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AN EDITION OF WILLS  
PROVED IN THE  
PREROGATIVE COURT OF CANTERBURY  
4 NOVEMBER - 31 NOVEMBER 1549

ROSALIND PLIMMER  
1985

THIS THESIS IS PRESENTED IN  
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## INTRODUCTION

### ( i ) Transcription and the Manuscript

This edition of wills is a transcription of forty-five consecutive testaments in the Populwell Register<sup>1</sup>, probated in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury during the month of November 1549. Preserved on microfilm, this register has been classified PROB 11/32. The register is uniformly written in the sixteenth century 'secretary' hand. As the dates of probate run consecutively through the first twenty-six testaments, 4 November to 19 November, then make a rather muddled order through the remaining nineteen testaments, it is probable that the wills were not written into the register at the time of probate but collated and written up at a later date.

Throughout this thesis my intention has been to remain as close to the manuscript as possible, retaining the manner and style of the English language during the sixteenth century. All contractions commonly found in the Tudor 'secretary' hand of the manuscript have been expanded in this text, and underlined to indicate this to the reader. The punctuation has been modernized from "/" , ". / ." and "." to commas and full stops to ease the understanding of the transcript.

However as the punctuation in the manuscript seemed quite consistant the only major alteration I made was to insert commas where they had been omitted within a list of names or items. All the capital letters that appeared in the manuscript have reappeared in the transcript, the only change made was to give initial capital letters to all names and place-names that began with miniscules in the manuscript.

As "i" and "j", and "u" and "v", were used interchangeably during the sixteenth century this has not been corrected in this edition, the only exception was to distinguish between "I" and "J" as the initial letters of names, place-names and months; similarly "ff" is retained in this text except as the initial letter of names, places and months, when it appears "F". Where abbreviations such as "theyrs" and "thappurtenances" appear in the manuscript, they are repeated in this transcription, however where a flick of a pen has linked "apece" and "alother" these have been altered to "a pece" and "al other" in order for the text to be more easily understood. I have also distinguished between "r̄" and "r̅", as "r" in the final position and "ur". Where a letter of a word is supralinear as distinct from a contraction, this has been indicated eg. g<sup>r</sup>lowth. Where there is a gap in the manuscript, this has been indicated [ ].

Monetary abbreviations have been retained in the text, these are li for *librae* or pounds, s for *solidus* or shillings and d for *denarius* or pence.

In the end-notes the surname first appears as is commonly written in the manuscript, if the name is found elsewhere in a modernized spelling it is noted in [ ], and often used within the endnote. All references to will numbers in the introduction, end-notes and indices are the numbers I have assigned to each testament, according to the order they appear in the register. All folio numbers are printed in the top right corner of the 'recto' page of each folio. The Populwell register is comprised of 355 folios, those in this edition can be found f.315v - f.388r.

Throughout it must be remembered that during the sixteenth century dating was based on the Julian calendar, consequently the new year began March 25. The new style dates have been inserted [ ] in the transcription where the old style dates occur. Other emendations have been similarly inserted.

1. Named after Thomas Populwell of London, whose will was the first recorded in this volume.

(ii) The Sixteenth Century Will and the Prerogative Court of Canterbury

Wills could be proved in over 300 ecclesiastical courts, a jurisdiction claimed from the thirteenth century when the Church administered goods for the 'repose of the soul'<sup>1</sup>. The supreme ecclesiastical court of England and Wales, the Prerogative Court of Canterbury had jurisdiction over all testaments made by clergymen (such as William Page and Richard Rauson), and more particularly over all testators whose legacies included property valued over £5 in more than one diocese of the archbishopric of Canterbury. The P.C.C. also proved contested wills. By the sixteenth century it had become more common for wills to be made. The P.C.C. probate registers date from 1383 (making an increase in the probate business of ecclesiastical courts during the fourteenth century), and continued until the testamentary jurisdiction was removed from the church courts by the 1857 Court of Probate Act and firmly placed in the secular courts<sup>2</sup>.

In 1549 most P.C.C. wills were actually probated at the court sessions held in London, by the fifteenth century the procedure was formalised and permanent commissaries proved testaments in this court if the Archbishop was unable to attend. In the act of probating a testament, the aim was to prove it and authenticate it as the true 'last will' of the deceased. Once this had been established, the probate court had to grant the right to administer the estate to executors nominated in the will (or to appoint an administrator, usually the widow or next of kin, if the deceased died intestate). In order to be approved as administrator of the estate the executors had to present

an inventory of the testator's possessions, listing household items room by room<sup>3</sup>.

Once probate was granted, the sealed act of probate was attached to the original copy of the testament and filed in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, later both the will and the probate were recorded in the probate registers. A further copy of the testament was presented to the executor, so the estate could be properly administered. It was usual for the executors, or procurators acting on their behalf, to personally present the will to the Prerogative Court of Canterbury<sup>4</sup>. Where this has been recorded in the probate statement, I have noted it at the end of each transcript (all probate statements were written in Latin, the official language of the court).

Of the forty-five testators in this edition, all but three (6.66%) are male. While this sample is far too small for an accurate statistical analysis to be made this group of three females (all widows) is considerably smaller than the 14% of all testators that is more common for the period<sup>5</sup>. Yet of the thirty male testators who pre-deceased their wives, twenty-one made their spouse sole or joint-executrix of their estate, some 70%. This was a sizable number of females who were appointed to an office of considerable responsibility, not just over the disposition of the possessions of the deceased but usually the care of their children until they became of age.

Only one of the executors nominated by the testators refused to fulfil the obligations the position entailed. William Awbrey did 'make, name, ordeyne and Constitute the said Alice my wyffe my soole Executrix' but seemed prepared for her refusal to accept the office. Awbrey provided

And if in case the saide Alice my wife dothe refuse so to be bounden, or by annye other fraude or wayes refuse to take vpon her the Execucion of this my presente testament and last will, and

the same will renunce, Then my will is that vpon suche refusall made by her she shall not be my Executrix, but by this my presente testament and last will I do reuoke her for myne Executrice, and by the same I do name, ordeyne and constitute the saide John Awbrey my brother my soole Executour<sup>o</sup>.

In the statement of probate, it was indeed John Awbrey who received the right to administer the estate.

1. Medieval Records of the Archbishop of Canterbury The Lambeth Lecture Series, The Faith Press (London) 1962. p.36.
2. Bailey, S.J., The Law of Wills Pitman Publishing (Bath) 1973, p.28; Potter's Introduction to English Law and its Institutions ed. A.K.R. Kiralfy, Sweet and Maxwell Ltd (London) 1962, pp. 220-221.
3. MacFarlane, A., A guide to English Historical Records Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1983, pp. 114-115
4. For a more comprehensive look at the role and jurisdiction of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury and of the executors, see "Charitable Bequests in English Wills Registered at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury: 1483-1486", R. Plimmer (Massey University, B.A. (Hons) thesis, 1983) pp. 6-22; "An Edition of Wills Proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury: 10 July 1538 - 12 September 1538", C. Seed (Massey University, M.A. thesis, 1984) pp. 16-56, 69-82.
5. Gottfried, R.S., Epidemic Disease in Fifteenth Century England Leicester University Press (Leicester) 1978, p.23.
6. Will 28, ll. 218-227.



(iii) Influences on the Wills of 1549

More than a decade of change in religion, complicated by economic and dynastic problems, influenced the mood of England in 1549, it could be described as uncertain. It was this factor of uncertainty and change that prompted me to look at the later months of 1549 when editing wills of the Populwell Register, to see if this 'state of flux'<sup>1</sup> was reflected in the testaments of the period. The wills probated in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury during the month of November 1549 only total forty-five in number, but cover quite a wide geographical area including seven from London (see map (i)), and some do reflect the changes of the previous years.

The religious tenor of England (and of Wales since the Act of Unification 1536) had altered significantly by 1549, when compared with the early 1530's. Henry VIII had cut all ties with the Church in Rome: the Act of Supremacy created the king the 'Supreme head of the Church on earth' in England (1534), following the Act for the Restraint of Annates which gave Henry VIII the right to appoint bishops and the act for the First Fruits and Tenths which forbade the payment of any ecclesiastical revenues to the Pope. Effectively Henry VIII had created an English Catholic Church, partly due to pressure for change from leading Protestants but more particularly as a means to secure his divorce. However this situation did not remain stagnant as doctrinal changes occurred, motivated by economic reasons as well as religious ones.

A gradual erosion of the Catholic faith, to be replaced by the Protestant belief in the justification by faith and Jesus Christ as the only saviour, seemed to begin with the Ten Articles (1536). Largely drawn up by Archbishop Cranmer, the Articles allowed only three 'true' sacraments: Baptism, Penance and the Eucharist, and half-steps forward were made in other areas directed against the Catholic faith.

Prayers for the dead were allowed to continue but the concept of Purgatory was rejected, similarly the role of the saints was examined (a subject that was to be much debated over the following decade)<sup>2</sup>.

Protestants generally held the opinion that saints, images and other forms of idolatry associated with the traditional worship of God were 'superstitions' coming between man and the 'true' worship of God. The Ten Articles allowed prayers to the saints but rejected their role in salvation, denying they could intercede with God on one's behalf. This was taken a step further with the Royal injunctions issued in 1538 (strongly influenced by the followers of Erasmus at the time his teachings of Christian Humanism flourished at Oxford and Cambridge), requiring clergy to preach regularly and denounce all Catholic 'superstitions'. These injunctions followed the dissolution of monasteries in 1536 (completed in 1539), a move promoted as much by the crown's desire to use the lands and wealth of the monastic orders to cope with Henry VIII's wars, as to remove the abuses alleged against the monasteries. Yet just as these doctrinal changes were being recognized, Parliament passed Henry VIII's Act of Six Articles (1539) which affirmed many aspects of the traditional faith: transubstantiation, clerical celibacy, communion in one kind, private masses, vows of chastity, and confession. This opened the road for the persecution of heretics, allowing equal numbers of Protestants and Catholics to be executed for their religious beliefs in the later years of Henry VIII's reign. A situation of religious uncertainty was created and this can be seen in some of the following testaments. However, during the 1540's the road to Protestantism was made more certain, with the introduction of the English Litany of 1544 (all references to the Saints had been removed by the second edition), the dissolution of the chantries, the repeal of the Six Articles under Edward VI (1547), and English Prayer Book issued in 1549

- notably, reaction to this compromise Prayer Book was violent in areas, especially Cornwall and Devon.

Many preambles in this edition of wills reflect the state of change, some traditional or Catholic in their manner, some distinctly Protestant and others committed to neither cause. Despite various moves to denounce the adoration of the saints and their images (although this was not totally abolished until the second Prayer Book of 1552), 20% of the testaments request the intercession of the Virgin Mary and all the saints when bequeathing the soul of the deceased to the care of God. John Darnall was one who bequeathed his soul 'vnto Almightye God, and to his blessed mother oure ladye Saint Mary and the holy company of heaven'<sup>3</sup>. However these Catholic testaments of 1549 had altered substantially when compared to bequests of 1538, as can be seen from the following excerpt of Sir Andrewe Luttrell's testament;

I will that one trentall of masses shalbe doon for me in the day of my buriall ..... Ferdermore I will that fyve discrete preestes shalbe appoynted by my executrice and supervisour which immediatly after my deceas shall daily by the space one hole yere, or elles one preest by the space of fyve yeres, synge masse for my soule except suche of them as shall happen to haue a lafull impedymnt to the contrary and that vpon euery Wennysday and Fryday during the said terme euery of the said prestes, or one preest yf my executrice and supervisour do so provide, shall sey dirige and masse of requiem<sup>4</sup>.

None of the testaments in this edition requested priest's sing masses or diriges, no longer part of the religious service. It is, of course, important to remember that those who remained true to the Catholic faith expected their religion to be fully restored to its former status when Mary came to the throne - a factor that created further uncertainty for many.

Other testators followed the changes in religious belief more closely, accepting Jesus Christ as the only saviour and that no other could intercede on their behalf. Some

preambles made simple statements, such as Robert Stokell bequeathing his soul 'to Almightye God the father, the sonne and the Holy Goost'<sup>5</sup> while Fraunces Waller left his soul to the care of 'tholy Trinitie, thre parsons and one god'<sup>6</sup>. Some went further, proclaiming their firm faith in Protestant beliefs. James Wilkinson of London stated:

I bequeath and recommend my soule to Almightye God my maker, Savior and redemer, trusting and faithfully beleve through the merites of Christes most precieuse passion my synnes be clerely forgotton.<sup>7</sup>

Similarly Mathewe Price commended his soul: 'to Almightye Jesu my maker and redemer in whome and by the merites of whose blessid passion ys all my hole truste of clere remission and forgivenes of my synnes'<sup>8</sup>. Another distinctly Protestant preamble is found in the will of Richard Jarman:

ffirst and above all thinges I bequeathe my soule unto thandes of the Eternall father of hevynē which sent his wellbeloued sonne into this wo'r'ld which sufferyd his passion and shed his blode on the crosse for my synes and for all the synnes of the worlde, by which blode I belyve to come to the eternall lyfe which is forever and ever with the father and the <sup>9</sup>sonne and the Holy Goost, worlde without ende amen,

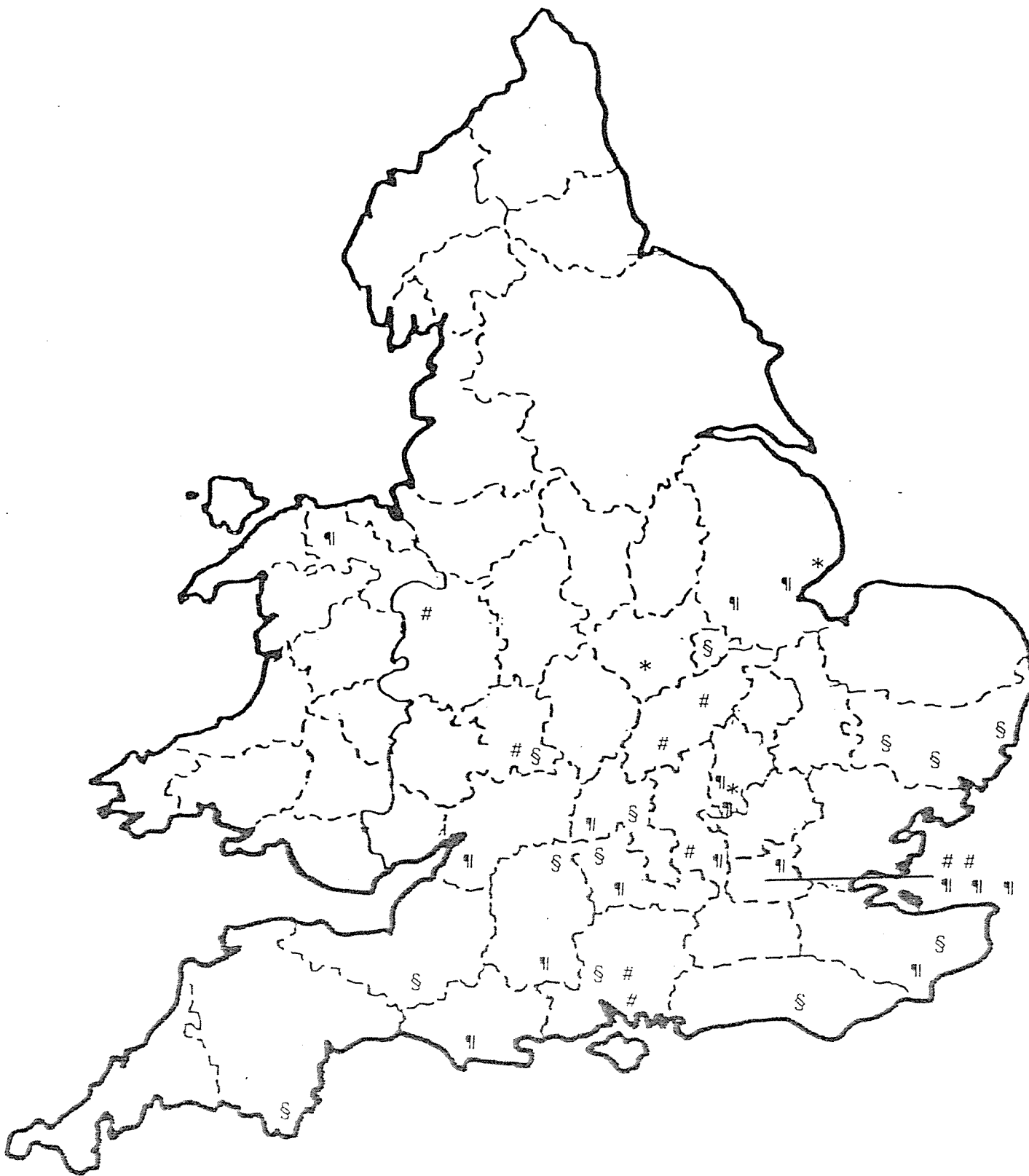
and Thomas Bukeridge bequeathed his soul to the saviour that 'I maie have and enioye all the celestrall heavenly kingdome prepared for me and all man kinde'<sup>10</sup>. These staunchly Protestant preambles constituted some 40% (18 wills) of the total testaments, though it must be noted that three of these testators still requested prayers be said for their souls.

Not all the testaments can be associated with these two groups, their content not expressing a religious belief but merely praying for 'Almighty God' to care for their soul in the life after. Yet a further number of testators appeared to be somewhat confused in their religious belief, or what they felt was expected of them. An example of this uncertainty can be seen in the will of William Turville,

who bequeathed his soul 'to Almighty God my maker and redemer by whose passion andnot by mydesertes I trust to be savyd, and to our lady Saint Marie and all the holy company of heavyne'<sup>11</sup>. It is probable that in such a situation the true belief of the testator lay with the traditional faith, for he was not prepared to accept that faith in Jesus Christ alone would be enough for his salvation, but felt that the intervention of the saints was also required.

Assuming that those testaments containing self-contradictory statements of belief intended a closer association with the traditional faith than the 'true' faith, then combined with those devout Catholic preambles 26-66% of testators had not accpted Protestantism by November 1549. If the testaments which bequeathed the soul only to the care of 'Almighty God' (28.88%) are collated with statements expressing confirmed Protestant beliefs (40%) then some 68.88% of the testamentary group had accepted the new religion. Only 3 testators made no reference to the health of their souls or stated any religious belief.

However, when making these comments about the information wills provide about the religious beliefs of the testators it must be remembered it is not usually known who drew up the will for the testator. While several testators swore they signed their wills in their own hand, only three indicated they wrote the will in their own hand. If the will was not written by the testator but perhaps dictated to a clerk or notary then it is possible that any religious content in the testatment could have been inserted by this person rather than express the beliefs of the testator. M. Zell suggests<sup>12</sup> that if the will was written by a lawyer rather than the testator, then he may have filled in a pre-formulated document. As 21 of these testaments (46.66%) were witnessed by a cleric or scribe this must certainly be taken into consideration when studying the documents. In any event the wills show the spread and acceptance of



# Catholic  
\* Confused  
§ 'Almighty God'  
¶ Protestant

MAP (ii) THE SPREAD OF RELIGION  
AS INDICATED BY TESTAMENTS  
PROVED IN THE PREROGATIVE  
COURT OF CANTERBURY, DURING  
NOVEMBER 1549.

Protestantism in England and Wales by late 1549, as can be seen in map (ii) (p. xii).

It would be difficult to accurately describe the value of bequests made in 1549 in the monetary terms of 1985, however it is worthwhile looking at the bequests in their terms of 1549. The economic situation of England during the 1540's was one of sizable fluctuation. The cost of Henry VIII's wars followed by wars against France and Scotland undertaken by Somerset placed considerable financial strain on the country, and was a major reason for the debasements of the coinage 1542-1551. This not only created a general attitude of distrust in the value of the currency (as the weight of coins was decreased, so was the content of gold or silver, and the value of old coins was increased), resulting in rising prices, but came at a time when other causes meant prices were already rising at a steady rate. These fluctuations in the economy were adversely affected by the bad harvests of the 1540's and the steady move towards enclosures, compounded by a period of population increase previously unknown in England - from c.2.3 million in 1522 to c.2.8 million in 1545.<sup>14</sup>

Looking at the Phelps-Brown Index of Consumables<sup>15</sup> in this time of rapid inflations (remembering the index is largely based on foodstuffs, therefore highly sensitive to harvest failure, and as such reflects the costs of the poor more than the rich), prices rose some 46% during 1540-1547, dropped about 16.5% in 1548 (following a good harvest the previous year) and rose another 11% in 1549. Looking at average prices 1540-1550, a quarter of wheat cost 10s. 8d., and of barley 6s. 2 1/4d., while oxen sold for 42s. and hens at 5 3/4d.<sup>16</sup> But these prices altered rapidly reflecting the uncertain economic climate. In contrast wages remained more static. Gentlemen of the Chapel Royal were paid 7 1/2d. per day (£11 8s. 1 1/2d.) plus board<sup>17</sup>; a yeoman ussher of the Privy Council (1539-1540) earned £4 11s.3d. and the Lord Chamberlain a fee of £200<sup>18</sup>; a

thatcher of Drayton Bassett (1530) was paid 9d. for 1 1/2 days work, and his assistant 3d.<sup>19</sup> while a tiler was paid 14s. 2d. for 20 days work and his servant 7s. 6d.<sup>20</sup>, a carpenter (1540-1550) averaged 7d. a day and an unskilled labourer 4d.<sup>21</sup> It is in relation to these prices and rates of pay that the value of bequests in this edition of wills must be regarded, for example Richard Markes' bequest 'to the coffer in the church to the relief of the poor tene shillinges, And to the prisoners of the Gille vjs viijd. And iij s iiijd to the prysoners of the Gratte ', while to each of his daughters he left £10, a featherbed and bedding<sup>22</sup>.

The basic factor of uncertainty had a sizable impact on charitable giving during the first years of Edward VI's reign, in fact a slight decline in bequests can be noted. In his study of philanthropy in England 1480-1660, W.K. Jordan notes that during the Reformation decades 1541-1560 46.58% of charitable bequests were made during the Edwardian Era (1547-1553). This is a disproportionately large percentage for this relatively small number of years. However Jordan continues to make the point that by far the majority of this charitable flow appeared in the second half of Edward VI's short reign<sup>23</sup>. In a time of proven economic fluctuation people kept a careful eye on the religious changes of the period. There was a notable downturn in giving to religious uses during the 1540's, particularly as from 1536 it was pointless to make bequests to monasteries (traditional recipients of pious and charitable legacies) and the same applied to chantries after the act of dissolution in 1547. People waited to be certain of England's religious direction, to determine where their money should go and would be most effectively used, before responding to the desperate need for charity.

Secular charity was promoted during the 1540's, as deeds to be undertaken during one's life as well as at one's

decease. Thomas Becon, a preacher, berated the citizens of London for not fully assuming the responsibility for the poor Christ had devolved on them, and complained that the charitable impulse had been turned toward 'superstitions' by the Catholic Church:

good men have ever pitied the poor, and sought all means possible to do them good. But the contrary is found among us now-a-days. For men ... are "the lovers of themselves", and not of the poor ... They heap<sup>24</sup> to themselves, they provide nothing for the poor.

This plea for secular charity was supported by the royal injunctions of 1547, requiring chests installed in all churches:

... to the intent the parishioners should put into it their oblation and alms for their poor neighbours. And the parson, vicar, and curate shall diligently from time to time, and specially when men make their testaments, call upon, exhort, and move their neighbors to confer and give as they may well spare to the said chest; declaring unto them, wheras heretofore they have been diligent to bestow much substance otherwise than God commanded, upon pardons, pilgimages, trentals, decking of images, offering of candles, giving to friars, and upon other blind devotions, they ought at this time to be much more ready to help the poor and needy; knowing that to relieve the poor is a true worshipping of god.<sup>25</sup>

Indeed for the most part it was not until 1550, after the outbreaks of violence and civil disorder of 1549, particularly the Western Rebellion and more especially Kett's Rebellion in Norfolk (against enclosures), that charitable giving became more generous and widespread.

The P.C.C. wills probated in November 1549 seem to follow the general pattern of the 1540's, for they do not contain any truly generous charitable bequests or endowments. Of the forty-five testaments, twenty-two wills (48.88%) make a charitable bequests in one form or another. Richard Pygott bequeathed 40s. to be distributed to poor people in Ware, and £8 to be distributed to poor maiden's marriages and other deeds of charity<sup>26</sup>. Sir William Roche bequeathed

40s. to be distributed among the poor in each of the parishes of St Peter the Poor, and Basinghall Ward London, and in Aldenham and Rickmansworth along with £4 to the poor of Hornchurch and £5 to St Bartholomew's hospital, London;<sup>27</sup> while Walter Wadelond requested his executors 'shall yerely during foure yeres after my decease giue euery Frydaie in the yere vd, to be egally deuyled to five poore folkes after every of theme a penny the weke,'<sup>28</sup> one of the few long-term bequests. Richard Jarman gave:

vnto euery ward in London to the most poorest and most nedeyfull that can be founde in the said ward xiijs iiiijd to every one of the said wards. And I giue and bequeathe vnto the parishe of Aldemarie every yere for the space of fyve yeres two lodes of Coles to be geuyn in October and Januarie, vnto the poor people and honest powre householders within the saide parishe ... Also I wille that vjd a weake be given till the some of twentie poundes be full given, with in the parishe of Aldermary, to the poore.<sup>29</sup>

John Harvill left 2s. 4d. to every poor householder in Leckford.<sup>30</sup>

A few bequests for municipal improvements were made. John Smythe provided for

Reparacions of the high wayes substancially to be mended, To begyne at the grete brode lake next my mansion house, and so forthe towarde Iyychurche and at Pymiocke Bridge, where most nede requyrethe Tenn poundes of money.<sup>31</sup>

Mathewe Price left 2s. ' to the repayring of Clattring Bridge',<sup>32</sup> and Elizabeth Glen bequeathed 'vnto the reparacon of the causewaye betwixt Longlandes lxvjs viiijd sterling so that the townshipe of Stauerton will put to their help- ing handes, towards the sufficient making of the same'.<sup>33</sup>

But these bequests did not match the volume or generosity of philanthropic bequests made in the latter half of the sixteenth century.

The impact of the price rises and inflation on the landed gentry, who comprise the greater social grouping in the following testamentary group, was probably felt most strongly

by those who had leased out their land on long-term leases. While the tenant who held a long-term lease at a comparatively low rent that protected him from rent-racking was probably in the most secure position in the 1540's (able to take advantage of the price rises when selling his produce), it was this very security that adversely affected the landowners. It was not until these landowners were able to exchange the leases for short-term leases, and thereby allow a more rapid increase of rents, that they were able to better cope with the problem of inflation.

In this group of wills, bequests of tenancies usually refer to the end of the lease but do not specify the number of years a lease has to run, however there are always exceptions. Johns Fastolfe bequeathed his lands and tenements in Cowlech to his wife, Lettisse,

during the terme of her lyf, according to the feoffament which I made to her. And after the decease of the saide Lettisse my wyf, I will that the saide landes and tenementes with thappartenaunces in Cowleche aforesaide do go to the performance of this my last will vntill the terme of xx<sup>ti</sup> yeres next after my deceas be expiride ... there I will the said landes and tenementes . . . do remayne to Thomas Fastolfe myne eldest sonne.

William Awbrey bequeathed to his base son the lease of Chaddenwick, which had been in his hands for twenty one years.<sup>35</sup>

The 1540 Act of Wills had eliminated many of the restrictions relating the trusts of freehold land, imposed by the Statute of Uses (1535).<sup>36</sup> Yet in this edition the references to the 'use' of lands seem to be mentioned in the context of forbidding estates to be alienated in this way. William Wylkynson willed that

the saide Poule my sonne shall not sell, alyene, morgage or other wyse put or do away the said landes, tenementes or hereditamentes',<sup>37</sup>

while William Wybarne stipulated

it shall not be lafull to any of my said sonnes, that is to saye, William, Thomas nor Arthur Wybarne to Alyene any of the foresaide Annuities or any parte therof to any other but to John Wybarne, their brother, or to myne heyre for the tyme being.<sup>38</sup>

Of all forty-five testaments, only two indicate the cause of death. Richard Jones died of a fever and Gyles Forster was killed in battle (as his testament predicted). Both Forster and Gaynsford had taken their retainers out to suppress the civil unrest of 1549. Forster was killed during the Norfolk rebellion against the local impact of enclosures. Although Gaynsford<sup>39</sup> does not specify the reason his troops were owed payment, it can be assumed they had also been involved in suppressing the riots that broke out in the counties of Northampton, Bedford and Oxford, - a response to the changes in religion and the means of worship. None of the testators make any reference to the other major disturbance of the year - the revolt against the new Prayer Book in Devon and Cornwall.

It seems clear that the major concern of the testators in this edition of wills, was the dispersal of their lands and personal property among family and friends. Having provided for all their debts to be paid the testator began disposing of his estate, usually in considerable detail. Richard Ryve bequeathed

to Frediswide, Alice, Marie and Elizabeth my daughters every one of them one hundreth poundes. Item I giue to the same foure daughters last above named my two last yeres Cropp of Rye and wheat that was growing in the year of our lorde a Thousande fyve hundreth xlviij<sup>ti</sup> and in the yere of our lorde a thousande five hundreth xlviiij<sup>ti</sup>. Item I bequeathe to every of my daughters one fetherbedd; one Matresse with all belonging to it and two payre of shettes. 40

Elene Yate's testament was specific and detailed, including:

Item I do giue and bequeathe to the said Symone Goering the some of vjli xiijs iiijd sterling, wherof I will that Katheryne Georing mother to the

said Symone shall haue the saufe custodie and vse vntill the said Symon do come to the full age of xxj yeres... Item I do giue and bequeathe to Margaret Stychall my daughter one yong beast. Item I do give and bequeathe to Joane Gunter daughter to Agnes Gunter one yonge beast ... Item I do giue and bequeathe to John Burges my seruante one bullock. 41

John Salesburye went to great lengths to ensure the inheritance of his lands:

Item I do bequeathe all my landes vnto Robert Salesburye my sonne lafullye begotten betwixt me and Agnes Salesburie my wyfe, which is my yonger sonne of the two Robertes, and to theires of his bodie lafully begotten, and in default of heires of his body lafully begotten, vnto Thomas Salesburye my sonne and to theyres of his bodye lafullie begotton, And for defaulte of heyres of his bodie lafully begotton vnto Foulke Salesburye my sonne and to the heyres of his bodye lafully begotten. 42

This bequest continued in the same manner, through Salesbury's three remaining sons Robert, John and Henry, concluding if all the sons died without legal heirs the lands were to go to the next rightful heir. This detail is typical of many of the bequests made in the following group of wills, concerned with the welfare of one's family and friends in a time of change.

1. Russell, C., The Crisis of Parliament: English History 1509-1660, Oxford University Press (Oxford) 1971, chapt. 3.
2. Phillips, J., The Reformation of Images: Destruction of Art in England 1535-1660, University of California Press (Berkeley) 1973, pp. 81-110; Powell, K. & Cook, C., English Historical Facts: 1485-1603, MacMillan & Co (London), pp. 107-115; Williams, P., The Tudor Regime, Clarendon Press (Oxford) 1979, pp. 253-292.

3. Will 6, ll. 8-10.
4. P.R.O., P.C.C., PROB 11/27, ff. 152v-153v.
5. Will 1, ll. 5-7.
6. Will 7, ll. 9-10.
7. Will 14, ll. 11-15.
8. Will 30, ll. 12-16.
9. Will 26, ll. 5-13.
10. Will 38, ll. 8-9.
11. Will 12, ll. 9-12.
12. Zell, M.L., "The Use of Religious Preambles as a measure of Religious Belief in the Sixteenth Century", Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research, (vol. 50), p. 248.
13. Beer, B.L., Rebellion and Riot: Popular Disorder in England during the reign of Edward VI, Kent State University Press (Baton Rouge) 1982, p. 19; Challis, C.E., "Currency and the Economy in Mid-Tudor England" Economic History Review 2nd series (Vol. 25) pp. 313-322.
14. Ramsey, P., The Price Revolution in Sixteenth Century England, Methuen & Co. Ltd (London) 1971, p. 11.
15. Reprinted in Ramsey, ibid pp 22-26, 38-41.
16. Leonard, E.M., The Early History of English Poor Relief, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1900, p. 16.

17. The Old Cheque-Book, or Book of Remembrance, of the Capel Royal, from 1561-1744, ed. Edward F. Rimbault, Camden Society, Johnson Reprint 1965, p.x.
18. The Lisle Letters, ed. Muriel St Clare Byrne, The University of Chicago Press (Chicago) 1981, vol. 1, p. 370.
19. The Lisle Letters, vol. 1, p. 228.
20. The Lisle Letters, vol. 1, pp. 388-390.
21. Leonard, E.M., The Early History of English Poor Relief p. 16.
22. Will 10, ll. 11-24.
23. Jordan, W.K., Edward VI: The Threshold of Power, George Allen & Unwin Ltd (London) 1970, p. 205.
24. A sermon of 1542 quoted in Philanthropy in England: 1480-1660, W.K. Jordon, George Allen & Unwin Ltd (London) 1959, p. 159.
25. Tudor Royal Proclamations Volume 1: The Early Tudors (1485-1553), ed. P.L. Hughes and J.F. Larkin, Yale University Press (New York) 1964, p. 401.
26. Will 16, ll. 41-43.
27. Will 17, ll. 34, 44-59, 74-76.
28. Will 18, ll. 23-27.
29. Will 26, ll. 27-34, 61-63.
30. Will 20, ll. 14-15.

31. Will 35, ll.
32. Will 30, l.
33. will 45, ll.
34. Will 23, ll. 18-38
35. Will 28, f.n. 7
36. Bailey, S.J., The Law of Wills, pp. 22-23.
37. Will 14, ll.
38. Will 2, ll.
39. Will 15, ll.
40. Will 4, ll. 17-25
41. Will 9, ll. 32-36, 44-51.
42. Will 33, ll. 13-31.

THE TEXT

Wills proved in the Prerogative Court  
of Canterbury November 1549.

Populwell Register

ff.315v - 338r

TABLE OF TESTATORS

WILL NO.	NAME	PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE
1	Robert Stokell	Enfield, Mx.
2	William Wybarne	Begham, Suss.
3	Edmonde Conquest, esq.	Houghton Conquest, Beds.
4	Richard Ryve	Beckley, Oxon.
5	William Dringe	Burton, Oxon.
6	John Darnall, Exchequer clerk	London, Mx.
7	Fraunces Waller, gent.	Amersham, Bucks.
8	Elizabeth Pygott, widow	Whaddum, Bucks.
9	Elene Yate, widow	Highworth, Wilts.
10	Richard Markes	Salisbury, Wilts.
11	Nycholas Rose, haberdasher	London, Mx.
12	Sir William Turville, knight	Aston Flamwell, Leics.
13	Alexander Donet	Basingtoke, Hants.
14	James Wylkynson, brewer	London, Mx.
15	Nicholas Gaynsford	Little Billing, Northants
16	Richard Pygott	Greenwich, Kent
17	Sir William Roche, knight & draper	London, Mx.
18	Walter Wadelond	Needham Market, Suff.
19	John Dagar	Concover, Shrops.
20	John Harvill	Leckford, Hants.
21	Richard Meysye	Buscot, Berks.
22	William Witchingham	Dunwich, Suff.
23	John Fastolfe, gent.	Pettaugh, Suff.
24	Anthony Brodston, esq.	Winterbourne, Glos.
25	William Brynkley, merchant	Boston, Lincs.
26	Richard Jarman, merchant tailor	London, Mx.
27	John Holbeme	Holbeme, Devon
28	William Awbrey, esq. M.P.	Canford, Dorset
29	Edwarde Steward, saddler	London, Mx.
30	Mathew Price, barbor	Kingston Upon Thames, Surr
31	Sir William Gyfford, knight	Crundale, Kent
32	Rycharde Jones, school master	London, Mx.
33	John Salesbury, M.P.	Denbigh, Dens., Wales
34	Gyles Forster, esq.	Balsall, Warks.
35	John Smyth	Snave, Romney Marsh, Kent
36	William Legge	Longstock, Hants.
37	Richard Rauson, parson	Wainfleet All Saints, Linc
38	Thomas Bukeredge	Basildon, Berks.
39	William Nicholson	Heckington, Kesteven, Linc
40	Henry Alen	Ketton, Rutland
41	William Page, vicar	Bengworth, Worcs.
42	Robert Hanscombe	Holwell Bury, Beds.
43	William Myddelmore	King's Norton, Worcs.
44	John Byllinghaye	Illminster, Soms.
45	Elizabeth Glen, widow	Staverton, Northants.

(f.315v)

WILL 1 - ROBERT STOKELL

<sup>a</sup>IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xx<sup>ti</sup> daye of October in the  
yere of our Lorde God a Thousande fyve hundreth fourtie and  
Nyne. I Robert Stokell of Endfeld fealing my self sicke in  
bodye, but hole in memorye lawdyd be God, make this my last  
5 wylle and testament in maner and fourme folowing. First I  
bequeathe my soule to Almightye God the father, the sonne  
and the Holy Goost<sup>1</sup>, And my body to be buryed in the  
churche of Endfeld aforesaide to the whiche I giue to  
the poor mens boxe<sup>2</sup> xx*d*. Item I giue to the vicar for  
10 tythes neclygentlye forgotten xij*d*. Item I giue to Joanne  
my wief all that she brought with her, Also fourtie  
poundes in money, and my house whiche I dwell in, to her  
and to her heires forever. Item I giue to Thomas Stokell  
foure poundes. Item to Joane Rootte fourre poundes. Item  
15 to Elsabeth Stokell fourre poundes. Item to John Stokell  
foure poundes. Item to Richard Stokell fourre poundes.  
Item to Robert Stokell fourre poundes. Item to Alice Rybye  
my seruaunte x*l*s. Item to Thomas Barfote a Cote<sup>3</sup> and xx*s*.  
Item I giue to Robert King iij*l*i. Item to the widowe  
20 Sharpley xx*s*. Item to Richard Leye a cote and xx*s*. Item  
to the wyfe of Leye tenne shillinges. Item to Margaret  
Wartone tenne shillinges. Item I giue to old Bell, John  
Catcher and Edmond Catcher to either of them xx*d*. Item I  
will that Henry Roote and John Stokell shall haue the  
25 leasse of the viij Acres of meade lying in Chasee. Item I  
give to my father in lawe my sorrell gelding, and my best  
gowne. Item I giue to William Catcher my best dobllett.  
Item I will that Thomas Stokelles wyfe shall haue x*l*s.  
Item I give to Thomas Stokell a Cote. Item to Richarde  
30 Stokell a cote. Item to Robert Stokell a Cote, And to  
John Stokell a cote. Item to olde Bell a payre of hoose.  
Item to John Catcher and Edmonde to eiche of them a payre  
of hose. Item to Thomas Barfote a payre of hoose. Item  
I giue to Thomas Stokell my redd taffeta dobllet. Item  
35 to Robert Myleham my blacke satten dobllet. Item I giue

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a. f.315v. begins before this will.

(f.315v)  
WILL 1

to old Mychell xxd. Item I will that my mother inlawe shall haue one of my gold rynges, and my wyfe thother, And my mother shall have xls. Item I giue to euery of my fathers servantes iijs iiijd, And the brewer vjs viijd.  
 40 Item I will that where I shulde receave of Myles Galewey of Ware Twentie poundes, I giue xls to be equally deuyded emongest his children. Item I giue to Robert Williamsone a doblet. Item I giue to Christover Woham a Cape. Item the residue of my goodes vnbequethed as Corne, Cattell  
 45 Leases and all other moveables and vnmmoveables as well my debtes as al other my goodes, I giue and bequeathe to Joane my wyfe whome I ordeyne and make my sole executrix. And Raaf Marten my father in lawe, William Garnet and William Catcher myne ouerseers To whome I giue for their  
 50 paynes xls to eiche of them. Witnes Raffe Martyne, William Garnet, William Catcher, Robart Myleham, with other moo.

PROBATE: 2 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> This preamble is firmly Protestant in its content, stating belief in the Holy Trinity as the true salvation. However I have not been able to ascertain any other evidence about Stokell to support this as his own belief, or as a statement of his clerk.

<sup>2</sup> Legislation passed in 1536 (27 Henry VIII, c.25) attempted to provide charitable relief to prevent beggars openly ask for alms. The act decreed that no alms were to be given by individuals to casual beggars, but rather be placed in a common box in the parish, along with doles for the poor - to be distributed by the parish.

Williams, P., The Tudor Regime Clarendon Press (Oxford) 1979. p 199;

Leonard, E.M., The Early History of English Poor Relief Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1900. pp. 54-56.

- 3 Throughout these wills are numerous bequests of clothing, as can be seen here. In themselves these bequests give further information about the social status of the testators. In an attempt to control the "inordinate excess daily more and more used in the sumptuous and costly array and apparel accustomedly worn in this realm", a statute to regulate apparel (24 Henry VIII, c.13) was passed 1533. This statute aimed to succeed where others had failed, for the violating garment was forfeited along with 3s.4d. for every day the offence was committed. The act specified which articles of clothing, which colours and cloths might be worn by each social group. There were long lists of social classes and apparel approved for them. The royal family and a few dukes were permitted to wear purple silk and cloths of gold, for example, but husbandmen were only allowed to wear cloth costing no more than 4s. a yard. Several royal proclamations were issued under Henry VIII to enforce this statute, in an attempt to stress the Tudor belief in social order and degree.

Lehmberg, S.E., The Reformation Parliament 1529-1536. Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1970. pp 172-173.

Tudor Royal Proclamations ed P.L. Hughes and J.F. Larkin, Yale University Press (New Haven) 1964. I, 143, 146, 163.

- \* The right of administration was granted to the widow (Johane), named executrix in the will.

(f.315v-f.316r)  
WILL 2 - WILLIAM WYBARNE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I William Wybarne of Begham  
in the Countie<sup>a</sup> of Sussex hole of mynde and bodye thanked  
be God, do make my last will and testament the xxv<sup>ti</sup> daye  
of July in the yere of our lorde God a Thousande fyve  
5 hundreth fortie and eight, And in the secound yere of  
the Reigne of our Soueraigne lorde Edwarde the sixt by the  
grace of God of England Fraunce and Irelande kinge, and of  
the Churches of Englande and also of Irelande supreme  
hedd<sup>1</sup>, in forme folowing. First I will my soule to  
10 Almighty God, and my bodie to be buried in the Churche or  
churcheyarde of the parishe where it shall fortune me  
to deceas. Item I will that all officers of the churche  
and helpers of the divyne seruice haue at the tyme of  
my burying as the vse ys with the largest [sic]<sup>b</sup> at the  
15 discrecion of myne Executour with the honestie of the  
parishe. Item I will there be made at my buryall an  
honeste recreacion for such persones of honestie as shall  
happen to be there, the charges to amounte to fyve markes.  
And the fragmentes therof to be gyven to the poor  
20 housholders of the parishe where I shalbe buried. Item I  
will within fourtie dayes after my deathe there be gyven  
foure poundes, in forme folowing, that is to saye to the  
poor householders of the parishe of Tisehirst xls, to  
the poore householders of Fraunte tenne shillinges, to  
25 the poore householders of Lambreste tenne shillinges,  
And to the poore householders of the parishe where it  
shall fortune me to be buried xxs. Item I will to  
Elizabeth now my wyfe, the fetherbed that we do accustom-  
abley lye vpon, with the mattres, and all thing now  
30 belonging to the same, and as moche more of my household  
stufe or plate as shall amounte to tenne pounde, And also  
foure poundes in money. All this to be delyuered to the  
said Elizabeth at suche tyme as she shalbe redy to release

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a. f.316r begins

b. should read "largese"

(f.315v-f.316r)

WILL 2

all maner of Accions to myne heire then being, except  
 35 alwaies suche Accions as she may haue for suche Joynture  
 or dower of landes hereafter assigned vnto her by this  
 my last will and testament as doth hereafter appeare.  
 Item I will to Anne my doughter, at the tyme of her mariage,  
 so she be ruled by myne Executour or ouerseer one hundreth  
 40 poundes, thone half to be delyuered at the daye of her  
 mariage, the residewe within two yeres thene next folowing.  
 Item I wille that if Anne my doughter come to the age  
 of xxv<sup>ti</sup> yeres, and not married, that thene she shall haue  
 suche mony as I haue here willed her to occupie to her  
 45 owne vse, if it shalbe thought she haue discrecion to  
 vse it to her proffitt and lyving, if not, thene I wille  
 myne Executour to employe it to her lyvinge seyng to  
 her according to ther discrecion. Item I will that all  
 suche seruauntes as shall fortune to be in my house as  
 50 householde seruauntes, at the tyme of my deathe And haue  
 bene in my seruice by the space of one yere, haue in  
 rewarde one quarters wages over and besides that is dewe  
 to them. Item I will to my Cosyne Thomas Shoisewell the  
 obligacion and some of tene poundes, that he is bounde to  
 55 me in. Item I will to Mistris Sadeleir sometye the wyfe  
 of Roger Shoisewell<sup>2</sup>, to be paide within one moneth after  
 my death, if she be thene lyving or els not, xls. Further-  
 more this is the last will of me the saide William Wybarne  
 made the daye and yere above writen (that is to saye)  
 60 that Elizabeth my wyfe haue the Coppy holde landes that I  
 bought a [sic] Tyseherst called Churchefeld and also my  
 leased landes, that I hade of the late monastery of New  
 Priorye<sup>3</sup>, to haue and to holde to her during her naturall  
 lyfe, if she inhabet herself in my howse at Tyseherst,  
 65 that I dyd dwell in, of the whiche I made a graunte to  
 William Shelley<sup>4</sup> now being knight and to other with Sixe  
 poundes of lafull money of Englande, to thuse of the  
 said Elizabeth my wyfe going oute of all my landes at

(f.315v-f.316r)

WILL 2

Mapisden and Brikkulleshirst, to be paide yerealy to the  
 70 saide Elizabethhe after my deceas, in the name of her  
 full Joynture and dower as it dothe more playnly appere  
 by the saide dede of graunte. And if the saide Elizabeth  
 mynde not to inhabet her self there, then I will that  
 if she delyver the dede of heru said Joynture before  
 75 specified to myne heire, and do also release to myne heyre  
 all maner of Accions of dower and other reallee, myxt or  
 personall accions concernying any of my landes, that thene  
 she haue in Consideracion of all the premisses, tenne  
 poundes yerely oute of all my lande at Tysehirst quarterly  
 80 to be paide to her and her assignes during her naturall  
 lyf, for the whiche or any parte therof being behynde,  
 it shalbe lawfull for her to distreyne at all tymes in my  
 said lande at Tysehirst. Provided alwaye that she take  
 none Advantage of the saide graunte or any parte of my  
 85 will nor testament, yf she do not according this my last  
 will and testament withoute any troble or dysturbance.  
 Item I willee vnto John Wybarne my sonne all my Copyholde  
 landese that I haue in possession or reuercion, lying in  
 the Countie of Sussex or ellese where, with all myne other  
 90 landes and tenementese, rentese, reuercion, seruices and  
 hereditamentese lying or beinge in the Countie of Kente  
 called Bromebrige and Hawkewell nowe in the seuerall  
 occupacion of John Humfrey and William Winter, to haue  
 and to holde all my said Coppy holde landes in Sussex,  
 95 with all myne other hereditamentese lying in Kent, aswell  
 suche as is not here specified as that that is before  
 written, in whose handes or occupacion so ever they be,  
 to the said John<sup>c</sup> Wybarne and his heires males for ever,  
 onn this condicion, that he trewlye paye these Annuyties  
 100 hereafter folowinge, or ellese I will myne other sonnes,  
 that is to saye, William, Thomas and Arthur Wybarne to  
 take lyke advantage as is lawfull by my grauntese hereafter

(f.315v-f.316r)

WILL 2

ensuynge. First I will to William Wybarne my sonne one  
 Annuytie of xijli by the yere quarterly to be paide during  
 105 his natural lyfe, onn this condicion that he do release  
 to his brother John Wybarne ymmediatlye after my deceasse  
 or before that he clayme or receyve the said Annuitie,  
 all suche interest title and demand that he thene shall  
 haue in my landes called Hawkewell and Bromebrige or in any  
 110 other of my hereditamentes or copyholde landes other els  
 do by any other lawfull meane as the saide John Wybarne or  
 his learned Counsell shall deuyse, make sure to the saide  
 John Wybarne and hys heyres for ever all the premisses  
 from hyme hys heyres and assignes. In consideracon whereof  
 115 I will that yf the saide Annuitie be behynde at any tyme  
 whene it ought to be paide, that thene it shalbe lawfull  
 to the saide William Wybarne my sonne after his reasonable  
 demande therof and yet vpaide [sic] to enter into my landes  
 called Bromebrige now in the occupacion of John Humfrey  
 120 and into my landes at Culverden and also into my landes  
 at Goppynge Crowche<sup>5</sup> with Spryngittes Grove and all my  
 landes and tenementes at Tumbrige in the occupacion of  
 Robert Fryar, And all this saide landes to haue and to  
 holde to hyme during his naturall lyfe paying therfore  
 125 all seruyces dew and keeping sufficient reparacion. And  
 whene it shall fortune the saide William Wybarne to  
 have besides this my graunte in landes, fees, offices,  
 Annuyties or other yerely profett Twentie poundes of estate  
 of inheritaunce or for terme of lyfe, That thene he shall  
 130 haue but onely vjli xiijs iiijd by the yere of my graunte  
 or by this my will as his other brothers shall haue.  
 I will also to Thomas Wybarne my sonne one Annuytie of  
vjli xiijs iiijd by the yere, quarterly to be paide during  
 his naturalle lyfe at the vsualle termes in the yere in  
 135 Lyke forme and condicion as I haue willed and graunted  
 to his brother William Wybarne, And yf it fortune the  
 said Annuitie of vjli xiijs iiijd to be behynde at any

(f.315v-f.316r)

WILL 2

tyme whan it ought to be paide, thene I wille to the saide  
 Thomas Wybarne my sonne my howse and landes at Shover  
 140 with my freeholde lande that William Bedell<sup>6</sup> occupieth,  
 and the howse and lande that John Graylyng occupieth  
with my lease of Twessheshe paying therefore all seruyce  
 dew, and keeping sufficient reparacion during his said  
 lyfe. I will and graunte to Arthur Wybarne my sonne  
 145 vjli xiijs iiijd during his naturall lyfe, quarterly to  
 be paid, at the vsuall termes of the yere, in like forme  
 and condicion as I haue willed to his brother William  
 Wybarne. And if it fortune the saide Annuytie or any parte  
 therof to be vnpaide at any time whane it ought to be  
 150 paid after a reasonable demande, thene I wille to the  
 said Arthur during his lyfe my howse and land called  
 Bromden and Walbridge that Alexander Holfforde occupieth,  
 with my shoppe at Tysehirste church gate, and a felde  
 that Robert Appes occupieth, with a howse and lande at  
 155 Hethfolde, that Grenefeld occupieth, and my landes in  
 Brightlynge that John Walshe gent occupieth, with the  
 land overflowen with the ponnd at Derveld and the fludgates  
with all advantage paying, therefore all seruyce due. and  
 keeping reparacion. Prouided alwayes that it shall not  
 160 be lafull to any of my said sonnes, that is saye, William  
 Thomas nor Arthur Wybarne to Alyene any of the foresaide  
 Annuyties or any parte therof to any other, but to John  
 Wybarne their brother, or to myne heyre for the tyme being.  
 Item I wille that myne executour kepe all my Children  
 165 vntill they come of thage of xviiij yeres having to kepe  
theme to their lernynge and preferment suche lyving as I  
 haue heretofore granted theme, And at what tyme yt shall  
 fortune any of my sonnes to Accomplishe thage of xviiij  
 yeres, Thene I will that he or they being of the saide  
 170 Age haue his or their lyving in their owne handes, as  
 I haue before to them graunted. And whane it shall fortune  
 my said doughter Anne Wybarne to be of thage of xviiij  
 yeres, thene I wille she be put forthe to seruyce or by

(f.315v-316r)  
WILL 2

some other meanes provided for her self having xls by  
 175 the yere vntill she be maryed or accomlishe thage of  
 xxv<sup>ti</sup> yeres, and then she to haue her money, to her by  
 me willed in like forme and condicion as I haue before  
 willed and graunted. Sealed and subscribed by the testator  
 hyme self with these wordes following, And for a perfyte  
 180 and sure knowledge of this to be my last will and testament,  
 I the saide William Wybarne thelder have written this  
 knowledge with myne owne hande. Item I ordeyne and make  
 John Wybarne my sonne, to this my last will and testament  
 my sole Executour, to whome I will all other my goodes  
 185 and Catelles not bequethed. And for the further knowledge  
 hereof, I have setto my seale and subscribed my name by  
 me William Wybarne. Examened with the very wille by  
 William Wybarne and by Thomas Wybarne sonnes to the  
 testatour above writen, And by me Thomas Sheyswell.<sup>d</sup>

PROBATE: 4 November 1549\*

d. f.317r begins

<sup>1</sup> From 1534, the Act of Supremacy declared the monarch Supreme Head on Earth of the Church of England. The form of the sovereign's title as used in these wills was finalized by a royal proclamation of Henry VIII (a public ordinance issued by the king, with the advice of the Privy Council), dated 23 January 1542. This alteration to the royal style added 'King of Ireland', allegedly due to the fact that the omittance of this title had caused much disobedience, rebellion and sedition in the realm. Following this proclamation, the proper royal title attributed to Henry VIII and

(f.315v-316r)  
WILL 2

later to Edward VI was: "... *dei gratia Anglie, Franciae & Hibernie rex, fidei defensor, & in terra ecclesiae Anglicanae & Hibernicae supremum caput*", and appears in its English form in most of the wills.

Tudor Royal Proclamations: Volume I The Early Tudors (1485-1553), ed P.L. Hughes and J.F. Larkin. Yale University Press (New York) 1964; 208.

- 2 The Shoisewells' were a long-established family on the Sussex-Kent border, to the north of Hastings. Roger (d. 1524-5) was the elder brother of the jurat Thomas Shoisewell who represented the Cinque Ports in the Parliament of 1529. Thomas died in 1533, however he had a nephew Thomas who was noted by Bindoff as the son of Roger, doubtless the same Thomas as mentioned above.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons 1509-1558. Secker & Warburg (London) 1982 v. 3, pp. 317-318;

Lehmberg, S.E., The Reformation Parliament: 1529-1536. Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1970. pp 23-24.

- 3 This is probably the Augustinian priory of St Mary Magdalen, Tonbridge, Kent. Founded by Richard de Clare, earl of Hereford, the priory was suppressed 8 February 1525. When Cardinal Wolsey proposed it be granted to his college at Oxford the following year (it had an income of over £169), the townspeople objected and voted for the restoration of the priory.

Knowles, D., & Hadcock, R.N., Medieval Religious Houses: England and Wales. Longmans Group (London) 1971; p. 177.

(f.315v-316r)  
WILL 2

4 Recorder of the city of Coventry (1512-1515), and of the city of London (1520-1526), William Shelley was the eldest son of Sir John and Elizabeth Shelley of Clapham, Sussex. Educated at the Inner Temple, Shelley became a prominent lawyer. As recorder of London he spent much of his time at Westminster, an intermediary between the City and the Crown, and was elected to the Parliament of 1523 (this is supported by both Bindoff and Beaven, despite the denial in the D.N.B.). Regularly summoned to each parliament from 1529, Shelley had become a judge of the Common Pleas in 1527 and receiver of petitions in the Lords, 1539-47. Married to Alice, the daughter of Henry Belknap of Beckley, Sussex, Shelley had inherited considerable property in Kent, Hertfordshire, and Sussex - where he rebuilt the medieval house of Michelgrove into a mansion. Knighted in 1529, Shelley died a Catholic, despite prosecuting opponents of the Reformation, and his children became prominent recusants. His will was proved 8 February 1549, eight months prior to that of Wybarne - a not uncommon occurrence.

D.N.B. - Shelley; Beaven, A.B., The Aldermen of the City of London. Eden Fisher & Co, Ltd (London) 1908-1913. v.I, p.228; Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, pp. 310-312.

5 It is possible this should read "Coppynges Crowche" which would probably be Kippings Cross, Kent.

6 One William Bedell was admitted to a B.A. degree at Oxford, October 1516.

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford: 1501-1540. Clarendon Press (Oxford) 1974 p.36.

\* The executors named in the will were granted the right of administration.

