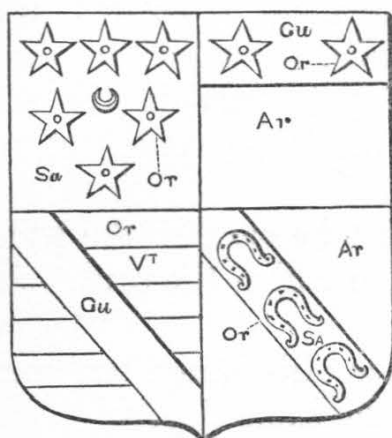


THE BONVILLES OF HALNAKER.

By WILLIAM DURRANT COOPER, F.S.A.

THE pedigree of Poynings clears up the descent of Halnaker from the St. Johns, through the Poynings, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter and co-heir of John Bonville, of Shute, and wife of Thomas West, Lord de la Warre.



It is confirmed by the arms on the monument at Broadwater; where the Bonville arms are differenced with a *crescent* for Sir Thomas B., who married for his first wife Joan, the Poynings' co-heiress, and was second son of William Lord Bonville; and in addition to the 2 St. John and 3 Poynings quarterings there is the quartering of 4 Ferrers, for Elizabeth Ferrers,

first wife of Sir Hugh Poynings.¹ By his second marriage with Leva, heiress of John Gorges, of Warleigh, Sir Thomas B. had a second son, who also bore the same christian name as his eldest son John;² but in the MSS. at the college of arms he is described as of Warleigh, and his arms as borne by the Coplestones, of Devonshire,³ (the descendants of his only child, Anne), are differenced with a *chief embattled gules*.

So little has been known of Halnaker and its owners during the fifteenth century that our members will be glad to read

¹ The shield is wrongly described in Cartwright, and the quarterings are not appropriated by him to the families.

² There were two half-brothers of the same christian name, Thomas, in the

Hoo family. Suss. Arch. Coll., viii., p. 110.

³ See Ped. Harl. MSS., 889, fol. 230; 1091, fol. 67; 3288, fol. 47; 5871, fol. 60.

the documents relating to them, which hitherto have not been printed. They will form a fit supplement to the account of the elder branch of the family.

The first is the proof of age in 1434 of the only child of Joan, the eldest of the Poyninges' co-heiresses, She was then dead, and her husband had married again.

PROOF OF AGE OF JOHN BONEVYLE, son of Joan, daughter of Hugh Poynges, Knight, son of Thomas Poynges de St. John, Chivaler, deceased, and Joan, his late wife, kinsman and one of the heirs of the said Thomas, taken at Basingstoke, on the 16th of July, 12 Hen. VI. (1434).⁴

Roger Kent (60) deposes that the said John Bonevyle was born at Basing, in the county of Southampton, on the 4th of April, 1 Hen. V. (1413), and baptised on the same day, in the Parish Church. He remembers it well because he saw the said John lifted out of the Holy Font.

William Austyn (59) because he held a lighted wax candle in the said church at the baptism.

John Cook (57) because on that day he was in the said church, and was chosen one of the wardens (custos) of the goods of the said church.

William Chamberlayne (56) because he carried the water to the holy font of the said church in which the said John was baptised.

William Bygge (55) because Alice, his daughter, married John Gay in the said church on the same day.

Thomas Newman (53) because John, his brother, was buried in the said church on the same day.

John Coudray (50) because Isabella, his daughter, died suddenly in the said church on that day.

John Hoo (57) because on that day he fell and broke his right leg at Basing, and then saw the said John Bonevyle carried to the church to be baptised.

William Whitle (55) because Agnes, his wife, on that day was purified in the said church, after the birth of John, son of the said William and Agnes.

Thomas White (58) because on that day he was chosen King's bailiff in the county aforesaid, and saw the said John Bonevyle in the said church.

⁴ Inq. 12 Hen. VI., No. 60.

John Attehoke (50) because on that day there was a great and strong wind, and many houses in Basing fell down, and he saw the said John Bonevyle in the church, in the hands of Alice Come, his nurse.

William Browne (60) because by a deed dated on that day he purchased a tenement in Basing, of one John Gerard; and he saw the said John Bonevyle in the churchyard.

