

## Appendix IX

### Some wills of the Balls of Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire

Will of the Rev.d Robert Ball of Eastington 1613

Will of Nicholas Ball of London, fishmonger 1638

Will of Lawrence Ball of Northampton, mercer 1642

Consistory Court of Gloucester

*Gloucestershire Archives ref. GDR Wills 1613/209 Ball**Transcript of register copy*

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN the ffifte day of July in the yeare of  
o.<sup>r</sup> lord god / 1613 I Robert Ball of Eftington in the County of  
Gloucs minifter of gods word beeing admonifhed by my age and /  
infirmities to settle before mine eyes the vncertaine approach  
of death doe therefore make & declare my laft will and /  
testament in mann[er] & forme followeing ffirft I praife god  
moft high w.<sup>ch</sup> hath before all worlds elected me vnto /  
saluacon in Jefus Chrift & hath in his appointed time  
inftified & sanctified me by his inconceauable grace / &  
filled me w.<sup>th</sup> manifold benefitts all my daies carrieing me  
regardfully vpon the wings of his prouidence wherefore / I  
chearefully yeald vpp my soule into his hands & peaceably putt  
of my fraile & corruptible body stedfaftly hoping / to receaue  
it againe w.<sup>th</sup> mortalitie & glory att the laft day & my will is  
that it shallbe buried in the churchyard / at Eftington if I  
die there then for my worldly goods I difpofe them in mann[er]  
& forme followeing ffirft I giue and / bequeath vnto the poore  
of Eftington 40<sup>s</sup> to be beftowed on them according to the  
difcretion of mine Executo.<sup>r</sup> **It[e]m** I / giue & bequeath vnto  
Daniell Ball my sonne two hundred powns & a siluer beaker to

be paid vnto him at the age / of one & twenty yeares **It[e]m** I  
giue & bequeath vnto Ann Ball my daughter the sume of 40<sup>li</sup> to  
be paid vnto her / at the age of one & twenty yeares or day of  
her marriage w.<sup>ch</sup> of them shall firft happen And if the said  
Anne / Ball shall not marry nor betroth herfelfe vnto any man  
w.<sup>th</sup>out the confent of mine Executo.<sup>r</sup> & Ou[er]feers or the /  
greateft p[ar]te of them then liuing then I giue vnto her  
threefcroe pownds more and a siluer cupp w.<sup>th</sup> a Couer, and of /  
my howfhold stufte I giue her so much as shall surmount vnto  
the valewe of tenn pownds as it shall be prized / in mine  
Inuentary or tenn pownds in money w.<sup>ch</sup> she shall think beft of  
in her owne choife So that I giue / vnto her in all one  
hundred pownds one siluer Cupp w.<sup>th</sup> a Couer & tenn pownds  
valewe of my howfhold stuff / or tenn pownds in money **It[e]m**  
I giue & bequeath vnto Elizabeth Ball my daughter the sume of  
fforty pounds / to be paied vnto her at the age of one and  
twenty yeares or day of her marriage w.<sup>ch</sup> of them shall firft /  
happen And if the said Elizabeth Ball shall not marry nor  
betroth her felfe vnto any man w.<sup>th</sup>out the / confent of myne  
Executo.<sup>r</sup> and overfeers or the greateft p[ar]te of them then  
living then I giue vnto her threefcroe / pounds more for her  
better aduancement in marriage and a silver bowle vnguilted  
and alfo to the / value of Tenn pounds in my howfehould stufte  
as it shalbe praied in myne Inuentary or soe much / that is  
to say Tenn pounds in money w.<sup>ch</sup> of them shalbe to her beft  
likeinge Soe that I giue vnto her in all / one hundred poundes

