

Will of Richard Sheafe of Cranbrook 1557

Will made 21 June 1557, probate 24 September 1557

The 21st day of June, 1557, I Richard Sheff of the parish of Cranebroke, in co. Kent, clothier. To be buried in the parish Church of Cranebrook, in St. Thomas's Chancel beside the body of my father. (Legacies to the said church and to the poor there.) An obit to be kept yearly in the said Church for 4 years after my death. I give to Elizabeth my wife, 200£. To each of my unmarried daughters, viz., Margaret Sheff aged 16 1/2 years, Alice Sheff aged 15 1/2 years, Margery Sheff 18 1/2 years, Mary Sheff aged 11 3/4 years & Anne sheff aged 11 years at Easter next before the date hereof, I give 50£. If more than 2 of my daughters die before attaining the age of 25 or unmarried, then their portions to go to my sons Thomas & William, when the latter reaches the age of 22. The said Thomas to be charged with the bringing up of my said daughters, & I give him one of my silver goblets. To Joan Knachebull my dau. another goblet. To Elizabeth my wife mybest silver goblet, &c, &c. To Katherine Love my daughter, a silver pot, & a scripture thereupon parcel gilt. To Anne Knachebull, daughter of Richard Knachebull & Joan my daughter, 3£, 11, 8. The residue of my household stuff (after my wife has taken her choice) to be divided between my said wife & Thomas my son, reserving to the latter all the hanging now in the principal tent wherein I now dwell. I will that the said Thomas shall yearly for 16 years after my death deliver to the said Elizabeth at the messuage wherein I now dwell or at my messuage where Robert Clachynden now dwells in Cranbrook 20 loads of good wood "redy made." To William my son 400£, & I will that my executors buy land within the same to the use of my said son. To Walter Hendley, my cousin, my best gown, &c. To John Sheff my brother, 5£, &c, &c. To Mathew Cryar, a gown, &c. To Sir John Baker, knt., 5£. To Mr. Richard Baker Esquyer, 5£. The residue of my goods to Thomas my son, whom I make executor. The said Sir John Baker & Mr Richard Baker to be overseers. This is the last will of me the said Richard Sheff concerning my lands, &c. I give to to Eliz. my wife the tenement and garden which Robert Clachynden now dwells in in Cranebrook for her life, also an annuity of 10£ issuing out of all other my messuages, lands, &c in Cranebrook for her life, also the occupation of the great parlour, the 2 chambers next the harbor of the said messuage, the little "Buttre," the little cellar, with a place for her wood. I give to Thomas Sheff my son all my messuages, lands, &c. in Cranebrook; to him and his heirs male; for default, to my son William and his heirs male; for default, to the next heirs of the said Thomas in fee simple. To William my son all my marsh lands in the parish of Ivechurch in co. Kent: to hold to him and his heirs male, for default, to my said son Thomas & his heirs male; for default, the same to remain to the heirs of the said William in fee simple. Witnesses: George Atkynson, Vicar, Richard Courtop, William Corttopp, Henry Allard, Water Henly.

Proved at London 24 September 1557, by the ex'or

Richard Sheaf of Cranbrook was on the Subsidy Roll in 1545. The church warden's accounts for Cranbrook for 1564-5 record the following: "received of Thomas Sheafe four pounds as a bequest for the burial of his father and mother in the church and for repairs to the church."

<https://www.ancestry.co.uk/mediaui-viewer/tree/184632634/person/302447605419/media/2ff12078-14e9-4766-9440-ba7f636212ff>