

Some Limerick Wills.

Transcribed by Noel Murphy.

1. Abstract of the will of Malochey Ryan of the City of Limerick.
Written 11 August 1729.

I bequeath to my wife Catherine Ryan £500. To my son Richard £500 etc. To sons Malochy and William £400 each. To daughters Catherine and Margaret £400 each, provided my worldly substance answers so much and if not to be deducted in proportion etc.

If any of my children should happen to die, fortune of same to be divided amongst rest etc, etc.

I order farm at Grange to be sett to highest bidder except 40 acres to be reserved for use and pleasure of wife and children and the income of Grange together with all my other farms to be equally distributed for support etc of said wife and children. But should wife marry she shall have no right to said income etc except the £500 before bequeathed to her etc. etc.

I doe nominate etc my dearly beloved wife Catherine Ryan, my beloved Brother [in-law] Richard Harrold and my kinsman Timothy Ryan, both of the City of Limerick, Gents. Exors. of this etc.

Note: - William Ryan above is the same William Ryan who left the next Will.

2. Abstract of Prerogative Will of William Ryan of Tipperary, Clare and Limerick. Written 17 June 1763. Admon. 20 March 1764

William Ryan late of the City of Limerick, Merchant, appoints Dr. John Martin sole exor. Bequeaths £50 to Mary Hanneer, £10 to the clergy, £10 to the poor, the rest of my fortune I leave to my brother [in-law] Richard Roche and his wife, my sister, requesting he will give something to my poor relations.

Will signed in the presence of John Martin M. D. John McNight Chir. (Surgeon)
And Michael Hickey M. D.

Admon granted to Richard and Catherine Roche, 30 March 1764.

Note: - Catherine Ryan nee Harrold, widow, natural and lawful mother and next-of-kin of the above William Ryan together with Catherine, Ellinor, Francis and Margaret The natural and lawful nephew and nieces disputed unsuccessfully the Will of the deceased.

3. Abstract of the Will of James Ryan of the City of Limerick.
Written 4 April 1748. Admon. 28 July 1748.

I will my body to be buried in St. Munchin's Church yard near to the body of my late wife, Mary Brown.

I bequeath unto Ruthy Brush, 4 table spoons etc, 4 gold rings, 1 plated Thankard which are now in the hands of my friend Mr. George Mason and I order them to be given etc unto the hands of Mr. Richard Harrold of this city for the use of Ruthy Brush, to be kept for her until she comes to the age of 21 or shall intermarry and in case she should dye I order that the said plate shall revert to the use of my three children by said Mary Brown to wit, Molly, Nelly and Johanna to be equally distributed between them and I also order the legacy grants to Ruthy Brush shall be subject to her intermarriage with the consent of the Revd. John Smyth and said Mr. Harrold before she shall arrive at 21 years, otherwise not.

I bequeath to my wife Priscilla Ryan nee Pretty, exclusive of the marriage articles between us, my lease and interest in my dwelling house etc. etc.

I leave etc to my three children Molly, Nelly and Johanna Ryan my boat and all its furniture etc as also my interest in the West of Co. Clare, City of Limerick by leases to be equally divided between them etc.

Exor, Rd. Harrold and Danl. McNerheny
Witnesses, George Mason, Maurice Nugent and Edmond Menelly.

4 Abstract of the Will of William Ryan of Annagh in Co. Limerick (This William Ryan died in 1634).

Bequeaths his body to be buried in the Abbey of Owney.

I bequeath to niece Mgt. Walsh, four bulling cows etc.

I bequeath to my daughter Shiela, twelve cows etc.

I doe bequeath unto my son-in-law Edmund Barnett all the rents due from him out of the lands which he holds from me together with twenty three pounds which I lent him and for which I have his bill.

I bequeath to my grandson John Ryan six calf cowes and six cows bulling age next summer, eight mares etc and the rick of oates standing at Gortowly and the benefit of the lease I hold of the Townlands of Killmacrgie.

I do bequeath unto my son and heir Connor Ryan the several towns, villages and hamlets and lands of Rathfarnan and Toburgcariff in all three plowlands in the foresaid County of Limerick and the fourth part of the great tithes of the parish of the Abbey of Owney, Calverkinlish, Caherelly, Rathgodan and Ballirollie.
I bequeath unto him all my corn in ground and above ground at Portannecastle etc etc.