one silver bowle vngilted and Tenn pounds in value out of my  
houfhold stufte or / Tenn pounds in money **Item** I give and  
bequeath vnto Judeth Ball my daughter the some of fforty  
pounds / to be paied vnto her at the age of one and twenty  
yeares or the day of her marriage w.<sup>ch</sup> of them shall firft /  
happen And if the said Judeth shall not marry nor betroth her  
felfe vnto any man w.<sup>th</sup>out the confent of mine / Executo.<sup>r</sup> and  
overfeers or the greateft p[ar]te of them then livinge Then I  
give vnto her Threefcore pounds more / and a double silver  
salte and Tenn poundes in value of myne howfehold stufte as it  
shalbe valued in myne / Inventory or tenn pounds in money as  
shee shall think beft in her choice Provided that if any of my  
said / daughters Anna Elizabeth or Judeth shall dye before the  
day of her marriage or the age of one and Twentye / yeares  
that then the said porcon of my daughter soe dyinge shall  
equally be devided betweene my other two / daughters that  
shall then survive provided alfo further by this my will and  
teftament that if any of my saide / daughters shall marry or  
betrothe her felfe vnto any man w.<sup>th</sup>out the confent of myne  
Executo.<sup>r</sup> & overfeers / or the greateft p[ar]te of them then  
livinge that then the porcon w.<sup>ch</sup> I haue given vnto her for her  
advancement / in marriage shalbe forfeited and devided betwixt  
my other two daughters **Item** I give and bequeath vnto / John  
Ball my sonne all my bookes except only thofe that are in  
Englifhe **It[e]m** I give vnto the said John Ball / my beft  
fetherbedd and my beft greene Rugge and three paire of sheetes

befides that beddinge w.<sup>ch</sup> he hath already in Oxford **It[e]m** I  
give and bequeath vnto Nathaniell Ball my sonne five pounds  
and vnto his sonne / Danyell Ball I give and bequeath forty  
shillinges and my will is that it shalbe delivered vnto his  
father for the vfe / of the said Daniell **Item** I give vnto my  
beloved wife all that wood w.<sup>ch</sup> I bought of Richard Cambridge  
of the p[ar]ifhe / of Witchefter lyinge and beinge w.<sup>th</sup> in the  
said p[ar]ifhe of Witchefter **It[e]m** I give vnto her the  
sixteene ponde / w.<sup>ch</sup> shee hath in her hands of myne And my  
will is that all the goods w.<sup>ch</sup> shee had before my marriage  
vnto her / and all that doth growe and accrewe out of the said  
goods and chattles vnto her since that tyme shall remayne vnto  
her / as her owne as if shee had not marryed And further my  
will is that if any controu[er]fye shall arise concerninge /  
any of o.<sup>r</sup> goods that it shalbe ended by my welbeloved brothers  
in lawe Danyell ffowler & John Browninge / gentlemen **It[e]m**  
my will is that the hundred and fitye pounds w.<sup>ch</sup> my wife nowe  
hath in her hands of myne shall / soe remayne in her hands for  
two full yeares space after my deceafe vpon good security  
given vnto myne Executo.<sup>r</sup> / All the reft of my goods my debtes  
and funeralls beinge difcharged I give & bequeath vnto Samuell  
Ball my sonne / whome I make and conftitute sole & full  
executo.<sup>r</sup> of this my laft will and testament And my lovinge  
Coffin / Nathaniell Stephens Esq.<sup>r</sup> my beloved brethren in lawe  
Daniell ffowler and henry ffowler and my Cofin Edward /

Stephens gentlemen I appoint to be overfeers of this my will &  
teftament

This I declare and acknowledge to be / my laft will &  
teftament vnder my hand subfcribed in the p[re]fence of Toby  
Sandford Walter Sweeper John Whyte / Robert Welsteede  
Edmund Grayle & William Lawrence

***Attestation of original will***

*Robert Ball L.S.*

*In the p[re]fence of:*

*Toby Sandforde                      Robert Welsteide*

*Walter Sweeper                      Edmde Graile*

*Jam White                              William Laurence*

Grant of Probate 16th February 1613 (1614 new style)

While the original will and the register copy both survive,  
the latter is the more legible of the two. The text in the  
register copy conforms with the text of the original will  
although there are considerable discrepancies in spelling.

