

Will of William Bobett of Woodbridge, Suffolk 1516

Transcription by Eileen Sears

25 April 2009

1. **In dei nomine Amen** the yere of our Lord god one thousand five hundred xvj [sixteen I **William Bobett** of Woodbregge [Woodbridge] in the
2. Dioc[ese] of Norwiche being hole of mynde and in good memorie make my testament and last wyll the xiiij [fourteenth] day of
3. August in the yere aforesaid in this maner First I beque[a]th my soule to allmyghty god to our Lady saint Mary
4. And to all the holy company of heavyn And my body to be buried in the churche yerde of Woodbregge aforesaid
5. It[e]m I beque[a]th to the high aulter [altar] there for my tythes and oblacions []ech [ently] forgotten in Recompensary for
6. them/ iij [three] shillings and iiij [four] pence It[e]m I beque[a]th to the Repriory of the saide pareshe churche xiiij [thirteen] shillings iiij [four] pence It[e]m I beque[a]th to the
7. Guylde [Guild] of our Lady there vj [six] shillings and viij [eight] pence It[e]m I beque[a]th to the Guilde of saint Levye there vj [six] shillings viij [eight] pence/ It[e]m I wyll
8. have one [] preest to sing for me[] in the pareshe churche of Woodbregge by the space of one hole yere/and
9. he to have for his stipend vj [six] li [pounds] It[e]m I wyll have by the space of iiij [four] yere that is to saye every yere xv [fifteen] masses sung in
10. at Scala with at Westmynster for my soule and my Frendis [Friends]/ It[e]m I beque[a]th to **Issabell** my wif[e] x [ten] li [pounds] It[e]m I
11. beque[a]th to her my ten[amen]t in Woodbregge with all such Landes as I bought therwith with Rags/ and that I bought
12. of **John Kentlege** for terme of her lif[e] And after her disceas to remayne to **Alys** my daughter the wif[e] of
13. **Thomas Medenoe** and to her children/ It[e]m I beque[a]th to **Thomas Medenoe** my cashe with th[e]apparell and the
14. house at the kame¹ /save I wyll that **Issabell** my wif[e] have the occupacion of the one half of them for as long
15. tyme as she kepith her self sole and iiij [four] yeres after she is married if they can agree together/or ells
16. [] to have every yere xl [forty] shillings for her part and to leve the occupying of them/ It[e]m I bequeath to **Issabell** my wif[e]
17. all my stuff of household except I beque[a]th to **Thomas Medenoe** and to **Alys** his wif[e] my daughter []
18. sause chest ij [two] Compter² tables a bras ketell a possenett³ iiij [four] platters a pewter dishe a S[]

¹A steep and sharp hill ridge. [Oxford English Dictionary]

²“Compter” is the old spelling for the word, “counter.” [Oxford English Dictionary]

³A small metal pot with a 3 foot handle to boil water and/or food over the fire. [Oxford English Dictionary]

19. [] a pair of shets a tablecloth and a towell/ iij [three] Ewer⁴/ ij [two] candlesticks and a salt⁵/
It[e]m I bequeath to **Thomas**
20. **Medenoe** and **Alys** his wif[e] my daughter x[ten] li [pounds] It[e]m I gyve to them my
gardyn that was **Thomas By** []
21. [] I bequeath to **Issabell** my wif[e] all my Salt/except I wyll that **Thomas Medenoe** have my
Bushells there
22. the Residue of my goodes not beque[a]thed I beque[a]th them to the disposicion of my ij
[two] Executoris whom I make
23. and ordanyne **Willyam Smyth** th[e]elder and **John Clerke** they to dispoise them to the
pleasure of god and heavyn
24. of my soule And I gyve to them and to every of them for there Labour and busyness for me.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum Coram Anno [] Lamehith tercio die mensis Octobris
Anno d[omi]ni
millesimo quingentesimo xvj Jur[i]s William Craveland primis by hac parte Ac approbatum et
misuncatomy. Et
commissario fuit administracio [] et singulorum bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti Willelmo
Smyth et Johannis
Clarke Executores in hanor testamento In persona predicti pretes in bene et Ac de pleno
Inventario []
bonorum et debitorum[h] confirmed Et nobis c[] ses[] Sam[ti] [] proximo fuit nor [] R[]
de plaino competo ceddend [] Juratis.

The will of William Bobett of Woodbridge, Suffolk was written on 14 August 1516 and
proved on 3 October 1516.

⁴“A pitcher with a wide spout, used to bring water for washing hands” [Oxford English Dictionary]

⁵A salt is a single dish made of tin-glazed earthenware that is set near the head of the table and filled with a
small amount of salt. Meat was set in the salt to flavor it. After the meat was eaten a plate of fruit could be placed on
the top of the dish. “Collections: 17th Century Personal Effects & Household Items,” internet site
(<http://www.pilgrimhwl.org/salt.htm>) accessed 23 April 2009.