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Will Vol 11 Folio 646
John BEAMONDE of pa Mirfield
Jan 1542

Will made 26 november 1537

My bodie to be buried within the parish curche of Mirfelde.

To the hie altare 3s 4d.

I will that all my goodes be divyded into 3 parts one parte to my self to bringe me forth and to pay my debts, the seconde parte to **Alice my wife** and the third part to be divyded amongst my four sonnes.

Isabell Flecher my daughter shall have £6 and 13s 4d for her childes part.

To Agnes For..... my daughter an oxe.

To **Thomas Wilson** 4 shepe and to **Anne his sister** another 4 sheepe.

The residue of my goods to my 4 youngest **sonnes Nicholas, Richard, Edwarde and Henrie** to dispose of for the well of my soull - they to be executors.

Sir Henrie Saville Knight and John Gascoigne of Lasingcroft Esq to be supervisors to see this my will performed as my most trustinge friendes.

Witnesses: **Sr Gregorie Scholey Curate of the Church**
Robert Fournes
John Gibson
John Smyth

To Sir Gregories Scholay 6s 8d. To **Sir Richard Robert 6s 8d.** To Thomas Wilson 20s. To the church of Mirfelde to buy a booke ?s and 6d.

Will Vol 11 Folio 646
Umfray Beamonde of Mirfield January 1542

Will made 28th November 1542

My bodie to be buried within the parishe church of Mirfelde.

To the hie altar ?s 8d

To **Sir Gregorie Scoley** 12d

My wife and my towe childer to be executors of all my goods and to pay my debts and bringe me forth.

I will **that Robert my sone** have my lande that I bought with my money. My wif shall have the house and land for 12 years to bring up my childer and my wif shall have the wyll of the goodes to my childer till they come to lawful aige.

Witnesses **Sir Gregorie Scoley**
 Thomas Blackburne
 Thomas Hepworth
 Willm Thakweray
 William Sike

**Humphrey Blackburn of Hopton, the elder, Tanner
Wil Vol 29 Fol 200 Dec 1603**

Will made 3 Jun 1603

To be buried in the church or churchyard of Mirfield.

To **Edward Blackburn my youngest sonne** £20 when 21.

Humfrey Blackburn my eldest sonne and Anne my wife and John Blackburn my 2nd son shall occupie and imploy all my goodes jointly for 6 years for the benefit of my wife and children 3rd to my wife Ann and 2/3rds fot the benefit of the chidlren hereafter named. If Anne, Humfrey and John can agree amongst themselves so long, Anne may dwell in my houses for the 6 years if she remains unmarried.

£10 is to be taken out of my whole goods by Humprey Blackburn and paid to Robert Ledgard if he will accept the same to assure to **Thomas Blackburn my sonne** 2 pa\rcells of landes, meadowe, pasture and wood by estimation called 6 acres called Siscotte Wood and Coate havens in Hopton and Mirfield and of all other lands which I purchased of John Ledgard younger. If Robert Ledgard won't accept and assure, then the said £10 to my son Thomas Blackburn.

Residue to **Anne my wife and to Humfrey, John, Thomas, Richard and Edward my children** euqally.

My son Humfrey to be sole executor.

Anne my aife to be tutor and guardian of the body goodes and chattells of Edward my youngest son; and my sonne Humfrey to be tutor and guardian to my sonnes Thomas and Richard.

Supervisors - **my brother John Blackburn and my brother in law Thomas Hepworth.**

I have hereunto put my hand and seal.

Witnesses;- Humfrey Blackburn younger
John Armitage
John Blackburn
Thomas Hepworth
Michaell Drake

Humphrey Blackburne of Hopton Will Vol 41 Fol 392 Apr 1631

Will made 11 Aug 1630

To **Humpfrey Blackburn my second sonne** all such lands in Hopton as I bought of my brother ?? Blackburne of Helme called Squirrel Hall allowinge forth of the same all the rents due for the 6 years now next ensuinge towards the portions of my younger children.

To **Richard Blackburn my sonne** all my lands late purchased of Thomas Firth late of Rastricke deceased, lying in Rastricke and to him £20.

To **John Blackburn my sonne** all my coppehold lands at Dewsbury purchased of Thomas Steade of Dighton and £20.

To **every one of my daughters £20** each to be paid forth of my whole goods.

Thomas Blackburn my son and heir to have all my houses, barnes, stables and lands in Hopton xcept those above mentioned and as much of the same as is **my wife Grace Blackbornes** share excepted.

If the portions to my daughters and to my sons Richard and John amount to above £20 then the overplus to be divided euqally between them.

Tuition of my children to Grace my wife - she executrix.

Witnesses:- Grace Thorpe
Marie Thornton
Samuel Thorpe
Elizabeth Thorpe

John Blackburn of Hopton pa Mirfield
Will Vol 25 Fol 1484 Dec 1593

Will made 18 Jan 1592

My bodie to be buried in the parish churchyard of Mirfeild.

I doe quit rennt and release to **Humfrey Blackburne my eldest sonne** £6 of debts he oweth me; likewise to John Blackburn my sonne 40s.

To **Thomas Hepworth my sonne in law** £3.

To **Thomas Mellar my sonne in law** 40s.

To **John Blackburne my sonne** 2 closes of land and pasture the one called the Over or Upper Close and the other the close next to the moore with appurtenances in Kirkheaton purchased of John Soniar and Dorothis wife for ever - if he has no issue, to my right heirs.

To **Luke Sheard and Elizabeth his wife** one messuage tenement and cottage, one outshot, one crofter or close of medowe on the Northside of the said messuage, one garden and garden stead and certaine lands of arrable in the upper field of Kirkheaton and all other houses in Kirkheaton late purchased of John Soniar and Dorothis wife except the 2 closes before bequeathed to my son John, during the natural life of the said Elizabeth and after her death to her heirs. If she has none to my right heirs.

Whereas the aforesaid John Soniar by indenture 23 Oct 34 year Queen Elizabeth did grant to me that messuage where John Soniar then inhabited and all lands in Kirheaton for a term of 24 years which I did then by further indenture assign to him he paying to me 4d for the first year only then £5 a year since amended to £4 all such grants and rents to **John Blackburn my son and Luke Sheard and Elizabeth his wife, my daughter**, from my death until the term expires.

Residue of my goods after **my wife Elizabeth** has had her third part to **Humfrey Blackburn and John Blackburn my sonnes and Thomas Hepworth, Thomas Mellar and Luke Sheard my sonnes in lawe** equally. If any of them contest or make trouble about their portion then their bequest to be null and void.

My sonnes Humfrey and John to be executors of this will to which I set my seal.

Witnesses: Robert Wood
 John Hepworth
 Thomas Hepworth
 Luke Sheard

Nuncupative Will of John France of Mirfield 1607 Vol 30 Folio 399

On 29th May 1607

John France made his last will and testament in manner and forme following. First he did comitt his soule to God and his bodye to be buried in the churchyarde of Mirfield.

He did devise unto his base daughter Mary one litle cheste; and all the rest of that small porcion of goodes and chattells he had after his debts paid and himself honestly brought for the with funeral expenses discharged, he did bequeath unto Marie nowe his wife for and towards the education and bringing upp of Richard France, Anthonie and Dorothe France with the said base daughter Marie. Lastly he did ordeyne and appoint the saide Mary his wiefe sole executrix and tutrix of his said four children.

In the presence of

Thomas France the elder
Thomas Gleidhill
Samuell Lum

John Hebblethwaite
Of Sheep Ings, Lower Hopton
Will
1835

I John Hebblethwaite of Sheep Ings in Hopton in the Parish of Mirfield in the County of York, Clothier, do make, publish and declare my last will and testament to be as follows.

First I direct all my just debts and funeral and testamentary expenses to be paid by my executors hereinafter named out of my real and personal estates. I give and devise unto **my two sons John and Sidney** All that my messuage or dwelling house, outbuildings, lands and hereditaments called Sheep Ings in Hopton aforesaid now in my own possession and all other my real estate whatsoever to hold unto and to the only proper use of them my said sons John and Sidney their heirs and assigns for ever as tenants in common. Subject nevertheless to the payment along with my personal estate of the two several legacies hereinafter mentioned and to the provision for **Elizabeth my dear wife** also hereinafter made and likewise to such incumbrances - if any be existing - as the same messuage buildings lands and hereditaments are subject unto.

