

The Will of Ambrose Curwood 1593.

Transcribed from a manuscript held at The National Archives by Peter Bowers and Clive Cotton, February 2013.

In the name of God amen the nyne and twentieth daye of December in the yere of our Lorde god a thousande fyve hundred nynetie three I Ambrose Curwood of the parishe of Sandford peverell in the countie of Devon Tanner being sicke of bodie but of whole minde and in good and perfect remembrance Laude and prayse be unto allmightie god do make and ordeyne this my last will and testament in manner and forme following that is to saye ffirst I commend my soule unto Almightye god my maker and Redeemer and my bodie to be buried in the church of Sandforde peverell aforesayed. Item I give and bequeathe unto Ambrose Cottrell my sister's sonne tenne poundes of lawfull English moneye to be payed unto hym at suche time as he shall accomplish and be of the age of one and twentie yeres. Item I give and bequeathe unto Marshall Curwood the daughter of my brother William Curwood tenne poundes of life lawfull englishe money to be payed her at such tyme as she shall accomplish and be of the age of one and twenty years. Item I give to william Curwood my brother fyve poundes of lawfull englishe money and all my skynnes and barke and putty and all other ymplementes and tooles in the Tannehouse and belonging to the tanniehouse And allso all my wearing apparrell. Item I give and bequeathe unto the poore of Sandford peverell fortie shillinges to be payed in manner folowing that is to saye twenty shillinges presented after my deathe and the other twentie shillings at or in the feast daye of the annunciation of our Ladie the virgin next folowing. Item I give and bequeathe unto the poor of the parish of Brodhembury twentie shillinges. Item I give and bequeathe unto every of my godchildren twelve pence And furthermore my will and meaninge be that all suche goodes Cattels and debtes and nother as shalbe set downe particularie hereunder in the heele of this my present testament shalbe employed unto to pare and dischargde all my former legarceys bequeathes debts funeralls and chardges whatsoever And the surplus thereof on that which remayneth over and above I give and bequeathe the one moytie or halfendcase unto the other former children of my sister Johane Cotterell. And the other moytie therof unto the other former children of my brother william Curwood in eighte equall partes to be devided to be paied or delivered unto them and every of them at suche tymies as they shalbe and accomlishe the age of one and twentie yeres But if any of my sisters children happen to die before the accomplish the age of one and twentie yeres that then his or their partes shall joyntlie remayne unto the Survivors of her children. And if any of my brother William Curwood his children happen to die before they accomlishe the age of one and twentie yeres that then his or their partes to remayne joyntlie to the Survivors of his children. And allso my will is to that my brother william Curwood do put in sufficient surritie unto my uncle William Manley for payment of those severall legaceys at suche severall tymes as are lymited in this my present testament then the legaceys shall remayne in the possession of my brother William Curwood untill they grow payable as above sayed. The rest of my goodes and cattells moneyable and unmoneable not given nor bequeathed I give and bequeathe unto my uncle William Manley whom I make and ordeyne my whole executor of this my last will and testament.

Witnesseth Emanuell Maycy clerke and Jerome Mogrydge.

Debtes to be receyved

Of Peter Weare of Sandford fyve poundes. Of William Knolles alias Helliard three ponde twelve shillings ten pence. Of Andry fyve pounds. Adrian Cross sixe poundes Ten shillings and fourpence .Of Abraham Mynifie fourie six shillings eighte pence. Myne putty in my tannehouse one settle, five dickers¹ of sheep leather, fyve hydes of cows leather, one dozen of Calve skynnes Lyme or barke one dozen of hoopes, one peale, a bearstaffe, three tnyyes, myne apparell, money in my purse seven shillings. My goodes in Somersetshire. Ffourtene hed of Cattell and John Manley of Andry oweth me fortie shilliges Thomas Payne of Middlezoy oweth for a rone fiftie shillings and three pounds tenne shillings lent hym. John of Bowen of Middlezoy oweth me five shillings eight pence . Enumra totalis LXXV(pounds) XV(shillings). Emanuell Maycey the sygne of Jerom Mangardye

Note 1. A dicker is the number of ten, being the customary unit of exchange, especially for hides or skins.