

Transcription & Translation of
The Testament of John Bedford

Dated 17 July 1509; Probate 08 February 1509[/10]

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1. **In dei nomine amen** Anno d[omi]ni Mill[es]imo quinge[n]tesimo nono septodecimo die mens[is] Julij Ego Johes Test Johis Bedford

In the name of god, amen. (In) the Year of (our) lord the One Thousandth, five hundredth (&) ninth, (on) the seventeenth day of the month of July, I, John

2. Bedford compos mentis et sane memorie condo test[amentu]m meum in hunc modum In primis lego a[n]i[m]am mea[m] Deo patri

Bedford, sound (in) mind and sensible (in) remembrance, make my testament in this manner: Firstly, I bequeath my soul (to) God the father

3. om[n]ipotenti Corpusq[ue] meu[m] ad sepeliend[um] in eccl[es]ia vel in cimiterio sancti Jacobi de Pole In primis do et lego Henrico

almighty, and my Body to be buried in the church or cemetery of saint James of Pole*. Firstly, I give and bequeath (to) Henry

[* i.e. Poole, Dorset]

4. Brigg[es]* decem libras It[em] Margerie Bedford matri mee x li It[em] cuili[be]t fr[atru]m meor[um] viij li It[em] Johanni Croke vj li

Brigg[es] ten pounds. Likewise, (to) Margery Bedford, my mother, £10. Likewise, (to) each of my brothers £8. Likewise, (to) John Croke £6.

[* Henry Briggess was second husband to John's mother Margery, his father Nicholas Bedford having died before 1500; John's brother Robert was bequeathed £10 in Henry Briggess' will (dated 05 December 1538, probate 28 January 1538/39), which names Margery as "my wife late deceased"]

5. It[em] eccl[es]ie p[re]dicte x li It[em] constituo & ordino Joh[ann]em Croke meum verum executore[m] ut ip[s]e disponat pro salute anime

Likewise, (to) the aforesaid church £10. Likewise, I constitute & appoint John Croke my true executor, in order that (he) himself should dispose for the salvation of my* soul.

[* "my" corresponds with "mee" at opening of the next line]

6. mee It[em] Will[iel]mu[m] Sleke sup[er]uisorem meu[m]
Likewise, William Sleke my supervisor.

7. **Probatum** fuit suprascript[um] test[ament]um coram d[omi]no apud
Lamehith octauo die ffebr[uarij] Anno d[omi]ni Millesimo

The above-written testament was **Proved** before the master at Lambeth
(on) the eighth day of February (in) the Year of (our) lord the One
Thousandth

8. quinge[n]tesimo nono Iur[amento] execut[oris] onus executionis eiusdem
testame[n]ti in se assumere refutan[tis] Et Com[m]issa fuit admistra[ci]^o

five hundredth (&) ninth [i.e. 1509/10], (under) the Oath of the executor, the
burden of the execution of the same testament refusing to take on himself.
And administration was granted

9. o[mn]i[u]m bonor[um] et debit[orum] dicti defuncti Henrico Brigg[es] ad
viam intestati De bene & fidelit[er] administrand[o] Ac de pleno et

of all the goods and debts of the said deceased (to) Henry Briggess, by way of
intestacy; With regard to well & faithfully administering; And with regard to a
full and

10. fideli Inve[n]tario citra f[estu]m Pasche prox[imam] futur[am] exhibend[o]
Necnon de plano & vero comp[oto] reddend[o] ad sancta dei eu[ang]el^{io}

faithful Inventory before the feast of Easter next about-to-be* exhibiting;
And also with regard to an open and true account rendering; on the holy
gospels of god,

[* Easter Day fell on 31 March in 1510]

11. in debita iur[is] forma iurat[o]

in due form of law, sworn.

