

Wills at Somerset House relating to Derbyshire.

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THE wills of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury at Somerset House begin in 1383, and there is a printed index down to 1629. Probate before the bishop of the diocese was in general the proper course in case all the goods of the deceased lay, at the time of his death, within the same diocese, or other ecclesiastical jurisdiction. But if the deceased had chattels to the value of a hundred shillings in two distinct dioceses or jurisdictions, then the will was to be proved before the metropolitan of the province by way of special prerogative.

The following is a selection from the earlier Derbyshire wills at Somerset House. No class of documents throws more light on the history of a county, or of the families therein, than these old wills. The oldest are usually the most interesting. They contain many curious things, as when in 1515 a man bequeaths a gold toothpick to his son to pray for his grandfather's soul, etc. (see p. 51).

In some cases I have made full copies, but in others I have given only the material parts. It does not seem necessary, for instance, to publish the long invocations to the Deity and the Saints prefixed to these documents, though in some cases I have given them.

In the earlier period there are more wills relating to Wirksworth than to any other village in Derbyshire, the reason probably being that lead-merchants in that neighbourhood had debts owing to them in various jurisdictions. I have paid particular attention to these because they often refer to lead-mining, and because I

hope, at another time, to say something about the working of this metal.

It need hardly be said that during the Commonwealth, 30 Jan., 1649 to 29 May, 1660, all wills were proved in London.

In addition to wills there is at Somerset House a very large series of inventories beginning c.1480, but very few are of earlier date than 1600. These have not yet been indexed.

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I. WILLIAM DE HORBURY, CLERK OF THE KING'S CHANCERY.
IN DEI NOMINE, AMEN. Ego Willelmus de Horbury,¹ clericus,

¹ It is possible that the testator was a native of Chesterfield, and probable that his father came from Wath-upon-Dearne. He does not tell us where he was born, as some testators do. But, except a house or two in Derby, all his property, in possession or reversion, was in Chesterfield, or in its immediate neighbourhood—Wingerworth or Dronfield. It was he who, along with others on 27 Sept., 1392, founded and endowed the Gild of the Holy Cross (see *History of the Chesterfield Guilds* in vol. xliii, p. 72 of this Journal for 1921) in Chesterfield church, providing for a chaplain to celebrate daily at the altar of the Holy Cross. The licence for this foundation was obtained at Oxford (*Patent Rolls*). Moreover, by his will he gave £10 to the poor of Chesterfield after his debts had been paid. How much of the endowment of the gild was provided by him we are not told. We learn that his father's name was Robert, for the payment of whose debts in Huddersfield, Barnsley, and the parts adjacent he provided. He gave £40 to his mother Cecily, to provide her with food and clothing. That he desired to be buried in Eynsham Abbey near Oxford, and to be remembered by the monks in their daily prayers, is an indication that he

sanus mente et aeger corporis, lego animam meam Deo Omnipotenti et Beatae Mariae eius matri, et omnibus sanctis eiusdem Domini Omnipotentis, corpusque meum ad sepeliendum in abbathia de Eynesham, iuxta abbatem Galfridum. Et volo quod sit ibidem vnus capellanus ydoneus divina celebraturus per tres annos proximos post mortem meam immediate sequentes, pro salute animae meae et omnium benefactorum meorum. Item volo quod abbas et conventus loci praedicti habeant quemdam ciphum vocatum *le Grypesheye*,¹ cum coopertorio eiusdem, ita quod quolibet die quando cantant *Laetabundus*² in aula post gracias omnes in dicta aula existentes de dicto cipho bibant, sicut omnes de dicto cipho bibentes dicant *De Profundis*,³ cum Oratione

had once been connected with that monastery, though there seems to be no other evidence of the fact.

That Horbury was high in office is proved by the fact that, as shown by the *Patent Rolls* between 1378 and 1392, the King gave him the following benefices: 1378, Walcote, Bath and Wells; 1380, Elton, Yorkshire; 1382, the second canonry and prebend in St. Chad's, Shrewsbury; 1382, Bures, diocese of Norwich; 1303, Tichwell in Norfolk; 1384, Milton Damarel, Devonshire; 1389, a prebend in St. Cross, Crediton; 1392, Yeovil, Bath and Wells; 1392, Ipplepen, Devonshire. He received the emoluments from these benefices as "parson" (for the meaning of this word see the note on the will of Thomas Donne, below) John de Scarle, who was lord chancellor from 1399 to 1401, and in his will of 1403 calls himself *clericus*, had about the same number of benefices—*Test. Ebor.* iii, 22. There seems to be no evidence that Horbury was ever chancellor, though a word in his will might be taken to mean that he was. He asks the monks of Eynsham to pray *pro anima dicti Willelmi de Horbury clerici cancellar' domini Regis*. If we put a comma after *clerici* and read *cancellar'* as *cancellarii*, he was in fact chancellor. But neither Foss, in his *Lives of the Judges*, nor Lord Campbell in his *Lives of the Chancellors* mentions him as holding that office. He appears in the *Patent Rolls* as king's clerk. The Horburys once held the manor of Treeton, near Sheffield, under the Lovetots* and Furnivals—Hunter's *Hallamshire*, p. 287.

* Wm de Louetot Lord of Hallamshire temp. Henry I. founded the monastery of Worksope Co. Notts., and his son William founded St. Leonards Hospital at Sheffield. This William died about 1181, leaving an only daughter and heir who carried the lordship of Hallamshire with Treeton and all its other manors to her husband Gerard de Furnival—EDITOR.

¹ A large egg, supposed to be that of a "gripe" or griffon; a vessel shaped like this: an oval shaped cup. The second part of the word "heye," stands for "eye," egg. "The egg of the grype," says Way, "frequently mentioned as a rarity much valued, and used as a drinking-cup, is probably to be referred to the fabulous animal, the griffon, and may have been merely the egg of the ostrich"—*Prompt. Parv.* p. 213.

² This refers to the hymn "*Laetabundus exultet fidelis chorus, Alleluia.*" This hymn, said Dr. J. M. Neale, is "perhaps as widely known as any hymn of the church." See Julian's *Hymnology*, 636, 1.

³ Psalm cxxx.

Dominica, pro anima dicti Willelmi de Horbury clerici cancellariae domini Regis. Item lego abbati et conventui de Eynesham praedicta xxxli. ad orandum pro anima mea, et benefactoribus meis, et omnibus fidelibus defunctis. Item lego x marcas ad emendum vnam petram marmoream ad ponendum super sepulchrum meum in dicta abbacia de Eynesham. Item volo quod omnia debita Rogeri Chestrefeld nuper personae ecclesiae de Ipplepen bene et integre persolvantur (captis prius ab ipsis quibus ipse Rogerus est debitor sacris corporalibus iuramentis quantum idem Rogerus eisdem dum vixit debuit). Item lego dictae ecclesiae de Ipplepen vnum vestimentum de rubeo et albo velwet sericatum. Et volo quod Cecilia mater mea habeat pro victu et vestitu suo xlii. Item volo et concedo quod Johannes Craweshawe de Notingham¹ habeat pro omnibus aliis creaturis,² sibi et heredibus suis, reuersionem manerii de Wryngreworth³ ac quatuor messuagiorum in Derby et Chestrefeld, cum pertinentiis, soluendo pro eadem reuersione michi dicto Willelmo, vel executoribus meis, minus per viginti li. quam alii volunt dare pro eadem, et quod idem Johannes faciat pro me, propter magnam fiduciam quam habeo in eo, sicut ipse vellet quod ego facerem pro ipso, et inde coram Deo, et quod denarii de reuersione praedicta provenientes colligantur et teneantur ad perficiendum voluntatem et testamentum mea praedicta additius quo poterit.⁴ Item volo quod omnia debita quibuscumque personis per Robertum patrem meum apud Hederisfeld et Bernesley et partes vicinas debita.

¹ He was collector for the Gild of All Saints in Nottingham church. His wife's name was Cecily—W. H. Stevenson's *Records of the Borough of Nottingham*, vol. i. In 1390 he was charged with the repair of Nottingham Castle—*Patent Rolls*.

² Things.

³ Wingerworth, three miles south of Chesterfield. It is written Wryngeworth in 1302—*Feudal Aids*, i, 252.

⁴ "As quickly as possible." Horbury seems to have died in considerable debt, for on 20 Feb., 1394 there was a pardon and remission, with the assent of the Council, for 200 marks paid into the hanaper by Nicholas Bubbewyth, John Croushaw, John Barley, and Robert Skyres, executors of the will of William Horbury, clerk, to them of all debts, accounts, farms, arrears of farms, and of all prests [loans], receipts, concealments, actions personal, suits and demands which the king has, or can have, against the said William, or them, or his heirs or tenants of his lands at the Exchequer—*Patent Rolls*. We see in his will that Horbury reposed confidence in Craweshawe that his friend would do for him as he would be done by. The object seems to have been that out of the reversionary property bequeathed to him Craweshawe should devote £20 a year towards carrying into effect the bequests of the testator's will.

(prius captis ab eis sacramentis¹ corporalibus iuramentis de debitis illius et eorum quantitativis) prompte et festinanter persoluantur. Item volo quod satisfiat capellae Beatae Mariae de Bures de omnibus denariis per me de eadem capella receptis, videlicet viginti solidos et viginti sex solidos quosquid frater Albus, collector pro episcopo Norwicensi, quando iuit super Flandre, set noluit recipere parochianis de Bures liberentur, ad commodum suum inde faciendum.² Item lego Thomae Raydon, seruienti meo, sex marcas. Item lego Margeriae, filiae sororis meae, sex marcas. Item lego xli. cerae ad arduendum circa corpus meum in vigilia et in die sepulturae meae. Item do et lego Roberto de Whytyngton³ vnam placeam prati in campis de Chestrefeld quam nuper adquisiui de Henrico de Mannsfeld⁴ et in feodo de Dronfeld, et centum solidos. Item lego Ricardo Gabriel, clerico meo, ad orandum pro anima mea, centum solidos. Item lego Henrico Richardo, de Housley, quinquaginta solidos. Item lego Euae Gooldkerr quolibet anno ad terminum vitae suae vjs. et viijd., si bene poterit leuari de bonis meis postquam omnia alia debita mea elegata fuerint plenarie satisfacta. Item xli. ad distribuendum pauperibus apud Chestrefeld, postquam debita michi debita persolvuntur. Huius autem testamenti constitui executores meos Nicholaum Bubworth,⁵ clericum, Johannem Craweshawe de Nottingham, Johannem Barley de Chestrefeld, et Robertum Skyris,⁶ clericum, ut ipsi disponant pro salute animae meae, prout melius viderint, faciendo secundum eorum discrecionem, et

¹ It is *sacris* a few lines above, as it should have been here.

² I cannot read three words which follow *recipere*. Horbury had been presented to the chapel of St. Mary Bures, but the presentation had been revoked on the petition of the Prior of Stokes by Clare.

