

*The Last Will and Testament
Of Katherin Muffett
of Calne
Will proved
26th June 1626*



Probate Court of London
Original reference: (Court Reference here)
Court Copy reference:
Will Dated:

Testator:	Katherin	Muffett	Widow, Gentlewoman of Calne
Executors:			
Browne	Benedick		Son
Overseers:			
Blake	Henry	Friend	Of Pinulls
Kent	John	Friend	Of Devizes, former attorney that was
Mortimer	William	Friend	Vicar of Calne
Sadler	John	Kinsman	Of Overton
Weekes	John	Friend	Lawyer of Calne

Beneficiaries		Relationship to testator	Other Information
Surname	Given Names		
			The poor at Calne
			The poor at Locredge
Biggs		Sister	
Browne		Daughter-in-law	Wife of her eldest son
Browne	Benedick	Son	
Browne	Martha	Daughter	
Browne	Richard	Son	
Hall		Sister	
Horton	Suzan	Daughter	
Muffett	Patience	Daughter	Daughter of Doctor Muffett
Witnesses			
Flaye	Walter		
Girdler	Nicholas		
Mayoe	John		
Mortimer	William		Vicar at Calne
Noyes			
Other Names			
Child	Richard		
Durnell	Daniel		Deceased. His executors hold Dr. Muffett's book
Ernele	John,		Sir; Knight

Scott	Roger		
Stratum	Eric		Bond holder

I Katherin Muffett of Calne gentlewoman in County of Wilts widow do make this my last will etc First I give my soul etc and my body to the earth And as concerning all lands money goods etc First to my daughter Patience £300 to be delivered to her within a twelve month after my decease the reasonable use thereof to go unto her presently after my decease for her maintenance; also one hundred pounds worth of the best goodes that was her owne Father's as namely these All the plate that was her owne father's excepting fower cupps or peeces as hereafter shalbe rehearsed the rest excepting these fower are some xiiij several peeces which I give vnto my daughter Patience worth some xl// and all the furniture that was of the chamber over the parlour at Bulburge Farme by or in Wilton as these and v peeces ot immagery hangings praised at x i j // the best crimson silke quilt iiiij//, curtaynes crimson silke to the same bed and fower more of the same crimson silke curtaynes for windowes iiiij// vs \u]d t one crimson silke valence with longe silke frence belowe and shorte silke frence above richly imbrothered with Mr Doctor Moffett's armes in xvij severall places price ij/z 10^ and one grene cupboard cloth with long silke fringe and a border of nedle work about him price xiiij^ one greene carpett three yards one half long broad cloth xs yjV one long window cushion and two square ones of red sattin stript with gold and two curtaines blewe and yellowe worth xvijj? and the best feather or downe bed best feather boulsters one paire of the downe pillowes with a canvas cloth to the tuke bed a mattres of canvas to laye vnder the bed well worth iiiij// vs one greene cloth chaire imbrothered with sattin two lowe stooles imbrothered with twist silke three chaires of crimson damaske the colour decayed two lowe stooles of greene damaske frenge with silke xxxs one large woodden chest clasped with iron viijSi one paire latten andirons xxs two paire of iron andirons to the same weighing xxij pounds worth \\\}S one very faire drawing bord fower yards long worth x\s one faire ioyned bedsteed carved with iron rods to the same a truckle bedsteed to the same peice x\s one ioyned livery cupbord all carved one sanar bord of walnuttree price xxxs and one yeallowe coverlett one paire of the best Spanishe blanketts and the best greene sett ru™ price iij// two paire of the best sheets and two paire of the best pillowbers that was her father's Is my wedding ring that was her father's and two other gold rings one have a ruby the other a Turkey stones in them \s one pumander ball covered with gold wire a ringe of pearle about him and a gold pinnc thorow him with a pearle at the end a paire of gold braceletts both thes worth ix// one necklace ol great pearle threescore great pearle lacking two and one pretty faire jewell the breadth of xhV both worth I know not well what x\s xij silver spoones the best that was her father's worth v// all these goods to make up her hundred poundes worth of goods and at her choice whether she will take a hundred pound in money for the said goods of either of her brothers yea or noc if they will give it not elce ready payment at her choice also vnto my daughter Patience not to bee noe kind ot waie altered nor sold as these two silver cupps with cover silver double guilt one silver salt with a pepper boxe at the topp silver and percell gilt as her owne given her of her godmothers and godfather at her christning her bearing cloth of scarlett with two parchment lace of silver about him one little gold ring the canopy bedsteed in my chamber with the best greene saie curtaines valance and tester one ljvery bedsteed one firr chest the biggest woodden chest both those that was her Father's one broad flatt boxe besides her own already three good feather bedds vnaltered and three feather boulsters two paire feather or downe pi Howes two flocke bedds and two flocke boulsters and one role of the darnix hangings iowre paire good sheets fower paire courser sheets three paire good pillow beers the second best damaske table cloth the best diaper table cloth the best dozen diaper table napkins the best diaper ewre towell two other flaxen or hollan ewre towel Is two little towells one more dozen of good flaxen tablenapkins one cushion cloth of laune to pin vp against a wall the two brasse crockes that goeth about the house a great one and a little one two reasonable kettles halfe a dozen pewter platters halfe a dozen plates halfe a dozen saucers halfe a dozen porringers the white sett rugg one odd coverlid one paire blankett two faire new handkerchiefs one of them laune with a faire stich edged with gold gold buttons the other faire wrought with coloured silke silver and gold vnedged all these goods to be delivered vnto my daughter Patience presently after my decease vnto my daughter Horton's children that now are living at my death either of them one cow or heyfer their mother to have the vse of them till they come to the age of eighteen or marriage if she will also one good leather bed one good feather bolster one paire feather pillowes one good hollan sheete marked with a K and a Roman S one paire other flaxen sheets one paire pillowbers one good flaxen table cloth one good towell one dozen flaxen table napkins one brass pott and the biggest chest in my chamber as that that is her owne; vnto my daughter Martha one tine flaxen table cloth one fine towell and one dozen table napkins to them the which she hath allready but in waie of love one paire of sheets one bord cloth one towell ; my son Benedick Browne these things by name : fower good feather bedds fower good feather boulsters two paire of feather and downe pillowes and one flocke bed and bolster fower peeces of plate silver

