

Will of Robert Skinner

In the name of God, Amen, I, Robert Skinner, by the Divine Providence Bishop of Worcester, doe ordain and make this my last will and testament, and first of all and pre omnibus, I commend my soule into the hands of my Almighty and gracious Creator and Redeemer, hoping and faithfully beleeving (the Lord be praised for it) that I shall be saved by the merrits and satisfaction and intercession of Jesus Christ, who dyed for me on the crose, and rose againe for my justification for my religion, I professe myselfe to be a true sone of the Church of England, nothing doubting, but heartilye believing, but the Churche of England is a true member of the Holy Catholique Church. And I have ever embraced the liturgy and service of the Church, now in use, as one of ye greatest blessings ye Son of Grace ever bestowed upon this nation. And I humbly implore our Lord Jesus Christ, the lover and author of peace, to move all animosities and wilful oppositions against that most excellent piece of Divine service, charging my children, upon my blessing, to embrace and delight themselves in that booke, next to the blessed Booke of God, as the way and means to eternall life, through the grace of our Lord Jesus. Now for the temporall good things which the Lord of his bountifull mercy hath bestowed upon mee, by this my last will and testament I thus dispose of them, viz.: Whereas my Sonne Matthew Skinner is indebted to me in the summe of four hundred pounds doe give and bequeath two hundred poundes thereof to Robert Skinner, my grandsonne, and the other two hundred poundes to Katherine Skinner, my granddaughter, Sonne and daughter of my said sounne Matthew. Item, I give and bequeath to my sonne Samuel Skinner, two hundred pounds. Item, I give and bequeath to my sonne Robert Skinner, five hundred pounds; and as for my plate, brass, pewter, lynnens, bedding, and all other my household goods, except my bookes, I doe give, devise, and bequeath, as is in a codicil hereunto annexed, subscribed with my owne hand. And as for my sonne William Skinner, my daughter Mary Oakley, and my daughter Margaret Sharpe, and my daughter Anne Gardner, I have lately caused their, severall portions to be delivered unto them, which I hereby give them, and doe hereby acquitt them from all accompts whatsoever for any moneys, I have caused to be delivered to them, or for either of their uses. Item, I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Irons, two hundred pounds, which I lately lent her towards purchasing of a copyhold in Claynes, late in the tenure of Thomas Nash, gent, deceased; and alsoe another hundred pounds, which I formerly lent her. Item, I give and bequeath unto my servant, Philippa Skinner, twenty pounds, and to my servant, Mary Bates, five pounds. Item, I give and bequeath unto my sonne, Robert Skinner, all my convocation robes. Item, I doe give and bequeath my bookes, as shall appeare in some paper under my hand, but in case I shall leave no such paper under my hand, then my will is that my said bookes shall bee disposed of according as I lately directed, in the presence of my sonnes, Matthew, Robert, and William. And I doe hereby nominate and appoint my sonne, Doctor Matthew Skinner, sole executor of this my last

will and testament, nothing doubting but that he will be just and kind to his brothers and sisters, and all parties herein and hereby concerned. Item, my will is that my executor shall give to all my household servants mourning suites. Item, I give unto my kinsman Miles Raynesford, a mourning suite and coate. And my will is, that all my children, to whome I have given portions in this, my will, shall buy their owne mourning weeds, except my daughter, Elizabeth Irons, to whome I give her five pounds, to buy her mourning weeds. Item, I give and bequeath unto my servants, John Morris, Rowland Brabant, William Laselow, and William Smith, forty shillings apiece. Item, I give and bequeath unto my servant, Edmond Skinner, twenty pounds. I give to my servant, Mary Salloway, twenty shillings. Item, I give unto my chaplayne, Mr. Andrew Trebecke, a mourning gowne; and I do hereby revoke all former wills by me made, and doe declare this to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and scale, the 2nd day of April, Anno Domini 1670. Item, I give to my chaplayne, Mr. Stephen Richardson, a mourning gowne and my will is that all my servants shall have meate, drink, and lodging for one month after my decease, at the charge of my executors. Item, I give to my Mr. John Pooler, a mourning suit and coat of the best blacke clothe. Robert Wigor. Signed, sealed, and published by the Right Reverend Father in God, Robert Lord Bishop of Worcester, in his chamber at his palace in Worcester, upon Saturday, the second day of April anno domini. 1670, about eight of the clock in the evening, the word [two] being first interlyned in the sixth line from the bottome of the first page hereof, there being also a razure first made in the eighth lyne, accounted from the top of this page, in the presence of Andrew Trebecke, Edmonde Skinner, John Pooler.