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(f.317r-f.317v)  
WILL 3 - EDMONDE CONQUEST

IN DEI NOMINE AMEN. The f[i]rst daye of Maye in the yere of  
our lorde God a thousande fyve hundreth fourtie and Nyne,  
 And in the thirde yere of the Reigne of our soueraigne  
 lord Edwarde the sixt by the grace of God kinge of Englande,  
 5 Fraunce and Ireland, defender of the faith, and of the  
 churche of Englande and also of Ireland in earth supreme  
 hedd. I Edmonde Conquest<sup>1</sup> of Houghton Conquest in the  
 Countie of Beddford Esquier and in the dioces of Lyncoln<sup>2</sup>,  
 being of mynde holde, and also parfyt Remembraunce, thankes  
 10 be to god, do ordeyne, constitute, declare and make this  
 my last wylle and testament in maner and forme folowing.  
 That is to saye, ffirst I bequeathe my soule to Almightye  
 God my Creator and Redemer, And my bodye to be buried in  
 the Chaunsell in Houghton<sup>3</sup> aforesaide. And as to the  
 15 disposicion of alle my goodes moveable goodes and Cattalles,  
 I will that they be ordered and disposed in maner and forme  
 folowing, that is to saye, I giue and bequeathe vnto my  
 daughter Elizabethhe whene and so sone as she shall fortune  
 to the laufullly espoused, and married after the lawes of  
 20 Holy Churche, Threescore six poundes theretyne shillinges  
 and foure pence of lafull money of Englande, to be taken  
 as of my gyfte, bequest and legacie to her towardes and  
 for her advauncement of her lyving and preferment of her  
 maryage. And vnto my daughter Dorathee whene and so sone  
 25 as she shall fortune to be laufullly maryed as is abovesaid  
 other lxvjli xiijs iiijd of lyke money, to be taken as  
 of my gifte bequest and legacie to her towardes and for  
 thavauncement of her lyving and preferment of her mariage.  
 And vnto my daughter Anne whene and so sone as she shall  
 30 fortune to be laufullly married other lxvjli xiijs iiijd  
 of lyke money to be taken of my gift, bequest and legacie  
 to her towardes the Advancement of her lyving and preferment  
 of her Mariage. And vnto my daughter Gysle, whene and  
 so sone as she shalle fortune to be laufullly maryed other  
 35 lxvjli xiijs iiijd of lyke money, to be taken of my gifte,

(f.317r-f.317v)  
WILL 3

bequest and legacie to her towardses the advauncement of  
her lyving and preferment of her marriage. And vnto my  
daughter Alice whene and so sone as she shall fortune to  
be laufully maryed other lxvjli xiijs iiijd of lyke money  
40 to be taken of my gyfte, bequest and legacie to her towardses  
the advauncement of her lyving and preferment of her marriage.  
And vnto my dawghter Fraunces, whene and so sone as she  
fortune to be laufully married other lxvjli xiijs iiijd of  
Like money, to be taken of my gifte, bequest and legacie,  
45 to her towardses thadvancement of he[r] lyving and prefer-  
ment of her marriage, over and besides the vertuose and  
necessary brynging vp, and fynding of every of my saide  
daughters. And if it shall fortune one of my said sixe  
daughters to decease and Naturally to dye before she be  
50 laufully married, Thene I wille and bequethe the said lxvjli  
xiijs iiijd to her so fyrst dying above bequeathed, lymited  
or appoynted, shalbe evenly devyded, distributed, and paide  
by Johane<sup>4</sup> my wyfe her executours or assignes vnto and  
amongest all fyve of the residewe of my saide daughters  
55 thene over lyving, that is to saye, to either of the same  
fyve daughters, the dayes of their saide mariages, xiiijli  
vjs viijd towardses their further Advancement of lyving.  
And yf it shalle fortune one other of my said daughters  
to deceas and dye before she be laufully married, Thene  
60 I wille the said lxvjli xiijs iiijd to her soo next and  
secondly dying aboue bequeathed, Lymited or appoynted,  
shall lyke wise be evenly devyded, distributed and payde  
by the foresaide Johane my wyfe her executours or Assignes,  
vnto and amongst all foure of the residue of my said  
65 daughters, thene overlyving, that is to saye, to either  
of the same iiij[or] Daughters the daye of their saide  
mariages xxv<sup>ti</sup> markes of lafull money towardses theyr  
further advancement of lyving. And yf it fortune anny  
more or the residewe of my said Daughters to dye before  
70 they be maryed, Thene I will the fore saide legacie and  
legacies above bequeathed to them thene so dying, to be

(f.317r-f.317v)  
WILL 3

deuyded, distributed and paide by the foresaide Johane,  
her executours or assignes vnto and amongst my sonnes  
Edmond, Richard, William and George or to the Survivoures  
75 or Survivour of theme by her discrecion or her Assigne  
at suche tymes as they or eyther of theme so thene lyving  
shall fully accomlishe thage of xxj<sup>ti</sup> yeres. Also I  
bequethe to my sonne George towardes thadvancement of  
his lyving, twoo hundreth poundes of laufull money. And  
80 all the Residue of my moveable goodes and Cattelles my  
funeralles done my debtes payde my legacies fulfilled,  
I give and bequeathe of the same<sup>a</sup> vnto my Sonne Edmonde  
whene he shall comme to his full age one hundreth markes  
in Catalle, Corne and grayne, And my house reddy suffed  
85 with beddinges, hanginges, pewter, brasse, tables, formes,  
Cusshins, Stoles, Spyttes, Aundyrons, ymmediately after  
the decease of Johane my wyfe, which said Johane my wyfe  
I ordeyne and make my Executrice of this my last wille  
and testament. In witnes whereof, I haue sealed and  
90 subscriybed, this my last wille and testament with myne  
owne hand the daye and yere above wryten. Thes bering  
witnes *Manu mea propria mei* William Crbyne *rectoris Ibidem*,  
*Manu propria mei* Johannis Holdstockes *rectoris Ibidem*.

PROBATE: 5 November 1549\*

a. f.317v begins

<sup>1</sup> The Conquest family had been settled in Bedfordshire from the thirteenth century; Edmund was the younger son of Richard and Elizabeth Conquest. Aside from a period of service under Sir Francis Bryan in the 1530's, and his election to Parliament in 1545, Conquest only played a small role in local politics. Whilst

(f.317r-f.317v)

WILL 3

his elder brother was in the Fleet, Conquest managed the family estates (1533-1537). He later acquired an augmentation grant of pasture land in Houghton for himself (1539-1540).

Edmund, the eldest son of Edmond Conquest, received the residue of his father's estate after his mother's decease, but Edmund was still a minor and his wardship was granted to Sir Francis Russel in 1551. Interestingly, Conquest made no provision for his sons Richard and William (unless his daughters were unable to inherit), though each daughter received 100 marks and the youngest son George received £200. This could indicate a portion of the testament was omitted when transcribed into the probate register, as it is unlikely he had made prior provision for these minors. Edmond Conquest died 9 June 1549.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, I, p.683.

Lehmberg, S.E., The Later Parliament of Henry VIII, p.204.

- 2 In September 1541 the diocese of Lincoln was altered, it cost the counties of Northampton and Rutland from its jurisdiction, to the newly founded diocese of Peterborough.

Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research "The Henrician Reformation and the Parish Clergy", M. Bowker 1977 (vol. 50) p.34; Heal, F., Of Prince and Prelates Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1980. p.116.

- 3 Utilizing the Edwardian proclamations to remove images from parish churches, to avoid 'that most detestable offense of idolatry', Conquest removed chalices and vestments etc, from his parish church, All Saints. Under Mary's reign, however, his widow Joan was required to return these items or £32 6s. 8d. in cash.

(f.317r-f.317v)  
WILL 3

The Tudor Proclamations: Volume 1 The Early Tudors (1485-1553) ed P. L. Hughes and J. F. Larkin. Yale University Press (New Haven) 1964. p.394.

- 4 Joan was the daughter of William Button of Ampthill, Bedfordshire, and married Conquest before 1536. Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, I, p.683.
- \* Conquest's widow, Johane, was granted the right of administration.

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(f.317v-f.318r)  
WILL 4 - RYCHARD RYVE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xv<sup>th</sup> daie of Septembre in the yere of our lorde God A Thousande fyve hundreth fourtie and Nyne, I Rychard Ryve of Beckeley in the Countie of Oxford, of hole mynde and perfytt of remembraunce, but  
5 sicke of bodye, make my last will and testament in maner and forme folowing. First I bequeathe my soule to Almightye God and my bodye to be buried in the churche<sup>1</sup> of Beckley. Item I wille that there be stowed at my buryall fyve poundes, and other vli at my monethes mynde for the relieffe of the  
10 poor people. Item I giue and bequeathe to Annys Willmote my eldest daughter and to the heires of her bodye laufully begotten, all my copieholde in Hedington within the Countie of Oxford. Also I give and bequeath to the same Annys Willmot my daughter fourescore poundes, and the same to be paide  
15 to her within foure yeres next after my deathe by equall porcions, that is to say xxli every of the same yeres.

(f.317v-f.318r)

WILL 4

Item I giue and bequeathe to Frediswide, Alice, Marie and  
 Elizabeth my daughters euery one of them one hundreth  
 poundes. Item I giue to the same my foure daughters last  
 20 above named my two last yeres Cropp of Rye and Wheat<sup>2</sup> that  
 was growing in the yere of our lorde a Thousande fyve  
 hundreth xlviij<sup>ti</sup>, and in the yere of our lorde a thousand  
 five hundreth xlviiij<sup>ti</sup>. Item I bequeathe to every of my  
 daughters one fetherbedd, one Matresse with all belonging  
 25 to it and two payre of shetes. Item of suche pewter and  
 brasse as I haue, I bequeath vnto them such parte and  
 portion as my Overseers shall thinke good and expedient,  
 whiche legacies and bequestes I give vnto theme, and I  
 will shalbe delyuered vnto the saide Frediswyde, Alice,  
 30 Marye and Elizabeth at the daie of their lauffull mariage,  
 so that they be ruled and take theyr husbandes by the good  
 aduise, assent and consent of my Executour and my overseers  
 within named or the more parte of them. Provided alwayes  
 that yf eny one of my foure said daughters now vnmarried,  
 35 do dye and departe this worlde, before they be lauffully  
 married, Thene my will is, the legacies and bequestes of  
 theme so being deade, shalbe deuided emonge thother three  
 of my iiij 'or' yongest children thene being alyve. And  
 yf all my said iiij yongest daughters do dye before they  
 40 be lauffully married, then I will their bequestes to remayne  
 to my Executour within named. Item I bequeathe to my  
 brother Adkyns vjli xiijs iiijd. Iteme to Gilbert Ball  
vjli xiijs iiijd. Item to John Plant thelder one Cowe,  
 that he hath in his keping and a quarter of wheat. Item  
 45 to Joane Isarde iijs iiijd. Item to every of my Cosyne  
 Edwarde Fryars children, that he hath now xiijs iiijd a pece.  
 Item to Raffe my seruaunte iiij shepe. Item to Elizabeth  
 Lyde tenne shepe. Item to William Plume of Oxford two  
 shepe. Item to Roger Cooke two shepe. Item to Elizabeth  
 50 Smythe iiij shepe. Item to every of my seruauntes A shepe.  
 Item to the vicar of Beckeley xxs. Item to Thomas Rawlinges  
iijs iiijd, and my best cote. Item to euery of my god-  
 children a shepe, all whiche shepe shalbe of Chillnor shepe

(f.317v-f.318r)

WILL 4

going at Horsepathe. The residue of all my goodes Cattalles  
 55 and credites my debtes paide and my legacies performed,  
 I giue to John Ball my Cosyne whome I make my full executour.  
 Moreover I will the same John Ball my Executour shall paye  
 every yere during my leases of Woodpery and Beckeley to  
 my foure children, that is to saye, Frediswide, Alice,  
 60 Marie and Elizabeth fourtie poundes, that is to saye Tene  
 poundes a pece, towards their fynding and increase of their  
 porcions during the termes and yeres of bothe my saide  
 twoo Leases. And whene the first of the saide two leases  
 is experyd, thene the same John Ball shalle paye to theme  
 65 but xxx<sup>ti</sup> li during the yeres of thother lease. Also I  
 make Master Richard Atkynsone Mayor of Oxford and Master  
Arthur Pyttes<sup>3</sup> of Staunton Saynt John and William Isarde  
 of<sup>a</sup> Beckeley in the Countie of Oxford my Overseers, willing  
 that the saide Richarde Atkynson shall haue the governaunce  
 70 and keeping of Frediswid and her legacies and bequest,  
 And William Isarde the gouernance of Alice and Marye and  
 their legacies, And Arthur Pyttes the govenaunce of  
 Elizabeth and her Legacie, vntill the daye of their lafull  
 mariages, vppon their sufficient specialtes, for the  
 75 delyuery of the same when they be lafully maryed. Item  
 I give to every of my Overseers three poundes a pece. These  
 being witnes, John Horwood vicar of Beckeley, William  
 Isarde, Master Arthur Pyttes, John Wilmott and Thomas  
Rowlinges with other moo.

PROBATE: 5 November 1549\*

a. f.318r begins

(f.317v-f.318r)

WILL 4

- 1 This is probably the parish church of St. Mary, Beckley. Cassell's Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland, Cassell & Co. Ltd (London) 1899.
- 2 Due to bad harvests the export of corn and grain was prohibited 1534-1555, except by royal license. The harvests of 1547 and 1548 were actually good harvests and the restrictions were lifted somewhat, only to be reimposed increasingly tighter in April and October of 1548, and January of 1549. However in 1545 and 1546 local commissioners had been required to search all storage places and compel all owners to take their crops to the market-place. It would appear that Ryve (probably concerned another bad harvest was imminent) had stored his crop from the good harvest years, and was therefore able to distribute it among his daughters in 1549, a year when a bad harvest was further hindered by civil disorder.  
Jordan, W.K., Edward VI: The Young King, George Allen & Unwin Ltd (London) 1968, p. 390; Tudor Royal Proclamations, ed. P.L. Hughes & J.F. Larkin, 280, 295, 301, 315; Williams, P., The Tudor Regime, p. 189, 191, 194.
- 3 Arthur Pyttes was a scholar of Brasenose College, Oxford in 1534, and became a fellow of All Soul's in the same year. Having attained a Bachelor of Civil Law degree in 1537, Pyttes acted as law dean 1537-1538 and law bursar 1538-1539. From 1540 Pyttes practised as a proctor in the Archdeaconry Court of Oxford, and later as a notary public.  
When he died in May 1579, Pyttes left considerable properties in Staunton, Woodfrey, Iffley, and Stafford to his sons. Four of these sons studied for several years at Dounay, an indication that Pyttes probably

(f.317v-f.318r)  
WILL 4

remained firm to the Catholic faith himself.

D.N.B. - Pits; Emden, A.B., A Biographic Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540, p. 470.

\* Administration of the testament was granted to John Ball, the executor named in the will.

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(f.318r)  
WILL 5 - WILLIAM DRINGE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I William Drynge of Burton in the dioces of Oxford yoman of perfytt memorye after this maner and forme folowing make my last will and testament. First I bequeathe my soule to Almightye God my maker and redemer, and my bodye to the earthe and to be buried in  
5 the churche yarde<sup>a</sup> of Bampton<sup>1</sup>. Item I bequeathe to the churche of Bampton iijs iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item I bequeath to the churche of Burton iijs iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item to the Cathedrall churche named Christ Churche<sup>2</sup> in Oxford iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item I  
10 bequeath to John Dringe my sonne twentie pounde. Item to Alice Dringe my daughter twentie poundes. Item to Fraunces Dringe my sonne twentie poundes. Item to Nycholas Dringe my sonne Twentie poundes, And to Alexander Dringe my sonne twentie poundes. Item to Elizabeth Dringe my  
15 daughter twentie poundes. Item to William Dringe my sonne twentie poundes. Item to Thomas Dringe my sonne Tene poundes to be paide within sixe monthes after this testament is proved. Item I bequeathe to Olyver Dringe my sonne vjli xiijs iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item to Christofer Dringe vjli xiijs iiiij<sup>d</sup> to be paid within two yeres after my deathe. Item I  
20

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a. "yarde" is iterlinear.

(f.318r)  
WILL 5

bequeathe to every of my godchildrene in Burton parishe  
two shepe. Item I bequeath to Annys Horne xx<sup>ti</sup> shepe.  
Item to William Styche tenne shepe. Item to John Yates  
doughter foure poundes, to be paide at the daye of her  
25 mariage, but if she dye er that tyme the said iiijli with  
other sommes of money, bequeathed to euery of my children  
if eny of them dye before they be maried, to returne to  
thuse of my wyf and the Children that shall survyve  
vnmaried. Item to Vealice Clemson vj shepe. Item to euery  
30 seruaunte, now seruing me one shepe. Item to Mawde Horne  
tenne shepe. Item I bequeathe my lande whiche I bought  
of Beterton lying in Burton felde to my wife and at her  
deceas, to bestowe hit at her pleasure. Item I bequeathe  
to Master Belsar<sup>3</sup> chanoun of Christes in Oxford xls. Item  
35 I bequeathe to John Dotyne<sup>4</sup> clerke xls. The rest of all my  
gooddes bothe moveable and vnmovable and debtes, I  
bequeathe to Margerey Dringe my wyfe and Symon Dringe my  
sonne whome I make my whole Executours. And of this my  
last will I make ouerseers Alexander Bellsar, John Dotyne,  
40 Edmund Masherodur clerkes and Olyver Dringe, dated the  
first daie of October in the yere of our lorde God a  
Thousande fyve hundreth fourtie and Nyne. Thes being  
present John Dotyne clerk, Edmud [sic] Masherodur clerke,  
Olyver Dringe and Christofer Dringe.

PROBATE: 5 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> The church of St Mary the Virgin, a building of Norman and later Gothic construction. Bampton was a market town of some significance. (Treasures of Britain)

<sup>2</sup> The cathedral of Oxford, once the old twelfth century church of the dissolved Priory of St Frideswide, is the chapel of Christ College - founded by Henry VIII in 1546.

M. Hall, Oxford Pevensey Press (Cambridge) 1981 p.36.

(f.318r)  
WILL 5

- 3 At the age of 11 years, Alexander Belsar (Belsyre) was admitted as a scholar of Winchester College, 1513, and became a fellow New College in April 1521. Although he did not complete his B.Th. until 1555, he received his M.A. in 1527 and was ordained in 1530. Following his office as Keeper of the Ancient University Chest in 1527 and 1528, Belsar was appointed canon and prebend of Christ College in 1546.

Belsar became the first president of St John's College in 1555 (founded by Sir Thomas White, a leading Merchant Tailor and former Lord Mayor of London, with the intention of training orthodox clergymen to combat the Protestant 'heresy'). Removed from his office in 1559, Belsar retired to the rectory of his nephew Thomas Nele, at Hanborough, Oxford. Prior to his death there, (13 July 1567), Belsar's movements had been restricted to a 2 mile distance from the rectory because he was known as a stubborn recusant.

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540, pp 40-41; Hall, P., Oxford, pp 72-74.

- 4 John Dotyne was educated at Exeter College, Oxford, where he studied for his B.A. (1525), M.A. (1530), B.M. (admitted to practise July 1534) and D.M. Ordained a priest (6 April 1538) Dotyne held several benefices, but was the vicar of Bampton from 6 September 1543 until February 1559 - retaining a house there which he bequeathed to Exeter College. Dotyne died 7 November 1561, and was buried in the church of his last benefice, Kingsdon, Somerset.

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540, p.173.

- \* The will was presented by Arthur Pyttes, procurator, and administration was granted to the executors named in the testament.

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(f.318r-f.319r)  
WILL 6 - JOHN DARNALL

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xxix<sup>ti</sup> daye of July the yere  
of our lorde Godd A Thousande five hundrethe fourtie, And  
in the xxxij yere of the reigne of our soueraigne lorde  
Kinge Henry the Eight. I John Darnall oone of the clerkes  
5 of the Kinges Eschequier being of good mynde and perfitt  
remembraunce, thankes be to Almightye God, do make and  
ordeyne this my present testament Comprehending in it my  
last will in maner and forme folowing. First I bequeathe  
my soule vnto Almightye God, and to his blessed mother  
10 oure ladye Seynt Mary and the holy company of heaven and  
my<sup>a</sup> bodie to be buried in the parishe churche of Saynt  
Olave in Syluer strete<sup>2</sup> London. Also I giue and bequeathe  
vnto the high Aulter of the saide churche for tythes with  
holden and neclegently forgotton tenne shillinges. Also  
15 I bequeathe vnto the good workes and the reperacons of the  
same churche xxs. And further I do forgive vnto the saide  
churche all suche money as is dewe vnto me as appereth  
in the booke of the saide churche Rekenyng. Also I giue  
and bequeathe vnto my most loving wyffe Dorathie Darnall  
20 in redy money one hundreth markes, and in plate gilt at  
iiijs iiiijd the vnce, in plate parcell gilt at iiijs the  
vnce, and in white plate at iijs xd the vnce, in all to  
the some of ffourscore poundes. And also all my household  
stuffe and ymplementes of as welle Napery as all other  
25 stuffe of household what so euer they be within my house  
or elsewhere at the tyme of my deathe not hereafter given  
nor bequethed. And furthermore I give and bequeathe vnto  
my saide wyfe in lyke maner all her Apparell, bedys, Rynges  
and other Juelles that dothe belonge vnto her self as wering  
30 apparell. And moreover I giue vnto her oon flower of golde  
set with two stones of perle, whiche was sumtyme my Nawnte  
Darnalles, And also oon flatte pece all gilt with oon cover,  
which my saide Awnte dyd give her as appereth in the will  
of my saide Awnte. And further where as she is Joynte

(f.318r-f.319r)

WILL 6

35 purchesor with me of certayne landes and tenementes in  
 Kent that I bought of one Jeffery Mote, I wille that she  
 shall Injoy them for terme of her lyfe, and after her dethe  
 I will yt remayne to the right heires of my bodye and hers  
 lafully begotten, and for default of suche Issue to the  
 40 next of my kynne. And where as I haue ann fee of iiijd  
 by the daye for the Rangership of [ ] for terme  
 of lyfe of John Gyfford, I giue and bequeathe the same  
 fee, vnto my wyfe Dorathie and my brother Richard Darnall  
 to be devided in manner and forme following, that is to  
 45 saye, to my wyfe fyve poundes a yere, and to my brother  
 the rest and residewe of the saide fee. And if it fortune  
 my saide brother to dye before my said wyfe, thene I will  
 that my saide wyfe haue the residewe of the saide fee during  
 the lyfe of the saide John Gifford. And also I wille and  
 50 bequeathe vnto my saide wyfe all and singuler suche money  
 as is behynde, and dewe vnto me of her  
 marriage money. And where as I haue made a Surrender of  
 all my messuages, landes, tenementes, Curtillages and  
Cotages with ther appurtenaunces in Halywell Strete in the  
 55 Countie of Middlesex<sup>3</sup>, into thandes of the right reuerend  
 father in God, the Byssop of London<sup>4</sup>, Lorde of the Manor  
 of Bysshoppeshall of the whiche the same messuages and  
 other the premisses beholden by the Copie of Court rolle,  
 to the performaunce of this my last wille, I will that  
 60 Dorathie my wyfe haue all the same mesuages, landes,  
tenementes, Curtillages and cotages with thappurtenaunces  
ymmediatly after my decease, vnto suche tyme as my sonne  
 John Darnall shall cume to thage of xxj<sup>ti</sup> yeres, She fynding  
 my saide sonne to scole and lerning with all other  
 65 necessaryes as meate drynke and Clothes in the meane tyme.  
 And thene I will that my saide sonne John shall haue the  
 same mesuages and other the premisses to hyme and to his  
 heyres for ever. And if it fortune my said sonne to dye  
 before he shall cume to the age of xxj yeres (Dorathie

(f.318r-f.319r)

WILL 6

70 my wyffe thene lyving) thene I wille she shall haue all  
 the saide mesuages, landes and other the premisses, for  
 terme of her lyf, And after her decease the same to remayne  
 to my Neviewe Edwarde Vaughan and to his heyres for ever.  
 Item I will and bequeathe vnto my sister Treharne two playne  
 75 goblettes all gilt with a couer. Also I do forgeve and  
 remytt my saide sister Treharne one basone of Syluer and  
 gilt of the valewe of vili xiijs iiijd whiche she reteyneth  
 from me. Item I will and bequeathe vnto my syster Alice  
 Darnall half a dosene of Spones and knoppes, and also one  
 80 drynking pott of siluer withoute a couer, And to her  
 husbonde two Gownes, one furred and thother lyned with  
 Chamlett, a Jakett and a dublet seconde best, And sume  
 of my Nawnte Darnalles old stuf, to be delyuered at and  
 by the disposicion of my Executours. Item I giue and  
 85 bequeathe vnto my Neviewe Edwarde Vaughan, the some of  
 five poundes whiche he owithe me by his Obligacion. Also  
 I giue and bequeathe vnto my saide Cosyne Edwardes wife  
 A Cupp of siluer all gilt whiche I haue in gage for fyve  
 poundes, whiche he dyd borowe of me. And further I giue  
 90 and bequeathe vnto my said Cosyne Edwarde Vaughan one Salte  
 of gold of the value of vijli iijs iiijd, and another salt  
 parcell gilte, of the value of xljli ijd ob, whiche two  
 saltes some tyme were my said Awntes and were delyuered  
 vnto thandes of my said Cosyne Edwarde be myne owne handes.  
 95 Item I giue and bequeathe vnto my brother Barthilmewe Jekett  
 and to my syster his wyffe every one of theme a blacke  
 gowne. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto Thomas Greke my  
 late clerke lxxvj viij and a blacke gowne. Item I giue  
 and bequeathe vnto John my seruaunte a blacke gowne and  
 100 half a yeres wages besides that that shalbe due vnto hyme  
 at the tyme of my deathe. And to Elizabeth that was my  
 mayde and nowe the wyfe to Edwarde Elborne vjs viij in  
 mony. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto Agnes Smyth my mayde  
 a blacke gowne and three poundes in money. To John Smyth

(f.318r-f.319r)  
WILL 6

105 her brother xls in money, to Robert Smyth brother vnto  
the said Agnes xxs, and to Katheryne Smyth sister vnto  
the saide Agnes xxs, And to Alice Smythe syster vnto the  
saide Agnes xxs. Item I giue and bequeathe to euery poore  
householder within the parishe of Seynt Olave aforesaide  
110 being oute of Westmerland Place<sup>5</sup> viiij, And euery house-  
holder within the same place iiij. Item I giue and  
bequeathe to my most loving good Mastres<sup>6</sup> and Awnte Mastres  
Fermor<sup>7</sup>, my Cosyne Robert Wylford<sup>8</sup>, Master Antony Husey  
my frend<sup>9</sup>, and to my especiall frende Master Doctor<sup>b</sup> Crowmer<sup>10</sup>  
115 ffesission and to euery of them a blacke gowne. Item I  
giue and bequeathe to the prysons of Newgate<sup>11</sup>, Ludgate<sup>12</sup>,  
Marshalsey<sup>13</sup> and the Kinges Benche<sup>14</sup> xiijs iiij, that  
is to saye, to every of them iijs iiij other in mony,  
mete or drynke at the will and pleasures of my Executours.  
120 Item I giue and bequeathe vnto my Master Master Hyde<sup>15</sup>  
Clerke of the Pype in the Kinges Eschequyer a round hope  
of golde whiche is my fourth best Rynge. Item I will and  
bequeathe vnto my Neviewe Barthilmewe Vaughane oon fetherbed,  
oon bolster, oon Mattres, oon payre of blankettes, oon  
125 Coueryng, oon brasse pott, oon Tabull with Trestelles,  
oon spytt, oone panne, two old Chestes, oon Tabullclothe  
of course dyaper, oon Towell of dyaper, two payre of shetes,  
one pece of syluer parcell gilt of the weight and valowe  
of [      ]. Item I give and bequeathe to Robert Vaughane  
130 thelder my Cosyne some of my Wering Apparell, and a blacke  
Cote or gowne, And to my Cosyne Robert his yonger brother  
xxs in redye money yf he be alyve at the tyme of my deathe.  
Item I will and bequeathe vnto my loving Neighboures Richard  
Pore Citizeine and bowyere of London and to William Walker<sup>16</sup>  
135 Citizene and goldsmythe of London and to every one of them  
one Rynge of fyne gold of the value of xxvjs viiij to be  
delyuered by my Executours to the Intent that of ther  
Charitie they may praye for my soule<sup>17</sup> and my Awnte Darnalles  
soule. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto my loving Neighbours

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b. f.319r begins.

(f.318r-f.319r)  
WILL 6

140 Richard Benet and John Towe and to euery of them oon gowne  
 clothe of Russet of my leuerey of London, or else in money  
 xiijs iiijd to every of them. Item I giue and bequeathe  
 vnto my loving frende Christofer Smyth<sup>18</sup> oon smale ryng  
 with a blewestone called ann Amytist, xx<sup>s</sup> in money and  
 145 a blacke gowne. Item I will and bequeathe vnto my loving  
 frende Thomas Parrys<sup>19</sup> a blacke gowne. Item I will and  
 bequeathe vnto my Neighbours Richard Pollet and to his  
 wyfe a standing maser bounden with siluer and gilt some-  
 tyme my Nawnte Darnalles. Item I wille and bequeathe vnto  
 150 my seruante Johane Thomsone half a yeres wages, and a black  
 gowne, over and above that that shalbe due vnto her at the  
 tyme of my deathe. Iteme I give and bequeathe to euery  
 one of my godchildren that now be alyve in redy money yf  
 they be at thage of xv yeres fyve shillinges, And if they  
 155 be vnder the said Age iijs iiijd. And of this my present  
 Testament and last wille, I ordeyne and make my Executours  
 William Fermour Esquier, John Mynne<sup>20</sup> gentilman and Robert  
 Dawbeney Citizene and marchaunt Taillor of London, and  
 I giue vnto theme Apon condicion that they woull take Apone  
 160 theyme thexecucion of this my last will and testament,  
 and performe the same with affect and none otherwyse, the  
 some of xvli, that is to saye, to euery of theyme fyve  
 poundes. And to the said William Fermour esquier my best  
 ryng with a Turkas, to my Especiall frende Master John  
 165 Mynne my secounde best ryng, and to my most loving frende  
Master Robert Dawbeney my thirde best Rynge. And further  
 I make my brother Treherne Overseer of this my testament  
 and last will, and I giue vnto hyme a rounde hope of gold  
 sometyme Enameled with blacke with the name of Jesus, my  
 170 best gowne, my best Jacket, my best dublet. My debtes  
 paide my legacies performed and my funeralles discharged,  
 I will that John my sonne haue all the residue of my good  
 remaynyng in thandes of my said Executours, and euery of  
 theme not bequeathed, And they to be kept to thuse of my

(f.318r-f.319r)  
WILL 6

175 saide sonne by myne Executours, and their Executours vnto  
suche tyme he come to thage of xxj yeres. And yf it fortune  
my saide sonne to deceas before he cume to the age of xxj<sup>ti</sup>  
yeres, There I wille that my Executours and the Executours  
of euery of theme do distribute the gooddes remaying in  
180 their handes vnto the next of my poore kynne according  
to their discretions. In witnes that this is my tewe and  
last will, I the saide John Darnall hath subscribed this  
present wryting the daye and yere above wryten per me  
Johannem Darnalle

PROBATE: 6 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> The Cromwellian financial reforms which established four new revenue offices, including the Court of Augmentations (see Will 16 f.n.18) and the Court of General Surveyers, had a significant impact on the Exchequer. Cromwell effectively segregated all newfound crown revenues from the control of the Exchequer. Consequently the Exchequer faced a period of diminished responsibility and importance until it absorbed the Court of Augmentations in 1554. This amalgamation once again established the Exchequer as the predominant royal revenue court; throughout the sixteenth century it retained and improved its role of receiving cash and paying royal debts, auditing accounts and monitoring expenditure, and producing national budgets. Richardson, W.C., History of the Court of Augmentations, pp 1-38; Williams, P., The Tudor Regime, pp 46-49, 53.

(f.318r-f.319r)

WILL 6

- 2 This seems a distinctly Catholic introduction to the last will and testament of Darnall, that he requests his neighbours Walker and Pore to pray for his soul [ll. 133- 139] would seem to support this. According to Stow, the parish church of St Olave in Silver Street Aldersgate was 'a small thing, and without any noteworthy monuments'.

Stow, J., Survey of London, ed. C.L. Kingsford, Clarendon Press (Oxford) 1971, I, p. 306.

- 3 Holywell Street runs parallel to the Strand. By a deed of 6 January 1551 the Bishop of London granted the manors including Stebunheth and Hackney, Middlesex to Edward VI. The following April these manors (which included the appurtenances etc, in Holywell Street) were granted to Sir Thomas Wentworth, Lord Chamberlain of the King's Household.

Stow, J. A Survey of London, II, pp. 135-136; A-Z of Elizabethan London compiled by A. Procter & R. Taylor, Harry Margary (London) 1979, 5F.

- 4 In November 1549, the see of London was actually vacant. When Darnell prepared his will in 1540 the Bishop of London was Edmund Bonner, a doctor of civil and canon law, appointed to the see in 1539. A Catholic bishop, little action was taken against Bonner's obstructions towards the governments politics until mid-1549, when considerable rebellion and violence became apparent in England. Bonner's refusal to use the Prayer Book or restrain Catholic priests in London from celebrating the old mass in their churches led to a summons to appear before the Privy Council, 11 August 1549. Following his refusal to preach a prepared sermon, Bonner was tried before a commission at Lambeth Palace, for his failure to use the Prayer Book and condemn rebels. Determined guilty, Bonner was deprived of his see, (1 October 1549), and imprisoned in the Marshalsea for four years.

(f.318r-f.319r)

WILL 6

Though Cranmer determined to appoint Nicholas Ridley to the see, the appointment was not made until February 1550, nor was he consecrated until the following April. Bonner found himself restored as Bishop of London after his release by Mary, 5 August 1553, and Ridley was burned at the stake as a heretic in Oxford, 16 October 1555. However, Bonner was to be deposed again, under Elizabeth and returned to the Marshalsea in July 1559, where he died.

Heal, F., Of Princes and Prelates, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1980. pp 138-140, 151-153, 178, 198-199; Stow, J., A Survey of London, II, pp 135-137; Wilson, D., A Tudor Tapestry: Men, Women & Society in Reformation England, William Heinemann Ltd (London) 1972 pp 168-169, 175, 203, 238; Ridley, F.G., Nicholas Ridley Longmans, Green & Co (London) 1957. pp 188-192, 203-205, 216-220, 299-300, 308-311, 314-316.

5 A number of tenements in Silver Street, Aldersgate, had been in the possession of the Neville family - the earls of Westmorland.

Stow, J., A Survey of London, II, p. 344.

6 Born the younger son of Thomas Fermor (c. 1480) Fermor inherited considerable lands in Whitney, Oxon, later moving to Somerton where he built a new manor house and acquired the moiety of Somerton manor. The major source of income from these estates was probably from sheep-farming, not only was he accused of enclosing land in Somerton but an account of the 1530's records Fermor as one of Oxfordshires largest wool exporters. Fermor regularly served on many commissions for the city and county of Oxford; a J.P. for the county from 1511 and commissioner of the Subsidy for Oxford in 1512-

(f.318r-f.319r)

WILL 6

1513 and 1523-1524, Fermor was also involved in the muster of Oxfordshire (1539), the benevolence (1544-1545) and was sheriff of Oxfordshire and Berkshire in 1533-1534 and 1543-1544. As a trusted agent of the government, in Oxfordshire, Fermor was summoned to raise 30 men against the rebels in the north (1536) and to inquire into allegations of treason against Cromwell (1537); a trust that was doubtless of considerable assistance in securing his election as Knight of the Shire for Oxford in 1539.

Fermor also played a prominent role in central government. From a temporary position as clerk of the Exchequer, Fermor was appointed clerk of the crown and King's attorney in the court of the King's Bench (1508) where he remained until his resignation in 1542; his London residence was in Monkwell Street, St Olave parish. When he died, 29 September 1552, Fermor was buried in Somerton Church with his late wife Elizabeth.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, I, p.127;  
Lehmberg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry VIII: 1536-1547 Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1977 p.49.

<sup>7</sup> The fourth wife of William Fermor, Elizabeth was the daughter of William Norris of Yattendon, Berks. They were married c.1539.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, I, p.127.

<sup>8</sup> One Robert Wylford (Wilford) is noted by Bindoff as the son of James (a former merchant tailor and alderman of London), as being an alderman of London in 1542 accused of being 'a "maintainer" of the pope'. However this is disputed by Beaven, who records a John Wylford elected alderman in 1538, and sheriff 1544-1545.

Beaven, A.B., Alderman of the City of London II, p.30, 168, 170; Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, pp. 617-618.

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WILL 6

<sup>9</sup> The son of John Hussey of Slinfold, Sussex (c.1496) Hussey became a notary public first recorded at the dissolution of some small monasteries in 1525. By 1539 Hussey had been appointed a judge of the Admiralty Court, and chief registrar to the Archbishop of Canterbury - a position that later involved him in the proceedings to nullify the marriage between Henry VIII and Anne of Cleves: Hussey attended the final taking of depositions, signed the final judgement and drew up the letters Anne signed to submit.

Appointed proctor of the Arches in 1542, Hussey examined heretics in Kent, and the path of information and money to Charles V's embassy. Cleared of a charge of contempt allegedly committed at the Admiralty (1545), and one of injustice and slackness laid by Somerset (1547), he continued his offices under Mary.

In Parliament he represented the Sussex boroughs of Horsham (Oct 1553) and New Shoreham (1558); while his linguistic skills served him well when he was governor of the Russia Company (1557-1560) and of the Company of Merchant Adventurers (1556-1559). Hussey died 1 June 1560, leaving properties in Essex and a large residence in Paternoster Row; he was buried in St Martin's Ludgate.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons II, pp. 420-421; Ramsay, G.D., City of London Manchester University Press (Manchester) 1975. p.53, 54.

<sup>10</sup> The majority of physicians graduated D.M. from Oxford or Cambridge, and were fellows of the College of Physicians, which Crowmer became a fellow of in 1530 and the Censor in 1544. Described as the King's Scottish physician, Dr Walter Crowmer was respected as a doctor

(f.318r-319r)  
WILL 6

by the Court and the nobility. Receiving an annual fee of £100 as the royal physician, Crowmer was one of the few royal servants to inherit a £100 legacy from the will of Henry VIII.

The Lisle Letters, ed Muriel St Clare Byrne, University of Chicago Press (Chicago) 1981. v.3, p.459, v.5 1090, pp. 20-21.

- 11 Newgate prison was situated near the City gate of the same name, it held those who had committed treason, felonies and other criminal offences.  
Stow, J., A Survey of London I, p.39.
- 12 'All freemen of this city, should for debt, trespass, accounts, and contempts, be imprisoned in Ludgate'. This prison was by the sixth principal gate of the City, Ludgate.  
Stow, J., A Survey of London I, p.39.
- 13 The Marshalsea in Southwark was the prison linked to the Court of the Royal Household.  
Stow, J., A Survey Of London II, p.60.
- 14 The Court of the King's Bench had jurisdiction over felonies, and over errors in civil cases from the Court of Common Pleas. Those committed by the court were sent to the King's Bench prison in Southwark.  
Williams, P., The Tudor Regime p. 217.
- 15 John Hyde of Aldbury, Hertfordshire and Hyde near Bridport, Dorset, was the clerk of the pipe of the Exchequer from the late 1520's until his death in 1545. The date of his decease means he actually pre-deceased Darnall, whose was drawn up in 1540 and remained unaltered at the time of probate.  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, pp. 330-331.

(f.318r-f.319r)  
WILL 6

<sup>16</sup> William Walker is listed as a goldsmith of London in 1557, but no address is noted.

Heal, A., The London Goldsmiths 1200-1800: A record of the Names and Addresses of the Craftsmen, their Shop-signs and Trade-cards, David & Charles Reprints (London) 1972. p.262.

<sup>17</sup> It is uncommon, in this group of wills, to find bequests conditional on having prayers said for the testator or others specified. Even in those wills where the preamble and sometimes other evidence, indicates the traditional religious beliefs of the testator. The fact that this will was drawn up in 1540, prior to the dissolution of the chantries and fraternities (specializing in praying for the souls of the deceased) could have some bearing on this.

<sup>18</sup> The younger son of Robert Smith of Waltham, Lincolnshire (c.1510) Smith may have been granted the freedom of the City of London in 1532. Having married Margaret, the daughter of John Hyde (see fn. 15 above), he was a clerk of the Exchequer by 1545 (possibly earlier), and served as an attorney in the Court of General Surveyors - representing it at the Exchequer.

Interestingly, Smith was picked for three different boroughs: Saltash (1547), Bridport (Oct, 1553), and St Albans (1559). From 1551 Smith was the clerk of the pipe of the Exchequer, where his son succeeded him after his death (c.1589).

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, pp.330-331; Richardson, W.C., History of the Court of Augmentations 1536-1554 Louisiana State University Press, 1961, pp. 439-440.

(f.318r-f.319f)  
WILL 6

19 Possibly of New Romney, Kent, whose father had represented New Romney in parliament (1523).

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, p.57.

20 One of the King's auditors attached to the general surveyors office and later acquired the mastership of the woods in the same department. Myne retained these positions until his death (late 1542) shortly after the establishment of the Court of General Surveyors - the second beneficiary to die before the probate of Darnall's will.

Richardson, W.C., History of the Court of Augmentations, pp. 146-149.

\* The right of administration was granted to Robert Dawbeney, one of the executors nominated, and to William Fermor (who was not present before the probate court).

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(f.319r-f.319v)  
WILL 7 - FRAUNCES WALLER

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xiiij<sup>th</sup> daye of January in the secound yere [1548] of the Reigne of Edwarde the sixt by the grace of God, of Englande, Fraunce and Irelande kinge, defendor of the faithe and in erth supreme hedd  
5 of the churche of Englande and also of Ireland. I Fraunces Waller<sup>1</sup> of the parishe of Agmondesham in the Countie of Buckingham gentilman hole of body and mynde, do make my last will and testament in maner and forme following. First I bequeth<sup>a</sup> my soule vnto tholy and blessed Trinitie,  
10 thre parsons and one god, and my bodie to be buried in

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a. f.319v begins.

(f.319r-f.319v)  
WILL 7

christian burialle. Also I give and bequeathe vnto Anne  
my wiffe all suche landes and tenementes with all other  
commodities, the wood only reserued, as Nicholas Cooke  
and John Kybble now holdeth (that is to saye) alle suche  
15 landes and tenementes as I late bought of my brother Raffe  
and Nicholas Cooke to haue and to holde all the landes  
and tenementes with their appurtenaunces (except before  
excepted) for terme of her lyf. Also I give to the saide  
Anne my Mansion house in Bekynsfelde with the two meades  
20 in the bakesyde of the house called Grene Mede and Hatche  
Croft, to haue and to hold so long as she kepithe herself  
sole and vnmarried. And afterwarde to suche vse as hereafter  
shalbe declared (that is to saye) I wille that so sone  
as I shall haue interest therin, and that she hath forsakene  
25 her wydowhod, and betaken herself to mary ageyne, that  
thenn it shalbe ymployed to the best vse and profytt for  
my childe that she now goith with all and that by the over-  
sight of suche supervisours, as I shall hereafter appoynt,  
To the whiche child also, I giue all my saide landes and  
30 tenementes, medowes, pastures, woodes and vnderwoodes with  
all other their Appurtenaunces and commodities set lying  
and being in the<sup>b</sup> parishe of Bekynsfelde in the Countie  
of Buckingham or Hartford or elles where within the Realme  
of Englande to hyme or her, and to theyrs of hyme or her  
35 forever. And if it fortune my saide Child to dye without  
issue as God forbyd, thene I will and giue all my said  
landes and tenementes before expressed equally to be deuyded  
betwixt my to brotherne Thomas and Edmond Waller and to  
theyres of their body laufully begotton, And if it fortune  
40 theme to dye withoute suche heyres of their body laufully  
begotten, thene I will and give yt to Fraunces Waller sonne  
of Raffe Waller my brother, and to theyres male of his  
bodye Laufully begotten. And if it fortune hyme to dye  
withoute heyre male, thenn I give yt to theyres of my syster  
45 Davys and my syster Pope equally to be deuyded. Also I

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b. f.319v begins.

(f.319r-f.319v)

WILL 7

giue and bequeathe to my saide childe to be delyuered  
 ymmediatly after my death to my supervisours, and they  
 to be bounde to my wyfe to discharge the same, the some  
 of foure hundreth markes in redy money, whiche money I  
 50 will forthwith to be put into the Chamber of London, for  
 the sauegarde and true discharge therof. Also I giue to  
 my saide childe my bason and Ewer syluer and percell gilt,  
 A standing pot with a cover gilt, A payre of Saltes with  
 one cover gilt whiche I late bought, three Ale cuppes with  
 55 covers of the best gilt, two wyne goblettes gilt with covers,  
 and a dosen of syluer spones. And [if]<sup>c</sup> it fortune my  
 saide Childe to dye withoute yssue, I wille then that all  
 the saide money and plate before expressid be equally  
 deuyded betwixt my saide two brotherne Thomas and Edmonde,  
 60 except xxli whiche I giue emonge my brother Dawbnes children.  
 Also I giue vnto my brother Pope my blacke gelding, To  
 my brother Dawbney a hundreth shillinges in redy money.  
 And to my Cosyne Douncomte my stoned horse, whiche thre  
persons I make supervisours of my last wille and testament  
 65 earnestly requyring them to se the saide money and plate  
 to be bestowed into the Chambre of London, to the true  
 vse and behoofe aforesaide. Also I giue and bequeathe  
 to my brother Davys a standing Cupp gilt<sup>d</sup> with a cover.  
 And to my brother Gretham a goblet parcell gilt. Also  
 70 I giue to be betowed emonge the poore folkes of Bekynsfield  
 and Agmondesham xls. Also I giue and bequeathe to either  
 of my household seruauntes iijs iiijd. All the rest of  
 my goodes and Cattalles vnbequethed (except the Lease of  
 Hall Ferme whiche I give to my brother Thomas Waller) I  
 75 giue and bequeathe to Anne my wyfe, whome I make sole  
 Executrix of my last will and testament. In witnes whereof  
 I the saide Fraunces Waller haue to this my last will and

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c. "if" omitted in M.S.

d. "gilt" interlinear

(f.319r-f.319v)

WILL 7

80 testament put my hande and seale. The first of July<sup>2</sup>,  
in the thirde yere of the reigne of Edwarde the sixt by  
the grace of God, of Englande Fraunce and Irelande kinge,  
defendor of the faithe and in erthe supreme hedd of the  
Churche of Englande and also of Irelande.

PROBATE: 6 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> Although he is not mentioned in 1522 Muster of Buckingham, he might be the son of John Waller, gent, who was assessed for his lands in Hambleden (£4), Turville (£1), Ibstone (7s. 0d), and West Wycombe (£1 10s. 0d). His testament would indicate Waller to be a Protestant.

Chibnall, A.C., The Certificate of Musters for Buckinghamshire in 1522, Her Majesty's Stationery Office (London) 1973, p.279, 290, 291, 294.

<sup>2</sup> It is curious that though the preamble of this testament is dated 13 January 1549, the end of the will is dated 1 July 1549. This would not be unusual if a codicil had been added, but there is no obvious codicil to this will.

\* Anne, the widow, is granted the right of administration.

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(f.319v-f.320r)  
WILL 8 - ELIZABETH PYGOTT

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xx<sup>ti</sup> daye of Nouembre in  
the secoude yere of the Reigne of Kinge Edwarde the Sixt,  
by the grace of God kinge of Englande, Fraunce and of  
Irelande, defendor of the faithe and in yerthe supreme  
5 hedd of the Churche of Englande and Irelande. I Elizabeth  
Pygott<sup>1</sup> of Waddun in the Countie of Buckingham wydowe,  
being of hole mynde and memorye, make and declare this  
my testament and last will in maner and forme as hereafter  
folowith. First I bequeathe my soule to Almightye God  
10 and to our blessid lady Saynt Marie, and to all the blessid  
companye of heaven, and my bodie to be buried in the  
Chappell of Our Ladie in the churche of Waddun where my  
last husbände lyeth. Item I will to every bedman and woman  
of Salford xxd<sup>a</sup> towarde ther relyfe. Item I will to Marget  
15 Woodcroft<sup>b</sup> my butler, two kyne and three pounce in money.  
Item to every other man seruaunte and woman seruaunte a  
kowe. Item I wille that every one of my women seruaunts  
haue a payre of hempene shetes and a payre of flexone shetes.  
Item I will that Robert Pygott<sup>2</sup> shall haue my greate panne.  
20 Item I will that Edmunde Elles shall haue my seconde pane.  
Item I will to Thomas Pygott my bason and the ewer of  
syluer, foure white bolles with a cover, and a standing  
salte gilt with a cover. Item to Robert Pygott three gilt  
gobletes with a cover, and a standing salt gilt without  
25 a cover, A basone and a cansticke of syluer. Item to Roger  
Pygott a white Cupp of syluer. Item I will to Fraunces  
Pygott my byggest sylver cuppe. Item I will to my daughter  
Henley a bason and a Cansticke of syluer. Item to my  
Daughter Hamden Twentie poundes. Item to my Cosyne  
30 Katheryne Osbasten xls. I will my three white goblettes  
with a cover to Edmunde Elles. Item I will to Thomas  
Pygott<sup>3</sup> a dosyne of syluer spones with gilt knoppes. Item  
I will to Roger Pygott my wrethed knopped spones. Item  
I will to Robart Pygott my lease of Berry Closse duringe

a. f.320r begins; "chapell of our lady" has been written at the base of  
f.319v as well as the beginning of f.320r.

b. a line, or part thereof, might be missing here.

(f.319v-f.320r)

WILL 8

35 my terme. Item I will to Elizabeth Vavxe a siluer cupp.  
 Item I will to Elizabeth Harrys and Thomas Saymssone<sup>e</sup> eache  
 of them a cowe. Item I will to my daughter Hamdene<sup>e</sup> my  
 ryng with a dyamond. Item I will to William Pygott<sup>5</sup> Tenne  
 poundes, so that he will suffer my Executours to haue  
 40 lybertie in the grounde and the mansyone<sup>e</sup> howse sixe wekes  
 after my deceas (the whiche I now occupie), for the vtterans  
 of my Cattall. Item I will to Elizabeth his daughter two  
 kyne. Item I will to Roger Pygott xij kyne. To Edmunde  
 Elles sixe kyne. Item I will to Thomas Pygott all suche  
 45 stufe as cam from Dodersall<sup>6</sup>. Item I will to Marget George  
 during her lyfe yerely at the discrecion of my executours  
 a payre of shewes, a payre of hoose, two smockes, two  
 neckerchers, two kerchis and euery second yere A Cote.  
 Item I will to Robert Pygott my grete spyttes that be  
 50 occupied in my howse. Item I will to Robert Pygott my  
 best Sparver. Item I will to Anthony Osbastien my godsone  
 a Cowe. Item I will that Robert Pygott shall haue the  
 coffer with the stuf of Elizabeth Elles. Item I wille<sup>e</sup>  
 yf there be any ambyguytie or dowte in this my last wille<sup>e</sup>,  
 55 that thene for the playne declaracion therof yt shalbe  
 referryd to my Executours. Item I will Twentie poundes<sup>e</sup>  
 to be delte amongst the poore in suche townes as hereafter  
 folowithe, as my Executours se cause, Greate Myssenden  
 and Litle Messenden<sup>7</sup>, Queynton, Waddune<sup>8</sup>, Schenly<sup>9</sup>, Mychell  
 60 Horwood, Litle Horwood<sup>10</sup>, Newynton Longfyld<sup>11</sup>, Stewitley<sup>12</sup>,  
 Dawnertone<sup>e</sup>, Bechampton<sup>13</sup>, Grendon Vnderwood<sup>14</sup>, Thorneborow  
 Warmyngtone<sup>e</sup>. Item I will that Edmunde Elles suffer Henry  
 Layne to haue his bargayne of wood that Robert Pygott solde  
 hyme<sup>e</sup>, or elles<sup>e</sup> all his legacies to stande voyde. Item  
 65 I will Thomas Pygott and Robert Pygott be my Eecutours,  
 and Sir Walter Henley<sup>15</sup> and Doctor Cockes<sup>16</sup> my overseers,  
 And Sir Walter to haue for his payne fourtie poundes<sup>e</sup> to  
 be deducted oute of the ffiftie poundes<sup>e</sup> the whiche he owith  
 me, And thother overseer to haue fyve poundes<sup>e</sup>. In witnes

(f.319v-f.320r)  
WILL 8

70 of this foresaide will, I Walter Pynfolde<sup>17</sup> vicar of Whaddoune haue putto my hande in the presens of Master Thomas Pygott, Master Robert Pigott, Mestres Johane Hamden, per me Walterum Pinfolde, per me Henricum Wattes.

PROBATE: 6 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> The widow of Thomas Pygott, who had died before the 1522 muster of Buckinghamshire. Aside from several minor assessments at Edgcott, Stewkley, North Marsden and Newton Longville, Elizabeth Pygott was assessed £20 6s. 8d. for her property in Doddershall, £38 for her land at Great Missenden and most importantly £100 for her land and a further £100 for her possessions in Whaddon. Her testament indicates her to be of the traditional Catholic persuasion, and she was probably buried in the St Mary, Whaddon.

Chibnall, A.C. ed. The Certificate of Musters for Buckinghamshire in 1522 p. 59, 100, 116, 127, 165, 169, 200; Cassell's Gazetteer.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Pygott, gentleman, was assessed (in the 1522 Muster) £30 for property in Beachampton and £20 for his possessions there, also for his lands in Stony Stratford £2 and in Loughton £6 13s.4d.

Chibnall, A.C. ed., The Certificate of Musters for Buckinghamshire in 1522, p. 43, 305, 309.

<sup>3</sup> This is possibly the same Thomas Pygott of Donnington who was accused of inconstancy with Margery Dawbeney, in the Court of the Archdeaonry of Buckingham (1519-1520). Ordered to purge himself he promised to do penance, then later publicly refused.

Elvey, E.M., ed., The Courts of the Archdeaonry of Buckingham: 1483-1523: Buckinghamshire Record Society No. 19. 1975.

(f.319v-f.320r)

WILL 8

- <sup>4</sup> Margery, the daughter of Thomas Pygott, was the widow of Thomas Cotton of Landwade, Cambridgeshire when she married Walter Henley in 1527. As her fourth husband she married Thomas Roberts of Cranbrook, a kinsman of Henley.  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons II, pp. 332-333.
- <sup>5</sup> In 1522 he was assessed £5 for his property in Little Horwood and £13 6s.8d. for his goods and chattels there.  
Chibnall, A.C. ed., The Certificate of Musters for Buckinghamshire in 1522 p. 191.
- <sup>6</sup> Doddershall, see f.n. 1.
- <sup>7</sup> Great and Little Missenden, see fn. 1.
- <sup>8</sup> Whaddon, see fn. 1.
- <sup>9</sup> Shenley Church End, the 1522 assessment of land in the possession of Thomas Pygott's executors was valued at £8 10s.0d.  
Chibnall, A.C., The Certificates of Musters for Buckinghamshire in 1522 p. 313.
- <sup>10</sup> Great and Little Horwood, see fn. 5.
- <sup>11</sup> Newton Longville, property assessed at £1 12s.0d. was recorded under Elizabeth Pygott.  
The Certificate of Musters for Buckinghamshire in 1522  
ed A.C. Chibnall p. 328.
- <sup>12</sup> Stewkley, Elizabeth Pygott was assessed £1 for her property there  
The Certificate of Musters for Buckinghamshire in 1522  
ed A.C. Chibnall p. 169.

(f.319v-f.320r)  
WILL 8

- <sup>13</sup> Beachampton, see fn. 2.
- <sup>14</sup> All the land in Grendon Underwood (1522) was owned by the executors of Thomas Pygott, consequently none of the tenant farmers were assessed on their land though one had possessions valued at £20. The assessment for Pygott's executors was £25 14s.2d. for property. The Certificate of Musters for Buckinghamshire in 1522 ed A.C. Chibnall p. 17, 115.
- <sup>15</sup> Taking Margery Pygott as his second wife in 1527, Henley had been educated at Grey's Inn, and from 1537 he made his career in the Court of Augmentations. Active in the supervision of the dissolution of monasteries, particularly in the north of England (1539-1540) and made use of his position to assist this acquisition of former monastic properties in Kent - including Matham, Lockride and Crowthorne. In 1545 he jointly purchased property in Lincolnshire, Middlesex and Oxfordshire, with Sir John Williams (see will 16, f.n.17). Perhaps the most unusual acquisition was Bangor Palace, Holborn, on a 89 year lease for the annual rent of one red rose.

