

Company, largely composed of those whom he had defied, maintained him as their President. And though his growing impatience gave them a chance to strike at him which they could not forego, we see that they had no sooner done so than they repented." Col. Yule adds "the most prominent circumstance in his government, apart from the internal history of the Companies, was the blockade of Madras by the Nawab of the Carnatic, met by the President with great tact and firmness." Another writer, in giving an account of this blockade, says "the reader will perceive that the germ of that lofty pride, untiring energy, and stern consciousness of power, formed the characteristics of England's greatest war ministers, and are discernible in the proceedings of their more humble progenitor who from the little Fort of St. George defied the threat of the grasping Nabob and proved more than a match for the low cunning and courtly dissimulation of the Oriental.

(To be continued.)

Early Berkshire Wills, from the P.C.C., ante 1558.

(Continued from Vol. II., page 178.)

27.

The Will of AGNES APPULFORD.—[No date.] To be buried in the church of Cokeham. A priest to pray for the soules of William Appulford and Agnes his wife and all cristen soules. Silvestor Pecke and John Hylton, executors.

Witnesses, Edmond Stokton, vicar of Cokeh^m, Thomas Harmerwoode, Richard Turnor.

Proved 15 Feb., 1508, by the exors. (11 Bennett.)

28.

The Will of ROBERT APPULTON of Boxford [? Suffolk or Berks]. —16 April, 1487. To wife Agnes xx^{li}: sterling. To Margarete Mawdyon, Walter Caux, Thome More. Walter and Thomas More, executors. Sir Thomas Lench (?) of the par. ch. of Boxford, supervisor.

Witnesses, John Fry, Thomas Fry, Peter Caux.

Proved 12 June, 1491. (45 Milles.)

29.

The Will of JOHN ARDERNE of Henley upon Thamys in the countie of Oxforth.—24 Feb. 1525. To be buried in the chapell of Our Lady within the church of Henley. To Margery my da. To Johane my wyfe lands in Henley, Rotherford gray or els where within the conntie of Oxforth or Berkshire and after her decease to Humfray Arderne my son and his heirs. My sons Robert A., John A., & Edmund A. My tenants Robert Rawlins and Henry Wells. My tenement in the occupation of Henry Cleydon in the newe strete. I bequeth a Chaleis gilt w^t patent to the church of Henley. Wife Joane executrix. Maister James Hayles, overseer. Witnesses, Sir Richard Wells, prest, James Hayles, Richard Masham.

Proved 4 May, 1526. (6, Porch.)

30.

Administration of the goods &c. of sir JOHN ARUNDELL, clerk, Dean of Wyndesore, was granted 1 June 1454, to John Myldenhale.

31.

The Will of LADY KATHERINE GORDON.—7 Oct., 1537. [Note in margin of the Will Register by Mr. J. C. C. Smith. "Wife of Christopher Assheton, and formerly of (1st) Perkin Warbeck (see Wood's ed.ⁿ of Douglas's Peerage of Scotland—s.v. Huntly), (2nd) of James Strangwis (Will 26 Holder.), (3rd) of Mathew Cradock (Will 7, Thower.)]. Lady Katherine Gorden wife unto Xpofer Assheton of Fyfelde co. Berks, Esq., sometime wife unto James Strangwis, late of Fifeld, Esq., deceased, and his executrix, and also wife unto my dear and well-beloved husband Sr Mathew Cradock of Cardiff in Walys in the countie of Glamorgan, knight, deceased, and his executrix. To be buried in the church of Fifield. Brother-in-law Richard Smith, executor. To my cosyn Margaret Keymes, to my friend Robert Woodleff, sollicitour, to my [female] servant Phillip Hulls, sundry bequests. A chantry in the Monastery of St. Mary Overe in Southwark founded by my late husband James Strangwys and myself in memory of my father the Erle of Huntly and Gorden and my lady and mother his wife. To my sister Alice Smythe a gown. Witnesses, Xpofer Assheton (husband) Phillip Hulls, William Pigott, and Elene Raffe.

Proved 5 Nov., 1537. (10, Dyngeley.)

(To be continued.)