It was not, however, till 6th Nov., 1458, that the division of the Poynings' property was made between the co-heiresses of Sir Hugh. Then by an Indenture tripartite⁵ between John Bonevyle, Esq., John Paulet, Esq., and Thomas Kingeston, Esq., cousins and heirs as well unto Thomas Poynings, Lord St. John, as to Hugh St. John, Knight, son and heir unto the s^d Thomas, viz., the said John Bonville, son of Jane, eldest daughter of the said Hugh, and the s^d John Paulet, son of Constance, second daughter of the same Hugh, and the said Thomas Kingeston, son of Alice, the third and youngest daughter of the same Hugh, there was a partition between them of all the manors, lands, &c., of the Poynings of Halnaker. John Bonville took Halnaker and Walburton Manors, the patronage of the Priory of Boxgrove and of the Chantry of Mundham, the free chapel of Halnaker, with the advowson of the same, and all the lands and tenements in Boxgrove, Westhampnet, Hunston, Yapton, Mundeham, Sedylsham, Arundell, Kirdeford, Offham, Walburton, and Compton; and likewise the reversion, after the deaths of Godfrey Hilton and Alianore, his wife, of the manor and advowson of Chanton, and the free chapel there, the patronage of the Priory of Selborne, and all lands in Chanton, subject to an annual payment of £3 5s. 10d. out of Chanton, to Thomas Kingeston.

John Bonville's wife, Katherine, was by descent a Sussex lady. She was youngest daughter of Sir Robert Wingfield, of Letheringham, Suffolk, by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir Robert Gowshill, or Gowsell,⁶ Knt., of Hoveringham, Notts, and Elizabeth, his wife (bo. 1372, ob. 1425), eldest d. and co-heir of Richard, 14th Earl of Arundel; and so descended from the De Bohuns and from Alice, sister and heir

⁵ Rot. cl. 37 Hen. VI., m 16.

⁶ Sir Robert was her fourth husband.

of John, Earl of Warren and Surrey.⁷ The wills⁸ of both husband and wife show that it was not till after much litigation that the Somersetshire and Devonshire estates were recovered by them. Tateworth was obtained only after a writ of right by the husband, and proceedings between his widow and Thomas, Marquess of Dorset, who had married Cecilie, great granddaughter and heiress of Lord Bonville, were pending in 1497.

TESTAMENT OF JOHN BONVILLE.

In Dei nomine, Amen. Penultimo die mensis Maij, anno domini millesimo quadragesimo nonagesimo quarto, et anno regni regis Henrici septimi nono. Ego, JOHANNES BONVYLE, de Shute, armiger, Exon dioc: compos mentis, sane que memorie, ac laudes omnium creatori sanitati corporis sufficienter imbutus; nemo tamen quod modo confectus diemque extremum ignorans in hunc modum testamentum meum condo. In primis lego animam meam Deo omnipotente, et beate Marie virgini ejus genetrici, ac omnibus sanctis; corpusque meum sepeliendum in capella beate Marie in ecclesia sancti Michaelis Archangeli de Shute dict: Exon dioc. Item lego eidem unum missale, unum calicem cum coopertorio pertinen: eidem calici, unum librum vocatum a "*portuos*,"⁹ et unum librum vocat: "*processionale*," quatuor paria vestimentorum, et unum par organorum, cum omnibus alijs ornamentis ibidem permansur: in custodia custodis ecclesie sancti Michaelis Archangeli predicti per indenturam inde inter capellanum capelle predictae, qui pro tempore fore contigerit et custodes ecclesie sancti Michaelis Archangeli ecclesia predictae pro tempore existen: Also I bequeith to every parish church where I am Lord and Patron, xx^s. Also I bequeith to the church of Pancraswyke¹⁰ vi^s viij^d. Also I bequeith to the church of Seint Michaell of Shute xx^s. Also I bequeith to the bretherede of Seint Kateryne, of Colynton iij^s iiij^d. Also I bequeith to the bretherede of Seint Kateryne, of Chard,¹¹

⁷ Harl MS., 1177, fol. 47 b. Tierney's Arundel ped.

⁸ I am able to give these wills in consequence of the facilities recently afforded to literary enquirers, by Sir Creswell Creswell.

⁹ A portasse or breviary.

¹⁰ In the hundred of Black-torrington,

Devon. The estate passed by the marriage of Margaret, one of the co-heiresses of the De Dennis family, to the Ferrers; and through Elizabeth, only child of Martin Ferrers, to the Poynings and Bonvilles.