One of the first members to represent Canterbury in parliament (1542), Henley made himself popular by declining to accept a wage. In 1546 Henley was considered for the chancellorship of Ireland, having served as attorney of the Court of Augmentations since March 1540, but this did not eventuate as by this time he was ill and almost blind. Knighted by June 1547, Henley died at Cranbrook in March 1550. In the preamble of his will, he bequeathed this soul (in a slightly confused manner) to "... allmighty god the father of heven and his blessid sonne Jesus Chryst my savyor and Redemer and to the Holy Goost ... And I beseech that

(f.319v-f.320r)  
WILL 8

the blessid and holy virgin, our Ladye Saynte Mary and all the holye company of heven to pray for me..."

- <sup>16</sup> Dr Richard Cockes (Cox) was the son of Richard Cox of Whaddon, Buckinghamshire, c.1500. A scholar of King's College Cambridge (1519-1525), Cox moved to Oxford in 1525, and finally graduated with a doctorate in theology from Cambridge (1536-1537). Appointed headmaster of Eton College in 1528, a position he held until 1534, Cox held several prebends over the next decades. He became a tutor of Prince Edward (1540) and his appointment as Chancellor of Oxford University (1547) followed that of Dean of Christ Church (1546).

Strongly influenced by his Lutheran beliefs, Cox was closely associated with the evolution of the Prayer Books of 1549 and 1552. Reputed to have approved the proclamation of Lady Jane Grey as Queen (1553), Cox spent most of Mary's reign in Frankfurt and Zurich. Returning to England, Elizabeth made Cox bishop of Ely where he gained a reputation of being severe with recusants. Cox died 1581, and was buried in Ely Cathedral.

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540; Heal, F., Prelates of Princes, pp. 211-212, 218-224, 238-239, 283-284, 288-289.

- <sup>17</sup> Walter Pynfold was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford where he was admitted as a fellow in 1534, he achieved his M.A. (Feb 1538) having been ordained a priest in May 1535. Pynfold became curate of Horspath Oxfordshire (1538) and was appointed Dean of Arts at Magdalen College 1542 and 1545. In January 1548, Pynfold became vicar of Whaddon, Buckinghamshire, where he remained until May 1554.
- Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540, p. 469.

(f.319v-f.320r)

WILL 8

\* Thomas Pygott and Robert Pygott were granted the right of administration, the executors named in the will; the will was presented to the probate court by Richard Read, procurator.

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(f.320r-f.320v)

WILL 9 - ELENE YATE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. In the yere of our lorde God a Thousande fyve hundreth fourtie and eight, the xxviiij daie of the moneth of Septembre in the secounde yere of the reigne of our Soueraigne lorde Edwarde the sixt, by  
 5 the grace of God kinge of Englande, Fraunce and Ireland, defendor of the faithe and in earth the supreme hedd of the church of Englande and also of Ireland. I Elene Yate of Highwo[r]th in the Countie of Wiltshire and dioces of Salisbury widowe, sicke in bodie but yet (thankes be to  
 10 God) of good and perfytt memory and mynde do make this my last will and testament in maner and forme folowing. First I do giue by legacie and bequeath my soule to Almightye God, and my bodie to be buried in the church yarde of Highworth<sup>1</sup> aforsaid. Item I do bequeath and give  
 15 to Thomas Yate my sonne the Cupborde in the parlor, the greate brasse panne, otherwise called the lead, and the greater vate in the honyhous<sup>2</sup> to thuse of the said Thomas and his Children. Item I do further order, dispose and will that as well in thaccomplishment of all the legacies  
 20 and giftes concerning goodes and Cattalles prommysed<sup>a</sup> and graunted to sundry persons, particularly in the last will and testament of my late husband Symon Yate of Highworthe

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a. "mm" in "prommysed" is slightly blotted over.

(f.320r-f.320v)  
WILL 9

25 aforesaid deceased, and at the daye of making this my  
present testament not performyd, as also for the disposicion  
 and ordering of all suche goodes and Cattalles as at this  
 present are in my possession, custody and vse enywhere,  
 or in the possession handes or custodie of eny other persone  
 or persones to myne vse, shalbe bequeathed, geven,  
 distributed and delyuered in maner and forme hereafter  
 30 mencioned. That is to say, ffirst I do give and bequeathe  
 to Symone Goering, the<sup>b</sup> Sonne of my daughter Katheryne  
 twoo yonge beastes. Item I do give and bequeathe to the  
 said Symone Goering the some of vjli xiijs iiijd sterling,  
 wherof I will that Katheryne Georing mother to the saide  
 35 Symone shall haue the saufe custodie and vse vntill the  
 said Symon do come to the full age of xxj yeres. Item  
 I do give and bequeathe to Richard Goeryng brother to  
 the saide Symon, one yonge beast. Item I do give and  
 bequeathe to Elen Goeryng sister to the forsaid Symon  
 40 and Richard one yonge beast. Item I do giue and bequeathe  
 to Thomas Goeryng the yonger brother to the foresaid Symon,  
 Richard and Elen, one yonge beast. Item I do give and  
 bequeathe to Symon Yate sonne of Thomas Yate one bullock.  
 Item I do give and bequeathe to Margaret Stychall my  
 45 doughter one yong beast. Item I do give and bequeathe  
 to Joane Gunter doughter to Agnes Gunter one yong beast.  
 Item I do give and bequeathe to Symon Gunter sonne to the  
 said Agnes one yonge beast. Item I do give and bequeathe  
 to Elizabethe Gunter one other of the doughters of the  
 50 said Agnes one yong beast. Item I do give and bequeathe  
 to John Burges my seruaunte one bullock. Item I do give  
 and bequeath to Mary Yate my doughter, all and every my  
 sheepe and lambes now pasturing and feding within the  
 village or hamlet comons and bundes of Burdescote alias  
 55 Buscote in the Countie of Berkshire, And also eight kyne  
 now pasturing going and feding within the village commons

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b. f.320v begins.

(f.320r-f.320v)

WILL 9

and bundes of Eschroppe in the parishe of Highworth afore-  
 said, and moreover all that myne Apparell and furniture  
 of my bodie being lynen and wollene whiche I haue or shall  
 60 haue at the tyme of my decease. And the residue of all  
 and singuler my goodes and Cattalles moveable and vnmoveable,  
 quyck and dead whersoever they be of what kynde nature  
 and condicion so euer the same be knowen nominated or  
 reputed, remayning in myne owne handes and vse, or in  
 65 thandes or possession of any other persone or persons to  
 myne vse, And not by legacies in the testament of my said  
 late husbnde geven (yet not delyuered) or not by this  
 my present testament and last wille before legacied, gevyne  
 and bequeathed, or not by myne owne handes delyuered or  
 70 assignement apertly in my lyftyme willed bequeathed or  
 given to eny persone or persons I do absolutely will,  
 bequeathe and giue to William Yate and the foresaide Mary  
 Yate my Children, to be equally disposed, orderyed, devyded  
 and distributed betwixt theme, by thassignment, order and  
 75 discrecion of myne Overseers hereafter nominated<sup>3</sup>. And  
 the said William Yate and Mary Yate do constitute make  
 and ordeyne by this my presente testament and last will,  
 my wholle and soole Executours Joyntly of this my said  
 last will and testament. And further to the intent that  
 80 all my forsaide bequestes, legacies, willes and giftes  
 according to this my said last will and testament may or  
 shalbe in euerything fully and absolutely doon accomplished  
 and performyd, I do ordeyne, constitute, make and assigne  
 my welbiloued Jeffrey Gunter, Thomas Yate, Edmunde Stichall  
 85 and William Bridges<sup>4</sup> myne Overseers of this my present  
 testament and last will. And for the approved trust and  
 and [sic] affiaunce that I haue to John Warneforde Esquier,  
 I do desire and hartely beseche the said Master Warneforde,  
 to pervse vyewe and ouersee the doing of my said ouerseers,  
 90 And to shewe his faverable aide to my foresaid Children  
 William and Marie. Thes being witnesses and present at  
 the making of this my last will and testament Richard  
 Stychall, Jeffrey Gunter, Thomas Yate, Edmund Stychall,  
 William Bridges and other.

PROBATE: 8 November 1549\*

(f.320r-f.320v)  
WILL 9

- 1 The parish church of Highworth, Wiltshire, was probably St Michael's.  
Cassell's Gazetteer
- 2 The term "honyhous" does not appear in the O.E.D., however one can assume it to be where the honey is processed, i.e. removed from honey-combs.
- 3 This is a good example of an executor passing on his or her unfulfilled obligations to his or her own executor, to be completed. It is possible that Elene's husband was recently deceased when she died, although it is perhaps more likely that some of the legatees had not become of age and had therefore not received their legacies.
- 4 Bridges was possibly the brother or uncle of Edmund Bridges (Brydges), the member of parliament for Wootton Bassett (1545) and Gloucester (1553, when he opposed Mary's act of repeal), who was the Keeper of the lordship of Highworth 1557-1573. Edmund had a son William, but he would have been too young to act as overseer in 1549. Bindoff, S.T. The House of Commons I, p. 531. Lehmborg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry VIII, p. 208, 214.
- \* The will was presented by William Bridges, procurator, and the right of administration was granted to the executors nominated.

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(f.320v-f.321r)  
WILL 10 - RICHARD MARKES

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xxv<sup>ti</sup> daie of Aprelle the  
yere of our lorde Godd a Thousande fyve hundreth fourtie  
and Nyne. I Richard Markes of the Citie of New Salisbury,  
being in good helth and perfitt remembraunce presing to  
5 Jesus Christ our lorde, I do make this my will and testament.  
First I giue and bequeathe my soule in to thandes of our  
lorde Jesus Christe and to the hole Trinitie of heaven,  
my bodeye to be buried in Seynt Thomas church<sup>1</sup> vnder the  
stone wher ar buried my twoo wyffes. Item I giue to the  
10 churche workes of Seynt Thomas in Salisbury vjs viijd,  
And to the coffer in the churche to the releif of the poor  
tene shillinges, And to the prisoners of the Gille vjs  
viijd. And iijs iiijd to the prysoners of the Gratte.  
And iijs iiijd to the poore beden row in Salisbury. Item  
15 I will be given to the poore at my burying and at my monthes  
mynde to the pour people fyve poundes, and tene grottes  
therof to the convicte. Item I giue to my ffoure doughters  
fourtie poundes (that is to say) Alice, Elisabeth, Katheryne  
and Dorethie, eiche of theme Tene ponde, and eche of theme  
20 a fetherbedd, a bolster of fethers with eche one paire  
of sheetes, with couerled and all other apparell, or elles  
xls more to eche of them in money, yf any dye thother to  
enyoie this my bequest. Item I give to my three sonnes  
Threscore ponde, that is to William and to John ffourtie  
25 markes a pece and to Richard my sonne Twentie markes, and  
to hyme my howse at Lymington with the Evydens therof.  
Item I giue to William, John and Richarde my Children,  
all my Copieholdes with the Copis therto belonging, which<sup>a</sup> I  
bought for theme. And to eiche of my doughters a gold  
30 Ryng. And I giue my best ring to William Markes, Also  
I giue to the said William Avowsone of a prebent<sup>2</sup> that  
I haue bought of Leonard Bylssone<sup>3</sup>, late Scole master of  
Reding whiche prebent ys named Kinges Taynton lying in  
Devynshire, and the gyft of Salisbury churche whiche prebent  
35 Doctor Olyver<sup>4</sup> of London now ys Incombent. Yf the saide

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a. f.321r begins.

(f.320v-f.321r)  
WILL 10

William dye before the deathe of the said Olyver, I will  
 there that John Markes my sonne shall inyoie the same  
 Advoysone, but who so of theme bothe dothe inyoie the same,  
 I will that he give his other brother of the proffit therof  
 40 Tene poundes by the yere. Yf oon of this twoo names  
 dye, he that ynoith the prebent shall give twoo [sic] his systers  
 where is most nede Tene ponde yerely as long as he lyveth.  
 And all this aforesaid money, goodes, coppis and advowsone  
 to be delyuered within one half yere after my deathe to  
 45 my Children, or to my Overseers, whome I make my trustie  
 and loving frendes Richard Holte, and my gossop John Alyne,  
 whiche I giue to them this to performe my will xxvjs viijd  
 a pece, desiring them to be bounde to delyver these my  
 bequestes to my children within one yere after my deathe  
 50 or rather if nede of theme doo requyre of my saide Children.  
 Also I haue with my brother Thomas Scotte in Bremer a Cowe  
 whiche I giue to the saide Thomas Scotte. More the said  
 Thomas hath ffiftie wether shape, whiche ar Richardes  
 my sonnns wherfore he paieth for the hire of them yerely  
 55 xiijs iiijd I will that Richard shall not haue those shepe  
 before he be xxiiij yere of Age, butte<sup>b</sup> the profytt therof  
 to hyme, that is xiijs iiijd by the yere. And he dye before  
 that age, I will his twoo brothers inyoie the same half  
 hundreth sheepe. Also I giue to my daughter Alice in London  
 60 A pencion of sixe pound yerely, whiche I bought of John  
 Webb<sup>5</sup> prest and vicar of Helmerton in north Wylshire wherof  
 I haue a pattent whiche I will my daughter Alice shall  
 haue, and after her death to Dorethie her syster. All  
 the residue of my goodes, money and plate with household  
 65 stuf vnbequethed, I give vnto Margaret my wyfe whome I  
 make my Executrice, in condition she do performe this my  
 wille wrytten the thirde yere of our Soueraigne lorde King  
 Edward the sixt king of England, Franuce and Irelande,  
 And in erthe the supreme hed of the churche of Englande

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b. M.S. blurred here

(f.320v-f.321r)  
WILL 10

70 and Irelande. Per me Richard Markes

PROBATE: 8 November 1549\*

- <sup>1</sup> This indicates Markes had accepted the 'true' faith; the church of St Thomas of Canterbury was erected as a chapel-of-ease to Salisbury Cathedral c.1240.

Cassell's Gazetteer

- <sup>2</sup> Following the Reformation advowsons previously owned by religious houses, or appended to manors held by monasteries, fell into crown hands and were often sold to laymen, or bestowed on them. A recognized means of patronage, advowsons and the right to collect tithes gave the laity an economic interest in a parish. From the 1530's both the right to collect tithes and advowsons were accepted forms of property, to be bestowed or sold at the will of the owner, either with the manor to which it was attached or as a separate entity.

Heal, F. & O'Day, R., Church and Society in England: Henry VIII to James I The MacMillan Press (London) 1977. pp 13-14.

- <sup>3</sup> Interestingly Bylsson is described by Emden as canon of Salibury and prebendary of Teynton Regis from 1552, following Oliver (see f.n. 4). Headmaster of Reading School in 1546, he had been ordained in 1537 and studied at Oxford (M.A. 1548), he became rector of Havant, Hampshire (Oct. 1548) and canon and prebendary of Winchester from June 1551. 'Deprived of his best livinges' he was sent to the Tower of London in 1562, and transferred to the Marshalsea in 1571.

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540, p. 93.

(f.320v-f.321r)  
WILL 10

- 4 Having gained doctorates in both Civil and Canon law in 1522, and following the receipt of numerous preferments he became the King's chaplain and canon of Salisbury and canon of Teynton Regis (Dec. 1531), a position he held until his death at the Doctor's Commons in London, 1552. Employed in Henry VIII's suit for divorce in 1531, he was also a legal specialist attached to the committee that determined Henry VIII's marriage to Anne of Cleves was void. As dean of Christ College from 1533 he received a pension of £70 at the dissolution. Dr John Oliver was elected procurator of the Convocation of Canterbury, in 1543.

D.N.B.- Oliver; Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540, p. 425; Jordan, W.K., Edward VI: The Young King George Allen & Unwin (London) 1968. p. 70.

- 5 Vicar of Hilmarton, Wilts. from 1546, Webb died by 1552. He was possibly the same Webb who studied at Oxford for a B.A. (1541) and B.C.L. (1547)  
Emden A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540 p. 612.

- \* The widow, Margaret, was granted the right of administration.

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(f.321r)  
WILL 11 - NYCHOLAS ROSE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The ix<sup>th</sup> daye of August in the yere of our lorde God a Thousande fyve hundreth and fourtie, And in the xxij<sup>ti</sup> yere of the reigne of our soueraigne Lorde Kinge Henry the eight, I Nycholas Rose of the Citie

(f.321r)  
WILL 11

5 of London haberdassher, being of hole mynde and perfytt  
in memorie thankes be to God, make this my testament and  
last wille in maner and forme folowing. First I bequeathe  
my soule to Almightye God and to all the holy company of  
heaven, my bodye to be buried at the disposicion of myne  
10 Executours. Also I will my dettes to be paide and my  
legacies, yf eny suche I do bequeath. Also I will all  
my goodes to be equally deuyded into three partes<sup>1</sup>, of whiche  
the first parte I wille to my wyfe in the name of her  
purpart and dowry. The seconde parte I will to my Children  
15 equally to be deuyded amonge them according to the maner  
and custome of this worshipfull Citie. The thirde parte  
I reserue vnto my selfe for the payment of my dettes, my  
legacies and my funeralles. The residue of all my goodes  
not bequeathed, I put to the disposicion of my wyfe whome  
20 I make my sole Executrice of this my last will. Per me  
Thomam Herd Scriptorem, per me Robart Offley<sup>2</sup>.

PROBATE: 8 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> The 'custom of London', whereby the testator divided his estate into three equal portions - one third for his wife, one third for his children, and the final third to be disposed at will of the testator - remained valid in the city until 1724. Initially a common practice throughout England, to protect the spouse and children of the testator, it had generally died out by the mid-fifteenth century.

Bailey, S.J., The Law of Wills Pitman Publishing Co (Toronto) 1973, p.21.

<sup>2</sup> Nominated as alderman for the City of London in Vintry Ward (March 1567) and Farrington Ward Without (December 1568), Offley was unsuccessful on both occasions.

(f.321r)  
WILL 11

Beaven, A.B. , The Aldermen of the City of London I,  
p. 157, 208.

\* The administration of the testament was granted to the widow, as nominated in the will.

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(f.321r-f.321v)  
WILL 12 - SIR WILLIAM TURVILLE

IN DEI NOMINE AMEN. The xxix<sup>ti</sup> daye of Aprile in the  
thirde yere of the Reigne of our most drede Soueraigne  
lorde, Edwarde the sixte by the grace of God of Englande,  
Fraunce and Irelaunde kinge, defendor of the faithe and  
5 in erthe of the churche of Englande and Irelaunde the supreme  
hedd. I William Turville<sup>1</sup> of Aston Slavell [sic] in the  
Countie of Leicester knight, being of hole mynde and perfite  
memorie, make this my last will and testament in maner  
and forme followinge<sup>a</sup>. First I bequeathe my soule to  
10 Almightye God my maker and redemer by whose passion and  
not by my desertes I trust to be savyd, and to our ladye  
Saynt Marie and all the holy company of heavyne, And my  
bodye to be buried in the Chancell of Aston Flamwell.  
Also I will and bequeathe to our mother churche of Lincoln<sup>2</sup>  
15 xxd. And also for my mortuarie to be paide according to  
the Kinges actes<sup>3</sup> in that case provided. Also I will the  
same daie of my burialle in the churche where I shalbe  
buried, that their be bestowed in the honest bringing me  
to my grave, and in suche devyne seruice as thene shalbe  
20 vsyd in the same churche of Englande for the welth of my  
soule Tene poundes. Also I will that John Turvill and  
George my sonnes shall haue all my harnes indefirentlye  
deuyded and partide, between them in all maner of thinges

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a. f.321v begins.

(f.321r-f.321v)  
WILL 12

with wepains of defence. Also I bequethe to Richard  
 25 Turville xls. Also I bequeath to Henry Turville my godsonne  
xls. Also I bequeath to William Bradburne by godsonne  
xls. Also I bequethe to William Waldrame my godsone xls.  
 Also I bequeathe to Roger Waldrame xls. Also I bequeath  
 to Dorothe Waldrame towa'rldes her mariage Twentie markes.  
 30 Also I bequeathe to George Turville my sonne all my Rayment.  
 Also I bequeathe to the poor mens boxe of Aston xxd. Also  
 I will that all that landes and pencion whiche I haue given  
 to Roger Waldrame lying in Orast as apperith by a ded therof  
 made, shall remayne still in the possession and custodie  
 35 of dame Jayne Turvile my wyfe, towardes the fynding of  
 the same Roger, vntill he shall come to the age of xxj<sup>ti</sup>  
 yeres. Also I will that my said wyffe shall well and  
 honestlye kepe Roger Sprygge my foule, during her lyf,  
 and at her decease to put hyme to some trustie frendes,  
 40 and to delyuer with hyme towardes his fynding vjli xiijs  
iiijd. Also I will that ther be given agenst my buryall  
 to xij poor men dwelling nye hereabowte xij blacke gownes  
 or moo at the discrecion of my foresaid wyfe. Also I  
 bequeathe and will that every one of my seruauntes, bothe  
 45 men and women, whiche shalbe dwelling with me at thowre  
 of my death, shall haue their half yerres wages every one  
 of theme after their porcion and Rate, and a lyuerye of  
 blacke. And also the rest of my goodes moveable and  
 vnmmoveable, quyke and deyð my will being performyd, I give  
 50 and bequeath to my enterly belouyd wiffe dame Jane Turvile  
 whom I ordeyne and make my soole Executrice. And also  
 supervisor of the same, my Last will and testament, I  
 ordeyne and make my welbiloued ffrende Henry Awen and for  
 his paynes to haue xxs. In witnes wherof to this my sayd  
 55 last will I haue put to my seale and subscribed hit with  
 my hande the daye and yere above wryten. Witnessith of  
 the same Sir Thomas Blakislay parson of Aston Flamwell,

(f.321r-f.321v)  
WILL 12

Sir Peter West parsone of Sapret and Henry Awen.

PROBATE: 11 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> Engraved on the altar of the sixteenth century church of Aston Flamville, are the figures of Sir William Turville and his wife, and their five children. The Turvilles had traditionally been lords of the manor of Thurlaston, Leicestershire.

Leicestershire and Rutland ed Arthur Mee, Caxton Publishing Co Ltd (London) p. 25, 211.

<sup>2</sup> Lincoln Cathedral; the preamble suggests some confusion in Turville's religious beliefs, probably leaning more towards the traditional faith.

<sup>3</sup> 21 Henry VIII, c.6. This act regulated mortuary and probate fees, scaled to the ability of an estate to pay, following complaints of abuses against the clergy.

Lehmberg, S.E., The Reformation Parliament pp. 8-11, 91-92; Wunderli, R.M., London Church Courts and Society on the Eve of the Reformation, Medieval Academy of America (Mass.) 1981. p. 130.

\* The will was presented by the procurator William Biller, notary public, and the administration granted to the widow.

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(f.321v-f.322r)  
WILL 13 - ALEXANDER DONET

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xxiiij<sup>ti</sup> daye of Marche in  
the yere of our lorde God a Thousande fyve hundreth fourtie  
and Nyne <sup>1</sup>, and in the third yere of the Reigne of our  
soueraigne lorde Edwarde the sixt by the grace of God of  
5 Englande, Fraunce and Irelande king, defendor of the faithe  
and in erthe vnder Christ of the churche of Englande and  
also of Irelande supreme hedd. I Alexander Donet of  
Basingstoke in the Countie of Southampton in the dioces  
of Winchester of good and perfytt remembraunce, but somewhat  
10 deceaside in my bodye, make this my last wille and testament  
in maner and forme folowing. First I bequeathe my soule  
vnto Almightye God my creatour and maker, and to our blessid  
ladye Mary the Virgyne and to all the holy company of hevyne,  
my body to be buried in the churche of Seynt Mychaell<sup>2</sup> in  
15 Basingstoke. Item I bequeathe to my mother church<sup>3</sup> ijd.  
Item I bequeathe to Alexaunder Donet my sonne Twentie  
poundes. Item I bequeath to Robert Donet my sonne Tene  
poundes. Item I bequeathe to Annys Donet my daughter fyve  
markes. Item I giue and bequeathe all my landes set lyinge  
20 and being in Newbery, Spyunamlende, Stockbridge and  
Ashemanswoorth with all and singuler thappurtenaunces to  
Amy Donet my wyfe during her naturall lyfe, so that she  
do well and sufficientlye repare and maynteyne the same  
during the terme of her saide lyfe. And after her decease,  
25 I will that all the saide landes remayne vnto Alexander  
Donet my sonne and to the heyres of his bodye laufully  
begotten, And for lake of suche yssue to remayne to Robert  
Donet and theyres of his bodie laufully begotten. And  
furthermore as I haue declared in a feoffament made vnto  
30 John Kyngsmyll esquier<sup>4</sup>, John Belchamber gentilman<sup>5</sup>, and  
Richard Tuchyuar gentilman as in the same feoffament at  
large more playnly doth appere. The residue of my goodes  
and Cattalles my debtes paide, I giue and bequeathe to  
Amy my wife<sup>a</sup> whom I ordeyne and make my full executrice,

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a. f.322r begins.

(f.321v-f.322r)  
WILL 13

35 to dispose and do for my soule as she shall thinke most  
necessarie and expedient. In witnes wherof I haue set  
to my seale to thes presentes, even the daye and yere  
above<sup>b</sup> wryten. Thes bearinge witnes Edmonde Kyne vicare  
of Basingstoke, Roger Wyght and John Lowce, with other  
40 moo.

PROBATE: 11 November 1549\*

b. M.S. is blurred here.

<sup>1</sup> As the dating, during the sixteenth century, was made according to the Julian calendar (and therefore the new year began March 25) there would appear to be an error here. The most probable explanation is that the will should have been dated "xxviiij<sup>ti</sup> daye of Marche", and the scribe omitted the "v" when copying the testament.

<sup>2</sup> The church of St Michael and All Angels, Basingstoke; the nave was built during the reign of Henry VIII.  
Cassell's Gazetteer

<sup>3</sup> Winchester Cathedral, one of the richest sees in England, commanding an annual income of over £2,000.  
Church and Society in England: Henry VIII to James I.  
ed F. Heal and R. O'Day. MacMillan Press Ltd (London) 1977. p. 105.

<sup>4</sup> Probably the same Kingsmill, sheriff of Hampshire in 1539. According to Lehmburg, Henry VIII desired Kingsmill be elected as Knight of the Shire (1539) but as returning officer for the county he was ineligible to stand for Hampshire, however he possibly stood for

(f.321v-f.322r)  
WILL 13

the borough of Ludgershall, Wiltshire in the same year.  
Lehmberg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry VIII  
pp. 42-44, 49.

5 At the age of 10 years, Belchamber of St. Michael's parish in Basingstoke entered the grammer school of Winchester College (1500) and went on to study at New College, Oxford (1505). These colleges were dually founded by William of Wykeham in the fourteenth century, with the intention of re-supplying the Church with parish priests after the Black Death, the one college being a pre-requisite of the other. Belchamber had left Oxford by April 1507.

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540 p. 37; Hall, P., Oxford, pp. 59-60.

\* William Walker, procurator, presented the will and the right of administration was granted to the widow, Anne, as nominated in the testament.

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(f.322r-f.322v)  
WILL 14 - WILLIAM WYLKYNSON

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xi<sup>th</sup> daye of October in the yere of our lorde God a Thousande fyve hundreth fourtie and Nyne, And in the thirde yere of the Reigne of our soueraigne lorde Edwarde the sixt by the grace of God kinge  
5 of Englande, Fraunce and Irelande defendor of the faithe and in erthe supreme hedd of the churche of England and Irelande. I James Wylkynson Citizeineu and bruer of London hole of mynde and in perfytt remembrance Laude and prayse be to Almightye God, make ordeyneu and dispoase this my

(f.322r-f.322v)

WILL 14

10 present Testament and last will in maner and forme folowing.  
 That is to saye, ffirst and principally I bequeath and  
 recommend my soule to Almightye God my maker, Savior and  
 redemer, trusting and faithfully beleve thugh the merites  
 15 of Christes most preciose passion my synnes be clerely  
 forgiven, my body to be buried in christien buriall where  
 God for yt shall dispose. And as to the disposicion of  
 all my goodes, moveable Catalles and dettes what so euer  
 they be, I will that after and according to thauncient  
 and laudable vse and custome of the Citie of London, they  
 20 be deuyded into three egall partes and porcions. Wherof  
 one parte I bequeathe to Awdry my wyfe, the seconde parte  
 I bequeath to and amonges my Children, betwen them egally  
 to be deuyded, And the thirde parte or porcion I reserue  
 to my self, to and for the performaunce of of this my will  
 25 and the bequestes hereafter expressed. That is to saye,  
 I bequeath to the saide Awdry my wyfe all and singuler  
 my moveable goodes whatsoever they be, bothe hanginges,  
 bedding, pewter, brasse and other that I haue remayning  
 and being at and within the parishe of Stratford at Bow  
 30 in the Countie of Middlesex. Also I bequeath to the same  
 Awdry my wyfe A hundreth and tene poundes whiche John  
 Johnson, Citizeine and fyshemonger of London oweth me,  
 and wherein he standeth bounden to me by a statute. Item  
 I bequeathe to Poule Wilkynson my sonne a hundreth and  
 35 tenne poundes whiche Rauf Taillor of the parishe of Tykleton  
 maltman oweth vnto me, and wherein he the same Rauf standeth  
 bounden to me by a statute. Also I bequeathe to the same  
 Poule my sonne my greate and best standing Cup gilt with  
 a cover. Item I bequeathe to Johane my litle mayde fyve  
 40 poundes to be paid to her at her marriage, Condicionally  
 that she be a good and true seruaunte to my wyfe, and my  
 wyfe to kepe her. Item I bequeathe to Nicholas Dale my  
 Apprenteys in money or monywo'r'th xls, to be delyuered to

(f.322r-f.322v)

WILL 14

hyme at the full end and accomplishment of his termes of  
 45 yeres of Apprentishod. Item I bequeathe to Johane Higham  
 my mayde seruaunte xxs, she to be good seruaunt to my wyfe.  
 And where William Slake of London Dyer oweth to me xxvs,  
 I bequeathe the same xxvs and also xxs more (whiche in  
 the hole maketh xlvs) to Mary Slake his daughter. Item  
 50 I bequeathe to my sonne in lawe John Mylles my best lyuery  
gowne with a houde and one of my velvet Jakettes. Item  
 I bequeathe to John Brownyng ann other of my lyuery gownes  
 lyned or furred, suche as my said wife shall thinke best.  
 Item I bequeath to William Alynson a violet gowne furred  
 55 with bodge. And I bequeath to goodwyf Allynson A fetherbed  
 and thre payre of sheetes. Item I bequeathe to Rauf Eton  
 a white syluer pott. And to Katheryne Braye I bequeath  
 another white sylver pott. The residue of my goodes,  
Cattalles and dettes, after my debtes paide, the costes  
 60 of my burying donne and this my present testament in all  
thinges fulfilled, I holly giue and bequeathe to the said  
 Awdry my wyf and Poule my sonne therof and therewith, to  
 do and dispose their free willes and pleasurs, whiche Awdry  
 and Poule of this my present testament and last will I  
 65 make and ordeyne my Executours. And ouerseers of the same,  
 I make and ordeyne the said John Johnson, And I bequeath  
 to hyme for his labor and payne therin to be had<sup>a</sup> and taken  
xls. And as to the disposicon of all singuler my landes  
and tenementes, rentes, reuercions, seruices and  
 70 hereditamentes with all and every thappurtenaunces bothe  
freholde and Copiholde set lying and being aswell in the  
parisshes and feldes of Estham and Westham in the Countie  
 of Essex, And the parishe of Seynt Laurence Pulteney<sup>1</sup> of  
 London as elsewhere within the same Citie, I bequeath all  
 75 the same landes, tenementes and other the premisses and  
hereditamentes with thappurtenaunces to the saide Poule

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a. f.322v begins here.

(f.322r-f.322v)  
WILL 14

my sone, to haue and to holde to the same Poule and to  
 his heyres of his bodye lafully begotten for ever, of  
 the chef lordes of the fee therof by seruices due and of  
 80 right accustomed. And for default of suche yssue of the  
 body of the same Poule lafully begotten, Thane I will  
 that all the said landes, tenementes and hereditamentes  
 with thappurtenaunces, shall holy remayne to Agnes Mylles  
 my doughter wyfe of John Mylles and to theyres of her body  
 85 lafully [be]gotton<sup>b</sup>, and for defaulte of suche yssue of  
 the body of the same Agnes my doughter lafully begotten,  
 Thene I will that all the same landes, tenementes and  
hereditamen[tes] with thappurtenaunces shall holy remayne  
 to my next right heyres foreuer, vpon condicion and I will,  
 90 that the said Poule my sonne and his heyres, And the said  
 Agnes my doughter of her heyres, or any other of my kyne  
 occupying and enjoying the said landes, tenementes and  
hereditamentes with thappurtenaunces as is aforesaid, by  
 force and vertue of this my present testament, shall yerely  
 95 forever after my deceas, At the feast of Seynt Andrew  
thappostell<sup>2</sup> (of the yssues, revenues and profyttes commyn  
gryng and gr'lowing of and vpon all and euery the said  
landes, tenementes And hereditamentes with thappurtenaunces)  
 dystrubute, give and delyuer to and amonges the poor people  
 100 within the said parishe of Seynt Laurence Pulteney of London  
 one carte lode of Coles<sup>3</sup> conteyning the nomber of xxx<sup>ti</sup>  
sackes withoute frawde or Covyne. And if my said sonne  
 Poule Wilkinson or his heires, or the said Agnes my doughter  
 or her heires, or any other that so shall posses, occupie  
 105 and enjoye the saide landes, tenementes and hereditamentes  
with thappurtenaunces as is aforesaid, fortune hereafter  
 to be remysse or necligent, and do not delyuer, give and  
 distribute the saide carte lode of coles yerely at the  
 said feast of Seynt Andrew thappostell to the poore in

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b. M.S. is blurred, the "be" amost rubbed away at the start of  
 "begotton".

(f.322r-f.322v)  
WILL 14

110 the said Seynt Laurence Pulteney parishe, in maner and  
forme as is aforesaid, Thene as now, and now as thene,  
I wyll that as moche of the said landes, tenementes and  
hereditamentes as shall ammunte to the full and clere  
yerely value of foure poundes shalbe sould by my saide  
115 wyfe and overseer or eyther of theme or the executours of  
eyther of them, And with the money commynge and taken by  
the sale therof, well and truly to give, delyuer and  
distribute yerely the said cart lode of coles to the poor  
in the parishe aforesaid in maner and fourme as is above  
120 declared vntill suche tyme as all the same money so commynge,  
receyved and taken by reason of the said sale of the said  
landes, tenementes and hereditamentes of iiijli yerely  
value, shalbe full ronned out paid and bestowed in for and  
about the yerely distribucion of the said carte lode of  
125 Coles as is aforesaid, Any thinge aforesaid to the contrary  
hereof in any wyse notwithstanding. Provided alwey and  
also I will and bequeathe to the saide Awdry my wyfe all  
that my new tenement with thappurtenaunces set and being  
in Seynt Laurence Pulteney lane in the parishe of Seynt  
130 Laurence Pulteney of London wherin Mystres Wethipoll<sup>4</sup>  
dwellith, to haue and to holde and enjoye all the same  
new tenement with thappurtenaunces, to the same Awdry my  
wyfe (in as ample maner and forme as the said Maistres  
Wethipoll now holdeth and occupieth it) during the naturall  
135 lyf of the said Awdry my wife freely without any thing  
therefore yelding or paying. Also I will that the saide  
Poule my sonne shall not sell, alyene, morgage or other  
wyse put or do away the said landes, tenementes or heredit-  
amentes or any parcell therof. And if he so do, That thene  
140 I will it shalbe Leefull to and for the next of his kyne,  
and their heyres into all and singuler the said landes  
and tenementes with thappurtenaunces (to the said Poule  
by this my will bequethed) holly to Reentre, And the same

(f.322r-f.322v)

WILL 14

145 Poule and all other occupiers theof from thens to expell  
and amove. In witnes wherof to this my present testament  
and last will, I haue set my seale, yeven the daye and  
yere aboue said. Theis witness Rauf Eton, John Johnson,  
John Milles, Mighell Howman and other.

PROBATE: 11 November 1549\*

- 1 Situated off Candlewick St in Downgate Ward, London.  
Stow, J., A Survey of London, I, p.237.
- 2 Feast of St Andrew the Apostle; November 30th.
- 3 Coal was increasingly replacing wood as a fuel in Tudor  
England, as the availability of wood decreased -  
especially around London. As the forests were steadily  
depleted other fuels, such as coal, were frequently  
used. Similarly improved processes for extracting coal  
were being developed, making coal a more viable fuel.
- 4 Anne, the widow of Paul Wethipol (Withypoll) a leading  
Merchant Tailor and member of the Common Council who  
represented the City of London in the Parliaments of  
1529, 1539 and 1545. Whist owning several properties  
in the City, Withypoll and his wife resided in the parish  
of St Laurence Pultney when he died 3 June 1547.  
Beaven, B.A., The Aldermen of the City of London I,  
p. 146, II, p. 26;  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, pp. 649-651;  
Lehmberg, S.E., The Reformation Parliament, p.20, 174-175  
Lehmberg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry VIII  
p.8, 46, 48.

\* The administration of the will was granted to the  
executors nominated.

(f.322v-f.323r)

WILL 15 - NICHOLAS GAYNSFORD

IN THE NAME OF OUR LORDE GOD AMEN. I Nicholas Gaynsford  
hole of mynde and sicke in bodie make my last will and  
testament in the xxij daye of Septembre in the iij<sup>a</sup>de<sup>a</sup>yere  
of the Reigne of Kinge Edwarde the sixte. First I bequeathe  
5 my soule to Almightye God and all the blessing company  
of heaven amen, and my bodye to be buried in the church  
of Litle Bylling<sup>b</sup>. I bequeath to my wyfe Kateryne  
Gaynsford my farme of Litle Bylling for terme of her lyfe  
and two hundreth shepe of my store and all my kyne and  
10 store beasse, Reseruyng my fatt ware. Also I bequeathe  
to the saide Kateryne all housholde and temys Cartes and  
ploughes with suche thinges as longes therto. Also I  
bequeathe to Kateryne my wif all my Corne and heye Reseruyng  
the keping of all my geldinges and my fattware and other  
15 there vnbequethed with suche stuf and grounde as is  
necessary for theme till Phelipe and Jacobes daye<sup>1</sup>. Also  
I will that Kateryne my wyfe shall paye all suche rentes  
and dewtes that longe to the farme. Also I will the said  
Kateryne my will [sic] shalbe bound vnto my brother John  
20 Gaynsford in obligacion of a hundreth ponde for forfeiting  
of my lease. Also I bequeathe to John Mvsteone of Cassalton  
towarde the helpe of his Children Twentie ponde sterling.  
Also I bequeath to Richard Barker<sup>2</sup> my Cosyne vjli xiijs  
iiij<sup>d</sup> and my baye nayge. Also I forgive Rauff Wyndaunbury  
25 thone half of his dett that he owith me. Also I make my  
hole Executour my brother John Gaynsford, Also I bequeathe  
vnto hyme all the rest of my goodes and Cattall vnbequeth,  
Also I bequeathe vnto hyme all the dettes the whiche my  
lorde Grey<sup>3</sup> dothe owe me for me and my men as yt apere  
30 by a bille. Also I bequeathe vnto my brother John Gaynsforde  
the lease of my ferme of Litle Bylling after the decease  
of her, Also I give to hyme the lease of the ferme of Moche  
Bryckyll which Henry Cartwryt dwelles in, Also thannuytie

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a. "iij<sup>a</sup>de<sup>a</sup>" is interlinear

b. f.323r begins.

(f.322v-f.323r)

WILL 15

35 of my wyf after her deceas paid owte of the Maner of  
Bylyngton. Also my Cheyne and Capp with broche and aglettes,  
whiche ys in thandes of my maistres Jane Sutton, I give  
to my Executour John Gaynsford. Witnes Nicholas Rene,  
Raf Wydenbury and Richard Barker. Nicholas Gaynsforde.

PROBATE: 12 November 1549\*

- 1 St Philip and St James Day; May 1st.
- 2 The could be one Richard Barker who was educated at  
Brasenose College, M.A. (1520) B.Th. (1528). Barker  
was rector of Great Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, 1530-  
1554.  
Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University  
of Oxford 1501-1540 p.26.
- 3 A professional soldier, William Grey 13th Baron Grey  
de Wilton, was entrusted with the first command of Calais  
(1546) and a member of the high command in the assault  
on Scotland (1547-1549), he supplied the professional  
back-up to assist Russell's suppression of the Western  
Rebellion in Devon(1549). On his way to join Russell,  
he was ordered to travel through the counties of Bedford,  
Buckingham, Northampton and particularly Oxford to  
repress rebels stirring there. It was doubtless from  
this venture into these counties that Grey owed money to  
Gaynsford; because of the fiscal crisis facing England  
at the time, July 1549, Somerset was unable to raise  
£100 in ready cash to cover Grey's expenses and directed  
the Court of Augmentations to call in arrearages to  
cover the costs. In 1552 Grey was sent to command the  
English forces in Guines, having spent over a year in  
the Tower of London charged with conspiracy against

(f.322v-f.323r)  
WILL 15

Northumberland. Grey died 14 December 1562.

D.N.B. - Grey; Jordan, W.K., Edward VI: The Young King.  
George Allen & Unwin Ltd (London) 1968, p. 91, 259,  
265-270, 393, 445, 448;

Richardson, W.C., History of the Court of Augmentations,  
p.368.

\* Administration of the testament was granted to John  
Gaynsford, as nominated.

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(f.323r-323v)  
WILL 16 - RICHARD PYGOTT

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I Richard Pygott<sup>1</sup> whole of mynde  
but sicke in bodye dothe make this my last will and test-  
ament. First I bequeathe my soule vnto Almightye God,  
my bodye to be buried at the discrecion of myne Executour  
5 or overseers. Item be it knowen that I haue in my Chamber  
within Grenewiche lying in a chest ffourtie poundes in  
currante money, oute of the whiche fortie poundes, I  
bequeath to the poore people where it shall please God  
that I shall ende my lyfe at the daie of my buryall xls  
10 and at the daye of my monthes mynde other xls. Item I  
bequeathe to my twoo seruauntes Stephyne Gentill and William  
Mason in money vjli xiijs iiijd betwene them of the xlli  
porcion like. Item I will that my seruaunte Stephyne shall  
haue all that is in my chamber within Grenewiche (that  
15 is to say) bedding and other yplementes as Rayment (except  
that whiche I give in my lyfe tyme, also plate, money and  
Jewelles except). More I give to the saide Stephyne my  
graye geldinge, with the saddell and brydle. Item I giue

(f.323r-f.323v)  
WILL 16

my seruaunte William, all my goodes that is within my Chamber  
 20 at Ware, and my litle nagge whiche he hath vsyd to ryde onn.  
 Item I giue vnto Thomas Byrd<sup>2</sup>, Thomas Bury and to Thomas  
 Talys<sup>3</sup> sixe poundes, porcion lyke, to be taken of the fore-  
 said xlli. Item I will the charges of my buriall and the  
 charges of my monethes mynde to be taken and levyed onn  
 25 the foresaide xlli. Item I will the residue of the said  
 xlli to be distributed in London, to foure persones, whiche  
 one ys Jane my sisters daughter whiche married a baker in  
 Southwarke with crokyd legges, And another is one Fulke  
 Apowelles<sup>4</sup> wyfe in Kentishe strete. The thirde ys my Cosyne  
 30 Foulke Pygottes<sup>5</sup> wyfe in Aldergate strete. The fourthe  
 ys one Davyt a Tailor dwelling in Holbourne, whiche married  
 my systers daughter. Item I giue vnto John Sydenham<sup>6</sup> and  
 to his wyf the lease of my house in Grenewiche whiche the  
 said John dothe dwell in now. Item I giue vnto John Greffeth  
 35 in Warre my sorell gelding withe the saddell and brydell.  
 Item I giue vnto Thomas Byrche in Warre my Cappe with the  
 broche vpon yt. Item be yt knowen that Master Nebwyck in  
 Ware hath xijli of myne in keping of the whiche xijli I  
 will the said Master Nebweke to haue xls. Item I will that  
 40 other xls of the xijli to be distributed to poore people  
 in Ware. Item I will that viijli of the said xijli to be  
 distributed to poor maydes mariages and other dedis of  
 Charitie as may be thought most necessarye by the  
 discession of Thomas Byrche, Master Nebweke and John  
 45 Greffeth consenting all three together. Item be it knowen,  
 that my Cosyne Johns scole Master of the gramer scole in  
 Powles, hath a quyttance of myne for xvli xs, whiche is  
 to be receyved at thandes of Master Whalley merchant man  
 in London, for my half yeres Annuities in the north parte  
 50 which was dew to me at the Annunciacion of our layde<sup>7</sup> last  
 past, of the whiche xvli I will that Quyntyne my Cosyne  
 Johns<sup>8</sup> sonne of Powles to haue iiijli, I will also that  
 Besse Johns syster to the said Quyntyne, to haue iiijli.  
 Iteme I will that Elisabeth Leonard my cosyne Johns seruaunte,

(f.323r-f.323v)  
WILL 16

55 to haue xls to their mariages. Item I will that my Cosyne  
Johns and his wyfe to haue the rest of the forsaide some  
of xvli xs and pray for me. More I praye you Master Johns  
to call vpone Master Smalwood<sup>9</sup> in Westminster to se that  
the twentye poundes which I delyuered hyme abowte mydsomer  
60 last paste, to be sent to my kynsfoulke in Wals according  
to my bille, And that doune he shall haue his bille agayne.  
Item be it knowen that Master Sheldon<sup>10</sup> the receyver of<sup>a</sup>  
Staffordshere oweth me Sixe poundes which was dew to me  
at thanunacion of our Lady last past for my pencion  
65 whiche the Kinge gave me for my prebend in Thomworth.  
Item be it knowene that Master Chester<sup>11</sup> oweth me three  
poundes for my Corydie at Coxall whiche was dew to me at  
the Annunciacon of our Lady last past. Item I wolde this  
sixe poundes and three poundes afore named to be distributed  
70 thus. First to Joane Master Menemans mayde xls. And to  
Marion, John Sydenhams daughter xls, And to Anne Sydenhame  
the yonge one xxs. And to Master Burys mayde Grete Anne  
xxs. And to James Gentles<sup>12</sup> doughter Marget Gentle xxs.  
The rest of the ixli whiche ys xls I wille that it go to  
75 my iiij 'or' kynsfolke afore named in London. Item be it  
knowen that my Cosyn Fulke Pygott dothe owe me Tene poundes  
as apperith by ann Obligacion of his, whiche I clerlye  
doo forgive it hyme. Item be it knowen that Master Doctor  
Capon<sup>13</sup> oweth my fyve poundes the whiche vli I will that  
80 Cosyne Foulke Pygottes doughter being three yeres of age  
haue yt, and to be kept in some honest mans handes vntill  
the tyme of her marriage, at the poyntment of myn Executour  
or Overseers. Item as concernyng my dyvident in the  
churche of Welles with other profyttes belonging thervnto  
85 for this yere last past, I will that Sir Robart my lorde  
Sufferingans prest<sup>14</sup> to haue xls, And also to my lorde  
Sufferingane xls. Item to the vicars of the close xls,  
And xls to be dealte amonges the poor people. Item I will

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a. f.323v begins.

(f.323r-f.323v)

WILL 16

that Stephyns wyfe in Welles a poore woman haue xxs. Thes  
 90 parcelles afore mencioned, I will to be taken onn the  
 forsaid dividnt. Item I giue vnto my felowes of the Kinges  
Majesties Chapell<sup>15</sup> xls and to be takene of my wages or  
 borde wages whiche shalbe dew to me the quarter and month  
 that it shall please God to call me in. Soo these my  
 95 legacies fulfilled and my debtes paide, my funeralles done  
 and discharged, the rest of all my goodes moveables and  
 vnmmoveables, I give vnto my Cosyne Henry Dod whome I make  
 my sole Executour, of this my last will and testament,  
 And my Overseers theis Thomas Bury, Thomas Byrde and Thomas  
 100 Tales. In the thirde yere of the reigne of our soueraigne  
 lorde Kinge Edwarde the sixt, the xxiiij daye of August,  
 the yere of our lorde God m<sup>ll</sup> v<sup>c</sup> xlix<sup>ti</sup>. In witnes of  
 this my owne Acte and dede, I set to my hand and seale  
 in the presens of theis witnesses Thomas Byrd, John Sydenham,  
 105 and William Mason, per me Ricardum Pygott. Item be it  
 knowen to al men, as consernyng the ffourtie poundes  
 mencioned afore in my Chamber at Grenewiche, I knowledge  
 that I haue spent of yt all the tyme of my sicknes, and  
 a parte remaneth in my handes towardes the redemyng my  
 110 dettes and other necessities. Item of the foresaid some  
 of xlli, I delyuered the xxvj daye of September to Thomas  
 Byrde one of my overseers the some of twentie poundes in  
 presens of Thomas Bury my Overseer, and William Mason my  
seruaunte. Item I will that my half yeres Annuytie in  
 115 the north parte which is xvli xs dew to me at the feast  
 of Saynt Mychall<sup>16</sup> Last past, and to be receaved at thandes  
 of Master Whalley aforesaide by myn Executour or ouerseers,  
 And fyve poundes more to be receavyd at thandes of Sir  
 John Williams<sup>17</sup> knight and treasurer of the Kinges Maiesties  
 120 Revenues of his Corte of Agmentacion<sup>18</sup> for my Annuytie  
 for one quarter ending at the feast of Seynt Michael last  
 past, (whiche maketh xxli xs), bothe the somes maketh vp  
that for saide fourtie poundes, wherby I will that my kyns-  
 folke afore namyd in London to fare the better, and alle  
 125 other thinges the better fulfilled and done. Item all

(f.323r-f.323v)  
WILL 16

the rest my debtes dew to me, I will myne Executour Dod  
to take theme vp for me, and to bestowe them at his pleasure  
this to the furnisshing of my will aforesaid. I subscribe  
my name in the presens of Thomas Byrd, John Sydenham,  
130 William Masone and Stepayne Gentle the seconde daye of  
October by me Richard Pygott.

PROBATE: 12 November 1549

- 1 This must be the same Richard Lewes alias Pygot, listed in Emden. Rector of Weston on Trent, Derbyshire (from April 1529), Canon of Tamworth, Staffordshire (see 1. 65) Emden mistakenly dates Pygott's death as 1548, this will shows he could not have died before 2 October 1549. Emden, A.B., The Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1560 p. 687.
- 2 Thomas Byrde was a gentleman of the Chapel Royal during the reigns of Edward VI and Mary; when he died in February of 1561 he was described as "Clarke of the Checke" of the Chapel Royal. Byrd is generally assumed to be the father of the musical composer William Byrd, who was taught by Tallis (see f.n. 3) and later shared the position of organist at the Chapel Royal with Tallis. D.N.B. - Bryd; Rimbault, E.F., ed The Old Cheque-Book, or Book of Remembrance, of the Chapel Royal from 1561-1744 Camden Society, 1965, p.1, 183.
- 3 Thomas Talys (Tallis) has been described as one of the great English musicians of the sixteenth century. An organist of Waltham Abbey he received 20s. for wages and 20s. for reward when the Abbey was dissolved (1540). Appointed a Gentleman of the Chapel Royal prior to the

(f.323r-f.323v)  
WILL 16

death of Henry VIII, he remained there through the reigns of Edward VI, Mary and into Elizabeth's, presented with a bonus of £40 from the household accounts of Elizabeth (1559). Tallis' works were first printed in 1560, included in 'Certayne notes set forth in 4 and 3 parts to be sung at the morning communion, and evening praier', the foundation of the modern choral service.

In 1576 Tallis and William Byrd were granted a 21 year monopoly to print vocal and instrumental music, and the ruling and selling of music paper, by Elizabeth I. However within two years they had successfully applied for a lease of crown land claiming their license for printing had actually cost them over 200 marks; no more music was printed in England during Tallis' lifetime. He died 23 November 1585, buried in the old parish church of Greenwich.

D.N.B. - Tallis; Calender of State Papers Domestic 1547-1580 ed. R. Lemon Kraus Reprint Ltd (Liechtenstein) 1967 p. 146.

Rimbault, E.F., ed. The Old Cheque Book of the Chapel Royal, p. x, 4, 192; Arber, E. ed A Transcript of the Registers of the Company of Stationers of London. Peter Smith (New York) 1950, I, p. 144.

- 4 One Fulk Apowell was pursuivant of Guisnes in 1538.  
The Lisle Letters ed Muriel St Clare Byrne, v.5, 1179.
- 5 A searcher of Milford, Pygott (Pigot) was reimbursed £13 6s. 8d. having "being sent, with diuers and sondrie persones for calling in the kinges dettes" on behalf of the Court of Augmentations.  
Richardson, W.C., History of the Court of Augmentations p. 338.

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WILL 16

- 6 This is possibly Sir John Sydenham, M.P. for Somerset (1554), who had amongst his six sons and three daughters, a daughter named Anne who had not reached marriagable age when he died (1557). Sydenham had been knighted in November 1547.  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons 1509-1558, III, pp. 414-415.
- 7 The Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, March 25. A session day, this date was the first day of the New Year on the old style calendar.
- 8 Richard Jones, see will 32.
- 9 Robert Smalwood, a member of the Company of Brewers was a merchant providing victualls to Calais and Boulogne when he was pricked for Westminster (1545) the first time the city was represented in Parliament. Residing in Westminster from 1530, and leasing six tenements from the abbey, all that is known of his parliamentary record is that he did not oppose the restoration of Catholicism when pricked for Mary's first Parliament (Oct. 1553). Twice married, he was buried in St. Margarets by Westminster Abbey, 8 January 1558.  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, p. 328;  
Lehmborg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry VIII p. 205;  
Stow, J., A Survey of London, II, p. 143.
- 10 A receiver of the Court of Augmentations, Sheldon of Beoley, Worcs., was trained in the law and became a justice of the peace for Worcestershire (1532) and for Warwickshire (1534, having established a residence at Weston). Pricked for Worcestershire in 1542, 1547, April 1554 and 1555, Sheldon speculated considerably

(f.323r-f.323v)  
WILL 16

in monastic properties and securely established himself as a servant of the crown.

As receiver, Sheldon was responsible for collecting the rents of monastic properties due to the King, and acted as a crown agent, in the counties of Hereford, Leicester, Shropshire, Worcester, Rutland, Northampton and Stafford on a salary of £20 plus 'profits'. In 1555 he was licensed to sell his office of receiver, and its fees, for £100 plus portage, he was later known for his sponsorship of tapestry weaving in England as a means of employing the poor. Sheldon died in Warwickshire, 24 December 1570 and was buried in Beoley Church, Worcestershire.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, pp 306-308; Richardson, W.C., History of the Court of Augmentations, pp. 47-51, 53, 281.

- 11 Robert Chester was appointed a receiver of the first Court of Augmentations, and was one of the few officials still holding office when the second Court of Augmentations was reorganised (1553). Receiver for the district of Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire from November 1545, after the changes in 1547 his circuit included Essex, Hertfordshire, Middlesex, and London.  
Richardson, W.C., History of the Court of Augmentations pp. 47-50, 281.

- 12 James Gentle was canon and prebendary of St Probus, Cornwall (vacated by 1526), and provost of Glasney, Cornwall until his death, by September 1546.  
Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540 p. 679.

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WILL 16

<sup>13</sup> William Capon was educated at Cambridge University, where he studied for his doctorate in divinity (1517). Capon became master of Jesus College in July 1516, whilst holding various prebends including Barkaway Hertfordshire (resigned 1534), the prebendary of Wells (from 1537) and later Bangor. Capon died in 1550, having resigned as master of Jesus College the previous year.  
D.N.B. - Capon;

<sup>14</sup> According to the act of 1534 (26 Henry VIII, c.14) that determined the nomination and consecration of suffragan bishops twenty-five towns were deemed appropriate sees for the diocesan assistants. Wells was not included among this group, yet according to this will it had a suffragan bishop by 1549.  
Lehmberg, S.E., The Reformation Parliament, p. 211.

<sup>15</sup> The King's Majesty's Chapel, properly known as the Chapel Royal, is the oldest English Choir of which there is any historical records. Attached to the palaces of the King, the Chapel Royal moved from place to place with the King, its main base however, was the chapel at Whitehall until it was destroyed by fire (1698).

Aside from eight children and two yeomen of the chapel, the Chapel Royal was basically comprised of twenty-four gentlemen of the Chapel. These men each received a daily wage of 7d. along with clothing, and furniture for their chambers, along with two loaves of bread, six gallons of ale and a 'picher' of wine daily. An early list of members of the Chapel Royal, during the reign of Edward VI, does not record the name of Richard Pygott, indicating it was drawn up after his decease.  
Rimbault, E.F. ed. The Old Cheque Book of the Chapel Royal, pp. i-xix.