I give and bequeath unto **my said sons John and Sidney** all my personal estate and effects of whatever description the same may be and consist at my death to hold to my said two sons their executors administrators and assigns equally, but subject, in aid of my said real estate hereinbefore given and devised to them to the payment of my said debts funeral and testamentary expenses, legacies and provision for my said wife as before mentioned.

I give and bequeath unto **my daughters Mary the wife of John Howarth of Mirfield aforesaid Clothier and Eliza the wife of Thomas Whitehead of Mirfield aforesaid Farmer** the legacy of ten pounds apiece to be paid to them respectively within eighteen calendar months next after the death of my said wife.

And I expressly declare that the devise of my real estate hereinbefore made to my **said two sons John and Sidney** is so made upon express condition that they, their respective heirs and assigns shall and do permit my said dear wife Elizabeth to have and enjoy a comfortable home at my said dwelling house farm and premises called Sheep Ings aforesaid during the term of her natural life, if she so long remain my widow and that they also maintain and support her my said dear wife with victuals and apparel sufficient both in quantity and quality to render her comfortable during the remnant of her days.

And if both or either of my said sons their respective heirs or assigns shall neglect, refuse or in any wise fail to make the residence of my said dear wife at my said dwelling house farm and premises comfortable, or shall refuse or neglect to maintain and support her with victuals and apparel necessary for her comfort, then and in that case, I give and devise and bequeath unto my said dear wife and her assigns for the term of her natural life - if she so long remain my widow one clear annuity or yearly rent or sum of ten pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, clear and free from all taxes and deductions

whatsoever, parliamentary or others - the same annuity to be charged on and issuing and payable out of my said real estate hereinbefore devised to my said two sons John and Sidney and to be paid and payable by twelve monthly payments on the first Friday in every Calendar month in every year. The first payment to being and be made on the first Friday in the first Calendar month which next happens after such neglect objection or refusal as aforesaid. With full powers for my said wife and her assigns to enter into and upon all or any part of my said real estate and distrain from time to time for the said annuity or so much thereof as shall at any time or times be in arrears and unpaid for the space of twenty one days beyond the first Friday in any Calendar month on which the same is made payable. And also to sell and dispose of every such distress and proceeds therewith in such manner in all respects as distresses for rent are usually proceeded with.

And it is my will and mind that I hereby order and direct that if either of **my said sons John and Sidney** shall at any time be desirous or inclined to dispose of his moiety and share of my said real estate, that he shall in that case give the other of them a preference to purchase and take the same at each price or sum as two competent and indifferent persons (one to be chose by each of them my said sons, in case they cannot agree for one indifferent person to state such price or sum) shall value the same at; my anxious desire being that both or one of my said sons do keep the same in the family.

And lastly I do hereby appoint my **said sons John and Sidney** joint Executors of this my will, hereby revoking all former wills by me at any time heretofore made, I declare this to be my last will and testament. In testimony whereof I have to this my will contained on two sheets of paper set my hand to the preceding sheet and my hand and seal to this second and last sheet this 4th day of November in the year of our Lord One thousand, Eight hundred and Thirty-Five.

Signed: John Hebblethwaite.

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said John Hebblethwaite, the Testator as and for his last will and Testament in the presence of us, who in his presence, at his request and in the presence of each other, have subscribed our names as witnesses hereto.

William Stancliffe
William Mallinson
William Turner

(proved 29 Jan 1836)

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I do hereby certify that on the 12th day of January in the year of our Lord 1836 John Hebblethwaite of Sheep Ings in Hopton in the Parish of Mirfield in the County of York, Clothier, and Sidney Hebblethwaite, of the same place, Clothier, the sons and joint executors named in this the last will and testament of John Hebblethwaite late of Sheep Ings in Hopton aforesaid in the Diocese of York, Clothier deceased, where sworn well

and truly to execute and perform the same; and that the whole of the goods, chattels and credits of the said deceased, within the Diocese of York, do not amount in value to the sum of one hundred pounds.

Witness my hand; John Hope, Surrogate

[note John Hebblethwaite died 8th November 1835]

## **John Heblet of Hopton Will 1786**

By the permission of Almighty God, I **John Heblet of Hopton** in the Parish of Mirfield and County of York, Clothier, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following.

First my will and mind is that all my just debts, funeral expenses and charges in proving and registering this my will, be paid and discharged by my executor and executrix hereinafter named. Then I give and devise all that messuage [house with outbuildings and yard], tenement and farm with the appurtenances in Hopton aforesaid, now in my own possession unto **my son John Heblet** to hold to him, his heirs and assigns (charged and chargeable as hereinafter mentioned).

Now my will and mind further is that Elizabeth **Ann my wife** shall inhabit and dwell with my said son John Heblet during the term of her natural life or marriage, clear of and from all board, rent or other expenses whatsoever. If in case my said son and wife can agree, if not then from and immediately after such their disagreeing and parting or marriage, I do hereby give and bequeath unto Elizabeth **Ann my said wife** one annuity or yearly rent charge of five pounds of lawful money of Great Britain (free from all taxes and other deductions whatsoever) to be issuing and payable to her or her assigns for and during the term of her natural life by two equal half yearly payments in every year, the first to begin and be made at the end of six months after such their disagreeing and parting or marriage.

And I do hereby expressly charge and subject the said messuages or tenement and farm with the appurtenances devised to my **said son John Heblet** and his heirs as aforesaid, with the payment of the said annuity on the several days and times heruntoforementioned and appointed for payment thereof.

And in case default be made of, or in payment of the said annuity or any part thereof at the times above appointed for payment of the same, then it is my will and mind that I do hereby empower Elizabeth **Ann my said wife** to enter into and upon the said messuage or tenement and farm with the appurtenances or any part thereof, and the rents, issues and profits thereof and of every part thereof to receive have and take to her or their own use until the same annuity and every part thereof shall from time to time be fully paid and satisfied together with all such reasonable costs, charges, damages and ..... which she, they or any of them shall or may sustain, suffer, pay or be put unto, in or about the recovery thereof which said settlement with my said **son John** or annuity as aforesaid I will shall be in lieu and full satisfaction of all ..... or thirds who can or may have or claim out of my estate.

Also I give and bequeath unto **my wife** one pair of bedstocks, bed and bedding.

Also I give and bequeath unto **my son Thomas Heblet** the legacy or sum of ten shillings over and above what I have already given him, the same to be paid to him six months next after my decease.

Also I give and bequeath unto **my daughter Elizabeth, the wife of William Mallinson**, the legacy or sum or one pound and ten shillings over and above what I have already given her, the same to be paid at the end of six months next after my decease.

Also I give and bequeath unto **my daughter Mary, the wife of John Wright**, the sum of one pound a year for and during the term of 10 years from the time of my decease. The same to be paid by my said son John Heblet by two equal half yearly payments in every year, the first payment thereof to begin and be made at the end of six months next after my decease. But in case my said daughter Mary happen to die before the same shall become due and payable, then my will and mind is that the same shall be paid towards the support and maintenance of her children.

Which said legacies to **my said son Thomas, daughters Elizabeth and Mary, shall be paid by my said son John** out of my personal estate. All the rest, residue and remainder of my real and personal estate I give and bequeath the same unto my **said son John Heblet**, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns.

And lastly I do hereby make, nominate, constitute and appoint my said **son John Heblet and my said wife Elizabeth Ann** joint executor and executrix of this my last will and testament hereby revoking and making void all form wills by me at any time heretofore made.

In witness whereof, I the said John Heblet, the testator, have hereunto set my hand and seal this 4th day of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eighty Six.

