
Appendix 1: John Smith's Will

[This is a transcript of Cambridge University Library, Baker MSS, Mm.1.37, 215.]

August 1652 Ingr./Regist:

my will is

That smal land which my father left me in Aychurch after my decease should pass unto my mother my estate in presston¹ this to be dispos'd of 6^{ti}p.an. to be paid out of it by my cousin Orton² of Oundle to my mother, the remainder to give to him at present & to his heirs & after my mother's decease y^e 6^{ti}p.an. likewise.

All those books in my study which are not in the library my will is should be given out of my study into y^e Colledg Library.

Mr. Cradock I appoint to be y^e executor of this my wil.

This he read & said he was well pleased with it as his will therof we are witnesses³

Symon Patrick
William Gore

¹I take this to be either Preston Capes or Preston Deanery, both in Northamptonshire.

²Perhaps the Thomas Orton who was baptised in Wadenhoe on 24th August, 1600.

³This sentence is written in Simon Patrick's hand.

This will abovewritten of John Smith late whilst he lived M^r. of Arts and ffellow of Queens Colledge in the University of Cambridge deceased was proved the twelfth day of August 1652. before the Right worth: Tho: Hill⁴ Doc of Divinitie and the lawfull constituted deputy of the Right worthy Sam Bolton⁵ Doc of Divinity and Vicechancellor of the university of Ga aforesaid. Symon Patrick M^r. of Arts, and William Gore Batchelour of Arts both fellows of the aforesaid colledge being first personally sworne in due form of Law, deposed, that the will abovewritten, was read by the deceased John Smith in their presence and that the deceased John Smith was well pleased with it, as his will. And administration of all and singular the goods creditts, and chattells of the deceased were committed and graunted unto Samuel Cradock Batchelour of Divinitie and fellow of Emmanuel Colledge in the university aforesaid, the sole Executor, nominated, and constituted in the aforesaid will, being first personally sworne in due forme of law. In witness whereof wee have caused our seale of Office to be hereunto annexed Given at Cambridge the day month and yeare above written.

Wee asked him whether his mother should dispose y^t land att Aychurch. his answer was he did not know whether shee should dispose of it discreetly. this we are assured of & all agree in. we asked him further who should have it after her decease and whether his cousin orton. his answer to our best remembrance was y^t I think he had as good have it, though he hath but a little kindred wither.⁶

⁴Thomas Hill (d. 1653) was a former fellow of Emmanuel and a member of the Westminster Assembly. A fierce Calvinist, he had been appointed Master of Trinity in 1645. His funeral sermon was delivered by Anthony Tuckney.

⁵Samuel Bolton (1606-1654) was another member of the Westminster Assembly, who had been given the mastership of Christ's in 1645.

⁶This paragraph is written in Simon Patrick's hand.