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WILL 16

- <sup>16</sup> Feast of St Michael and All Angels; September 29.
- <sup>17</sup> Sir John Williams, later Baron Williams of Thame, was born in Buckingham, though of Welsh origins. By 1530 he had been appointed a clerk of the king's jewels (at an annual salary of twenty marks), joint master of the jewels five years later, he became sole treasurer of the King's Jewels following the demise of Cromwell (1540). He exchanged this office for Treasurer of the Court of Augmentations (1544-1554), retaining this position until the abolishment of the court, despite his dubious financial management (his arrears as treasurer assessed at £28,000 at one point). On the loss of this office Williams received £320 annually (the equivalent of his salary), 200 crowns from Mary and a pension of 1000 crowns.

As a henchman of Mary, Williams was involved in the safe-keeping of Princess Elizabeth, the fact that he maintained good relations with Elizabeth proved by the fact he was one of the peers appointed to escort her from Hatfield to London, and was placed on the Council in the Marshes of Wales. When he died (1559) he had used his official positions to ransack shrines, such as Bury St Edmunds, and acquire properties like the abbeys of Thame and Notely; his parklands at Thame and Rycote were attacked during the Oxfordshire rising of 1549 and all the deer killed or released, the lands were considered wasted pasture and a symbol of wealth and privilege. He had also purchased the priory of Elsingspital in Cripplesgate (where Stow implied Williams embezzled some of the King's jewels during a fire in 1541), he was buried there.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons III, pp. 621-623;  
 Stow, J., Survey of London I p. 294;  
 Sharpe, R.R., London and the Kingdom Longmans, Green & Co (London) 1894. Vol. 1. p. 396.

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WILL 16

D.N.B. - Williams; Beer, B.L., Rebellion and Riot: Popular disorder in England during the Reign of Edward VI Kent State University Press 1982. p. 149.

<sup>18</sup> Along with a general reorganisation of the revenue courts of England during the later years of Henry VIII, the Court of Augmentations was established by the Reformation Parliament soon after the act to dissolve the lesser monasteries was passed, 11 March 1536. The court was established to accumulate, control and supervise the newly acquired wealth of the crown, that followed the procurement of monastic lands. Prior to the establishment of "the Courte of Thaugmentacions of the Revenues of the Kinges Crown" these new revenues would probably have been administered by the Exchequer, however, Cromwell seemed determined to prevent the further expansion of the Exchequer by ensuring it was prevented from obtaining jurisdiction over these wealthy monastic lands.

The actual establishment of the court was largely overshadowed by the execution of Anne Boleyn and Henry's remarriage to Jane Seymour. But, based on the structure of the Duchy of Lancaster, the Court of Augmentations rapidly became one of the most important of revenue courts. From its initial role of assessing the value of all monastic properties as they came into the possession of the crown and assigning pensions to the displaced inmates of these institutions, the court developed a largely administrative role that dominated local and central government for nearly eighteen years - the principal paymaster and principal land administration agency. Reorganised in 1547 to absorb the Court of General Surveyors, the court was actually amalgamated into the Exchequer in 1554.

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WILL 16

Richardson, W.C., History of the Court of Augmentations p1-55  
The Tudor Constitution: Documents and Commentary ed  
G.R. Elton. Cambridge University Press (Cambridge)  
1982, p. 45, 132-134, 140, 382.

\* Henry Dod was granted the right of administration.

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(f.323v-f.324r)  
WILL 17 - SIR WILLIAM ROCHE

IN DEI NOMINE AMEN. The xij<sup>th</sup> daie of July in the yere  
of our lorde God a Thousande five hundreth fourtie and  
Nyne, And in the thirde yere of the Reigne of our Soueraigne  
lorde Edwarde the Sixte. I William Roche<sup>1</sup> knight Citizene  
5 and Alderman of London, being hole of mynde and in good  
memorie Lawde and prayse be to Almightye God, do make,  
constitute, ordeyne and declare this my present Testament  
and last will, of all suche my goodes moveable and in  
moveable to be disposed onn this wyse. First I bequeath  
10 my soule vnto Almightye God my Saviour and Redemer, And  
my bodye to be buried in the Churche where yt shall please  
God to calle me to his mercy, and happene to dye, and my  
funerall charges and expenses to be donne resonably<sup>2</sup>.  
And I will all my goodes, Cattalles and debtes shalbe  
15 according to the laudable custome and vse of the Citie  
of London, evenly and equally devided into three sondery  
partes. Wherof I bequeathe and will to Margaret<sup>3</sup> my wife  
one equalle parte in the name of her full parte and porcion  
of my goodes, Catalles and debtes to her after the custome

(f.323r-f.323v)

WILL 16

20 of the saide Citie. And the<sup>a</sup> secounde equall parte of all  
 my saide goodes and Catalles and debtes, I give and  
 bequeathe to John Roche<sup>4</sup> my sonne in the name of his full  
 parte and porcion to him after the custome of the saide  
 Citie. And the thirde parte of all my saide goodes,  
 25 Cattalles and debtes, I reserve to my selfe and myne  
 Executours herevnder writen, to and for the performaunce  
 of my legacies and bequestes hereafter expressed. That  
 is to wyte, ffirst I bequeathe to the highe Aulter of Saynte  
 Peters Le Powre<sup>5</sup> where I am a parishenor iiijs. Item I  
 30 bequeathe to the poore people and Poore housholders of  
 the same parishe fortie shillinges, to be devided and given  
 by my Executours and by a bill made by the Counsell of  
 the parsons of the saide parishe of Saynt Peters, to praye  
 for my soule and my frendes, that I haue fared the better  
 35 for, that be passed oute of this transetory lyf, That it  
 might please Christ Jesus to take vs to his marcy, by the  
 deserte of his most bytter passione. Item I bequeathe  
 to the misterie or company of the Drapers to make them  
 a repast at the daye of my buryall vjli xiijs iiijd. Item  
 40 I will and bequeathe to the poore people of my warde of  
 Bassieshawe to be geven and distributed amonge theme by  
 my deputie and two honest mene of the warde fortie  
shillinges. Item I bequeathe to the poor people of the  
 Towne and parishe of Horne Churche<sup>6</sup>, where my wife Julyan  
 45 Roche<sup>7</sup> lieth buried, to be devyded by the church waf'r'dens  
 of the same parishe foure poundes, to praye for her soule  
 and myne and all christene soules, of the whiche money  
xxs to be devided in the towne of Rvmforthe at the discrecon  
 of the said church wardens to be amonge theme devyded  
 50 as to them shalbe thought mete where most nede ys. Item  
 I bequeathe to powre people in the parishe of Aldenham  
 to be distributed by the discrecion of Margaret my wyfe

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a. f.329r begins.

(f.323r-f.323v)

WILL 16

xls, And to the parishe of Rikemansworthe other xls to  
 be given wheare nede shall requier by the discrecion of  
 55 my said wife. And principally I wille and charge that  
 all suche debtes and dewties, that of right I owe to eny  
parsons or parsones shalbe well and truely contentyd and  
 paide, and after that my debtes be paide and funeralles  
 downe, Thes my bequestes to be fulfilled. Item I will  
 60 to George my seruaunte for his honest and trewe service  
 of long tyme, to haue in remembraunce, to praye for my  
 soule foure poundes. And also to euery seruaunte that  
 is in my house as folowith. First to Fraunces Myles myne  
 Apprentice foure poundes. Item to Roger Alsebroke my  
 65 seruaunte foure poundes, And to Anthony my seruaunte of  
 long continewaunce foure poundes. And to Kateryne Perry  
 my mayde fortie shillinges, And to all the rest of  
seruauntes Twentie shillinges to eche of theme to praye  
 for my soule. Item I bequeathe to thospitall of Saynte  
 70 Bartelmewes<sup>8</sup> fyve poundes to be devided by thoffecers of  
 the saide late erectyd house to the relefe of the poore  
 there. Item I will to Vrsule my wifes syster foure poundes.  
 And the residue of all my goodes, Catalles and debtes,  
 my debtes paide and funerall charges doune and these my  
 75 legacies parformed, I holly and fully give to dame Margaret  
 my wife and to John my sonne to there severall vses of  
 eche thinge like of all my goodes and Cattalles. And of  
 this my last will and testament, I make and ordeyne dame  
 Margaret my wyfe and John Roche my sonne myne Executours  
 80 for thadminestracion of my goodes and legacies. Item  
 farther I giue and bequeathe to Elizabeth my daughter<sup>9</sup> wyfe  
 of Rauf Latham Citizene and goldsmythe of London ffiftie  
 pound to be disposed amonge her Children by her discrecion.  
 And I the said Sir William Roche doo adnull and adnichilate  
 85 and make voyde all maner of testamentes and willes made  
 before the date hereof, And ratefie and aferme this to  
 be my last wyll. In witnes whereof I the same William

(f.323r-f.323v)

WILL 17

haue affermed yt with my owne hande, in the presens of  
 me Thomas Lewen<sup>11</sup> and of me William Blackwell, per me  
 90 Stephanum Tenaunt clericum, Yoven the forthe of September<sup>11</sup>  
 Anno domini m<sup>1</sup> v<sup>c</sup> xlix<sup>o</sup> in the iij<sup>d</sup> de<sup>l</sup>yere of the Reigne of  
 Edwarde the Sixte.

PROBATE: 13 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> Probably born of a Yorkshire family, Roche began his career as an apprentice in the Drapers' Company of London (1492), becoming Master of the Company of Drapers 1531-1532, 1536, 1539, 1541-1542 and 1545. Gaining prominence in trade with Spain, he exported cloth in exchange for oil, iron, salt and wheat (sending 100 cloths from London during 1502-1503 alone). During the shortage of 1527-1528 Roche purchased £3,000 of wheat for the City, later finding it difficult to be recompensed. During this period Roche played a significant role in the lay administration of the parish of St Mary at Hill, Billingsgate; a churchwarden 1508-1510, he made regular donations: "Borowyd of Master Roche, alderman, the xxv day of Juyn 1534 In Redy (money) to help maynteyn the Chirch Rentes" £15, until he moved after 1540. Though several of his family and servants were buried there he left no bequest to this parish, but rather to his new parish of St Peter the Poor; his preamble indicates he had accepted the new Protestant belief.

Like all Lord Mayors of London who survived their term of office (1519-1641), Roche was knighted having become Lord Mayor in 1540; previously he had served as alderman for Langbourn ward from 1530 until he transferred to Basingshaw ward in 1541, where he remained until his

(f.323r-f.323v)  
WILL 17

decease. Elected to represent the City in various parliaments 1523-1545, Roche was imprisoned in the Fleet by the Privy Council (1545) for "divers contemts, crimes and misdeeds", having been unwise enough to protest at the collection of a benevolence of 2s. in the £1 (though the principle of Parliamentary privilege of free speech and freedom from arrest had existed since 1512, it did not exist in practice). Having acquired various properties, his goods were valued at 2000 marks in the 1540 subsidy.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, II, pp. 203-204; D.N.B. - Roche; Beaven, A.B., The Aldermen of the City of London, I, p. 19, 168, 255-256, II, p. 27, 169. Lehmborg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry VIII, p. 8, 48, 133, 205, 278; The Medieval Records of a London City Church: St Mary at Hill A.D. 1420-1559, ed Henry Littlehaler. Kraus Reprint Co (New York), 1975, p. 265, 268, 271, 300-314, 363; Stow, J.A., A Survey of London, I, p. 117.

Acts of Court of the Mercers' Company 1453-1527 ed. L. Lyell. Cambridge University Press (Cambridge), 1936, p.349, 526.

- 2 Following his death in London, 11 September 1549, Roche was buried with great ceremony at his parish church of St Peter the Poor in Broad Street. Paraded before his coffin were a standard with his crest, his armour and a herald with his coat of arms.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III p. 204; Stow, J. A Survey of London, I, p. 177.

- 3 The third wife of Roche (married c.1541), Margaret was the widow of John Long an alderman of London, and sheriff 1528-1529.

Beaven, A.B., The Aldermen of the City of London, II, p. 203; Bindoff, S.E., The House of Commons, III, p.203.

(f.323r-f.323v)

WILL 17

- 4 The only son of his father's first marriage, he was about 24 years at the time of his father's decease, and engaged to be married to the daughter of Sir William Forman (who had been temporarily elected to fill the parliamentary vacancy created when Roche was sent to the Fleet in 1545).

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, p. 203-204.

- 5 According to Stow, in the sixteenth century the parish of St Peter the Poor contained many large houses, owned mainly by rich merchants.

Stow, J.A., Survey of London, I, p. 177.

- 6 Roche had purchased property in Hornchurch during the 1520's.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, p. 203-204.

- 7 She was the first wife of Roche, she had died by 1526.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, p. 203.

- 8 St Bartholomew's Hospital in Smithfield was renown for its relief to the poor. Suppressed in 1539, Henry VIII agreed to refound the institution in 1544, endowing it with 500 marks if the Common Council would provide the same amount; the intention being that it would then be supported by public charity. The Common Council's difficulty in raising the 500 marks through regular Sunday collections led to a half one-fifteenth tax - the first compulsory tax levied for the purpose of poor relief. The opening of St Bartholomew's in 1546 only served to highlight the need for further poor relief. Loach, J. & Titler, R., Mid-Tudor Policy c. 1540-1560 The MacMillan Press (London) 1981. pp 108-110; Leonard, E.M., The Early History of English Poor Relief. Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1900, pp. 28-30. Sharpe, R.R., London and the Kingdom, v. 1., p. 417.

(f.323r-f.323v)  
WILL 17

- 9 Elizabeth Lathum was the only surviving daughter of Roche, at least one other daughter was buried at St Mary at Hill 1535.

The Medieval Records of a London City Church: St Mary at Hill ed Henry Littlehale p. 336.

- 10 Rauf Lathum, son of Ralf Lathum and Elizabeth (the daughter of Sir Thomas Hill, who died of the sweating-sickness during his term as Lord Mayor in 1485), was twice nominated as an alderman of London: for Tower Ward (1538) and Farrington Ward Without (1546), but was not elected. He died 1556.

Beaven, A.B., Aldermen of the City of London, I. p. 156, 200; Calendar of the Close Rolls: Henry VII vol. II 1500-1509. Her Majesty's Stationery Office (London) 1963. 76, 133.

- 11 An ironmonger of London, Lewen served as alderman for Walbrook Ward 1539-1546, when he was dismissed without a fine. Following his death (June 1555) he left his properties in the parish of St Nicholas Olive to the Ironmongers to be used to assist the poor of the parish and scholars at Oxford and Cambridge, after the decease of his wife.

Beaven, A.B., The Aldermen of the City of London I, p. 11, 47, 101, 123, 200, 218, II, p. 30; Stow, J.A., A Survey of London, II, p.4.

- 12 It is possible that the will was witnessed at a later date than it was first drawn up, as the dates at the beginning and end of the will differ by some two months.

\* The right of administration was granted to the executors named.

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(f.324r-f.324v)  
WILL 18 - WALTER WADELOND

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The last daie of February the  
yere of our lorde God A Thousande five hundreth fourtie  
and Eight [1549], And the yere of our Soueraigne lorde  
King Edward the sixt, the secounde. I Walter Wadelond  
5 of Nedham Market in the Countie of Suffolk being in perfytt  
mynde and helth of bodye, considering the transsitory and  
breve lyfe of this present world and the vncertyne tyme  
of the same, do ordeyne and make this my last will and  
testament Scrybeled with myne owne hande, in maner and  
10 forme folowing. First I commeund my soule to Almightye  
God my Creator and maker, my bodye to be buried in the  
southe Ile of the church of Berkyng<sup>1</sup>, or elles<sup>a</sup> in other  
holy sepulture where it shall please Almightye God to calle  
me to his mercye<sup>2</sup>. Item I bequeathe to the church wardence  
15 of the same for the tyme being to thuse and necessarye  
Reparacions of the said church xiijs iiijd. Item I giue  
to George Buttrey and Thomas Browne my seruauntes eyther  
of them a Gowne, suche as my wyfe shall thynke best to  
give vnto them. And to Thomas Neve a gowne and a dublet.  
20 Item I giue to Walter Buttrey my godsonne lxvjs viiijd,  
to be paide and delyuered to hyme by my Executors or  
thexecutours of theme, whene the said Walter commythe to  
thage of xxj<sup>ti</sup> yeres. Item I will that myne Executours  
shall yerely during foure yeres after my decease giue every  
25 Frydaie in the yere vd, to be egally deuyded to five poore  
folkes after every of theme a penny the weke in honour  
of the five woundes of our lorde Jesus Christ. Item I  
wille and give to Anne my wyfe all my landes and tenementes  
with all other my hereditamentes and fermes which I shall  
30 haue at the tyme of my departing from this present lyf,  
to dispoase the same According to this my will and testament,  
to and for performance of the same. Item I will and desire  
all my feoffice and cofeffice that now be or hereafter  
shalbe, That they and every of them shall execute Estate  
35 or estates at all tymes whene they shalbe therunto  
resonablye requyred by my Executours or thexecutors of

a. f. 324v begins.

(f.324r-f.324v)

WILL 18

of them to the fulfilling and performance of this my power  
wille. Item I will and giue vnto the said Anne my wyfe  
all my stuf of household as brasse, pewter, bedding,  
40 hanginges, Corne, Cattall, monye, plate, and alle other  
moveables, personall and Chatalles, by what name or kynde  
they or any of them be named or called, not in this  
my will given or bequeathed, to do and ymploye the same,  
as she thinke best to the pleasor of God and weale of my  
45 soule. The residue of all my goodes I remyt to the order  
and disposicion of my Executours whome I do ordeyne and  
make Anne my saide wyfe sole Executrice she to take and  
receave my dettes and to paye my dettes, which appere in  
one boke therof made and wrytyn with myne owne handes.  
50 And I desire John Bisship of Brysett Magna and Edward Edgour  
of Stowmerket gentilmen to be Assistentes and superuisours  
of this my powre wille, and either of them<sup>b</sup> to haue for  
ther paynes therin to be taken xxs, to be payde to them  
by my saide wyfe after the probatt of this my wille.  
55 Thes being witnes John Bisship of Brisset Magna, Edmunde  
Gryls clerke of the same and John Coke of Strompschalle  
and otheur. *Per me prefatum Walterum Wadelond manu propria.*

PROBATE: 13 November 1549\*

b. "them" interlineated.

<sup>1</sup> The church of Allhallows, Barking.  
Stow, J., A Survey of London, I, p. 130-131.

<sup>2</sup> This preamble indicates Wadelond had embraced the new  
Protestant belief; the fact the testament was "Scrybeled  
with myne owne hand" supports it to be his personal  
belief, rather than that of a clerk, or other official.

\* Anne, the widow, was granted the administration of the will.

(f.23v-f.235r)  
WILL 19 - JOHN DAGAR

IN DEI NOMINE AMEN. The xxj<sup>ti</sup> daye of Septembre in the  
yere of our lord God A thousand fyve hundreth fourtie and  
Nyne, And in the thirde yere of the reigne of our soueraigne  
lord Edward the sixte by the grace of God, kinge of Englande,  
5 Fraunce and Irelande, defendor of the faithe, and in earthe  
next ymmediat vnder God of the churche of Englande and also  
of Irelande thonly supreme hedd. I John Dagar of Condouer  
sicke in bodye and hole of mynde make my last will and  
testament after this maner and forme folowing. *In primis*  
10 I giue and bequeathe my soule to Almightye God, to our  
lady Saynt Mary, And to alle the holy company of heaven,  
and my bodye to be buryed in the churche yarde of Condouer<sup>1</sup>.  
Item I giue and bequeathe to John Dagar my brothers sonne  
all my takyng in Wallys, and sixe kyne, And thene the saide  
15 John shall paye to his brother Richard xxvjs viij<sup>d</sup> the  
whiche I do owe to the said Richard, And yf he will not  
so doo, I will he shall haue foure poundes of money. Item  
I giue and bequeathe to Marget Dagar my seruaunt xls.  
Item I giue and bequeathe to Kateryne Bradfeld two yereling  
20 heyfers. Item I give to John Dagar the sonne of William  
Dagar a pott. Item I giue to Marget Dagar his syster A  
panne. Item I give and bequeathe to Thomas Dagar the sonne  
of Richarde Dagar my howse with thappurtenaunces set and  
Lying in Condouer, paying to Alice my doughter vjs viij<sup>d</sup>  
25 yerely oute of the same during her naturalle lyf, and then  
to haue the hole after her decease to hyme and his heires  
for euer. And for lacke of heires of the said Thomas, to  
remayne to my brother William and his heyres for ever.  
Item I giue to John Wolfe my best rogge Cote. Item I giue  
30 to Richard Powell<sup>2</sup> iijs iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item I giue to Thomas  
Heyword iijs iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item I giue to Jane Bradfeld iijs  
iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item I will that Richard Crompton<sup>3</sup> my sonne in  
lawe shall choose whether he will be satisfied and contented  
with the parcelles of goodes that I haue delyuered vnto  
35 hyme, whiche I esteyme to be worthe twentye nobles and

(f.234v-f.235r)  
WILL 19

better, or elles to repaye theme agayne to my Executours,  
and to take of them vjli xiijs iiijd. Item the rest of  
my goodes, my debtes and bequestes discharged and paide,  
and I being brought home, I giue and bequeath to William  
40 Dagar my brother and to Thomas Dagar the sonne of Richarde  
Dagar, whome I ordeyne, Constitute and make to be my twoo  
laufull Executours to se this my will and testament  
fulfilled and discharged. These bering witnes William  
Heynes, Roger Ames, Thomas Smythe, William Shrygley clerk  
45 with other.<sup>a</sup>

PROBATE: 14 November 1549\*

a. f.325r begins.

- 1 This preamble indicates Dagar remained true to the traditional faith, though as the will does not specify he wrote it himself, it could be the belief of the local clerk who drew up his will. This church is probably the church of St Mary and St Andrew, Condover, initially built in Norman times.  
Treasures of Britain, p. 147.
- 2 Powell studied at Merton College Oxford 1528-1538, subwarden of Merton College 1543-1544 he became vicar of Wolford, Warwickshire c.1545 - August 1556.  
Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540. p. 460.
- 3 In 1527 Crompton was one of eight people elected to be Bachelors of the Court of Merchant Adventurers, and was entered into the livery at Easter 1528.  
Acts of Court of Mercers, p. 738, 762, 768.

(f.234v-f.235r)  
WILL 19

\* Administration was granted to Thomas Dagar and William Dagar, who presented the will with John Levys, procurator.

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(f.325r)  
WILL 20 - JOHN HARVILL

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. In the yere of our lorde God  
a Thousande ffive hundreth fortie and Nyne, The xxiiij  
daye of September. I John Harvill of the parishe of  
Lickford in the Countie of Southampton being of perfytt  
5 mynde and remembraunce, but sicke in bodye, do ordeyne  
and make my last wille and testament in this maner folowing.  
First I bequeathe my soule vnto Almightye God, to our  
blessid ladye Saint Marye and to all the holie companye  
in heven, And my bodie to be buried in the churche of  
10 Leckford. Item I giue and bequeathe to the reparacions  
of the churche of Leckford xiijs iiijd. Also I giue to  
the vicar of Leckford xxs. Also I giue to the mother  
churche of Winchester iiijd. Also I giue and bequeathe  
to euery poor householder in Leckford ijs iiijd the pece.  
15 That is to saye, To John Seward, John Robert the yonger,  
Edwarde Fenelle, Robert Smyth, John Modye, John Grewell,  
John Ewat, Elin Woodes, Thomas Powre and to John Eylis.  
Also I giue to euery other howse in Leckford ijs the pece.  
Also I giue and bequeathe to William Harvill my sonne and  
20 to William Power my sonne in lawe my ferme in the Suthton  
side after my decease betwene theme with the Stocke and  
my yeres in the same ferme. And I doo give and bequeathe  
betwene theme, threscore pounce debt being in Maistress  
Thorpes hande, to paye ther Rentes deducting for this half  
25 yeres rent tene poundes dewe at Mighelmas<sup>1</sup>. Also I bequeth  
to my wiffes children (that is to say) to John Drewe,  
Richarde Drewe and Olyffe Drewe to every of them one score

(f.325r)  
WILL 20

of shepe and Twentie nobles a pece in goodes or money.  
Also I bequethe to my doughter Powers foure children euery  
30 one of them foure shepe. Also I bequeath to William Snowe  
my seruaunte two shepe, And to Mawde Hatcher my mayde Tene  
shepe, And to Margery Myller my maide two shepe. Also  
I bequeathe every one of my godchildren a shepe. The  
residue of my goodes not given nor bequethed my debtes  
35 paide, I do giue and bequeath to Joane Harvill my wife  
and to William Harvill my sonne whome I make my Executours  
to haue and dispose for the healthe of my soule as they  
thinke best, and to occupie the hold that I now dwell in  
betwene theme as longe as my wife leuithe. Also I do  
40 constitute and make John Richardes and William Powre of  
Longstoke my ouerseers, that this my wille may be fulfilled,  
and to haue for their paynes and labor fourtie shillinges  
a pece. In witnes wherof Edwarde Newman, Laurence Snowe,  
Robert Flode and George Sponder with many other.

PROBATE: 14 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> Michealmas is the feast of St Michael, September 29th.

\* William Havill and Joane Harvill the executors nominated  
in the will, were granted the right of administration.  
The will was presented to the probate court by Thomas  
Dockwrey, procurator (see will 32, f.n. 9 ).

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(f.325r-f.325v)  
WILL 21 - RICHARD MEYSYE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xvij<sup>th</sup> daie of September  
in the yere of oure Lord God a Thousand five hundreth  
fourtie and Nyne, And in the thirde yere of the Reigne  
of Edwarde the sixt by the grace of God kinge of England,  
5 Fraunce and Irelande, defender of the faithe and of the  
churche of England and also Irelande in earthe the supreme  
hedd. I Rychard Meysye of Burwescote, being sicke in bodye  
and good of memorie, make this my laste wille and testament  
on this maner of [sic] forme folowing. First I bequeathe  
10 my soule vnto Almightye God my maker and redemer, my bodie  
to be buried in the churche or churcheyarde of Burwescote.  
And also I giue vnto Agnes my wyfe Twentie poundes of good  
and lafull money of Englande and her chamber. Item a  
fetherbedd, a boulster, a pillowe, twoo payre of sheetes,  
15 a Couerlett, A blanket and a litle cofer and a greate Coffe,  
a pott and a panne, half a dossene of pewter vessell, and  
this stuf not of the best nor of the worst<sup>1</sup>. And also  
I will that Agnes my wyfe to haue the thyrde of al maner  
of grayne, as the thyrde<sup>a</sup> sheaf of wheate, the thirde cocke  
20 of barley, and also the thirde of pease and otes, and of  
hey the thyrde after this yere, And the thirde of poultrei,  
and of pigges and gesse the thirde, And also she shall  
fynde<sup>b</sup> the thirde parte of the howse, and also to paye  
the thirde parte of their seruantes wages. And I giue  
25 to Agnes my wyfe a blacke mare. Item I giue my sone in  
lawe Thomas Martyne lxxvj viij<sup>d</sup>. Item I giue to John Meysye  
my sonne lxxvj viij<sup>d</sup>. Also I giue to Thomas Meysie my  
sonne lxxvj viij<sup>d</sup><sup>c</sup>. Also I giue to John Meysie my sonne  
lxxvj viij<sup>d</sup>. And also I giue to my sonne Edwarde Meysye  
30 lxxvj viij<sup>d</sup>. Also I giue to Katheryne Meysie my daughter  
lxxvj viij<sup>d</sup>. And if any of thes Children dye before that  
they be of lafull age, the goodes to be deuyded amongst  
them by evyne porcione. And also I giue to Joane Meysye

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a. "thyrde" is interliner.

b. It is probable that a line or part of a line has bee omitted by the scribe.

c. f.325v begins.

(f.325r-f.325v)

WILL 21

my doughter fortie shillinges. Also I giue vnto my sone  
 35 in law John Paulyng fortie shillinges. Also I giue vnto  
 Joane Ilbery xxs. Also I giue vnto Susant Frebery a shepe.  
 Also I giue to Margeryt Frebery a shepe. Also I giue vnto  
 William Wackefyld Children five shepe. And also I giue  
 vnto my Cosyne William Rogers Tene shillinges. Also I  
 40 give vnto Edwarde my sheppard a shepe. The debtes of  
 Richard Meysye, Thomas Doosell of Todrye my wolman vjli,  
 Thomas Edmundes of Bourton 'vijli, John Arnould my facher  
 iijli, John Skynner of Lechelard viijs viijd, Thomas  
 Akerman of Wylfarton vs, Jemys Cocke of Colenam vs, Roger  
 45 Sandford xxis. Item to Baker of Steuynton xiis iijd,  
 Robert Frebery and his mother lxvs viijd and of the five  
 marke I giue to Elizabeth Frebery xxxiis iijd, and thother  
 xxxiis iijd I give to Edward my sonne, A man of Groue  
 iijs, Humfrey of Comner vs viijd, Jemys Jarvys gentilman  
 50 xxs, Jemys Gryffyne seruante to Master Westwood xxxs.  
 The residue of my goodes moveable and vnmoveable vnbequeathed  
 I giue to Anthony my sonne whome I make my hole Executour  
 to dispoase for my soule helthe as he shall thinke most  
 mete. I will that Anthony my sonne whome I make my  
 55 Executour haue the geyding of his brothers and systers  
 till they be of lafull age, And then he to delyuer every  
 one of theme their stocke pesabely with the sight of my  
 Overseers. I institute and ordeyne my Ouerseers William  
 Couley, Henry Jackat and John Grene and they to haue for  
 60 their labor and paynes xxd a pece. I will that my Executour  
 do put in the poore mens boxe xxd to be bestowed for my  
 soule. Also I will that Anthony my sonne, And Agnes my  
 wyfe to haue thuse and occupying of my holding to their  
 most profytt, and that my sonne Anthony to haue two partes  
 65 and my wyfe the thirde parte of the Crope.

PROBATE: 15 November 1549\*

(f.325r-f.325v)  
WILL 21

1 This bequest cast no slur on Meysye's wife as it was not unusual for the widow of a testator to be the recipient of the 'second-best' bed and household items, or in this instance 'not of the best nor of the worst'. In Tudor wills the eldest son was frequently left the 'best' bed.

\* The probate court granted administration of the testament to the executors it nominated. The will was presented by David Clapham, procurator.

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(f.325v-f.326r)  
WILL 22 - WILLIAM WITCHINGHAM

IN DEI NOMINE AMEN. The xx<sup>ti</sup> daye of June in the yere of our lorde God a thousand five hundreth fortie and Nyne, And in the thirde yere of the Reigne of our most dreade soueraigne Lorde Edwarde the sixte by the grace of God,  
5 of Englande, Fraunce and Irelande kinge, defendor of the faithe and vnder God in earthe the supreme hedd of the churche of Englande and Irelande. I William Witchinghame thelder of Dumwich sore strykn in age and sicke in bodye, but neuerthelesse of good rememboraunce and perfytt memorie,  
10 do make this my Last will and testament in forme folowing. That is to saye, ffirst I bequeathe my soule to Almightye God, and my bodye to be buried in the churcheyarde of Seint Peters. Item I will that all my sheepe shalbe solde, excepte fourtie of them, which I giue to Alice my wyfe.  
15 Item I will that two of my bullockes be solde, And the other two I give to the said Alice my wife. Iteme I give to Alice my wyfe all my horses geldinges or mares for the

(f.325r-f.325v)  
WILL 22

mayntenaunce of my londe during her lyfe, And after her  
decease I will they remayne vnto my children equally to  
20 be deuided amonge theme, yf any of the said Cattall shall  
thane be remaying. Item I giue to Alice my wyfe my hedd  
howse that I now dwell in with thappurtenaunces, with two  
tenementes ther vnto annexed, with the close and the garden  
to the same belonging, during her lyfe. And after her  
25 decease, I will that the said hedd howse with  
thappurtenaunces, and the said two tenementes close and  
garden with thappurtenaunces shall remayne vnto Thomas  
Witchingham my sonne and to his heires for evermore. Item  
I will and bequeathe vnto Thomas Witchingham my sonne my  
30 tenement at the Dame that he dwellith in with the Tacle  
Close house and the grounde therto annexed, during the  
Lyfe of my said wife, and after her deceas I will it shall  
remayne to Elizabeth Owner and her heyres for euermore,  
in full recompence and satisfacion of xiiijli whiche she  
35 sholde haue of the goodes of William Owner her father.  
I giue to Elizabeth Owner one fether bedd and one transunpte  
[ sic ] and one Couerlet, to be delyuered at the daye of  
her mariage. Item I will that myne Executours shall paye  
to Elizabeth Owner xijli the whiche I receavyd of her  
40 fathers goodes to her vse, to be<sup>a</sup> paide at the daye of  
her mariage. And if it fortune the saide Elizabeth Owner  
to dye, I wille thene the saide money shalbe paide to Rauf  
Owner her brother. Item I giue to Fynet Thurston my  
doughter one Close late Fykettes with my tenementes therto  
45 adioyning to her and to her heyres Laufully begotten.  
Item I will that Alice my wyfe shall haue the howse that  
Wake dwellith in with all the profittes therof during her  
lyfe, and after her deceas I give the said house to Fraunces  
Witchinghame and his heyres for euermore. And yf it fortune  
50 the said Fraunces Witchinghame to dye, That thene I will  
yt shall remayne to Margaret Witchingham his sister and

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a. f.326r begins.

(f.325r-f.325v)

WILL 22

her heyres foreuermore. Item I will that my landes lyeing  
within the Blackefryers<sup>2</sup> shalbe solde by myne Executours.  
 And yf Thomas Witchinghame my sonne will bye the  
 55 Blackfryers, he to haue yt for his money xls within the  
 price if it shalbe solde. Item I giue vnto Walter Burwarde  
 my pictell lying nexte to the Blackefryers. Item I giue  
 to Alice my wyfe my londe inclosed called Galtrey Hill  
 for to giue and to sell. Item I give to Elizabeth Burwarde  
 60 my doughter one ffenne the whiche William Grene hath in  
 ferme with the Arrable grounde therin closed. Iteme I  
 wille that my pece of lande lying next Harrysons Close  
 conteinyng by estymacion thre Acres be solde by thandes  
 of myne Executours. Item I giue to Robert Witchingham  
 65 and Margaret Witchinghame the children of my brother William  
 Witchingham to eiche of theme xls, to be paide of the  
 obligacions of John Collam. And yf either of them fortune  
 to dye, then thone to haue thothers parte. Item I giue  
 to Alice my wyfe my close nexte to Gaves Close during her  
 70 lyfe, and after her decease I will it shall remayne to  
 Thomas Witchingham and his heyres foreuermore. Item I  
 giue to Alice my wyfe all my obligacions wherin Andrewe  
 Dingwell stande bounde for the house in the market. Item  
 I giue to Lance Richarde iijs iiijd yerelie to be paide  
 75 vnto hyme<sup>b</sup> by thandes of myne Executours during his lyfe.  
 Item I will that myne Executours shall take the money the  
 whiche Clerke of London dothe owe me. Item I giue to Alice  
 my wyfe my londe inclosed lying by Myddelton Waye during  
 her lyfe, and one pece of londe lying vnde Gawlerrey Hill,  
 80 the whiche William Grene hath in ferme, and the two Acres  
 of londe lying in Seint James Hill<sup>3</sup>, And one harrow pece.  
 And after her decease, I will it shall Remayne to Thomas  
 Witchingham my sonne and to his heyres foreuer. Item I  
 give and bequeathe to the saide Alice my wyfe, the sciete  
 85 of the Blackefryers with all the landes lying rounde abowte  
 the same inclosed within one hedge and diches, to her and

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b. The remainder of the right side of the M.S. of this will has a darkened, smudged background.

(f.325r-f.325v)  
WILL 22

her heyres. Witnesses to the same Master Robert Alexander,  
Sir William James<sup>4</sup> clerke, Richard Bumble, Mathewe Deringe  
and Thomas Hallidaye scribe. Memorandum that at the xxix<sup>ti</sup>  
90 daye of September in the yere of our lorde Godd A Thousande  
five hundreth xlix<sup>ti</sup>, And in the thirde yere of the Reigne  
of our soueraigne Lord Kinge Edwarde the sixte, the aboue  
named William Witchinghame being of parfitt mynde and  
memorie did ordeyne, name and constitute the saide Alice  
95 his wyfe and Thomas Witchinghame his sonne Executours of  
his said Testament and last wille. And vnto them he did  
will, give and bequeathe all the Residewe of his goodes  
moveable vnbequeathed, to dispose and do with them at  
their pleasure as his Executours. Thene being present  
100 and witnesses to the same the said Thomas Witchinghame,  
Master John Harrysone, Richard Burward, Richarde Hall,  
Thomas Hollydaye, Richard Bumble, Elizabeth Burward and  
[            ] Thurston.

PROBATE: 15 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> Dunwich was once a sizable port and market town, but fell prey to an ever-encroaching sea. St Peter's Church was situated about one block back from the 1587 shoreline, but had long been washed away by 1754. The demise of Dunwich during the sixteenth century provided considerable assistance to the growth of other ports such as Ipswich.

Scarfe, N., The Suffolk Landscape, Hodder & Stoughton (London) 1972. p. 205, fig. 18.

<sup>2</sup> The Blackfriars at Dunwich was a cell of the priory at Eye, Suffolk (initially founded 1080, it became independent in 1385). Blackfriars was dissolved in 1537.

(f.325r-f.325v)  
WILL 22

Knowles, D. & Hadcock, N., Medieval Religious Houses: England and Wales. Longmans Group Ltd (London) 1971, p. 54, 87.

3 St James Hill is probably a reference to the hill that lay behind St James Church, Dunwich.

Scarfe, N., The Suffolk Landscape. fig. 18.

4 One William James (Jamys) studied at Oxford for a B.A. (1514) and M.A. (1516).

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540, p. 316.

\* John Adams, procurator, present the will; the right of administration was granted to the widow, Alice, and the other executor nominated.

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(f.326r-f.327r)  
WILL 23 - JOHN FASTOLFE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xxvij<sup>ti</sup> daye of Nouembre in the yere of oure Lorde God a Thousande fyve hundreth fourtie and Eight, And in the secoude yere of the Reigne of our Soueraigne lorde Kinge Edwarde the sixte by the  
5 grace of God of Englande Fraunce and Irelande king defendour of the faithe and in erthe of the church of Englande and also of Irelande the supreme hedd. I John Fastolfe of Pettaught [ sic ] in the Countie of Suffolk  
10 and in the dioces of Norwiche gentilman, of hole mynde and good remembraunce being, do ordeyne and make this my present Testament and last will, in maner and forme folow-

(f.326r-f.327r)  
WILL 23

ing. That is to saye, I bequeath my soule to Almightye  
God my maker and redemer, and my poore bodye to be buried  
in the parishe churche where it shall please Almightye  
15 God to take my lyf from yt. Item I bequeathe to the highe  
Aulter of Pettaughe for my tithe and other duties  
necligently forgotten, and also not dewly paide xij*d*.  
Item I will and bequeathe to Lettisse my wyfe, all suche  
landes and tenementes as I haue in Cowleche with  
20 thappurtenaunces to her during the terme of her lyf,  
according to the feoffament whiche I made to her. And  
after the decease<sup>a</sup> of the saide Lettisse my wyf, I will  
that the saide landes and tenementes with thappertenaunces  
in Cowleche aforesaide do go to the performance of this  
25 my last will vntill the terme of xx<sup>ti</sup> yeres next after my  
deceas be expiride, vpon condicion that myne Executours  
shall not haue sufficiently enoughe to performe and  
fulfille the legacies of this my saide wille, of suche  
londes and tenementes as shalbe assigned therfore here-  
30 after in this my said will. Item vpon condicion that  
myne Executours shall haue sufficiently enoughe, over  
and besides my saide landes and tenementes in Cowlech  
aforesaide to performe and fulfill this my said will and  
testament that thene I will that all my said londes and  
35 tenementes with thappurtenaunces in Cowlech aforesaid,  
do remayne to Thomas Fastolfe myne eldest sonne and to  
theyres males of his bodye lafully begotten foreuermore  
ymediately after the deceas of the said Lettese my wyf.  
Item I will and bequeathe to Thomas my sonne vpon  
40 condicione that the saide Thomas will suffer myne  
Executours or their assignes peassabley, to holde and  
occupie formarlye my tenement in Pettawgh whiche I dwell  
in with all the landes therto belonging in Helminghame  
and Pettawghe xij monthes after my decease vjli xiijs  
45 iiij*d*. Item I will and bequeathe to Anne my doughter  
in lafull mony of Englande fortie poundes. Item I will

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a. f.326v begins.

(f.326r-f.327r)

WILL 23

and bequeathe to Florauce my doughter of lyke money fortie  
 poundes. I will and bequeathe to Fraunces my sonne of  
 lyke money threscore poundes. Item I will and bequeathe  
 50 to Marie my doughter of like money fortie poundes. Item  
 I will and bequeathe to Elizabethe my doughter in lyke  
 money fortie poundes. Iteme I will and bequeathe to  
 Edwarde my sonne in lyke money Threscore poundes. Item  
 I will and bequeathe to Dorathe my doughter in lyke money,  
 55 fortie poundes. Item I will and bequeathe to Henry my  
 sonne in like mony Threscore poundes. Item I wille that  
 my legacies and bequestes to my foresaid Children and  
 to euery of them be paide by the discrecion of myne  
 Executours or the more parte of them. And vpon condicion  
 60 that my saide Children be rewlyd in mariage, and in honest  
 conversacion At suche daies and tymes as it may be receaved,  
 levied and taken of suche londes as I haue hereafter  
 assigned for the dewe execucon of this my present testament  
 and last will, I will that if anye of my foresaid Children  
 65 do marye contrarie to the myndes of myne Executours or  
 the more parte of them, and will not be of good rewle,  
 order and gubernauce, as shalbe thought by myne Executours,  
 Or if anye of theme do dye before the bequest or legacie  
 aforesaide to them or eny of theme be paide, That thene  
 70 the parte of any or so mayny of theme as shall so mary  
 or be of no good gubernauce, or dye as is aforeaide,  
 thene I will and bequeath ther partes to the residue, or  
 to their heires, that shall and wilbe rewlid and marye  
 by the discrecion of myne Executours or the more parte  
 75 of theme. Vpon condicion that Master Thomas Dawndy do  
 marie Anne my doughter, I will and my mynd ys that she  
 shall haue Tene poundes of lauffull money of Englande over  
 and beside the fortie poundes to her before bequethed.  
 Item I will and bequeathe to John Kyrby the yonger my  
 80 wyffes second sonne<sup>c</sup> five poundes. Item I will and  
 bequeathe to Gilbarde Kyrby my wyfes sonne fyve poundes.

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c. "second" is interlineated, probably it should have been inserted before "wyffes" not after.

(f.326r-f.327r)

WILL 23

Item I will and bequeathe to Margaret Kerby my wyffes  
 Doughter fyve poundes. Item I will and bequeathe to Augnes  
 Kyrby my wyffes doughter fyve poundes. Item I will and  
 85 bequeathe to Marie Kyrby my wyffes doughter fyve poundes.  
 Item I will and bequeathe to Awdrye Kyrby my wyffes  
 doughter fyve poundes. Item I will give and bequeathe  
the residue of all my goodes, debtes and Cattelles, stuf  
 of householde, Jewelles and plate not hereafter bequethed,  
 90 Legacied nor given, To the disposicion rewle and order  
 of myne Executours. Item I will and bequeathe, As  
 concernyng my Manors, landes and tenementes and  
 hereditamentes wherof I am seasyd in fee symple, or in  
 taylor, the daye of the making hereof, I will and my mynde  
 95 ys that Thomas my sonne shall haue all those my londes,  
 tenementes and hereditamentes in the townes of Pettawghe,  
 Wynston, Foramysdeyne and Helmyngham, shalbe to the vse  
 of Thomas my eldest sonne and his heyres males of his  
 bodye lafully begotton, according to certyne deades  
 100 Indentyde made betwene James Tyrell esquier<sup>1</sup> and Thomas  
 Fastolfe<sup>2</sup> father to me the said John as by the same more  
 playnly dothe appere. And as concernyng my Manour of  
 Weston, and all other my londes, tenementes and  
 heredytamentes in Weston, Hopton, Thelmentum, Gunston  
 105 and Hepworth with the appurtenaunces, I will and my mynde  
 ys that myne Executours or their Executours shall quyetly  
 take thissues, renewing and profyttes of the same Manour,  
 landes and tenementes with their Appurtenaunces, by the  
 terme and space of xx<sup>ti</sup> yeres, to and for thadvancement of  
 110 my Children, execucion and performauce of this my last  
 will. Wherof I will that they paye to Lettys my wyfe  
 during her lyf foure poundes yerely, Accordinglye as I  
 haue grauntede her the same by my dedes. And I will and  
 my mynde ys, that yf my saide Executours or their assignes  
 115 at any tyme duryng the saide terme be disturbede and  
 put oute of possession of the same Manor of Weston, londes

(f.326r-f.327r)

WILL 23

and tenementes in Weston, and other the townes last before  
 Remembrede, or if any parcelle therof by my saide sonne  
 Thomas, or by hyme whome God shall provide to be my next  
 120 heyre, or by any other persone or persones to ther vse  
 of any of them, or by reason of the tenure of the same  
Manour, Londes and tenementes, wherby my said Executours  
 cane not pesabley haue and enyoie the same and euey  
parcell therof to the vse of this my last will as  
 125 aforesaide, That thene I wille and my hole mynde ys that  
 my saide Executours shall and maye sell two partes of  
 the same Manour of Weston<sup>d</sup> with thappurtenaunces and two  
partes of all other londes and tenementes in the saide  
 townes last before Remembrede. And the mony therof  
 130 commynge shalbe aswell to paye my said wyfe her iiijli,  
 As to se this my last will performyde in euey condicion.  
 Item I will and bequeathe to Lettise my wyfe so long as  
 she kepithe her a wedowe and vnmaryed all the chambers,  
 solers and clossetes whiche we vse to goo vpon at the  
 135 kychyne stayers, that is to weitt the Chambers, solers  
 and closetes over and above tholde parler and the kychyne  
 of the same mancion howse whiche I nowe dwell in, withoute  
 lett disturbance or gaynsaynge of any persone or persones,  
with free ingate and outegate to the same, to the said  
 140 Lettise duryng the terme above saide. Item I will and  
 my hole mynde ys that euey the above saide Children,  
 bothe sonnes and doughters, aswell my wyffes children  
 as myne owne shall haue euey of theyme their porcion  
 of money to them before bequeathed, whane they shall come  
 145 to thage of xxiiij yere, so they to be paide one after  
 another, vpon condicion that yt may renew, and growe so  
 fast vpon the legacie. Item I will that my saide sonne  
 Thomas shall not entre into my tenemente and londes in  
 Pettawghe and Helmyngname whiche I dwell in, nor into  
 150 no parcell therof, nor take no profyttes theof vntil

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 d. f.327r begins.

(f.326r-f.327r)

WILL 23

xij monethes after my decease. Item I will and bequeathe to Lettice my wyfe my greate goblet of syluer with a couering longing to the same, A dossene of syluer spones, A syluer Salte gilt with a coueryng longing to the same.

155 Item I will and bequeathe to Lettice my wife half a garnyshe of pewter, the best brasse pott, a brasse posnet, a kettyll and a spytt. Item I will and bequeathe to the said Lettice my wyfe three of the best fether beddes as they be postede with Couerynges, hanginges, Corteynes,

160 and with all other thinges belonging to the same. Item I will and bequeathe to Lettice my wyfe my stillatorie. Item I will and bequeathe to the behofe and vse of the parishe churche of Pettawghe vjs viijd. For the full accomplishment and due execucion of this my present

165 testament and last wille, I ordeyne and make Master John Fastolfe my brother and Fraunces my sonne to be myne Executours, as my fathfull truste ys in them, And euery of them to haue for their labors and paynes to be taken over and besides their costes and charges twentie

170 shillinges. Witnessith Sir Peter Shawe, John Wythe, William Dawse and Richard Coke with others.

PROBATE: 15 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> The second son of Sir James Tyrell (beheaded 1502) the supposed murderer of the princes in the Tower.  
D.N.B. - Tyrell.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Fastolf of Ipswich, and two other gentlemen of Suffolk were bound by a recognizance to the king (dated 13 July 1501) for the sum of twenty marks. Fastolf was to pay £6 13s. 4d.  
Calendar of Close Rolls, 1500-1509, 11.



(f.326r-f.327r)  
WILL 23

\* The will was presented before the court by John Adams, procurator; and the administration of the testament was granted to John Fastolfe, and Francis Fastolf, the executors nominated.

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(f.327r)  
WILL 24 - ANTHONY BRODSTON

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The yere of our lorde God a  
Thousande five hundreth fourtie and Nyne, And in the thirde  
yere of the Reigne of our soueraigne lorde Edwarde the  
Sixte by the grace of God kinge of Englande Fraunce and  
5 Irelande defendor of the faithe and in earthe of the  
Church of Englande and Irelande supreme hedd, the xxviiij  
daie of the moneth of June. I Anthony Brodston Esquier  
and lorde of Wynterburne in the Countie of Glocester and  
the dioces of Bristow, being of hole and perfyte mynde,  
10 and of good remembraunce, do make my testament and laste  
wille in this maner and forme folowing. First I comende  
my soule into thandes of Almighty God my maker and Creator  
and redemer vnto whose mercie I do appeale thoroughe  
Christes merites, to be the very true childe and inheritor  
15 of Goddis eternall glorie, And my bodye to be buried in  
the Chauncell of Seint Michaell tharcangell within the  
parishe church of Wynturburne forsaide. Furthermore I  
bequeathe to Thomas Bower for his true seruice being my  
seruaunte vjs viijd. Furthermore I bequeathe to John  
20 Cartor vjs viijd. The residue of my goodes, Cattalles  
and dettes, I saye my goodes moveable and vnmmoveable  
cattalles and debtes I leave and give holy and only to

(f.327r)  
WILL 24

my sone Henry Brodston whome I do constitute and make  
Executour of this my present last wille or testament,  
25 to<sup>a</sup> whose discrecion I do commytte aswell to dispose of  
my goodes to the poore, over and besides that I will five  
shillinges to be given to the pore mens boxe, as also  
to se me decently to be brought on yerthe. And furthermore  
I will that all testamentes and willes here before by  
30 me made to be frustrate voyde and of none effecte, but  
this is my present testament to be taken for my verye  
true and last will. Furthermore I do constitute and poynte  
Lewys Robyns of the Citie of Bristow marchaunte Overseer  
of this my will, and for his labour to haue xx<sup>s</sup>. In  
35 witnes of the premisses I haue put to my seale herevnto  
the daye and yere above wryten. These witnes John Restall<sup>1</sup>  
clarke, John Bowman, Morishe Griffith, John Seymer<sup>2</sup>, Thomas  
Witherley, John Welbe, William Nelme.

PROBATE: 19 November 1548\*<sup>b</sup>

- a. "to" is interlinear.
- b. f.327v begins.

<sup>1</sup> An Augustinian, Restall studied at Oxford c.1539 and was a canon at St Augustine's Abbey, Bristol which submitted to the royal supremacy in 1534. When the abbey was dissolved (1539), Restall was pensioned off at £8 annually. In 1540 he became a curate at St Philip's Bristol, served as a chantry priest at Winterbourne 1542-1546, and became vicar of St Nicholas parish Bristol, until his death (1564).

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540. p. 483;  
Knowles, D. & Hadock, N. Medieval Religious Houses: England and Wales. p. 150.

(f.327r)  
WILL 24

2 This is possibly the same John Seymour elected to the Parliament of 1547, for the borough of Wootton Bassett. The elder half-brother of Protector Somerset, Seymour was disinherited by his father Edward (later Duke of Somerset) in 1540, through an act of Parliament (32 Henry VIII, c.78). Seymour and his younger brother Edward were disinherited after their mother was repudiated by her husband, who doubted the paternity of Seymour in particular. In 1552, following the fall of Somerset, Seymour successfully sought to have the Act of 1540 repealed by the commons and to regain his mother's inheritance (5 and 6 Edward VI, c. 37). Seymour died December 1552.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, pp. 292-293.

\* The right of administration was granted to Henry Brodston, as nominated in the will.

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(f.327v)  
WILL 25 - WILLIAM BRYNKLEY

5 IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I William Brynkley of Boston Marchaunt, being in perfitt mynde and Remembraunce, all honor and prayse be to God, makes this my last will and Testament in maner and forme folowing. First I bequeathe my soule vnto our lorde Jesus Christ my onely maker and Redemer, my bodie to the yearth in what parishe churcheyarde<sup>1</sup> where soever I depart this worlde with oute any caryeng into the church as it hath byne vsed, or eny cerimonies but onely buried. I giue to the powre mens

(f.327v)  
WILL 25

10 chest xijli of the whiche three poundes to be put in to  
the chest at my buryeng, and so after quarterly three  
poundes, vnto the saide some be paide. I give to my  
welbiloued wife Wenefried Brynkley Two hundreth poundes,  
sixe of my best keyne, my blacke Amblyng nagge, and all  
15 my household stuf. I give to my sonne Stephyne Brynkley  
two hundreth poundes. And if my wife be with child I  
do give hit two hundreth poundes. I give to a litle boye  
that is with me whose name ys John Browne xiiijli vjs viiij  
whene he comes to lafull age, And yf he departe afore,  
20 I giue yt to powre maydens mariages. I ordeyne John  
Bradley, Thomas Palframan, Robert Coume that married Master  
Richard Coumes of Bassingthorpe wyfe and Symond Melsse  
mercer of Boston to be myne Executours and euery one of  
them to haue lxvjs viiij and their costes, and euery  
25 to be sworne to this my last will for to fulfill and do.  
And I wille that my Childes porcion be put into the towne  
Chambre of Boston within one yere nexte after and ther  
to be letton oute to yong men after the rate of viiijli  
in the hundred gayne for one yere<sup>2</sup> vpon good suerties,  
30 by thadvyce of myn Executours, Master Maior of Boston  
and his brethern, and for their paynes taking my child  
or children mone for their profyttes being lett fourthe,  
I give to the saide Maior and his brethern xlj euery yere  
during my child nonage. And yf my Childe or Children  
35 departs or they come to lafull age, that then I do give  
yt to poore maydens mariages, to the poor mens chest and  
to mending of high wayes<sup>3</sup> abowte Boston by even porcions.  
And I will that euery one of my Children be others heyre.  
Witness I haue wryten this my last will with myne owne  
40 hande subscribed my name and set to my seale the xxij  
of Novembre Anno domini m<sup>l</sup> v<sup>c</sup> xlviiij<sup>ti</sup>, In the seconde  
yere of the Reigne of King Edward the vj<sup>th</sup>, per me William  
Brynkley, by me Bryan Sandford vicar.

PROBATE: 19 November 1549\*

(f.327v)  
WILL 25

- 1 The indication of the preamble, that Brynkley was a Protestant, is substantiated by the statement that the will was written in his own hand (l. 39). The church was possibly St Botolph's in Boston.  
Treasurer of Britain, p. 95.
  
- 2 Interestingly, by setting the rate of interest at 8% (£8 per £100), Brynkley was charging less than the rate of 10% allowable under the Act of 1545 (37 Henry VIII, c.9). Prior to this act money-lending was generally condemned and prosecuted in both church and civil courts, but the general shortage of finance and the growth of Protestantism (finding changes in business methods more acceptable) allowed the legalizing of usury in 1545. However this act was short-lived, as using was again proscribed (5 and 6 Edward VI, c.20) and declared 'a vice most odious and detestable'.  
Gregg, P., The Black Death to the Industrial Revolution George G. Harrop & Co (London) 1976. pp 228-229;  
Jordan, W.K., Edward VI: The Treshold of Power, p. 339  
Russell, C., The Crisis of Parliaments: English History 1509-1660, Oxford University Press (Oxford) 1971, p. 22.
  
- 3 Bequests to repair and maintain roads and bridges had been frequent throughout the Middle Ages. The roads were generally held to be of poor condition, but with the increasing movement of goods between market places during the sixteenth century the need for attention became more urgent. Often, as in the case of Brynkley, those who left money for the repair of roads were merchants as throughout this period the responsibility for the roading system was considered to be in the hands of private individuals.

In 1530 Justices of the Peace were empowered by statute to inspect "all manner of annoyances of bridges broken in the highways, and to make such process... for the reparation of the same against such as owen to be charged" (23 Henry VIII, c.5). It was not until the 1555 act, however, that the problem was attacked on a national level. The first General Highways Act (2 & 3 Philip and Mary, c.8) aimed at "ammending highways... now both very noisome and tedious to travel in, and dangerous to all passengers and carriages".