Signed: John Heblet

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said John Heblet the testator as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence and at his request and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses (the word(s) Ann being interlined before the execution thereof and the four obliterations also being first made)

The mark of William (X) Thornton

The mark of Abraham (X) Armitage

William Turner

[signed - William was a Solicitor of Hopton who wrote "The Whimsies of Jacob Jobbernell KC551"]

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I do hereby certify that on the twenty third day of March in the year of our Lord 1818 John Heblet of Hopton in the Parish of Mirfield in the County of York, Clothier, the son, sole surviving executor (Ann heblet the other executrix being dead) named in this the last will and testament of John Heblet late of Hopton aforesaid in the Diocese of York, Clothier, Deceased, was sworn well and truly to execute and perform the same;

and that the whole of the goods, chattels and credits of the said deceased within the Diocese of York do not amount in value to the sun of one hundred pounds.

Witness my hand Robert Wilkinson - Surrogate

Passed 6th April 1818.

Will of Thomas Hemmingway of Mirfield 1594

In the name of God Amen. The eleventh day of November in the xxxvith year of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth the Queen's grace? She that now is ? and in the year of our Saviour Jesus Christ 1594. I Thomas Hemingway of Mirfield within the Diocese of York sick in body but yet of good and perfect remembrance praised by God for the same, do ordain consitute and make this my last will and testament in manner and form as followeth. First I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God hoping by the death and merits of Jesus Christ to have free remission of all my sins and to merit eternal life. And my body to be buried in the church or churchyard of Mirfield aforesaide, or again the churchyard of that parish where it shall please god to call me forth of this miserable and transitory world. And for the disposing of such worldly goods as god hath endowed me my will is that the same shall first stand and be to the paying and discharging of all my debts and bringing forth and funeral expenses. Item, my will is that of all the residue Elizabeth now my wife shall have the full third part thereof according to the laws and customs of our country in consideration and satisfaction of her dowry. All the residue of my said goods I give and bequeath wholly unto my six children; John Hemmingway, James Hemmingway, Jonas Hemmingway, Isaac Hemmingway, Margaret Hemmingway and Sarah Hemmingway to be equally divided amongst them And the said Elizabeth my wife shall have the tuition of all my said six children, for and during their minority. Also I do ordain and make the said Elizabeth my wife; John Hemmingway, James Hemmingway, Jonas Hemmingway, Isaac Hemmingway, Margaret Hemmingway and Sarah Hemmingway executors of this my last will and testament. I do appoint John Midgeley my father in law and my ???wife's?? brother Richard Mitchell, the supervisors of this my last will trusting they will see the same truly executed according to the true effects and simple meaning hereof.

Witnesses

John Crossfield
John Midgeley
Michael Mawde
Gilbert Holdsworth.

James Hepworthe of Myrfeild Will Vol 22 Fol 660 May 1584

Will made 20 Nov 1583

My bodie to be buried in the church yard of Myrfeild.

To **Margaret my wyfe** my tenement wherein I dwell and all my lease, intrest and tearme of years therein to the intent that my wyfe shall therewith educate, maintain and bring up such of my children as shall and dothe stand most need to helpe and succour.

Wheras I have and hold to me, my heirs and assigns for ever certain groundes and closes called Marshe Inges in Myrfield I give the same to **John Hepworthe and Edward Hepworth my sonnes and Marie Hepworth my daughter and also that child my wyfe is now great with**, for 12 years nexte after my deathe for their bringing up, savinge that my wyfe shall have her dowrie thereof according to the lawe, and savinge that my sonne Robert Hepworth enter into the same immediately after my death and during the 12 years pay to whichever of the 4 children are living an annuitie of 26s 8d at the Feaste of Pentecost and St Martyn in winter the Bishoppe by even portions equally divided.

Of my goodes, after dettes payd and my wyfe had her portion, to be equally divided between **James Hepworth, Thomas Hepworth, John Hepworthe, John Hepworth (entered twice thus!), Edward Hepworthe, Elizabeth Hepworth, Grace Hepworth, Marie Hepworth, and the child to be born.**

My wife is to have governance of my younger children and custodie of their porcions, she paying their childe parts to the sonnes when they are 21 and to the daughters when they are 18 or marry.

Margaret my wife to be executrix.

Witnesses: John Rodes als Syever
William Roydes als syever sonne and herie apparent of Richard Rodes
Mychaell Sheard
Thomas France
John haldesworthe the writer hearof.

John Hepworthe
Roger Barber
Thomas Hepworth of Mirfield
Will Vol 17 Fol 46 October 1561

Will made **15 Aug 1561**.

My body to be buried in the parish curchyard of Mirfield.

To **Henry Hepworth my eldest son** one close of land and pasture called Smythflatt and one parcell of land lying in the west field called Crowthestleys and one parcell of medow called crowthestleys (same as before) adjoining and one other close of land and pasture called wheatclose to have to to hold to hum and the herires of his bodye lawfullie begotten and for default of such issue to the use of **William Hepworth my son** and his heirs and for default of such issue to the use of the right heirs of me the said Thomas Hepworth.

To **John Hepworth my son** one close of land and medowe called Robinsbrigge to him and his heirs - if no heirs to my son William Hepworth and his heirs.

To **Richard Hepworth my son** one close of medow called Lyttle Sands to him and his heirs - if no heirs to my son William Hepworth and his heirs.

To William Hepworth my sonne and his heirs all landes whatsoever within the realme of England not before given - if he has no heirs to my son Henry and his heirs - if he has no heirs to my son Richard and his heirs - if he has no heirs to the use of **James Hepworth my son** and his heirs and if he has no heirs then to my right heirs.

To **Jane my daughter wife of John Beaumont** xls to be paid by my executors.

To **Majorie Tompson** one whye

To **Agnes Framine** one other whye

To **Richard Lee** 3s 4d to be paid by my executors at such time as the said Richard be married.

To **Jenet my daughter late wyff of Thomas Sikes** xxs and also to her all the money and debts that she by any manner doth owe me.

To **Agnes my daughter the wyf of John Crowder** xls and also to her all such money and devts as her husband John Crowder doth owe me.

Residue not bequeathed, my debts and funeral expenses discharged, to **William Hepowrth my son and Elizabeth his wife** - they to be executors.

I do make **Robert Furnes of Myrefeld, John Ledyard and Thomas Shepley**, supervisors desyring them to see my will executed.

It is my will that Henry Hepworth my son shall paye to William Hepworth for the close called Wheatclose £6 13s 4d.

These beyng witnesses - **Sr Richard Wordisworth, Vicar of Myrefeld, John Battie, Thomas Shepley; John Beaumont; Roger Thewles.**

Gilbert Holdesworthe of Myrfelde, Yoman, Will Vol 21 Fol 146 November 1578

Will made **16th October 1578**

My bodie to be buried within the churche of Myrfelde neare unto the place where **Agnes my wyfe** was buried.

Whereas I do owe unto **Agnes Holdesworthe and Alice Holdesworthe daughters of William Holdesworthe my brother deceased** £4 or thereabouts, I do give them so muche money as will make yt upp to £12 equally divided, and whereas the said Agnes hathe one younge guye of gifte I do gyve unto the said Alice one other younge guye fellowe unto that which I have gyven alreadie to the said Agnes.

To everie one of **my grandchildren** 20s.

Whereas I owe to **Isabell Holdesworthe servante to Robert Rayner** £4 I give her fortie shillings more to make it upp to £6.

To everies one of **my godchildren** 12d a pece.

I owe **John Legerde** 11s 10d which I will shalbe paid him.

To **John Holdesworthe my eldest sonne** £10.

Residue to **Gilberte Holdesworth my son and Robert Rayner my sonne-in-lawe**
- they to be executors.

No witnesses named.

**Will Volume 30 Folio 810 Edward Jepson of Mirfield
March 1608**

Memorandum that the last day of January 1607 **Edward Jepson the elder** of Mirfield did pronounce and declare his last will in manner followinge;-

His bodie to be buried in the churchyarde of Myrfield.

As touchinge all his goodes and chattells he did give the same (after his debtes paid and he honestly broughte forth) **unto Marie Jepson now his wife and to Suzan Jepson his daughter** equally to be divided betwixt them, appointing the said wife and daughter executors.#

These being witnesses:

William Hall
William Rodes of Northorpe

**Will of Matthew Lee the elder of Mirfield
1588
Vol 23 Folio 938**

Will made 5 January 1587.