## SUMMARY OF WILL

**Testator:** Rev.d Robert Ball, rector of Eastington

**Date of will:** 5th July 1613

**Grant of probate:** 16th February 1613 (1614 new style)

**Court:** Consistory Court of Gloucester

**Depository:** Gloucestershire Archives, ref. GDR Wills  
1613/209 Ball

**Executor:** Samuel Ball, second son

**Overseers:** Nathaniel Stephens Esq., cousin  
Daniel Fowler, brother-in-law  
Henry Fowler, brother-in-law  
Edward Stephens, cousin  
(gentlemen)

**Witnesses:** Toby Sandford  
Walter Sweeper  
John [or James] White  
Robert Welsteed  
Edmund Grayle  
William Laurence

**Bequests:**

Poor of Eastington	40s.
Daniel Ball (youngest son)	£200 when attains 21 and a silver beaker
Ann Ball (eldest daughter)	£40 when attains 21 or marries. Additionally, if she does not marry, £60, a silver cup with a cover and household goods worth £10 (or £10 in money)
Elizabeth Ball (second daughter)	£40 when attains 21 or marries. Additionally, if she does not marry, £60, an ungilted silver bowl and household goods worth £10 (or £10 in money)
Judith Ball (youngest daughter)	£40 when attains 21 or marries. Additionally, if she does not marry, £60, a double silver salt

	and household goods worth £10 (or £10 in money)
John Ball (third son)	all father's books (except those in English), best feather bed, best green rug, 3 pairs of sheets and bedding at Oxford lodgings
Nathaniel Ball (eldest son)	£5
Daniel Ball (grandson)	40s. (to be paid to his father, Nathaniel)
'beloved wife' (second wife, Ursula Clutterbuck)	a wood purchased from Richard Cambridge in the parish of Witchester
	£16 belonging to testator in wife's hands
	Goods contributed by wife at time of marriage. (Any dispute to be determined by testator's brothers-in-law, Daniel Fowler and John Browning, gentlemen)
	£150 belonging to testator in wife's hands for two years against good security
Samuel Ball (second son)	residue of estate

**Inventory:**                      Not extant

Prerogative Court of Canterbury

*The National Archives, ref. PROB 11/177/Lee Quire nos. 52-114/364, image ref. 562/467*

I BEQUEATH MY BODY to y.<sup>e</sup> earth And my Soule into the hande of  
Jesus Chrift my Redeemer I bequeath to Alce Coles to her and  
her boie fifteene poundes I give to John Ball my brother  
fifteene poundes To John Ball the sonne of John Ball Ten pound  
To Marie my sister fifteene poundes To Nicholas Ball sonne of  
John Ball five pound out of my p[er]fonall estate I make my  
wife Ellen Ball my hole Executrix this 23.<sup>th</sup> of August 1638  
Nich: Ball Wittnefses M.<sup>r</sup> Woodfall Henry Allen Edward  
Saywell James Bartram & others

Grant of Probate 29th August 1638

## SUMMARY OF WILL

**Testator:** Nicholas Ball

**Date of will:** 23rd August 1638

**Date of probate:** 29th August 1638

**Court:** Prerogative Court of Canterbury

**Depository:** The National Archives, ref. PROB  
11/177/Lee Quire nos. 52-114/364,  
image ref. 562/467

**Executrix:** Ellen Ball, wife

**Witnesses:** Mr Woodfall  
Henry Allen  
Edward Saywell  
James Bartram

**Bequests:**

Alice Coles and son	£15
John Ball (brother)	£15
John Ball (son of brother)	£10
Marie (sister)	£15
Nicholas Ball (son of brother)	£5

**Inventory:** Not extant

## Royalist Prerogative Court of Canterbury in Oxford

*The National Archives, ref. PROB 10/641/102*

In the name of God amen the xx<sup>th</sup> daye of Aug: in the eighteenth  
yeare of the reigne of / of Sou[er]eigne Lord Charles by the  
grace of God of England Scotland ffrance and Ireland kinge /  
defender of the ffaith &c Annoq[ue] Dni. 1642: I Lawrence  
Ball of the towne of Northampton in the countie of Northton  
Mercer being in good and p[er]fecte memorie and finding in my  
bodie some / alteration and weakeneffe: And haveing before  
myne eyes my yeares and confideringe the / ffrailtie of  
Mankinde and for the settleing of peace and concord in my  
familye which I doe heartile / wifh Doe make and ordeine this  
my laft will and teftament hereby revoking and difannulling /  
all former wills and teftaments by mee heretofore made in  
manner and forme followinge (viz.<sup>t</sup>) / ffirft and principally  
above all with all humilitie and in moft ernest manner I  
recommend my soule / into the hands and protecion of the  
Allmightie and ever bleffed Trinitie the ffather Sonne and /  
holy Ghoft three p[er]fons and one Eternall and everlafting  
God: Truftinge onely thorough the / merrits and mediation of  
Jefus Chrifte the second p[er]fon in the holy Trinitie my  
alone saviour / to have remiffion of my synnes and everlafting  
life after this mortall life ended: As for my spirit I comend  
/ to God that gave it soe my bodie I comitt to the Earth from

