



The Last Will and Testament of Edward Winslow

"The will of Governor Edward Winslow... is preserved at Somerset House, London."
The will is printed in *The Mayflower Descendant*, Vol. 4, p. 1-3.

"I Edward Winslowe of London, Esquior, being now bound in a voyage to sea in the service of the comon welth do make publish & declare this to be my last will & testam't touching the disposing of my estate. ffirst I doe give will devise & bequeath all my lands & stock in New england & all my possibilities & porcons in future allotm'ts & divicons to Josia my onely sonne & his heires, hee allowing to my wife, a full third parte thereof for her life also. I give to the poore of the Church of Plymouth in new England Tenn pounds & to the poore of marshfielde where the chiefest of my estate lyes Tenn pounds, also I give my lynnens wch I carry wth me to sea, to my daughter Elizabeth & the rest of my goods wch I carry wth mee I give to my sonn Josias, hee giving to each of my brothers a suite of apparell & I make my said son Josias my executor of this my will, and Colonell venables my overseer of my goods in the voyage & my fower friends Dr Edmond wilson; mr John Arthur, mr James Shirley & mr Richard ffloyde, overseers for the rest of my prsonall estate in England.

witness my hand & Seale the eighteenth day of December In the yeare of our Lord God one Thousand Six hundred fifty & ffower.

Sealed & subscribed pr me Edw" Winslow

in the presence of Jon Hooper, Gerard Usher servant to Hen: Colbron

[Marshfield Records, I: 60, under date 3 Nov. 1656]

"Att ye same Townes meeting it was ordered That mr Thomas Bourne and Joseph Beedell should Receave The Ten pounds which mr Edward Winslow gave To The poore of This Towne by will and ye sayd prtyes so betrusted To Rec: & dispose of The stocke in The Townes behalfe have disposed one Cow to Edward Bumpus & John Branch one Cow & John Thomas The Remainder & These prtyes that is Edward & both The Johns To keepe These Cowes & To Returne at ye end of The Tea(rme) (as the Towne hath formerly lett out ye poore stocke) The princip(al) being living To ye Towne & The Third of The Increase The having Two Thirds of ye Increase Themselves."