The last will and testament of Thomas Hanscombe

In the name of God Amen the second day of November in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hundred fyfty and eight I Thomas Hanscombe of Pirton in the county of Hertford Taylor being but weake in body but of good memory blessed be God for it doe therefore now make and ordaine this my last will and testament and

First of all I comytt my soule into the hands of Almighty God as my loveing father in and through the mediation and merritts of my onely Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and my body to the earth from whence it came and as for my worldly goodes which God hath lent me I give and bequeath them in manner and forme following

And first of all I give and bequeath unto Mary Clarke of Pirton aforesaid the daughter of William Clarke of Pirton deceased that my two tennement or house with the appurtenances belonginge to it lying and being in Baldocke in the county of Hertford even to her and her heires for ever alwaises provided that if she dies without lawfull then I give those two tennements aforesaid tenement to her two sisters Susan Clarke and Agnes Clarke even to them and their heires for ever

Item I give and bequeath unto Susan Clarke of Pirton aforesaid the daughter of my daughter Joan those my two tennement with their appurtenances lyieng in Ickeleford in the county of Hartford and to her heires for ever provided alwaies that if she dyes without lawfull issue then I give those two tennements aforesaid to her two sisters Mary and Agnis and their heires for ever

Item I give unto theise three sisters Mary Susan and Agnis any three stockes of bees and the oldest too chuse for herself and for her sisters

Item I give my Cow unto the aforesaid Mary Clarke

Item Alsoe I give unto my sonne in law John Duke and my daughter Elizabeth his wife twentie shillings and to his sonne John Duke the younger tenne shillings and our stocke of Bees

Item I give and bequeath unto the aforenamed Agnis Clarke my grandchilde twenty pounds of lawfull English money which money lyes now in the hands of N Norton of Offley and Thomas Cooper of Hexton and I do appoint and assigne them by this my last will and testament either they or their heires executors and administrators or assynes to pay theise moneys with the interest within six months after my decease into such freinds hands in trust as the mother of the said Agnis shall think fitt to have it for the good and benefitt of the said Agnis or if her mother be dead then to pay it into such hands as the said Agnis shall chuse herself untill she come to age

Item I give unto these three sisters aforenamed all my household stuffe and brasse and pewter woollen and lynnen and my wearing apparel and all theise to be equally divided amonst them And also eI give and bequeath to these three sisters all that household stuffe that was of late my sister Harding of Baldocke to be equally divided amongst them

Item I give unto my sonne in law Thomas Mann twenty shillings to bee paid within one month after my decease

Item I give unto the poore of the parish of Pirton twenty shillings to bee paid within one month after my decease

Item alsoe whereas I was made executor to the last will and testament of my sister Joane Harding now I do reassigne and assigne it over to my executrix hereafter named to perform that is to bee done upon that account

Item All my other goodes unbequeathed and my debts and legacies being paid and buriall expences being discharged I give unto my daughter Joane Man whom I make my whole executrix of this my last will and testament witness hereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale the day and yeare first above written The mark of Thomas Hanscombe in the presence of Matthew Driver Senior and John Underwoode

Proved 28 January 1658 in London