and double guilt one of them the biggest and best except one in the house with a cover another little fine wrought cupp with a cover silver and double guilt the two least guilt cupps fower old silver spoones broke and whole and one little one for a child my best damaske table cloth one damaske towell for the ewre one dozen of the best table napkins six other layer table clothes dyaper hollan and flaxen cloth six dozen more table napkins i'j towells diaper hollar and flaxen cloth vj paire of good sheets thre payer of fine pillowbers the tent bedsteed with tester enrtaynes and valence of greene durans with one greene sett ringg and one payer of blanketts and the canopy bedsteed with tester curtains and valence of red durans vnto him with an yarn coverlete covered vnto him and the worst silk quilt vnto him my great ire bound truncke with two lockes one coffer standing by him two potts or crockes three brasse kettles one of the fayrest cesterns one dozen and halfe of pewter two faire handcerchers one wrought with blacke silke and gold edged -with gold and gold buttons the other very faire wrought with redd silke with great braunches of gold at either corner ; vnto the poore at Calne xb> and at Lokredge xxs to be delivered at my burial ; my sister Hall x\s : my sister Biggs xxjK in token of my love; my servant maid xs ; my daughter Patience '-one quishionette of black velvett sett with pearle" a lute and a pair of virginals; son Richard Browne a tablet of gold and coloured stones a gold ring with vij Turkey stones 'sett in him" a leather bed boulster and pair of sheets; daughter Browne my eldest son's wife one wrought velvet gown one pair of black velvet mittens; my son Benedick "Dr Muffettes damaske gound"; my daughter Patience "my best gold coife purse and sheath for knives that was of her owne working my finest hellan smocke which her Father gave me and my wastcoat wrought with silke and gold and three liver)' cupboord clothes one of them wrought with laid worke and all the bookes about my house' Ail the rest of my wearing apparell to bee equally divided between my three daughters Suzan Martha and Patience My sonne Benedicke Browne and I humbly request etc my well beloved friends Mr John Kent of the Devizes "attorney that was" Mr John Sadler of Overton my kinsman and Mr Henry Blake of Pinulls Mr William Mortimer of Calne vicar and Mr John Weekes of Calne lawyer to be my overseers and "I humbly desire them to have some care of my youngest daughter as is vnbestowed and worst able to looke vnto her selfe and that which is left her that shee maie have no wronge" To them vs apiece "besides ordinary charge they maie be driven unto" My daughter Patience fower Table clothes of lynnen more that was her ovvue Father's good ones and broad from silridge to silridge one dozen Table-napkins more two towells ; to Mr William Mortimer Vicare of Calne xx^

Signed and sealed *Katherin Muffett*

Witnesses!: Mr Mortimer minister at Calne Nicholas Girdler Walter Flaye Noyes John Mayoe

With a codicil that the £300 to be paid to her daughter Patience Muffet are to be paid out of two bonds one wherein Edward Stratum and Robert Child stand bound in £400 for the payment of £200 and the other wherein Sir John Ernele knight and Roger Scott stand bound in £200 for the payment of £105 which bonds the Testatrix has given to Patience; she leaves to her also "one book which was her Father Dr Muffetts being all or most of it in his own writing and is now or late in the handes of the Executor or Executors of Daniell Durnell deceased" Also her Father's picture "being the larger and the fairest picture and alsoe his armes and his Pedigree"; also that her overseers are to inspect the writings in her custody concerning the lands of her two sons and deliver them to whom they belong

Signed in the presence of *Wm. Mortimer, Henry Blake, John Weekes*

Proved with the codicil at London, 26 June 1626, and administration granted to Benedicke Browne, sworn in the presence of William Mortimer, Vicar of Calne, by virtue of a commission granted in that behalf.

Wiltshire Notes and Queries

OPC Note:

Katherin Muffett was the widow of Dr. Thomas Muffett. He was an English naturalist and physician, best known for his study of insects, especially spiders, in regard to medicine. In October 1597, he was elected as a Member of Parliament for Wilton. In 1600 his wife Jane died, and he married Catherine Brown that same year. He died at the Bulbridge Farm, in Wilton on June 5th 1604.