³ He had property in Chesterfield in 1393—Jeayes, No. 789. The famous Richard Whittington ("Dick Whittington") was Sheriff of London in this year, becoming Lord Mayor in 1398, and a Robert Whittington became Sheriff in 1416.

⁴ Along with the testator Henry de Mannsfeld in 1392 was a member of the Gild of the Holy Cross at Chesterfield. He and his family had considerable property in that town.

⁵ Nicholas Bubwith, here written Bubworth, became Bishop of London, and Treasurer of the Exchequer.

⁶ Probably a member of the family of Skyres of Skyres Hall in Hoyland, near Barnsley. Sir George R. Sitwell has a pedigree of this family, to which he is related, beginning with John Skyres of Skyres Hall, who died before 1498 (monument at Wentworth). There seems to have been a place called Horbury about two miles from Skyres Hall. See the map in the Rev. W. K. Martin's *History of the Ancient Parish of Wath-upon-Deerne*, 1920, Plate 2. There was a family of De Horbury in Wath.

ordino Johannem Kentwode, *chiualler*, et Johannem de Burton, clericum,¹ supervisores istius ultimae voluntatis meae, vt bene et fideliter disponantur (*sic*). In cuius rei testimonium praesentibus sigillum meum apposui. Datum vndecimo die Aprilis in prioratu sancti Bartholomaei in Smythfeld, in suburbiis Londinii, anno domini millesimo cccmo nonagesimo tertio.

[Proved in London in 1393, no day or month being given.]

II. WILLIAM SERGEAUNT.

Day of St. Margaret the Virgin (20 July), 1436. William Sergeaut. Item lego cuidam paruae capellae de Chestrefeld² pro animabus parentum meorum vjs. viiij.

[Proved 22 April, 1438.]

III. JOHN MILNES, OF WIRKSWORTH.

Pridie ante festum Natalis Domini anno domini millesimo CCCcmo quinquagesimo quinto, ego Johannes Milnes, etc. Corpus meum ad sepeliendum in ecclesia Beatae Mariae de Wirkesworth. Item lego nomine principalis optimum meum averium. Item lego fabricae ecclesiae de Wirkesworth duos pedes plumbi.³ Item lego ad emendum vnam crucem vjs. viiij. Item lego fabricae vnus fenestrae ecclesiae de Tadington ijs. iiij. Item lego ad inveniendum unum capellanum diuina celebraturum, et ad orandum specialiter pro anima mea ac Johanna vxoris meae et animabus Johannis Sherlond, Johannis Ogham,⁴ et Christianae uxoris eius, et animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum per duos annos proximos sequentes post decessum meum in ecclesia Beatae Mariae de Wirkesworth praedicta. Residuum Johanna uxori meae et pueris meis. Et ad istud testamentum bene ac fideliter faciendum ordino et constituo executores meos Robertum Knyveton patrem meum, et Johannem Knyveton filium eiusdem Roberti, ut ipsi ordinent et disponant pro salute animae meae et animabus omnium aliorum praedictorum, prout eis videbitur melius expedire.

[Proved at Lambeth 8 April, 1456. Administration to John Kniveton.]

¹ Sir John Kentwode was Justice of South Wales, and Commissioner of Array in Berkshire—*Patent Rolls*. I cannot be sure of John de Burton.

² "A certain small chapel of Chesterfield." "There was formerly," says Lysons, "a chapel dedicated to St. Thomas, in Halliwell-street, the remains of which form part of a barn and stable; another dedicated to St. Helen, which, after the reformation, was appropriated to the use of the school; and a third dedicated to St. James at the Lord's-mill bridge. Of the last-mentioned there are no traces." Probably the testator sprang from Chesterfield.

³ 140 pounds. Strangely enough lead in Derbyshire was sold by the "foot" of 70 pounds. In 1396 a bond was given in lead instead of pounds sterling—Jeayes, *Derbyshire Charters*, No. 1229.

⁴ Perhaps for Hogan, or Hoone, a village in Derbyshire.

IV. JOHN MIDDLETON, CITIZEN AND MERCER OF LONDON.

In dei nomine, Amen. Vicesimo die mensis Maii CCCCMo lxxvijmco, ego Johannes Myddelton,¹ senior, ciuis et mercerius Londinii..... Item simili modo inter pauperes in parochia de Barlburgh in comitatu Derbiensi, ubi natus fui, xli. distribuendas. Et ad reparacionem necessariam ecclesie parochialis de Barleburgh per discrecionem executorum meorum xli. Item lego inter pauperes magis indigentes in villa de Derby vli. in quinque annis, ut supradictum est, distribuendas.² Facio, ordino, et constituo executores, videlicet, vxorem meam, et Stephanum Middelton, filios meos, necnon Edmundum Kynwolmarsh, et Willelmum Godsalf. Ac eorum supervisorem facio et constituo Johannem Watus, gentilman, cui lego pro suo labore vli. Datum London' die et anno specificatis.

[Proved at Lambeth 8 August, 1477, by Stephen and William, the sons, executors.]

V. DAME MARGERY ASTELEY, WIDOW OF SIR JOHN ASTELEY, KNIGHT.

5 March, 1487. To be buried at the White Friars in Flete strete, where my husband is buried. I bequeth to the reparacion and mending of the high wayes bytwene Derby and Ashbourn, so that they be sufficiently repayred, xli. To Rauff Knyffton,³ of the Temple, x marck in money, so that he lette not nor trouble myne executors in the execution of this my present testament.

[Proved at Lambeth 22 May, in the year aforesaid.]

VI. RICHARD WELBECK, GENTLEMAN.

Vigill of saint Edward the King (4 Jan.) the iijth yer of the reign of king Harry the vijth. I Richard Welbeck,⁴ gentleman. To be buried in the church of Puthenight.⁵ I bequeth to our lady bretherhede at Ashbourne vjs viijd.

¹ John Middleton was one of the Sheriffs of London in 1450 ; John Midleton was Lord Mayor in 1472.

² It may be noted that Derbyshire men living in London seldom failed to leave something to the parishioners or church of their birthplace. Sir Richard Pype, draper, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1578, the son of Richard Pype of Wolverhampton, died possessed of the manor and advowson of Barlborough in 1587. There was a monument to him in the church. Sir William Hollis, Lord Mayor in 1539, died seised of a manor in Barlborough in 1542. He was the son of William Hollis, citizen and baker of London, and was buried at St. Helen's, Bishopgate.

³ Possibly the testatrix was related to the Knivetons of Ashbourne.

⁴ For several documents relating to this family see Jeayes, *Derbyshire Charters*.

⁵ Putney.

VII. JOHN KNIVETON.

2 Sept., 1502. John Knyfton. To be buried in the chauncell of the parish church of Ashbourne. To the churche werke of the same church of Ashbourne xxs. To saint Mary house of Coventry and saint Chaddes house of Lichfeld, jointly to be paid, vjs. viijd. To my son Thomas Knyfton xxli. To Richard Baumforth xs. To Thomas Orme vjs. viijd. To John Sall a cowe, and to euery other serving man in my house xijd. To Alice Bradshawe xls. To John Shaa iijs. To every serving woman in my house xijd. To an honest prest to pray for my soule by the space of twelmonth x marks. Executor my eldest son Robert Knyfton. Residue to the said Robert, he thereof to dispose for my soule as he thinketh best. Witnesses, Sir Robert Hasilhurst, prest, Christopher Prince,¹ prest, and Thomas Old, yeoman.

[Proved at Lambeth 5 Nov., 1502. Administration to the executor.]

VIII. RICHARD BLACKWALL OF WIRKSWORTH.

4 Oct., 1505. Richard Blackewall off Wyrkysworth. To be buried in the church of Wyrkysworth afore seynt Edmundes autler. I will that my wife sole haue all my boyles² and groves³ to the payment of my detts and the performance of my will during her life, and after her decease my groves equally to be devided betwene my sonnes for euer. Also I will that Henry my son haue the South boyle on barell ege, and Thomas my son the North boyle. And the third boyle beyond the water of Darwen I will shall be sold to the payment of my detts. To Elizabeth my daughter xxli, and a childe part throughowte all my household stuff, eyrelomes except, and otherwise to be rewarded after the sight of her moder at her pleasure. Also I will that my wif shal haue my siluer salt, with the couer, my best pece, and my best maser,⁴ and viij [of] the best sponys. Also I will that if my goodes

¹ These two men, described as clerks, were witnesses to a feoffment at Ashbourne in 1504. In 1535 Robert Hasyllhurst "perpetual chaplain of the chantry of John Bradburne and Anne his wife in the parish church of Assheburne at the altar of St. Oswald in the south arch" conveyed a message in Over Haddon—Jeayes, *Derbyshire Charters*, Nos. 87, 1331.

² Boles; places where miners smelted and refined their lead ore. The form "boyle" is important because it points back to an original short "o," and therefore throws light on the etymology.

³ Pits which led down to the mines.

⁴ A favourite drinking vessel, formed of wood, especially the knotty-grained maple, and esteemed in proportion to the quality of the veined and mottled material, but especially the value of the bands and rings of precious metals, enamelled, chased, or graven, with which the wood was mounted—*Prompt. Parv.*

be not sufficient for my brynging home,⁴ and payment of all my detts, that my wif take all the profits of my landes tyll my detts be paid, giving my childern a competent fynding duryng their tyme. Also I will Sir Henry Vernon, knight, Humfrey Bradburne, squyer, and all other co-feoffees, shall stand and be feoffed to thuse of me the foresaid Richard during my naturall life; remainder to wife Elizabeth of my lands in Stepull and Milnehouse holy, and my thirde parts throughowte all other my chartur londes and copy londs; and of and in all my londes in Wyrkesworth, Wodesett, Bonsall, Ireton, and Haseleyhey to thuse of Henry my son, and in all other my londs and tenements in Aderwasle and Balpare I will that they stand feoffed to thuse of Thomas my son (*further provisions in setilement*). Residue to wife and John Gelle my son-in-law, whom of this my will I make executors.

[Proved 19 Nov., 1510. Administration to the relict, power being reserved to John Gell.]

IX. ELIZABETH BLACKWALL OF WIRKSWORTH, WIDOW.

22 Nov., 1511. Elizabeth Blackwall of Wyrksworth, widow. To be buried in the church of Workesworth in oure Lady quyre. I bequeth to our Lady seruice in Workesworth ij foders² of leed to mayntayne a preest to syng for all Christen soules. Also I bequeth towards the bielyng of the Roode Ile in Worksworth church ij foders of leed. Also I will that yerely an obite be doon in the church of Workesworth for my husbands soule and myn, our faders and moders, Henry our sonne, and Agnes Hepe, and viijs. a yere to be taken owte of Chewlowes and Gyllrydding for euermore for the performaunce of the same obitte. Also I bequeth to Margaret Shorden my two best gyrdills, my best bed, my best ryng with a stone in it, and viij of my best sponys of siluer, [and] a goblett of siluer with all that was her moders in my keping. Also I will that those that were her proper goods to her bequethed be putt into the hands of an indifferent man to her vse, and to be deliuered vnto her whan she hath be(en) maryed a twelve moneth. And if she dye or that tyme, to remayne to Thomas my son and his heyres. Also I bequeth to Isabell Gel a lytell violettt gyrdill. Residue of goods to Thomas my son and executor to dispose theym for his faders soule and myn as he shall think best, and in especiall to fynde a preest to syng in the church

¹ A euphemism for being brought to the grave, which, at an early time, was regarded as the house of the dead.