whence it is to bee decentlie / buried at the difcretion of my  
executrix in the Chancell of the Church of All Saints in /  
the said towne of Northampton as neare the Corpfe of my late  
ffather Lawrence Ball as / convenientlie may bee Stedfaftly  
believeing that I shall rife againe at that great day of / of  
the generall refurrection and that my bodie and soule shalbee  
revnited and inherite / eternall life and felicitie with all  
the Saints & Electe Children of God: And for my / worldly  
goods and subftance wherew.<sup>th</sup>all the lord of his mercie hath  
endued and bleffed mee I difpofe / the same as ffolloweth  
(viz.<sup>t</sup>)

**Imprimis** I devife give and bequeath vnto my ffoure daughters  
Elizabeth Martha / Katherine and Dorothy (my Children by  
Elizabeth my nowe wife) All that parte of my / houfe wherein I  
doe nowe dwell w.<sup>ch</sup> I bought and purchafed of S.<sup>r</sup> John Lambe  
knighte/ the ffifhtall beinge on the South part thereof And  
alfoe I devife give and / bequeath vnto my said ffoure  
daughters all that other parte of my nowe dwellinge / houfe  
next the Conduit Hall which I bought and purchafed of the  
Corporacon of / Northampton Alfoe I give and bequeath vnto my  
said daughters Elizabeth / Martha Katherine and Dorothe: And  
to Mary my daughter by my firfte / wife and to Sarah my  
daughter by my second wife: All that meffuage or / Tenement  
Orchard Gardin Mault kilne houfes stables barnes edifices and  
/ buildings with all and everie their appurtenances given mee

in and by the laft will and Teftament of Lawrence Ball my late deare father deceafed nowe / in the tenure and occupacon of ~~my mother in lawe Margarett Ball widowe~~ Martin Tomkins my Tenante or of / ~~her~~ his affignee or affigns, to bee folde as soone as may bee after xxxx the death / of Elizabeth my nowe wife and the money to bee equallie devided amongft them / but my said daughters Marye and Sarah to have noe p[ar]te or share in my nowe / dwelling houfe: given vnto my other ffoure daughters as aforefaid

**Item** I give and bequeath vnto my daughter Marie Ball the sume of one hundred pounds of good and / lawfull money of England to bee paid vnto her within twoe moneths next after her day of marreage / or within three moneths next after the deceafe of Elizabeth my nowe wife which shall first happen: And if my said daughter / Marie shall happen to dye before her said porcon or legacie shall become due and payable my will and meaneing / is that the same shalbee equallie divided amongft all my daughters which shalbee then liueing: Alfoe if my / said daughter doe die before the sale of the saide houfe and malte kilne & appurtenances having noe iffue of her / bodie lawfully begotten then her share or part to bee divided amongft all or soe many of my said daughters / as shalbee then livinge: And if it shall happen that my said daughter Marye shalbee difpofed to live apart / from her mother then my will is that shee shall have for her maintenance yearelye the sume

of [eight] pounds / of good and lawfull money of England to  
bee paid her quarterlye by my Executrix by even and equall  
porcons / vntill the said hundred pounce legacie shall become  
due and payable Alfoe I giue and bequeath more / vnto my said  
daughter Marye Ball the sume of ffourtie markes of good and  
lawfull money of England / to bee paid vnto her within three  
moneths next after my deceafe if shee shalbee then liueing

**Item** I giue and bequeath vnto my daughter Elizabeth Cowper the  
wife of Edward Cowper the sume of Tenne / pounds of good and  
lawfull money of England to bee paid within three moneths next  
after the deceafe of Elizabeth / my nowe wife if my said  
daughter bee then liueing

