

The Last Will and Testament  
Of  
Robert Landesdaile of Symoundstone

In the name of God Amen the nynth daie of June in the Fortith yeare of the reigne of our Sovereigne ladie Elizabeth by the grace of god Queene of Englande Fraunce and Irelande defender of the faith etc 1598. I Robert Landesdaile of Symoundstone in the countie of Lancaster yeoman sicke in body but whole in [mind] and of good and perfect memorie the lorde bee praised doe ordeyne devyce and make this my Testament con[tey]ninge therein my last will in manner and forme followinge. First and principally I commende my soul into th'andes of almightie god my maker and to Jesus Christ his true sonn my redeemer and saviour and commit my bodie to Christian buriall in the church or chapple of Padiham where it shall please god to appointe. Item whereas by good and sufficient conveyance and assurance in the law I have and holde certayne parcells of land scytuat, lyinge and beinge in Symoundstone in the said countie of Lancaster commonly called and knowne by severall names of Appletreehoulte meadow, Appletreehoulte and Gooselache hey with [a] certayne barne and laith theirupon erected and builded with th'appurtenaunces theirunto belonginge and now or late in the tenure and occupacion of mee the saide Robert Landesdaile myne assigne or assignes. And like wyse certayne other landes scytuat, lyinge and beinge in Ellingthorpe in the Countie of Yorke c[ont]eyninge by estimacion nyneteene acres of grounde bee yt more or less and now or late in the tenure and occupacion of Hugh Landesdaile brother of mee the said Robert Landesdaile his assigne or assignes. To have and to holde all and singular the saide landes and hereditamentes with the premisses and [ap]purtenaunces theirunto belonginge unto mee the saide Robert Landesdaile myne heryes and assignes for ever, with diverse other thinges theirin conteyned as bythe contentes their of more plainely and at large yt doth and maie appear: And whereas also by other good and sufficient conveyance and assurance in the law I have and holde a certayne Messuage and Tenement scytuat, lyinge and beinge in Symoundstone aforesaide and in certayne howses theirupon erected and builded with th'appurtenaunces theirunto belonginge and now or late in the tenure and occupacion of mee the said Robert Landesdaile myne assigne or assignes. To have and to holde the saide Messuage and Tenement with the premisses and appurtenaunces theirunto belonginge unto mee the saide Robert Landesdaile myne executours payinge doinge and perform[ing]e the yearly rents duties and services reserved in and upon the saide conveyances as by the contentes their of more plainely and at large yt doth and maie appeare. Now yt is my last will and full mynde that upon theis uses cindicions limitacions and purposses hereafter expressed in this my Testament concerninge my last will that Isabell my wyffe shall have hould occupie possesse and enjoye all and singuler the saide landes and hereditamentes scytuat in Symoundstone aforesaide with th'appurtenaunces. And the saide landes and hereditamentes scytuat in Ellingthorpe aforesaide with th'appurtenanuances theirunto belonginge and all the saide Messuage and Tenement scytuat in Symoundstone aforesaide with th'appurtenaunces theirunto belonginge unto hir the saide Elizabeth my wyffe hir assinge or assignes immediately from and after the day of the death of mee the saide Robert Landesdaile for and duringe and untill such tyme as Thomas Landesdaile myne eldest sonne shall have accomplished his full and perfect age of Twenti and one yeares that is to saie to the onely use and behooffe of the education and bringinge upp of Thomas, James, Hugh, Myles and Elizabeth Landesdaile my sonnes and dawghter with meate drinke and clothinge and not that they or any of them shall have any commodities their of duringe

the saide tyme of the nonage of the saide Thomas after that they or any of them shall come to preferment by mariage or therwyse. And to the use and behooffe of the payment of such some and somes of m[on]ey and to such personn or persons as I the saide Robert Landesdaile shall hereafter nominat and appoint in this my Testament conteyninge my last will the right of Isabell my saide wyffe in and to the thirde part of all and singular the saide landes hereditamentes and Tenement with th'appurtenuances allways excepted and to hir the saide Isabell reserved accordinge to the laudable custome of the cuntrie.

Item yt is furthermore ma last will and full mynde that the saide Isabell my wyffe shall occupy the third of my lands in Symoundstone and Ellingthorp for her natural as her dower and third part from the 21<sup>st</sup> birthday of the eldest son Thomas, paying the dues upon them.

And she shall occupy half of the Messuage and Tenement in Symoundstone during the remainder of the lease, paying half the rent and other dues on it, provided she pays the legacies of £53. 3s. 4d due out of the property to be divided amongst my children James, Hugh, Myles and Elizabeth, as well as their share of the goods and any other legacies bequeathed to them individually.

The tenacy is provided Isabell remains a widow.

If the money is not available when Thomas comes of age, then the other children may occupy whatever parts of the property are not reserved to Isabell and Thomas until they have received their full shares.

