

Prerogative Court of Canterbury and related Probate Jurisdictions: Will Registers, PROB 11/74/158.

*The nuncupative Will of Fraunces Mercer, Gentleman of Newnham Murren, Oxfordshire, written 6 Jun 1589, proved 21 Jul 1589*

Abstract:

- wills for his body to be buried in the churchyard of the parish church of Ewelme
- gives to **his brother-in-law Thomas Palmer, gent.** his taffeta hat with the jewell in the same
- gives to **his brother Lovelace Mercer** his leather hose and dublett
- gives to **his brother Walter Mercer** his fustian? hose and dublett
- gives to **his brother Maximilian Mercer** is sword and dagger
- gives to **his sisters Katherine Palmer, Anne Mercer, Lettice Mercer, Margaret Mercer and Martha Mercer** each a ring made from a golden angel in remembrance of him
- gives to Elizabeth Rothell the wife of John Rothell of Hamstead Norris in co. Berks. one quarter of wheat and one quarter of malt, to be delivered to her within one year after his death.
- gives to Mary Knighte, servant to **his father William Mercer, gent.**, one cow with a calf, one quarter of wheat and one quarter of barley, to be delivered to her within one year after his death.
- gives ten shillings each to Evan Roberts, parson of Eramershe, and Andrew Asheton, parson of Mangewell
- gives ten shillings to Edward Hargrave, clerk
- gives to every almsman of Ewelme twelve pence
- gives forty shillings to the poor people of the parish of Ewelme
- gives **Joane Skinner, his wife's daughter**, one cow and one calf
- gives to **his son Raffe Mercer**, once he reaches the age of 8, ten pounds yearly toward his education and bringing up, during the term of his lease of Newenham farm. He wills that, once said lease has expired, his son Ralph is to receive 100 pounds, to be used by his (Francis's) overseers for his son's benefit, until he reaches the age of 21 years.
- the residue of his goods and chattels (once his debts have been paid and his funeral expenses discharged) he wills to **his wife Lettice**, who he makes his full and sole executrix of his last will and testament.

- makes and ordains **his uncle Ralfe Mercer** and **his father-in-law William Mathew** overseers of his last will and testament. For the pains he gives to his uncle Raffe Mercer his bald gelding, and to his father-in-law William Mathew one gold ring worth twenty shillings.