My bodye to be buryed in the churche or churche yeard of Myrfeild.

Whereas I have heretofore delivered to Rosamond Lee my daughter one cubbord standingge in my house, my will is that she shall have the same according to my said gyfte.

To Jaine Lee my daughter one arke called the meale arke and also my irone chumney with the bridges, payts, gawkyrnes and spytt with other iron geare to the same belonging, saving that Janet my wyfe shall have them during her widowe life.

My debts are to be paid of my whole goods and the residue to be divided into three parts.

- •One third to my wife Janet as the lawe to her doth allow.
- •Whereas I have heartofore given of marriage goods to John Aveyard Junior with Marye myd aughter 4 markes of lawfull English money and certaine bedinge of the value of 20s; and whereas I have hearbefore given of marriage goods to William Hoult with Alice my daughter 4 marks – now of the second third part of my goodsa Jaine Lee my daughter shall have thereof to her owne use £3 13s 4d, and to Rosamond Lee my daughter £3 13s 4d and to Alice my daughter wife of William Holt 20s to make them all equall.
- •All that shall remaine of that third part to Alice, Marye, Jaine and Rosamonde my 4 daughters equally.
- •The last third part called myne owne parte or the deade parte to be divided as follows;-
- •To Matthew Lee sonne of Richard Lee my eldest sonne 40s to be held in my wife's hands till his is 16.
- •To Richard my sonne 2s and to Martyne Lee my sonne 12d – which shalbe all that they shall have of my goods for that I have given them their portions long since.
- •To Grace my daughter wife of Matthewe Ball 6s 8d and she and her husband may not claime more of my estate.

Residue to my 4 daughters Alice Hault, Jaine Lee, Marye Aveyard and Rosamond Lee equally – they all to be executors.

Witnesses:- Mychaell Sherd - John Bynnes - John Haldsworthe

Will of John Man
Buried Mirfield – Vol 9 Folio 265
1521

My soull to God and Our Lady and to all the saynts of hevyn and my body to be beriede in the kirke yerds of Mirfield if it please God and I bequeath my best beast to my course presante as custome is.

I bequeath to a prest to syng for my soull at Myrfelde kirk six markes.

- •To Susanne my servante a cow, or else 13s 4d.
- •To Kathryn my sister 6s 8d
- •To Richarde Hochonson 3s 4d
- •To Robert Hochenson 3s 4d.
- •To Robert Baynes a Shepe
- •To John Legard a shepe

I make William Man and Richard Man my sones my true executors for to bryng me forth at my burying and to dispose as they thinke best for my soull.

Witnesses

John Beamont
Richard Northorpe
James Blakburne
William Legerde

Will of Edward Rodes als Siever of Mirfeld, Yeoman 1590 Vol 24 Folio 344

Will made 29 July 1589. '31st year of Queen Elizabeth'.

At present somewhat sicke in body.

My body to be buried ian the church or churchyerd of Mirfeld.

To the poor mans boxe at Mirfield 12d.

- •To my sonne Edward one browne guie of the age of 2 years.
- •For the rest of my goods – after that Agnes my wiefe have her porcion according to the lawe and custome of this our realme of England, and my debts and legacies be paid and my funeral expenses discharged – they to be equally divided amongst my four sonnes Robert Rodes als Siever, John, Edward and Thomas. The which Edward my sonne I make the sole executor of this my last will.

Witnesses:-

Anthony Crowder

Thomas Rodes

Robte Rodes

Abraham Sheard of Mirfield
Will Vol 134 Fol 123 March 1790

Clothier

I do make and publish this my last will and testament in order to prevent any dispute or differences that might arise after my death.

All just debts and funeral expenses to be paid by my executrixes.

All that freehold messuage or tenement with the appurtenances thereto belonging and a close of land adjoining, commonly known by the name of the Ing in Mirfield and now in my possession, and also 2 other messuages in Mirfield in the possession of Edward Barker and Samuel Crowshaw – unto my son Richard Sheard for his natural life and after his death to his heirs; if he has no lawful heirs this to my daughters Elizabeth and Mary and their heirs equally.

To my daughters Elizabeth and Mary all that close of land situated in Mirfield called by the name of the Great Field now in my own possession equally betwixt them.

To my son Richard and my daughters Elizabeth and Mary all the cottage houses with appurtenances in Mirfield now in the possession of Soloman Lockwood, James Milner, and Joshua Cass equally.

My personal estate equally between Richard, Elizabeth and Mary.

My daughters Elizabeth and Mary to be joint executors.

Mark and Seal 1 Dec 1686.

Witnesses: John Sykes
 The Mark of Joseph Firth
 Jno Oldroyd.

**WILL 1809 June ABRAHAM SHEARD of MIRFIELD
Vol 153 Folio 258**

Will made 9th April 1809

Abraham Sheard, Yeoman

All my real and freehold estate, messuage or dwelling house and parcels of land commonly called the Mean Royd, and Mellorfield with appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at Crosley in Mirfield and elsewhere in Mirfield and now in the occupation of my son Abraham SHEARD and Charles SWITHENBANK or their undertenants, to my son Abraham SHEARD and his heirs for ever, subject to the payment of 2 annuities to my two daughters;-

To my daughter Martha SHEARD £7 a year for life, the first payment due within 12 months next after my decease.

To my daughter Mary FRANCE wife of Abraham FRANCE of Mirfield £7 a year as above.

If either annuity is not paid they may enter into the property and enjoy the profits until it is paid.

My son Abraham sole executor.

Signed Abraham Sheard

Witnesses

Abraham Wood

Thomas Woodhead

Jno Oldroyd

Value of estate £20

**Will of ABRAHAM SHEARD of CROSLEY parish of
MIRFIELD
Vol 244 Folio 845. Prerogative
1854**

Abraham Sheard, Farmer

To George Sheard, Jane Sheard, John France Sheard, Mary Louisa Sheard, Martha Elizabeth Sheard and Law Sheard, children of my late son Percival Sheard, all that close of land situate near Crosley Lane and now in my own occupation which I bought of Mr Sykes as tenants in common, and my executors to receive the rents until the youngest is 21 and pay the same to their maintenance and education.

To my sons Sidney Sheard and William Henry Sheard and my daughter Mary Sheard all household goods, farming stock and personal estate and all messuages and lands (except the close already devised), in Mirfield and elsewhere as tenants in common.

To my sons Sidney and William Henry and my daughter Mary the coal and other minerals under the Sutcliffe Hall estate sold by me to Mr Benjamin Wilson and which I reserved upon selling the same to him together with the power to get the same.

Mary's share is not to be under the control of any husband.

To my son George Sheard now or lately living near Rochester near Racine in North America £200 to be paid out of my personal estate, and if not enough from that then the extra from the shares of Sidney, William Henry and Mary, within four years after my decease in 4 portions of £50.

Sidney, William Henry and Mary to be executors.

Signed 18 December 1854

Witnesses

Thomas Ellis
Geo Armitage

Value of Estate £200

ADMON 1795 September FRANCIS SHEARD of MIRFIELD

On 14th September 1795 administration of the goods and chattels of Francis Sheard of Mirfield was granted to Jane Sheard, widow, his relict, she being first sworn before Revd John Taylor, Clerk surrogate. Valued at under £20.

**WILL 1829 February Gabriel SHEARD of MIRFIELD
Vol 179 Folio 85**

Gabriel SHEARD, Tailor

To my friends William TURNER of Hopton parish of Mirfield, attorney at law, and Benjamin PEARSON of Mirfield Tailor, all my goods, chattels, book and other debts and all personal estate on trust – to convert all to money and pay all debts and funeral expenses and then to divide the residue into 7 equal parts.