If Isabell remarries she shall have only a third of the Tenement, not a half.

Thomas and his heirs male shall have and hold the freehold land forever, with remainder to the other sons in order.

£40 provision for Thomas's daughters if any.

When Thomas reaches 21 he is to pay each of his brothers and his sister £6. 13s 4d (40 marks) as they reach 21.

Thomas shall not lease any part of the lands in Symoundstone which I recently bought from John Braddle of Portfilde in Co, Lanc's. gentleman, except to Isabell my wyffe.

After my debts and funeral expenses have been paid, my goods and chattels to be divided into three parts.

One part to my wyffe Isabell

One part to be divided amongst my five children.

Out of the third part I bequeath to Thomas my son my greatest ark, my greatest pot and my ploughs, harrows, wains, carts and coupes.

To James Dugdaile alias Landesdaile my brother all sums of money he owes to me.

To Myles Landesdaile my uncle all the debts he owes me.

To Thomas Landesdaile my uncles son 20 shillings.

The residue to be divided equally amongst my four younger children.

Executors; Isabell my wyffe and Thomas my son.

Witnesses; Myles Whittaker of Symoundstone, yeoman.

JohnWhittaker son of Humphrey Whittaker of the same, husbandman.

James Dugdaile alias Landesdaile aforesaid of Halifax in the County of York, clothier.

Thomas Landesdaile of Symoundstone, husbandman.

John Baxter...and curate of Padiham.

Debts owing unto mee as follows: -

Christopher Marser	£34. 6s. 8d
Edmund Starkie	£20. 0s. 0d
Robert Wilkinson of Wykingill	£20. 0s. 0d
Henry Walmesley	£11. 0s. 0d
Thomas Fielden & John Marton gentleman his pledge	£9. 0s. 0d
Roger Nowell esq	£9.10s. 0d
Robert Geldarde	£12. 0s. 0d
Hugh Landesdaile	£8.10s. 0d
Hugh Landesdaile pledge for Allan Robinson of Gisbourne	£1.16s. 8d
Nicholas Cartmell	£4. 1s. 0d
Richard dugdaile of Worston	3s. 0d
The said Richard for the expense of the Court	
Richard Johnson of Worston	£2. 0s. 0d
Henry Hodgson of Altham	£8. 0s. 0d
Edward Braddell gent	£4. 0s. 0d
Richard Wilkinson Marser	£1. 7s. 0d
The said Richard for a peck of meal	1s. 8d /20d
John Cronckeshey	£2.14s. 0d
Margerie Robert late wyffe of Nicholas Robert late of Symoundstone deceased, for barlie	10s. 8d
...Manckenolles of Barlie	12s. 8d
Nicholas Pollard	£2. 2s. 4d
The said Nicholas Pollard for a peck of meal lent At Margaret Pollard his sister's burial	1s. 2d /14d
Richard Astmough & Mrs Ann Walmesley of Dunmough His pledge	£1. 10s. 0d
Barnarde Roe	?
James Robert	13s. 4d
John Robert	£2. 0s. 0d
John Robinson of Padiham	12s. 0d
The Executors of Henry Whythead deceased late of Padiham	£1. 0s. 0d /20s
Edmund Whythead of the same	18s. 4d
Richard Willson	3s. 7d
Christopher Cockshoot	2s. 6d
Edmund Norrham	£1. 0s. 0d /20s
Richard Ingham son of Edward Ingham of Reade	2s. 8d
Richard Gest	1s. 6d /18d
William Parkinson	2s. 9d
John Whittaker the elder of Symoundstone the said John Whittaker more money And for a peck of salt	£2. 0s. 0d /40s 4s. 0d 1s.10d/22d
Nicholas Grymeshey de Heyhowses	2s. 8d
John Whittaker the executor of Thomas Whittaker deceased Late of Padiham	£1. 0s. 0d
Summa totalis	£164. 10s. 0d

Notes about Roger Nowell Esq

“Roger Nowell Esquire” This busy and mischievous personage, who resided at Read Hall, in the immediate neighbourhood of Pendle, was sheriff of Lancashire in 1610. He married Katherine, daughter of John Murton, of Murton, and was buried at Whalley, January 31<sup>st</sup> 1623. He was of the same family as Alexander Nowell, the Dean of St Paul’s, and Lawrence Nowell, restorer of Saxon literature in England; and tarnished a name, which they had rendered memorable, by becoming, apparently, an eager and willing instrument in that wicked persecution which resulted in the trial. His ill-directed activity seems to have fanned the dormant embers into a blaze, and to have given aim and consistency to the whole scheme of oppression. From this man was descended, in the female line, one whose merits might atone for a whole generation of Roger Nowells, the truly noble-minded and evangelical Reginald Heber