



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

(Continued from Vol. III., page 172.)

83.

The Will of THOMAS BYSELEYE, of Abendon, co. Berks., gent.—9 June, 1553. To be buried in the parish church of Saynte Helyns in the Ile there by my father and mother. Unto Luce my wief during her naturall life yf she kepe herself sole and unmarried all my lands, &c., in the townes felde and medowes of Abendon, Walingeforde, Sutton Weke and els where in co. Berks, with remainder to Robert my son and his heirs—with remainder to Alexander my son and his heirs. To my two sons Alexander and Richard to every of them twentie pounds when of age. And unto my three daughters to everie of them twentie marks the daye of their marriage. The residue unto Luce my said wife, sole executrix. Mr. Olyver Hide, my brother Robert Trewe, my cosyn John Radleye of Reddinge and Willyam Mathew to be myne overseers. Witnesses, Maistres Thomesyn Hyde, Maistres Anne Shalington, Thomas Phillips, clarke, Thomas Orpwood, John Chauntrell, Thomas Clarke and Richard Powell cum aliis Arthur Alyn, John Radley.

Proved at London, 20 June, 1553, by the rel. and exix. (14, Tashe.)

84.

The Will of WILLIAM BLAKE, of Benham in the pishe. of Spyne co. Barksher, yoman.—10 June, 1552. To be buried in the church of Lyttynne of Spyne. To Ellyne Blake my wife, goods, cattell, &c. To every one of my wiefs children one quarter of malte. Item, I bequeathe amongst my children all my shepe and cattell that ys going upon the comon of Andou',\* Enhm. and Benhm. and the graine in the barnes in my holde in Knights Enhm., &c., the profits of my said tenement in Knights Enhm., whiche William Blake of

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\* A contraction of Andover.

Knights Enhm. dothe tyll. To Anthony Blake, my son, the six houses, &c. now in the custody of William Blake. My goods which was removed from Enhm. to Benhm. to be removed back againe to Enhm. into the custody of Robert Boswell my father in law. Legacies to Isabell Goldinge, John Blake my brother, Richard Blake my brother, Marryon my wyffs serv'nte. Residue to my son Anthony Blake, sole executor. Robert Boswell my father in law and William Fletewood, overseers. Witnesses, William Fletewood, John Blake, John Boswell, Richard Estmenst, John Alder, John Mathew, Robert Smytton.

28 July, 1552, admon. to Robert Boswell during minority of the exor.

Proved 18 May, 1571, by the exor. (20, Powell.)

## 85.

The Will of WILLIAM BLACK, of Benham in the pishe. of Spyne, co. Berks, yeoman.—10 June, 1552. [The same testator as No. 84, and agrees with the copy reg<sup>d</sup> in 20, Powell.]

9 October, 1557. Admon. to Anthony Boswell and Robert Knight, to admr. the goods of Robert Boswell, the admr. of the goods of dec'd during minority of Anthony Blake, the exor. named in the said Will. (37, Wrastley.)

## 86.

## (WILL OF GOODS.)

The Will of WILLIAM BLAKMAN, citizen and talugh chaundeler of London.—24 March, 1476. To be bur<sup>d</sup> in ch-yd. of St. Bot., without Bishopsgate, near late wife Isabel. Legacies to Cheshunt co. Herts, to John my brother, to poor of Hustwaite co. York by thaduyce of Robert Ragett and Sir John Botiller, curate of the same, to John Cokevike my godson, son of John Cokevyke, Elizabeth my wife, to John Blakman my brother's son, to William Harte myn apprentice, to William Moone the son of John Mone, to Symond Mone, to William Ambrose, to John Worth's daughter, to Robert Lyall the son of Robert Lyall, barbour, and to Thomas Harop the son of John Harop. An obite by note to be kept in the par. ch. of S. Leonard, Estchepe, for the souls of Roger Champeney and Isabell, Cecily and Anneys his wifs. My tenement without Bishopsgate held of the Chamber of London. My wife Elizabeth executrix. John Worth and John Harop, talugh chaundelers, co-executors. Robert Forster, gentilman, overseer.

(WILL OF LANDS.)

My lands, &c., in the counties of Hertford and Berkshire and elsewhere. To Elizabeth my wife my lands and tenements in Cheshunt, co. Herts, and my close at Staunfordes Hill called Presfelde, with remaynder to Jamys Blakman my godsonne, otherwise called Jamys Abbott, with remainder to John Blakman my brother's son and his heirs. My lands, &c. in the par. of Undevor and elsewhere in Berks, and my lands, &c. in Eton, co. Bucks, called Brocasts, lands to the foresaid John Blakman and that by the oversight of the foresaid Robert Forster and of — Fenwick, gentilman dwellyng at Colbroke. To my said wife Elizabeth my tent. in Throsshyn lane in Walth'm holy Crosse. [No witnesses.]

Proved at Lamehith, 17 April, 1477. (28, Wattys.)

GEO. F. TUDOR SHERWOOD.

99, Angell Road,  
Brixton, S.W.

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## Letters of the First (English) Prince of Wales to Berkshire Ecclesiastics.

*By Mr. Nathaniel Hone.*

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A very unique Roll at the Public Record Office contains some hundreds of transcripts of letters of the first (English) Prince of Wales (afterwards Edward II.) in year 1304-5, when the Prince was in his twentieth year. Many of these letters are dated from Windsor Park, White Waltham, and Weregrave. The following are translations of a few relating to the County of Berks\* :—

TO THE LORD ABBOT OF READING.

Edward, &c. To our beloved in God the Lord Abbot of Reading greeting. Whereas we have heard that you have lately caused to be assessed by your men Our well beloved Adam de Poletier and other Burgesses of Reading, by reason of the tallage that the Lord the King our Father is making of his demesnes,

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\* Two series of these letters in the original Anglo-French appeared in the *Antiquary*, September and November, 1894.