And my will is that all my goods and chattels shall be divided into three parts except 100 sheep of English breed which I bequeath unto my wife Amy Ryan.
I bequeath one third part to my said wife and one third part to Connor my son and one third part to my daughter, the youngest.

Witnesses. Coxm[sic] Ryan, Andrew Hicky, Owen Neallon and Daniel McTeige.

5. Abstract of the Will of William Ryan of Limerick, Wheelright.[sic]
Written 27 Nov. 1762.

I bequeath my body to be buried in St Mary's Church yard in City of Limerick.

I leave etc unto my brother Richard Ryan's three sons, Viz: - Daniel, Richard and Henry Ryan and their heirs, my nephews, the two front houses and back houses in Castle Street and the house wherein I the said William Ryan now live in.

I leave to Daniel Ryan and his heirs etc etc. Nevertheless receiving out of the rents, profits etc. (Makes no sence)

To my wife Margaret Ryan orse (otherwise) Molony £2-10-0 yearly etc etc. together with the flaxshop and liberty of trafficking as usual in the Manufactureway etc and after her decease to go to said Daniel, Richard and Henry to be equally divided.

I also bequeath to my sister Bridget Barrett orse Ryan my plate Buckles.

Failing issue to above nephews I leave estate to my brother John's children i.e. John, James and William now in Cork City, their heirs etc.

Bridget Barrett, Extrix.

6. Abstract of the Will of William Ryan, City of Limerick, Innholder.
Written 4 Dec. 1800 Admon 24 Dec 1800

Whereas I am seised and possessed of divers Estates and properties, both freehold and chattels and also possessed of personal property to a considerable amount Viz: - amongst others, of land in Doonedayle (Dooradoyle) adjoining the lands of Rossbrien, [and] the lands of Rathbane. Also a piece or plot of ground called the Pump Yard adjoining the concerns one held by Thomas Owens, Innholder, a house and concern in the Square now held by me and also a large concern and House at the back of the Square commonly known by the name of Taylors Inn. All of said houses etc are situated in the County of the City of Limerick.

I give, devise, etc all my estate and interests therein unto John Bouchier of the City of Limerick etc upon trust for the payment of all just debts etc and to suffer and permit my brother John Ryan during the term of his natural life to receive and take therefrom yearly, etc one annuity rent of £15 and also to permit my wife Ann Ryan to take out of the rent, issues and profits of the said lands and premises in addition to and over the sum of £32 yearly already secured to her by her late husband Thomas Taylor the sum of £20 yearly etc etc.

I bequeath £10 to Edward Taylor and to Ann Taylor for mourning and the residue of all my possessions to my dear friend and kinsman Thomas Francis Wilkinson of the City of Limerick etc.

Witnesses, W. O'Regan, Martin Arthur and Dan Gabbett.

Exor. Thomas Francis Wilkinson.

Note: - Ad. From the Limerick Chronicle of Thursday 31 Dec. 1789.
The New Inn in the Square, Limerick. Anne Taylor, widow of Thomas Taylor continues on the business.

Clonmel Gazette, Wednesday 16 Dec 1789.
Limerick, 14th. Died yesterday morning Mr. Thomas Taylor, Innholder.

Limerick Chronicle. Saturday 20 April 1792
Married last Wednesday Mr Samuel Johns, Silversmith to the widow Taylor.

Ennis Chronicle Thursday 14 Feb. 1793.
Ad. Samuel Johns, Limerick, lately married to the widow of Mr Thomas Taylor who kept an Inn outside the Square has taken the noted Inn at the height of Thomond Gate known by the name of the Black Horse Inn.

The Clare Journal. 23 Feb. 1795.
Died 4 days ago, in the Square, Limerick, Mr. Samuel Johns, Master of the New Inn.

Clare Journal, July 1795.
Married on the 16th July, William Ryan of Cahirconlish to Ann the widow of Samuel Johns of the Square, Limerick. (William died in Dec 1800).

7. Abstract of the Will of Thomas Ryan, Tobacconist of the City of Limerick.
Written 11 Jan. 1737.

Leaves all he possesses to his sister Ellen Cragh and makes her husband William Cragh sole Exor. Except to Maria Bartley daughter of Edward Bartley £50 and all his utensils to his brother John Ryan.

Witness, John Ryan.

8. Abstract of the Will of Daniel Ryan fitzWilliam.
Written 23 Jan. 1629. Admon. 10 May 1630.

I bequeath to my well beloved wife Ellenor Ryan orse Cody all my goods and chattels etc and the leases of the lands of Laygoil with appurtenses during her life and after her decease to the last of my children and youngest son James Ryan etc etc. Failing issue to be given to Henry Ryan my second son and the issue of his body lawfully begotten and for want of such issue to my son Darby and his issue.