**Item** I giue and bequeath vnto my daughter Martha Ball the sume  
of two hundred pounds of good and / lawfull money of England  
to bee paid vnto her at her day of marriage or within three  
moneths nexte / after the same

**Item** I giue and bequeath vnto my daughter Katherine Ball the  
sume of one hundred and ffiftie pounds / of good and lawfull  
money of England to bee paid vnto my said daughter Katherine  
at her day of marriage / or within three moneths next after  
the same: And if either of my said daughters or both of them  
shall / happen to dye before their said Legacies shalbee due  
and payable then my will and meaneing is that the / porcons or

legacies of my said daughters Martha and Katherine shalbee  
equallie divided amongft the rest / of my daughters by  
Elizabeth my nowe wife that shalbee then livinge or the  
survivo.<sup>r</sup> of them

**Item** I giue and bequeath vnto my grand children Thomas  
Cowper and Edward Cowper tenne / pounds apeece of good and  
lawfull money of England to bee paid vnto them within six  
moneths next after the / deceafe of Elizabeth my nowe wyfe and  
if either or both of my said Grandchildren shall happen to dye  
before / their legacie or legacies shalbecome due; then my  
will is that the surviving children of the said Edward Cowper  
/ my sonne in lawe begotten and to bee begotten on the bodie  
of my daughter Elizabeth his nowe wife shall /have the same  
equally devided amongfte them;

**Item** I giue and bequeath vnto my daughter Sarah Poole (if shee  
bee living at my deceafe the sume of / ffortie shillings to  
bee paid vnto her within two moneths next after my deceafe:  
And to her sonne / Lawrence Poole the sume of tenne pounds of  
good and lawfull money of England to bee paid vnto him at the  
/ of one and twentie yeares

**Item** I doe give and bequeath vnto my sifter Elizabeth Hunter:  
& to her daughters Marie Crowch and Margrett / Weftley the  
sume of twentie shillings apeece to bee paid within six  
moneths next after my deceafe;

**Item** I devife give and bequeath vnto my daughter ~~daughter~~  
Dorothie Rogers All that one Orchard which I / bought and

purchafed of M.<sup>r</sup> Crowe: nowe in the tenure and occupacon of  
John Cox: scituate and being / neare the Caftell hills in the  
said towne of Northampton; next vnto a clofe of Samuell Moores  
deceafed / late of the towne of Northampton mercer;

**Item** I give and bequeath vnto Joane Moncke my late  
Maidefervant fortie shillings to bee paid her within six /  
moneths next after my deceafe if shee shalbee then living:

**Item** I give vnto the poore people of this towne of Northampton  
the sume of ffowre pounds to bee diftributed where / moft need  
is at the difcretion of my Executrix :

Provided neverthelefse and my true intent and meaneing is that  
if there shall happen any loffe or / diminution in my eftate  
after my deceafe and before the legacies aforefaid are due and  
payable; then and in such / cafe my will is that my daughters  
and all other Legatees shall beare and abate out of the  
seu[er]all legac[ies] / a proportionable rate of the said  
Loffe or diminution with My Executrix hereafter named: whome I  
doe / charge as shee will anfwere it before God that there bee  
noe fraude or collufion but juft and faire dealinge / in all  
refpects in this beehalfe : And I alfoe in like manner charge  
and comande my daughters yet vnmarried / that none of them doe  
bestowe themfelves in marriage without the confent and advife

of their mother and thoverfeers / of this my laft will and  
testament hereafter named

All and everie other my goods and Chattells lands and  
tenements vnbequeathed & vndevised ready moneye / debtes  
Jewells plate houfholdftuffe implements and vtenfills of  
houfhold I devife give and bequeath vnto / Elizabeth my  
welbeloved wife whom I doe nomynate conftitute make appointe  
and ordaine sole Executrix / of this my laft will and  
teftament; Defireinge her to bee carefull of my Children and  
hers and above all / to bring the[m] forward in religious  
duties; I alfoe charge my children to bee obedient to her and  
to hearken / to & [regard] her [advife]; and to love one  
another ; And I doubte not but soe doeinge God will take both  
mother / & Children into his gracious protec[t]ion & soe  
provide for them all that they shall want noe good thinge And  
/ I defire & ernestly require my said Executrix that at her  
deceafe shee shall bestowe the remainder of my eftate amongfte  
/ her owne Children;