- • One part to my niece Sarah wife of John HAINSBY of Hunslet Lane near Leeds, Linen Weaver.
- • One part to my niece Hannah Wife of Thomas HARWOOD of Quarry Hill in or near Leeds, Dresser.
- • One part to my niece Ann wife of Abraham HEMINGWAY of Wood Church near Leeds, Clothier.
- • One part to Betsey otherwise Elizabeth widow of my late brother Amos SHEARD.
- • One part to my nephew Timothy SHEARD son of my late brother Moses SHEARD.
- • One part to my niece Betty otherwise Elizabeth the sister of the said Timothy but whose husband's name I do not now recollect.
- • The 7th part out at interest and the interest to the benefit of Nancy wife of Joseph LDOGE of Dalton near Huddersfield, Shopkeeper.

Joint executors; William Turner and Benjamin Pearson.

Signed 29 April 1828

Witnesses

Edward N Carter, Clerk

John Sheard

Value of Estate £300

**WILL 1836 June GEORGE SHEAD the Younger of
HOPTON in the parish of MIRFIELD
Vol 193 Folio 452
Prerogative**

Farrier and Innkeeper

All debts and funeral expenses out of my estate and subject to the payment thereof, to Jane my beloved wife, all my household goods and furniture, book and other debts, club shares, farming stock, cattle, chattels and all my leasehold estates, and also all my tenant right and interest in any farms and lands which I may occupy at the time of my decease – she to be sole executrix.

Signed 23 April 1836

Witnesses

Josheph (thus) Wilson
Abm Sheard
Wm Turner

Value of Estate £200

**Will 1838 June GEORGE SHEARD of Hopton Parish of
MIRFIELD**

Vol 197 Folio 400

George SHEARD Veterinary Surgeon

After debts and funeral expenses paid to my granddaughter Ann Sheard my turnup bedstead with the feather bed, pillow and other bedding and my large swing dressing glass for her own use and benefit absolutely.

To my son David my tenants right and interest in all the lands and tenements I now occupy situated in Hopton or elsewhere in the County of York and all my farming stock, implements and utensils, the residue of my household goods and furniture and my wearing apparel and books. He to be sole executor.

Signed 18 September 1837

Witnesses

Benjamin Chadwick
Jno S Thornton

Value of estate £100

Will of Jane SHEARD, Widow of Mirfield 22nd May 1637

In the name of God Amen the xxiith day of Mai AD 1637 I Jane Sheard of Northorppe Mirfield within the diocese of Yorke Widow late wife of Michael Sheard late of Mirfield aforesaid Locksmith deceased being sickly in body but of sound mind and perfect memorie praised be God for the same do ordain and make this my last will and testament in everything in manner and form following that is to say First and principally I give and commend my soul to God that gave it to me and my body I yield to the earth decently to be buried in Christian burial and concerning my goods and chattels which God hath blessed me with I dispose of the same as followeth;-

- • First my will and mind is that all my debts owed at my death and all of my children's portions and rights owed to them out of the goods and chattels by and after the death of the said Michael Sheard deceased their father and also my funeral expenses shall be first paid and deducted out of my goods which being done
- • I do hereby give and bequeath unto Hester Sheard, Thomas Sheard and Agnes Sheard my three youngest children six ewes with their lambs (to witt) to every one of them two of the said ewes and two lambs.
- • Item I give to the said Hester Sheard one chest in the parlour being the better of the carved chests standing there.
- • Item I give to the said Agnes Sheard one chest being the worst of the four chests in the parlour.
- • Item I give and bequeath unto Anthony Sheard my son 40 shillings to be paid to him within 12 months next after my death.
- • Item I give to Elizabeth HOLDSWORTH my servant one gray cote and some other little thing of my apparel to the value of 2 shillings more than the cote.
- • All the rest and residue of my goods and chattels whatsoever not above bequeathed I do give devised and bequeath unto Michael Sheard, Anthony Sheard, Thomas Sheard, Hester Sheard and Agnes Sheard my five children to be equally divided amongst them.
- • Item I do commit the tuition (ie guardianship) of the said Thomas Sheard my son and his child's portion and right out of the goods and chattels by and after the death of the said Michael Sheard of Mirfield his father unto Andrew HOLDSWORTH of Mirfield during his minority provided that the said Andrew will take him at and leaving two years next after my death and then take him as an apprentice til his age of 21 years to the trade of Clothier to keep him decently with meat, drink, apparel, lodgings and all other necessaries during his minority and apprenticeship.

- •And I commit the tuition of the said Agnes Sheard my daughter and all her portion and rights due to her out of the goods and chattels by and after the death of the said Michael Sheard deceased her father unto Edward JEPSON of Mirfield during her minority.
- •Item my will and mind is that I do commit the tuition of the said Anthony Sheard and Hester Sheard and their portions and rights due and belonging to them out of the goods and chattels by and after the death of the said Michael Sheard deceased their father unto the said Michael Sheard my son during their minority and that the said Michael Sheard my son shall pay to them the interest for the same after the rate of 12 pence the pound from and after the expiration of two years next after my death til the full? Payment of the said portions.
- •Item my will and mind is that the said Michael Sheard my son shall take the benefit of and the right of all the portions and rights of my said four younger children Anthony, Thomas, Hester & Agnes Sheard abovesaid by me to them given, out of my goods until the full age of 21 years and then to pay the same to them at their said several afters of 21 years and to give and pay to every one of them 20 shillings apiece at their several ages of 21 years over and above their portion and rights by me to them herein bequeathed for in interest up to the
- •And I do constitute and make the said Michael Sheard my son sole executor of this my last will and testament hoping he will duly execute and perform the same as my trust in him and I do nominate and appoint John ARMYTAGE of Kirklees Esq my landlord to be witness of this my last will and testament and I do give him 10 shillings in gold.

Whereof I the said Jane Sheard have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Jane Sheard (Signed)

Witnesses;

Michael DRAKE (Signed)

Henry ? (Signed)

ADMON 1852 September
JANE SHEARD of MIRFIELD, Widow

On 6th September 1852 administration of the goods and chattels of Jane Sheard of Mirfield, widow, was granted to Edwin Sheard, the son, and one of the next of kin (Mary the wife of John WORMALD, Nancy the wife of Joseph HOLT, Elizabeth the wife of Robert THOMSON and Sarah the wife of John HIRST the daughters and four remaining next of kin having renounced). Valued at under £200.

**John Sheard of Mirfield
Will
Vol 117 Fol 221 1773 March**

Being infirm of body.

I give and bequeath to those 3 children of my brother Abraham £80 to be paid to them or the survivors at the death of their father, but their father is to receive the interest of the above £80 for life.

To my brother Joseph Sheard £80 but if he dies before the said legacy is payable then it equally amongst his children then living.

To those 4 children of James Firth £10 apeice at the death of their mother or to be divided amongst the survivors if any have died. My will is that my sister Grace now wife of Enoch White shall receive the interest from the said £40 for the term of her life, and after the death of my said sister then Sarah her daughter now wife of the same James Firth shall receive the interest for life.

To Abraham Sheard son of my said brother Joseph Sheard £20.

Residue of personal estate after debts, legacies and funeral expenses paid to my brothers Abraham Sheard and Joseph Sheard or their heirs they to be joint executors.

Mark 20 Apr 1763.

Witnesses: Thomas Holdsworth
 Mary Holdsworth her mark
 Valentine Sheard

Be it known that I John Sheard of Mirfield Clothier do ratify my will, and by this present codicil do give and bequeath to James Hirst of Mirfield the house in Mirfield he now dwelleth in for the term of 10 years after my death. 8 Dec 1768

Witnesses: Joseph Lee
 Thomas Booth his mark
 Valentine Sheard

ADMON 1794 June
JOHN SHEARD of MIRFIELD

On 7th July 1794 administration of the goods and chattels of John Sheard of Mirfield was granted to Abraham Sheard, his brother and only next of kin, he being first sworn before Revd Reuben Ogden, Clerk surrogate. Valued at above £40.

ADMON 1820 November
JONATHAN SHEARD OF HEPTON (thus) Parish of
MIRFIELD

On 30th November 1820 administration of the goods and chattels of Jonathan Sheard of Hepton parish of Mirfield was granted to Mary Sheard, widow, his relict, she being first sworn before Revd Robert Wilkinson, Clerk surrogate. Valued at under £5.