² A fother of lead weighed 1680 pounds. In 1396 the price of a *plaustrata* or fother was £4 6s. 8d.—Jeayes, No. 1229.

of Worksworth for the space of a yere and more, the oon half of the yere at our Lady aulter, and the other half at seynt Edmonds aulter.¹ And I make Thomas Babington, esquyer, ouersear for the performance of my last will. Witnesses, James Beyrsford,² vicar of the towne, Robert Parson, preest, with divers other.

[Proved at Lambeth 13 Feb., 1511-12. The statement is made that the testatrix had goods and debts in divers diocese of the Province of Canterbury. Administration to the executor.]

X. RICHARD BLACKWALL, OF ST. ANDREW'S, BAYNARD'S CASTLE, LONDON.

I Richard Blackwall³ bequethe to the hye auter of saint Andrews next vnto Beynardes Castell for tythes and offerings forgot xijd. Also I bequeth to Richard Blackwall my son after my mother decesse that londe in Fairefeld in the countie of Derby that she hath geven me. And if it fortune my said son Richard to dye or he come to lawfull age, then I woll that that same londe shalbe sold and put to the vse of my iij daughters. And if it fortune any of thes to departe in ther yong age, then I wyll that they or she haue ther part that ouerlyffs. Also I bequeth to Robert my son a tothe pyke of gold for to pray for his grauntfather Richard Branfelds soule, my soule, and all cristen soules. Also if it fortune my wyfe to mary ageyn, then I wyll that Robert my son haue my siluer salt, and Richard my son a goblet with a couer. And I woll also that Robert my son haue my best gown. And I wyll that my wyfe as long as she kepeth her sole that she haue the rule and the gydyng of euery thing that I haue besett till my childer cum of lawfull age. Also I put all other stufte to the discretion of my wyfe. Also if my wyfe mary I wyll that iche of my daughters haue a fetherbed, with bolster, shets, and couerletts, and if she mary not I put all to her discrecion. Also I ordeyn and make my wyfe sole executrice to doo for me and for my soule as I woll haue done for hurs. Also I bequeth my body to be buried in saint Andrews chirche or churchyard withersu'euer hit shall please my wyfe. And I wyll that my wyfe shall gete me viij torches and no mo sauynge thos I am brother of iij in the chirche of our ladyes brotherhod and other iij of Jesus brotherhod at the

¹ St. Edmund, King and Martyr. He was King of the East Angles, and slain by the Danes under Hingwar in 870.

² Afterwards vicar of Chesterfield, and known as James Basford.

³ At the top of the will are some letters which I cannot reproduce here. A modern reader of the Register has interpreted them in pencil as J.N.R.S. But ought we not to read I.N.R.I., that is, *Iesus Nazarenus rex Iudeorum*—the inscription on the Cross?

Queene hyve.¹ And I wyll that my wyfe geyt for me a masse at *Scala Coeli* if it fortune me to dye in the nyght, [and] that it be said the next day after. Also I bequethe to my wyffe all suche pore detts as I haue writen in a papur in my wyfes kepyng. Also I bequeth to Agnes Buxton the vtter syde of my gowne that I weyre of my bak. Also I recommaund me to my kynde and lovyng moder, beseking her of her blessing, besekyng her to be goode to my wyffe and children, for in her is my trust. I desire Grisild my wyffe, my broder Robert Blackwall, and Agnes Buxton to witness the day and yer abouesaid.²

[Proved at Lambeth 22 Jan., 1515-6.]

XI. RICHARD ROBYNTON OF ASHOVER, CLERK.

In Dei nomine, Amen. Anno domini millesimo quingentesimo septimo, quarto die mensis Januarii, ego Ricardus Robynton,³ clericus, compos mentis, condo testamentum meum in hunc modum. In primis lego animam meam deo patri omnipotenti, beatae Mariae, sanctae Katerinae, et omnibus sanctis ejus, corpusque meum ecclesiasticae sepulturae ubicunque contigerit. Item lego pro mortuario ut mos est. Item lego uno presbytero celebraturo in ecclesia de Asshouer pro salute animae meae, animarum patris et matris meae, et Radulphi Northegg, et omnium fidelium defunctorum, per spatium unius anni, *and more if it may be performed*, quinque libras. Item lego pro necessariis in dicta ecclesia xls. Item lego ecclesiae de Derley xxvjs. viijd. Item lego Nicholao et Johanni, fratribus meis, utrique eorum, xxs. Item lego Elizabethae Townrow, filiulae⁴ meae, xxs. Item lego Willelmo Richardson xls. et optimam togam meam *furred with shanks*,⁵ et par precularum eburnearum,⁶ et omnes libros meos praeter portiforium.⁷ Item lego Roberto Townrow xxvjs. viijd. et meum portiforium. Item lego Emotae Townrow unum lectum cum le bolster de plumis, et post ejus decessum Elizabethae

¹ Queen Hithe, "a large receptacle for ships"—Stow. There are one or two errors and omissions in this passage which make it very obscure.

² The will is not dated. It was carelessly drawn.

³ Richard Robynton is not mentioned in the list of Rectors of Ashover in Cox's *Churches of Derbyshire*, nor does he describe himself as Rector.

⁴ *Filiola* here means goddaughter.

⁵ A kind of fur obtained from the legs of animals.

⁶ A rosary of ivory beads. "A bede, *precula*," *Cath. Angl.* Rosaries were often made of gold, amber or beryl. See *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees Soc.) iii, 202; v. 17; ii, 34. Others were made of coral or jet. They are frequently called pater-nosters.

⁷ The breviary.

filiole meae. Item lego dictae Elizabethae Townrow ij virgatas et dimidiam de rubeo panno. Item fratribus sancti Roberti iuxta Knaresburgh ijs. Item lego fraternitati sancti Thomae Cantuariensis xxd. Item lego fraternitati sancti Lazari de Burton xijd. Item lego Johanni Tipping xxs. Item volo quod xxs. distribuuntur inter parochianos meos pro discretione executorum meorum. Item lego Roberto Barker xs. Item lego Johanni Townrow xls. et unum par preclarum, et unam togam de tawny medled.¹ Item dictum Willelmum Richardson et Johannem Townrow ordino et constituo meos executores, ut ipsum Deum prae oculis habentes ordinetur et disponatur de residuo (expensis suis deductis) pro salute animae meae prout sibi melius videbitur expedire. *Also I humbly besiche my good lord in whom myn especiall trust ys of all men lyving to be oversear, that thys my last will may be performed. And if a dede man may pray or recompense anything to a man lyving, I shall deserue it to his good lordship.*

[Proved at Lambeth 15 Feb., 1508-9. Administration to the exors.]

XII. JOHN BYRD OF ST. WERBURG'S, DERBY, BURGESS AND TANNER.

31 July, 1511. John Byrd,² a burges and tanner of the towne of Derby, sure and stedfast in my mynde as a Cristeynman ought to bee, I thank god thereof. To be buried in the parrishe church of Saynt Werburs in Derby, before the Rode. I will that vjlb. of wax be made in serges to be brent aboute my body when it shall please god I shalbee buried. I wilhaue vj newe torches for the first day of my burying, for the vijth day, and for the twelue moneth day, and after the twelue moneth day that euery aulter in Saynct Werburs church haue a torche, and the other torches bee at the good will and mynde of my executours. I will haue vj gownes for vj poor men. I will that the church Reves³ of

¹ A gown of yellowish brown, mixed with another colour. The parochial clergy did not wear black as now they do.

² The administration act shows that the testator had property in several dioceses. On the 31st March of, 1512, there was an inquisition made at Derby concerning the title to lands in Ollershedde, Whytyll, Shydierd, Hayfeld, Holywodhed, and Botham, co. Derb. from John Doncalfe, vicar of Prestbury, and Richard Shead, who was seised of them by charter dated Michaelmas, 1449, to John Berd, son of Nicholas Berd, the present owner—Jewitt's *Reliquary* in Jeayes, *Derbyshire Charters*, No. 1812. These names seem to point to a connexion with the Beards of Beard Hall.

³ Churchwardens were sometimes called simply reeves. They were called church reeves at Glossop in 1637—*Journal*, xxxviii, 172. For an argument that churchwardens were probably the descendants of manorial reeves see the writer's *Church and Manor*, 1913, pp. 272-281.

alhalowes churche haue an obligacion for xxs. to the steeple. I will that the churche Reves of Sainct Werburs church haue an other obligacion of xxs. for the lede to the churche. I will that the nunnes haue iijs. iiijd. I will that Thomas Napton haue iij dyker of clowte leder¹ for all his mariage money. I woll that Elizabeth Napton, Thomas Napton's doughter, haue 10s. I owe 10li. and a marc to John Yorkes childern that it may be geuen them when they coome to lefull age, or to their mariage, and if they deye the money must be geuen to a prest for to syng for theym, for that was their father last will, and now it is my wille. I make William Byrwen, the parson of Pykewell,² and Margaret Byrde, now my wife, executors. Witnesses, William Alsoppe, a burges of Derby, John Jackson, a burges of the same towne, John Brokehouse, Richard Mouer, and many moo of my neighbours.

[Proved at Lambeth, 26th April, 1513. Administration to the relict.]

XIII. RALPH FRECHWELL OF BRIMINGTON.

In the name of god, Amen. The yere of our lord m Vc and xj, the xxviiijth day of the month of September. I Rauff Frechwell,³ of Bremington, beyng hole of mynde and of good remembraunce, make my testament in this maner. The first I bequeth my soule to almighty god, and to our lady seynt Mary, and to all the feliship in heven, and my body to be buried in the churche of Staley. Also I make, constitute, and ordeyne Arthur Frechwell, my right wellbeloued and oonly gotten son, my trewe and lawfull executor to see and cause my body honestly after my degre to be brought forth, and buried in the church foresaid, and to paye, or cause to be paid, to maister doctor Fitzharbert, the parson of Northwynfeld xls., and to Sir James Basforth, the vicar of Chesterfeld, xls., and to Sir John Rerysby, parson of Eschouer, xls., to help him in his right with their good counsaill. And the residue of all my goodes not bequethed I geve freely to my said son, and gods blessing and myne, and all my lands. Thies witnesses, Sir John Rerysby, Edward Eyer of Howm (Holme), and

¹ Thirty pieces of leather for mending shoes. A dicker was ten of any commodity. See the interesting article on the word in the *New English Dict.*

² Pickwell in Leicestershire.