Bennett, H.S., The Pastons and their England, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1970. pp 136-137;

Russell, C., The Crisis of Parliament, p. 134.

- \* The right of administration was granted to John Bradley, Thomas Palfreyman and Simon Melsonby, the executors nominated in the will. The rights of the other executor nominated Robert Cone, were preserved.

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(f.327v-f.328r)  
WILL 26 - RICHARD JARMAN

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I Richard Jarman Citizeine and  
merchant Tailour of London being in perfytt mynde and  
 good remembraunce, thankes be given vnto the lorde,  
 constitute and ordeyne this my testament and last will  
 5 in maner and forme folowing. That is to wyte, ffirst  
 and above all thinges I bequeathe my soule into thandes  
 of the Eternall father of hevyn<sup>e</sup> whiche sent his welbeloued  
 sonne into this wo'r'ld whiche sufferyd his passion and  
 shed his blode on the crosse for my synes and for all  
 10 the synnes of the worlde, by the whiche blode shedding  
 I belyve to come to the eternall lyfe which is forever

(f.327v-f.328r)  
WILL 26

and ever with the father and the sonne and the Holy Goost,  
worlde with out ende amen. And I bequeathe my bodie to  
be layde in the grounde whens yt came, where it shall  
15 chaunce that I departe oute of the wale of miserie at  
the will and pleasure of myn Executours. Secoundarely  
I giue vnto Thomas my sonne twenty poundes. And also  
I giue and bequeathe to my Cosyn Alyn's daughter to her  
marriage vjli xiijs iiijd. And also I give vnto Thomas  
20 that was my seruaunte fourtie shillinges. Also I giue  
and bequeathe to Richard my seruaunte vjli xiijs iiijd  
and eiche of them a blacke gowne. And also I give to  
Annes my serunte [sic] that was xxs and a blake gowne  
25 gowne. Also I giue and bequeathe my Cosyne Alyne and  
his wyfe eiche of them a blacke gowne and my best golde  
ring. Also I give and bequeathe vnto euery warde in London  
to the most poorest and most nedyfull that can be founde  
in the saide warde xiijs iiijd to every one of the saide  
30 wardes. Also I giue and bequeathe vnto the parishe of  
Aldemarie<sup>1</sup> every yere for the space of fyve yeres, two  
lodes of Coles to be geuyn in October and Januarie, vnto  
the poor people and honest powre householders within the  
saide parishe, and this to be doune by my Executours.  
35 Also I giue vnto foure powre honest men, that shall bere  
me to the churche foure shillinges and  
foure gownes of viijs the pece. And as concernyng eny  
further serimones to be done apon my buriall I will not,  
but only my dutie<sup>a</sup> to be geuyn to my curat or persone  
40 as a cristen man ought to do at his departure. Also I  
will that Houpeur<sup>2</sup> yf he can be getten, make vj Sarmons<sup>3</sup>  
or some other at the discrecion of my Executours, and  
they to haue vj crownes of vs le pece whiche ys xxxs,  
with in the Churche of Aldarmary in London every Sonnedaye  
45 next ymmediatly after my departure (till they be doune).

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a. f.328r begins; "to be geuen to my curat or parson" is written at  
the base of f.327v.

(f.327v-f.328r)  
WILL 26

Also I giue to my company that I am free of, whiche wilbe  
at my buryalle for their paynes xxs. And for the perform-  
ance of this my last wyll and testament, I ordeyne and  
make Walter Yonge and Edwarde Ley merchant Tailors myne  
50 Executours, and for their paynes taking, vnto eiche of  
them xls a man. Also I giue to my mayde that nowe ys  
xxvjs viijd. Also I giue to Jenkyne my seruaunt xls.  
Also I giue to the goodwife Franklyne xxs, and a gowne  
whiche ys redy made in my howse. Also I giue to my godsone  
55 whiche ys Caryars sonne xxvjs viijd, And also to my godson  
at Le Per iijs iiijd, and Horshey daughter iijs iiijd.  
And also I giue to Richarde my seruauntes father my best  
gowne. And also I giue my brother at Stoune my seconde  
gowne. And also I giue to John Pynson clerke of our  
60 company my gowne lyned with taffata before. Also I giue  
to letle Thomas Boket xls, my seruaunte. Also I giue  
and bequeathe to the relyfe of the poore at Seint  
Barthilmews spittell in Smythfeld lxvjs viijd. Also I  
giue to my frende Hemewey xxs. Also I giue to my frende  
65 Clarke<sup>4</sup> xxs. Also I giue and bequeathe to Master Bothe  
a rounde hope of golde. Also I will that William Newyntone<sup>5</sup>  
shall haue his leuerie clothe agayne frely, withoute paying  
of any money, whiche lyeth in gage to me for xxs. Also  
I giue to John Pynsone the clarke of oure companey for  
70 euery one of his children vjs viijd. And also I giue  
to my water berer a gowne of viijs. Also I giue and  
bequeathe to the goodman Bonde tene shillinges. Also  
I will that Master Dawbeney<sup>6</sup> be my overseer of this my  
last will and testament he to haue the value of a gowne.  
75 And also I will that the goodman Dekynsone shall haue  
his howse for the rent that he paith whiche ys xxviijs,  
as longe as my lease endurithe. Also I giue to Gelyon  
Batte a gowne clothe of viijs. Also I wille that vjd  
a weake be given till the some of twentie poundes be full  
80 given, with in the parishe of Aldermary to the poore.

(f.327v-f.328r)

WILL 26

Also I will that Master Caryare shall haue a gemew of gold. Also I wille that the rest of all my goodes be given to pour maydes mariage, and to the powre where moste nede ys. Per me Richard Jharman.

PROBATE: 19 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> St Mary Aldermary church in Cordwainer Street Ward was the eldest church of St Mary in London.

Stow, J., A Survey of London, I, p. 252-253.

<sup>2</sup> John Houser (Hooper) was the chaplain of Protector Somerset in 1549, a confirmed Protestant who drew great crowds to his sermons in London churches, where he sometimes lectured twice a day. After studying in Oxford (B.A. 1519) Hooper entered a Cistercian monastery in Gloucester, moving to London after the dissolution he was influenced by the writings of Zwingli and Bullinger. His return to Oxford to spread these views met considerable resistance from Dr Richard Smith, who attempted to have Hooper arrested, causing him to flee to Europe.

Returning to England in 1549, as one of the leaders of the Reformation, he was made Bishop of Gloucester (a recently created diocese) then was sent to the Fleet for a month before he relented on his refusal to wear vestments. As bishop, his modest household was devoted to the care of the poor, popularising the puritanic view of religion, he preached three or four times a day and rid his parish churches of images. As bishop of Gloucester and Worcester he was one of the first to be punished under Mary, excommunicated and later burned at the stake in Gloucester 9 February 1555.

(f.327v-f.328r)

WILL 26

D.N.B. - Hooper; Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540 pp. 296-297;  
 Heal, F. Of Princes and Prelates p. 128, 166, 216;  
 Ridley, J., Nicholas Ridley p. 213, 222-226;  
 Williams, P., The Tudor Regime p. 257.

- 3 That Jarman requested Hooper deliver six sermons after his decease is a confirmation of the statement of 'true' faith in the preamble of the testament, that he was a confirmed Protestant. It also suggests this undated testament was drawn up during 1549. These funeral sermons, usually intensely Protestant in character, were often eagerly awaited by the family of the deceased. By this period, these sermons were often published and made available to the public.
- 4 John Clerke, mercer, was a former governor of the Company of Merchant Adventurers. He was involved in negotiations with Henry VIII to send an expedition to Newfoundland during the 1520's, but the plan was eclipsed by the second French War.  
Acts of Court of the Mercers' Company: 1453-1527  
 p. 526, 693.
- 5 A mercer, William Newynton (Newyngton) was to have appeared before arbitors of the Mercers Court in 1525, to arrange payment for a debt he owed another fellow-mercener Robert Bolt.  
Acts of Court of the Mercers' Company: 1453-1527  
 pp. 699-700, 703.
- 6 This probably the same as Robert Dawbeney, Merchant Taylor of London, who was made an executor by Richard Pygott (see Will 6, ll. 156-158).

(f.327v-f.328r)  
WILL 26

\* Walter Young and Edward Ley were granted the administration of the will, as nominated in the testament.

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(f.328r-f.328v)  
WILL 27 - JOHN HOLBEME

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I John Holbeme of Holbeme etc  
make my Will and testament as here folowithe. First I  
giue my soule to Almightye God my maker, my bodie to be  
buried in the churche of Estogwell and vjs viijd for my  
5 saide buriall to the poor over and besides anny other  
dede of charitie. Item I giue and bequeathe to Mary my  
wyfe, if that she holde herself to her Joynture all redy  
by wryting assigned, thene she to haue all suche thinges  
as hereafter folowith. First I will that after thestate  
10 is determined that Hore hath in woodlande, That then estate  
be made by hyme that shall succede me as heire to me to  
him that shall at anny tyme in my life dayes be to yt  
assigned for terme of his life paying yerelie to my said  
wief the rent that ys to me Reseruid, And also to other  
15 that hath a rent goinge oute there, And also shall permitt  
and suffer John Style and John Batyne of Watton and  
Shewtehanger within the parishe of Holberton during the  
terme all redye to theme let and sett, paying yerelye  
to my said wyfe the Rente and herites if anny their  
20 happene, The custome gyse and werke monneye alwaye  
reseruide to my heires, or to them that shall succede  
me levinge by estate to them or them by me made. Also  
if my saide wyfe will not accepte this my wille ne suffer  
this my will to take place after the decease of me, but  
25 take in all thinges after the lawes of this Realme, Thene  
I will that she then haue ne take wother wise thene the

(f.328r-f.328v)  
WILL 27

lawes of this Realme will give her, anny thinge in this  
my will before mencioned or expressed, or anny thinge  
hereafter mencioned or expressed to the contrarie not-  
30 withstanding. Item I will and also giue and bequeathe  
to my said wyfe during her lyfe my Manor place of Coffynes  
Wille the kytchene, buttre and all other of the howses  
there, Excepte the new parlour and the litle newe seller  
at thende therof, my chamber, the closset within yt and  
35 the chamber withoute hit. The dorter chamber and the  
yate howse and kenelle, the thirde parte of the Shepyng  
and the thirde parte of the barne, tharbage of the greate  
garden from Mighelmas till Rodemas<sup>1</sup>, and the thirde parte  
of the frute of the same, Item I will that my saide wif  
40 haue occupance of stuf of householde bedding and plate,  
to the saide howses belonginge and by me assigned by  
Indenture Indented betwixt my saide wife and my Executours.  
Item I giue and bequeathe to my saide wyfe Sixe Oxene,  
two Steers able to be yoke, Sixe Kyene. Item I giue  
45 and bequeathe to my saide wife so moche money as Counter-  
vaylethe Cxl wethers shortlie after sheer tyme at iiijs  
a pece<sup>a</sup> And with the valuacion of the saide vj Oxen, the  
two steers, vj Kyene and the saide sheepe, and a Cheyne  
of golde of xxvli in fyne golde for yt, so that I give  
50 to my saide wife suche thinges as shepe, Oxene, Steers  
and kyene with the saide Cheyne or valuacion therof, a  
hundreth poundes in money or by sufficient obligacion  
obligatorie to be deliuered or paid by thandes of Thomas  
Yarde, John Copleston esquiers and John Gaverocke  
55 gentilman. Item I giue and bequeathe to euery of my  
seruauntes bothe men and women that haue dwellyd in my  
seruice for a hole yere xxs, excepte Marie Horne to whome  
I giue and bequeathe xls, And to Thomas Chapell xxs, To  
John Lodemer vjs viij<sup>d</sup>, And to Roger Lodemer vjs viij<sup>d</sup>,  
60 To John Wotton vjs viij<sup>d</sup>, And to euery Witness in this  
my present will viz Robert Norleye, Richarde Babbe, Benet

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a. f.328v. begins

(f.328r-f.328v)  
WILL 27

Gorclyf xxs. Item to parson of Estogwell a gowne clothe  
or xxs for hyme. Item I will that all my landes in Newton  
Abbot shuld remayne to my wyfe, for terme of her lyfe,  
65 In discharginge of the Rentes of John Battyne And John  
Stile of Watton and Shewtehanger in the parishe aforesaide.  
Item I will yf my said<sup>b</sup> wife like not the purporte of  
this my will aforesaide, Thene I will refer her where  
she will take yerely ffourtie markes, to be paide by  
70 thandes of Thomas Yarde, John Copleston and John Gaverocke  
aforesaide, and also the place with the howses and garden  
as is before mencionid. Item I giue to my Cosyne Jane  
Hale two kyene and their fynding in my Iussement grovnde  
at Westogewelle and vjs viijd yerelie for the rent of  
75 her Chamber. Item I will that the saide Thomas Yarde,  
John Coplestone and John Gaverocke paie yerelie and  
ymmediatlie after my deceas to my Suster Cristian Holbeame  
foure markes, And to my Cosyne William Marwoode foure  
markes, And to my Cosyn Roger Holbeame yerelie foure  
80 markes, in discharging of a pawne to hyme by me graunted  
oute of my Bartyne of Holbeme, And also if I paye not  
nother give to my Cosyne Alice Marwoode in my lyfe daies  
towardses her mariage fortie ma'r'kes Thene I will that the  
said Thomas Yarde and other hereboue namyd paye ymedatelye  
85 after my deceas to the mariage of my said Cosyne xxxli  
of my Cattell and shepe to be soulded, except my Oxene  
and kyene and wether shepe, my debtes paide my legacies  
fulfilled. And thene the residue of all my goodes before  
not given nother bequest, I give and bequeathe to my  
90 brother John Holbeme of Cornhill and [            ], whome I make  
my Executours, to execute this my will. By me John Holbeme  
of Holbeme.

PROBATE: 15 November 1549\*

b. "said" is interlinear.

(f.328r-f.328v)  
WILL 27

<sup>1</sup> Feast of St Michael, September 29, to Roodmas Day,  
May 3.

\* The will was presented by David Clapham, procurator,  
and the administration was granted to the executor  
nominated in the testament.

A side-note to this will dated 4 June 1553, states  
the remaining unexpended portion of the estate is to  
be disposed of according to the wishes of the testator;  
assumably this means it is to be given to Holbeme's  
brother and executor John Holbeme, the other executor  
remains unidentified.

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(f.328v-f.330r)  
WILL 28 - WILLIAM AWBREY

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xij<sup>ti</sup> daie of the monith of  
August in the yere of oure lorde God, a Thousande five  
hundred fourtie and Nyne, And in the thirde yere of the  
reigne of our most dreade soueraigne lorde Edwarde the  
5 Sixte by the grace of God kinge of England Fraunce and  
Ireland, defendoure of the faithe and in earthe of this  
churche of Englande and Irelande supreme hedde. I William  
Awbrey<sup>1</sup> of Canforde in the Countie of Dorset Esquier,  
being of hole mynde and of good memorie, Thankes be givene  
10 to Almightye God, make ordeyne and declare this my present  
Testament and last will in maner and forme hereafter  
foloweth. *In primis* I bequeathe and recommede my soule  
vnto Almightye God, and to Jesu Christe his sonne by whose

(f.328v-f.330r)

WILL 28

merittes and blessed passion<sup>e</sup> I am redymed and made the  
 15 childe of saluacion, and my bodie to be buryed in suche  
 parishe church<sup>e</sup> nexte adioyninge vnto the place where  
 it shall please Almightye God to call me oute of this  
 worlde and vale of miserie vnto his grace and marcie,  
 And where my frendes shall think yt convenient for my  
 20 said buriall. Also I will that my debtes whiche I owe  
 or that canne be iustelye proued to be my debtes or may  
 appere to be by me owinge to anny person<sup>e</sup> at the tyme  
 of my deceas be in delayedlye before all my bequestes,  
 giftes and grauntes in this my presente testament and  
 25 last will hereafter particlerlie conteyned, by myne  
 Executours contentid, satisfied and paide. Item I  
 bequeathe vnto the highe Aulter of the parishe church<sup>e</sup>  
 of Canforde aforesaide for tithes and oblacion<sup>s</sup> by me  
 negligentlie withholden and forgotten in discharge of  
 30 my Conscience iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>. Also I will that myne Executours  
 here vnder written do ordeyne or cause to be ordeyned  
 agaynst my buryall daye suche lightes and other Ceremonyes  
 as may stande and be not repugnant vnto the kinges graces  
 proceedinges<sup>2</sup> in that behalf. Item I will that my Chayne  
 35 of golde<sup>3</sup> whiche is worthe fourtie poundes sterling be  
 solde, and the money therof commynge to be disposede  
 emongst the poor people and other deades of Charitie,  
 being not repugnant vnto the kinges graces proceedinges  
 vpone the daye of my buryalle, that they may praye to  
 40 God for my soule and all christen soules. Item I will  
 that of the money commynge of my saide Chayne, twentie  
 nobles to be dolte amonges the poor people vpone the daye  
 of my burialle aforesaide, resortinge thene vnto the same  
 in penny doole yf so mayne powre people<sup>a</sup> resorteth vnto  
 45 the same. Also I wille that there be given to five of  
 the next parishes adioyning vnto the place of my saide  
 buriall euerie of them vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>, and the same money to  
 be given, disposed and deuided vnto the powrest people  
 in euerie of the said parishes dwelling or inhabitinge,

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a. f.329r begins.

(f.328v-f.330r)

WILL 28

50 And I wille that there be likewise delte emongest the  
 powre prisoners remayninge in thre of the next common  
 prisons adioyninge vnto the saide parishe of Canforde  
 xxxs, equallie to be deuided emongest theyme. Also I  
 will and charge my saide Executours vnder writen as they  
 55 will aunswere before Almightye God, that they give, dispose  
 and also distribute the rest of my saide Chayne, the  
 legacies before expressed, performed and fulfilled, thone-  
 half or parte therof in Shirtes and Smockes to the powre  
 people, And thother half or parte therof to poore maydens  
 60 Mariages, and abowte the mending of highe wayes at my  
 Mannour of Dawley<sup>4</sup> within the parishe of Harlington in  
 the Countie of Middelsex next adioyning vnto my saide  
 manor there. Also I wille that Alice<sup>5</sup> nowe my wife and  
 sometyme the wyfe of Thomas Lister<sup>6</sup> late of the towne  
 65 of Sowthampton, his debtes being first and principally  
 paide, deducted and allowed, haue all and singuler all  
 suche goodes stuf of howseholde plate and redie money  
 as she the saide Alice brought with her vnto me at the  
 tyme of oure mariage withoute anny dymynisshing therof.  
 70 And further I will and bequeathe vnto the foure Children  
 of John Awbrey my brother, that is to saye William Awbrey,  
 Mary Awbrey, Henry Awbrye and Cecely Awbrye one hundreth  
 poundes of good and lafull money of Englande, and all  
 my plate whiche I hadde before the mariage made betwene  
 75 me and the saide Alice my saide wife, whiche plate ys  
 worthe by Estimacion one hundreth poundes or theire abowtes  
 vppon this condicion that the said foure Children and  
euery of them be brought vp vertuouslye vnto they or euerye  
 of them be of thage of xxj yeres or elles married, and  
 80 then theire saide portions to be equallye deuided and  
 delyuered vnto theme, bothe in money and plate. And my  
 will is that yf anny of the said iiiiij or Children, that  
 is to saye William, Marye, Henrye and Cicelye happenith  
 to decease at anny tyme before their seuerall ages of

(f.328v-f.330r)  
WILL 28

85 xxj<sup>ti</sup> yeres or mariages, That then I will that the saide  
money and plate of him, her or theyme so decessinge before  
thage aforesaide and vnmarried shalbe equally deuided betwene  
hime, her or them then lyving or married. Also my will  
ys that my saide brother John Awbrey haue the saffe  
90 Custodye of the said money and plate by me as before is  
saide vnto his saide foure Children given and bequeathed,  
the said John, first bynding hym self his heyres,  
Executours and assignes by his deade obligatorie in the  
some of ffive hundreth markes of good and lafull money  
95 of Englande vnto thourseers of this my Last will and  
testament vnder writen with condicion endorsed, that he  
his saide heires, Executours and assignes, shall well  
and truely paye and deluyer vnto his saide foure children  
the said money and plate accordinglye, as I haue willed  
100 and assigned vnto them and every of them as is before  
expressed withoute annye defrauding of them or either  
of them. And if yt happen all the said foure Children  
to deceasse before their saide Ages or mariages, Then I  
will that the saide legacies and euery parte therof shall  
105 remayne to suche other Childe of my saide brother John  
thenn lyuinge. Also I will and giue vnto Thomas Awbrey  
my base sonne and not melior [sic]<sup>b</sup> begotten, my lease and  
terme of yeres, whiche I haue yet to come in my farme  
of Chawndwiche<sup>7</sup> in the Countie of Wiltshire, The whiche  
110 I haue and enioye by the demyse and graunte of Sir William  
Compton<sup>8</sup> knight and Warboroughe<sup>9</sup> his wife late deceased,  
with the stock of five hundreth wether shepe, and one  
hundreth of Ewe shepe and xv kyene, with all suche stuf of  
householde of myne as shall happen there to remayne in  
115 the mansion howse at the tyme of my deceas with all my  
other Coppiholdes there and in Westknyale holden of the  
Mannor of Chawndwiche according to the tenueres of my  
copies there (my saide wyfes widowes estate in the same

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b. this is probably a scribal error, and should read "mulier".

(f.328v-f.330r)

WILL 28

copie holdes onelye excepted and to her reserued). And  
 120 I will that the saide Thomas Awbrey shall enioye no parte  
 of my saide Legacie to hyme by me as is afore bequeathed  
 before his age of xxj<sup>ti</sup> yeres or mariede. And duringe  
 and contynuyng the mean tyme, I will and also my wille  
 ys that myne executours hereunder written shall haue and  
 125 perceyue to thuse of the saide Thomas, the profittes of  
 the saide farme and stocke of Cattall, and with parte  
 therof to bringe vp and fynde the saide Thomas, and the  
 residue of the profites of the saide farme and stocke  
 of Cattalle commynge to preserue and kepe to thuse of  
 130 the saide Thomas, and to make vnto hyme accompte therof  
 at suche tyme as he shall come to his saide Age or mariage,  
 and thene the same ouerplus to delyuer vnto hym. And  
 further I will and my will is, that yf in case the saide  
 Thomas Awbrey happen to deceas and departe this presente  
 135 worlde at annye tyme before his saide age of xxj yeres  
 of mariage That thene all the saide stocke of shepe and  
 Cattall with the household stuf thene remayning vpon the  
 said farme of Chawndwiche, savinge and reseruinge all  
 suche stocke of Cattall as I shall hereafter give and  
 140 bequeathe vnto my seuerall seruauntes, I give and bequeathe  
 vnto the saide four Children of my said brother John,  
 that is to saye William, Marie, Henry and Cicelye and  
 the same to be to thene delyuered vnder manner and forme  
 and at the tyme as I before haue givene vnto thene their  
 145 former legacies and bequestes. Item I giue to Lovell  
 Sargeante my seruaunte of the stocke of Cattall of  
 Chawndwiche aforesaide if it chaunce the saide Thomas<sup>C</sup>  
 Awbrey to deceas before the tyme aboue lymitted and  
 prefixed three kyene, and besides that one gelding at  
 150 thappoyntement of my brother John Awbrey, Also to Thomas  
 Synger my seruaunte of thee same stocke three kyene, and

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 c. f.329v begins.

(f.328v-f.330r)  
WILL 28

likewise one gelding at thappoyntment of my saide brother  
John, And to John Hichecocke of the same stocke three  
kyene. And likewise I giue to John Kelley my seruaunte  
155 of the same stocke other three kyne, And also Richarde  
Hodgekyns of the same stock iij kyne. Item I giue to  
Mawde my woman seruaunte foure poundes of money towards  
her mariage. And where William Kyrton<sup>10</sup> Alderman of London  
together with other by theire obligacion standith bounden  
160 vnto me, myne heires, Exécuteurs and assignes to paye  
yerely vnto me and myne Assignes for certeyne yeres yet  
to comme xxiiijli at two termes in the yere, as appereth  
by the same Obligacion, of the whiche xxiiijli I giue  
and bequeathe as hereafter folowith particlerlye. That  
165 is to saye I giue and bequeathe to the saide Louell  
Sargeante my seruaunte iiijli of money, And to Thomas  
Synger my seruaunte other iiijli of money with lyuerye  
to eche of theme yerely as longe as the saide some of  
xxiiijli is payable and no lenger. Item I giue to Phillipe  
170 Gybbes and John Kelley to eche of them xls yerely to be  
paide oute of the saide xxiiijli, And Richarde Hodgekyns  
xxs to be perceued and paide likewise oute of the saide  
xxiiijli, as Longe as it is payable. And my will is that  
the saide Lovell Sargeante and the saide Thomas Synger  
175 my seruauntes shall haue the saide iiijli of money euerie  
of them yerely as ys aforesaide, yf they be willinge to  
do seruice and be in seruice with my saide brother John  
Awbrey duringe and contynuyng the terme of yeres for  
the payment of the saide xxiiijli as is aforesaide, after  
180 my deceas and beinge aydinge vnto hyme in all his lafull  
busynesses and causes, asmuche as in theyme maye be, and  
no otherwise. And yf the saide Lovell Sergeante and Thomas  
Synger or eyther of theyme be not disposed to serue, but  
refuse to contynue in seruice with my saide brother John  
185 Awbrey, and seke other prefermente and seruice, That then  
I wille that he or they bothe so refusinge shall haue

(f.328v-f.330r)  
WILL 28

oute of the saide xxiiijli but onely xls a pece, and the  
 residue of the said iiijli to surcesse and no farther  
 to be payde to theym or either of theym. And I will that  
 190 if in case the saide Lovell Sargeante and Thomas Synger  
 dothe contynne in seruice as before ys saide, the said  
 terme of payment of the saide xxiiijli beinge expyred,  
 That thene the said Louell Sargeante, Thomas Synger,  
 Phillipe Gybbes, John Kelley and John Hichecocke shall  
 195 haue and perceaue their seueralle porcions of money by  
 me to theyme given oute of the overplus of all my Cattall,  
 that I haue not before given at Chawndwiche, Westknoyle  
 and at Maydon Bradley during their naturalle Lyves.  
 And all the Residue of all and singuler my goodes and  
 200 Cattalles by me before not givene nor yet bequeathed,  
 I give and bequeathe vnto the saide foure Children of  
 my said brother John Awbrey and to suche other as God  
 shall sende hyme hereafter, yf all the said iiij children  
 do decease as is before expressed to theme and to euerie  
 205 of theym to be delyuered vnder manner and forme as I haue  
 before assigned and lymitted their legacies by me to  
 theym given as is aforesaide. And of this my presente  
testament and last wyll, I do make, name, ordeyne and  
 210 Constitute the said Alice my wyfe my soole Executrix,  
 vnder this condicione that she, her heyres, Executours  
 and assignes with sufficient shuerties with her within  
 the terme of one monithe nexte after my decease be bounden  
 in one Obligacion in the some of fyve hundreth pundes  
 to my brother John Awbrey aforesaide, and the ouerseers  
 215 of this my presente testament and last wyll hereunder  
 named and to their heyres, Executours and assignes for  
 the true performaunce of this my presente testament and  
 last will in all thinges. And if in case the saide Alice  
 my wife dothe refuse so the be bounden<sup>11</sup>, or by anny  
 220 other fraude or wayes refuse to take vpon her the Exercucion  
 of this my presente testament and last will, and the same

(f.328-f.330r)

WILL 28

will renunce, Then my will is that vpon suche refusall  
 made by her she be not my Executrix, but by this my  
 presente testament and last will I do reuoke her for myne  
 225 Executrice, and by the same I do name, ordeyne and  
 constitute the saide John Awbrey my brother my soole  
 Executour. And the same John, his heires, Executours  
 and assignes to be bounden vnto my saide Ouersears, their  
 heyres, Executours and Assignes for the true performance  
 230 of this my saide testament and last will in all thinges  
 as the saide Alice my wife shulde haue bynne bounden,  
 yf she hadd taken vpon her thexecucion of this my saide  
 testament and last wille. And of this my presente test-  
 ament and last wyll, I make and ordeyne Master Richarde  
 235 Trencharde of Wolton in the Countie of Dorsett Esquyer,  
 and my Cosyne Thomas Alforde<sup>12</sup> of Mere in the Countie of  
Wiltshire Clothier and Nicholas Mayott Citizene and  
 marchant Tailor of London<sup>d</sup>, and to euery of them for their  
 paynes in this behalf to be takene, I giue and bequeathe  
 240 xxs yerely to be to theim and euerie of theyme paide oute  
 of the saide xxiiijli payable as is aforesaide, during  
 and contynuyng the saide terme of yeres. In witnes wherof  
 I haue subscribed this my presente testament and last  
 wille with myne owne hande and set to my Seale the Daye  
 245 and yere above written in the presens of Robert Goode,  
 Christofer Hoole and Christofer Rochelle. By me William  
 Awbrye, *per me Robertum Goode notarium publicum, per me*  
*Christoferum Hooke, per me Christoferum Rochelle<sup>e</sup>.*

PROBATE: 11 November 1549\*

d. part of a sentence or line has been omitted in the M.S., assumably these men were to be the overseers of the will.

e. f.330r begins.

(f.328v-f.330r)  
WILL 28

<sup>1</sup> Awbrey had been the bailiff of six properties to Sir William Compton, at a yearly fee of 40s. Having arranged for a Royal Commission into the activities of the bailiff of the crown's manor of Canford, Dorset Awbrey himself was appointed bailiff of these royal lands (1536). In 1540 he received the lease of Christchurch Priory, jointly with Wroithesley.

Awbrey had made enough contacts in Dorset by 1542, to be elected to Parliament as the representative of Weymouth. When appointed a subsidy commissioner in 1545, his personal land holdings were assessed at £26 13s 4d. William Awbrey died 4 September 1549, having recently remarried, but leaving no legitimate offspring.

Bindoff, S.T. The House of Commons, I, p. 348-3498.

D.N.B. - Aubrey; Lehmborg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry ViIII, p. 207.

<sup>2</sup> It is curious that after a firm statement of Protestant faith, a belief that only Jesus Christ was the Saviour, Awbrey still requested 'suche lightes and other Ceremonyes as may stand and be not repungrant vnto the kinges graces proceedings'. The royal injunctions issued by Edward VI (31 July 1547) had made it clear 'from henceforth no torches nor candles, tapers, or images of wax to be set before any image or picture, but only two lightes upon the high aultar before the sacrament'. Clearly it was hard for old habits to die.

Tudor Royal Proclamations, 287.

<sup>3</sup> It is notable that the chain was valued at £40, twenty times the yearly fee he had received as Compton's bailiff, it provided a generous amount to bequeathe to charity.

(f.328v-f.330r)  
WILL 28

- 4 Although it is not specified in Awbrey's will, his brother John inherited from him the family estate of Dawley manor in the parish of Harlington, Middlesex, (that Awbrey had inherited from his father). This was doubtless in accordance with the will of their father, as Awbrey had no legitimate heir. John was 42 at the time he succeeded his brother.  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons I, pp. 348-349.
- 5 Alice Awbrey was the second wife of William Awbrey. They had not long been married; she was to marry a third time.  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons pp. 348-349.
- 6 Thomas Lister was mayor of Southampton 1527-1529, he died January or April of 1549.  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons pp. 348-349;  
The Lisle Letters ed Muriel St Clare Byrne, vol. 1, 163.
- 7 It is interesting that Awbrey specified Thomas was his 'base' son. This is no indication of the remaining length of the lease, however it had been in the hands of Awbrey for at least 21 years at the time of his decease. Chawndwich (Chaddenwicke) was one of Compton's six properties that had been under the bailwick of Awbrey.
- 8 The only son of Edmund Compton of Compton, Warwickshire Compton's career began as a page to Prince Henry (later Henry VIII), a position that was to lead to a long and close association between the two. When Henry became king (1509) Compton's rise was prominent: groom and chief gentleman of the bedchamber, Constable of Sudley and Gloucester castles, he was knighted

(f.328v-f.330r)  
WILL 28

by the King at Tornay (1513) and later appointed Chancellor of Ireland. A rival of Wroithesley, Compton was a gentleman of the Privy Council with informal control over the privy-purse receipts and payments, he also acted as Keeper of the King's Jewels. Compton died of the 'sweating-sickness' 30 June 1528. Having variously served as sheriff of the counties of Worcester, Hampshire, Somerset and Dorset, Compton left property in eighteen countries to his only son, a ward of Wroithesley, who dies while still a minor but himself left a son who was created Baron Compton by Elizabeth.

When Compton's will was probated,

Sir Henry Guildford, Kinght [sic] of the Garter and Controller of the Kings House, declared in the open Parliament, of his fidelity, that he and other being executors to Sir William Compton, Knight, paid to the Cardinal and Archbishop of Canterbury, a thousand Markes sterling.

It was complaints of excessive fees, such as this one, that effected the passage of the 1529 act which regulated probate and mortuary fees.

Acts of the Court of Mercers' Company, p. 764; D.N.B. - Compton; The Lisle Letters, ed. Muriel St Clare Byrne, Vol. 1, pp. 22, 488-489; vol. 2, 285, 317, p. 503; Richardson, W.C., History of the Court of Augmentations, p. 351, 353, 452; Fox, J., The Second Volume of the Ecclesiastical History: Contain- ing the Acts and Monuments of Matyrs. The Company of Stationers' (London) 1684. p. 207.

9

Compton married the widow of Sir Francis Cheyney, Werburga the daughter of Sir John Bereton. Within a year after Compton's decease, Werburga had obtained a license to marry Walter Walsh of the Privy Council. D.N.B. - Compton.

(f.328v-f.330r)  
WILL 28

10 There is no record of a William Kyrton as an alderman of London at any time during the 1540's or 1550's. There was however a Stephen Kyrton (a Merchant Tailor of London) who was elected alderman of Cheap Ward 26 March 1549; he died August 1553 and was buried at St Andrew Undershaft, Aldgate. It is probable that part of a line has been omitted by the scribe, and it should have read William [ ] and [ ] Kyrton.

Beaven, A.B., The Aldermen of the City of London, I, p. 101; II, p. 32, 171;

Stow, J., A Survey of London, I, p. 145, 151.

11 Perhaps Awbrey had an idea she would be unwilling to accept the responsibilities of executrix, for Alice did make use of this clause and his brother John acted as his executor. See probate note.

12 He is possibly a brother or son of John Alford (a former servant of the Marquess of Exeter) who represented Bridport, Dorset in parliament, November 1554.

Bindoff, S.T. The House of Commons, I, p. 305.

\* The right of administration was granted to John Awbrey, the executor nominated.

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(f.330r-f.330v)  
WILL 29 - EDWARDE STEWARDE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The viij<sup>th</sup> daie of Marche in  
the yere of our lorde God a Thousande fyve hundreth  
fourtie and eight [1549], And in the thirde yere of the  
reigne of our soueraigne Lorde King Edwarde the Sixte.  
5 I Edwarde Stewarde Citizeine and Sadler of London being  
in perfyte mynde and memorie, knowing that I ame naturally  
borne and ordeyned to dye and to depart from this mutuab  
lyf and transitorie, mynding to put in order aswell of  
my landes, tenementes and hereditamentes, as of my move-  
10 ables and other my goodes and Cattalles to thintent there  
shalbe no variaunce nor stryfe for the same after my  
deathe I therefore do first of all, after thankes giving  
vnto God for his greate benifites, I desire my Children  
and all other my frendes to be contented and satisfied  
15 with this my last will and testament withoute any trubble,  
busynes or vexacion of anny of theyme against other,  
for any of my landes or goodes<sup>1</sup>. And therefore Avoyde  
all occasions, I do revoke and renounce all former willes  
and testamentes heretofore by me made or hereafter to  
20 be made by worde wryting or otherwise, I do make ordeyne  
this my very true<sup>a</sup> Last will and testament, concernynge  
aswell my landes, tenementes and hereditamentes as of  
any other goodes and Cattalles in maner and forme folowing.  
First I bequeathe my soule vnto Almightie God, and to  
25 his onely sonne Jesus Criste and to the Holy Gost, three  
persones and one god, most humble besching the most  
blessid and holly Trinitie to haue mercie vpon my soule,  
And to pardone and forgive me my synnes, so that after  
this mutuab lyf I may aryse with thelect and haue  
30 eternal lyfe and fruicione of the godhed, according  
vnto my true faithe in that behalf. Item I will that  
my bodye shalbe buried within Cristes churche of Kinge  
Henry theightes last fowndacion within the crosse of  
the late desolved howse of Graye Fryers by Newgate in

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a. M.S. blurred.

(f.330r-f.330v)  
WILL 29

35 London <sup>2</sup>, in the Chapell of the northeside of the yelde  
of the same church. As as for the disposicion of my  
Goodes, Cattalles and debtes, I will to be in manner  
and forme folowing. That ys to saye, ffirst I give and  
bequeathe to my brother Robert Steward all suche somes  
40 of money as he owithe me by anny maner of meanes, that  
is to saye vpon a bille obligatorie fyftey poundes,  
and vpon a Taile betwene hyme and me Seaven poundes.  
Item I giue and bequeathe to Grace Steward Twentie markes,  
to be paide within one monithe after my deceas. Item  
45 I bequeathe to William Sampson xiiijli vjs viiijd to be  
paide at suche type as he shall come oute of his yeres  
of Apprenticeness, And his Master who soeuer yt shalbe,  
to haue thoccupyng of the same xiiijli vjs viiijd vntill  
the same tyme, putting in suerties to my Executours for  
50 the discharge of the same. And if the saide William  
Sampson dye before he come oute of his yeres, that then  
I will that the saide money shall goo to Annys and  
Elizabeth Stewarde systers to Grace Stewarde, to be  
equally deuyded, and either of them to be others heyre.  
55 Item I give and bequeathe to the said Annys and Elizabeth  
Steward everie of them xls a pece, to be paide at the  
daye of their mariages, and either of them to be others  
heire. Item I bequeath vnto John and William Howman  
either of them xls a pece, and either of them to be others  
60 heyre, and yf bothe fayle their mother to haue their  
partes. Item I bequeathe to John Stewarde all suche  
some of money as he owith me by any manner of meanes,  
except Twentie poundes, Soo that the saide John Steward  
within thre monithes after my decease do make an estate  
65 in fee symple to my heires, of all suche landes and  
tenementes as he hath in Dagnam in the Countie of Essex.  
Item I giue to my brother John Stewarde two sonnes James  
and John Stewarde to euery of them xls a pece and either  
of them to be others heire. Item I giue to Master

(f.330r-f.330v)  
WILL 29

70 Vandernott and his wyfe either of them a blacke gowne.  
Item I giue to my brother, Robert Stewarde and to his  
wyfe vnto either of theme a blacke gowne. Item I giue  
and bequeathe to Robert Molding myne owne blacke mornyng  
gowne. Item I giue and bequeathe to Gilbert Pennington  
75 my ffoxfured gowne. And for these and all other my  
legacies to be performyde and done, I will that ymmediatlye  
after my deceas, all my goodes Cattalles and debtes shalbe  
praysed by indeferent perones, and equally to be deuided  
by them in three equall partes, wherof I will that the  
80 first parte shalbe bestowed vpon my buriall and funeralles  
charges, in paying my debtes and legacies an in performyng  
of this my last wille and testament. And thother two  
partes I will and bequeathe vnto my three doughters Agnes,  
Fraunces and Marione, to be equally deuided betwene them,  
85 And every of them to haue porcion like. And as towching  
my Last will and testament of all my landes and tenementes  
and other the heriditamentes that I haue within this  
Realme of Englande, I will to be in maner and forme  
folowing, that is to<sup>b</sup> saye, ffirst I bequeathe to Edwarde  
90 Skott my godsonne all that my landes and tenementes called  
Leverlandes and Whites lying in the parishe of Stifford,  
lying vnder the hill next vnto my new house in Stifford  
parishe called Bartors and Forgers, to haue and to holde  
to hyme and his heyres of his bodye laufully begotton.  
95 And for defaulte of suche issue I will it remayne to  
my three doughtours Agnes, Fraunces and Mariane, and  
to their right heires for euer. And the residue of all  
my Landes and tenementes, I giue and bequeathe theme  
vnto my saide three doughters Agnes, Fraunces and Mariane,  
100 equally to be deuided, to haue and to holde to theme  
and to the heires of their bodies begotton. And if  
anye of them dye withoute issue of their bodies laufully  
begotten, then I will the saide landes and tenementes remayne

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b. f.330v begins; this folio is quite blurred.

(f.330r-f.330v)

WILL 29

105 to suche heyres of the said Agnes, Fraunces and Mariane  
 as shall survive and have yssue of their bodies laufully  
 begotten. And yf all my said daughters dye withoute  
 issue of theire bodies laufully begotten, Thene I will  
 the saide londes and tenementes remayne to my brother  
 110 Robert Steward and his right heyres forever. And after  
 my bodey buried, after the laudable custome of Crist  
 Church, and the charges of my funerall borne and sustayned  
 of my goodes and Cattalles, money, plate, Implementes  
 and householde stuf, over and above the charges of the  
 saide funerall, and all other my goodes and debtes what-  
 115 soever they be hereunto my Last will anexed, I commytt  
 theme vnto the discrecion of myne Executours to dispose  
 for the helthe and welthe of my soule, Whome I ordayne  
 and make William Skott, Richard Adams and Averie Michell  
 for to be my Executours, dispersers<sup>c</sup> and fulfillers of  
 120 this my last will and testament. And Robert Stewarde  
 to be supervisour of this my wille and testament. In  
 witnes whereof this for to be my last will and testament,  
 I haue subscriybed this with myne owne customed marke,  
 and set to my seale in my howse by Newgate in the presens  
 125 of Robert Mowlding, Gilbert Pennyngton and Thomas Mvcklock  
 Citizeins of London. Prouided always that in stede of  
 the feoffment of Master Avery Michell ad Marion my  
 daughter, my two children to wite Agnes and Fraunces  
 shall take and receave for out so moche in my moveable  
 130 goodes and other lande not infeffied, as the said Michell  
 and Marion feoffment commith to, before the said Michell  
 or Marion or their heires or Executours shall haue  
 receavyd anny parte or porcion of this my last will and  
 testament, any thing to the contrarie notwithstandinge,  
 135 *Datum xv Septembris Anno tercio Regis.* Edwardi vj<sup>ti</sup> per  
Vander Noot, per Gilbert Pennyngton, by me Thomas Mowtlowe.  
 Item I giue and bequeathe to Aguestas Howman vj<sup>li</sup> xiijs  
 iiiijs to be paide within two monithes after my decease.  
 Item I give and bequethe to Ambrose Beckwith wife xls to  
 140 be paide within two monithes after my decease.

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c. "er" of "dispersers" is blotted over.

(f.330r-f.330v)  
WILL 29

PROBATE: 14 November 1549\*

1

It is interesting that Steward apparently expected his will to be contested, however the will was proved in the P.C.C. within two months after the codicil was added to this testament.

2

The church of Grey Friars was valued at £32·19s. at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries (1536); initially built c.1325, it was used as a storehouse 1536-1547. On 13 January 1547,

an agreement was made betwixt the King and the Mayor and the Commualty of London: dated the 27 of December: by which the said gift of the gray Fryers church, with al the Edifices and ground, the Fratrie, the Library, the Dortar, and Chapter-house, the great Cloystry and the lesser: tenements, gardens, and vacant grounds, Lead, stone, Iron, &c., Hospitall of S.Bartholomew in westsmithfield, the church of the same, the lead, belles and ornamentes of the same Hospital, with al the Messuages, tenements and appurtenances, the parishes of S. Nicholas, and of S. Ewin, and so much of S. Pulchers parish as is within Newgate, were made one parishe church in the Grey Fryers church and called Christes church founded by Hentry the 8.

Stow, J., A Survey of London, I, p. 319.

\* Administration of the testament was granted to the executors nominated in the will.

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(f.330v-f.331r)  
WILL 30 - MATHEWE PRICE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The vij<sup>th</sup> daye of Januarie the  
yere of our lorde God A Thousande fyve hundreth xlvij<sup>ti</sup>  
[1549], And in the secounde yere of the Reigne of our  
Soueraigne Lorde Edwarde the sixte by the grace of God  
5 kinge of Englande Fraunce and Irelande, defendour of  
the faithe and in eyrthe supreme hed of the churche of  
Englande and Irelande. I Mothewe Price of Kingeston  
vpon Themyse in the Countie of Surrey barbor, being of  
hole mynde and in good and perfytt remembraunce Lawde  
10 and prayse be vnto God, make and ordeyne this my present  
testament conteynynge herein my last will in maner and  
forme folowing. That is to wite, ffirst and principally  
I commende my soule to Almightye Jesu my maker and redemer  
in whome and by the merites of whose blessid passion  
15 ys all my hole truste of clere remission and forgiveness  
of my synnes, And my bodie to be buried in the church-  
yarde of Kingeston aforesaide onn the Southe side of  
Saynte James chauncell. Concernyng the disposicion of  
all my landes and tenementes with woodes, medowes pastures,  
20 Comons, Rentes and seruices with all and singuler their  
appurtenaunces sett lying and growing within Greate Marlow  
in the Countie of Buckingham, As also in Kingeston vpon  
Themyse, within the Countie of Surrey, And in Fyvelde  
Nevell within the Countie of Dorsett or elles where  
25 within the Realme of Englande, I will and bequeathe them  
to Joane my wyf during hir naturall lyfe, and she to  
fynde sufficient reparacions in and vpon the same so  
often as nede shall requyre without any wast or spoyle  
made therof by the said Joane or her assignes during  
30 her Lyfe. And after the deceas of the saide Joane my  
wife, I giue and bequeathe all my saide londes and  
Tenementes in Greate Marlow and Fivelde Nevell aforesaide  
to Nicholas Price my sonne and to his heyres foreuermore.  
And I giue and bequeathe the said landes and tenementes  
35 in Kingiston aforesaide to John Price my sonne and to

(f.330v-f.331r)  
WILL 30

his heyres foreuermore, excipting and reseruyng a litle  
Tenement Joyning to my house vpone Clattring Brige whiche  
I will and bequeathe vnto Mathew Price my godsone, sone  
of Nicholas Price, after deceas of Joane my wife. Also  
40 I will and bequeathe to Nicholas Price and John Price  
my sonnes aforesaide vjli xiijs iiijd equally to be <sup>a</sup>  
deuded betwene them. Also I will that Mathew Price  
my godsone aforesaide to haue likewise iiijli vjs viiijd,  
to be paide in maner and forme folowing. That is to  
45 saye, Nicholas Price to be paide in contenant after my  
deceas the saide three poundes vjs viiijd of good and  
laufull money of England, And the saide John Price to  
be paide after my deceas vpon a reasonable request at  
any tyme during the lyfe of Joane my wyfe, so that he  
50 be a good and natural childe vnto his mother, And thother  
iiijli vjs viiijd aforesaide to be paide to Mathewe Price,  
my godsonne aforesaide at the age of xviiij yeres. Also  
I will that Joane my wyfe shall haue all the ymplementes  
and necessaries within my shoppes pertyning to thoffice  
55 of a barbor<sup>1</sup> during her wedowhode, but if it fortune  
Joane my wyfe to marye agayne after my deceas, thene  
I will that Nicholas my sonne shall haue all the  
ymplementes, within the shoppe in the market place and  
all other necessaries to the barbors occupacion therein  
60 conteyned. And that John Price like wyse shall haue  
all the necessaries of thoffice of a barbor within my  
shoppe of my dwelling howse vpon Clattrynge Bridge.  
Also I will that yf the saide John fortune to dye, that  
Mathewe Price my godsonne shall haue all the necessaries  
65 for the barbors occupacion within the shope of my dwelling  
howse aforesaide. Also I will that Nicholas and John  
aforesaide, shall haue all my Apparell and garmentes  
equally to be deuded betwene them. Also I will that

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a. f.331r begins.

(f.330v-f.331r)  
WILL 30

whosoeuer dothe inherite my said landes called Blomuttes  
 70 Ferme, yerely shall giue a thousande of byllett to poore  
 folkes in Marlowe. Also I will and bequeathe to every  
 of my godchildren named Mathewe xijd, and to the other  
 viijd. Also to poor folkes in Kingeston at my burying  
 to be paide by Joane my wyfe xxs. Also I give and  
 75 bequeathe yerely during the lyfe of Joane my wyfe, to  
 the repayring of Clattring Bridge ijs. The residue of  
 my goodes Cattalles and debtes, after my debtes paide  
 and my funerall expences performyde, I giue and bequeathe  
 to the saide Joane my wyfe to her owne proper vse, the  
 80 whiche Joane my wyfe of this my presente testament, I  
 make and ordeyne my sole executrix. And for the execucion  
 of the same, I make and ordeyne my trustie frendes  
 Ouerseers John Tyngilden of Reygate<sup>2</sup> gentilman, William  
 Russell and Nicholas Price of Kingeston, and they to  
 85 haue for their paynes, fyve shillinges A pece. In wytnes  
 wherof, I the said Mathew to this my presente testament  
 and last wille haue set my seale, yoven the daye and  
 yere abovesaide. Also I bequeathe vnto Mawde wife vnto  
 Nicholas Price Tene shillinges And vnto Annys Wolpyt  
 90 my seruante vjs viijd. Also witnesses vnto the sealyng  
 hereof Mathew Price the sonne of Nicholas Price and  
 Nicholas Andrew, by me George Snellyng, per me William  
 Russell, by me Laurence Snelling, per me Nicholas Price.

PROBATE: 20 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> The barber was initially a practitioner of surgery and dentistry, a member of the Company of Barber-surgeons incorporated by Edward VI in 1461. Henry VIII restricted the barbers to the practice of dentistry, altering the title of the company to the Company of Barbers and Surgeons.

(f.330v-f.331r)

WILL 30

2 Possibly a lawyer, Tyngilden (Tingleden) was of gentle birth; he had inherited property in Southwark and Reigate, Surrey. In 1547 he followed the example set by his father and grandfather, and sat in Parliament, he was the member for Gatton. A Protestant, Tingleden died 1551, his will opening with a long preamble expressing his faith in God and the holy Trinity.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, I, p. 468.

\* The will was presented by John Tyngilden, procurator, and the right of administration was granted to the widow as nominated in the will.

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(f.331r-f.331v)

WILL 31 - SIR WILLIAM GYFFORD

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xv daie of June in the yere of our lorde God A Thousande fyve hundreth fourtie and Nyne, And in the thirde yere of the reigne of our soueraigne Lord Kinge Edwarde the Sixte. I Sir William  
 5 Gyfford knight sicke of bodye and in good Remembrance do make this my last will and testament in maner and forme folowing. First I bequeathe my soule to Almightye God etc, And my bodye to be buryed in the Church of Crundalle. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto Joane my wiffe  
 10 in Redy money Twentie markes and her Chamber that is to saye, two fetherbeddes, two bolsters and two Couerlettes with all other thinge Apperteyning to the same beddes.

(f.331r-f.331v)

WILL 31

Item I giue and bequeathe vnto Jerom Gyfford my sonne  
 Twentie poundes. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto my  
 15 daughter Alice Gifforde in redye money Tene poundes.  
 Item to my goddaughter Barbarow Poulet one Cowe. Item  
 to my sonne Haydocke a gelding called Cawdledunne. Item  
 to my daughter Mary one Cowe. Item to my godsonne William  
 20 Burte vjs viijd, And to my godsonne William Wolneryche  
vjs viijd. Item to Cecelly Haydocke one Cowe. Item  
 to Agnes Grover one Cowe. Item I giue vnto euery one  
 of my seruauntes aswell men as women ther quarters wages  
 after this quarter. Item to John Preston vjs viijd.  
 Item to Robert Bartlett vjs viijd. Item to Edward Dorye  
 25 a wanyer Calf. Item I giue to the boxe for pour people  
vjs viijd. Item the residue of all my goodes, my debtes  
 and legacies paide, and my will performyd, I frely give  
 vnto my sonne Rycharde Gyfford whome I ordeyne and make  
 my full and sole Executour of this my last will and  
 30 testament, after my deathe to dispose for the welth of  
 my soule as he shall thinke best at his discrecion.  
 Item I will that my Nephue [       ] Kingsmyll<sup>2</sup> shalbe  
 the overseer of this my wille, And I giue to hyme for  
 his paynes A nagge. These witnesses Thomas Playfayre  
 35 clerk, John Wolneryche, Roger Mason with other moo,  
 William Gyfford<sup>a</sup>

PROBATE: 21 November 1549\*

a. f.331v begins.

<sup>1</sup> This is probably the parish church of St Mary Crundale  
Cassell's Gazetteer.

<sup>2</sup> It is possible that this is the same Kingsmill  
 mentioned in Will 13 (see f.n. 1).

(f.331r-f.331v)  
WILL 31

\* The probate court granted the right of administration  
to Richard Gifford.

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(f.331v)  
WILL 32 - RYCHARDE JONES

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. This is the Tenour, effect  
and purpourt<sup>t</sup> of a Nuncupative testament<sup>1</sup> and last wille  
spoken, expressed and declared the xxij daye of July  
in the yere of our lorde God a Thousande five hundreth  
5 xlix<sup>ti</sup>, being the thirde yere of the Reigne of our most  
excellent soueraigne lorde Edwarde the sixte by the grace  
of God, kinge of Englande Fraunce and Ireland, defendour  
of the faithe, and of the church of Englande and also  
of Irelande supreme hedde. By Rycharde Jones<sup>2</sup> gentilman,  
10 late Scholemaster of Paules Schole<sup>3</sup> in London. Thane  
being weke and sycke in bodye but of good and perfit  
mynde with discrecion and Remembraunce, who perceyving  
Elizabeth his wyf then being present with hyme in his  
Chamber within his mansion house of the Scholemaster  
15 of Poules<sup>4</sup> lamenting the greate paynes and longe sicknes  
with the saide Richarde her husbände susteyned by occasion  
of a phiver quartyne<sup>5</sup> thene Reyning in his bodye, willing  
thene to declare, dispoase, make and ordeyne who should  
be his Executrix and howe his goodes shulde be dispoased,  
20 ordered and given after his lyfe, said thus to his said  
wyfe, Woman morne no more, for yf I shulde dye of this  
disease thowe shalt be rydd of moche payne that nowe  
thowe takest with me. But whatsoeuer shalbe cume [sic]<sup>a</sup>  
25 of me (quod he) all that I haue I give yt nowe to thee  
to do withall what thowe wylte, and order yt as thowe  
wilt, for I make the my soule Executrix, and giue the

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a. This should read "shal becume"

(f.331v)  
WILL 32

all, myne Children<sup>6</sup> (quod he) be oute of the worst thowe  
 shallt not care for them, which wordes, in effect the  
 saide Richarde departed and eftesones recougnysed, the  
 30 v<sup>th</sup> daye of October last past. Being present at the  
 premisses and the same respectively hering, Master James  
 Jacobe and Denys his wyfe<sup>7</sup>, Elizabeth Toy wyfe of Robert  
 Toye<sup>8</sup>, Anne Dockweray wyf of Master Thomas Dockwrey<sup>9</sup>,  
 Alice Campion wyfe of Edmond Campion<sup>10</sup>, Rendalle  
 35 Birchinshaw, Kateryne Mutton and other moo.

PROBATE: 21 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> An oral will made before witnesses, a nuncupative will is written down after the decease of the testator. The fact that the will was neither written down nor signed by the said testator prior to his death does not make the will any less valid. The most important aspect of the document is that all the witnesses present agreed the will accurately recorded the clear intention of the testator, as to the disposition of his goods and property after his death. This was, in fact, the way most wills were made until the fourteenth century.

<sup>2</sup> Richard Jones is undoubtedly the same person as Mr Johns, the schoolmaster of St Paul's School and cousin of Richard Pygott, mentioned in will 16. The schoolmaster for seventeen years, following the departure of Ritwise in 1532, Jones has been described as an 'inadequate master' because no Greek was taught at St Paul's while he was master.

Simon, J., Education and Society in Tudor England, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1966, p. 96.

(f.331v)  
WILL 32

3 Not to be confused with the Cathedral School at St Paul's, St Paul's School was founded by Dean Colet in 1512 (although the foundation date has been disputed, this date is agreed by Stow, I, p.330 and Statutes of St Paul's School), following the inheritance of a number of landed estates on the death of his father Henry Colet, late a mercer and mayor of London. The school was situated near Bell Yard in the churchyard,

the Estende of Paulis Church for cliij to be taught fre in the same, And ordeyned ther a Maister and a Surmaster and a chapleyn with sufficient and perpetual stipendis euer to endure, And sett patrones and defender governours and Rulers of that same Scole the most honest and faithfyll felowship of the mercers of London

(Stow, I. p. 330). The children were to attend school at 7am until 11am, and 1pm to 5pm - winter and summer - when they would learn Greek and Latin as well as acquire a sound christian education to put into practice later in their lives, for Colet had been influenced by Erasmus's Christian Humanism.