Will 1852 September
JOSHUA SHEARD of MIRFIELD
Vol 227, Folio 733

Joshua SHEARD, Labourer

To Benjamin Wilson of the Bank in Mirfield, gentleman and Thomas Leadbetter of Mirfield attorney at law, all freehold, leasehold and other estates and all goods and chattels on trust.

To sell by public auction or private contract all estates and to sell personal effects.

With the money obtained to pay all debts and then divide the residue into 3 parts;-

- •One part to my son David Sheard
- •One part to my son Samuel Sheard
- •One part to my daughter Sarah wife of Joseph Crawshaw

Benjamin Wilson and Thomas Leadbetter to be joint executors.

Joshua made his mark on 22 April 1852

Witnesses

Anne Hirst
Jane Leadbeatter

Value of estate £20

ADMON 1830 April
MARTHA SHEARD of MIRFIELD spinster

On 2nd April 1830 administration of the goods and chattels of Martha Sheard of Mirfield spinster, was granted to Sarah Houghton, Widow, her niece and only next of kin. Valued at under £200.

ADMON 1786 February
MARY SHEARD of MIRFIELD

On 6th February 1786 administration of the goods and chattels of Mary Sheard of Mirfield was granted to Joseph Sheard, her husband, he being first sworn before Revd Edward Wilson, Clerk surrogate. Valued at above £20.

**Will of Michael SHEARD, Clarke of Mirfield 24 Jun
1632**

In the name of God Amen the xxiiii the day of June AD 1632 seeing that nothing is more certain than death and nothing more upon the Therefore I Michael Sheard of Mirfield in the diocese of Yorke Clarke being sickly of body but of good and perfect memory praised by God for the same do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First and principally I give and commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my creator assuredly trusting and faithfully believing to have full and free remission of all my sins by the previous death and bloodshedding of my saviour and redeemer Jesus Christ and by him to have life everlasting amongst the blessed saints of God. I commit my body to the earth from whence it came and the same to be buried in Christian burial in steadfast hope of joyful resurrection and as touching my worldly effects my will and mind is that all my true and lawful debts which I owe in and also the charges of my funeral and other church duties be paid and be discharged further of my estate and goods which being done my will and mind is that the rest of my goods be disposed in manner and form following:

- • First I give, devise and bequeath unto Michael Sheard my youngest son my best cloak.
- • Item I give devise and bequeath unto Thomas Sheard my eldest son my worst cloak and my will and mind is that the said Thomas and Michael Sheard my sons shall have all the rest of my apparel to be between them equally divided after my death.
- • Item I give, devise and bequeath unto Agnes my daughter, wife of Thomas COCKHILL Of Middlestown in the County of Yorke, Wright, five cows now in the hands of John PROCTER
- • Item I give devise and bequeath unto Elizabeth my daughter late wife of Richard FRECKLETON deceased, one cow in the hands of Widow Wilson of Mirfield.
- • Item I give devise and bequeath unto Agnes HIRST being base begotten upon the body of my daughter Alice by Edmund HIRST late of Mirfield in the diocese of Yorke deceased one cow in the hands of Widow Liversedge of Smythies in the parish of Birstall.
- • Item I give devise and bequeath unto the poor of the parish of Mirfield 20 shillings to be divided at the discretion of my honest and discreet neighbours after my death.
- • Item I give devise and bequeath unto Thomas Sheard, Anthony Sheard and Michael Sheard three of my sons and unto Agnes my daughter wife of Thomas COCKHILL And unto Sibil my daughter wife of Francis LEDGARD and unto Elizabeth FRECKLETON widow one other of my daughters and Alice my daughter

wife of Edward JEPSON, all my goods, chattels, etc not above herein bequested to be equally divided amongst them after my death provided always that my will and mind is that Michael SHEARD my youngest son shall have all my interest and rights in the farm and homestead wherein I now dwell and I humbly entreat the worshipful John ARMYTAGE of Kirklees in the diocese of Yorke Esq my favourable and kind Lord and Master if he will admit of the said Michael my son for his tenant by and after my death paying for the premises as of the said Michael SHEARD have done in my lifetime.

- And I make and ordain Thomas Sheard, Anthony Sheard and Michael Sheard my sons and Thomas COCKHILL, Francis LEDGARD and Edward JEPSON my sons in law and Elizabeth FRECKLETON my daughter late wife of Richard FRECKLETON deceased all joint executors of this my present testament and last will nothing desiring but that they will faithfully execute the same according to my several trust in them provided always and further that my will and mind is that if any one of my executors do offer to quarrel or to trouble one another and do not faithfully and truly execute this my present testament then my will is that he or they which doth go about to defame this my last will and testament shall have 20 shillings of current English money in full satisfaction of all his of their filial position and child's rights and my will is that he or they shall have no right in or to any of my goods.

In testimony thereof unto this my present testament and last will I the said Michael Sheard have set my hand and seal the day and year first above expressed. AD 1632

WITNESSES

Robert Ledgard (signed)

Thomas ???(Signed)

Under the seal there is a note which says "Michael Sheard chose his name with his touch according to?" which suggests he was quite poorly and perhaps unable to hold a pen.

The Will of Michael Sheard of Hopton 1 July 1717

In the name of God Amen. This first day of July in the third yeare of the reign of our sovereign Lord George King over England AD 1717. I **Michael Sheard** of Hopton in the Parish of Mirfield and County of York, Cloth Maker, being sick in body but of good and perfect mind and memory praised be God for the same, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I commend my soul to God hoping through the death and passion of my saviour Jesus Christ to be called to a joyful resurrection and to inherit eternal life. My body I commit to the earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my executor hereafter named and I do hereby revoke and make void all former wills and testamentary whatsoever by me heretofore made and do declare this to be my last will and testament whereby I do dispose of my temporal estate as followeth. First I give and bequeath unto **John Sheard** my son the sum of one shilling. Item, I give and bequeath unto **Hannah Waller** of Kirkheaton, widow, my daughter, the sum of five pounds. Item I give and bequeath unto **Ester my daughter**, now the wife of John **Syks** of Kirkheaton aforesaid, the sum of one shilling. Item I give and devise unto **Michael Sheard** my eldest son the houses or cottages at Nabb in Mirfield aforesaid whereof all this present time (and) is in the possession of **William Hawkyard**, another in the possession of **William Newsome** (a bit added in that I can't read) to him and to his heirs and assigns forever with free leave and liberty out of the close at the back side thereof (hereafter devised) for himself or any other workmen in order to repair or amend the said houses at all needful times. Item, I give and devise unto **Luke Sheard** my son and to his heirs and assigns forever all that messuage, tenement or dwelling house situate and being at Nabb in Mirfield aforesaid and one barn to the same belonging and also two closes of arable meadow or pasture ground lying in Mirfield aforesaid with all the right famous privileges and appurtenant to the said messuage or dwelling house and to the said closes belonging or appertaining. Which said messuage, dwelling house, barn and closes of land are now in the possession of **Thomas Sharpe** to have and to hold the abovesaid messuage, dwelling house and barn and the said two closes with every other appurtenances unto the said **Luke Sheard** his heirs and assigns forever, yielding and paying yearly unto the abovesaid **Michael Sheard** my eldest son, the sum of 40 shillings by him the said Luke Sheard, his heirs and assigns unto the abovesaid **Michael Sheard**, his heirs and assigns, forever. Likewise, all the rest and residue of my personal estate not herein and hereby given and bequeathed I give unto the abovesaid **Luke Sheard** my son and do hereby make and appoint the said **Luke Sheard** sole executor of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I the said **Michael Sheard**, the testator, have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

Signed and Sealed **Michael Sheard**.

Published and declared in the presence of us (ie witnesses)

Joseph Hirst

X the mark of **Joseph Senior**

Thomas Lawton

Michael Sheard of Mirfield
ADMON
April 1749 Pontefract Deanery

On 27th April 1749 administration of the goods and chattels of Michael Sheard late of Mirfield deceased who died intestate was granted to William Sheard his son. An inventory of goods was entered valued at under £5 (no trace of this document).