³ He was a son of Peter Frechvile, or Frechwell, of Staveley, esq. In 1489 there was a re-grant to this Ralph Frechwell (Frechvile) of certain lands, with remainders over. The re-grant included a scythe-mill at Holbrooke—Jeayes No. 2260. We shall see, in the will which follows, that Arthur Frechwell, his son, carried on the business, among other occupations, of a scythesmith. There was a scythe-mill at Derby in 1511. This occupation was frequent in North Derbyshire, especially at Norton.

Sir Richard Frechwell, the parson of Staley, with many moo beyng present, the yere and daye aforesaid.

[Proved at Lambeth 18 March, 1511-12. Administration to Ancor Frechwell and Richard Durant, the executor being dead.]

XIV. ARTHUR FRECHWELL OF BRIMINGTON, ESQ.

12 Feb., 1511-12. Arthur Frechwell.¹ My body to be buried at Chesterfeld kyrke. My best beest to be my corsepresent. I bequeth xliij marks to fynde a preest to syng for my fader soule, my moder soule, and my soule vij yeres. I make myn executors Anker Frechwell and Richard Durant. My wife to have her third part. The residue of thother ij parts to my ij executors. I bequeth all purchased lands the which came by the purchaseing of my fader to theym and theyr assignes. Item I bequeth my taks² in Duckmanton to my ij executors and their assignes. I bequeth to John Sowter a doseyn sythes. To my prentice William Bowar ij doseyn sithes. To Olyuer Ball ij doseyn sythes. To Richard Marler a doseyn sithes. To Robert Beket a doseyn sithes.³ To Thomas Gysborne a hefer of ij yeres age. To Elizabeth Durant a hefer. To Staley kyrke xs. I bequeth all my dettes and plegges to my ij executors, to receyve them into their hands in performing of my last will. These are my dettours : Thomas Walche, John Horsley, and other moo which are in my detts booke. These are the plegges which I have leyd. In primis to my lady Floggeym⁴ a standing cup gilte with a coueryng, for ten markes, and hit it to be lost within ij dayes of mydsomer. To Roger Eyre a goblett gilte with a coueryng, and a pleyn plate pece for viij markes vjs. viijd. To Sir Robert Eyr a salt for xls. Also I will that my wif bryng yn all suche jewells as she hath taken

¹ On the 6th of Feb., 1511-12, there was a grant from Arthur Frechwell of Brymington, esquire, to Anker Frechwell and Richard Burcand (Durand), as feoffees, of lands in Staley, Ekyngton, Chesterfeld, Dronfeld, and Dawer, Newton by Folkingham (co. Linc.) Wales, Haneston, and Denyngton (co. York), late acquired by Ralph Frechwell, father of the said Arthur—Jeayes, No. 2265. We learn from his will that Arthur Frechwell, though possessed of considerable estates, did not disdain to engage in business as a maker of scythes, and a money-lender. In the latter capacity he made advances on plate and jewels, and we may call him, as we please, banker or pawnbroker. No doubt the expensive collection of jewels which his wife had taken from him, against his will, were unredeemed pledges, and she may be excused for having worn them whilst she had the chance.

² Leases.

³ These five men were possibly the testator's workmen.

⁴ Foljambe. The scribe, not being acquainted with the name, has transposed the "o."

from me ayenst my will in my life to the valour of Cli. and x markes. And if she bryng yn the said jewelles in my lif dayes she to haue her dower according to my will, or ells to stande in part of her dower. These beyng wittnes, Sir Richard Frechwell, parson of Stauely, John Okley, Sir William Harper, parisshe preest of Chesterfeld, Rauff Hethcott, potter, and William Edmundson, and other moo.

[Proved at Lambeth 18 March, 1511-12. Administration to the executors. We have seen that the father's will was proved at the same time and place. Both wills are copied on the same page in Register Fetiplace, fo. 7.]

XV. SIR ARTHUR VERNON, PRIEST.

In the name of god, amen. In the yere of our Lord Ml Vc and xvij, the last day of September, in the yere of kyng Henry the viijth the viijth yere. I Sir Arthur Vernon,¹ prest, hole of mynde and of body, being in clene² lyfe at the making of this my last will, and in good prosperitie, often tymes thinking of this wretched lyfe, seyng by circute of daies and the revolucion of yeres the day of deth to fall which nothing lyving may passe: therefor of this helefull mynde thus I make my testament. First, I bequeth my soule to god almighty, and to all the holy company of hevyn, and to the blessed saint Petyr and saint Mighel, and to be defended ayenst all wyked spirits. I bequeth my body to be buried in the same parisshe churche where I dye, and to haue a stone what myn executours think best for me, and my picture drawn thereupon, and for the making of my stone I bequeth xxxs. And for asmuch as with good prayers and almes dedes the soule is deliuered fro euerlasting deth, therefor I will that at the day of my burying I may haue a trentall³ songe for my soule, my fader soule, and for all my brethern and sistern soules, and for all Christen soules, yf it may be. Of this my testament I make my executors my brother John Vernon, Rauf Gilbert and Thomas Wagstaffe, my servaunts. I will that at the day of my burying euery pouer man that cometh haue a peny and a loffe, to pray for my soule and the soules afore

¹ He was the fifth and youngest son of Sir Henry Vernon of Haddon Hall and Tong Castle in Shropshire. In 1515 he was left in very comfortable circumstances by his father, a copy of whose will is in this *Journal*, xviii, pp. 81-93. He only survived his father by about two years. He may have been buried in the Golden Chapel at Tong Castle, for, says Mr. Kirke, "on the east wall of the chapel are traces of a fresco representing the Crucifixion, and underneath an inscription requesting prayers for the souls of 'Syr Harie Vernon, knyght and Dame Annie hys wyfe,' and for the soul of Syr Arthur Vernon, Pryst"—*Journal*, xli, pp. 16-17.

² Chaste, undefiled.

³ Thirty masses.

rehersted, yf it may be at that tyme, and yf not therefor to tarye vnto the tyme convenient. Anf yf goodes will not reche to that, I will that my executours do as they think most best for me. Also that I have torches and candells about myn herse the day of my burying as myn executors think necessary for me. Item to euery priest that comyth to my burying, and saith masse for my soule, and the soules afore rehersted, shal haue iijd., euery clerk jd. Item I will that at my moneth mynd there be songe a trentall for my soule and the soules afore rehersted. And forasmuch as this my will may be taken doubtfull in many points, therefor I will that yf any ambiguite, contrariositie, or mysrehersall or doubtfulnes be founden in this my last will, I will therefor that it be correcte by one or ij of myn executours. Also my reyment I will that it be evynly devided betwixt Rauf Gilbert and Thomas Wagstaffe, my servaunts. And also, if they be good of demenure toward my brother John, I will that they have xli evynly devided betwene them, and their wages to be content in the said summe afore writen. And yf they be not of good demenure I will that they be at my brother John Vernon's limitacion. Also all my good not bequethed (my will performed) I will that my brother John Vernon haue them. Also the reuersion which I had besett me by my fader bequest I will that my brother John Vernon haue it. Item I will that my brother John Vernon haue all my naprye ware, and also all my beddinge, and my bokes with chests ¹ and coffers. Item I will that Robert Neyll haue for paying of my subsidies and dismes and other dueties which I haue caused [him] to paye xliijli, and to be forgevyn of him for it. Writen the day and yer aforesaid, these being witnesse, Sir Roger Lyne, maister Harry Bullok, Sir Thomas Rowson, ² and maister Browne. Item I will that my skarlet gowne and my murrey gowne and my jaket of velvet may pay suche detts to the church of Schele ³ and of Bogestone, ⁴ if there be any asked as moght (?) to be. And all

¹ Books were kept in chests at this period.

² In 1536 Thomas Rauson, clerk, is described as "Gardianus de Tonge"—Jeayes, No. 213.

³ Nether Seal in Leicestershire, of which the advowson belonged to the Vernons. It was written Shaile or Sheale in the sixteenth century.

⁴ The compiler of the printed index rightly regards Bogestone as Buxton. We must remember that Buxton is a chapelry in Bakewell, in which parish Haddon Hall is situate. The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* (temp. Henry VIII.) mentions "capella de Bukstones." In the margin of Speed's Map of Derbyshire, 1610, is a drawing of "Sainte Anne's Well," and the "very goodly house, foure square, foure stories hye," described by Dr. Jones in his *Benefit of the aunncient Bathes of Buckstones*, 1572, f. 2. Near this "goodly house" is a figure of one

other stuff of silke or velwet I will my brother John Vernon haue them. Item I will that all my linen clothes my brother John Vernon haue them, and all my plate of siluer. Also I will that x marks be distributed to praye for my soule and the soules afore rehersed [and] that it be distributed in the parish of Schele.

[Proved at Lambeth 2 Oct., 1517. Administration to the executors.]

XVI. ROGER BASFORD, ALDERMAN OF LONDON.

Roger Basford,¹ merchant and alderman of London. Will written with my owne hande. To oure twoo chauntreye prestes to praye for me xiijs. iiijd. Also to the iiij orders of Friers within London to praye for me within their owne churches, and not to be at my buriall, but at their pleasure, euery house to haue xs. Also I bequeth to the Crossed Frieres, whereof I am a brother, within London xxs. Also to the Kinges Benche vjs. viijd. Item to the Mariscalsye vjs. viijd. Also I will noo monethus mynde to be made for me, but at the daye of my buriall iiij o'r v messe of mete, as shalbe thought by my friends expedient, for my neigh folks my next neybour, and they will, and they to haue for their labours viijd. euery man so doying. Also that the said torches be gyven as there follouth. First, to my parisshe church two torches,² and to saint Martyns in Iremonger Lane, two torches, to saint Dunstanes in the Towre strete, two torches, and a torche to our ladye of Barkyng, and a torche to saint Toolas,³ in my warde. Item a torche to Islington church. Also a torche to the lazar house at the highe gate. To the Trinite hygate chapell a torche, and thise other fyve torches at the discrecion of myne frends and executours to be gyven. Also I will that my goodes be devided into thre partes, household, plate, debtes, and all other marchandizes. First oon parte for my self, the second for

end of a building which may have been a chapel. It has a sloping roof, as the "goodly house" has not. It has two windows high up in the gable, and two others at the side, above a round-arched door. It may have been a chapel with an upper story, as was not unfrequently the case. There is a quaint etching of "the old church" in Arthur Jewitt's *History of Buxton*, 1811, but that is a later building, not the building with which Arthur Vernon had to do.

¹ He was one of the Sheriffs of London in 1513. As he mentions property at Calais in his will he was possibly a merchant of the staple for English wool, which was almost constantly fixed there down to 1558. He seems proud of having made his own will, but it was examined by W. Dawson a few days after its date.

