I doe give and bequeath to my brother Robert Vivash and my Brother in Law William Rydforde whom I doe make my lawful executors of this my last will and testament and I do constitute and appointe my loving friends Thomas Smythe, the Farmer and Robert Chaswell to be the overseers of this my will to see it truly performed according to my meaning.

The mark of Richard Vivash

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of us:
Robert Ritche, Robert Caswell.

Probatum Fuit. Decimo Nono Die mensis Decembris Anno Dni. Millissimo Sextissimo Vicesimo Quitnto.
19th December 1625

The following is written in the margin:

The debts I owe are these. Imprimis to my Daughter in Law Joane 10 shillings. Item to my Daughter in Law Jane 10 shillings. Item to Andrew Cripps five shillings. To Jane Tombye a bushell of malt.

These debts are owing to me. Imprimis Mr Riche by hand 10 shillings. William Stowe ten shillings. John Chilsester six shillings six pence. John Styles of Mouncton five shillings five pence. Thomas Smith, the Farmer five shillings. Thomas Chambers of Lockinge twenty shillings. William Broad field nine shillings. The Cordmakerie of Marlborough nine shillings. John Karlill ten shillings and forty shhepe culver lambes.

OPC Notes.

1. From the body of the will, it is apparent that Joane and Jane referred to in the margin as “my Daughters in Law, were in fact Richard’s step daughters.

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