"To my Sonne Matthew Skinner, my biggest guilt cupp, with a cover, and one of my guilt plates. To my sonne Robert Skinner, my grate guilte tankard. To my sonne Samuell Skinner, one of lesser guilte cups with a cover and a little silver sponce. To my sonne William Skinner, the other guilte cuppe, without a cover, and alsoe fower small silver salts. To my daughter Mary Oakely, my best silver tankard, white, and the great silver salt. To my daughter Aune Gardner, a dozen of my best spoons and a silver plate. To my daughter Elizabeth Irons, my sugar dish and my other guilt plate. To my daughter Margaret Sharpe, my other silver tankard, my silver cupp with a cover, and six spoones. To my grandchild Katherine Skinner, daughter of my sonne Matthew Skynner, my little guilte tankard. To my sonne Matthew Skinner, my cloth bed and bedding, chares, and stooles, and whatever belongs unto the new chamber. To my sonne Robert Skinner, all the bedding in my owne chamber, presse table, and the bigger cheste of drawers, and chaires. Alsoe to my sonne Robert, a flocke and bolster, twoe paire of fyne sheets, fower pair of hempen sheets, one dyaper cloth, and sideboard cloth, one dozen and a half of napkins, twoe flaxen table clothes, twoe sideboard clothes, two dozen of flaxen napkins, fower pewter dishes, some bigger some lesser, one dozen of plates, one pewter bason, one paire of the biggest brasse andirons, two kettles, one bigger one lesser, one

ironn pott, a pair of pewter candlesticks, and my chimmer and silk gowne, and tippets and hats and the remainder of my hay att my death. To my daughter Mary Oakley, a feather bed and bolster, blankets, and rugge thereto belonging, three lowe chares, and three stooles, two paire of fyne sheets, two paire of hempen sheets, fower pewter dishes, one dozen of plates, one dyaper table cloth, one side board cloth of dyaper, two dozen of napkins, one flaxen table cloth, one side board cloth of flaxen, one dozen of flaxen napkins. To my sonne William Skinner, one feather bed and bolster, blankett, and coverlett thereto belonging, two paire of fyne sheets, two paire of hempen sheets, fower pewter dishes, one dozen of plates, one diaper table cloth, one side board cloth, one dozen of napkins, and flaxen table cloth, one sideboard table cloth, one dozen of napkins and my other gownes not before given by me to my sonne Robert, and all my cassocks and wearing clothes. To my daughter Margaret Sharpe, two sets of old curtains, two feather bedds, two bolsters, two flock beds, fower flocke bolsters, two payre of fyne sheets, eight paire of hempen sheets, that is to say, fower paire of the better sort of my hempen sheets, and fower pair of the worser sort, six table clothes, that is to say, one of diaper, three of flaxen, and two of hempen, six side board clothes, and six towells, fower dozen of napkins, eight pewter dishes, a dozen and halfe of plates, two basons and flagon, two paire of candlesticks, three little kettles, two iron potts, fower skilletts, two paire of little and irons, with fire shovells and tongs, two grates, a pair of little iron rackes, the round table, three little tables, one dozen of old chairs and stooles, three old carpets. To Phillippa Skinner, my servant, a feather bed and feather bolster, a flock bolster, two blanketts, and two paire of hempen sheets. To Marie Bats, my servant, a feather bed, and feather bolster, a flock bolster, two blanketts, and two paire of sheets. To my daughter Elizabeth Irons, the bed and furniture of her chamber, one paire of holland sheets, a dammaske table cloth, and two side board clothes, and a dozen and halfe of napkins, three pewter dishes, two dozen of plates, and a pair of brasse and irons. To my Sonne Doctor Matthew Skinner, my faire hangings in my dyneing room, three dozen and halfe of Turkey chairs, and the table and carpett in the same roome, the tables in the parlour, with six Spanish tables, my coach and five horses, with hay for them for six weeks after my death. My Parliament robes of scarlett, and for my plate I bought for my chappell and mace I doe desire it may be sold to my successor, at a reasonable price under the true value, if he shall desire it from executor.”

Robert Wigorn.