² These "torches" were wax lights or candles. In 1440 we have "torche, cereus—*Prompt. Parv.*"

³ St. Olave's, in Hart Street, where Pepys the diarist is buried. Why the saint should have been called Toolas, or Tooley, I cannot imagine.

my wif, & the thrydde parte to be gyven to my sonne Christopher and his childering, a parte as it shalbe sett oute by me and my counsell, as my goodes will stretche to theym. And a certeine some to my sonne Thyckull childern—som xiiijl. vjs. viijd. Item to my brouther John and his childern vli. Item to Robert Basford, grocer, of London, vli. Item I bequeth to my brother Sir James Basford ¹ a ryng of gold with a turkas,² to pray for me et cs. Also I bequethe to poore maidens marriages in my cuntreye where I was borne xxli. ; videlicet, to euery mayden for her parte vjs. viijd., as long as the said somme will stretche.³ Also I bequeth to the stepull of Alhallowes in Derby,⁴ to the making thereof, five li. Also to the reparation of Ashbourne church in the Peke,⁵ there I was borne, vli. Also my landes at Calais that I haue of right unto, with my land at Hallowes in Northamptonshire, to Christopher Basford and his heires. Also I make myn executours Agnes Basford, my wif, and Christopher my sonne, trustyng that they woll be lovyng vnto my soule, to se all thynges paid that I owe of right, and also to make restitution to euery personne that can say or prove that I have doon to them wrong, other by worde or dede, as I truste they will. And so I charge theym as they woll answer afore god et c. But in especiall first my debts clerely paid, and I gyve theym my charge. And the residue of my goods vnbequethed they to do with theym for the welthe of my soule as god shall put in their mynds to doo. Also I will that Edward Sackfild of Blechinglee, gentelman, to be myn ouerseer of this my present testament, having for his labour vli. In witness hereof I haue sett my marke and seal. Written with my owne hande⁶ the xxxj day of May in anno domini MCVXVIII.

¹ He was vicar of Chesterfield, and is mentioned in the will of Ralph Frechwell; see p. 54.

² A turquoise, *i.e.* Turkey (stone).

³ In the *Daily Mirror* of 20 July, 1922, is a photograph of three young well-dressed married women receiving a marriage portion of £12 each according to the will of Signor Pasquali Favale.

⁴ The great tower of All Saints' church, 175 feet high, exclusive of the pinnacles, was built, or rebuilt, in 1509-27. It is of Perpendicular architecture. In 1346 Thomas Beck, Bishop of Lincoln, gave £60 to the fabric of this church. *Test. Ebor.*, i, 25.

⁵ Ashbourne is in the Hundred of Wirksworth.

⁶ Though the testator wrote the will with his own hand, he signed it by a mark and seal. The fact that wills and other documents were often signed by a mark is not conclusive evidence that the "marksman" could not write his name. Shakespeare's daughter Judith signed a deed by a mark.

Visum erat per me W. Dauson xiiij die mensis Junii anno praedicto.

Memorandum that the said Roger Basforde, lying in his deth bed, and beying in good memory, the first or the second daye of Maye, 1520, ouer and aboue the bequestes in his testament written with his owne hand, willed and bequethed thise bequests ensuing, in the presence of Sir William Bullock, prest, John Perche, Alice White, Georg Basford, and other. Item he bequethed to his brother Rauf Basford, and Georg and Agnes his daughter, xxli. Item he bequethed to John Perche, his sonne Christopher prentice, xls. sterling. Item he bequethed to Alice White and Christian Swyfte xiijs. iiijd. Item he bequethed to old Margaret and Elizabeth Chamblett xiijs. iiijd. Item to John Fresy vjs. viijd., which xxxiijs. gyven to the said women he willed should be of the xxli. bequethed to maydens marriages in his testament written with his own hand. Item he wold that his wif shuld haue xli. yerely of Henry Stoks during her widowed, besides her porcion. And if she maryed, then he wold that the said xli. shuld remayne to his sonne Christopher, and to his wif and children. Item he forgave to Edward Sakvile x marks of xx marks due to the said Roger of the said Edwarde.

[Proved by the executors at Lambeth, 24 May, 1520.¹]

XVII. BRIAN ROOS, PARSON OF ASHOVER.

In Dei nomine, Amen. Anno a Virginis partu quingentesimo vicesimo nono, mensis Junii die xij. I Bryan Roos,² of hool

¹ On 16 August, 1528, "Edward Basford, otherwysse Beresford," of Wirksworth, co. Derby, made a nuncupative will in which he mentions, and revokes, an earlier will in the hands of the vicar of Chesterfield. The nuncupative will was proved at York, 13th March, 1531—*Test. Ebor.* (Surtees Soc.) v, 251. On 2 September, 1527, Edward Beresford esq. had a lease of the rectory and tithes of Chesterfield. His son Denis, of Gray's Inn, was "farmer of the parsonage of Chesterfield" in 1545—Jeayes, No. 1013.

² He was one of the sons of Robert Roos, of Ingmanthorpe, near Harrogate, esquire. He "was ordained acolyte at York Dec. 17, 1491; sub-deacon March 17, 1491-2; the nunnery of Sinningthwaite giving him a title; deacon April 7, 1492; and priest April 21st (Reg. Rotherham, *ad finem*). On Dec. 18, 1498, he was instituted to the rectory of Kirk Dighton, on the death of Robert Pearson, and at the presentation of Thomas Roos, esq. (Reg. Rotherham, 138 a). On Feb. 3rd, 1510-11, Brian Roos, doctor of decrees of the University of Valence, was incorporated at Oxford (Fasti Oxon, pt. i, 31). On a marble in Childrey church, Berks, whereon is represented a doctor of law in his habit, is this inscription on a brass plate: *Of your charitie pray for the soule of Bryan Roos, doctor of law, sumtyme parson of this church; the whych deceased the 30th day of August, the yer of our Lord God 1529; on whose soule Jhesu have mercy. Amen* (Ashmole's Berks.). See also Philipps' Wiltshire

mynde and clere remembraunce, intercepted ne vexed with any sensibill deseass, ne sikenes, make my last wille and testament in the maner and fourme folowing. First I bequeth my soule to almighty Jesu, my maker and savyour, his blissed mother, with all the hole company of saints in heven; my wreched body to be buried in such place as those that I putt in trust shall see convenient. I bequeth to the mother churches of Lichefelde and Couentre iijs. iiijd. Item to Sir Robert Townrowe, my depute at Ashouer, vjli. iiijd., for his kynde labours taken for me there, and he not to stande countable for any thinge that he doth or hath occupied for me or of myn further then his worde. I bequeth also to the said Sir Robert the newe fether bedde I lye upon, bolster, pelowes, couerletts, and coueryng, with all my bokes at Ashouer. Item to his suster, Anne Bakam, all the vessell in the kechyn, brasse, and pewter. Item to euery godchild I haue in the parishe of Ashouer xxd. Item to Philip Cryche² xxvjs. viiiijd. The residue of all my goodes vnbequest I will be devided in two parts, the oon part to be egally diuided amongst xl. of the most pourest householders in the parish of Ashouer, the other parte to be bestowed upon the church neds, and the wayes about Ashouer, at the sight, discrecion and mynde of Christopher Blackwall, John Cryche, John Northych, John Barker, and Henry Colley, whom I make myn executours, hartely and charitably requiring them, and euery of them, to take paynes herewithall, and Sir Robert Townrow to be ourseer, and euery oon of these named to haue and receyve for their labours vs. With myn owne hande the yere and day aboue said.

[Proved before the Commissaries in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, 9 Oct., 1529. The executors renounced, and administration was granted to Christopher the natural and lawful brother of the deceased.]

Incumbents, 190"—Canon Raine in *Testamenta Ebor.* (Surtees Soc.) iv, p. 223. He was instituted to Ashover in 1518—Cox, *Churches of Derbyshire*, iv, 443.

There is another will of Brian Roos at Somerset House. It is dated 9th April, 1529. In it he says, I desire "to be buried in the chauncell of my church of Celray, if I departe in Chalray, directly afore the seyt whereas customably the service is said." He also says that this will was to be "in noo wise prejudiciall to any such ordre as I have taken and willed at Ashouer in Darbyshire." This will was proved at Lambeth, 6th Dec., 1529. He was evidently parson of both churches.

¹ An old family of this name lived at Stubbing Edge in Ashover.

XVIII. THOMAS DONNE, PARSON OF EYAM.

26 Feb., 24 Henry VIII (1532), Thomas Donne, clerk, parson¹ of Ivm² in the countie of Derby. My bodie to be buried in suche church or church yard where it shall please almyghty god my lyfe and body to departe. I bequeth unto the high awter of the parishe church of Ivm, where I am parson, xls. to bye a cope by the discrecion of myn executours. I bequeth foure pounds thirteen shillings four pens for a vertuous and honest preest to pray for me, and my fader soule, my moder soule, and all Christen soules for oon hole yere wheresoever my body shalbe buried. I bequeth unto my suster Joan Bageshawe and vnto her children my stufte of householde which I shall leue at Ivm at my decease. I bequeath unto my cosyn Thomas Dore my suster sonne six pounds thirteen shillings and four pens. I bequeth unto his brother William Dore xls., the oon to be the other heire.³ If it please god I do deceasse at Stoketon,⁴ I will that my plate be sold by myn executors and to bey a chaleys of liijs. iiijd., yf it will amounte thereunto, or as it is in value, to be geuen unto the parishe church of Stokton there to pray for my soule, and my fader and all Christen soules. Item I bequeth vnto my suster Mawde More of London a rynge of gold of the fyve woundes, and a saint Anthony's crosse of golde, for a token of remembraunce to pray for my soule. I bequeth vnto asmanye pour people as com to my buriall, euery oon of them, oon penye. I bequeth unto my cousyn Thomas Donne of Apley fourty shillings if he overlyves me. I geue unto euery godsonne that I haue xijd. a pece to pray for my soule, and goddaughter xijd. a pece. I bequeth to my broder Roger More the best horse or mare that I haue, for a token of remembraunce to pray for my soule. The residue of my goods and detts vnbequeathed, wheresoever they

¹ He is called rector of Ivm in the Act Book. In Cox's *Churches of Derbyshire* his name is erroneously given as Thomas Davy, instituted in 1516. The word *persona*, or parson, was primarily applied to the holder of a parochial living who was non-resident. He was often a mere layman, the spiritual duties being discharged by a vicar or substitute, who received a small portion of the revenues. The name arose from the fact that the holder of the living merely figured in the character or rôle of parish clergyman without actually discharging the duties. See the writer's *Church and Manor*, p. 177.

² A remarkable spelling of Eyam. The letter *u* often appears as *v*, and the word might have been written Ium, in which case the initial *i* would have been pronounced like *ee* in "fleet."

³ The survivor was to take the whole.

⁴ The testator may have had another benefice at Stockton. There are many places of this name.

may be founde (after my detts first and principally paide, my burying made and doon), to be distributed by the ouersight of myn executors whom I do ordeyn and make, Roger More,¹ sergeaunt of the kinges bakehous, my broder at London, and my brother Thomas Bageshawe,² and my suster Joane his wife, and Thomas a Dore,³ my suster sonne, to all and euerich of this my present testament conteyned justely and rightfully to be executed and fulfilled. In witesse of this my last will and testament I have subscribed this will with myn owne hande and set to my seall the xxvj day of February, 24 Henry VIII, in the presence of Edward Churley, William Donne, George Smart, and other.

