

**W.C.R.O. Will of William Tayler of Lighthorne 1577.**

In the name of God Amen. the 8th day of April in the year of our Lord God 1577. and in the 19th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady by the grace of God of England France and Ireland Queen etc. I William Tayler of the parish of Lighthorne in the County of Warwick husbandman being of whole mind and good memory Praised be God do make and ordain this my present Testament containing my last will, in manner & form following. First I bequeath and commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God, and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Lighthorne aforesaid, in full hope and trust of the Resurrection of the same in the last days to eternal glory. Also I give and bequeath to our mother church of Worcester 2d. And towards the reparation of our own church 8d.

I give to **John** my eldest son 20s. and a good pair of sheets, and whereas he hath of his grandfathers gift a cow and a calf, a yearling and a good brass pot, my will is that the yearling shall continue in my wifes keeping till it be four years old, he has in my keeping his grandfathers gift three sheep.

Item I give to my son **Richard** 40s. a brass pot or money to buy him one, and a good pair of sheets. He hath also in my keeping three sheep and two lambs in his uncles gift.

Item I give to my youngest son **Leonard** 40s. a ewe and lamb, a brass pot and a good pair of sheets.

Item my will is that these my gifts should be delivered to every one his portion at 18 years of their age.

Item I give to these my three sons three weaning calves, **Johns** to be delivered to him after two years, **Richards** after four years, and **Leonards** after five years after my decease. If it chance that God take away one of my sons before the deliverance of any of these my gifts and bequests my will is that his portion should be given to the others equally to be divided and so of the other the superviver to enjoy the whole.

The rest of my goods movable and unmovable, my debts, funeral and other payments discharged I give and bequeath to my wife whom I make mine executrix of this my Last Will and Testament to do therein as God shall give her grace according to the true meaning hereof.

And for the better performance hereof I make mine overseers my very friends and neighbours **John Townsend** and **Thomas Mason** the elder.

Witnesses present at the making hereof **William Smart** parson, **Richard Tayler**, **Lawrence Tayler**, **John Knight** my brethren, and **John Townsend** and **John Harber**.

Debts that I do owe to my ---- brethren  
33s.8d. to each of them

Item to **Thomas Mason** the elder 10s.

Item to **Thomas Mason** the younger 3s.

Item to the good wife Warwick 12d.

Item to **John Harber** 12d.

Proved at Stratford 28th day of June 1577. before **John Langford**

----- inventory --- £32.