

WILL of William Preston of Malham 1643 husbandman

Debts and funeral expenses out of my movable goods and the yearly rent of one close called Brakecliffe containing seven acres and two closes called Langbers and one close called Stonywood - all the last three closes adjoining and by estimation 16 acres within the fields of Carleton to me granted by my grandson Thomas Knowles my eldest daughter's son from the ninth of March instant for 10 years. If my movable goods cover my debts and funeral expenses then the closes are discharged of any debts.

If any movable goods remain they are to be divided equally amongst the natural children of my daughters Mary, Isabel, Jennet, Agnes and Frances -- within two months to those of full age, and those under age to have theirs set forth for their use in their minority -- if any dying their share to the survivors.

If Leonard Gregson my son-in-law and husband to my daughter Frances shall not within one month of my decease deliver to be cancelled one bond wherein my son Adam Preston stood bound to him for £20 at a day past and truly paid, his children are not to benefit.

After my death my executor is to occupy and enjoy the said closes of Brakecliff, Langbars and Stonywood and the yearly value remaining after my debts paid are to be divided between my grandchildren, children of my said five daughters yearly upon the purification of the Blessed Virgin St Mary. The shares of those in their nonage to be kept in the hands of my executor to be increased for their use. If Leonard Gregson does not surrender the bond my executor is to keep the shares of his children for her own use giving them only £12 each within two months. My eldest daughter Mary Knowles to be sole executrix.

Witnesses Phl.Wallock John Lawson mark

Adam Preston of Malham December 1647
Will made 21st of August 1645. Yeoman.
Borthwick Proved 1647/8

Modern English

To the children of my second wife £10 equally divided.

To Richard Preston my father 20 shillings.

To James Preston my brother £4.

To Richard Lawson 40 shillings. To William Hill 17 shillings. To Elizabeth Hill one long chest.

To Elizabeth daughter of William Sarginson £3.

To James Preston son of the aforesaid James three leyes of meadow in the town field of Malham in a place commonly called Threaplands.

To the said James Preston my nephew all the rest of my lands purchased after the death of Alice my wife, to him and his heirs for ever, 20 sheep gates upon the Lings excepted which I give to Richard Lawson and his assigns for ever, he paying therefore a yearly sum of 10 shillings to the poor people dwelling within the town of Malham. After debts, funeral expenses and legacies paid, James Preston my brother is to have half of my goods.

Joint executors -- Alice my wife and Richard Lawson of Malham.

Signed

witness: -- Thomas Leeming jurat

WILL of William Preston, Malham 1636 Gent.

Borthwick Proved 1636/7 Died June 7, 1636

Whereas I have by deed indented bearing date fourth of December in the 20th year of King Charles given granted and confirmed to my trusty and well beloved friends John Lawson and Roland Braishey of Malham yeomen and their heirs all my messuages lands and tenements in the territories of Malham, Kirkby in Malhamdale, Hellifield and Coniston in Kettlewell and all other lands and tenements in county York -- to hold them on special trust and employ the rents and profits of the same as I shall appoint.

They are within two years of my decease to make and grant to Henry Wallock my eldest sister's son all lands and tenements in Malham and Kirkby in Malhamdale. To Grace Preston my brother's daughter my part in one pasture close at Kirkby called Mickley and one other pasture close called Kirkby graines within Kirkby. To William Lawson my sister's son £15 within two months. Towards the erecting of a free school within Kirkby six pounds so as the same is built within five years after my decease, and the schoolmaster to be chosen by my executors or their heirs and he to be a graduate at least in Cambridge or Oxford. If Margaret Garforth my sister survive her husband John she is to have 40 shillings per year for life, the first payment within one year of the death of her husband. To Frances Wallock my sister's son and to John Airtion of Bordley all such sums of money as they are owing me at the time of my death. My trustees are to let to John Preston of Hellifield one messuage in Hellifield for the term of 21 years he paying rent of four pounds at Whitsuntide and Martinmas by equal payments -- the said yearly rent to be paid over to William Young and John Young my sisters' sons at the rate of 40 shillings each yearly -- after the term of 21 years the messuage is to be made over to William Young. To my servant Richard Oxenheard five pounds within two months. To my servant John Armetstead 40 shillings within two months. To my servant Elizabeth Sawley 10 shillings within two months. To Maud Young my sister three pounds within one month. To William Wallock my sister's son and Anne Wallock my sister's daughter five pounds each. To Christopher Lawson my sister's son 40 shillings. To Elizabeth Lawson and Margaret Lawson my sisters daughters 40 shillings each when they are 21 or marry -- the money to be put forward in the meantime by their brother Christopher Lawson for the most profit. All my right and title in that pasture close called Henside in the township of Langcliffe to Elizabeth King wife of Robert King, and to Anne Wallock and Frances Wallock daughters of the aforesaid Henry Wallock equally. To Myles Wallock natural son of the said Henry Wallock all one full part of two pasture closes called Lanskarr Rake and Brownhaw rake, the same closes in six parts divided; also all my right in one close called Mastells close at Bordley and the lease thereof. My friends in trust are to make over to the said Henry Wallock my eldest sister's son all those moities of messuages, lands and commodities in Coniston in Kettlewell. To Richard Clapham of Winscale (?) 40 shillings within one month. Six pounds towards the building of one arch bridge in the place where the Monkbridge in Malham now stands. To the poor people of Malham 20 shillings to be distributed by Henry Wallock. To Elizabeth wife of William Lawson one great chest now standing in the parlour, and all other things formerly lent to the said William Lawson and Elizabeth his wife and now in their possession. I give eight pounds to buy a silver cup to remain to the church of Kirkby Malhamdale and my name to be set upon it in letters at large. Residue to Henry Walleock my sister's son -- he sole executor.

Witnesses John Preston Roger Hill Thomas Thompson Roland Braishey Richard Oxenheard

Codicil: Henry Wallock to have all estate, lands and grounds in county York.. Elizabeth Oxenheard to have my gown which I sometimes wear. Helen Lawson daughter of William Lawson to have two ewe lambs. William Lawson son of Robert Lawson to have 6s and 8d. I give 20 shillings towards the amending of a way between Settle and Malham at one place called Edge within the grounds of Malham. William Young to have my worst cloak. John Armetstead to have my workday doublet and jerkin. Michael Fawcett two shillings. Josias Dugdall 10 shillings.

Witnesses Robert Brearcliffe Richard Wiggan Roland Brashay

Codicil: the messuage in my will assigned to William Young now to Henry Wallock. Five pounds previously given to Richard Oxenheard now to go to my executor. Witnesses John Armetstead John Braishey