**Item** I doe choofe no[m]i[n]ate and appoint overfeers of this  
my laft will and Teftament my loving sonnes M.<sup>r</sup> / Daniell  
Rogers and M.<sup>r</sup> Edward Cowper : giving them power yf they shall  
happen to bee both / living at my said wives deceafe to sell  
all my land before menconed to bee solde at and to the best  
value and the price / thereof to pay vnto my Children  
accordinge to the tenor and true meaneing of this my laft will

and / Teftament: And my defire is that my said sonne Edward  
Cowper may buye the houfe wherein I nowe / dwell giveing  
afmuch for the same as anye other would doe bona fide : And  
for a token of my love / and respects to my said overfeers doe  
giue to either of them twentie shillings to by ech of them a  
ringe /

In witneffe of the truth of all the p[re]miffes I have to  
everie leafe hereof sett my hand and seale the / day and yeare  
firft above written

Sealed signed and publifhed }  
in the p[re]fence of }

*Henrie Sillefby*

*William Prefton and*

*William Barrowe; [sen.<sup>r</sup>]*

*Lawrence Ball L.S.*

Grant of Probate 30th April 1644

## SUMMARY OF WILL

**Testator:** Lawrence Ball of Northampton, mercer

**Date of will:** 20th August 1642

**Date of probate:** 30th April 1644

**Court:** Royalist Prerogative Court of Canterbury  
in Oxford

**Depository:** The National Archives, ref. PROB  
10/641/102

**Executrix:** Elizabeth Ball (third wife)

**Overseers:** Daniel Rogers, son-in-law  
Edward Cowper, son-in-law

**Witnesses:** Henry Sillesby  
William Preston  
William Barrowe senior

**Interment:** In Chancel of All Saints' Church,  
Northampton near late father, Lawrence  
Ball

### Bequests:

Elizabeth Cowper, Martha (unmarried), Katherine (unmarried), and Dorothy Rogers (children by third wife)	Testator's present dwelling house in Northampton next to the Conduit Hall
4 daughters by third wife, Mary (daughter by first wife) and Sarah Poole (daughter by second wife)	house, malt kiln, stables, orchard etc. left to testator in father's will (currently let to Martin Tomkins and previously to testator's mother-in-law, Margaret Ball, widow), to be sold (and proceeds shared equally between the 6 daughters on death of third wife)
Mary Ball (daughter by first wife)	40 marks (13s. 4d. x 40 = £26 13s. 4d.)
	£100 payable 2 months after marriage or 3 months after death of stepmother (with gift over to

	surviving daughters if Mary dies before legacy becomes payable)
	£8 per annum maintenance if Mary decides to live apart from stepmother (until £100 legacy becomes payable)
Elizabeth Cowper (daughter), wife of Edward Cowper	£10 payable 3 months after death of mother
Martha Ball (daughter)	£200 payable within 3 months of marriage (with gift over to surviving daughters by third wife if Martha dies without marrying)
Katherine Ball (daughter)	£150 payable within 3 months of marriage (with gift over to surviving daughters by third wife if Katherine dies without marrying)
Thomas Cowper and Edward Cowper (grandchildren)	£10 each, payable within 6 months after death of third wife
Sarah Poole (daughter by second wife)	40s., payable within 2 months of decease
Lawrence Poole (son)	£10 when he attains 21
Elizabeth Hunter (sister) and her daughters Marie Crouch and Margaret Westley	20s. each, payable within 6 months of decease
Dorothy Rogers (daughter)	Orchard near Castell hills in Northampton next to close of Samuel Moores, mercer, deceased, purchased of Mr Crowe and let to John Cox
Joan Moncke (sometime maidservant)	40s. within 6 months of decease
Poor of Northampton	£4
Elizabeth Ball (third wife)	residue of estate
2 overseers	20s. each to buy a ring

**Inventory:**

Not extant