Exors, William Ryan, Dr. Carroll Fennell and Richard Daly.

Brief Abstracts of some other Wills of the Ryan families of Limerick.

John Ryan, Limerick City, Wigmaker, dated 5 July 1751. Admon 31 July 1751.
Wife – Elizabeth.
Mother – Mary.

John Ryan, Innkeeper, Limerick. Dated 25 Oct 1769. Admon 27 Jan 1770.
Sister – Margaret, £10.
Brother - Cornelius.
Nieces Sarah, Joanna and Margaret, daughters of Cornelius. One shilling and one penny each.
Niece – Mary McNamara, widow, daughter of his sister Margaret.

John Ryan, Dealer, Limerick. Dated 11 April 1770. Admon 18 April 1770.
No relatives.

James Ryan, Shopkeeper, Limerick. Dated 24 March 1772. Admon 9 May 1772.
Daughter – Mary nee Shaughnessy, £100.
Son - William, £200 and shop.

Daniel Ryan of Inch, Co. Tipperary. Dated 23 Aug 1757. Admon 4 Nov. 1773.
Daughter - Mary married to Richard Harrold of Pennywell, Limerick, 10 Guineas for mourning.
Daughter - Margaret married to Martin Harrold, 10 Guineas for mourning.
Daughter-in-law - Mary Ryan nee Kennedy.
Sister – Francis Purcell
Sister-in-law – Ann McCarthy
Son – John Ryan.
Son – George £500.
Daughter – Elizabeth £1200 when married or on reaching 21 years of age.
Son – Denis £800.
Daughter – Frances, Mrs. Woulfe
Note: - Daniel was married to Elizabeth the daughter of Justin McCarthy of Spring House, Bansha, Co. Tipperary. Daughter Mary born circa 1743. Married young.

Phillip Ryan, Innkeeper, Limerick Dated 8 Nov. 1773. Admon 26 March 1776
Farm at Boherbui.
Wife – Mary nee Hourigan
Daughter – Ann £60 when 21
Daughter – Mary £50 when 21.
Sons – William, James, George and John, equal shares

John Ryan, Inch, Co. Tipperary. Dated 1 May 1773. Admon 12 Feb 1779.
Wife – Mary nee Kennedy £1000.
Mother-in-law – Christian Kennedy
I leave to Miss Elizabeth Long of Nenagh £170, which with the sum of £10 left by my late father Daniel Ryan.
To my sister Frances Woulfe £10.
To my sister Mary Harrold, now Mary Nash £10. Mary born circa 1743

And to Margaret Harrold £10 which they desire may be paid to Elizabeth Long, totalling £200.

The residue of my personal property to my brother George Ryan in foreign parts, his return uncertain.

Uncle – John McCarthy of Spring House.

Brother-in-law – Walter Woulfe.

Codicil written in London in 1777.

Timothy Ryan, Ashrow, Co. Limerick. Dated 15 Jan 1778. Admon 17 Jan 1791
No other details.

Mary Ryan, widow, West Water Gate, Limerick Dated 8 Sept. 1787

Trustee for her young children – William Hogg.

Daughter – Mary Flynn, one shilling and one penny.

Daughter by 1st marriage - Bridget Hogan £3-8-3.

Youngest Son – Thomas.

Youngest daughter – Johanna

Jane Ryan, Limerick City. Dated 19 May 1787. Admon 1787

Patrick Ryan, John St. Limerick, Skin and feather merchant. Dated 18 Nov. 1796

Admon 25 Nov. 1796

Mother – Betty, £40

Nephew – George, £10.

Wife – Ann.

Mary Ryan, widow of John of Inch, Co. Tipperary. Dated 10 March 1802.

Admon. 14 July 1807.

Died in Waterford.

To Niece – Mrs Christian Quinn £100.

To Niece – Mrs Julia Sweetman £100.

To Niece – Spinster, Mary Forstall £100.

To Niece – Spinster, Alice Forstall.

To Julia above, Lace Veil and neckerchief.

To Julia's 2nd daughter Gold watch and Seal.

To Godchild – Letitia Lambert £100.

To friend - Mrs Lambert Diamond earrings and pearl bracelet.

To nephew – Pierce Edmund Forstall's wife, pearl earrings

To servant – Thomas Tobin £100.