[Proved at Lambehith (Lambeth) the last day of May, 1535. Administration to the executors. The margin of the Act Book has the words "Cou'ey & Lich," so that the testator probably died at Eyam in that diocese.]

XIX. SIR RICHARD SACHEVERELL, KNIGHT.

24 March, 1534-5. I Sir Richard Sacheverell.⁴ *After bequeathing his soul in the usual manner the testator goes on:* My symple body to be buried at the Newarke in Leicester⁵ in the pytt or place where my best belovyd Lady and moost true loving wife lieth buried, if I fortune to dye within this realme of England. And if I fortune to dye beyond the see, then I will that suche of my true servaunts as shall fortune to be with me at that tyme shall cause my hert to be taken forthe of my body and to be

¹ His will, dated 1551, is at Somerset House.

² In 1538 there was a deed of general release from Thomas Bagshawe of Eyam, yeoman, and Humphrey Bagshawe his son and heir, to Humphrey Stafford, esquire, and others—Jeayes, *Derbyshire Charters*, No. 1268.

³ Written Adore in the Act Book.

⁴ He was the younger son of Ralph Sacheverell of Snitterton, Esq. whose heir was John Sacheverell of Morley (Jeayes, No. 2235, and the present will). Of him Sir George R. Sitwell writes: "Sir Richard Sacheverell, of Kirby, co. Leicester, and Stoke Pogis, co. Buckingham, member of Henry the Eighth's Privy Council, was younger brother of John Sacheverell, lord of Bolton, Hopwell, Snitterton, and Morley, co. Derby, who was slain at Bosworth. He was born before 1469, and married Mary, Baroness Hungerford, Botreaux, Molines, and Moelst, in her own right, and widow of Lord Hastings. A portrait of this lady, wearing a widow's cap though yet young, and a dark furred robe with red sleeves, and holding her beads and the rose of Lancaster, is in the possession of Lord Donington. Sir Richard was treasurer of the vanguard of the army which, under the personal command of the King, invaded France the 16th June, 1513, and in a list of the captains of that expedition, is the following entry:—'Leycestre, Sir Richard Sacheverell, Tresorer, of the seid Vauntgard bayreth a gott Buk sylver upon a wrayth gold and golls. Made Knyght at Torney'."—*Letters of the Sitwells and Sacheverells*, 1900, i, p. 1.

⁵ In 1354 "the little church of the Newarke arose in all its grace and splendour close upon Leicester castle"—James Thompson's *History of Leicester*, 1849, p. 125.

conveyed to the Newarke at Leicester aforesaid, and to bury it where my true loving wife lieth buried.¹ And as for my synfull and carion body I litill force² therefor if I dye beyonde the see. And if it fortune me to be buried at the Newark in Leicester, as I am fully purposed and intend to be, then I will that myn executours bury my body after the degree that it hath pleased god to call me vnto. And I bequethe to my mortuary, &c. Also I will that euery preest that shall saye or synge masse for my soule the day of my buriall in the churche where my body shalbe buried haue for their labour four pence, and euery clerk being within orders and euery dekon twoo pence, and euery other clerk oon peny to praye for my soule. Also I will that euery man, woman, and childe that shall come to my buriall and woll receyve dole, haue oon peny to praye for my soule..... I make Rauf Sacheuerell, George Vyncent, and George Vyllers my executours, and George Norice, esquire, and Doctour Chamber, Deane of Saint Stevyns, supervisours, and they shall haue for their labours the twoo standing cupps that I had of the gyfts of our soueraigne lorde the King and the Quenys grace for my newyers gifts at newyers tyde last past. And where I haue avowed to goo certeyn pilgramages which as yet I haue not goon (that is to witt) to our Lady of Walsingham, to our Lady of Doncastre, to the Rode of Carradon,³ and to saint Margaret of Kettisbye,⁴ I will that my said executours, or oon of them, incontynent after my deceas goo the said pilgramages, and euery of them, and also all other pilgramages that I haue avowyed and not goon, if any other be, at my oonly costs and charges. Also I will that immediately after my decesse, and my body brought home, that myn executours shall geve to euery oon of my househole servaunts that nowe is in householde wages with me oon hole yeres wages to praye for my soule, ouer and besides all suche wages as they, or any of theym, shalbe behinde vnpaid at the tyme of my dethe, yf any suche be, to fynde theym withall vntil they may provide theym of newe seruices. And where my good lorde of Huntynghdon vpon certain considerations graunted vnto my Lady his mother and me in her lyfe tyme the rents of the lordship of Allre,⁵ in the countie of

¹ It need hardly be said that the heart was regarded as the seat of the affections. Except with persons of royal birth and ecclesiastics of high rank, heart-burial was very rare, and in all the six volumes of York Wills I do not remember a single instance.

² Care little.

³ Near Liskeard in E. Cornwall.

⁴ Catesby in Northamptonshire.

⁵ Aller.

Somerset, for the space of vij yeres next following her deceas, whereof diuers of the said yeres be yet to ronne, I will that myn executours shall content and pay of the Reve Edward Hastynges and maister William Hastynges, yonger sonnes to my said lord of Huntingdon, to euery oon of them oon hundreth pounds towards their preferments of mariages, or otherwise. And ouer that I will my executours shall content and pay vnto the Right Honourable Lord the Erle of Sussex of the revenues of the said lordship of Allre three hundred and fifty marks remayning behinde vnpaide of sevyen hundreth marks I the said Sir Richarde haue graunted to the said Erle to geve vnto him for parte and parcell of such summes of money as he was promysed to haue in mariage with my Lady Margaret nowe his wife.

By me, John Chamber, preest

Vltima voluntas eiusdem Ricardi (in the margin)

ALSO I wille that my newewe Sir Henry Sacheuerell, knyght, shall immediately after my decease haue to him and his heires for euer all such londes which I had of the gyfte of Raufe Sacheuerell, my fater, and my gretter booll¹ and the blakwarke with half the woods that I haue bought for the occupying of the said boolls, vpon condicion that he and his heires shall pay yerely to Anne Longe tenne marks. And I will that my newewe Rauf Sacheuerell haue my lasse booll, with the other half of the blakwark, and with the other half of the woodes that I haue bought for the occupying of the foresaid boolls. And also I geve and bequethe to my said newewe Raufe Sacheuerell the custodie and wardship and mariage of Fraunces Kebell, son and heire to Water Kebell, to marye him at his pleasure, vpon condicion my said newewe endeavour his self to his power that the foundation of the scole at Barton upon Trent, in the countie of Stafford, may be stablished and fynyshe with [such] convenient spede as may be after my deceas. [Then follows a long and elaborate recital of a settlement on feoffees which the testator had made of various manors, advowsons, and estates in Leicestershire, and of the manor of Ratcliffe on Soar in Nottinghamshire. The feoffees are numerous, and of high rank.] Also I will that immediately after my deceas George Findern haue my lease of the herbage of the Forest in the Peek, in the countie of Derby, so that he pay to Henry Parker, gentleman, the Kings Vsher, four pounds yerely. Sealed with my owne hand, and over that [I] have instant²

¹ These lead furnaces must have been in Derbyshire.

² Urged, pressed, solicited.

maister Doctour Chamber aforesaid, one of my supervisors of this my present will, to subscribe his name with his owne hande at Bishops Hatefelde in the countie of Hertford the day and yere aboue written, these being witnesse. By me John Chamber, preest. George Findern, William Findern, John Share, and diuerse others.

[Proved at Lambeth 27 June, 1534. Administration to the executors.]

XX. SAMPSON LORD, PRIEST.

22 Dec., 1537. Sampson Lorde,¹ preest. To be buried in the chauncell of Schefelde church, if it please god to call me there. I bequeth to the vicar of Schefelde my typpet of taffata, my best capp, a paire of hosen, a shirte, and my cloke. I bequeth for my burial there to the church maisters tenne shillings. To henry Lord the good that is in the farm at Sudbury. To Thomas Lord, my servant, five pounds vjs. viijd. in the handes of Heyton, and the whole farme of Dronfelde² [and] my trotting gelding. And I make my brother Sir John Lord myn executor, to whom I geve all my goodes vnbequethed, my detts paid. I bequeth to every child of my brothers and susters one royall. Item to be spende at my buriall four pounds among the preests and poure folkes at the discretion of my servant Thomas Lord. To deliver to my said brother my best horse, sadyll, and bridell. These being witnesse, Thomas Lord, vicar of Sheffield, and maister Lister, parson of Codforth,³ with other.

[Proved in London, 29 Jan., 1538-9 by the executor.]

XXI. SIR GODFREY FOLJAMBE OF WALTON HALL, KNIGHT.

14 Jan., 1540-1. I Sir Godfray Foliambe, of Walton Hall, co. Derby, knight, of good memory, nevertheless sick in bodye. My body to be buried in the parishe church of All Saynts in and at Chesterfeld, in the chapell of saynt George, there besides my lady my wyfe. To the mother church of Coventry and Lichfeld, to either of them seuerally, vjs. viijd. My son James, whom I make my sole executour, shall cause that my body be brought home to my buriall, and my funerall messes and diriges &c. done and mynistered, and that my swerde and helmet, with the beest⁴ vpon the

¹ He became Bachelor of the Canon Law at Oxford, 28 Feb., 1518-19.

² In 1537-8 Thomas Lord held part of the tithe of grain belonging to the rectory of Dronfield—Pegge's *Beauchief Abbey*, 103.

³ In Wiltshire.

⁴ The word is plainly written, but, in an inaccurate extract from this will printed in *Memorials of Old Derbyshire*, 1907, p. 109, it appears as "crest." The will is also wrongly dated 1531.

hedd of yt, and my cote armure, to be hanged over my tombe, and there to remayn for ever. Also I will that the two greatest salts that I haue (except one) with a couer to them belonging, which ben doble gylt, and my armes in the toppe with my wyffs armes, a bason and an ewer of syluer parcell gilte, with an egle in the myddes, and a posye seying IT IS GOOD TO HAUE A LONG THROOTE,¹ two standing cuppes, whereof thone of them ys hole gilte, and hath a bell in the toppe of the cover, and other certeyn jewells which lye in a chest amongst certeyn of my evidences—that all thies (except before except) to remayn in myn howse at Walton with my son and heire, and he to do therewith as he shall seme best by his discession for the helthe of my soule. Also I bequeth and give to my son Godfrey a bason and ewer of syluer parcell gilte, and another baason and ewer of syluer, parcell gilte, to my sone George, and to be delyuered to them two by the discession of my sayd executour. To every one of my sones a velvet gowne, that ys to wite, to my sone James my tawny velvet gowne, with the furies in the same. Also to my sone Godfrey a blak velvet gowne lately furred with jenetts,² and also the furr of jenetts lately being in the same gowne. And also to my sone George a tawny velvet gown, lyned with tawny satten. Also I will that thirty of my household servaunts, the names of whom apperith in a scroll hereunto this will annexed,³ haue, every of them, a blak gowne, and meite and drinke at Walton Hall by the space of one quarter of one yere after my deceas. And also to Miles Colvyll, George Legh, William Dethik, Michel Pole, Henry Hewet, and Arthur Kynder, to every one of them xxs. And to every other of my yomen, being my household servaunts, to haue, every of them, a reward after the discession of my said executour, over and aboue their wages, and to every other of my servaunts, being out of my house and of my livery, a blake gowne, and so to some other my lovers and frends being at my buryall blacke gownes, as my said executour shall think convenient, or els nat. To Anne Foliambe, my doughter, fyve hundret markes vnto such tyme as she shalbe promoted to mariage. And that

¹ I have given the posy, or inscription, in capitals, but it is not so in the original. The silver basin and ewer were used for washing the hands at dinner. One is reminded of the Greek tale of the man who prayed to the gods that his throat might be as long as a crane's that he might have greater pleasure in drinking. But the meaning may be that it is good for an ewer to have a long neck so that the water may be poured out without splashing.