¹¹ Bonville owned Tateworth, a tything in Chard, Somerset.

iiij^s iiiij^d. Also I bequeith to my curatt of Shute, for my tithes and oblacions due or forgoton, x^s. Also I bequeith to *Thomas Stokwell* xx^s. Also I bequeith to *Nicolas Baker* xxvj^s viij^d, and so to have it yerely after my deceese, and Kateryn my wyfe, duryng the lyfe of the said Nicholas. Also I bequeith to the bretherede of Seint Kateryne¹² and Seint Blase, in the parish of Roggut (Rogate),¹³ in the dioc: of Chechestyr, xiiij^s iiiij^d, and to by ij Kene for the same bretherede to be evyr prayed for. Also I bequeith to the hospitall of Ledysdowne¹⁴ in the same dioc: xiiij^s iiiij^d. Also I bequeith to *Sir John Prestone*, my chapeleyne at Halfnaked, vj^s viij^d. Item, I bequeith to the brethered of Seint Crosse, Seint Nicholas, and Seint Martin, in the parish church of Shute aforeseed, vj^s viij^d. Also I bequeith to *Richard Cambone* xxvj^s viij^d. Also I bequeith to *John Clarke* xiiij^s iiiij^d. Also I bequeith to *Thomas Pole* xiiij^s iiiij^d. Also I bequeith to *Thomas Stampe* xl^s.¹⁵ Also I bequeith to *Anne Brendon*,¹⁶ *Jane Wadham*, and *Alice Wadham*, to everich of them x^{li}, under this condicion that if they continue in the service of my seid wife, every of them to have the seid x^{li} whan any of them be so married. Also I bequeith to *Willyam Clarke* xx^s. Also I bequeith to *Sir Richard (Shelston)*¹⁷ xl^s. Also I bequeith to all my servautes, as well men as women, so that they shall perceyve and have after the deceese of me and my wyfe, in maner and forme as suyth, that is to witt, every gentylman x^s, every yoman vj^s viij^d, every grome v^s, and every woman servaunt iiij^s iiiij^d, except those that be feed and in the bequest afore-specified. Also I bequeith to my chapell of Seint Mary Magdalene, within my place of Halfnaked, a "portuos" and a "procesionall," to be had and kept for ever fastened with a chayne of iron in the lectorn there. Also I, the seid John Bonville, will and graunt and bequeith that all my goodes and landes, moveabill and unmoveabill, after the deceese of me and my wyfe, and after my dettys payd, and the will of

¹² These benefactions to the brotherhoods of St. Katherine, were doubtless in compliment to his wife who bore the name.

¹³ William Haben made a bequest

for a taper before St. Katherine there Suss. Arch. Coll., xii., p. 76.

¹⁴ I cannot identify this place.

¹⁵ One of his trustees.

¹⁶ She did remain with the widow.

¹⁷ Blank in original.

me abovesaid, and the wyll of me also aforetyme declared, and the will of my wyfe fully done and performed, that the same goodes so remayning shall egally be departed betwene my doughters *Florence* and *Elisabeth*; under condicion that they will please my wyfe duryng ther lyfe accordyng to ther dewte. And whereas *John Stanney*, esquier, *John Hamond*, clerk, *John Brugh*, and *Thomas Stampe*, by myn assent recovered by wrytt of right the Manor of Tateworth, in the Counte of Somerset, and other manors, landes, and tenementes in the Counte of Devonshyre, in fee, have declared my wyll ther-upon afore this tyme as by writyng thereof made it apperith. I will the seid John Stanney, John, John, and Thomas now therof seased kepe the same my wyll afore this tyme declared. Also I will and make myn executors of this my testament *Kateryn*, my wyfe; Sir *Reignold Bray*, knight;¹⁸ *Robard Reed*, oon of the kynges serjauntes of the lawe;¹⁹ and *Edward Bartelott*;²⁰ desyring them to see this my will and testament executed as ferre as in them is. And I will that the seid Syr Reignold Bray have for his labour v. marc. Robert Reed xls. and Edward Bartelott xls. And I will that the reverent fader in godd the *Bysshop* of *Bath and Wellys*, now beyng pryve seale,²¹ be overseer of this my testament, he havyng for his labour iiij^{li}. Dat: die et anno supradicto.

Proved at "Lamehith," the last day of March, 1495, and commission of administration issued to Kateryne, the relict of the deceased.

The names of the executors and overseer point to a close intimacy between the testator and the court of Henry VII.,

¹⁸ K. G., who died 1503. He was the trusty counsellor of Hen. VII. Bacon says—"he was noted to have had with the king the greatest freedom of any counsellor; but it was but a freedom to set off flattery, yet he bore more than his just part of the envy for the exactions." He was executor also of the will of Cicely Duchess of York, proved also in this year 1495, and seems to have been the adviser of several families of note.

¹⁹ Robert Read was appointed King's Serjeant 4 April, 1494; Just. K. B. 24 Nov.. 1495; and Chief Justice of C. P. in Oct. 1506. He had been appointed by King's Coll., Camb., counsel with a

yearly stipend of 26^s, charged on the manor of Withyham. He was one of the executors of the will of Hen. VII. See Memoir, by T. Brocklebank, and Foss' Judges, v. 230.