To Richard Bolger and Patrick Lambert, £400 in trust. The income for Thomas Tobin till death then the £400 to be divided to nieces Christian, Julia, Mary and Alice above.

To Tom Tobin's wife Mary £100

To Tom Tobin's daughter Judith £50.

To Richard Bolger, Excr £100

To Patrick Lambert, Excr. £100

Residue to nephew Pierce Edmund Forstall these and plate left to him by his grandmother Mrs Kennedy now in Mr Finlay's Bank in Dublin.

Mahogany Desk to Pierce Edmund Forstall, now at Rochestown

Presses Trunk to maid Mary Tobin.

Silver Tea Urn to Mrs Lambert.

Water Plates etc to Mary Tobin.

All my linen to Mary Tobin.

1805 To Niece Ally Forstall a best feather bed.

1806 To niece Julia Sweetman my silver trowel

To Christian Quan, Black Mode Cloak

To niece Christian Quan, Silver coffee pot.

To niece, Christian Quan, 2 plated candlesticks

And my Black Cloak trimmed with broad black lace, bought when I was in Bath at Mrs Paines.

1806 Pierce Edmund Forstall and nephew John Kennedy Forstall cut off with 1 guinea each.

Mary and Alice Forstall now excrs.

Two silver wine coasters to Mrs Quan of Waterford

Richard Bolger revoked from Excr. And £100. Thomas Quan of Waterford in stead Excr and £100.

George Ryan, brother of John of Inch, Co. Tipperary. Dated 7 April 1804.

Trustees to give 4% to Mary, widow of brother John. After her death the 6% to pay the portions of younger children until all paid.

To wife my personal fortune. No debts of father, brother or self to be paid from fortune.

Daniel Ryan Esq. City of Limerick. Dated 23 Oct. 1799. Admon 3 May 1804

Brother- Patrick £300.

Wife - Frances

Son – Robert

Daughter – Johanna Kane.

Edmond Ryan, Thomas St. City of Limerick. Dated 26 Oct 1803. Admon 1804.

Wife – Bridget half of his fortune.

Daughters – Margaret and Mary.

Sons - John, Patrick, Edmond and Michael, equal shares of the other half of fortune.

Mathew Ryan, Fantstown. Dated 1805

Son – Edmond £50.

Son - Mathew £45.

Daughter - Winifred £56.

Daughter – Mary £55.

Daughter - Joanna £45

Daughter – Peggy £45.

Daughter – Biddy £45.

Wife – Winifred £45 and all the furniture.

Brother – Michael.

Philip Ryan, Annacotty, Papermaker. Dated 22 June 1799,

1st son – Jeremiah

Admin. 1803, to Samuel Ryan, Papermaker, Annacotty.

John Ryan, City of Limerick, Merchant. Dated 9 Dec. 1808. Admon 21 July 1808.

1808 cannot be correct, perhaps it should be 1809.

To be buried at Killeely.

Trustees – William Creagh, brother-in-law.

Children – Mary and Margaret.

Sister – Ellinor, wife of William Creagh, Linen Draper.

Aunt – Margaret Powlley

Natural daughter – Bab Ryan.

John Ryan. Inch, Co. Tipperary. Dated 2 March 1723. Admon 18 Jan. 1724.

My will is that my exers. as soon as convenient make such distribution of all my real and personal estate of nature and kind the same may consist among my wife and children as they my Excrs. shall think. For and before such distribution my Excrs shall out of my personal estate, pay £100 sterling unto my wife over and above her share.

The such distribution should any of my children disagree with share appt.

(apportioned) for him by Excrs etc. Such child shall be cut off from having any share

etc. Part of my effects consists in £314 in gold and about £18 in silver in different

places in my closet at Inch. A debt of £45 due to me of Mr. Edward Fitzgerald,

merchant of Waterford, £240 due to me of Mr. John Ryan of Waterford, Merchant.

My will is if I dye in Dublin no more than £15 - £20 costs of funeral and I am to be

buried at night. Cn. Pierce Boyton shall oversee funeral. I appoint my father-in-law

Major George Mathew of Thurles, Mr Hugh Kennedy of Poulsnorman and Howard

Egan of Ann[o---le, Excrs. Should any of these die before such distribution is made I

nominate my kinsman Mr. Justin McCarthy of Spring House and Redmond Purcel of

Fethard, my Excrs.

Witnesses, Pierce Boyton, John Ryan and Richard Purcel