² The *genet* was the civet cat, and the "jenetts" are the fur of that animal.

³ This scroll is not copied into the Register.

she shall be kept with suche of her frends as shall be thought convenient. Also I will that all my servauntes of husbondry, called hynes, shall haue meyte and drinke after my decas at Walton Hall by the space of one moneth, and to every of them ijs. over and aboue their wages. My son James to receive the lease and farme of the prebend of Tikhull, which I haue in ferme from the late abbot and convent of Westminster. I desire my son James that he will be contented that Godfrey my son shall enioye the townships of Wheteley, Hardworth, Haseley, Lympole, Plumtreefeld, and Tikhull, to pay yerely for Hareworth vij marks, for Wheteley ixli. vjs. viijd., for Haseley, Lympole and Plumtreefeld sevyen markes, and for Tykhull sevyen markes. Son James to have the residue of the said farmes, that is to wite, Estmarkham, Westmarkham, Lowdham, and Walesbie. Son Godfrey to paye to James the dismes for the portion which the said Godfrey has, and to the bishop for his substedie. To my daughter Margaret, my sone Godfrys wyfe, a kyrtell of blacke velvet, and a paire of beydes¹ of fine [*blank*] with a grene tassell, which were my said wyffes. Also I will that my sone James have the order, rule, and governance and maryage, with all such covenants, graunts, premises, and agrements as I haue of William Assheby and Joyes his wyfe, for the mariage of Richard Assheby, their son and heire, or any other there sonnes which shall fortune to be their heire, and maryed to Benet Foliambe, my daughter, begotten of Joane Mannsfeld, or els to such other gentilwoman as I shuld name, with all other covenants &c. concerning the same. And also the order, rule, governance and marriage, with all the covenants &c, as I haue of Cristopher Fitzrandolph and Jane his wyfe for the mariage of Thomas Fitzrandolph their son and heire, or eny other of their sonnes which shall fortune to be their heire,² and maryed to Katherin Foljambe, my daughter, begoten as abovesaid, or els to such other gentilwoman as I shulde name and appointe.³ To

¹ "Pair" here means a set, as when we speak of a pair of stairs.

² Christopher Fitzrandolph and Jane his wife were of Westwood in Nottinghamshire in 1542—Jeayes, *Derbyshire Charters*, No. 24. This Christopher, or another person of the same name, was living at Pinxton, on the borders of Nottinghamshire, in 1503—*Op. cit.* No. 1883. In 1603 Edward Fitzrandolph appears as the first-named subsidy man in the Subsidy Roll of 1603—*Journal*, xliv, p. 74. In 1656 Philip Fitzrandolph, son of Edward of Little Normanton (near Alfreton) gentleman, deceased, was apprenticed to a Sheffield cutler—R. E. Leader's *Cutlers' Company*, ii, p. 204.

³ Child-marriages, and bargains between parents for the marriage of their children, were frequent in the sixteenth century. The case of Benedicta (Benet) and Katherine, the illegitimate daughters of Sir Godfrey, was very

the amending of the high wayes in Whittington vjs. viiij. To the amending of the high wayes at Vlgarthorpe between Vfton Hall and Vlgarthorpe vjs. viiij. Item to the amending of the high wayes at Sutton in Scarsdale vjs. viiij. Item I bequeth to the reparacion of Kirkeby in Asshefeld chirche vjs. viiij. Item I will that my household be kept at Walton Hall of meyte and drinke after my decease by the space of one quarter of one yere. Also I will and bequeth that yf my sone George Foliambe do mary and tak a wyfe, or els inhabitt hymself in the country, or els where, that he shall than occupye the farm of Westmarkham that my sonne James shuld haue, and to paie to James the old rents, and also the farme of Hareworth that my son Godfrey shuld haue. Residue to son James, the sole executor, to order and dispose for the helthe of my soule. Sealed and subscribed by the testator in the presence of William Newenham, knight, John Boswell. *Teste me Oliuero Shaa, clerico, vicario de Estmarkham, William Walton, clerke, parson of Barleburgh. Per me Willelmum Inskip, parson of Clown. Per me Richardum Calton. Per me Edwardum Bonne.*

[Proved in London 10 Feb., 1541-2. Administration to the executor.]

XXII. WILLIAM CROFTES OF WHALEY IN BOLSOVER, YEOMAN.

28 Nov., 1546. To be buried in Bolsover church before the image of saint Katheryn. I will that a honest priest shulde singe for my soule a yere after my departure, that is to say, one quarter of a yere at Bolsover where I shalbe buried, halfe a yere at Brampton, where I was born,¹ and another quarter of a yere at Chesterfelde, and the same priest shall have for his wages and labour that yere a hundreth shilling, or under as my maister can hyer him. I geve and bequeth to my maister George Pierpoint

hard. If they obeyed their father, they were bound in each case to marry the heir of a certain person, and if that heir died before the marriage took place, the succeeding heir. And if the daughters refused to marry according to the contract, then their father had the right of nominating other gentlewomen to take their places. It was as if the father had said to the girls: "If you two refuse to marry these men, I will find other girls, and you shall go penniless." If by living with Joan Mansfield he had spoilt the blood, he still desired to maintain the breed. These arrangements were made by the testator in his lifetime, and the executor was instructed to complete them. Sir Godfrey's wife, who died in 1529, was Catherine, daughter of Sir John Leake, of Sutton-in-the-Dale.

¹ By his will dated 3 May, 1485, William Croft of Brampton, senior, left all his lands in Brampton or elsewhere to Henry Folgiam in trust for Mapota Crofte, his widow, and after her death to divide them between Nicholas Crofte and William Crofte, his sons—Jeayes, *Derbyshire Charters*, No. 468.

Esquier xxxiijs. iiijd. and a harnes that he hath, whom I ordein and make my sool executor. I give to my maistres his wife xxs. To John Croftes, of Nottingham, whom I make supervisor of my will, I geve a hundreth shillings, and all my bedding and wering apparell. I bequeth to Nicholas Croftes, being with William Iveson of Arnall, lijs. iiijd. To the said Nicholas suster I give xls. which twoo porcions, bicause the said childer are yonge, I do desire my said maister to kepe it for them untill such age or tyme as he thinks mete and convenient for them to haue their said bequests, yet for bicause the said Iveson is a pour man I wolde he had xxs. of the said Nicholas parte to occupie and do him good withall, if he can find suertie to paye it again at such tyme as my maister will assigne, or els not to haue it. I bequeth to their mother xiijs. iiijd. To Elyn Lyllye of Dronfeld I give xiijs. iiijd. To the reparing of Brampton lane xiijs. iiijd. To Agnes Croftes prentice at Nottingham I geve iiijli., and xxs. also that her Dame owith me, to be deliuered to the said Agnes when my said master thinks good. To mistress Anne my maistress gentlewoman I give vjs. viiijd. To Sir Edmund Stubbes, prest, xs. To Mr. Frauncis Calcot vjs. viiijd. To Hugh Pees of Bolsover Woodhouse vjs. viiijd.

[Proved in London by George Pierpoint Esq., the executor, 9 Feb., 1546-7.]

XXIII. ROWLAND BABINGTON, OF DERBY, ESQ.

8 March, 1547-8. Rowland Babyngton¹ of Derby, Esq. My body to be buried in the chauncell one the north syde of saynt Peters church in Derby, nere vnto my late dawghter Powtrell, there as the sepulchre place is, with a playn stone vpon my tombe, and a scription sett in the wall, with lyke stone as is ouer my yates, mencyonnyng that my bodye lyeth there, yf I die within xxti myles of Derby, or elles in such place as myn executor shall thinke conveyent. And funerall expenses I remytt them to his dyscresyon, requyryng hym that they be honestlye done. And I will that debts by me dewe be payde. And I will that yf annye person complayn of any exstorsion or wronge by me done that vpon the dewe prove thereof made myn executor to make satisfaction and recompense. Also I geve and bequethe to Austen my sonne my fermes of Bakewell, Segrafeld, the Hallfeld, Atlowe, the Roughe Close, the Erlwyke, Pole Clothe of Bradleye Lands,

¹ He was a younger son of Thomas Babington of Dethick, Esq., whose fine tomb is in Ashover church, and whose will appears in vol. xix, p. 80 of this *Journal*. The manor of Normanton, about two miles from Derby, was granted, says Lysons, by Henry VIII to Rowland Babington Esq., in 1544.

the Newe Feld, Stretleyes, Wyllngton, Humber Holme, Osmaston tythes, my boole ore and blakewoorke bought, with all the toles and necessaryes thereunto, and also my smylting belongyng, and all my groves and woodes bought, and by me hereafter to be bought, to occupye and vse to his moost proffytt and advauntage. Also I geve and bequeathe to my said sonne Awstyn twoo partes of my plate, and the thyrde part to Myghell my sonne. Also I wyll and bequeath to Awston my sonne twoo partes of all my shepe, bestes, horses, mares, and other my quycke cattall, and to Myghell my sonne the thyrde part thereof, savyng my wyffes ryght to her thirde parte. Also I bequeath twoo partes of my houshold stuffe to Awstyn my sonne, and the thyrde parte thereof to Myghell, savyng my wyffes right to her thyrde parte. Also I geve and bequethe to Myghell my sonne my fermes of Bradburye¹ personage, the personage of Kniveton, the Flatts, and myn apparell to be equallye devyded between my sonnes Awstyn and Myghell. Also I will that myn executors have the governaunce, order, rule, and custodie of George Curson, my sonne in lawe, vnto such tyme as he cum to thage of xxth yeres, and then my said executor to pay towarde the valewe of his maryage fyfthe pounde, condycionallye that he be lovyng husbunde to his wyff, and take the wayes of woorship and thryfte, or els no monye to be payd but at the pleasure of myn executor.² Also I bequeth to John Thomlynson my servaunt twoo kyne, and to William Abell my servaunt a nagge, praying my wyffe and childern to be good unto them and other that be my old servaunts. And I ordayn and make my true and lawfull executor Awstyn my sonne, and if he die then I make Myghell substitute. These beyng wyttnes. *Per me Rolandum Babyngton, manu propria, et sigillum appositum. Thomas Babyngton. Per me Willelmum Colyer, vicarium ecclesiae Divi Petri Derbiae. Per me Georgium Charneleye, subsenescallum villae Derby. Per me Henricum Werden.*

[Proved 24 June, 1548. Administration to the executor.]