Will of Thomas SHEARD, the elder of Mirfield 26th Aug 1671

In the name of God Amen. I Thomas SHEARD of Mirfield Senior being weak and sick in bodie yet in perfect mind and memory praised be the Lord for the same do make and appoint this my last will and testament in manner and form following: Viz first I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God my master and redeemer and my body to the buried in the coppice? Churchyard of Mirfield.

- •Item my will and mind is that after all my debts and funeral expenses be discharged that my son Richard shall have £10.
- •Item I give unto my daughter Ann £10 after she comes to the lawful years of 1 and 20 if she lives so long.
- •Item I give to my son Joshuah £10 after he comes to the lawful years of 1 and 20.
- •Item I give unto my daughter Martha £10 after she comes to the lawful years of 1 and 20.
- •Item I give unto my son Aron £10 after he comes to the lawful years of 1 and 20.
- •Item I give unto my daughter Eden £10 after she comes to the lawful years of 1 and 20.
- •And for the rest of my estate goods cattle and chattels I do give and bequeath them unto my wife Grace Sheard whom I do leave as Executrix of all my estate etc.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 26th day of Aug in the year of our lord 1671.

Thomas Sheard (mark)

Witnesses:

Robert Holdsworth (Signed)

Edward Barker (Mark)

Thomas Peart (Signed)

Will of Thomas SHEARD, Clothier of Mirfield 21st Feb 1680

In the name of God Amen. The twentieth first day of February in the three and thirtieth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord Charles the Second by the Grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the faith etc. AD 1680. I Thomas Sheard of Mirfield in the Countie of Yorke Clothier being somewhat weakly in body but whole and sound in mind and of perfect memory praised be God for the same do make this my last will and testament in manner and forme following. That is to say first and principally I submit my soule to God that gave it fully trusting and steadfastly believing by the death and passion of Jesus Christ my only saviour and redeemer to have free pardon and remission of all my sins; and my body I yeild to the earth decently to be buried in the church yeard of Mirfield and for all my goods and chattels which the Lord hath been pleased to bestow upon me I dispose as followeth. First my will and mind is that all my lawful debts which I do owe and my funeral expenses be paid and discharged.

- Item I do give and bequeath unto my son Michael Sheard five shillings.
- Item I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Mary WALKER the sum of 4 pounds to be paid to her or to her executors or assigns as followeth that is to say the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year after my decease every year 20 shillings.
- Item I do give and bequeath unto William son of William Walker deceased ten shillings.
- Item I do give and bequeath unto Grace daughter of William Walker deceased ten shillings to be paid to them when the younger of them shall accomplish the full age of seven years, provided that the aforesaid Mary Walker their mother do give a lawful discharge for the same.
- Item I do give and bequeath unto Elizabeth my loving wife and unto Josiah my son all the rest of my goods chattels, rights and titles whatsoever which unto me belongeth or appertaineth and I do make and appoint Elizabeth my wife and Josiah my son joint executors of this my last will and testament which I hope they will faithfully fulfil and perform provided always that if it shall fortune that Elizabeth my wife aforesaid shall marry again that then my will and mind is that she the said Elizabeth shall have no right or title to any part of that farm or tenement which I now have in occupation unless it be with the special licence and consent of the aforesaid Josiah my son.

And I do hereby make void all other wills and testaments I have formerly made In witness I have hereunto set my hand and seale the day and yeare first above written.

Thomas Sheard (signed)

Witnesses:

Gilbert Holdsworth (Mark)

Thomas Thomson (mark)
John Lee (signed)

Thomas Sheard, the elder of Greenside

Will dated 3 Dec 1808

Sound and disposing mind etc.

- Son Thomas Sheard to receive dwelling house, messuages etc and shops he already is in possession of, use of the north end of the barn and the threshing floor and lands at Greenside.
- Son John Sheard to receive dwelling house, messuages etc and Shops where his father now lives, plus south end of the barn and use of the threshing floor and lands at Sunnybank.
- Daughter Ann Sheard the use of the kitchen and back parlour in her brother john's house and the feather bed etc, plus some money.
- Daughter Elizabeth the wife of Thomas Sheard of Knowl £100.
- Granddaughter Elizabeth Webster £30
- Grandson John Webster £30

By codicil some of the land was changed as he had subsequently sold it and the legacy of the Websters was reduced to £15 each.

Thomas Sheard
Signed

Timothy Sheard of Mirfield
WILL Vol 103 Folio 339 1759 May 18th

Will made 6 Feb 1759

I give and bequeath to Sarah my dearly beloved wife the sum of 40s per year being the interest of £40 which is out upon bond during the term of her natural life; and the house wherein my son Joshua Sheard now dwelleth I bequeath to Sarah to dwell in for life without paying any rent to my son Joshua.

To my son Jonathan Sheard the cow he hath in his possession.

To my son Abraham Sheard the cow he now hath in his possession.

To Sarah Sheard my daughter in law 10s to buy a new gown with, and after the death of my dear wife I further give and bequeath to my son Jonathan £8 out of the £40 that my wife takes interest from.

To my son Abraham £8 out of the same £40 after the death of my wife.

To Maria Sheard my granddaughter 40s out of the same £40 after the death of my wife.

To her sister Ann Sheard my granddaughter 40s out of the same £40 after the death of my wife.

To Joshua Sheard my youngest son £20 out of the same £40 after the death of my wife.

To Joshua all the beasts that I have at home at my house and all the farm whereon I now dwell and the other I now enjoy under Robert Holdsworth.

My wife Sarah and my son Joshua to be executors.

Mark

Witnesses: John Nicholls
 Joseph Hepworth
 John Haigh

**WILL 1810 August VALENTINE SHEARD of MIRFIELD
Vol 154 Folio 414**

Valentine SHEARD, Clothier

All those cottage houses and croft situate at Crossly in Mirfield in the possession of John HATFIELD, Joseph HATFIELD and George KAY unto John SHEARD son of my sister Grace SHEARD with whom I now dwell and his heirs for ever, chargeable with the following legacies;-

- •To my sister Susanna ARMITAGE £40
- •To my sister Rachel HUTCHINSON £40
- •To Hana DYSON £40
- •To Sarah BUCKLER one guinea

Residue to the above mentioned John SHEARD he sole executor.

Signed 9th February 1810

Witnesses

William Skelton

John Hatfield

William Downes

No value of estate given

ADMON 1831 July VALENTINE SHEARD of MIRFIELD Pontefract Deanery

On 15th July 1831 administration of the goods, chattels and credits of Valentine Sheard late of Mirfield deceased was granted to Francis LEDGARD, limited so far only as relates to and concerns the now residue of a certain term of 1,000 years originally raised in an indenture bearing date on or about 17th July 1756 between Richard MORTIMER of Shelf parish of Halifax, Clothier of the one part and James DYSON of Huddersfield, Grocer, of the other part, of among other hereditaments all that messuage or dwelling house in Clayton parish of Bradford, then or late in the possession of John SHUTT or his assigns, and several closes of land to the messuages belonging called the Ing, the Tow Heys, the Backfields, and the Deiffield containing by estimation 16 days work; plus another messuage in Clayton with lands belonging.

In an indenture of 15th May 1760 between John SPENCER of Hadsack parish of Blyth County of Nottingham, Gent, of the first part; the said Richard MORTIMER of the second part; Ann LEDGARD widow and relict of Edward LEDGARD then late of Mirfield, gent of the third part; and the said Valentine SHEARD deceased of the 4th part – the premises were vested in Valentine SHEARD on trust to assign the surrender of the term.

In his will Valentine SHEARD bequeathed the residue of his personal estate to his son Valentine SHEARD and he appointed his sons Abraham SHEARD and Valentine SHEARD joint executors who both survived him but are since dead without having taken upon themselves the probate or execution of his will.

Value under £20.

Robert Shepley of Mirfield Will Vol 19 Fol 363 October 1571

Will made **18 May 1571**

My bodie to be buried in the church yeard of Myrfelde.

To **John Walker with whom I am now abiding** my cloke, my beste hose, dublet and jacket, a mattres, a paire of sheets, a paire of blanketts, two coverlettes, twelve sheepe and £6 of money.

