

*The Last Will and Testament of
Thomas Erneley
of Brembridge, Dilton
Will proved 28th August 1592*



Probate Court of London
Original reference PROB 11/86

Testator:	Erneley	Thomas	
Executors:			
Erneley	Bridget	Wife	

Beneficiaries		Relationship to testator	Other Information
Surname	Given Names		
			Westbury Parish Church
			Bed man (Grave digger)
			Poor Folk of Marsh in Dilton
			Poor Man's Box , Westbury
Erneley	Ambrose	Son	
Erneley	Ann	Daughter	
Erneley	Anthony	Son	
Erneley	Bannister	Son	
Erneley	Bridget	Wife	
Erneley	Dorothy	Daughter	
Erneley	Edward	Son	
Erneley	Francis	Son	
Erneley	Michael	Son	
Erneley	Richard	Son	
Erneley	Walter	Son	
Erneley	William	Son	
Weeks	Anthony	Son in law	
Weeks	Not shown	Daughter	
Whitaker	Not shown	Daughter	
Witnesses			
Bash	Thomas		
Raleigh	John		
Weeks	Anthony		
Other Names			
Bate	Mrs	Tenant	
Erneley	Thomas	Son	
Pateshall	Mrs	Tenant	
Wotten	Charles	Tenant	

The four and twentieth of August in the seven and thirtieth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth of England I Thomas Erneley of Brembridge gent do make this my last will and testament following first I commit my soul to the Almighty God of heaven trusting he will forgive my sins and resurrect it for his son Jesus Christ sake by whose merits only I hope of resurrection and salvation and I will my body to be laid in the parish church where I shall happen to decease. Item I give to the church of Westbury twenty shillings. Item I give to the bed man that shall dig my grave ten shillings. Item I give my lease and farm of Brembridge to Bridgetⁱ my wife upon condition she shall not trouble my son Thomasⁱⁱ for anything out of my lands of Coulston. Item I give my lease of Styblls farm of Yatesbury to my son Francisⁱⁱⁱ Item I give to my son Ambrose^{iv} my lease of my farm lands of Pouldshindbrie my will is my wife seeing him brought up shall have the use and profit of the farm until he be twenty years of age. Item I give to my sons Edward and Michael to either of them the sum of fifty pounds to be paid to them at their several ages of one twenty years. Item I give to my sons William and Richard to every of them the sum of one hundred pounds to be paid them at their said several ages of twenty years. Item I give to my two daughters Ann and Dorothy to either of them a hundred pounds to be paid them at the day of their several marriages. Item I give to my daughter Whitaker^v and my daughter Weeks^{vi} to either of them five pounds to make..... Item my will is that my son Walter shall have the reversion^{vii} of Mrs Bate and Charles Wotten's copyhold of a ground called Ever Meade lying in Cricklade for the term of his life Item I give to my son Bannister the reversion of a tenement in Cricklade called Greens for the term of his life which tenement is now in the tenure of Mrs Pateshall during her life Item I give to my son Anthony the reversion of a burgage^{viii} or tenement in Cricklade with a ground called Slugsham and other the appurtenances thereunto belonging for term of his life which tenement is also in the tenure of Mrs Pateshall during her life but my will is that my said sons Walter, Bannister and Anthony shall enjoy the said several tenements messuages and grounds unto them bequeathed for the terms of their several lives by copy of Court Roll according to the custom of the said manor of Cricklade. Also my will is that Bridget my wife shall grant unto them with convenient speed. Item I give to the poor folk in the Marsh^x in Dilton's parish forty shillings to be distributed at the discretion of my executor. Item I give to the poor man's box of Westbury twenty shillings. Item I give to Bridget my wife my lease or rights of the Dean and Chapters lands in Cricklade and I give her all the residue of my goods and chattels moveable and unmovable whatsoever whom I make my whole and sole executrix of this my last will and testament and I do earnestly desire my brother Ambrose Erneley and my son in law Anthony Weeks to be overseers of this my last will and testament to whom I give five pounds a piece hoping they will bestow their pains to see this, my will executed. By me Thomas Erneley read in the presence of us and written and acknowledged as his last will and testament in the presence of John Ralegh, Anthony Weeks Thomas Bash.

Proved at London 24th August 1592 Admon granted to Bridget Erneley

- ⁱ Bridget Franklin married Thomas Erneley about 1577. She was the daughter of Richard Franklin of Overton.
- ⁱⁱ Thomas was born before 1574 and died 1639. He was the eldest son who married Praxeda Lamb daughter of the Lord of the manor of Coulston. Source is Wikipedia
- ⁱⁱⁱ Francis was born about 1578
- ^{iv} Ambrose was born in 1581 and was about 14 at the time of this will
- ^v Daughter married to unknown Whitaker
- ^{vi} Daughter married to Anthony Weeks one of the overseers of the will
- ^{vii} Reversion is that part of the estate that reverts to the grantor or his representative after the term of the original grant has been completed
- ^{viii} A burgage was a tenure whereby lands or tenements in cities and towns were held of the lord for a certain yearly rent.
- ^{ix} Now Dilton Marsh, near Westbury