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**Will of William Parsons 1646** (TNA, PROB 10/642/162)

## Summary

Testator: William Parsons of Compton, Glocs., yeoman  
Executors: sons-in-law John Johnsons & William Lord  
Overseers: sons-in-law Thomas Rooke & William Widdowes  
Date: 11 June 1642, proved 29 January 1646  
Witnesses: William Johnson, Thomas Rooke & William Lord  
Will:  
- £10, household items & crops to wife Susan  
- £5 apiece to wife's children William, John, Thomas & Susan Negoose  
- 5s apiece to 4 daughters Ellen Johnsons, Mary Lord, Ann Rooke & Joane Widdowes  
- £20 to grandson William Widdowes  
- £4 to poor of Compton Parva  
- 40s apiece to kinsmen Andrew & Thomas Archer  
- £3 to servant John Sims  
- 5s to servant Elizabeth Butler  
- 5s to servant Anthony Savage  
- 1s to shepherd William  
- bequests to underage children when they are 21  
Total fortune: - ca. £65, crops, + rest

In the name of God Amen

1. the eleventh day of June Anno Domini 1642 and in the eighteenth year of the reign of our sovereign lord Charles by the grace of God of England France and Ireland King defender of the Faith etc. I William Parsons of Compton Parva in the County of Gloucester yeoman being sick in body but of good & perfect memory blessed be God for it do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say
2. First and principally I bequeath my soul to God that gave it me and my body to the earth from whence it came attending for the coming of our lord Jesus Chris when it shall rise again and be joined with my soul to remain together in everlasting happiness not for any merit or defect in myself but by the death and passion of Jesus Christ my saviour and redeemer And as touching such worldly substance which it has pleased almighty God to bestow upon me I devise as follows
3. Imprimus I give and bequeath unto Susan my loving wife all the household stuff she brought to me and one plow and one cart one year of harness one horse three ?? threescore sheep ?ggs one yardland crop during the dead's year she being at the chav? lowing & sowing of it and paying of those bequests before given to my two executors after named the sum of ten pounds to be paid one year after my decease
4. Item I give and bequeath unto William Negoose John Negoose Thomas Negoose & Susan Negoose my wife's children five pounds apiece
5. Item I give and bequeath unto my four daughter Ellen Johnsons Mary Lord Ann Rooke & Joane Widdowes five shillings apiece
6. Item I give and bequeath unto William Widdowes one of my grandchildren the sum of twenty pounds

7. Item I give and bequeath unto the poor of Compton Parva the sum of four pounds to be paid within two months of my decease at the disposing & discretion of my executors
8. Item I give and bequeath unto Andrew Archer & Thomas Archer to of my kinsmen forty shillings apiece
9. Item I give and bequeath unto John Sims my servant the sum of three pounds
10. Item I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Butler my servant five shillings
11. And to Anthony Savage my servant five shillings to be paid within three months of my decease
12. And William my shepherd one shilling
13. And also my will is that those children which are not of age to give discharge to my executors shall be paid when they come to the age of one and twenty years
14. Item all the rest of my goods chattels and cattle moveable and immovable whatsoever & the dead's years I give and bequeath unto John Johnsons and William Lord two of my sons-in-law whom I make & appoint to be my executors to this my last Will and Testament to see my debts & legacies and bequests herein given and bequeathed to be paid and performed & my funeral discharged
15. And lastly I revoke and make void all former Wills & Testaments by me heretofore made and I entreat Thomas Rooke and William Widdowes two of my sons-in-law to be overseers to this my last Will and Testament
16. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the day and year above written in the presence of

William Parsons his mark

Read published sealed and delivered in the presence of William Johnson Thomas Rooke  
William Lord

Probate 29 January 1645 John Johnson William Lord