

Transcription of the will of John Cuff 1553. The original spelling has been preserved. Words and phrases between question marks could not be deciphered. If you find errors or can assist in making corrections please contact us.

Transcription by Ed Lorch

(Note the items have been separated for ease of reading. The original was one continuous text.)

I John Cuff of Tyntenhull the fyrst day of July in the yeare of our lord god a thousand fyfe hundred fifty and two in the vjth yeare of the reign of our sovereign lord kyng Edward syx by the grace of god of England France and Ireland kinge defender of the faythe and the church of England and Ireland the supreme hedd Witnesseth that I the said John Cuff of tyntenhull in the county of Somerset gent hole and of perfect memory of the making of this my will and testament in manner and form following Fyrst I bequeth my soule unto almighty god my maker and my body to be buried where yt shall please god to dispose for me and to the same church where I shall happen to be layd I gyve xiijs vijd of current money for the breakyng of the ground and to the church of ylchester and Northov' to every of them vs viijd

Itm I do gyve to the Cathedrall church of Saint Andrews of wells xijd

Itm I do give and bequeth to my daughter Doreth... wyfe of Thomas broughton a payre of ?beads? of sylver and the ?gawdes? of gilt a flat bell ?ponused? of sylver

Itm I do gyve and bequeth to Agnus my daughter wyfe to thomas hawker a lyttle ale cup of sylver wyth a cover

Itm I do gyve and bequeth to the same Agnus v spoons of sylver whych were dayly occupied in my house and a styng of sylver ? bidstones? gylt to the number of ?xlvi? ?stones?

Itm I do gyve and bequeth to Agnus another of my my daughters wyfe of william jones a cupp for ale of sylver wythout a cover and a string of ?coral bidstones? to the numebr of a hundred and xiiij

Itm I do gyve and bequeth to John Cuff peter Cuff and to Thomas Cuff sonnes of my youngest sonne John Cuff whych dyed in ? bolon'? to every of them xl to bye for them tenaments or bargyns to help them to lyve nad thys money to be by my executors betsowed for the sayd chyldren as ?sone =soon? as ys possible And yf yt happens that yt please god to call one of the sayd chyldren out of thys transitory world or two of them before the sayd some of xxxi be betowed that then I wyll yt that yt shall be bestowed to these of them that lyve And yf yt happens all of them be called to gods mercy yt ys my wyll that my executors bestow sayd money for bargyns to be bought to William Cuff the same the sonne of john cuff of Cryche and to philip Cuff son of Robert Cuff of Rowlands to help them to lyve provided always that the profits of the said bargyns remayne ?in? hands of John Cuff of Cryche tyll said children com to ?distucion? and then aswell the said bargayne as the profit of them in the meane tyme being in the hands of the said John be ?delivered? to the said children and every of them And also by thys my wyll I do charge my executors to fynde Thomas Cuff the yungest of the said thre children meat and drynke and clothe suffiently and to learn to read and wryte tyll he com to ?p'sitt ? age to be sett to a good ?trade????

Itm I doo gyve and bequeathe to Jonh Cuff my oldest sonn of Cryche a bason and an ewer of silver ?p cell? gylt

Itm to the same John a salt of sylver ?p cell? gylt wyth a cover whiche was the fyrst that ever I bought

Itm vj spones of sylver wyth mayden hedds the hedds gylt

Itm I doo gyve and bequeath to the same John Cuff of Cryche a black gown of ?? tayffa garded? wyth balck velvet and lyned wyth saten

Itm I doo give to the same John two bedds the best he can chouse wyth the best coverlet not given which ys the coverlet that was so long in hys own kepyng at Cryche and a great cushion of ?yrton ? satten? in recompence of the bedds in the great chamber that i hadd gyven to Robert hys brother

Itm I doo gyve to Robert Cuff my second sonne my great salt wyth a cover of sylver and ?p cell? gylt

Itm sixe spoons of sylver wyth ?w..nide? knappes whych I hadd of William Bolche whych I have delivered to him