Caspari, F., Humanism and the Social Order in Tudor England Teachers College Press (New York) 1968 pp 52-54.

Clessy, D., Education in Tudor and Stuart England. Edward Arnold (London) 1975. pp. 47-51;

Lupton, J.H., A Life of John Colet. The Shoe String Press (Connecticut) 1961. pp. 273-281;

Simon, J., Education and Society in Tudor England p. 80;

Stow, J., A Survey of London, I. p. 330.

4 Aside from a wage of 13s. 4d. a week (£34 13s. 4d. a year) and an annual allowance of 4 nobles for a gown, the high master had a residence provided for him.

(f.331v)  
WILL 32

The surmaster was to receive 6s. 8d. a week and a livery gown valued at 4 nobles, while the chaplain was to receive £4 a year and a livery gown of 26s. 8d. Clessy, D., Education in Tudor and Stuart England pp. 47-451;  
Lupton, J.H., A Life of John Colet pp. 273-281.

A quartan fever, characterised by a paroxysm every fourth day (when reckoned inclusively).

O.E.D.

6 Doubtless the children mentioned in will 16: Quynntyne and Bessie. The fact he describes his children "be oute of the worst" may indicate he considered them old enough to fend for themselves, in any case he named his wife sole beneficiary and executrix.

7 A surmaster of the grammer school of St Paul's, where he had been apprenticed by 1532 (B.A. 1528, Oxford), James Jacob was the second husband of Denys. The daughter of William Lily, the first high master of St Paul's, Denys (Dionysia) was first married to John Ritwise - a grammerian who was appointed surmaster of St Paul's in 1517 and became high master on Lily's death in 1522. Considered unsettled, Ritwise was removed from his position in 1531, and is assumed to have died by 1532 as Denys married James Jacob that year. Jacob died 16 January 1560, buried in St Augustine's Church by St Paul's Cathedral, with "xx clarkes syngynge ym to the chyrch".  
D.N.B. - Lily, Rightwise; Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540 p.314.

(f.331v)  
WILL 32

8 Robert Toy had established a printing press at the sign of the Bell in St Paul's Churchyard by 1541. It was from this press he issued a Prymer of Salisbury Use (1541), Three Godly Sermons (1546), Mathew's folio bible (1551), Commonplaces of Scripture (1553), and a reprint of Thynne's edition of Chaucer's works (1555). Toy died February 1556 and his funeral on 12 February was attended by members of the Stationers' Company (which he helped establish but did not live to see incorporated), who were paid 20s. by his widow Elizabeth.

Elizabeth Toy continued the business, gaining a license to print ballads (1557-1558, jointly with John Wally) and a Latin Catechism (1558-1559), until her son became a freeman of the Company of Stationers' 11 March 1558. When she died in 1568, Elizabeth bequeathed £4 to the Company of Stationers.

Blagden, C., The Stationers' Company: A History 1403-1959. George Allen & Unwin (London) 1960, p.41.

D.N.B. - Toy; A Transcript of the Registers of the Company of Stationers of London, ed E. Arber, I, p. xxxiii, 35, 39, 46, 49, 75-75, 84-85, 94-95, 104, 130.

9 The first master of the 'Mystery of Art of Stationery' of the city of London, following the request of printers, publishers and booksellers to be incorporated during the reign of Mary, Thomas Dockwrey was a proctor of the Court of Arches (see will 20, probate note). Although he was twice master of the Company of Stationers, 9 December 1554 to 18 July 1557 and 19 July 1557 to 9 July 1558, Dockwrey was neither a printer or publisher; however while

(f.331v)  
WILL 32

residing in Warwick Lane he owned property in Paternoster Row where many stationers and text-writers dwelled.

Dockwrey contributed 40s. to the benevolence collected towards the incorporation of the Stationers' Company and later paid for a new glass window in the Stationers Hall (1556). On his death in 1559, his widow Anne paid 20s. to the Company of Stationers (though this was not specified in his will). Thomas Dockwrey was to be buried near his pew in St Faith's Church London, situated within St Paul's, the parish church of the Company of Stationers'.

Blagden, C., The Stationers' Company: A History 1403-1959, p. 34. A Transcript of The Registers of the Company of Stationers of London, ed E. Arber, I, p. xxviii, xxxiii, xxxvi, 33, 49, 60, 84-86, 103; Stow, J., A Survey of London, I, p. 338.

- 10 Considering the occupations of the other witnesses, it is quite likely that Edmond Campion was a bookseller in London, a possibility substantiated by the fact that at this time the principal place of business for London booksellers and printers was situated in St Paul's Churchyard, close to Richard Jones' residence and school. Assuming that Campion was a bookseller, it is probable that he and his wife Anne were the parents of the Jesuit Edmond Campion, who studied at Oxford and Douay before returning to England (1580) to be executed 14 November 1581. In 1550 Campion is listed as one of the printers of Newes from Rome concerning the papisticall Masse.

(f.331v)  
WILL 32

D.N.B. - Campion; Stow, J., A Survey of London, II,  
p.281; A Short-Title Catalogue of Books Printed  
in England, Scotland, & Ireland, and of English Books  
Printed Abroad, 1475-1640. 2 vols compiled by A.W.  
Pollard & R. Redgrave

\* The administration of the will was granted to  
Elizabeth, the widow, as nominated in the testament.

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(f.331v-f.332r)  
WILL 33 - JOHN SALESBURYE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The thirde daie of Nouembre  
in the yere of our Lorde God a Thousande fyve hundreth  
xlix<sup>ti</sup>, And in the yere of the reigne of our Soueraigne  
lorde Edwarde the sixte, by the grace of God kinge of  
5 Englande Fraunce and Irelande defendour of the faithe,  
and of the churche of Englande and Irelande supreme hedd,  
the thirde. I John Salesburye<sup>1</sup> sonne to Sir Thomas  
Salesburye<sup>2</sup> knight whole and of perfytt memorye and mynde,  
but sicke in body do make my last will and testament  
10 in maner and forme folowing, That ys to saye, ffirst  
I bequeathe my soule vnto Almightye God, and my bodye  
to be buried in the whitte churche before the highe  
Aulter there. Item I do bequeathe all my landes vnto  
Robert Salesburye my sonne lafullye begotten betwixt  
15 me and Agnes Salesburie my wyfe<sup>3</sup>, whiche is my yonger  
sonne of the two Robertes<sup>4</sup>, and to theires of his bodie  
lafullye begotten, and in defaulte of heires of his body

(f.331v-f.332r)

WILL 33

laufully begotten, vnto Thomas Salesburye my sonne and  
 to theyres of his bodye lafullie begotton, And for defaulte  
 20 of heyres of his bodie laufully begotten vnto Foulke  
 Salesburye my sonne and to the heyres of his bodye laufully  
 begotten, And in defaulte of heyres of his bodie laufully  
 begotten vnto Robert Salesburye my sonne and to theyres  
 of his bodye laufully begotten, And in defaulte of heyres  
 25 of his bodye laufully begotten to John Salesburie my sonne  
 and to theyres of his bodye laufully begotten, and in  
 defaulte of heyres of his bodye lafullie begotten vnto  
 Henry Salesburye my sonne and to theyres of his bodie  
 laufully begotten, And in defaulte of heyres of his bodye  
 30 laufuly begotten vnto the right heyres of me the saide  
 John Salesbury. Item I do bequeathe vnto Sir William Ap  
 Harry clerk fyve poundes. Item I do bequeathe vnto Sir  
 William Bayne clerk xls. Item I do bequeathe vnto Sir  
 Robert Ocley<sup>a</sup> clerke xls. Item I do bequeathe vnto Sir  
 35 Robert<sup>5</sup> Irelande clerk xls. Item I do giue my horse to  
 Peyrs Dryhurste. Item I do giue my gelding Glace Morices  
 vnto John Kenerycke with xls of money. Item I do giue  
 my cuttyd gelding vnto Foulke Fletcher with xls in money.  
 Item I do giue one of my Coltes that ys in Kylforne to  
 40 Gruffith Abergeley, and I doo<sup>b</sup> forgiue him vijli xs vijd  
 that I shulde haue of him. Item I do give to Ris Tailour  
 my seruaunte thother Colte that is in Kylforne and xls in  
 money. Item I do giue to John the page xls of money.  
 Item I giue to Master Justice Townesende<sup>6</sup> the greate  
 45 Ambelynge geldinge that I hadd of Euaun of Jell, and I  
 desire him to be good vnto my wyfe and Children. Item  
 I do giue vnto my lorde president my owne white Ambelynge  
 gelding that I had of the heire of Lleweny<sup>7</sup>. Item I do  
 give vnto the bisshope of Sainte Assaphe<sup>8</sup> my iiij mares that

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a. M.S. has "Oocley" with the "O" scratched out.

b. f.332r begins.

(f.331v-f.332r)  
WILL 33

50 be in Mylewicke Parke. Item I do make my lorde president  
and my lord bisshope of Saint Assaph ouerseers of this  
my last will and testament, And I do leve in my Coffers  
in golde and siluer Sixe hundreth poundes with my Cheyne  
and Crosse, And also in thandes of the receavor two and  
55 fiftie poundes, of the whiche Sixe hundrethe poundes and  
two and fiftie, I do giue my wyfe Agnes Salesburye Two  
hundreth markes, And the rest to Foulke Salesburie my sonne  
whome I do make my sole Executour and he therwith to fulfill  
this my last will, and to kepe my children, as I do put  
60 my truste in hyme, and as he shall aunswere therfore.  
And all other my debtes specified in my bookes and in  
obligacions and all my termes and farmes, I will to be  
deuyded in three partes wherof one parte I giue and bequeath  
vnto Agnes Salesburye my wyfe. The seconde parte to Fulke  
65 Salesbury my Executour. And the thirde parte amonge all  
thother of my children bothe boyes and wenches. And  
fynallye I forgive all the worlde that haue trespaced  
agaynste me and I beseche all the worlde of forgeuenes.  
These being witnes of this my testament and last will  
70 Mawryce Byrchinsha prest, William Bayne vicare of Denbighe  
and Robert Ocley chapleyne

PROBATE: 21 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> Although of English origin, the Salesbury family had settled at Llewenny several centuries before their support of the Tudors brought them the dominance over local affairs they enjoyed during the late fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Bindoff distinguishes this branch of the family, claiming their surname was spelt 'Salusbury', though in this will it remains 'Salesbury'.

A fourth son, Salesbury was found a place in the royal household at an early age. A groom of the chamber,

(f.331v-f.332r)  
WILL 33

Salesbury succeeded his father as forester and master of the game in the lordship of Denbigh (1506) and later became the constable of Conway Castle in Caernarvon (1526). Following the decease of his brother Roger, Salesbury acted as the head of the family until his nephew came of age. As such he purchased the offices of steward and 'custos rotulorum' of the lordship of Denbigh, the profits of which made him the wealthiest man in Denbighshire. For a subsidy, Salesbury's lands were valued at 300 marks annually and his goods at 440 marks annually.

By 1535 Salesbury was a member of the council of Ireland, having captained 250 soldiers in the suppression of the Geraldine rebellion the year before. With the passage of the act for the union of England and Wales, Salesbury was appointed chancellor and chamberlain of the new shire of Denbigh (the 1536 Act of Union created Denbighshire as one of the four new shires of Wales), and became a baron of the Exchequer at Denbigh. Elected the first Knight of the Shire for Denbigh, Salesbury attended the Parliament of 1542. Though Bindoff was unable to find a date for Salesbury's decease, this will clearly places it in November 1549.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, I, pp. 274-275, III, pp. 263-264;

D.N.B. - Salisbury; Lehmborg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry VIII, p. 49, 132, 210.

2 Knighted at Blackheath and steward of the lordship of Denbigh, he died in 1505.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, p. 263.

3 Bindoff has no record of Salesbury's wife, although he has assumed him to be married.

(f.331v-f.332r)  
WILL 33

- 4 This example clearly shows that primogeniture was not always followed.
- 5 Robert Cowley was Clerk to the Crown in Ireland (1536). The Lisle Letters, ed Muriel St Clare Byrne, v.3, p.486.
- 6 This is possibly Sir Roger Townsend (younger), who was thrice sheriff of Norfolk, and twice pricked for Norfolk - in 1529, and again to the same Parliament as John Salesbury (1542). Townsend died 1551. D.N.B. - Townsend; Lehmborg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry, p. 9, 129, 131.
- 7 The eldest son of Sir Roger Salesbury, Sir John Salesbury was knighted 22 February 1547 (thus distinguishing himself from his uncle) and held a number of offices including: sheriff of Denbighshire 1541-1542, 1574-1575; Justice of the peace for Denbighshire 1543-1578; receiver for the Court of Augmentations (later the Exchequer) 1547-1568. Salesbury followed his namesake as knight for the shire, for Denbighshire, in the Parliaments of 1545, 1547, (Oct) 1553, (Apr) 1554, (Nov) 1554, 1558; Bindoff notes 'he was not among the Members who were noted as having "stood for the true religion", that is, for Protestantism'. Having succeeded his father whilst still a minor (1530), Salesbury died 1578. Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, p. 264.
- 8 Elected bishop of St Asaph 8 June 1536, and consecrated the following 2 July, Robert Wharton was bishop of this see until he was translated to the see of Hereford, 1554. Educated at Oxford, B.Th. (1523) (rather than Cambridge, as suggested by D.N.B.), Wharton was a

(f.331v-f.332r)  
WILL 33

Benedictine monk who became abbot of Bermondsey, Surrey, 1525 - a Clunaic monastery - until its dissolution in 1538. Wharton received a sizable pension of £333 6s.8d. Wharton died 22 September 1557.

D.N.B. - Wharton; Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540, pp. 608-609.

\* Fulk Salesbury was granted the administration of the will.

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(f.323r-f.333v)  
WILL 34 - GYLES FORSTER

IN NOMINE DEI AMEN. The xvij daye of July in the thirde yere of the Reigne of our Soueraigne lorde Kinge Edwarde the sixt by the grace of God kinge of Englande Fraunce and Irelande defendour of the faithe, and of the church

5. of Englande and also of Irelande in earthe the supreme hedde. I Gyles Forster<sup>1</sup> of Balsall in the Countie of Warwicke Esquier, of good and perfyte mynde, and also in bodely helthe thanks be to Almightye God. And for as moche as I nowe at the presente tyme intend (God willing) to set forwardes

10 to serue the kinges Maiestie in his viage and warres against the Rebellyous and inobedient subiettes within this his Realme, vnlawfullie assembled, And in somoche as the chaunces of warre Are doutfull, daungerous and vncertyne, therefore I do ordeyne, and make this my present will and

15 testament in this manner and forme folowing. First I bequeathe my soule to Almightye God my saviour Christ Jesus, And to the merites of his moste glorious passion, thorough the intercession of his blessid mother Saynt Marie,

(f.331v-f.332r)  
WILL 34

and all the holly companye in heaven. And my bodye to  
 20 be buried, there where yt shall please the goodnes of  
 God to ordeyne my chaunce to dye, where and in suche place  
 as shalbe deuysed by suche friends as then shalbe abought  
 me. Also I bequeathe tenne poundes to be dalte in Almes  
 emonges poour folkes aboute Balsall after my deathe at  
 25 the discrecion of myne Executours, to praye for me. Item  
 I bequeath to my brother Sir Homfrey Forster knight<sup>2</sup>, A  
 ringe and my flaggen for swete waters. Item I giue to  
 my Nephue William Forster my yonge baye stoned hors, And  
 I give to my Nephue John Forster my sorell balde gelding.  
 30 And I giue to my brother Charles all suche myne Apparell  
 as shalbe thought mete for hyme to weare at the discrecion  
 of myne Executours, and a gelding. Also I will that all  
 suche my householde seruauntes as shall go furthe with me  
 in this journey and escape with their lyves shalle haue  
 35 their hole yeres wages, for this present yere. And further-  
 more I will that whene my sonne and heire William Forster  
 shall come to full age of xxj<sup>ti</sup> yeres, that thene he to  
 enter into his Lande, yf it fall. And further I will that  
 he the same William Forster shall haue the profyttes of  
 40 the half of my ffarme of Balsall during my yeres, to be  
 taken to his most avauncement and profytt, by and at the ouer-  
 sight of my brother Anthony Forster and my brother William  
Wigston Esquiers. And if he the same William Forster happen  
 to dye before thende and full terme of the saide lease,  
 45 then I will my sonne Thomas, And for the lacke of hyme  
 my sonne Anthonye to enyoie the same half farme of Balsall  
with thissues and profyttes of the same thenn growen, in  
 lyke maner as my sonne William sholde haue had, yf he  
 had lyved. And I will that my saide sonnes Thomas and  
 50 Anthonye shall haue to either of theme a hundreth poundes  
 to be paide by Katheryne<sup>4</sup> my wyfe and my sonne William,  
 oute of my saide farme when they shall come to lafull Age<sup>a</sup>.

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a. f.332v begins.

(f.331v-f.332r)

WILL 34

And if it shall fortune either of them to dye before they  
 shall come to lafull age, then I will that the survivor  
 55 of theym shall haue the hole, that is to saye, the saide  
 two hundreth poundes. Provided alwayes that if it shall  
 fortune the saide half farme with the meaneprofyttes growen  
 therof to come to my saide sonne Thomas, by and after the  
 deathe of my saide sonne William, thene I will that my  
 60 saide sonne Anthony shall haue the saide hunderth poundes,  
 whiche before is given to my sonne Thomas ouer and besides  
 the saide hundreth poundes whiche ys gevyne to hyme the  
 same Anthony. And I bequeathe to John Forster whiche is  
 with my brother Anthony fourtie poundes, And I will that  
 65 he shalbe honestly kept, brought vp and instructed in  
 vertuous maner during his yougthe at the costes and charges  
 of my wyfe, And when he shall come to his full age of xxj<sup>ti</sup>  
 yeres, then I will that my wyfe shall delyuer vnto hyme  
 the saide xlli at the oversight of my saide brotherne  
 70 Anthony Forster and William Wygston. Also I giue to my  
 brother Thomas Forster a blacke Cote laide with parchement  
 lace, a playne blacke satten dublet and one of my shyrtes.  
 Item I giue to my brother John Hygforde my blacke damaske  
 gowne. Further I will that Katheryn my wife shall haue  
 75 and enyoie thother half of my lease and farme of the Maner  
 of Balsall with thappurtenaunces during my terme and yeres  
 therin. And in case my saide wyfe happen to Marye and  
 then chaunce to dye before thende and terme of my saide  
 lease, thene I will that my sonne and heire that thene  
 shalbe lyvinge shall haue, holde and enyoie to hym and  
 80 to his assignes all the saide ferme of Balsall with  
thappurtenaunces after the forme and effecte of myne  
 Indenture to me therof made during the yeres and terme therin  
 conteyned and specified. And also I wille that my wyfe  
 shall haue all other my tactes and leases that I haue  
 85 elsewhere in any other places. Item further I will that  
 if it happen my saide wyfe to dye, my sonne and heire then

(f.331v-f.332r)  
WILL 34

lyvinge and beinge within Nonage, thene I will that my  
said brother Anthony and my brother William Wigston shall  
haue and occupie the saide farme of Balsall to the vse  
90 and profitt of my sonne and heire then lyvinge till he  
come to his full age of xxj yeres. And if he my saide  
sonne and heire happen to dye before my saide lease shalbe  
expired, then I will that my brother Anthony and my brother  
Wygston shall haue, occupie and enyoie the saide ffarme  
95 of Balsall according to my lease that I haue therin during  
my terme to thuse of my next child and heire. Also I will  
that all suche landes and tenementes, that I haue purchased  
within the lordeship of Balsall, shalbe equally deuided  
by surrender vnto my sonnes Thomas and Anthony, and to  
100 their heyres after the custome of the Manor of Balsall.  
Item I will that my sonne William Forster shall haue a  
hundreth poundes over and besides the tene poundes bequethed  
hyme by his graundefather Roger Wigston<sup>5</sup> late of Wolston  
esquier. Item I bequeath to my prest at Balsall Sir Richard  
105 Aplebye iiiijli vjs viijd to praye for me. Item I bequeathe  
to my brother Anthony Forster Tene poundes, And to my  
brother Wyllyam Wygston tene poundes. The residue of all  
my goodes, plate, Jewelles and Cattalles not given and  
bequeathed by this my presente laste wille and testament,  
110 after my debtes paide and my funeralles deducted, I do  
giue to Katheryne my wyfe. And I do make myne Executours  
my brother Anthony Forster and Katheryne my wyfe to execute  
and performe the contentes of this my last will. And to  
thentent that this my present testament maye be suerly  
115 and effectuouslye executyd and performyd, I do make myne  
Overseers of the same my brother Sir Homfrey Forster knight  
and my brother William Wygston Esquier. In witnes wherof  
to this my present last will and Testament I haue subscribed  
my name in the presens of William Wigston Esquier, Richard  
120 Aplebye and Richard Tomasson clarkes - and John Peyrte  
yoman.

PROBATE: 21 November 1549\*

(f.332r-f.333v)

WILL 34

<sup>1</sup> In drawing up his testament, Forster had begun with a staunchly Catholic introduction. One of the lesser gentry who undertook to suppress Kett's rebellion in Norfolk, Forster gave his life in service to the crown. The fact that his will is dated 17 July 1549, some three weeks before Warwick received orders to 'lead the shires of Cambridge, Bedford, Huntingdon, Northampton, and Norfolk' (10 August: State Papers: Domestic, v. VIII, p.21), indicates Forster had other business to attend to. Although Kett's rebellion and the Western Rebellion are by far the best known disturbances of 1549, a year of widespread civil unrest, there were numerous other riots in Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Suffolk to name a few. Indeed, according to Beer, in Warwickshire itself there were reports (July) that the commons of the county - aided by the servants of the gentry - "'began to stir" and planned to "spoil the town of Warwick".' It is therefore probable that when Forster referred to suppressing rebellious and inobedient subjects of the king who were unlawfully assembled, he was referring to the unrest in his home county.

Forster, and other gentry from surrounding counties, took their followers and served without pay under the leadership of Warwick, to augment the 5,431 troops already on the crown's payroll and control the rebels in Norfolk. According to the burial records of the parish church of St Simon and St Jude's in the centre of Norwich, Giles Foster of Warwickshire and several other gentlemen were buried there, having been killed in the fighting. There can be no doubt that this is the same man, but as Forster was not listed among the six gentlemen killed at the decisive battle of

(f.332r-f.333v)  
WILL 34

Dussindale (August 27) it is possible Forster was killed the day the troops entered and held the city of Norwich (August 24), especially as one of the three main points the rebels chose to fight the king's troops that day was at St Simon and St Jude's on Elm Hill.

Beer, B.L., Riot and Rebellion: Popular Disorder in England during the reign of Edward VII. Kent State University Press (Baton Rouge) 1982, pp. 127-135; Calendar of State Papers: Domestic, vol. VIII, p.20; Cornwall, J., Revolt of the Peasantry: 1549. Routedledge & Kegan Paul (London) 1977, p. 210, 234; Land, S.K., Kett's Rebellion: The Norfolk Rising of 1549, The Boydell Press (Ipswich) 1977, p. 112,123.

2 One Sir Humfrey Foster was a prosecutor of heretics under Henry VIII, in particular against Robert Testwood. Fox, J., The Acts and Monuments of Martyrs, p. 457.

3 The eldest son of Roger Wigston, William followed his father into public service but remained far more involved at a local level. Married to Elizabeth Peyton in 1536, he was pricked for the borough of Leicester in 1539 (while his father sat in the same Parliament, for Coventry), and for the knight of the shire for Leicester 1554 and 1555. Knighted in 1553, Wigston became the first recorder for Leicester when the office was established in 1554, not surrendering it until 1572, Wigston died 27 September 1577 and was buried in Wolston Church.  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, pp. 613-614.

4 The daughter of Roger Wigston, Katherine was the widow of Thomas Warren when she married Forster; after his decease Katherine married Edward Aglionby (prior to

(f.332r-f.333v)  
WILL 34

March 1554), taking with her half Forster's former estate at Balsall. From the time of his marriage, Aglionby was known as Aglionby of Temple Balsall and London, though Forster had provided for her estate to revert to his heir if she died before the term of the lease ran out.

Katherine received regular payments of £3 6s. 8d. at the feast of St Micheal, the Annunciation of Our Lady and Easter, and Michelmás 1550, from Peter Temple the bailiff of the lords of Dasset (who owned most of the land surrounding lands), possibly for rent. A similar payment was made to "Mr Forster" in 1549.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, I, pp. 297-298.

Warwickshire Grazier and London Skinner 1532-1555; the account book of Peter Temple and Thomas Heritage.

Oxford University Press (London) 1981. p. 159, 161, 163. Alcock, N.W.

- 5 Recorder of Coventry 1524-1541, Roger Wigston came from one of the leading merchant families of Leicester for much of the previous century, who placed importance on public service (his father was twice mayor of Leicester) and Roger was no exception. He began his career in the Company of the Staple, producing and buying wool for export - an interest he maintained throughout his lifetime - and held several offices within the company. At the age of 30 years, Wigston entered the Inner Temple to study law.

Receiver-general of the wards 1518-1520, Wigston also served on Wolsey's commission on enclosures (doubtless an extention of his own interest in producing wool), and was j.p. for the counties of Stafford, Worcester, Gloucester, Hereford, Warwick and Cheshire. During 1533 he was a member of the Council in the Marshes; a member of Parliament on numerous occasions, he was

(f.332r-f.333v)  
WILL 34

pricked for Leicester 1523, and successively for Coventry from 1529 (in association with his role as recorder for the city). Wigston died 27 November 1542, and was buried at Wolston, Leicester.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, III, pp. 315-316; Phythian-Adams, C., Desolution of a City: Coventry and the urban crisis of the late Middle Ages. Cambridge University Press (Cambridge) 1979, p.257, 258n., 262, 269.

- \* Anthony Forster and Katherine, the widow, were granted the right of administration. Anthony Forster, procurator, presented the will to the probate court.

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(f.332v-f.333r)  
WILL 35 - JOHN SMYTHE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The vj<sup>ti</sup> daie of July in the yere of our lorde God A Thousande five hundreth fourtie and Nyne, And in the thirde yere of the Reigne of our soueraigne Lorde Kinge Edwarde the sixte. I John Smythe of the parishe  
5 of Snave in Rolmneys Marshe in the Countie of Kent, being sicke in bodie but of good and perfytt remembraunce (thankes be vnto God) make and ordeyne this my last will and testament in maner and forme folowing. That ys to saye, ffirst I bequeathe my soule vnto the mere mercie of Almighty  
10 God thonly Refuge and succoure of all soules helthe, And my bodye to be buryed in the churche or churche yarde of Sanve [sic] ther where myne Executor shall appoynte the same. Item I wille at my buryall suche Ralyf and Comforte to be done and bestowed vnto power people as shalbe thought

(f.332v-f.333r)  
WILL 35

15 mete and convenient by myne Executour, And also in like  
case at my monethes daie. Item I bequeathe vnto the common  
chest in Snaue, there comonly callyd the poore mens boxe  
for the sustentacion, comfote and relyfe of the powre  
people iijs iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item I will that Margaret my wyfe shall  
20 haue to her and vnto her only vse, the hole profyttes of  
all my landes and tenementes lyinge in the parishe of Snaue  
and Rockyndge and of vj Acres<sup>a</sup> in the parishe of Wychurche  
[ sic ] during her life keeping the same withoute stryppe  
or waste, wyndetight and watertight with sufficient closure  
25 and paying the rentes and ste[n]ttes due oute of the same.  
And after her decease, I will that Bartylmew Bamlett my  
brother to haue all and singuler the saide Tenementes and  
landes with there Appurtenaunces to hyme and to his heyres  
for ever. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto Margaret my wyfe  
30 four kyene indifferently sortyd to be delyuered vnto her  
ymediatlie after my deceas. Item I giue vnto my saide  
wyfe fyve semys of wheate and five semys of Malte redye  
in the house, and thone half of my Corne vpon the grounde  
nowe growing, one yonge redde mare withoute Colte, and  
35 all my housholde not bequeathed with all the pultrye aboute  
the same, and xls of money towardses the reparations of  
the barne. Item I will that Margery Nores my seruaunte  
shall haue fyve parcelles of lande lyinge in the parishe  
of Ivychurche<sup>b</sup> aforesaide conteyning by estimacione xxij  
40 acres more or lesse, as mesures and boundes therof do appere,  
To her and vnto her heyres for ever. Item I giue and  
bequeathe vnto the saide Margery Nores three kyne, one  
blanket, one payre of shetes, one platter, one pewter dishe,  
and a sawcer. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto the saide  
45 Margery Nores the profettes and yerely money due to be paide  
and commynge oute of the landes of the heyres of John Austen  
of Tenterden (that is to saye) A certyne Annuitie for  
thirtie poundes of money therupon lyinge for so many yeres  
as the said money is vnpaide, And after it be fullye repayed,

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a. f.333r begins; the folio is quite blurred.

b. "Iv" of "Ivychurche" has been corrected from "W", see also l. 63

(f.332v-f.333r)

WILL 35

50 I will yt holy remayne vnto the saide Margery Nores<sup>1</sup> and  
 to her assignes forever. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto  
 Bartylmew Bamlett and Henry Bamlett my brothers vnto either  
 of them fyve poundes of money. Item I giue and bequeathe  
 vnto Bartilmewe Bamlett my said brother one cople of oxen,  
 55 A wayne, a ploughe and mete harnes vnto it. Item I  
 bequeathe vnto William Borne my seruaunte one Cowe, one  
 blanket, one payre of shetes, one platter, one pewter dishe  
 and a sawcer. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto John Colman  
 my seruaunte one two yereng hayfer. Item I bequeathe vnto  
 60 Joane Stock my seruaunte one Cowe. Item I giue and  
 bequeathe vnto the Reparacions of the high wayes  
 substancially to be mended, To begyne at the grete brode  
 lake next my mansion house, and so forthe towarde Ivychurch  
and at Pymiocke Bridge where most nede requyrethe Tenn  
 65 poundes of money to be ymployed by myne Executour and other  
inhabitanter therabowte. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto  
 Edwarde Godfrey of Snaue all my leases and the profettes  
 of my lease londes during the terme and termes of yeres  
 therof. All the residue of my goodes, my debtes, legacies  
 70 and bequethes fully contentyd and paide, I will yt be  
 deuided and given vnto the relyfe, comferte and helpe of  
 poor people within the parishe of Snaue aforesaide, or  
 other where there, where as most necessary and vrgent cause  
 and nede by povertie Requyrethe, the same in such sorte  
 75 as folowithe. That is to saye, to euery poor bodie being  
 in suche casse of necessitie knowen so to be by the  
 discrecion of myne Executour, and other honest inhabitanter  
 where suche power people shall fortune to dwell, to euery  
 suche bodye xxs of lafull money. Soo far as all and euery  
 80 of the same goodes will extende to be ymployed by myne  
Executour, to praye for my soule and all christen soules  
 departyd in the feithe of Jesu Christ. Item I will that  
 Edwarde Godfrey aforesaid shalbe myne Executour to execute  
 the hole contentes of this my last will and testament and

(f.332v-f.333r)

WILL 35

85 to haue for his paynes<sup>c</sup>, And Sir Geffrey Astley clarke  
to be myne Ouerseer to se this my last will and testament  
fulfilled and to haue for his paynes vjs viij<sup>d</sup>. Witnessith  
hereof Geffrey Astley clerke, John Foster, William Carter,  
John Ca'r'penter otherwise called John Vyncent and Edward  
90 Godfrey.

PROBATE: 29 November 1549\*

c. the legacy has been omitted by the scribe.

1 This is certainly a generous bequest to a servant.  
A legacy of twenty-two acres of land, an annuity of  
£30, and various household items would perhaps indicate  
that Nores might have been a relation, possibly one  
who had fallen on bad times.

\* Administration of the will was granted to Edward Godfrey,  
nominated executor in the testament.

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(f.333r-f.333v)

WILL 36 - WILLIAM LEGGE

IN THE NAME OF GOD SO BE YT. The vij<sup>th</sup> daie of the monethe  
of August, the yere of oure lorde God a Thousande fyve  
hundreth xlix<sup>ti</sup>. I William Legge of the parishe of  
Langstocke in the Countie of Southampton, make my last  
5 will and testament, in forme folowing. First I bequeathe  
my soule to Almightye God, and my bodye to be buried in  
the saide churchye yarde. Item I giue to the boxe of the

(f.332v-f.333r)

WILL 36

poore xij<sup>d</sup>. Item I giue to eiche of my godchildren one  
 bussell of barley. Also I give vnto Richard Legge my sonne  
 10 two kyene. Also I giue vnto John Legge Twentye markes  
 of good and lafull money to be paide by myne Executrix.  
 Item I giue to Agnes Warner one Cowe. Item I giue to Elyne  
 Hopkyne one Cowe. Item I giue to Robert Warner the childe  
 of Saunder Warner one bullock of thage of two yeres. Item  
 15 I giue to Isabell Legge my yongest doughter Twentie markes  
 to be paide by myne Executrix at the tyme of her marrage,  
 And if the said Isabell Dye before the saide tyme, that  
 thene the saide Twentie markes to remayne to myne Executrice.  
 Item<sup>a</sup> I giue to John Hawted fortie shillinges, also I  
 20 giue to the saide John Hawted foure Ewys shepe. Also my  
 Last will ys that Joane my wyfe shall enyoie the lease  
 of my ffarme for the tyme of her wedowe estate, and yf  
 the said Joane marie or dye before the yeres be expired,  
 that then the saide leas shall remaiyne vnto Richard Legge  
 25 my eldest sonne, And yf the saide Richard dye before the  
 saide yeres be expired, that then the said lease to remayne  
 to John Legge my secounde sonne. The residue of alle my  
 goodes moveable and vnmoveable, I giue and bequeathe vnto  
 Joane my wyfe whom I ordeyne and make my hole Executrix,  
 30 to bestowe my goodes for the welthe of my soule as she  
 shall seme best. And I make William Poore and Thomas  
 Hopkyn my ouerseers, and eiche of them to haue xij<sup>d</sup> for  
 theyr paynes. Witnes hereof Sir William Elmham<sup>e</sup> vicar,  
 John Wylde and Richard Hawle<sup>1</sup>.

PROBATE: 25 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> Richard Hawle (Hall) was vicar of Porchester, Hampshire, 8 October 1533 to September 1541, and possibly of Strathfield, Hampshire from 1554. He had been educated at Winchester College.

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540, p. 260.

(f.332v-f.333r)

WILL 36

\* Johanna, widow, was granted administration.

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(f.333v-f.334v)

WILL 37 - RICHARD RAUSON

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The Sev<sup>n</sup><sup>th</sup> daie of the moneth of  
 Januarie in the yere of our lorde God a Thousande five  
 hundreth xlvij<sup>ti</sup> [1549]. I Richard Rauson Clarke and  
 person of Alhallous<sup>1</sup> in Waynflete being of a good, full  
 5 and perfytt memorie, makes this my last Testament and will  
 bothe before God, man and all his Angles. That is to saye,  
 ffirst and formeste and aboue all other thynges, I will  
 and bequeathe wholy my soule to Almightye God redemer of  
 the same, for of hyme I receyved no lesse, that it may  
 10 haue his godlie fruitione even amongst all his other  
 sayntes, at what tyme yt shall please his bountiefull mercie.  
 Secoundlie, I will my bodye to be buryed in the myddes  
 of the highe queare of Alhallous aforesaide. Moreouer  
 I bequeathe to the common boxe xls of this condicion that  
 15 it be gevyne to the poor people within two yeres nexte  
ymmediatlie folowing. Also I bequeathe to the monasterie  
 of Lincolne<sup>2</sup> for the reparing of the same iijs. Item I  
 bequeathe to the refreshing of the prisoners there being  
ijs. Item I bequeathe to the waye eveyne betwixte chaple  
 20 and the churche for the repaying of the same xs. Item  
 I bequeathe to the highe waye betwixte the gote at  
 Northholmes end and William Sawers pastuer beyonde the  
 White Crosse iijs iiijd. Item I bequeathe to Richarde  
 Rauson my godsone and sone of John Rauson of Crofte xls  
 25 and to Grace his wyfe five shillinges, And to eueryone  
 of theire Children ijs. Item to Johane Westmelles my syster

(f.333v-f.334v)  
WILL 37

xxs, And to William Westmelles her husbonde vjs viijd.  
 Item I bequeath to Elizabeth Cowper my syster xxs, And  
 to John Cowper her husbonde vjs viijd. Item I bequeath  
 30 to Aliuson Drope my syster xxs, And to William Drope her  
 husbonde vjs viijd. Item I bequeathe to Heugh Wodrofe<sup>3</sup>  
 vjs viijd, and to his wyfe iijs iiijd, And to Dorethe his  
 daughter xxs. Item to Robert Grene of Thorpe my godsone  
 xls, And to Margarete his wyfe iijs iiijd, And to euey  
 35 one of his childeren ijs. Item I bequeathe to Christofer  
 Glen of Browghe my godsone xls, and to his wyfe iijs iiijd  
 and to euey of their childrene ijs. Item I bequeathe  
 to John Drope my god sone xls and to his wyfe iijs iiijd.  
 Also I giue to Thomas Rauson and Fraunces Rauson yonger  
 40 bretherne, John Grene, Laurence Grene and Richard Grene,  
 Alan Wodrofe, Thomas Wodrofe, John Wodrofe and Jasper Glen,  
 euey of thies yonger bretherne xxvjs viijd. Item I  
 bequeathe to euey yonge woman syster by consanguynitie  
 to anye of theis aforesaide bretherne xxs. Item I bequeathe  
 45 to Marten Grene and Agnes Grene childrene to the aforesaid  
 John Grene either of them ijs. Item to William Grene sonne  
 to the forsaid Richard Grene ijs. Item to John Ankinson  
 ijs. Item to William Melles ijs, to John Page ijs. Also  
 I bequeathe to William Die ijs, and to eiche of his children  
 50 xijd. Item I bequethe to Kateryne Gren wyfe to John Gren  
 ijs viijd. Item I bequeathe to Alen Wodrof wyfe ijs viijd.  
 Item to Margaret Gren wyfe to Laurence Gren xxd. Item  
 I bequeath to Marie Gren wyfe to Richard Gren ijs. Item  
 I bequeathe to William Rauson xvjd, and to his wyfe viijd,  
 55 and to eueye one of his children iiijd. Item I bequeathe  
 to Thomas Rauson xvjd, and to his wyfe viijd, and to euey  
 one of his children iiijd. Item I bequeathe to John Rauson  
 and to his wyfe viijd and to euey one of his children  
 iiijd. Item I bequeathe to Thomas Rausons wief of Orbie  
 60 vjd and to euey one of her children iiijd. Item I  
 bequethe to Henry Boner the senior xxd and to his wife

(f.333v-f.334v)

WILL 37

viij<sup>d</sup>, and to euey one of his children iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item I  
 bequethe to John Boner xij<sup>d</sup>, and to his wyfe viij<sup>d</sup>, and  
 to euey one of his childrene iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item I bequeathe  
 65 to Henry Boner Junior viij<sup>d</sup>, to his wife vj<sup>d</sup>, and to euerie  
 one of his children iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item I bequeathe to Aliuson  
 Philipson xij<sup>d</sup>, And to Mauld Maltbie xij<sup>d</sup>. Item I bequeathe  
 to Mastres Hubberd vjs viij<sup>d</sup>. Item I bequeath to Margaret  
 Wolbie iijs iiiij<sup>d</sup>, and to my hosties Spenser iijs iiiij<sup>d</sup>,  
 70 And to Emme Spenser xij<sup>d</sup>. Item I bequeathe to Thomas  
 Croker<sup>4</sup> vjs viij<sup>d</sup>. Item I bequethe to John Gybsone xij<sup>d</sup>,  
 to his wif viij<sup>d</sup> and to euey one of his children iiiij<sup>d</sup>,  
 to Margaret Broughton iijs iiiij<sup>d</sup> whene she hath paid all<sup>a</sup>  
 her rentes. Also to Walter Turner, his wyfe and all his  
 75 howse maine xx<sup>d</sup>. And to William Otware, his wyfe and all  
 his howse meanye xx<sup>d</sup>. And to the lame Pyper and his wyfe  
 xij<sup>d</sup>. And to Robert Westorme xij<sup>d</sup>. Also I bequeathe to  
 euey one of my god children not before named xij<sup>d</sup>. Item I  
 bequeathe to Master Walter Wodrof<sup>5</sup> my godsone xls, and  
 80 two of my best gownes, one for wynter a othe for Sumer,  
 and my best doblett. Item I bequeathe to Alan Wodrofe  
 my old wynter furred gowne, one clothe Jackett, and my  
 best hoose. Item I bequeathe to Thomas Wodrof his brother  
 my best shorte gowne, my gawberdine, my best ruffles Jacket,  
 85 my next best doblet, my redd peticote, my Silke hate, two  
 of my beste cappes, thone of veluet and thother of woll.  
 Item I giue to John Wodrofe ther brother my rughe furde  
 frese Cote, the whiche I wore euey daye, my olde blacke  
 gowne, my tawnye chamlet Jacket, one dublet, my worsted  
 90 hatte and my seconde veluet Cappe. I giue also to John  
 Otware my olde wynter frese Jacket. To John Olive iijs  
 iiiij<sup>d</sup>. And the residue of my apparell, I will it be given  
 to the poore. Item as concerning all my bookes, I giue  
 and bequeathe to Thomas Wodrofe (certayne excepted, whiche  
 95 shalbe named hereafter, and perseved for the vse of the  
common Scole of Wainflette), I giue hyme all this my bokes

a. f.334r begins; much of this folio is badly blurred.

(f.333v-f.334v)

WILL 37

of this condicion, that he ymploy his youthe yet thes three  
or foure yeres at least at Scole or Learnynge, for this  
intente that he may vnderstonde them more perfitely or  
100 more Clerelie, And in the meane seaso<sup>n</sup>e, I wille the most  
parte of them remayne and be kepte in the save custodie  
of my Executours for the same purpose, that they may delyuer  
the bokes to hyme whene he shalbe exercysede in learnynge  
and meyt for them, vpon the condicion that at the  
105 delyuerance of the foresaide bokes he shall paye to John  
Wodrofe his brother vjs viijd, And to Jeafray Dyer iiij s.  
Item I will and bequeathe to the common Schole of Waynflete  
theys bokes folowing, first Virgeill with the glose<sup>6</sup>, a  
olde Calepine<sup>7</sup>, one Valla<sup>8</sup>, and one boke intitелеde [Eaceab  
110 s\_\_\_\_\_e] poeta with other two moo being bokes of Philosophi,  
whiche whene they shalbe laide vpe in save custodie for  
the common schole. Item as towching the residue of my  
householde stuf and vtensilles, ffirst I bequeathe to Thomas  
Wodrofe my beste fetherbedd, my best bolster, my beste  
115 Couering, one payre of Blankettes, one paire of shetes  
of flaxen, my greatest pillowe and one lessemeyt for the bedd,  
one Cownter, one cheaste, one forme, one Carvide chaire,  
one brasse pott, one chafendishe, foure pewter dublers,  
ij more two less, and I will all theis be of the beste.  
120 Item I bequeathe to John Wodrof his brother my secounde  
fetherbedd, my secounde Couering, one bolster, one pillowe,  
one payre of shetes of flaxene, one Cownter, one cheste,  
one forme, one Carvied chaire, one brasse pott, one  
chaffendishe, foure pewter dublers two more ij lesse, I  
125 will all theis be of the nexte beste. Item I bequeathe  
to Dorothe their sister my thirde fetherbed, my thirde  
covering, one bolster, one pillowe, one paire of shetes  
of flaxene, one cheste, one forme, one carviede Chaire, one  
brasse pott, one chaffendishe, iiij pewter dublers ij more  
130 and two lesse, and I will she haue the nexte beste after  
her brother John, that is to saye, the thirde beste of

(f.33v-f.334v)

WILL 37

euery thinge. Item I bequeathe to Alane Wodrofe my best  
 mattreys, my beste coverlede, one payre of sheetes of  
 flaxene, one bolster, one pillowe, one folden table, one  
 135 cheste, on ca'r'wide chayre, one brasse pott, one panne,  
 iiii pewter dublers ij more and ij lesse, and I will he  
 haue the nexte chose after his syster. The residue of  
 all my inwarde stufe and vtensilles, I bequeathe to Thomas  
 Wodrofe aforesaide, certayne thinges necessarie for this  
 140 exceptede and leafte to remayne here stille (that is to  
 saye) my hye presse, my bedd stockes that stande in the  
 same chamber as they be, and the bedd stockes that stande  
 in my wyntre perlare where I lye, one payre of tressles  
 with a table for the highe borde, one old long setle, one  
 145 olde forme that standeth onn the weste syde of the howse  
and my chese preasse. Item I will and bequeathe my Copie  
 that I holde of Master Cunstable nowe being in the Kinges  
 handes, and my Indenture with thobligacione whiche I holde  
 of Master George Quadringe be at thorder and letting yerely,  
 150 for the tearme of the yeres, that I haue taken yt, of John  
 Greane of Thorpe and Christofer Glene of Browgh, to receyve  
 gather and reserve the yerely reuenwes and rentes of and  
 for the yeres folowing, to the proper vse of Thomas Wodrofe  
 scholer, and for certayne other thinges hereafter to be  
 155 fineshede. Item I giue and bequeathe for the good  
 expedition and setting forthe of the common boxe called  
 the poour mans treasuer, To xij of the porest and moste  
 impotente people in the parishe of Alhallows xij*d*, to be  
 distributed and given by my Executours or one of them,  
 160 or their depute, by the counsle or aduyse of one of them,  
 that hathe the custodie of the common boxe or elles any  
 other good man that knowith the povertie of the parishe,  
 euery sondaie in the yere next and ymediatlye folowing  
 my decease, whene the homelie or sermon ys publeshed or  
 165 preached in the churche of Alhallous, but where as I saye  
whene the homelie or sermon ys publeshed or preached in  
 the churche of Alhallous, yet I wille not this to barre  
 theme that be halte, lame, seklie, or having any other

(f.33v-f.334v)

WILL 37

170 Lauffull excuse for the tyme being. And I wille this my  
 laste legacie of xij<sup>d</sup> destributede to xij folkes continewe  
 and laste one hole yere. Item I giue to Richarde Rauson  
 aforenamed sixe Acres free Lande called Rybyng in Thorpe,  
 latelye purchased of Gilberte Merlay, given to me by my  
 father Robert Rauson as appeareth by his last will to me  
 175 and myne, and even so I give yt hyme vpon this condicion  
 that he well and truely, do distribute within the parishe  
 of Waynflete Alhallow by hyme self or elles by any other  
 honest depute, by the Counsell or aduyse of one of my  
 Executours at leaste yerely by the space of xv yeres, five  
 180 shillinges amongst the porest folkes of the same parishe,  
 And iijs in lyke wyse to the porest people in Crofte for  
 the space of the same yeres, and at the same tyme. Provided  
 alwayes that if anny of thies my kynisfolkes above writen  
 do rashlie chalendge<sup>9</sup>, clame, and take awaye any of these<sup>b</sup>  
 185 my foresaide goodes pretending any other false, vnivste,  
 vntrewe title saying they haue any other clame over and  
 above whiche they may lauffully enioye by this my last will,  
 Then I will and commande that the mattre be taken vp  
 earnestlye by my Executours and their best Counsell, and  
 190 incase they do take any more or as mucche as my will dothe  
 extende to them, Then I will that they shall not only leve  
and leyse that thinge that they vniustelie take awaye,  
 but also to be deprived of all suche legacies as be within  
 bequeathed or be willed to them and to theyres. Thene  
 195 mell so will, I muste commaunde my Executours to make theme  
answere lauffully, to prove my goodes to be my owne treuly  
 as other mens be. Finally and in case any suche shulde  
 intermelle after suche a sorte, and in theyr forwardnes  
 countinew, As God defende the and my will is that this be  
 200 provede before that annye legacie be paide to any of their  
 foresaide kynsfolkes, thus letted by them, so that my  
 executours may be fully discharged and saved evermore harm-

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 b. f.334v begins.

(f.333v-f.334v)  
WILL 37

lesse from the losse of their owne proper goodes. The  
 residue of my goodes not gevyne nor bequethed, I will they  
 205 be at the free disposicion and order of Christofer Glene  
 of Brough and John Grene of Thorpe, whome I make and  
 constitute my true and faithfull Executours iustely to  
 execute and performe this my laste will and testament ever  
 and at all tymes as they shall haue iuste occasion. First  
 210 to burye me honestlye, paying my debtes fulfilling this  
 and this my last legacis with all other thinges than moste  
 necessarie. Their charges borne, and the residue what-  
 soever shall leve, I will it be godlie dispoasede  
 inspecially to the poor of the worlde, and in all other  
 215 good deades and workes of Charitie prescribed and commaunded  
 by the Gospelle neuer forgetting my poore kyn[swomen] as  
 they will make answeere for discharginge their conscience  
 before God hereafter, And for this theyr paynes and labores  
 I will thene eiche of theme xls, that is to saye foure  
 220 poundes betwixte them. Finally I will and do make  
 [sic] Richard Rauson of Crofte Supervisour to this my last  
 wyll and testament, to forse and ouersee every thinge to  
 be dewlie and iustelye executed, for as moche as shall  
 lye in hyme according to this my last will and testament,  
 225 And for this his labour, I will he haue xls. Item this  
 is my very will, Also that where as any of theis my  
 kynsfolkes above wryten, haue borrowed anny money of me  
 at any lafull tyme paste, and yet vnpaide, I will that  
 same parcell of money for the quantitie of the same be  
 230 full and lafull paymente to my debtes. And so I will  
 my Executours and they do agre paying the rest whatsoever  
 my legacies surmounte ove and above the debt. Written at  
 Wainflet the vij<sup>th</sup> daye of the moneth of Januarie in the  
 seconde yere of our moste dreade Soueraigne Lorde Edwarde  
 235 the sixte of Englande Fraunce and Irelande kinge defendor  
 of the faithe and nexte vnder God the supreme hedd of the

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c. "he" is interlinear.

(f.333v-f.334v)  
WILL 37

Churche of Englande and Irelande. *Testantur hoc testamentum esse verum dominus Johannes Scote, dominus Johannes Gray, dominus Gulielmus Gibsone, dominus Thomas Maising.*

PROBATE: 27 November 1549\*

- 1 All Saints Church in Wainfleet All Saints, was one of two old churches in the town, it was demolished and replaced 1820.  
Lincolnshire Arthur Mee p. 401-402.
- 2 I have not been able to establish which of the many monasteries that had existed in Lincoln had been used as a prison after its dissolution.
- 3 Though the M.S. seems to alterate between 'Wodrose' and 'Wodrofe' I have consistantly used 'Wodrofe'.
- 4 Possibly the same Thomas Croker who studied at Oxford (B.A. 1507), the rector of Loddington, Northampton 1511-1526 and stipendary priest of Weadon Bec, Northamptonshire (1526).  
Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540 p. 152.
- 5 One Walter Woodruffe of Lincolnshire was admitted to Magdalen College July 1539 (B.A. 1542), he was ordained a priest in April or May 1550; Rector of Stickney, Lincolnshire (1572) having been licensed to preach in the diocese the previous year, be became headmaster of Boston Grammar School in 1576.  
Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540. p.637.

(f.333v-f.334v)

WILL 37

- 6 This would be an annotated copy of Virgil.
- 7 This would possibly be a book by Ambrose Calepinus, several editions were published before 1549.  
British Museum General Catalogue of Printed Books  
Readox Microprint Corporation (New York) 1969 v.4 p.970.
- 8 A book by Georgius or Laurentius Valla, it might be A treatyse of the Donation printed 1534, by Laurentius Valla.  
  
A Short-Title Catalogue of Books Printed in England, Scotland & Ireland, and of English Books Printed Abroad, 1475-1640. 2nd edition 1976 Revised and enlarged V.2 I-Z.
- 9 As the will was not probated for some months it is possible the will was contested, but there is no date of decease to substantiate this.
- \* The right of administration was granted to the executors nominated in the will.

(f.334v-f.335r)

WILL 38 - THOMAS BUKERIDGE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The seuenth daie of September in the yere of our Lorde God a Thousande five hundreth fourtie and Nyne, And in the thirde yere of the reigne of our Soueraigne lorde Edwarde the sixte, by the grace of God king of Englande Fraunce and Irelande, defendour

5 of the faith and in earthe of the churche of Englande and

(f.334v-f.335r)

WILL 38

also of Irelande the supreme hedd. I Thomas Bukeridge  
of Harteredge in the parishe of Basteldon in the Countie  
of Barkshire being of ann hole and perfytt mynde and  
remembraunce, make this my present testament and last will  
5 in maner and forme folowing. First I bequeathe my soule  
holly to thandes of my saviour, maker and Redemer entierly  
desiring hyme of his tender mercie and infynitt goodnes,  
that I maie haue and enioye the celestrall hevenly kingdome  
prepared for me and all man kinde, and my bodye to be buried  
10 in the churche of Basteldon aforesaide. Item I bequeathe  
to William<sup>1</sup> my sonne fourtie Ewes to be delyuered vnto  
hyme at the feast of All Seyntes next<sup>2</sup>. Item I bequeathe  
to Katheryne Pytte my goddaughter one ewe shepe. Item  
I will that Joane my wyfe haue holde, occupie and enioye  
15 my fferme with all and singler thappurtenaunces to her  
and her assignes during her naturall lyfe. And after the  
decease of my saide wyfe, thenn I wille, that the saide  
ferme with thappurtenaunces come to John and Thomas my  
sonnes Joyntlie and egallie, to be occupied betwene theyme  
20 bothe. The residue of all my goodes moveable and vnmmoveable  
not bequethed, I giue and bequeathe to the saide Johane  
my wyfe whome I ordeyne and make sole Executrix of this  
my present testament and last will. Thiese being witnesses  
Sir Christofer Dobson Clerke vicare there, John Bukeredge,  
25 Thomas Bukeredge, William Bukeredge, Elizabeth Knappe,  
Thomas Holmes with other.

PROBATE: 28 November 1549<sup>a\*</sup>

a. f.335r begins.

<sup>1</sup> Married to Elizabeth, the daughter of Thomas Keblewhite  
of Basildon, William was the father of John Buckeridge  
bishop of Rochester and of Ely.

D.N.B. - Buckeridge.

(f.334v-f.335r)

WILL 38

2 Feast of All Saints; November 1st.

\* The will was presented by George Blyton, procurator, and administration of the will was granted to Johane the widow.