²⁰ Of Stopham. He was in the commission of Oyer and terminer for Sussex, 1 and 2 Rich. III., Rot. Pat.

²¹ Richard Fox, prebendary of Salisbury, was in 1462 made Bishop of Exeter. He was translated in 1493 to Bath and Wells; in 1494 to Durham; and in 1501 to Winchester. He died 1528. He was one of the counsel left to Hen. VIII. by his father, and the first patron of Wolsey.

but whether Bonville himself held office I have not been able to ascertain.

WILL OF KATHERINE BONVYLE.

In Dei nomine, Amen. Vicesimo quinto die mensis Septembris, anno domini millesimo cccc nonagesimo septimo, I *Kateryn Bonvyle, late wife of John Bonvyle*, of Shutte in the countie of Devon, Esquier, being in hoole mynde and good remembrance, but som deale sike in my bodye, make my testament and last will of all my goodes, landes, and tenements, in England; in the which lands and tenements John Hamond clerk, Thomas Stamp, and other ben seased of—First; I bequeth and recomend my soule to almyghty God to our Lady and to all the companygh of heven, and my body to be buried in the church of the Prioury of Boxgrave, as by me and my frendes shalbe assigned. Item, I woll that myne executours shall remove the body and bones of *John Bonvyle* myne husband which lieth in Shutte, and bury thaym in the church of the Prioury of Boxgrave aforesaid, if the lawe woll suffre it. Item, I bequeth to the reparation of the Cathedrall church of Chichester iij^s iiij^d. Also I bequeth to the Prioury of Boxgrave aforesaid x^{li} to bye thaym ij blue frontelles²² for the high awter, according to thair blue vestymentes late by my said husband and me to thaym yeven, for the which the priour and convent shall doo all observances accordyng at my burying, moneth mynde, and xijth moneth mynde. Also I bequeth to the *priour* the best hors of my ij horses in my stabyll the tyme of my deth for my mortuary. Item, I bequeth to the convent of the same place xl^s. Also I woll a cuppe of silver w^t a covering called *Busshop Lacyes*²³ cuppe, a powdre box of silver, a litle standing Goblett of silver, and a litle pece of chased be made ij chaleys; one therof I woll the *priour of Boxgrave* shall have, and th'other the chapell of Halfnaked. Also I bequeth to my doughter *Elizabeth West* a ryng with a rubye, an ooche²⁴ with a safer, ij rubies and iij grete perles,

²² This hanging for the front of the altar was often highly decorated, and the arms of the family who presented it were sometimes emblazoned thereon.

²³ Edmund Lacy, canon of Windsor,

was Bishop of Hereford in 1420, and transferred to Exeter, dying in 1450.

²⁴ Properly a Nouche. They were made of various shapes in gold, and were applicable to a clasp, brooch, or buckle.

with a chafyng boll (bowl) of silver, a prymer with a claps of silver, a litle cofre of ivory, a long payer of bedes cascodynes, ij of my best kerchieffes, and my best paynted cofer, x paier of shetes and ij gurdelles harnessed, wherof one is enamelyd. Also I bequeth to my daughter *Florence Fulford* an ewer of silver and gilt, ij sponys silver and gilt, the which were the *bussshop of Exceter's* (Fox), an agnus with a flatt stone and perles, and with holy wex theryn, and my weddyng ryng, and my secund best paynted cofer. Also I bequeth to *John Lenthorp Esquyer*²⁵ a fethre bed, a bolster, a paier of shetes, a payer of blankettes, and a coverlett, and xl^s in money at the moneth day. Also I bequeth to *Anne Brandon* x^{li} in money and money worth; Also I woll that the said Anne have other x^{li} of the bequest of my husband as it appereth in his testament. Also I bequeth to *Sir Richard Skelston*, clerk, xl^s. Also I bequeth to *Sir John Preston*, capellaine of Halnaked, xl^s. Also I bequeth to *Denys Merwode* a fethre bed, a bolster, a paier of shetes, a pair of blankettes, and a coverlett. Also I bequeth to *Margery Bernard* a fethrebed, a bolster, a pair of shetes, a pair of blankettes, and a coverlett. Also to *Davy Waren* a fethrebed, a bolstar, a pair of shetes, a pair of blankettes, and a coverlett, and xl^s in money at the moneth day. Also I bequeth to *Richard Gamond* a fethrebed, a bolstar, a pair of shetes, a pair of blankettes, a coverlett, a pott and a panne. Also I bequeth to *Davy Tailour* a fethrebed, a bolstar, a pair of shetes, a pair of blankettes, and a coverlett. Item, I bequeth to *Laurence Poyntyngton* a fethrebed, a bolstar, a payre of shetes, a pair of blankettes, and a coverlett. Also I bequeth to *John Stamp*, a fethrebed, a bolstar, a pair of shetes, a pair of blankettes, and a coverlett. Also I bequeth to *Isabell Chese* a matresse, a bolstar, a pair of shetes, a pair of blankettes, and a coverlett. Also I bequeth to *Nicholas Hyne* a matresse, a bolstar, a pair of shettes, a pair of blankettes, and a coverlett. Also I bequeth to *Thomas Benlace*, a matresse, a bolstar, a paire of shetes, a pair of blankettes, and a coverlett. Also to *Nicholas Baker* a matresse, a bolstar, a pair of shetes, a pair of blankettes, and a coverlett. And I woll that all the said stuff be deli-