XXIV. ANTHONY LOWE OF ALDERWASLEY, ESQ.

27 Nov., 1555. Anthony Low of Alderwasley in the parish of Wykesworth in the countie of Derby, Esquier. My body to be buried in the parrishe Church of Wykesworth. To Bridget Lowe

¹ There is no such parish in Derbyshire as Bradbury, and evidently Bradbourn, which is close to Kniveton, is meant. This is remarkable, and it seems possible that Bradbury was, or is, a local pronunciation of Bradburn.

² Here we have an extraordinary instance of child-marriage and its possible consequences.

my wife my manor of Alderwaslee and Asshelyhay which I now dwell in, with all other my houses, lands &c. in Alderwaslee and Ashlyhaye, and in the town and borough of Nottingham, and in the borow of Derbye, or els wheare. And also my boole, bolstid,¹ and smylting, and all thinges thereunto belonging, during her natural life, and after her decease to remayn to Edwarde Lowe my son, and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, and for the lacke of such yssue to be and goo to Anne Lowe, Susan Lowe, and Barbara Lowe, my daughters aforesaid² Item I bequethe to Edwarde Lowe my sonne all my rayment that belongeth to my bodye, and also my horse and sadell that I do vse to ryde vppon, with my sworde and buckler. Item I will that my said son Edwarde shall haue after my wife's decease a silver salt with a cover, a dosenne of silver spones, a cruse of siluer and gilte with a cover, and viij oxen,³ and viij kye. Item I give, devise, and bequeath to Anne Lowe, Susan Lowe, and Barbara Lowe, my daughters, and to all and everye of theym, one hundred marks a pece, if they wilbe ordered by my wife in their marriages, but if they will not be ordered, then I will that they shall haue but xxli. a pece. Item I bequeath to Thomas Bradshawe, my servaunt, xxs. Item I bequeathe to William Bromelyn, my servaunt, xxs. Item I bequethe to Mr. Blomeville xxs. Item I bequeath to the high aulter of Wyrksworth xxd. Item I bequeath to Anthony Bradshawe my godsonne vjs. viijd. Item to every one of my godchildren xijd. a pece. And I do ordayne, make, name, and appoyncte Bridgett Lowe, my said wife, my true and lawfull executrix of this my testament and last will. And I make William Welbeck of (*blank*) supervisor and overseer of my said last will, thies being witnesses, Robert Ire-

¹ The earliest instances of the words "bole" and "bolestid" which the Oxford English Dictionary can give are of the year 1670, no derivation being offered. In 1491 we hear of 13 fother of lead, "boole weght and marchaundable," with undertaking to "blok and brend" the same—*Jeayes' Derbyshire Charters*, 1906, No. 998. There are many places in Derbyshire called Bole Hill, and these were places where lead was smelted. In 1514 Sir Henry Vernon says in his will, "I wyll that all the blakeworke at my boles go to the performyng of my wyll except the bole wallys and as moche blakeworke as wyll keuer the blokkys of the bole to brenne honest agayne"—*Journal*, xviii, pp. 86, 91. "Blakeworke" appears to mean charcoal. See *Journal*, xix, 82.

² The daughters are not mentioned before.

³ Eight oxen constituted the full plough team. In 1407 Sir Thomas Neville, Lord Furnival, by his will gave to two persons sixteen oxen each—*Test. Ebor.* (Surtees Soc.), iii, p. 42.

lande, curate, maister Blomeville, and Raufe Wylmotte. Anthony Lowe.

[Administration granted in London 6 Nov., 1557, to Edward Lowe, the son, the widow being then dead. This grant was revoked, and a new grant made in the February following, the will being registered again. There was a grant *de bonis non* in June, 1558, and a third registration of the will. It will be seen that the testator does not dispose of the residue.]

XXV. BRIDGET LOWE OF ALDERWASLEY, WIDOW.

In the name of God, Amen. The xxvth daye of September in the yere of our Lorde god a thousand five hundreth fiftie and seven, I Bridget Lowe,¹ of Alderwaslee, in the countie of Derbe,² late wief vnto Anthony Lowe, Esquier, deceased, being of good and parfytt remembraunce, do make my last will and testament in manner and forme following. First I do give and bequeath my soule to Almighty god, to our blessed Ladie Saint Marye, and to all the hollie companie in Heaven, and my bodie to be buried in the chancell in the parishe church of Wyrkesworthe, nere vnto my said late husbnde, and at my buriall to be suche convenyante expenses, and necessary observances, as to my worship and degree shall appertayne, by the discretion of my executors and other my loving frendes. And further I do give and bequethe for my mortuarye accordinge as the custome shalbe then lawfully vsyd. And where my said husbnde by his last will and testament dyd give and bequeth vnto Edward Lowe my sonne viij oxen, whereof I haue deliuered him before this six, I will that the said Edward shalhaue the other two oxen deliuered vnto hym, being the residue of the said viij oxen. And moreover I do give and bequeth vnto the said Edward other fowre oxen to make the said viij oxen xij oxen. And moreover I do give and bequeth vnto the said Edward six kye, one bull, twenty wethers, twenty ewes, one ewer and a bason of pewter, xij brodde platters of siluer facion,³ xij other platters of pewter narrowe brymingd,⁴ one dosen of sawcers of pewter, foure brasyn pottes, whereof one of theym to be the greatest pott of the oldest sorte, the other three to be of the middilste sorte of my pottes, two greate pannes of brasse, two

¹ She was the daughter of Sir John Fogge, Comptroller of the Household, and Privy Councillor to Henry VII, and was herself Maid of Honour to Queen Catherine—Glover's *History of Derbyshire*, vol. ii, part i, p. 5. Her husband was standard-bearer and gentleman of the bed-chamber to Henry VIII, Edward VI, and Queen Mary—Cox, *Churches of Derbyshire*, ii, 566.

² The final "e" was pronounced as in Middle English.

³ Of silver fashion, or make; made of silver.

⁴ Narrow-brimmed, as we speak of a narrow-brimmed hat.

little pannes of brasse, one ketill of brasse. And also I do bequeth vnto the said Edward my fether bedd fullie coverlet, and a counterpoynt¹ to the same bedd belonging, the hanging over the bed, and the curtens abowte the same, with the bedstidds of woode, and which said beds and stuf ys commonly vsed in the hall chamber. And also I bequeth vnto the said Edward my best iron-boundyn weyne, three yookes for oxen, three iron teymes,² my grete iron kanburth³ in the kytchen, two cressets,⁴ two treyvets or bryndyrns,⁵ two little frying pannes, all my brewing fats, and all the glass in my windowes abowt the house, and all the sylid worke of wynscott or wodde in the new parlor, or in any other chamber or parler abowte the said howse.⁶ Provided always and my full purpos, meaning, and intent ys that the said parcells, and every part thereof, before in this my last will and testament by me given or bequethed, is and shalbe to the said Edward Lowe my sonne vnder this condicion and not otherwise: That the said Edward shall from tyme to tyme permitt and suffer my executor, doughters, and other my frends to take and haue all the residue of my goods and cattalls without lett or interupcion of the said Edward, or any other purson or persons, by his assent, consent, meanes, or procurement. And I do also give and bequeth vnto Susan Lowe, my daughter, fiftie markes of lawfull English money towards her marriage, over and beside all such legacies and bequests as is given to her by her said father's last will [The like bequest to Barbara Lowe her daughter.]. And moreover I do give and bequeth vnto the said Susan and Barbara all my reyment and apparell, with all my ringes and other juells,

¹ A quilted bed-cover, a quilt.

² Sieves.

³ This interesting word means a berth or bearing-place for cans or tankards (possibly a large iron rack). It is evident that *burth*, the second part of the word, stands for *berth*, because "person" is written "purson" in this will. The Oxford English Dictionary has no such word as "canberth," and the earliest quotation for "berth" is dated 1622. The word "canberth" confirms, even proves, the derivation from the verb to *bear*; the instrument bears up the tankards.

⁴ Probably kitchen utensils for setting pots over the fire. But this use of the word is not recorded before 1730.

⁵ Trivets or gridirons.

⁶ It is remarkable that the testatrix should have disposed of the glass in her windows, as if such glass did not form part of the realty. It is still more remarkable that she should have given to her son the wainscoting in the house. One would have thought that she had only a life interest in these things.

to be equally devided betwene them. And also I do give and bequeth vnto euery goddaughter that I have ijs. Item I do give and bequeth vnto Thomas Bradshawe, Raffe Willimotte, Agnes quie,¹ and William Bromeley, my servauntes, every of them twenty shillings, and to Richard Brockyllurst fourtye shillings, to be paid to them by my executor. And the residue of all my goods and cattals not by me before given nor bequethed (my debtes and legacies paid and I brought whome) I do give and bequeth vnto Alen Blomevyle, my servaunte, which said Alen I do ordeyn and make my sole and lawfull executor of this my last will and testament according to my confidence and faithfull trust put in hym. And the overseer of this my last will and testament I do ordeyne and make my trustie and welbelouyed frend Richard Nedham of Suytton,² and for his travell and paynes in and abowte the same I give and bequeth vnto hym five pounds, praying hym to be good to my daughters and my executor, and to eyde and assist theym in and abowte the true execution of this my last will and testament. And that this is my last will and testament I haue called these persones to wytnes, whose names be vnder written, Richard Nedham, Raffe Willimotte, and Thomas Bradshawe, with other moo. Brigit Lowe.

[Proved in London by the executor 8 Oct., 1557.]

XXVI. JAMES CASTLYN OF LONDON, MERCER.

18 April, 1558. James Castlyn³ of London, mercer. All my lands to my son James and his heirs; if he die before twenty-one my daughter Aungell shall have them. "If god take both theym without issue" my nephew Edward Castlyn shall have them Gifts of jewels, rings, and silver. "I bequeth to the parishe churche of Norton in Derbyshire, where I was borne, a vestment of russett velvett, and a coope of the same colour, and ten shilling to be a collation made in the church at the delivery of theym, and that they shall pray for me and myne auncestors."⁴

[Proved in London 9 Feb., 1558-9.]

¹ Perhaps a spelling of Key or Kay.

² Sutton?

³ The Castelayns had land at Norton in the fourteenth century; Edward Castelayn, citizen and mercer of London, sold property at Hemsworth in Norton in 1569. See Hall and Thomas, *Descriptive Catalogue of the Jackson Collection in the Sheffield Public Library*, 1914. See also *Journal*, ii, 26. In 1570 there was a special commission in the Exchequer (No. 2553) concerning the possessions of Edward Castelyn in Sheffield.

⁴ A light repast was to be given in the church on the presentation of these vestments.