To **George Sympson of Ledes** 20 wether sheep and 33s 4d now in the hands of the said John walker and to be paide him or his executors or assignes at or before the fourthe day of Maye nexte cominge after the date hearof; moreover I give to the said george my beste hatte, my bagge and a coverlette.

Whereas **Thomas Walker of Leeds** doth owe me £7 of lawful English Money, my wills is **that Alice Sympson, sister to the said George** shall have £6 6s 8d of it on condition that the said Alice Sympson within the space of 3 months nexte after my decease do freelie give or cause to be given fourthe of the same **to Margaret Barber my sister** 26s 8d.

To the **said Thomas Walker** 6s8d.

Further to the **said Alice Sympson** a coverlet and an arke.

To Alice Syke daughter of John Sike deceased 7 peces of pewther, 2 brasse pottes, 2 pannes, a little cheste, ten ewe sheep and a tuppe and besides that 40s of money which is also in the hands of the aforesaid John walker - the said Alice Sike shall have her sheep put by her friends to her moste profite from the feaste of St Mychaell the Archangell nexte ensuinge after my decease until she come to years of discretion to order them for herselfe, and in like manner the 40s when she come to 7 years of age - if she dies before she is 21 proffitts of all goods bequeathed to her **to Edward Shepley son of Thomas Shepley my brother, to Isabell Shepley syster to the said Edward, and to Elizabeth Walker and Margaret Walker, daughters of John Walker Esq,** equally.

To **the said Edwarde Shepley** all such sheep of mine as are in custodie of Thomas France.

To **Thomas Shepley son of Thomas Shepley my brother** 6 sheep.

To **everies one of the daughters of Thomas Shepley my brother** a shepe.

To **Jennet Walker, wife of William Walker,** a sheep.

To **John Lynley my godson,** a yonge sheep.

To **Lawrence, George, William and Abraham Casson sonnes of Lawrence Casson** 5s each which Lawrence Casson oweth me and besides that a lambe each.

To the **aforsaid Isabelle Shepley** a little cheste.

to **Jenet Lynley widowe** a blanket.

To **Alice wife of aforsaid John Walker** my parte of all the wolle that should have been parted between her husband and me if I had lyved till clipping tyme.

To **Matthew Rayner** a pair of hoose and a jacket.

To everie one of **my godchildren and everie one of Thomas Sykes children** 4d.

To **Edwarde France** my workeday jacket and dublet.

To **John Walker and Thomas Shepley yonger** 20s which one **William Leworde of Hallifaxe** oweth me.

To the poor mens boxe 8d.

Residew of all my goods, cattalls and debts after funeral expenses paid to **John Walker and George Sympson** - they to be executors.

Thomas Shepley my brother and Thomas Shepley his sonne to be supervisors.

Witnesses: Thomas Shepley my brother
Edward Rodes
Robarte Walker
John Haldesworthe the writer hearof.

Thomas Shepley of Mirfield the Elder Yeoman Will Vol 26 Fol 500 April 1597

Will made 17 Jun 1596

To be buried in the church or churchyard of Mirfield.

To the poore people of the parish of Mirfield 10s.

Towards the amending of the hie waies within the parish of Mirfield 20s.

To my **servant Alice Seikes** £3 6s 8d.

Toe everies servant in my service at the day of my death 12d.

Whereas I am posssed by lease from Sir George Savile of Thornhill Knt dated 11 Jul 36th Year Elizabeth of a walke milne or fulling milne with the stockes situate upon the River of Calder within the lordshipp of Wakefield upon the upper ende of the dam near unto the Queens Magesties corne milnes of Wakefield; and a similar lease by Sir George Savile dated 28 Apr 38th yr of Elizabeth of the fish hecques within the damm of Wakefield called Wakefield Milne damm together with all streams and watercourses belonging; a lease by Robert Swifte of Rotheram esq 9 May 21st year Elizabeth of walke milnes and fulling milnes with appurtenances upon or neare the water of Calder nigh to the town of Wakefield of Nether Millnes or nether walke milnes and dammes, goyls, streams to the same belonging, ground called Slannes adjoining land and meadow called Siddal neigh to the town of Wakefield; a surrender by George Rial of Middletown co Essex Clerk, Isabelle Hanson Of Langroidbrigg Widow, Late wife of Edward Hanson deceased, George Richardson of Muckbretton and Margaret his wife, of a fulling milne and all appurtenances in Alverthorpe, all the above to Edward whittakers clarke parson of Thornhill, John Yoodall of Citie of York gent, John Bussie and George Simson of Leeds Clothier in trust for **Thomas Shepley, Edward Shepley and Richard Shepley sonnes of Edward Shepley my younger son** towards the preferment of the three of them.

To the preacher at my funeral 10s.

To be bestowed at my funeral £6 13s 4d.

Whereas I do owe to **my son Edward Shepley** for everie year since the death of **William Hepworth his father in law** £3 6s 8d for the yearlie rent of those his landes in Mirfield which came to him after the death of the said William Hepworth - that and any other debts to be deducted from my whole goods.

My **sonnes Thomas Shepley and Edward Shepley** to be executors and to be ruled by Edward Whittakers, John Yoodall and John Bussie and George Simson who I make supervisors.

For their pains 10s each to Edward Whitakers, John Bussie; John Yoodall and 40s to George Simson.

Witnesses: Edward Whitakers

John Bussie
John Wood
**Will of John Sike of Mirfield Vol 11 Folio 700
1543**

Will made 1st May 1543.

Of goode holl and perfect mynde and memorie howe be it seke of bodie.

My bodie to be buried in the sanctuarie at the parishe church of Mirfelde.

I will my mortuarie be content for me after the King's most gracious Act of Parliament and that my funeral expenses and my forthbringinge be of my holl goods.

To John Lawe a pare of hose

To Nicholas Sever a ledder coate

To William Sike my breches, my best bonet and my best sherte

To Thomas Mawnell a paire of shoes

The reversion of all my goodes I give and bequeath to Cecilie my wif and to Jennett and Agnes my daughters whom I make my lawfull executors to dispose for me.

Overssers – my trustie friendes, William Syver and Thomas Storke.

Witnesses:-

William Syver

Thomas Stoke

Nicholas Syver

Isaac Thornton of Hopton, Mirfield Will Aug 10 1692

Yeoman

My body to be buried in such place and manner as my executor hereafter shall think fit.

I give my house and land thereunto belonging to my eldest son John and his heirs for ever.

To Edward Barker my son in law or his wife 40s at the end of one whole year after my decease.

To my son Mosses Thornton 40s at the end of one whole year after my decease.

To my son Peter 40s at the end of one whole year after my decease.

Residue of my goods and personal estate to my son John - he to be sole executor.

Mark - 20 May 1692

Witnesses:

Joseph Hirst
Sarah Hirst
Joshua Hirst (Jurat)

On 2nd Aug 1692 John Thornton of Hopton was sworn in as executor - he signed; there appeared with him Joshua Hirst of the same place who also signed.

There is an inventory included with this will the transcript of which is not included here.

**Will Vol 26 Folio 567 Richard THORPE of Hopton
Yeoman Jun 1597**

Will made 28th March 1597

Richard Thorpe of Hopton the elder.

Jenet now my wyfe shall have her thirds of all my goods and chattells according to the custome of the county.

Richard my sonne shall have my draught or six oxen together with all my waines, ploughes, teames, yokes, boyses and other implements of husbandry belonging to my draught according to my promise made at his marriage.

And I further give unto my sayd sonne Richahrd my blacke mare and my corslet or white armor with my pike and other thinges belonging.

To Samuell Thorpe his little sonne myne iron chimney standinge in myne house.

To Elizabeth my said sonne Richard's wife one browne guye - these legacies to Richard and his family on condition that Richard permitt my sayd wife and myne executrix to take and carry away all suche corne and graine as shalbe growinge uppon my land at the day of my death. If he refuses then the legacies to Elizabeth and Samuel to be voyde and to remaine to my executor.

Rest of my goods, chattells, creditts and debts to **Agnes Thorpe my daughter** who I make my sole executor.

Witnesses;
Robert Ledgard
John Childe
Thomas Shipley
Robert Reyner