²⁵ John Lenthorpe, or Leventhorpe, of Ugley, Essex; sheriff of Essex and Herts 1509.

vered by the discretion of myne executours. Also I woll that all my horses unbequethed be egally devided amongst my servauntes by the advise of my said executours. Also I woll that myne household be kept till my moneth day be passed with mete and drynke, and every man of my said houshold servantes to whome no money by me is bequethed to have xx^s at the moneth day, if he tary so long in houshold. Also I woll that every of my women servantes, aftre my moneth mynde be kept, have xxx^s for their wage, and to be conveyed home to thair frends at my cost and chardge for th'advise and discretion of myne executours. Also I woll that myne executours kepe an obite yerely in the Prioury of Boxgrave to the value of xvj^s viij^d by the yer of my moveable goodes till myne executours may purchase land to the yerly value of xvj^s viij^d; to be distributed in this forme, to the Prior ther iij^s iiij^d, to the supprior xij^d, And to every monke beyng a prest viij^d, to every novyce iiij^d; And for bred and ale to suche persones as shall com to the said yerely obite iij^s iiij^d; And the residue of the said sume of xvj^s viij^d to be distributed by the discretion of myne executours. Also I bequeth to our blissed ladie of *Walsyngham* a ryng with a safer and a rubye. Also I bequeth to our ladie of Pewe²⁶ a pair of bedys of corall with certaine rynges and tokyns in the same. Also I bequeth to the rode of Northdore in Paules an "Agnus Dei," without stonys or perles. Also I woll that myne executours shall sell all my plate unbequethed for the costes and expensys of removng of my said husband from Shutte to the Prioury of Boxgrave. Also I woll that all my moveable goodes with thissues and profytes of all my landes in Devonshir and Somerssetshir, as yet beyng in trouble and varyaunce betwene my *Lord Marquyes*²⁷ and me, aftre the recovering of the same be disposed to the performng and fulfilling of myne husbandes will and myne; and if the said landes can not be recovered, which God defend!! then I woll that myne executours shall performe and fulfyll myne husbandes will and myne as farr as all suche goodes of myne as shall com to

²⁶ Our Lady of Pity or Mercy at Westminster, an image of the Virgin, with our Saviour in her lap. Elizabeth of York made several offerings to this shrine, as did also Hen. VII. There

was an image of her in Rype church. See Suss. Arch. Coll., xiv., p. 219.

²⁷ Thomas Grey, 8th Baron Ferrers, of Groby, was created Marquess of Dorset in 1475, and died 1501.

there handes shall extend in all suche thinges as they thinke moost necessary to be performed and fulfilled by thair discretion. Also I bequeth to *litle Roger* xx^s and a gowne. The residue of all myne other goodes not bequethed I give and bequeth to Maistre *Adam Facete*, Sir *John Hawies*, clerk, and *Thomas Stamp*; whome I make myne executours to dispose for my soule, myne husbandes soule, and all crysten soules as they thinke moost expedient to the pleasir of God and the helth of our soules. These beyng witnesses Sir Richard Shelston, John Lenthorpe Esquyer, Davy Wareyn, Richard Gamond, Davy Tailor, and meny other.

Proved at "Lamehith" on the 24th day of March 1498 by Thos. Stamp, &c.

It is doubtful whether the executors were ever able to carry out the desire above expressed for removing the body of John Bonville from Shute to Boxgrove; but the wife was buried in the Priory church, for Thomas, Lord De la Warr expressly told Cromwell that "there lyethe many of my aunsystorys, aud also my wyffys mother."²⁸

²⁸ Suss. Arch. Coll., VII., p. 218.