Itm to the same Robert I doo gyve a cupp called a ??Nutt? all the sylver therof is gylt wyth the cover which cupp I hadd of John stacey in ??ga ge (=exchange?) for vj ?angells? to pay the kyng when the great ? pieste? was payde and besides that he owith to me for a mare that he bought for xls whereof I hadd never penny Never the les yf John staceys executors wyll pay you the said vj angells let hym have the cupp

Itm to the same Robert I doo gyve and bequeath three payre of shetes one borde clothe of ?diaper? and a towell of ?day?and also two dublits of ?damaske?? one of them starlet ?ingraved? and the other ?fawny? of colo?? and a cote of black damaske wythout sleeves

Itm I doo gyve to the said Robert my great bedd wyth the bedsted wyth the coverlet and hangyngs aboute the same as yt standeth and also one of my yryshe (irish) blanketts and my great cushion ?velvet?

Itm I doo gyve and bequeath to John Cuff my third sonne being in Yrland wyth the kings servyce a salt wyth a cover all gylt ?Sevry? great spones of sylver wyth ?posters? at th ends gylt in recompence of xj spones to hym gyven by hys grandmother and never delyvered hym I doo gyve and bequeath to said John my thirde sonne a white cupy? wyth a cover of sylver for ale which I use to drynk of dayly and so I pray you doo for my

sake. i doo gyve and bequeath to the same John a great standing cupp wyth cover gilt And in case Thomas Broughton will gyve you in old money xli for the sayde cupp to th use of yong pyke sonne to dorothe yo' sister then let hym have hym nothwithstanding yt costine xjl in old money

Itm I do gyve unto the same sonne John my lyttle bedd as yt standeth in the oryall chamber wyth bedds bolsters pylowes coverletts and hangyngs over and also four payre of shetes

Itm I do gyve and bequeath to the same John my thyrde sonne ?in olde? gold towards hys costs between England and Irland two ??portagnys and tin crasadoos??

Itm I wyll that my executors do take those rents and other profitts of my farme callyd ?Torvells? and all other pcells (parcels) of ground comprysed in any lease of the said farme of Torvells whych I hold of my Lord of Cuff for term of sixty years yet to come and which Thomas ?Robet? now holdeth of me To have yt to them from the day of my dethe till ?th end and terme of thre hole years? be fully ended to pay ?parfrun? and fulfill thys my last wyll And after the said thre years ended I wyll and gyve to john cuff my youngest sonn if he lyve till the said thre years be determyned or els not all my ryght and interest of my said farmw wyth all the grounds comptised in the said lease to hym and hys assynes for as long and as many years as them shall to com

Itm I do gyve and bequeath to John Tooke my ?sunt? to help to fund hym tyll he may obteyne four ?gold? (+abbreviation) in money xxs and my doon geldyng

Itm I gyve to Agnus Parke my ?inf?( perhaps servant) for her diligence to my wyfe in her sickness and syns that tyme to me my two kyne (cows) whych remayne at pasture wyth Willm ?lenys? of Chiltryn

Itm my best fethired that I lye upon in the standing bedd on the ?plo? wyth the bolster of the same bedd and one payre of sheets over and besides a xj ??? of clothe whych I have delyvered unto hym myself

Itm I doo gyve and bequeath to said Agnus a salt of sylver wythout a cover whych I had of Thomas Blanton

Itm I doo gyve and bequeath to Agnus parke my ?servant? xls in money to be delyvered to her at my ? monethis ? ? de? next after my departing And further i wyll and charge you that you take nothing from her that ?comes? of my ?vowes? ? g..re? and of her gyfte and myne and of my ?dele...? whereof she hath a bill of ?every? p'crrll of my hande to ?th ...rnt? she may pesally ?peacefully? enjoy yt that she may have cause to pray for me. Thys my will p'formed alll the rest of my goods not gyven I doo gyve and bequeath to John Cuff my eldest sonne and to Robert Cuff my second sonne and them I doo ordeyne to be my executors freely to perform my wyll The rest of the said goods that doth remayne the sayd wyll performed I will that yt be indifferently devided between them ?p ? John Cuff ?se...ery?