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(f.335r-f.335v)

WILL 39 - WILLIAM NICHOLSON

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xxvij<sup>ti</sup> daye of Marche in the yere of our Lorde God a Thousande five hundreth xlviij<sup>ti</sup>, And in the secoude yere of the reigne of our soueraigne lorde Edwarde the sixte by the grace of God of Englande  
 5 Fraunce and Irelande kinge, defendour of the faithe and in erthe supreme hedd of the Churche of Englande and Irelande. I William Nicholson of Heckyngton in the parties of Kesteven in the Countie of Lyncoln yoman, beinge of  
 10 hole mynde and perfytt remembraunce thankes be to the lorde, make and ordayne this my last will and testament in maner and forme folowing. That is Pryncipally and chefley I Commende my soule to Almightye God my onlye saviour and Redemer, And my bodye to be buried after my  
 15 departing oute of this worlde as my Executours shall think good and the lawes of this Realme shall permytt. Item I will to the vicar of Heckyngton for my tythes and oblacions heretofore forgotton, and for the good wille I bere towardes hyme, the best ffoole saue one of my yongest Coltes amongst iiij to be choson. Also I will and bequeathe  
 20 xiiij horsse, mares and geldinges being my common Drawght Cattall, vppon condicion as hereafter shalbe declared and for the parformyng of certene my legacies and Intentes hereafter specified in this my last wylle and Testament,

(f.335r-f.335v)  
WILL 39

to Thomasyne my wyfe and William Ellys sonne of Thomas  
 25 Ellys late of Heckington deceased, and that my saide wyfe  
 at or vppon anny deuyding of the saide drawght Cattall  
 hereafter to be hadd, shall haue the first choise of thone  
 half of the said Cattall being equally deuyded. Also I  
 will xij oxene and Steres being my Comon drawght Cattall,  
 30 vpon like Condicion to my saide wyfe and William Ellys  
 equally to be deuyded amongst them as before ys saide  
 of my horsse drawght. Also I will that all my Cartes,  
 waynes, ploughes and alle manner of gere and necessaries  
 belonging to them, shalbe in like manner deuyded amongst  
 35 them as before ys saide of my draught Cattall. Also I  
 will and bequeathe to my forsaid wyffe Twentie kyene oute  
 of my best mylche kyene to be chosen with one two yere  
 old bull blacke flacked withoute anny condicion or intent  
 otherwyse thenn frely. Also I wille and bequeathe to  
 40 Elizabeth Ellys and Thomasyne Ellys daughters of Thomas  
 Ellys aforesaid fourescore Ewes with fourescore lambes,  
 to be taken out of the best of my floke, at May Daie<sup>1</sup> next  
 commyng, And ymmediatelie after the having or reseyt of  
 the saide Ewes and Lambes, they to be equally deuyded  
 45 amongst theme, by the discrecion of Thomas Foster and  
 Thomas Browne. Item I will to the saide Elizabeth and  
 Thomasyne Ellys eight two yere olde quyres to be delyuered  
 to theme at Michaelmas<sup>2</sup> next commyng. Item I will to the  
 saide Elizabeth one gray Mare with a white tayle. Also  
 50 I will to Thomasyne her syster one amblyng baye mare with  
 a white stere at her forehedd. Also I will to Elizabeth  
 Ellys and Thomasyn her syster euery one of theyme to haue  
 one quyre of thage of one yere. Item I bequeathe to Thomas  
 Foster my brother my best yere old stagge, and to his wyfe  
 55 a Cowe with a Calfe, with two yewe hogges. Item I give  
 to five children of the saide Thomas Foster, fyve yere  
 old quyres with five yere hogges. Item I will to Thomas  
 Browne one browne Stagge of one yere old, and to Margerie

(f.335r-f.335v)  
WILL 39

his wyf two of my best runnyng kyne with two Calfes and  
 60 two yewe hogges. Item I will to George Browne one yere  
 olde guye and one yewe hogge. Item I will to Raffe Brownes  
 wyfe one yewe and a lambe. Also I will to Fraunces William-  
 son one of my best yere old Calves. Item I will to George  
 Estwood and William Estwood one Ewe and one lambe a pece.  
 65 Item I will to eueryone of my seruauntes of what age they  
 be one lambe a pece. Item I will the cobby whiche I haue  
 called Shepard Oxe G'r'ange to Thomas Browne during my  
 terme yt to come. Item I wille to William Ellys my Copy  
 of Lady Garth during the terme yet to come with the horsse  
 70 myll in my house called Pace House. Also I will and  
 bequeathe all my houshold stufe and ymplementes of household  
 to Thomasyne my wyfe, William Ellys, Elizabeth Ellys and  
 Thomasyne Ellys, the said householde stuf and ymplementes  
 equally to be deuyded in four partes amonges theme, and  
 75 that my said wyfe to haue the first eleccion of the saide  
 partes, and that my wyfe to haue thoccupacion of the hole  
 during her naturall lyfe. Also I will the yeres to come  
 in my parsonage to Thomasyne my wyfe and William Ellys,  
 they Joyntlie to occupie yt during my terme to come, And  
 80 if it happen that they shall agre to sell the same Lease,  
 I will that Thomas White of Wynkhill gentelman shall forsake  
 the having of the said lease before anny other. Item I  
 will that Thomasyne my wyfe shall haue the housse the garth,  
 the lath whiche Rauf Browne occupyeth and dwelleth in with  
 85 thempe<sup>3</sup> landes belonging to the same during her naturall  
 lyfe, and also to haue fyve markes by yere oute of all  
 landes and tenementes whiche I haue purchased, discharged  
 of all manner rentes and charges with thre Acre of Barley,  
 two acre of wheate and two acre of pease, to be chosen  
 90 oute of the best of my Lande in any parte of Hickyngton  
 feldes during her naturall lyfe, and that the saide Acre  
 of<sup>a</sup> Barley, wheate and peace yerely during my foresaide  
 wyffes lyfe to be sown and brought to home at the costes and

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a. f.3354 begins.

(f.335r-f.335v)

WILL 39

Charges of William Ellys, or his assignes, vpon condicion  
 95 that my foresaid wyfe shall refuse and forsake her Joynture  
 whiche she is Joynt purchaser with me in all her landes  
and tenementes in Heckyngton, Greate Hale and Lytle Hale  
 or the precinct of the same. And that this my laste will  
 and testament shalbe the more truely fulfilled and kept,  
 100 the rest of all my goodes and Cattall not bequeathed, my  
debtes paide and legacies fulfilled, I will and bequeathe  
 to Thomasyne my wife and William Ellys, whome I make and  
 ordeyne to be myne Executours, to order and accomlishe  
 all and euery thinge beforesaide in this my last will and  
 105 testament. In witness wherof Thomas Browne, Thomas Webster,  
 Anthony Williamson with other.

PROBATE: 31 November 1549\*

1 May Day, 1st May.

2 Feast of St Michael and All Angels, 29 September.

3 Hemp was not a commonly grown crop, in fact it was quite rare, because it was a troublesome crop to grow and to dry-out. Used in the manufacture of ropes and fishing nets as well as textiles, a large quantity of hemp was imported. Most domestically grown hemp was only produced in sufficient quantities to cater for the needs of the producer. Emmison, F.J., Elizabethan Life: Home, Work and Land, p.44.  
 \* William Walker, procurator presented the will and administration was granted to the executors nominated in the testament.

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(f.335v-f.336r)  
WILL 40 - WILLIAM ALEN

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xxvij<sup>ti</sup> daie of the monethe of  
 Auguste in the yere of our lorde God A Thousande five  
 hundreth fourtie and Nyne. I Henry Alen of Ketton in the  
 Countie of Rotelande<sup>1</sup>, being of hole mynde and good  
 5 remembraunce thanks be to Almightye God, make and declare,  
 this my last will and testament in maner and forme folowing.  
 That is to saye, ffirst I give and bequeathe my soule vnto  
 Almightye God, and my bodie to be buryed in the churche  
 of Ketton aforesaide. Also I giue to Agnes my wyfe all  
 10 my householde stuf (except five fetherbedes, fyve materesses,  
 five Couerlettes, five payre of shetes and fyve trussing  
 beddes). Item I will to Henry Alen, Richard Alen, John  
 Alen, Joyce Alen and Anne Alen my children the saide five  
 fetherbeddes, five materesses, five Coverlettes, five payre  
 15 of shetes and fyve trussing beddes aforesaid before excepted,  
 that is to saye to euery of my saide Children one fetherbedd,  
 one Materesse, one Coverlet, one payre of shetes and one  
 trussing bedd a pece, to be delyuered vnto them by myne  
 execu'tors' whan as they shalbe maried or come to the full  
 20 age of xxj<sup>ti</sup> yeres. And yf it happen that any of my saide  
 Children to [sic] departe and decease out of this  
 transitorie lyf before they be maried or come to the said  
 Age of xxj<sup>ti</sup> yeres, thane I will the parte and porcion  
 of any suche as shall dye before they be maried or come  
 to the saide age of xxj<sup>ti</sup> yeres, be equally dyvided emonges  
 25 the residue of them that shall soo overlyve and beinge  
 at that tyme vnmaried. Also further I will that aswell  
 all other suche goodes bequethed and given vnto my children  
 heretofore or hereafter, by this my laste will and Testament,  
 shalbe deuyded and distributed in maner and fourme afore-  
 30 saide, that is to saye yf any of my saide Children fortune  
 to dye before they be maried or come to the said Age of  
 xxj yeres, then I will the parte and porcion of any suche  
 as shall dye before they be maried or come to the said  
 age of xxj<sup>ti</sup> yeres, be equallye dyvided emonges the residue

(f.335v-f.336r)  
WILL 40

35 of my said Children that shal so overlyve being at that  
tyme vnmarried. Prouided alwayes that yf any of my saide  
Children haue there parte dilyuered to theme or be married,  
than they to haue no benefite by survivour of the partes  
of my saide Children that so fall fortune to dye as is  
40 aforesaide, any clause, sentence, mater, gifte, legacie  
or bequeste in this my will conteyned in any wyse to the  
contrary notwithstanding. Also I giue vnto the saide Agnes  
my wife Twentie melche kye, tene guyllde ware, and bothe  
my teymes with Cartes, waynes, plowes and all other thinges  
45 belonging vnto them and all my Shepe that I haue at Ketton  
at this daye. Also I will that the Croppe to be sowne  
to her vse payinge no rente due at Lammas<sup>3</sup> last paste before  
the date of thes presentes Twentie quarter of Malte, Tene  
quarter of Barley and all my Rye, with hogges and all other  
50 pultrey except my Tymbre whiche I giue vnto my saide  
Children. And to the disposicion of my landes and leaces,  
except my Lease in Ketton, whiche Agnes my wyfe shall haue  
and all my landes, tenementes with thappurtenaunces which  
I haue in Buckmynster and Sewesterne, the whiche I giue  
55 to Richard my sonne the rent except vnto he come vnto  
full age, the whiche rent, I giue vnto all my Children  
to be distributed emonge theyme equally, so longe as they  
be vnmarried and yf any of them be married, to haue this  
parte if he will sett forthe at the discrecion of myne  
60 Executours. And after that any of them dothe marie thenn  
he or they that so dothe marye to haue no more parte of  
the saide rent. And so I wille that the saide leaces to  
remayne vnto my saide Children, so longe as they lyve sole  
and vnmarried and after mariage to the residue of them that  
65 be vnmarried. Item I giue to Elizabeth Alen tene Lame hogges  
and two kye. And to euery one of my seruauntes one lame  
hogge. Item to my brother Richarde two of my best cotes,  
Also my gowne to my vncle Pecke, Also all my Mares, Coltes,

(f.335v-f.336r)

WILL 40

70 Neyt Shepe and debtes, I giue to my saide Children, paying  
 my debtes, except one dune Colte that Agnes my wyfe shall  
 haue. Also I will and bequeathe to Johane Mutton a Cowe,  
 to William Fraunces two quarter of Malte, To William  
 Bysshoppe xls in money. Item to euery one of the Executours  
 a Mare, to Elizabeth Blower xxs, And to Elizabeth  
 75 Fairchilde a cowe. Item to<sup>a</sup> Agnes my wyfe one mare. Also  
 I will that myne vncler John Pecke, my brother Chepman and  
 Clement Breten to be my Executours of this my will. And  
 Master Doctor Prynne<sup>4</sup> and Kellam Dygby<sup>5</sup> Esquier Ouerseers of  
 this my will. And that the saide Kellam Digby to haue  
 80 all the keping of my childrens goodes till they come to  
 their full age. Dated the daye and yere above wryten.  
 Witnes John Markham<sup>6</sup>, John Flory, William Fraunces and  
 Laurence Robertes.

PROBATE: 27 November 1549\*

a. f.336r begins; "Agnes my wife one mare" appears at the base of  
 f.335v and the start of f.336r.

<sup>1</sup> In 1542 Rutland became part of the new diocese of  
 Peterborough.

<sup>2</sup> It is interesting that Alen divides his personal  
 property equally among his children, both male and  
 female, an unusual occurrence in these wills.

<sup>3</sup> August 1st.

<sup>4</sup> Ordained a priest by 1510, John Prynne graduated from  
 Oxford with a doctorate in canon law, July 1522. The  
 vicar of several parishes in the counties of Worcester,  
 Warwick and Hereford, Prynne held the prebend of Ketton  
 from 1528 until his death in 1558.

(f.335v-f.336r)  
WILL 40

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540 pp. 465-466.

- 5 Kenelm Digby followed the family tradition established by his father and grandfather, and sat in Parliament as knight of the shire for Rutland (1545); it was his son who became involved in the Gunpowder conspiracy. Digby resided in the family seat at Stoke Dry, and a handsome tomb depicting Digby and his wife Mary, with their eleven children around the base, is situated in the church at Stoke Dry - he in sixteenth century armour, and his wife clasping a book.

D.N.B. - Digby; Lehmborg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry VIII; 153 -1547 p. 202; Rutland Arthur Mee pp. 271-272.

- 6 This is probably Sir John Markham who was a leading Protestant landowner in the county of Nottingham. Markham represented both the shire and the borough of Nottingham in Parliament 1529, 1539, [1542], 1545, 1547, 1558, 1559. The holder of several offices in Nottingham and Lincoln, and as such extremely involved in the restoration of order during the Pilgrimage of Grace, Markham also had a close association with the 1st Earl of Rutland. Lieutenant of the Tower of London November 1549 - October 1551, Markham died in 1559. Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons: 1509-1558, p.49, 136, 207; D.N.B. - Markham

- \* John Pecke presented the will and was granted, Mary with the other executours nominated in the will, the right of administration.



(f.336r)

WILL 41 - WILLIAM PAGE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The ix<sup>th</sup> daye of Aprill in the  
 thirde yere of the Reigne of our soueraigne lorde Edwarde  
 the sixte by the grace of God of Englande Fraunce and  
 Irelande kinge defendour of the faithe, and of the Churche  
 5 of Englande and also of Irelande in earth supreme hedde.  
 I William Page vicar of Bengwo[rth] in the Countie and  
 dioces of Worcettur, being of perfett mynde and memorie  
 (thankes be to God) do ordeyne and make this my testament  
 and last will, in forme and maner folowing. First I  
 10 bequeathe my soule vnto Allmightie God my maker and redemer,  
 and my bodie to be buried within the ecclesiasticall  
 sepulture of the parishe churche of Bengeworthe aforesaide.  
 And suche temperalle goodes as my lorde God hath Lent me,  
 to be orderyd and disposed as hereafter folowith. To the  
 15 true execution wherof, I do constitute and make William  
 Thurbane my sole Executour, And Arthur Colarde, and Sir  
 John Hegans vicar of Hampton by Evesham, superuisours or  
 ouersears to the same. Item I bequeathe vnto Margarete  
 Elshowe my kynswoman, and to Thomas her sonne and his other  
 20 brother, euery one of them xx<sup>s</sup>. Item I bequeathe vnto  
 Agnes Holdar wedowe and to Agnes her doughter eyther of  
 theym xx<sup>s</sup>. Item to Elizabeth Beddar in Evesham xxvjs viijd.  
 Item I bequeathe vnto the vicar of Hampton, my supervisor  
 above named, my best gowne and my sarcynet tippate. Item  
 25 to Arthur Colarde myne other superuisor foure poundes in  
 money. Item I bequeathe vnto William Watsone my godsone a  
 maser with a syluer bande gilte. Item I bequeathe vnto  
 Abell my kynsman Swerdeberar in Glowcetter xls. Item I  
 bequeathe vnto Danyall Hyde xls. Item I will there shalbe  
 30 distributed amongst the poor people at the discretion  
 of myne Executour and superuisours afore named the value  
 of foure poundes in money. The residue of my goodes in  
 this my testament and laste will not given nor bequeathed,  
 I giue and bequeathe vnto William Thurbane myne Executour  
 35 above named, to ordre and dispose parte therof for my soule

(f.336r)  
WILL 41

helthe as he shall thinke expedient, this is my testament and last will written the daye and yere aboue mencioned. These men being witeses, Sir John Hegans preist vicar of Hampton, Thomas Watson and William Whitehedd with other.

PROBATE: 29 November 1549\*

<sup>1</sup> William Page was educated at Oxford, B.A. (1503) and M.A. (1509), and ordained a priest in 1503. Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540 p. 428.

\* The Probate court granted administration of the will to the executer nominated within it.

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(f.336r-f.336v)  
WILL 42 - ROBERT HANSCOMBE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xj<sup>th</sup> daie of November in the yere of our lorde God a Thousande five hundreth fourtie and Nyne. I Robert Hanscombe of Hollewelbery in the parishe of Shiccellington [sic] in the Countie of Bedford husbandman,  
5 make and ordeyne this my testament and last wille in maner and forme folowing. First I bequeathe my soule to Almightye God, to be in felowship with the Aungelles in heaven, And my bodye to christien buryalle. Item I giue to Bettres my wyfe Twentie poundes in money, and all suche stufe of  
10 householde as she broughte me, to be paide and delyuered her within one yere next after my deceas. And if it fortune my said wife to be with Childe by me (as God knowithe) Thene I giue to my saide Childe whene it commythe to thage of xx<sup>ti</sup> yeres Twentie poundes. And I will that myne

(f.336r-f.336v)

WILL 42

15 Executours vnderwriten haue the keping of my Childe during  
 the saide yeres. Item I giue and bequeathe to euery of  
 my bretherne and Systerne being vnmarried, tenne Ewe shepe  
 to be delyuered them ymmediatly after my decease, yf ther  
 be so many alive. Item to Mathewe Hanscombe two Ewe shepe.  
 20 Item to my Sheppard two Ewes. The residue of all my goodes  
 Cattalles and leases after my debtes paide, and this my  
 will fulfilled, I giue and bequeathe to my welbeloued father  
 Robert Hanscombe and my godd mother his wyfe, whome I  
 constitute and make myne hole Executours of this my Last  
 25 wille and Testament. And I ordeyne and make supervisour  
 of this my will my welbiloued Cosyne John Lyll of Ashewell  
 gentilman. And I giue hyme for his labour and paynes<sup>a</sup>  
 Twentie shillinges. In witnes wherof I the saide Robert  
 haue subscribed my name the daie and yere first abouesaide  
 30 *per me Robertum Hanscombe manu propria.*

PROBATE: 29 November 1549\*

a. f.336v begins

\* William Walker, procurator, presented the will and the  
 right of administration was granted to the executors  
 nominated in the testament.

(f.336v-f.337r)

WILL 43 - WILLIAM MYDDELMORE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I William Myddelmore<sup>1</sup> the xix<sup>ti</sup>  
 daie of June, in the thirde yere of the reigne of our  
 Soueraigne lorde Edwarde the sixte by the grace of god  
 of Englande Fraunce and Irelande kinge, defendour of the  
 5 faithe and in earthe of the churche of Englande and Irelande

(f.336v-f.337r)

Will 43

supreme hedd, sicke in bodye and hole in mynde, make my  
 last wille and testament after this maner. First I  
 bequeathe my soule to Almightye God, to our blessid lady  
 Seint Marye and to all the sayntes in heaven, trusting  
 10 verelie to be saved by the merites of Christes passion<sup>2</sup>.  
 And my body to be buryed in the churche of Kinges Norton  
 by Margerye my wyfe, or els where yt shall please God.  
 Item I bequeathe five poundes sterling to be given amonge  
 poore and nedy people at my buryall (and not to the riche).  
 15 Item I bequeathe to the parson of Fladbery *pro. decimis*  
*oblitis iijs iiijd.* Item I bequeathe to the curet of  
 Throkmerton *pro decimis oblitis iijs iiijd.* Item I bequethe  
 to Dorithe my wyfe my lease of the tithe of Shurlenche.  
 Item I bequeathe to Dorythe my said wyfe one siluer bowle  
 20 and Sixe siluer spones the best, saving Sixe, the whiche  
 I giue to John Myddelmore my eldest sonne. Item I bequeathe  
 to my three doughters, euery one two siluer spones a pece.  
 Item I giue to John Myddelmore my eldest sonne two doble  
 gilt Cuppes with two Covers to theme Two doble gilt  
 25 saltes with one Cover to them, A gilte goblett, one syluer  
 bowle and one Chalys. Item I bequeathe to my three  
 doughters, to euery one ffitie [sic] poundes a pece, And  
 to my five yonger Sonnes ffourtie markes a pece, to be  
 given them at theire mariage or whene they set vp house  
 30 or occupacion. And for the performans of this my last  
 will, and for my debtes to be paide, I will that alle the  
 residue of my Cattall and Corne (that is to say) All my  
 oxen, all my kyne, all my yong besse, all my horses  
 geldinges, Mares, Coltes, all my Shepe, all my Swyne and  
 35 all my Corne within the house and withoute the howse growing  
 or not growing vnbequeathed, be sold to the best by myne  
 Executours, towarde the performance of this my last will.  
 And for the full performance of this my last will, I will  
 that my Mylle and the grounde that Joane Fulfarde holdethe  
 40 of me by lease the whiche ys in rent five markes by yere,

(f.336v-f.337r)

WILL 43

And also my Myll with the grounde that longithe to the  
 saide Mylle, the whiche Thomas Grevys holdythe of me by  
 lease, the whiche ys vijli vjs viijd by yere, I wille that  
 all the saide Rent for xv yeres after my deathe be gathered  
 45 vp by myne Executours to the performance of my forsaide  
 bequestes. Item I bequeathe to the said John Myddelmore  
 all my money and all my debtes, towardes the performance  
 of this my last will. And if my said sonne John Middelmore  
 do fyne any meane other by mariage or other weys, to  
 50 performe this my last will, with two sufficient sureties  
 for the same, Thene I will that John Middelmore my saide<sup>a</sup>  
 sonne haue and enioye all the foresaid landes and mylles  
 incontynente onn the same. And furthermore I charge my  
 saide sonne John Myddelmore of my blessing to see his  
 55 bretherne and his Systers haue sufficient mete, drinke  
 and Clothes, other [sic] by hyme or in seruice, and not  
 to mynishe no parte of my bequeste to thene till suche  
 tyme as they be married, or set vp house or occupacion.  
 Item I giue to John Middelmore my saide sonne all my landes  
 60 that John Harper of Northefilde holdithe of me, the whiche  
 I bought of William Shewle. Item I giue to John my said  
 sonne all my other purchesyde lande ymediatlie after the  
 death of Dorithe my wyfe, or before yf they cann agree,  
 and to his heires forever. Item I give to John my saide  
 65 sonne all my goodes at Hawkeslowes and all my Apparelle.  
 Furthermore the residue of all my goodes vnbequeathed,  
 I giue to John Myddelmore my said sonne and to Dorythe  
 my wyfe, after this maner folowing, I will that John  
 Middelmore my said sonne haue two partes therof, and my  
 70 wyfe the thirde parte. Item I will that Marie my daughter,  
 haue but fortie poundes over and beside the xxli the whiche  
 ys in Master Yngerfyldes<sup>3</sup> hande, and she cann haue hit paide  
 her, or elles I will that she haue my forsaide bequest.

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a. "saide" is interlinear.

(f.336v-f.337r)  
WILL 43

75 Item I will that Dorithe my wyffe haue ann yerely Annuitie  
oute of my landes during her lyf, as John my said sonne  
and she cann agree in the stede of her Joynter, for her  
Joynter ys voyde and of none effecte saving the lande that  
I purchesyd for I was neuer seasyd in no parte of my fathers  
80 lande, for my father dyd put yt in feoffement to Certyne  
vses, when I was married to my first wyfe. Furthermore  
I will that yf Dorythe my saide wyfe do at any tyme make  
any tytull, interest or Clayme to any dowry or Joynter  
in my Landes otherwyse thene to haue ann yerely Annuitye of  
John my said sonne and his heyres during her naturall lyfe,  
85 That thene all suche plate and goodes that I haue bequeathed  
her shall Remayne to John my saide sonne and to his heires,  
and my saide wyfe to haue noo parte therof. Item I make  
my Executours my brother William Gattagre<sup>4</sup> Esquire and  
John Myddelmore my<sup>c</sup> eldest sonne to se that this my will be  
90 performyde, and for my said brothe<sup>r</sup><sup>1</sup> Gattagres paynes I  
will that he haue xls. Item I make my Ouerseers to se  
my will performyd my Cosyne Robert Throkmerton<sup>5</sup> and my  
Cosyn Robert Myddelmore desiring them of their Charitie  
to se this my last wyll performyde. And in witnes of this  
95 my laste will, I haue wryte hit with myne nowne hande and  
subscribed my name and put to my seale the daye and yere  
above written. By me William Myddelmore, Memorandum that  
the custome of Kinges Norton is that a mann may give his  
lande there xv yeres after his deathe.

PROBATE: 29 November 1549\*

c. f.337r beings.

<sup>1</sup> Assumably he is a son of John Myddylmore, a gentleman of King's Norton, who was bound by a recognizance to Henry VII for £300 (28 March 1505), on the condition he 'account faithfully before the Annunciation each year as receiver of land in co.s Worcester and Hereford

(f.336v-f.337r)  
WILL 43

late of Queen Elizabeth'. This is somewhat substantiated by the fact his eldest son is also named John.  
Calendar of the Close Rolls: 1500-1509, 529.

- 2 The religious backgrounds of others mentioned in this will (see f.n. 3, 4, 5) would back up the impression given in the preamble of this testament given in the preamble of this testament, that Myddelmore is a Catholic.
- 3 This is possibly John Englefield (who shared a grandfather - Sir Robert Throckmorton - in common with Robert Throckmorton, see f.n.4), brother of Sir Francis Englefield, a fervant Catholic who sat in Parliament (October) 1553, (November) 1554, 1555, 1558. On his father's death (1537) John inherited the family properties in Shropshire.  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons 1501-1558, II, p. 100.
- 4 William Gatacre of Gatacre, Shropshire, was an alderman of the borough 1543-1565 and a justice of the peace 1536-1564, but never pricked for sheriff, although frequently nominated. Having married his daughter to the forthcoming Speaker of the House of Commons (1554), Gatacre was knight of the shire for Shropshire in the Parliament of 1554 (November). It is probably no coincidence that he gave up his local offices 1564-1565, as the bishop of Coventry and Lichfield denounced Gatacre an 'adversary of religion' in 1564; he died 22 December 1577.  
Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons 1509-1558, II, p. 196.

(f.336v-f.336r)

WILL 43

5 Robert Throkmorton (Throckmorton) of Coughton, Warwickshire, and his family originally came from a manor of the same name in the parish of Fladbury, Worcestershire. A justice of the peace for Warwickshire from 1547, until his refusal to subscribe to the Act of Uniformity forced his removal, and sheriff of Warwickshire and Leicestershire 1553-1554. Throckmorton was knighted 1553 and became constable of Warwick Castle (1553-1558). Throckmorton sat in Parliament, as knight of the shire, (March) 1553, (October) 1553, 1555. Throckmorton died 12 February 1581; in 1577 the bishop of Worcester had valued his estate at 1,000 marks per year in land and £1,000 in goods.

Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons 1509-1558, III, p. 451, 461-462.

\* The right of administration was granted to the executor nominated, William Walker (procurator) presented the will.

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(f.337r-f.337v)

WILL 44-WILLIAM BYLLINGHAYE

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The xj<sup>th</sup> daye of July in the yere of our lorde God A Thousande Fyve hundreth fourtie and Nyne. And in the thirde yere of the Reigne of Edwarde the sixte by the grace of God of Englande Fraunce and  
5 Irelande kinge, defendour of the faithe and in earthe of the churche of Englande and Irelande supreme hedd. I John Byllinghaye of Illmister hoole of mynde and of good memorie do make my testament after this maner. First I giue and

(f.337r-f.337v)  
WILL 44

bequeathe my soule to Almightye God and my bodie to be  
 10 buried in the Churcheyarde of the saide Illmister. Item I  
 giue and bequeathe to the churche of thafforesaid Illmister  
 xxs sterling. Item I giue and bequeathe vnto John, Robert,  
 William, Margaret, Elizabeth, Marye and Thomzine my Children,  
 to euery of theym ffourtie poundes sterling, And if it  
 15 chaunce anny of them to dye before they come vnto thage of  
 xvj yeres, I will that the portion of their porcions be  
 deuyded equallye amongst them overlyving or longeste  
 lyvinge. Item I will that the fourtie poundes, being the  
 portion of my sonne John be delyuered vnto hyme or his  
 20 vse within one yere after my deathe. And I will that Joane  
 my wyfe before the daye of her next Maredge shall fynde  
 sufficient suerties to the Overseers of my wyll, for the  
 iuste payment and contentation of the porcions of money  
 before specifiedd and given vnto my other Children to be  
 25 paide to euery of theme and to anny of theme, whann he,  
 she or they shall come vnto thage of xvj yeres. Item I  
 giue and bequeathe vjli xiis iiiijd to be distributed to  
 the poor people. Item I giue and bequeathe to Isett my  
serunte [sic] and kinswoman tenne poundes sterlinge. Item I  
 30 giue and bequeathe to Julyan Laurence my suster foure  
 poundes sterling and a Couerlett, whiche was Mystres  
 Ballingers. Item I giue and bequeathe to Johane Morryce  
 and Isabell Torrye my susters, to euery of them xxs  
 sterlinges. Item I do forgive to Thomas Hawker and George  
 35 Hawker, the debtes owed to John Mansfelde preste. Item  
 I giue and bequeathe to Henry Polwebbe my seruaunte xls  
 sterling, to thintent that he shall make a true and iuste  
 accompte to myne Executrix or her assignes. Item I giue  
 40 and bequeathe to John Draper, Thomas Wollington, Hewe Slade  
 and Margerye Palmer my seruauntes to every of theyme xxs  
 sterling. Item I giue and bequeathe to John Poole prest  
 ten shillinges sterling. Item I giue and bequeathe to  
 John Battin and Robert Oliuer preist to euery of them iiij  
 iiiijd sterling. Item I giue and bequeathe to Marye Hawker  
 45 my golde ryng sett with a redd stone whiche I nowe were.

(f.337r-f.337v)  
WILL 44

Item I giue and bequeathe to Henry Grenefelldē tene  
shillinges sterlinges. Item I giue and bequeathe to John  
Whithorne iijs iiijd sterling. Item I giue and bequeathe  
to everye of my godchildren xijd. Item I giue and  
50 bequeathe<sup>a</sup>. Item I giue and bequeathe to euery godchilde  
nowe lyuinge of John Mansfelde preste departede xijd, theye  
exceptede that haue receauede hit alreddie. Item I giue  
and bequeathe to the mending of the watercourse to the  
towne stoocke iijs iiijd. Item I giue bequeathe and assigne  
55 my bargaine at Winsame called Ambram Mill and Clooswoode,  
to Johane my wyfe during her lyfe, and after her deathe  
I giue bequeathe and assigne the said bargayne of myll  
and grounde to John my sonne (nowe alive) during his lyfe,  
and after his deathe, I giue bequeathe and assigne  
60 thafforesaide bargaine of myll and grounde to Robert my  
sonne during his lyfe, And after his deathe I giue and  
bequethe and assigne the before named bargayne of myll  
and grounde to William my sonne during his Lyfe yf the  
yere of my purchasse will so longe extende. But if that  
65 Johane my wyfe, John, Robert and William my sonnes happene  
to dye before the yeres of my purchase be expired That  
thene I giue bequeathe and assigne the before named bargayne  
of myll and grounde to Margaret, Elizabeth, Mary and Tomzin  
my daughters equally and to euery of them, longest Lyvinge,  
70 and to her, his or their assignes during the terme of my  
purchase. The residue of my goodes moveable and vnmmoveable,  
I giue and bequeathe to Johane, my wyfe, whome I doo  
appoynte, ordeine and make myn Executrix, that she shall  
vse and dispose hit for the welth of my soule as she shall  
75 thinke good and Convenient. And I do ordeyne and make  
Humffrey Wallron, John Ballche<sup>1</sup> and Thomas Hawker gentilmen,  
Thomas Laurence and George Hawker yeomen overseers of this  
my last will truly to be performed, and to euery of theme  
I give fourtie shillinges sterlinge, to be good to my wyfe  
80 and Children. Witnesses to this John Balche<sup>b</sup> Gentilman,  
John Poole clarke, Henry Grenfelde and John Whithorne with  
others.

PROBATE: 30 November 1549\*

a. the remainder of this bequest have been omitted from the M.S.

b. f.337v begins.

(f.337r-f.337v)

WILL 44

<sup>1</sup> The will of John Balche of Horton Somerset (dated 1 April 1536) was proved 2 September 1552.  
Somerset Medieval Wills ed. F.W. Weaver. Alan Sutton (Gloucester) 1983. p. 29.

\* The will was presented by Peter Johnson, procurator, and administration of the will was granted to the widow, Johane.

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(f.337v-f.338r)

WILL 45 - ELIZABETH GLEN

IN NOMINE DEI AMEN. The xxix<sup>ti</sup> daie of Aprille in the yere of our lorde God a Thousande fyve hundreth xlviij<sup>ti</sup>, In the first yere of the Reigne of our soueraigne lorde Edwarde the sixte. I Elizabeth Glen of Stauerton in the Countie of Northampton widowe, being of good remembraunce and hole in bodye, but dreding the houre of deathe, do rodeyne [sic] and make my laste will and testament in maner and forme here folowing. First I bequeathe my soule vnto Almightye God, to our blessed ladye and to all the companye of heaven, my bodye to be buried in the chauncell of the parishe church of Stauerton on northe side by my husbnde. Item as touchinge my funeralles, I will that it be at the dyscrecion of my executor and my supervisours, saving that I will to haue peny doole to euery creature at my burying at that tyme. Item to Peturborow Church<sup>1</sup> iiiij<sup>d</sup>. Item to euery one of my godchildren iiiij<sup>d</sup>, and to euery one of them that ar in Stauerton A Shepe, if I haue to performe them. Item to my syster Katheryne Leighe my beades of Cristall with the gaudys gilte and foure poundes sterling.

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20 Item to euery one of her chyldren my Cosyns xls a pece.  
 Item to the Aulter a clothe, the price iiijs. Item to  
 Katheryne Nele in money xxs. Item to Joane Gilberd vjd,  
 to Alice Owyne vjd, to Elizabeth Clarke vjd. Item to  
 Edmunde Gardener<sup>2</sup> vjd. Item to euery one of my husbandes  
 25 brothers iijs iiijd, And to Agnes his syster vjs viijd,  
 to Edwarde Glen a shepe, and to euery one of John Glen  
 Children to Vpton a shepe. Item to Marten Glen foure ewe  
 shepe to helpe to kepe hyme to the scole. Item to Beteryche  
 Robyns a gowne and iijs iiijd, and to her syster Katheryne  
 30 inother iijs iiijd. To two of Edwarde Gostwicke<sup>3</sup> eldest  
 daughters, the eldest of them a brasse pane with two  
 tacketes, and to thother a brasse pott that is called Cokes  
 pott. Item to Robert Gostwicke my brother Williams sonne  
 my greatest pott of brasse, my greatest pane of brasse,  
 35 vj peces of pewter parte of the best, xij shepe, a Cowe  
 and a payre of shettes. Item to Kateryne Nele my greate  
 kettell, my olde brasse panne and a pott of brasse of two  
 gallons, a litill kettill, my wholle bedd, the grene  
 Couering, a bolster and two blankettes. Item to my Cosyne  
 40 Albone Commander my bedd that I lye in evyne as it is and  
 shalbe at the houre of my deathe. To Thomas Gostwicke  
 of Wedon A Cowe, a couering for a bed, my greate brode  
 table, a quarter of malte, a quarter of barley. Item to  
 Sir Sylvester Browen my bright brasse panne of vij gallons,  
 45 my best trevet, my litle posnet of brasse, my presse to  
 lye clothes in, my counter table, my forme that standithe  
 with yt, the forme coffer that standithe onn theste side of  
 the halle, a brasse pott, And all the hanginges in the  
 haule and Chambers. Item to Nicholas Glen a horse, a  
 50 quarter of barley, and a quarter of malte. Item to Marget  
 his wife one of my gownes, a kerchife, and one of my best  
 smockes. Item to Elizabeth Glen my goddaughter a heyfer  
 of two yeres of age. Item to Edmunde Stafford the grey  
 yonge Mare, my olde Cart and xxs. Item to Katheryne Nele

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55 my Ambere. To my Cosyne Edwarde Barnys xxs. Item to John  
Hatfeld a yerelyng Calfe, and half a quarter of barley.  
Item to Elizabeth Alsope a redd peticote of myne. Item  
to Alice Owyne a smocke, a payre of hoose and a payre of  
shoes of myne. Item to John Jacsone my godsonne iiiij  
60 more. Item to George Smythe my godsonne vjs viiijd. Item  
I will and bequeathe vnto Sir Sylvester Browyne and to  
my Cosyne Albon Commander the tacke and lease of the  
Parsonage and tythe of Stauerton, And also the tenement  
that I nowe dwellin in stauerton with all landes, tenemente  
65 and othe the comodities and proffyttes to them or any of  
them belonging, to their owne proper vses and behovfe  
during the terme and yeres therof, that are yet to come,  
in as large ample and beneficiall maner as I do now possede  
and occupie the same, as more playnly dothe appere by my  
Indenture therof made. Item I bequethe and giue vnto Sir  
70 Sylvester Browyne my dune mare my seconde horse, my best  
Cowe, the hilling of Carpet fascion, a blanket of lynnyne  
and wollen, two payre of my best shetes of flaxe, my beste  
borde Clothe, my Chilterne Carte<sup>a</sup>, two of my best potyngers  
of siluer fascion, two sawcers, two chargers and two  
75 platters. Item to my Cosyne Albon Commander my newest  
Cart that was bounde last, a Cowe, a horse and xij shepe.  
Prouided alwayes that if my Cosyne Albon Comander, do  
or will, to sett, let give or sell his parte of the tacke  
and lease of the saide parsonage and tithe of Stauerton,  
80 with the tenement and other the profyttes, before mencioned,  
That thene I will my brother Thomas Leigh<sup>4</sup> to haue the  
preferment of them before any creature, giving vnto my  
Cosyne Albon for them according vnto reasone, as they too  
shall agree. Item I bequeathe vnto Sir Silvester Browyne  
85 xij wether shepe, two swyne hogges, two steres, a ploughe,  
a Culter and share, halfe<sup>b</sup> my woode and half my pulhene.  
Item I wille that Sir Silvester Browyne and my Cosyne Albone

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a. "Chilterne Carte" has been inserted at a later date, in a different hand

b. f.338r begins.

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shall entre into the saide ferme and tackys of the saide  
 parsonage and tenementes and other the premisses to theme  
 90 by me before bequeathed, within the space of tenne wekes  
 next and ymmediatlie after my decease, with out any other  
 farther delaye, let or interruption of my executour or  
 any other according vnto this my laste wille. Item I will  
 that my saide Cosyn Albon Commaunder and Sir Siluester  
 95 shall giue or cause to be gyven, or elles their Executours  
 or assignes, vnto Nicholas Glen or to his assignes yerely  
 Tenne shillinges, during their yeres in my Indenture and  
 yf the saide Nicholas Glen lyve so longe. And if the said  
 Nicholas Glen, will not be contented to take and receave  
 100 yt, that then my Executour to vse yt as he thinkethe beste  
 according vnto right. Item I bequeathe vnto the reparacon  
 of the causewaye betwixt Longlandes lxvjs viij<sup>d</sup> sterling  
 so that the townshipe of Stauerton will put to their  
 helping handes, towardes the sufficient making of the same.  
 105 Item I bequeathe vnto Master Thomas Androws<sup>5</sup> wyfe of  
 Charvelton my best peticote. Item to Thomas Gostwicke  
 my best spitte. Item to my brother William Gostwicke foure  
 poundes sterling. Item to my Cosyn Albon my white coffer,  
 to Sir John Hene xxs. Item to Sir Peter my prest vjs viij<sup>d</sup>.  
 110 Item to Sir John Chamblen vjs viij<sup>d</sup>. Item to euery of  
 my seruauntes being with me in seruice at the houre of  
 my death two shillinges. Item to my brother Leighe five  
 poundes and my best horse. Item to my syster Anie Gostwicke  
 xls. Item to sixe poore women either of them a shete.  
 115 Item to Katheryne a payre of shetes and two towelles.  
 Item to Richard Richardson wyfe a Cowe, to his sonne William  
 a shepe. Item to Katheryne Nele the white coffer at the  
 beddes feyte. Item to Elizabeth Walman my owne saddell  
 and the Covering. Item to Twentie of the porest men in  
 120 Stauerton that goith with a ploughe or a pece of a plowe,  
 half a quarter of barley a pece. Item to Sir Syluester  
 my malt quyrne. Item the rest of my goodes not bequethed

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nor yet gevyne, my debtes paide, and I honestly brought  
 to the grounde, I will that they be deuyded into two partes,  
 125 thone halfe vnto the poor people, and thother half to  
 my brother William Gostwicke sonne Robert and my syster  
 Leighe Children, euery one of them to haue like porcion.  
 Item I do ordeyne and make my brother Thomas Leighe  
 gentilman my Executour of this my present Testament and  
 130 last will as my trust ys in hyme. Also the superuisours  
 of this same my last will and testament, I ordeyne and  
 make my Cosyne Edwarde Gostwicke gentilman, William Gent  
 of Norton gentilman and Siluester Browyne clerke, and they  
 to haue euery one of them xiijs iiijd to se that this my  
 135 last will and testament be truly performed and done.  
 Prouided alwayes that yf God do mynyshe my goodes by  
 casualtie, or by any otherwayes be made lesse, or that  
 I do wast them before yt shall please God to do his will  
 of me, that thene I will that parte of these my legacies  
 140 be dedicte where as it may be best spared, at the discretion  
 of my Executour and my supervisours (except only my saide  
 lease and tackes bequethed, whiche I will that they be  
 hadd and inyoied according to the entent and true meanyng  
 of this my last wille and testament). Moreouer I do revoke  
 145 and renounce all former willes and testamentes heretofore  
 by me made, And will that this my presente testament and  
 last will, shall stande for my last wyll and testament  
 according to the trewe meane therof. Item I give vnto  
 my syster Katheryne my best siluer spone. Item to my brothe  
 150 Leighe my siluer salte. Item to Sir Siluester my seconde  
 siluer spone and my Carpet for a table. Item to my Cosyne  
 Albon another syluer spone. Item to Henry Wyld ann Ewe  
 and a lambe. These being witnesses Sir John Hene, Thomas  
 Houlett, Thomas Watson, Henry Horrod and William Burnan  
 155 with other. And I the said Elizabeth Glen haue put to  
 my seale with my owne hande.

PROBATE: 31 November 1549\*

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<sup>1</sup> Peterborough Cathedral was the see of the recently created diocese of Peterborough.

<sup>2</sup> One Edward Gardner senior of Staverton, Northamptonshire, probably purchased some wood off Peter Temple, bailiff for the lords of Dasset, in the county of Warwick. Alcock, N.W., Warwickshire Grazier and London Skinner 1532-1555. p. 182.

<sup>3</sup> This could be the same Edward Gostwick who was an auditor of the Court of Augmentation from 1536 until its amalgamation with the Exchequer (1554). Gostwick, with a salary of £20 and any 'profits' of the office, was responsible for the region of Wales. Richardson, W.C. The Court of Augmentations 1537-1555, pp. 54-55, 84.

<sup>4</sup> It is possible this refers to Sir Thomas Lee, who began his career under Cromwell in 'the matter of the King's divorce' and later acquired a rather dubious reputation as a visitor of monasteries (1534-1538) before his election as knight of the shire for Wilton, Wilts.

However it is more likely to be Thomas Leigh of Caldwell Bedfordshire, who had a long connexion with the Gostwick family. An auditor of the Court for First Fruits and Tenths on a salary of £133 6s 11d (1540-1554) he received a pension of £60 when the court was dissolved, a justice of the peace (1554), he was a commissioner to enforce the Acts of Supremacy and Uniformity (1571) in the dioceses of Lincoln and Peterborough. Aside from other offices, Leigh represented Bedford in Parliament (March) 1553, (October 1553, (April) 1554, 1555, 1558 and 1559. Leigh died November 1571. His first wife Katherine (see l. 18 ) died 1558 and he had remarried the following year.

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Bindoff, S.T., The House of Commons, II, pp 513-5, 518;  
Lehmberg, S.E., The Later Parliaments of Henry VIII,  
pp 207-208;  
Richardson, W.C., History of the Court of Augmentations  
p. 254.

- 5 Thomas Andrews of Charwelton, Northamptonshire, is listed by Emden as being the father of Thomas Andrews who became a successful lawyer in Bury St Edmunds, and M.P. for Sudbury (1563). However this is disputed by Hales. In 1550, Andrews was one of three men who purchased 120 trees from Peter Temple, for the sum of £23.

Alcock, N.W., Warwickshire Grazier and London Skinner 1532-1555 p. 180;

Emden, A.B., A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford 1501-1540, p. 9.

- \* Procurator William Walker presented the will, and the right of administration was granted to Thomas Leigh, as nominated in the will.

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## GLOSSARY

Unless otherwise specified, all definitions in this glossary have been obtained from the Oxford English Dictionary. All references to will numbers indicate the first time a word appears in the transcript, this also applies to instances where more than one spelling of a word has been shown.

- accions, w.2, - actions - legal steps taken to establish a claim or obtain a judicial remedy.
- accustomably, w.2, - accustomedly - habitually.
- adioyning, w.2, - adjoining - lying next to.
- adnichilate, w.17, - annihilate - make null and void.
- adnull, w.17, - to destroy the validity and make of none effect.
- advise, aduyse, w.4, - advice - the opinion given or offered regarding an action or decision.
- advancement, w.3, - advancement - promotion of rank, or improvement of one's situation.
- advowson, advoysone, w.10, - advowson - the patronage of an ecclesiastical office, the right of presentation to a benefice or living.
- aferme, w.17, - affirm - to confirm or ratify a statement or action.
- affiaunce, w.9, - trust.
- ageyne, w.7, - again.
- aglettes, w.15, - agletes - ornaments consisting of a gold or silver tag or pendant attached to a fringe, the term was extended to include any metallic stud or spangle worn on the dress.
- Almightie, Almyghtie, w.3, - Almighty - an attribute of the diety attached to GOD or other title.
- alyene, w.14, - alien - to transfer the legal ownership of a property to another, while retaining the equitable ownership, to transfer the 'use' of property.
- alyve, w.4, - alive.
- amblyng nagge, w.25, - ambling horse.
- ambyguytie, w.8, - ambiguity - able to be understood in two or more ways, of double significance.
- amove, w.14, - to remove a person or object, to dismiss from an office.
- amytist, w.6, - amethyst - a precious stone of a clear purple or bluish violet colour, of various degrees of intensity.
- angles, aungelles, w.37, - angels.
- annuitie, annuyties, w.2, - annuity - the grant of an annual sum of money.
- anny, w.27, - any.
- a pece, w.4, - a piece.

apertly, w.9, - clearly and evidently, without secrecy or concealment.

apprentys, w.14, - apprentice - one who is bound by legal agreement to serve his employer with a view to learning an art or profession.

apprentishod, w.14, - apprenticeship - the period for which an apprentice is bound, usually 7 years.

appurtenaunces, w.6, - appurtenance - the appendages, minor properties, rights or privileges associated with lands and tenements.

ar, w.10, - are.

arysing, w.14, - arising.

assigne, w. , - assignee - one who is appointed as a deputy or representative of another to whom a right or property is transferred.

aulter, w.6, - altar.

aunswere, w.33, - answer.

awntes, w.6, - aunts.

bakesyde, w.7, - back side.

barbor, w.30, - barber - those who trimmed beards, cut hair and performed dentistry.

bargayne, w.8, - bargain - a contract arranged between two parties.

bartyne, w.27, - barton - land of a manor that is not let out to tenants, but retained for the personal use of the owner.

basone, w.6, - basin - a hollow dish used to hold liquid, especially used for washing purposes, eg. 'basin and ewer'.

baye nagge, w.15, - bay horse - a horse of a reddish brown colour.

beasse, beastes, w.9, - beasts - domestic animals comprising part of a farm stock, usually refers to cows and bullocks.

bedd stockes, w.37, - bedstocks - the head and foot of the bedstead, joined together by cross-staves, or rungs.

beddinges, w.3, - bedding - a collective name for all the articles that compose a bed, mattress and bed-cloths.

beden row, w.10, - this has possibly been confused with a 'bead-roll', a list of people to be specially prayed for.

bedman, w.8, - beadman - one paid or endowed to pray for others, a pensioner or almsman charged with the duty of praying for the souls of his benefactors.

bedys, w.6, - beads.

behofe, behoofe, behovfe, w.7, - behoof - benefit or advantage.

behynde, w.2, - behind - late with a payment, after the due date.

belyve, w.26, - believe.

bene, byne, w.2, - been

bequeathe, bequethe, w.1, - bequeath - to make formal assignment of property in one's will.

- bequest, w.3, - an item or group of items bequeathed in a will.
- beseche, besching, w.9, - beseech - earnestly entreat.
- blankettes, w.6 - blankets.
- blewestone, w.6, - blue stone.
- blode, w.26, blood.
- bodge, w.14, - budge - a kind of fur, consisting of lamb's skin with the wool dressed outwards.
- bodie, bodye, w.1, - body.
- bokes, w.37, - books.
- bolles, bowle, w.8, - a round vessel to hold liquids, usually wide rather than deep.
- bowyeres, w.6, - bowyer - one who makes or trades in bows, a weapon for shooting arrows or other similar missiles.
- brasse, w.3, - brass - a yellow-coloured alloy (of copper and zinc or tin), commonly used to produce household vessels.
- breve, w.18, - brief.
- brewer, bruer, w.1, - one whose trade is to brew malt liquors.
- broche, w.15, - brooch - an ornamental fastening.
- brode table, w.45, - broad table.
- brydell, brydle, w.16, - bridle - the headgear of the harness of a horse, by which the animal is controlled and guided.
- burialle, buyrall, w.7, - burial - the act of interment of the body, and the funeral ceremony.
- bundes, w.9, - bounds - the boundary line of a territory.
- busshall, w.36, - a measurement of corn, wheat, etc.
- busynes, w.29, - business.
- buttre, w.27, - buttery - a domestic storehouse for provisions, especially liquor, often separate from the house.
- byllet, w.30, - billett - a thick piece of wood cut into suitable lengths for fuel, firewood of the size regulated by law.
- bytter, w.17, - bitter - expressing intense misery, grief, or affliction of the spirit.
- cam, w.8, - came.
- cansticke, w.8, - candlestick.
- capp, w.27, - cape - a short sleeveless outer garment.
- carpet, w.45, - a table-cloth.
- carvide chaire, w.37, - carved chair (not common in the sixteenth century, most seating consisted of benches and stools).
- caryeng, w.25, - carrying.
- cattal, cattel, w.1, - chattel - moveable possessions as distinct from land and buildings.
- celestrall, w.38, - celestial.
- cerimones, w.25, - ceremonies - a set of formal acts, particularly used on religious occasions.
- caffendishe, w.37, - chaffing-dish - a pan with a heater underneath (usually burning coals) to cook food to keep it warm.

- chalys, w.43, - chalice - a vessel of gold or silver for holding wine, from which consecrated wine is drunk at the Eucharist.
- chamlett, w.6, - camlet - a light cloth of various materials for cloaks etc, originally a costly Eastern mixture of silk and camels hair.
- chanoun, w.5, - canon - a clergyman who is one of a group with duties at the cathedral, living within the cathedral close and abiding by the canons of the church.
- chasee, w.1, - chase - a hunting ground or tract of enclosed land reserved for breeding and hunting animals; parkland.
- chaunsell, w.3, - chancel - the eastern part of the church reserved for the clergy and choir, usually separated by a rail or screen.
- cheasts, w.37, - chest.
- chef, w.14, - chief.
- chese preasse, w.37, - cheese press - a press used in cheese-making.
- cheyne, w.15, - chain.
- citizeine, w.6, - citizin - inhabitant or freeman of a city.
- clayme, w.2, - claim.
- clericum*, w.10, - see clerkes.
- clerkes, w.5, - clerks - clergyman or lay officer of a parish church or cathedral.
- close, w.22, - close - the grounds around a cathedral or abbey etc., usually with its buildings.
- clossets, w.23, - closets.
- cocke of barley, w.21 - small conical heap of barley.
- coffer, w.8, - a strong-box for valueables.
- cokes pott, w.45, - cook's pot.
- coles, w.14, - coals - hard opaque mineral found beneath the ground, increasingly used as a fuel in the sixteenth century.
- colte, w.33, - colt - a male horse up to five years of age.
- comennd, w.18, - commend - entrust to anothers care.
- commons, w.9, - common - land belonging to a community, especially unenclosed waste land.
- consanguyntie, w.37, - consanguinity - of the same blood, kin.
- consideracion, w.2, - consideration - compensation given as an equivalent.
- constitute, w.3, - to appoint a person to an office.
- conteyning, w.14, - containing.
- continewaunce, w.17, - continuance - duration.
- copieholde, copyhold, w.4, - tenure in accordance with transcript of manorial records.
- corte, w.16, - court - an assembly of judges or others acting as a tribunal.
- corteynes, w.23, - curtains.
- corydie, w.16,
- cotages, w.6, - cottages - labourer's or villager's small dwellings.

- cote, w.1, - coat - outer garment worn by men, usually of cloth with sleeves.
- couer, w.6, - cover - a lid.
- couerled, couerlett, coueryng, w.10, - coverlet - a bedspread.
- counsell, counsle, w.2, - see advise.
- countervaylethe, w.27, - countervail - counter-balance.
- countie, w.2, - county.
- course dyaper, w.6, - coarse diaper - a linen or cotton fabric with a small diamond pattern but rough or loose in texture.
- coyne, w.14, - desire something that belongs to another.
- cownter, w.37, - counterpane.
- creator, w.3, - God, the supreme being and creator of the world.
- crownes, w.26, - a British coin valued at five shillings.
- culter, w.45,
- cume, w.6, - come.
- cupboarde, w.9, - cupboard - initially a board on legs upon which the household plates and drinking vessels were placed, in the sixteenth century it was usually open shelves. Elizabethan Life: Home, Work and Land pp.21-22.
- curtillages, w.6, - curtilages - area attached to dwellings.
- damaske, w.34, - figured woven material with pattern visible on both sides.
- dame, w.22, - dam.
- deads, ded, dedis, w.2, - deeds - written legal agreements giving one ownership or rights.
- depute, w.37, - deputy.
- dethe, w.6, - death.
- dettes, w.1, - debts.
- deuyded, devieded, w.1, - divided.
- deuyse, w.2, - devise - assign by will.
- dewly, w.23, - duly.
- dewties, w.15, - duties.
- deyd, w.12, - dead.
- diches, w.22, - ditches.
- dilyuered, w.40, - delivered.
- doblet, dublet, w.1, - doublet - a close-fitting body garment (with or without sleeves), worn by men in the fourteenth to the eighteenth centuries.
- doole, w.28, - dole - an amount of money, food or fuel given to the poor.
- doon, w.9, - done.
- dorter chamber, w.27, - bedroom.
- dower, w.2, - widow's share of her husband's estate.
- dowry, w.11, - property of money brought by a bride to her husband.
- dowte, w.8, - doubt.
- dreade, drede, w.22, - object of awe.
- dyd, w.2, - did.
- dye, w.3, - die.
- dymynishhing, w.28, - diminishing.

- eche, eiche, w.10, - each.  
 eftesones, w.32, - eftsoons - soon afterwards.  
 egall, egall, w.14, - equal.  
 elles, els, w.2, - else.  
 emongest, w.1, - amongest.  
 er, w.5, - ere - formerly.  
 erthe, eyrthe, w.7, - earth.  
 espoused, w.3, - engaged to be married.  
 esteyme, w.19, - estimate.  
 evydens, w.10, - evidence.  
 ewys, w.36, - ewes.  
 executor, w.2, - one appointed to execute, administer the instructions of a will.  
 executrice, w.1, - female executor.  
 experyd, w.4, - expired.
- feding, w.9, - feeding - nourish and help grow.  
 fee symple, w.23, - an inherited estate without any limitation to the particular class of heir.  
 feoffament, w.13, - feoffment - particular mode of conveying freehold land.  
 ferme, w.15, - farm - a tract of land under one management, originally a reference to leased land only.  
 fesission, w.6, - physician - one who practises the art of healing, including medicine and surgery.  
 feyte, w.45, - feet.  
 flexone, w.8, - flaxen.  
 foole, foule, w.39, - foal.  
 formes, w.3, - forms - long bench seats without backs.  
 fortune, will 2, - one's destiny.  
 fourme, w.1, - arrangement and style, customary method of setting out words in a document.  
 fowndacion, w.29, - foundation - an endowed institution.  
 freeholde, w.6, - an estate held by tenure in fee simple or fee-tail, or for the term of lyfe.  
 frese, w.37, - frieze - a coarse woollen cloth with a soft or downy surface on one side.  
 furde, w.37, - furred - lined or trimmed with the dressed coat of animals such as ermine, beaver, fox.  
 fynding, w.3, - finding - providing and furnishing for one's needs.
- gawberdine, w.37, - gaberdine - a loose long upper garment, usually worn by almsmen.  
 gaynsaynge, w.23, - denying or contradicting.  
 gere, w.39, - gear - equipment such as harness of draught horses, tools, etc.  
 gesse, w.21, - geese.  
 geyding, w.21, - guiding, or guardianship of.  
 goldsmythe, w.6, - goldsmith - one who produces and sells articles of gold.  
 goodes, w.1, - moveable property that can be disposed of at will.  
 goodman, w.26, - the head of a household, a title used by one not of noble rank.

- goodwyf, w.14, - goodwife - see goodman.  
 gossop, w.10, - a godparent.  
 gubernance, governaunce, w.4, - influence and regulate  
 the life of another.  
 grotte, w.10, - groat - a silver coin valued at four pence,  
 in circulation 1352-1662.  
 guyllde ware, w.40, - gilt ware - dishes, plates and cups  
 etc covered with a thin layer of gold, laid on as  
 gold leaf.  
 gylte, w.2, - gilt.
- harrow, w.22, a heavy frame with iron teeth for breaking  
 clods on ploughed land.  
 hartely, w.9, - heartily - with the utmost goodwill.  
 hempene, w.8, - hempen - a textile fabric made from fibre  
 of the hemp plant, a native of India.  
 heires, heysrs, w.2, - heirs.  
 hereditaments, w.2, - real property that can be inherited  
 from one generation to the next.  
 herites, w.27, - inheritances.  
 hir, w.30, - her.  
 hit, w.5, - it.  
 homelie, w.37, - homily - sermon used in parish churches  
 (of the Church of England), published in the Book  
 of Homilies in 1547 and 1563.  
 hoose, w.1, - hose - article of clothing for the leg.  
 hosties, w.37, - hostess.  
 howse maine, meanye, w.37, -
- ibidem*, w.3, - as above  
 impotente, w.37, - a powerless and helpless portion of  
 the poor, those unable to work.  
 inclosed, w.22, - enclosed - land fenced in to make it  
 private property, and usually worked as pastoral land.  
 incombent, w.10, - incumbent - one who holds an  
 ecclesiastical benefice.  
*in dei nomine*, w.3, - in the name of god.  
 indenture, w.37, - a sealed and binding document drawn  
 up in duplicate, and divided by a zig-zag line.  
 in gage, w.6, - engage - bound by contract.  
 inioye, w.6, enjoy.  
*in primus*, w.19, - firstly.  
 in tayle, w.23, - entail - an estate that cannot be  
 bequeathed at will, but must follow the line of  
 succession.  
 intermelle, w.37, - to disagree and dispute among themselves  
 intitelede, w.37, - entitled - the name given to a book.  
 issue, w.7, - children.  
 iustelye, w.28, - justly.
- joynture, w.2, - jointure - an estate limited to a wife  
 after her husband's death, as agreed at the time of  
 marriage.  
 juelles, w.6, - jewels.

- kerchis, w.8, - kerchief.
- kettyll, w.23, - kettle - a metal vessel for boiling water, similar to a cauldron.
- knoppes, w.6, - knobs.
- kychyne, w.23, - kitchen - the part of the house where the food is prepared sometimes detaches to reduce fire risk. Elizabethan Life: Home, work and land. p.2.
- kyne, w.8, - cow.
- kynne, kynsfoulke, w.6, - kin.
- lawdyd, w.1, - lauded - praise be given.
- leaces, leasse, w.1, - lease - contract between two or more persons whereby land is transferred from one to another for an agreed period, usually in consideration for rent.
- leuerey, w.6, - livery - distinctive clothing worn by a member of a city company, or by a person's servants.
- leve, w.33, - leave.
- levith, w.20, - live.
- longing, w.23, - belonging.
- long setle, w.37, - a long bench with a high back and arms, and often with a chest from seat to floor.
- lyke forme, w.2, - like form - in the same manner.
- lyned, w.6, - lined.
- lynen, w.9, - linen - cloth made from flax fibres.
- maie, w.38, - may.
- maine, meine, w.37, - a body of retainers.
- maior, w.25, - mayor - the head of the municipal corporation of a city or borough.
- manu mea propria*, w.3, - by my own hand.
- mark, w.2, - a money of account in Britain, originally representing a mark (8 oz) of silver, valued at 13s.8d.
- marke, w.29, - either a person's signature, or a mark, such as a cross, accepted as the signature of an illiterate person.
- mariage money, w.6, - see dowry.
- maser, w.6, - mazer, - a hard-wood drinking-bowl usually silver-mounted, a 'standing mazer' being mounted on a stem.
- mater, mattre, w.37, - matter.
- mattres, w.2, - mattress - a fabric case filled with soft materials and used as a bed.
- mayne, w.28, - many.
- maynteyne, w.13, - maintain.
- meade, meadowes, w.1, - meadow - land permanently grassed, used for pasture.
- meane season, w.37, - meantime.
- melche kye, w.40, - milk cow.
- mulier, w.28, - legitimate child, born in wedlock.
- mell, w.37, - dispute, argue or meddle.
- messuages, w.6, - dwelling-houses with outbuildings and land assigned to their use.
- mete, w.6, - meat.

- mete, meyt, w.17, - to portion out.
- misterie, w.28, - mystery - a closed membership of craftsmen or tradesmen, who keep their methods to themselves.
- moche, w.2, - much.
- mone, monneye, mony, w.2, - money.
- moneths mynde, w.4, - month's mind - the commemoration of a departed soul, usually a requiem mass a month after the funeral.
- mornynge gowne, w.29, - mourning gown - black clothing as a mark of respect for the dead.
- mutuable luf, w.29, - one's life on earth is borrowed time.
- mynishe, w.37, - diminish.
- napery, w.6, - household linen, especially table linen.
- nawnte, w.6, - aunt.
- ne, w.27, - nor.
- neclygentlye, w.1, - negligently - something left undone or unattended, through lack of attention.
- nephue, neviewe, w.6, - nephew.
- neyt, w.40, - neat - an animal to the bovine family; an ox, cow or heifer.
- nobles, w.20, - a monetary coin valued at 6s. 8d.
- nonage, w.25, - a minor, under the age of 21 years, unless another age has been specified in the will.
- notorium publicum*, w.28, - a person officially authorized to witness the signing of documents and to perform other formal transactions.
- ob., w.6, - obolus - formerly used to denote a half-penny.
- oblacions, w.2, - oblations - donations to God.
- obligacion, w.2, - obligations - binding contracts enforceable under legal penalty.
- onely, w.2, - only.
- oon, w.2, - on.
- oone, w.6, - one.
- ordayne, ordeyne, w.1, - ordain - appoint a person to an office.
- ove, w.37, - over.
- overseers, w.1, - persons appointed by the testator to supervise and assist in the execution of his will.
- parcell gilt, w.7, - a surface partially gilded, especially a cup with a gilt inside.
- parchement lace, w.34, - a fabric or trimming made in an ornamental open-work design, in the colour of parchment.
- parfyte, perfyte, w.3, - perfect.
- parlor, perlare, w.9, - parlour - the bed-chamber of the master and mistress of the household.
- pattent, w.10, - to which one has a proprietary claim.
- pease, w.21, - peas.
- personall, w.2, - personal - moveable property that can be bequeathed at will by the testator.
- pesabely, w.21, - peaceably - without disturbance.
- pewter, w.3, - a gray alloy of tin and lead, or other metal, frequently used for household utensils.

- plate, w.6, - table and domestic utensils of gold, silver, or other metals.
- ponnd, w.2, - pond.
- posnet, w.23, - a pot, usually of pewter or brass, with three feet and a handle. Used to boil water. Elizabeth Life: Home, Work and land, p.26.
- postede, w.23, - a bed with posts at each corner, joined together, with curtains hanging around each side of the bed.
- poundes, w.1, - pounds - an accepted English currency, valued at 20s., it was originally a pound weight of silver.
- prebent, w.10, - prebend - a portion of land from which a stipend for a cathedral or collegiate church is drawn, and paid to a canon.
- preferment, w.2, - promotion.
- queare, w.37, - quire, choir - the chancel of a cathedral, minister or large church.
- quyes, w.39, - cow.
- rather, w.10, - sooner.
- realle, w.2, - immoveable property, usually land or buildings.
- receyuer, w.16, - receiver - collector of the king's rents.
- rector's, w.3, - rector.
- reliffe, relyfe, w.4, - relief - assistance given to the poor in the form of monetary contribution, food and drink, or heating fuel.
- renunce, w.28, - renounce.
- reparacion, w.2, - reparation - repairs made to the fabric of a church, or to roading.
- residue, residewe, w.1, - what remains of an estate, unbequeathed, after all debts and funeral costs have been paid, and all legacies fulfilled.
- reuenwes, w.37, - revenues.
- reuercion, w.2, - reversion - the legal right to possess something when its present holder relinquishes it, the returning of a right or property in this way.
- rogge, rughe cote, w.19, - red coat.
- russet, w.6, - reddish-brown in colour.
- salte, w.6, - a vessel containing salt for table use.
- sarcynet tippate, w.41, - sarcenet tippet - a cape of fine silk, covering the shoulders and coming down the front, worn as part of the official costume of the clergy.
- satten, w.1, - satten - a silk fabric woven in such a way that it has a glossy surface on one side.
- sawcer, w.35, - saucer - shallow dishes for sauces and condiments. Elizabethan Life: Home, Work and Land p.27.
- sciete, w.22, - site.
- sepulture, w.18, - burial.
- serimones, w.26, - see ceremones.
- sheaf, w.21, - an armful of stalks laid lengthwise and bound together after reaping.
- shewe, w.9, - show.

shewes, w.8, - shoes.  
 shurerties, suerties, w.25, - surety.  
 smockes, w.8, - an outer, lined garment of shirt-like shape.  
 solers, w.23, - sollar - bedroom.  
 some, w.2, - sum.  
 sone, soune, w.3, - soon.  
 sonne, w.1, - son.  
 sometyme, sumtyme, w.2, - sometime - an former marriage.  
 sparver, w.8, - canopy for a bed.  
 spyttes, w.3, - spits - a splendor bar on which meat that  
 is to be roasted is rotated before a fire.  
 stillatorie, w.23, - distilling equipment.  
 subiettes, w.34, - subjects.  
 swerdeberar, w.41, - sword-bearer - one who carries the  
 sword of the sovereign or other official on great  
 occasions.

temperalle, w.41, - temporal  
 temys, w.15, - teams.  
 tenements, w.1, - lands or other properties held by a tenant.  
 testator, w.2, - one who makes a will.  
 thadminestracion, w.17, - the administration - management  
 of a person's estate.  
 thadvancement, w.23, the advancement.  
 thadyce, w.25, - the advice.  
 thandes, w.6, - the hand.  
 thannunciacion, w.16, - the Annunciation - the festival  
 commemorating the day the angel Gabriel made the  
 announcement of the incarnation to the Virgin Mary;  
 March 25, quarter day.  
 thannuytie, w.15, - the annuity - see annuytie.  
 thappurtenaunces, w.6, - the appurtenances - see  
 appurtenaunces.  
 tharbage, w.27, - the arbour.  
 thauncient, w.14, - the ancient.  
 their, theyr, w.4, - their  
 theire, ther, w.6, - there.  
 theis, thes, w.5, - these.  
 thelect, w.29, - the elect - those chosen by God.  
 themps, w.39, - the hemp - see hempen  
 thens, w.14, - thence.  
 theretyne, w.3, - thirteen.  
 thestate, w.27, - the estate.  
 thexecution, w.6, - the execution - performing a testator's  
 requests  
 tresstes, trestelles, w.6, - trestles - the supporting  
 structure for a table consisting of a bar supported  
 by two divergent pairs of legs.  
 trewe, w.2, - true.  
 trussing bedes, w.40, - truckle bed - a low bed that may  
 be pushed under another bed, usually used by the  
 personal servants of the rich who sleep at the foot  
 of the main bed.  
 tythes, w.1, - tithes - one tenth part of annual proceeds  
 of land, and of personal industry, taken for the  
 support of the clergy and the church.  
 tytull, w.43, - title.

- valewe, w.6, - value.  
 verelie, w.43, - truly.  
 vertue, w.14, - virtue - on the strength of.  
 viage, w.34, - voyage.  
 vnce, w.6, - ounce - a measurement of one-twelfth of a pound.  
 vnderwoods, w.7, - undergrowth.  
 vnivste, w.37, - unjust.  
 vyewe, w.9, - view - inspect.
- ward, w.17, - an administrative division of a city.  
 wardens, w.17, - a person elected to a secular office in the parish, or as the person responsible for a given ward in the city government.  
 warres, w.34, - wars.  
 weale, welth, w.12, - prosperity and good fortune.  
 weke, w.32, - weak.  
 wekes, w.8, - weeks.  
 wepains, w.12, - weapons - instruments designed to inflict bodily harm, usually guns and swords.  
 white plate, w.6, - silver.  
 wief, wif, wyf, w.1, - wife.  
 wolde, w.16, - would.  
 workes, w.6, - works - deeds undertaken.  
 worsted, w.37, - a fabric of a fine and even combed yarn that produces a glossy surface without any sign of woolliness. Cloth and Clothing in Medieval Europe: Essays in memory of Professor E.M. Carus-Wilson, ed by N.B. Harte and K.G. Ponting, p.82.  
 wylle, w.1, - will.
- yate howse, w.27, - gate house.  
 yere, w.1, - year.  
 yeven, w.14, - given.  
 yf, w.2, - if.  
 ymplements, w.6, - implements - household tools and equipment.  
 ymploed, w.7, - employed - set to work.  
 ynyoith, w.27, - see inioye.  
 yoman, w.5, - yeoman - a landowner, often with wealth, but only of the middle class.  
 yssue, w.7, - see issue.  
 yt, w.6, - it.

PLACE-NAME INDEX

All names first appear in the index as they are spelt in the manuscript, followed by modern spelling. Where a place-name can be found in more than one county, I have taken the place-name geographically closest to other names mentioned in the same will, unless additional information has indicated otherwise.

Abbreviations for counties used in the index are listed below:

Beds.	Bedfordshire	Northants.	Northamptonshire
Berks.	Berkshire	Norf.	Norfolk
Bucks.	Buckinghamshire	Oxon	Oxfordshire
Dens.	Denbighshire	Rutland	Rutland
Derbs.	Derbyshire	Shrops.	Shropshire
Devon	Devonshire	Soms.	Somerset
Dorset	Dorset	Staff.	Staffordshire
Essex	Essex	Suff.	Suffolk
Glos.	Gloucestershire	Surr.	Surrey
Hants.	Hampshire	Suss.	Sussex
Herts.	Hertfordshire	Warks.	Warwickshire
Leics.	Leicestershire	Wilts.	Wiltshire
Lincs.	Lincolnshire	Worcs.	Worcestershire

- Agmondesham, Amersham, Bucks., w.7.  
 Aldenham, Herts, w.17.  
 Ashemanworth, Ashmansworth, Hants., w.13.  
 Aston Flamwell, Aston Flamville, Leics., w.12  
 - Orast  
 Balsall, Warks., w.34.  
 Bampton, Oxon., w.5.  
 - Burton, parish of.  
 Basingstoke, Hants., w.13.  
 - St Mychaell, St Michael, church of.  
 Basingthorpe, Bassingthorpe, Lincs., w.25.  
 Basteldon, Basildon, Berks., w.38.  
 - Harteridge, land.  
 Begham, Suss., w.2  
 Bekyn Feld, Beaconfield, Bucks., w.7.  
 - Grene Mede, land.  
 - Hache Croft, land.  
 Bengworth, Bengeworth, Worcs., w.41.  
 Beckeley, Beckley, Oxon., w.4.  
 - Horsepath, parish of.

- Berking, Barking, Mx., w.18.  
 Bechamton, Beachampton, Bucks., w.8.  
 Boston, Lincs., w.25.  
 Bourton, Berks., w.21.  
 Bremer, Breamore, Hants., w.10.  
 Brightlynge, Brightling, Suss., w.2.  
   - Derveld, land [?]  
 Brikkulleshirst, Bricklehurst, Suss., w.2.  
   - Mapisden, Maplesden, manor of.  
 Bristow, Bristol, Glos., w.24.  
 Brysett Magna, Bricett, Suff., w.18.  
 Buckminster, Buckminster, Leics., w.40.  
 Burdescote alias Buscote, Buscot, Berks., w.9.  
 Burwescote, see Burdescote, w.21.  
   - Colnam  
 Byllyngton, Billington, Beds., w.15.  
   - Byllyngton Manor, Billington Manor.
- Cassalton, Castleton, [Derbs?] w.15.  
 Canforde, Canford, Dorset, w.28.  
 Charvelton, Charwelton, Nants., w.45.  
 Chawndwiche, Chaddenwick, Wilts., w.28.  
 Chillnor, Chinnor; Oxon, w.4.  
 Closewood, Closeworth, Soms., w.44.  
 Coffynes Wille, Coffinswell, Devon., w.27.  
 Comner, Cumnor, Berks., w.21.  
 Condouer, Condoover, Shrops., w.19.  
 Coxall, Herts., w.16.  
 Croft, Lincs., w.37.  
 Crundalle, Crundale, Kent., w.31.  
 Culverden, [Culverstone Green], Kent, w.2.
- Dagnam, Dagenam, Essex, w.29.  
 Dawley, Mx., w.28.  
 Dawnertone, Donnerton, Bucks., w.8.  
 Denbigh, Dens., Wales, w.33.  
 Dodersall, Doddershall, Bucks., w.8.  
 Dumwich, Dunwich, Suff., w.22.  
   - Blackefryers, Blackfriars, land.  
   - Galtrey Hill, land.  
   - Gaves Close, land.  
   - Gawlery Hill, land.  
   - Harrysons Close, land.  
   - Myddelton Way, land.  
   - St James Hill, farm.  
   - St Peters, church of.  
   - Tacle Close, land and dam.
- Endfeld, Endfield, Mx., w.1.  
   - Enfield Chase.  
 Estham, East Ham, Ess., w.14.  
 Estogwell, East Ogwell, Devon., w.27.
- Fladbery, Fladbury, Worcs., w.43.  
 Foramsdeyne, Framsdan, Suff., w.23.  
 Fraunte, Fant, Suss., w.2.  
 Fyfeld Nevell, Fifehead Neville, Dorset, w.30.

- Glowcettur, Gloucester, Gos., w.41.  
 Goppynge Crowche, Kippings Cross Suss., w.2.  
 Grendon Underwood, Bucks., w.8.  
 Grenewich, Greenwich, Kent, w.16.  
 Grete Marlow, Marlow, Bucks., w.30.  
 Groue, Grove, Berks., w.21.
- Hale, Great & Little, Lincs., w.39.  
 Halywell Street, Mx., w.6.  
 Hampton by Evesham, Worcs., w.41.  
 Harlington, Mx., w.35.  
 Hawkeslowes, Hawkesbury, Gos., w.43.  
 Hawkeswell, Little Hawkwell, Kent, w.2.  
 Heckington, Kesteven, Lincs., w.39.
  - Pace House
  - Shepard Ox Grange
  - Wynkhill
- Hedington, Headington, Oxon., w.4.  
 Helmerton, Hilmarton, Wilts., w.10.  
 Helmingham, Suff., w.23.  
 Hepworth, Suff., w.23.  
 Hethfolde, Heathfield, Suss., w.2.  
 Highworth, Wilts., w.9.
  - Eshcroppe, land [?]
- Holbeme, Holbeam, Devon., w.27.  
 Holberton, Holbeton, Devon., w.27.
  - Watton, land [?]
  - Shewtehanger, land [?]
- Holbourne, Holborn, Mx., w.16.  
 Hollwelbery, Holwell Bury, Beds., w.42.  
 Hopton, Suff., w.23.  
 Horne, Horn, Surr., w.16.  
 Horne Church, Hornchurch, Ess., w.17.  
 Horwood, Great & Little, Bucks., w.8.  
 Houghton Conquest, Beds., w.3.
- Illmister, Illminster, Soms., w.44.  
 Ivychurch, Kent, w.35.
- Jell [?], Wales, w.33.
- Ketton Roteland, Ketton Rutland, w.40.  
 Kinges Norton, Kings Norton, Worcs., w.43.
  - mill
- Kinges Taynton, Kingesteignton, Devon, w.10.  
 Kingeston upon Theymse, Kingston upon Thames, Surr., w.30.
  - Blomutttes Farm
  - Clattrynge Brige, Clattring Bridge
  - St James, church of.
- Kylforme, Kylford, Dens., Wales, w.33.
- Lambreste, Lamberhurst, Kent, w.2.
  - Bromebrige, land [?]
  - Twessheshe, Twyssenden, land [?]
- Langestocke, Longstock, Hants., w.20, 36.  
 Lechlarde, Lechlade, Gos., w.21.

- Lickford, Leckford, Hants., w.20.  
 Lincoln, Lincs., w.37.  
   - monastery [?]  
 Little Bylling, Little Billing, Northants, w.15.  
 Lleweny, Dens., Wales, w.33.  
 London, Mx., w.6, 7, 11, 14, 16, 17, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32.  
   - Aldersgate, w.6.  
   - Aldersgatestrete, Aldersgate Street, w.16.  
   - Aldemarie, Aldermary, w.26.  
     - church of.  
     - ward of.  
   - Bassieshawe, [Bassieshaw], w.17.  
     - ward of.  
   - Bysshoppeshall, w.16.  
     - manor of.  
   - Cornhill, w.27.  
   - Graye Fryers, Grey Friars, w.29.  
     - Cristes Church, Christ's Church.  
   - Kentishstrete, Kentish Street, w.16.  
   - Kinges Bench, w.6.  
     - prison of.  
   - Leper, see St Peters.  
   - Ludgate, w.6.  
     - prison of.  
   - Marshalsey, Marshalsea, w.6.  
     - prison of.  
   - Newgate, w.6, 29.  
     - prison of.  
   - St Barthelmewes, w.17, 26.  
     - hospitial  
   - St Laurence Pulteney, w.14.  
     - lane  
     - parish of.  
   - St Olave Syluerstrete, St Olave Silver Street, w.6.  
     - church of.  
   - St Poules, St Pauls, w.16, 32.  
     - grammer school.  
   - Smythfeld, Smithfield, w.26.  
   - Southwark, w.16.  
   - Sylvesterstrete, Sylvester Street, w.6.  
   - Westmerland Place, Westmoreland Place, w.6.  
   - Westmynster, Westminster, w.16.  
 Lymington, Hants., w.10.
- Maydon Bradley, Maiden Bradley, Wilts., w.28.  
 Mere, Wilts., w.28.  
 Moche Brychyll, Great Brickhill, Bucks., w.15.  
 Mylewick Park, [Milewich, Staff.,] w.33.  
 Myssenden, Great & Little Missendon, Bucks., w.8.
- Nedham Market, Needham Market, Suff., w.18.  
 Newberry, Newbury, Berks., w.13.  
 Newton Abbot, Devon., w.27.  
 Newynton Longfyld, Newton Longville, Bucks., w.8.  
 Northfilde, Northfield, Worcs., w.43.  
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Oxford, Oxon., w.4, 5.  
   - Cristes Church, Christs Church, cathedral.  
 Pettawghe, Pettaugh, Suff., w.23.  
   - Cowlech [?]  
 Peturborow, Peterborough, w.45.  
  
 Queynton, Quainton, Bucks., w.8.  
  
 Reding, Reading, Berks., w.10.  
 Reygate, Reigate, Surr., w.30.  
 Rikemansworth, Herts., w.17.  
 Rockyngge, Rockingham, Northants, w.35.  
 Rvmforth, Rumford, Ess., w.16.  
  
 St Assaph, St Asaph, Dens. Wales, w.33.  
 Salford, Beds., w.8.  
 Sarum, Salisbury, Wilts., w.10.  
   - Gille, prison.  
   - Gratte, prison.  
   - St Thomas, church of.  
 Sappret, Sapperton, Kesteven, Lincs., w.8.  
 Schenly, Shenley, Bucks., w.8.  
 Sewestern, Leics., w.40.  
 Shiccellington, Shillington, Beds., w.42.  
   - Ashewell, land [?]  
 Shover, Shovers Green, Suss., w.2.  
 Shurlench, Church Lench, Worcs., w.43  
 Snave, Romney Marsh, Kent, w.35.  
   - Pymiocke Bridge.  
 Southampton, Hants., w.13, 20, 28.  
 Spyunhamland, Speenhamland, Berks., w.13.  
 Staunton St John, Stanton St John, Oxon., w.4.  
 Stauerton, Staverton, Northants. w.45.  
   - Longlands, land  
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 Stifford, Ess., w.29.  
   - Bartors and Forgers, land  
   - Leverlands, land  
   - Whites, land.  
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   - Rybynge, land [?]  
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   - New Priory, land.

- Tykleton, Ticklerton, Shrops., w.14.  
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   - Bromden and Walbridge, land.  
   - Churchfeld, land.
- Upton, Northants, w.45.
- Waddun, see Whaddoune.  
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   - Berry Close, land.
- Wallys, Wales, w.19.  
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- Waynflete, Wainfleet All Saints, Lincs., w.37.  
   - Allhallows, All Saints, church of.  
   - common school  
   - Northolmes end, gate.  
   - White Cross, White Cross Clough, land.
- Welles, Wells, Soms., w.16.  
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 Westogwell, West Ogwell, Devon., w.27.  
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   - cathedral.
- Winsam, Winsham, Soms., w.44.  
   - Abram mill.
- Wolton, Dorset, w.28.  
 Wolston, Warks, w.34.  
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 Wynston, Winston, Suff., w.23.  
 Wynterburne, Winterbourne, Glos., w.24.  
   - St Michael tharcangell, St Michael the Archangel,  
   church of.

SURNAME INDEX

In all cases the name that first appears in the index is the spelling that occurred most frequently in the manuscript. The names that appear in [ ] are alternative spellings that occur in the wills, or spellings that are commonly used in other sources. Where more than one person of the same name appears in the index, I have emphasised the point by placing numbers in ( ) beside the names.

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 Dobson, Sir Christopher,  
     vicar, w.38  
 Dod, Henry, w.16  
 DONET, ALEXANDER, (1), w.13  
 Donet, Alexander, (2), w.13  
 Donet, Amy, w.13  
 Donet, Annys, w.13  
 Donet, Robert, w.13  
 Doosell, Thomas, woolman,  
     w.21  
 Dorye, Edward, w.31  
 Dotyne, John, clerk, w.5  
 Douncomte, . . . . ., w.7  
 Draper, John, servant, w.44  
 Drewe, John, w.20  
 Drewe, Olyffe, w.20  
 Drewe, Richard, w.20  
 Dringe, Margerey, w.5  
 Dringe Drynge, Alexander,  
     w.5  
 Dringe, Alice, w.5  
 Dringe, Christopher, w.5  
 Dringe, Elizabeth, w.5  
 Dringe, Fraunces, w.5  
 Dringe, John, w.5  
 Dringe, Olyver, w.5

- Dringe, Nicholas, w.5  
 Dringe, Symon, w.5  
 Dringe, Thomas, w.5  
 Dringe, William, w.5  
 DRINGE, WILLIAM, w.5  
 Drope, Aliuson, w.37  
 Drope, John, w.37  
 Drope, William, w.37  
 Drope, Mistress, w.37  
 Dryhurste, Peyrs, w.33  
 Dyer, Jeafrey, w.37  
 Dygby [Digby], Kellam,  
     M.P., w.40  
  
 Edgaour, Edward, gent.,  
     w.18  
 Edward VI, w.2, f.n.1;  
     w.16 f.n.1, f.n.2  
 Edmundes, Thomas, w.21  
 Elborne, Edward, w.6  
 Elborne, Elizabeth,  
     maid, w.6  
 Elizabeth I, w.6, f.n.3;  
     w.16, f.n.2, f.n.3,  
     f.n.15  
 Elles, Edmund, w.8.  
 Ellys, Elizabeth, w.39  
 Ellys, Thomas, w.39  
 Ellys, Thomasyne, w.39  
 Ellys, William, w.39  
 Elmhame, Sir William,  
     vicar, w.36  
 Elshowe, Margaret, w.41  
 Elshowe, Thomas, w.41  
 Elshowe, . . . . ., w.41  
 Estwood, George, w.39  
 Estwood, William, w.39  
 Eton, Rauf, w.14  
 Ewat, John, h/h, w.20  
 Eylis, John, h/h, w.20  
  
 Fairchilde, Elizabeth,  
     w.40  
 Fastolfe, Anne, w.23  
 Fastolfe, Dorathe, w.23  
 Fastolfe, Edwarde, w.23  
 Fastolfe, Elizabeth, w.23  
 Fastolfe, Floraunce, w.23  
 Fastolfe, Fraunces, w.23  
 Fastolfe, Henry, w.23  
 FASTOLFE, JOHN, (1) w.23  
 Fastolfe, John, (2) w.23  
 Fastolfe, Lettisse, w.23  
 Fastolfe, Marie, w.23  
 Fastolfe, Thomas, (1) w.23  
 Fastolfe, Thomas, (2) w.23  
 Fermor, Mistress, w.6  
 Fermor [Fermour], William,  
     clerk of Exchequer, w.6  
  
 Fenelle, Edwarde, h/h, w.20  
 Fletcher, Foulke, w.33  
 Flode, Robert, w.20  
 Flory, John, w.40  
 Forster, Anthony, (1) w.34  
 Forster, Anthony, (2) w.34  
 Forster, Charles, w.34  
 FORSTER, GYLES, W.34  
 Forster, Sir Homfrey, w.34  
 Forster, John, w.34  
 Forster, Kateryne, w.34  
 Forster, Thomas, w.34  
 Forster, William, (1) w.34  
 Forster, William, (2) w.34  
 Foster, John, w.35  
 Foster, Margarie, w.39  
 Foster, Thomas, w.39  
 Franklyne, . . . . ., goodwyfe,  
     w.26  
 Fraunces, William, w.40  
 Frebery, Elizabeth, w.21  
 Frebery, Margeryt, w.21  
 Frebery, Robert, w.21  
 Frebery, Susant, w.21  
 Fryar, Robert, w.2  
 Fryars, Edward, w.4  
 Fulfarde, Joane, w.43  
 Fykette, . . . . ., w.22  
  
 Galewey, Myles, w.31  
 Gardener, Edmund, w.45  
 Garnet, William, w.1  
 Gattagre [Gattacre],  
     William, esq., w.43  
 Gaverocke, John, gent., w.27  
 Gaynsford, John, w.15  
 Gaynsford, Katheryne, w.15  
 GAYNSFORD, NICHOLAS, w.15  
 Gent, William, w.45  
 Gentle [Gentill], Stephyne,  
     servant, w.16  
 Gentle, James, provost, w.16  
 Gentle, Marget, w.16  
 George, Marget, w.8  
 Gibsone, Gulisbus, clerk, w.37  
 Gifforde [Gyfford], John, w.6  
 Gilberd, Joane, w.45  
 Glen, Agnes, w.45  
 Glen, Edward, w.45  
 GLEN, ELIZABETH, (1) w.45  
 Glen, Elizabeth, (2) w.45  
 Glen, Jasper, w.45  
 Glen, John, w.45  
 Glen, Marget, w.45  
 Glen, Marten, w.45  
 Glen, Nicholas, w.45  
 Godfrey, Edwarde, w.35  
 Goering, Elene, w.9  
 Goering [Georing], Katheryne,  
     w.9

- Goering, Richard, w.9  
 Goering, Symon, w.9  
 Goering, Thomas, w.9  
 Goode, Robert, w.28  
 Gorclyf, Benet, w.27  
 Gostwicke, Anie, w.45  
 Gostwicke, Edwarde,  
     receiver, w.45  
 Gostwicke, Robert, w.45  
 Gostwicke, William, w.45  
 Gray, John, clerk, w.37  
 Graylyng, John, w.2  
 Greffeth, John, w.16  
 Greke, Thomas, clerk, 2.  
 Grene, Agnes, w.37  
 Grene, Christopher, w.37  
 Grene, John, (1) w.37  
 Grene, John, (2) w.21  
 Grene, Katheryne, w.37  
 Grene, Laurence, w.37  
 Grene, Marie, w.37  
 Grene, Margaret, (1) w.37  
 Grene, Margaret, (2) w.37  
 Grene, Marten, w.37  
 Grene, Richard, w.37  
 Grene, Robert, w.37  
 Grene, William, w.37  
 Grenfelde, Henry, w.44  
 Gretham, . . . . ., w.7  
 Grevys, Thomas, w.43  
 Grewell, John, h/h, w.20  
 Griffith, Morishe, w.24  
 Grover, Agnes, w.31  
 Gryffyne, Jemys, servant,  
     w.21  
 Grlys, Edmund, clerk, w.18  
 Gunter, Agnes, w.9  
 Gunter, Elizabeth, w.9  
 Gunter, Jeffrey, w.9  
 Gunter, Joane, w.9  
 Gunter, Symon, w.9  
 Gybbes, Phillipe, w.28  
 Gybsone, John, w.37  
 Gybsone, . . . . ., Mistress,  
     w.37  
 Gyfforde [Gifforde], Alice,  
     w.31  
 Gyfforde, Jerom, w.31  
 Gyfforde, Lady Joane, w.31  
 Gyfford, Rycharde, w.31  
 GYFFORD, SIR WILLIAM, w.31  
  
 Hadock, Cecelly, w.31  
 Hadock, . . . . ., w.31  
 Hale, Jane, w.27  
 Hall, Richard, w.22  
 Hallidaye Hollydaye , Thomas,  
     scribe, w.22  
 Hamden, Johane, w.8  
 Harpar, John, w.43  
 ap Harry, Sir William, clerk,  
     w.33  
 Harrys, Elizabeth, w.8  
 Harrysene, John, w.22  
 Harvill, Joane, w.20  
 HARVILL, JOHN, w.20  
 Harvill, William, w.20  
 Hatcher, Mawde, maid, w.20  
 Hatfeld, John, w.45  
 Hanscombe, Bettres, w.42  
 Hanscombe, Mathewe, w.42  
 HANSCOMBE, ROBERT, (1)  
     husbandman, w.42  
 Hanscombe, Robert, (2) w.42  
 Hanscombe, . . . . , Mistress, w.42  
 Hawker, George, yeoman, w.44  
 Hawker, Marye, w.44  
 Hawker, Thomas, gent, w.44  
 Hawle Hall , Richard, clerk,  
     w.36  
 Hawted, John, w.36  
 Hegans, Sir John, vicar, w.41  
 Hemewey, . . . . ., Mr, w.26  
 Hene, Sir John, w.45  
 Henley, Margery, w.8  
 Henley, Sir Walter, M.P., w.8  
 Henry VIII, w.2 f.n.1; w.10  
     f.n.2; w.13 f.n.2; w.16  
     f.n.2, f.n.16; w.23 f.n.8;  
     w.30 f.n.1  
 Herde, Thomas, scribe, w.11  
 Heynes, William, w.19  
 Heyword, Thomas, w.19  
 Hichecokke, John, w.28  
 Higham, Joane, servant, w.14  
 Hodgekyns, Richard, w.28  
 Holbeme, Cristian, w.27  
 HOLBEME, JOHN, (1) w.27  
 Holbeme, John, (2) w.27  
 Holbeme, Mary, w.27  
 Holbeme, Roger, w.27  
 Holdar, Agnes, (1) w.41  
 Holdar, Agens, (2) w.41  
 Holfforde, Alexander, w.2  
 Holdstockes, John, rector, w.3  
 Holmes, Thomas, w.38  
 Hopkyne, Elyne, w.36  
 Hopkyne, Thomas, w.36  
 Holte, Richard, w.10  
 Hoole, Christopher, w.28  
 Hore, . . . . ., w.37  
 Horne, Annys, w.5

- Horne, Marie, w.27  
 Horne, Mawde, w.5  
 Horrod, Henry, w.45  
 Houlett, Thomas, w.45  
 Houper [Houper, Hooper],  
     John, Bishop of  
     Gloucester, w.26  
 Howman, Aguestas, w.29  
 Howman, John, w.29  
 Howman, Mighell, w.14  
 Howman, William, w.29  
 Hubberd, Mistress, w.37  
 Humfrey, John, w.2  
 Humfrey, . . . . ., w.21  
 Husey, Anthony, proctor  
     & M.P., w.6  
 Hyde, Mr, clerk of  
     Exchequer, w.6  
     Danyall, w.41  
 Hygford, John, w.34  
  
 Ibery, Joane, w.21  
 Isarde, Joane, w.4  
 Isarde, William, w.4  
  
 Jackat, Henry, w.21  
 Jacobe, Denys, w.32  
 Jacobe, James, school-  
     master, w.32  
 Jacsone, John, w.45  
 James, Sir William,  
     clerk, w.22  
 JARMAN, RICHARD,  
     merchant taylor,  
     w.26  
 Jarman, Thomas, w.26  
 Jarman, . . . . ., w.26  
 Jarvys, Jemys, gent.,  
     w.21  
 Jekett, Barthilmewe, w.6  
 Jekett, Mistress, w.6  
 Jenkyne, . . . . ., servant,  
     w.26  
 Johns, . . . . ., w.16  
     see JONES w.32  
 Johns, Besse, w.16  
 Johns, Quyntyne, 2.16  
 Johnson, John, fishmonger,  
     w.14  
 Jones, Elizabeth, w.32  
 JONES, RYCHARDE, school  
     master, w.32  
  
 Kelly, John, w.28  
 Kenerycke, John, w.33  
 King, Robert, w.1  
  
 Kingesmyll, . . . . ., w.31  
 Knappe, Elizabeth, w.38  
 Kybble, John, w.7  
 Kyne, Edmond, vicar, w.13  
 Kyngsmyll Kingsmill, John,  
     M.P., w.13  
 Kyrby, Awdrye, w.23  
 Kyrby, Augnes, w.23  
 Kyrby, Gilbarde, w.23  
 Kyrby, John, w.23  
 Kyrby, Margaret, w.23  
 Kyrby, Marie, w.23  
 Kyrton, Stephen, alderman,  
     w.28 f.n.10  
 Kyrton, William, alderman,  
     w.28  
  
 Latham, Elizabeth, w.17  
 Latham, Rauf, goldsmith, w.17  
 Laurence, Julyan, w.44  
 Laurence, Thomas, yeoman,  
     w.44  
 Layne, Henry, w.8  
 Legge, Joane, w.36  
 Legge, John, w.36  
 Legge, Richard, w.36  
 LEGGE, WILLIAM, w.36  
 Leighe, Katheryne, w.45  
 Leighe, Thomas, w.45  
 Leonard, Elisabeth, servant,  
     w.16  
 Lewen, Thomas, ironmonger,  
     w.17  
 Leye, Edward, merchant taylor,  
     w.26  
 Leye, Richard, w.1  
 Lily, William, school master,  
     w.32 f.n.7  
 Lister, Thomas, mayor of  
     Southampton, w.28  
 Lodemer, John, w.27  
 Lodemer, Roger, w.27  
 Lowce, John, w.13  
 Lyde, Elizabeth, w.4  
 Lyll, John, gent., w.42  
  
 Maising, Thomas, w.34  
 Maltbie, Mauld, w.37  
 Mansfelde, John, w.44  
 Markes, Alice, w.10  
 Markes, Dorathie, w.10  
 Markes, Elsabeth, w.10  
 Markes, John, w.10  
 Markes, Katheryn, w.10  
 Markes, Margaret, w.10  
 MARKES, RICHARD, (1) w.10

- Markes, Richard, (2) w.10  
 Markes, William, w.10  
 Markham, John, M.P., w.40  
 Marten [Martyne], Rauf, w.1  
 Martyne, Thomas, w.20  
 Marwood, Alice, w.27  
 Marwood, William, w.27  
 Mary, w.3 f.n.1; w.16 f.n.1,  
     f.n.2, f.n.8, f.n.15;  
     w.26 f.n.2  
 Masen, Roger, w.31  
 Mason, William, rector,  
     w.16  
 Mayott, Nicholas, merchant  
     tailor, w.28  
 Melsse, Symond, mercer, w.25  
 Menemens, Mr, w.16  
 Merley, Gilberte, w.37  
 Meysye, Agnes, w.21  
 Meysye, Anthony, w.21  
 Meysye, Edwarde, w.21  
 Meysye [Meysiel], John, w.21  
 Meysye [Meysiel], Katheryne,  
     w.21  
 MEYSYE, RICHARD, w.21  
 Meysye, Thomas, w.21  
 Michell, Averie, w.29  
 Modye, John, h/h, w.20  
 Morryce, Joane, w.44  
 Mote, Jeffrey, w.6  
 Mowlding, Robert, w.29  
 Musteone, John, w.15  
 Mutton, Johane, w.40  
 Mutton, Katheryne, w.32  
 Mucklock Mowtlowe,  
     Thomas, w.29  
 Mychell, . . . . ., w.1  
 Myddelmore, Dorithe, w.43  
 Myddelmore, John, w.43  
 Myddelmore, Marie, w.43  
 Myddelmore, Robert, w.43  
 MYDDELMORE, WILLIAM, w.43  
 Mylehame, Robert, w.1  
 Myles, Fraunces,  
     apprentice draper, w.17  
 Myller, Margary, w.20  
 Mylles, Agnes, w.14  
 Mylles, John, w.14  
 Mynne, John, Exchequer,  
     w.6  
  
 Nebweke Nebwyck, Mr, w.16  
 Nele, Katheryne, w.45  
 Nele, Thomas, priest, w.f.  
     f.n.2  
 Neme, William, w.24  
 Neve, Thomas, w.18  
 Newman, Edwarde, w.20  
  
 Newyntone, William, merchant  
     taylor, w.26  
 Nicholson, Thomasyne, w.39  
 NICHOLSON, WILLIAM, w.39  
 Nores, Margery, servant, w.35  
 Norleye, William, w.6, f.n.6  
 Norris, William, w.6, f.n.6  
  
 Offley, Robart, w.11  
 Olive, John, w.37  
 Oliver, Robert, priest, w.44  
 Olyver, Dr, Dean of Christ  
     College, w.10  
 Osbastine, Antony, w.8  
 Ostbasten, Katheryn, w.8  
 Otware, John, w.37  
 Otware, William, w.37  
 Otware, Mistress, w.37  
 Owner, Elizabeth, w.33  
 Owner, Rauf, w.22  
 Owner, William, w.22  
 Owyne, Alice, w.45  
  
 Page, John, vicar, w.37  
 PAGE, WILLIAM, vicar, w.41  
 Palframan, Thomas, w.25  
 Palmer, Margerye, servant,  
     w.44  
 Parry, Thomas, w.6  
 Paulyng, John, w.21  
 Pecke, John, w.40  
 Penington, Gilbert, w.29  
 Perry, Katheryne, maid, w.17  
 Peyrte, John, yeoman, w.34  
 Phillipson, Aliuson, w.37  
 Pinfold [Pynfold], Walter,  
     vicar, w.8  
 Plant, John, w.4  
 Payfayre, Thomas, clerk, w.31  
 Plume, William, w.4  
 Pollet, Richard, w.6  
 Pollet, Mistress, w.6  
 Polwebbe, Henry, servant,  
     w.44  
 Poole, John, clerk, w.44  
 Poore, William, w.36  
 Pope, Mr, w.7  
 Pope, Mistress, w.7  
 Pore, Richard, bowyer, w.3  
 Poulet, Barbarow, w.31  
 Powell, Richard, w.16  
 Powre, Thomas, h/h, w.20  
 Powre, William, w.20  
 Powre, Mistress, w.20  
 Preston, John, w.31  
 Price, Joane, w.30  
 Price, John, w.30  
 PRICE, MATHEWE, (1) w.30

- Price, Mathewe, (2) w.30  
 Price, Mawde, w.30  
 Price, Nicholas, w.30  
 Prynne, Dr, priest, w.40  
 PYGOTT, ELIZABETH, (1) w.8  
 Pygott, Elizabeth, (2) w.8  
 Pygott, Fraunces, w.8  
 Pygott, Mistress, Fulke, w.16  
 PYGOTT, Richard, Chapel  
     Royal, w.16  
 Pygott, Robert, w.8  
 Pygott, Roger, w.8  
 Pygott, Thomas, w.8  
 Pygott, William, w.8  
 Pynson, John, clerk of  
     Merchant Tailors Co., w.6  
 Pyper, . . . . ., w.37  
 Pytte, Katheryne, w.38  
 Pyttes, Arthur, notory  
     public, w.4
- Rauson, Fraunces, w.37  
 Rauson, Grace, w.37  
 Rauson, John, w.3  
 RAUSON, RICHARD, vicar, (1)  
     w.37  
 Rauson, Richard, (2) w.37  
 Rauson, Robert, w.37  
 Rauson, Thomas, w.37  
 Rauson, William, w.37  
 Rawlinges [Rowlings],  
     Thomas, w.4  
 Rene, Nicholas, w.15  
 Restall, John, clerk, w.24  
 Richarde, Lance, w.22  
 Richardes, John, w.20  
 Richardson, Mistress, w.45  
 Richardson, William, w.45  
 Ridley, Nicholas, bishop of  
     London, w.6 f.n.3  
 Robert, John, h/h, w.20  
 Robertes, Laurence, w.40  
 Roberts, Thomas, w.8, f.n.4  
 Robyns, Beterychyche, w.45  
 Robyns, Katheryne, w.45  
 Robyns, Lewys, merchant,  
     w.24  
 Roche, John, w.17  
 Roche, Julyan, w.17  
 Roche, Dame Margaret, w.17  
 ROCHE, SIR WILLIAM, draper  
     & alderman, w.17  
 Rochelle, Christopher, w.28  
 Rogers, William, w.21  
 Roote, Henry, w.1
- Roote, Joane, w.1  
 ROSE, NICHOLAS, haberdasher,  
     w.11  
 Rose, Mistress, w.11  
 Russell, Sir Francis, w.3  
     f.n.1  
 Russell, William, w.30  
 Rybybe, Alice, servant, w.1  
 Ryve, Alice, w.4  
 Ryve, Elizabeth, w.4  
 Ryve, Frediswide, w.4  
 Ryve, Marie, w.4  
 RYVE, RICHARD, w.4
- Sadelier, Mistess, w.2  
 Salesbury, Agnes, w.33  
 Salesbury, Foulke, w.33  
 SALESBURY, JOHN, (1) M.P.,  
     w.33  
 Salesbury, John, (2) w.33  
 Salesbury, Sir John, (3)  
     heir of Llewenny, w.33  
 Salesbury, Robert, (1) w.33  
 Salesbury, Robert, (2) w.33  
 Salesbury, Sir Roger, w.33  
     f.n.6  
 Salesbury, Thomas, (1) w.33  
 Salesbury, Sir Thomas, (2)  
     w.33  
 Sampson, William, apprentice  
     saddler, w.29  
 Sandford, Bryan, vicar, w.25  
 Sandford, Roger, w.21  
 Sargeante, Lovell, servant,  
     w.28  
 Sawers, William, paster, w.37  
 Saymssone, Thomas, w.8  
 Scote, John, clerk, w.37  
 Scott Skott, Edward, w.29  
 Scott, William, w.29  
 Scotte, Thomas, w.10  
 Sewarde, John, h/h, w.20  
 Seymer Seymour, John, w.24  
 Seymour, Jane, w.16, f.n.16  
 Shawe, Sir Peter, w.23  
 Sheldon, Mr, receiver, w.16  
 Shelley, Alice, w.2, f.n.4  
 Shelley, Dame Elizabeth, w.2  
     f.n.4  
 Shelley, Sir John, w.2, f.n.4  
 Shelley, Sir William, w.2  
 Shewle, William, w.43  
 Shoisewell, Roger, w.2  
 Shoisewell, [Sheyswell],  
     Thomas, (1) w.2

- Shoisewell, (2) w.2, f.n.2  
 Shrygley, William, clerk, w.19  
 Skymer, John, w.21  
 Slade, Hewe, servant, w.44  
 Slake [Slade], Mary, w.14  
 Slake, William dyer, w.14  
 Smalwood, Mr, merchant &  
     M.P., w.16  
 Smyth, Alice,  
 Smyth, Agnes, maid, w.6  
 Smyth, Christopher, clerk  
     of Exchequer, w.6  
 Smyth, John, w.6  
 Smyth, Katheryn, w.6  
 Smyth, Robert, (1) w.6  
 Smyth, Robert, (2) h/h, w.20  
 Smythe, Elizabeth, w.4  
 Smythe, George, w.45  
 SMYTHE, JOHN, w.5  
 Smythe, Margaret, w.5  
 Smythe, Thomas, w.19  
 Snellyng, George, w.30  
 Snellyng, Laurance, w.20  
 Snowe, Laurence, w.20  
 Snowe, William, servant,  
     w.20  
 Somerset, duke of, w.24  
     f.n.2  
 Spenser, Mistress, w.37  
 Spenser, Evie, w.37  
 Sponder, George, w.20  
 Stafford, Edmund, w.45  
 Steward, Agnes, w.29  
 Steward, Annys, w.29  
 STEWARDE, EDWARD,  
     saddler, w.29  
 Steward, Elizabeth, w.29  
 Steward, Fraunces, w.29  
 Steward, Grace, w.29  
 Steward, James, w.29  
 Steward, John, (1) w.29  
 Steward, John, (2) w.29  
 Steward, Mariane, w.29  
 Steward, Robert, w.29  
 Stocke, Joane, servant, w.35  
 Stokell, Elisabeth, w.1  
 Stokell, Joane, w.1  
 Stokell, John, w.1  
 Stokell, Richard, w.1  
 STOKELL, ROBERT, (1)  
     w.1  
 Stokell, Robert, (2)  
     w.1  
 Stokell, Thomas, w.1  
 Stychall Stichall,  
     Edmund, w.9  
 Stychall, Margaret, w.9  
 Stychall, Richard, w.9  
 Styche, William, w.5  
 Style [Stichall], John, w.27  
 Sutton, Mistress Jane, w.15  
 Swayne, Robert, w.36  
 Sydenham, Anne, w.16  
 Sydenham, John, M.P., w.16  
 Sydenham, Marion, w.16  
 Sydenham, Mistress, w.16  
 Synger, Thomas, servant, w.28  
 Taillour, Rauf, maltman, w.14  
 Tailour, Ris, w.33  
 Tenaunt, Stephanie, clerk,  
     w.17  
 Tallys [Tallis, Tales], Thomas,  
     composer, w.16  
 Thorpe, Mistress, w.20  
 Throkmerton [Throckmorton],  
     Robert, M.P., w.43  
 Thurbane, William, w.41  
 Thurston, Fynet, w.22  
 Thurston, ....., w.22  
 Tomasson, Richard, priest,  
     w.34  
 Tomason, Johane, servant,  
     w.6  
 Torrye, Isabell, w.44  
 Towe, John, w.6  
 Townesende, Mr Justice, w.33  
 Toye, Elizabeth, w.32  
 Toye, Robert, printer, w.32  
 Treharne, Mr, w.6  
 Treharne, Mistress, w.6  
 Trencharde, Richard, esq., w.28  
 Tuchyuar, Richard, gent., w.13  
 Turner, Walter, w.37  
 Turner, Mistress, w.37  
 Turville, George, w.12  
 Turville, Henry, w.12  
 Turville, Dame Jane, w.12  
 Turville, John, w.12  
 Turville, Richard, w.12  
 TURVILLE, SIR WILLIAM, w.12  
 Tyngleden [Tingilden], John,  
     gent, M.P. w.30  
 Tyrell, James, w.23  
 Van der Noot [van der Nott],  
     ....., w.39  
 Van der Noot, Mistress,  
     w.29  
 Vaughan, Bartilmewe, w.6  
 Vaughan, Edward, w.6  
 Vaughan, Robert, (1) w.6

- Vaughan, Robert, (2) w.6  
 Vauxe, Elizabeth, w.8  
 Vyncent, John, w.35  
     see Carpenter, John  
     (alias)
- Wackefyld, William, w.21  
 Wadelond, Anne, w.18  
 WADELOND, WALTER, w.18  
 Wake, . . . . ., w.22  
 Waldrame, Dorathie, w.12  
 Waldrame, Roger, w.12  
 Waldrame, William, w.12  
 Walker, William, goldsmith  
     w.6  
 Waller, Anne, w.7  
 Waller, Edmund, w.7  
 WALLER, FRAUNCES, (1)  
     gent., w.7  
 Waller, Fraunces, (2) w.7  
 Waller, Rauf, w.7  
 Waller, Thomas, w.7  
 Wallron, Humffrey, gent.,  
     w.44  
 Wally, John, printer,  
     w.32 f.n.9  
 Walman, Elizabeth, w.45  
 Walshe, John, gent., w.2  
 Walshe, Walter, P.C.,  
     w.28 f.n.9  
 Warneforde, John, gent.,  
     w.9  
 Warner, Agnes, w.36  
 Warner, Elizabeth, w.36  
 Warner, Robert, w.36  
 Warner, Saunder, w.36  
 Warwick, earl of, w.33  
     f.n.1  
 Watson, Thomas, w.45  
 Watson, William, w.41  
 Wattes, Henry, scribe, 2.8  
 Webb, John, vicar, w.10  
 Webster, Thomas, w.39  
 Welbe, John, w.24  
 Wentworth, Sir Thomas,  
     chamberlain to the  
     King's Household,  
     w.6 f.n.2  
 West, Sir Peter, parson,  
     w.12  
 Westmelles, Johane, w.37  
 Westmelles, William, w.37  
 Westorme, Robert, w.37  
 Westwood, Mr, w.21  
 Wethipol [Withypoll],  
     Mistress, w.14  
 Withypoll, Paul, w.14 f.n.  
 Whalley, Mr, merchant, w.16  
 Wharton, Robert, bishop of  
     St Asaph, w.33  
 White, Thomas, gent., w.39  
 White, Sir Thomas, merchant  
     tailor, w.5 f.n.2  
 Whitehead, William, w.41  
 Whithorne, John, w.44  
 Wigston [Wygston], Roger,  
     recorder of Coventry,  
     w.34  
 Wigston, William, M.P., w.34  
 Williams, Sir John, treasurer  
     of Augmentations, w.16  
 Williamson, Anthony, w.39  
 Williamson, Fraunces, w.39  
 Williamson, Robert, w.1  
 Willmote, Anne, w.4  
 Willmote, John, w.4  
 Winter, William, w.2  
 Witchingham, Alice, w.22  
 Witchingham, Fraunces, w.22  
 Witchingham, Margaret, (1)  
     w.22  
 Witchingham, Margaret, (2)  
     w.22  
 Witchingham, Robert, w.22  
 Witchingham, Thomas, w.22  
 WITCHINGHAM, William, (1) w.22  
 Witchingham, William, (2) w.22  
 Witherley, Thomas, w.24  
 Wodrofe, Alan, w.37  
 Wodrofe, Dorathe, w.37  
 Wodrofe, Forethe, w.37  
 Wodrofe, Heugh, w.37  
 Wodrofe, John, w.37  
 Wodrofe, Thomas, w.37  
 Wodrofe, [Woodruffel], Walter,  
     clerk, w.37  
 Wodrofe, Mistress, (1) w.37  
 Wodrofe, Mistress, (2) w.37  
 Woham, Christover, w.1  
 Wolbie, Margaret, w.1  
 Wolfe, John, w.19  
 Wollington, servant, Thomas,  
     w.44  
 Wolneryche, John, w.31  
 Wolpyt, Annys, servant, w.30  
 Wolsey, Thomas, Cardinal,  
     w.2 f.n.3  
 Woodes, Elin, h/h, w.20  
 Woodcroft, Margaret, w.8  
 Worton, Margaret, w.1  
 Wotton, John, w.27  
 Wybarne, Anne, w.2

Wybarne, Arthur, w.2  
 Wybarne, Elizabeth, w.2  
 Wybarne, John, w.2  
 Wybarne, Thomas, w.2  
 WYBARNE, WILLIAM, (1) w.1  
 Wybarne, William, (2) w.2  
 Wyght, Roger, w.13  
 Wyld, Henry, w.45  
 Wylde, John, w.36  
 Wylford, John, alderman,  
     w.6 f.n.7  
 Wylford, Robert, w.6  
 Wylkynson, Awdry, w.14  
 Wylkynson, James, brewer,  
     w.14  
 Wylkynson, Poule, w.14  
 Wyndenbury [Wyndaunbury],  
     Rauff, w.15  
 Wythe, John, w.23  
  
 Yarde, Thomas esq. w.27  
 YATE, ELENE, w.9  
 Yate, Mary, w.9  
 Yate, Symon, w.9  
 Yate, Thomas, w.9  
 Yate, William, w.9  
 Yngerfylde [Englefield],  
     Mr, w.43  
 Yonge, Walter, merchant  
     tailor, w.26  
  
  
  
 ..... , Annes, servant, w.26  
     Anthony, servant, w.17  
     Edward, shepard, w.21  
     George, servant, w.17  
     Grete Anne, servant, w.16  
     Isett, servant, w.44  
     Johane, maid, w.14  
     John, servant, w.6  
     John, page, w.33  
     Mawde, servant, w.28  
     Sir Peter, priest, w.8  
     Raffe, servant, w.4  
     Richard, servant, w.26  
     Thomas, servant, w.26  
     Vrsule, wife's sister, w.17  
     water bearer, w.26

h/h is householder