

VIII.—CUTHBERT GRAY, MERCHANT.

BY RICHARD WELFORD.

[Read April 29th, 1885.]

Sir Robert Cotton, according to your request and my promise, I have sent ij stones with inscriptions to Mr. Ruddell of Newcastle, who will safely keep them untill he can receive certain directions from you wheather he may send them to you as by his inclosed letter you may perceave. And so with my kind commendations I bid you farewell. Naward, 29 Augusti, 1608. Your assured freinde,

WILLIAM HOWARD.

Yf it please you to send you letter to Mr. Ruddell by post, direct it to Mr. Cuthbert Gray, a merchant of Newcastle, and it will come safely and speedely to his hand.

So wrote Lord William Howard, the "Belted Will" of history, to his friend Sir Robert Cotton, whose collection of antiquities he was assisting to increase and adorn. The letter is printed upon page 412 of the *Howard Household' Book*, which forms volume 68 of the Surtees Society's publications.

Who was Cuthbert Gray, the merchant so well known in Newcastle that a letter addressed to him by post was certain to reach its destination?

The Grays of Northumberland, like the Carrs and the Andersons, puzzle the genealogist and the topographer. Testamentary documents and parish registers yield a bewildering array of them—Johns, Williams, Thomases, and Francisés, who are sometimes Gray and at other times Grey, and these again are sons, brothers, cousins, or godsons of other Johns and Williams, Thomases and Francisés, "ays" and "eys," world without end. But Cuthbert Gray was a man of mark, and it is not difficult to trace him, his parentage, his business, and his family connections.

We meet with him first in the Register of Marriages at St. Nicholas's Church. On the 9th December, 1600, the Register records his union with Elizabeth Huntley, a member of a Newcastle family that occupied leading positions, then and after, in the corporate body, and the Company of Merchant Adventurers. From other sources, we know that he was a son of John and Margaret Gray; his father being probably the "John Gray, draper," who appears as supervisor, legatee, witness, and funeral furnisher in various wills of the period, and who, on the 17th January, 1595-96, was buried in St. Nicholas's, "at the lower end of the said church."

Within ten months of their marriage, a son was born to Cuthbert and Elizabeth Gray. Under date the 21st September, 1601, the baptismal register at St. Nicholas's contains this entry:—

Willm. Gray, sonne of Cuthbt. Gray, marchant, bap.: Sureties—Mr. Willm. Huntley, marchant and Alderman; Willm. Gray, draper; and the wife of Robert Ellison, marchant, or in her place Margaret Gray, Widow, being grandmother.

Other children, a son named John, and several daughters, came to Cuthbert Gray; but local interest centres in his first-born, who, in after years, became William Gray, merchant, author of the *Chorographia*.

At the date when the Howard Household Book opens, Cuthbert Gray was in business in the Side as a merchant, and engaged, like many of his contemporaries, in coal-mining adventures round about Newcastle. Among other speculations of the same character, he had a lease of pits at Newbiggen, to the west of the Nuns' Moor. Newbiggen, or part of it, was held by Lord William Howard, subject to a payment of 20s. a year to the Virgin Mary Hospital in Newcastle, and Cuthbert Gray was lessee under him at a rent of £50 per annum.

Per quitt'. 11 Julij [1613]. Rec. of Mr. Cuthberte Gray, for the half-year's rent of Nubiggin, due at Whitsunday last, xxvli.

Per quitt'. Jan. 10 [1613-14]. Received of Mr. Cuthbert Gray, for the half yeare's rent of Nubiggin, due at Martinmas last, xxvli. (This should be but xxiiijli, because I allow the xxs. paid to the Spittle, and charge the Receiver but with xlixli. in all.)—*Howard Household Book*, p. 4.

Edward Gray, possibly Cuthbert's brother Edward, collected rents for the Howard family in Northumberland; Cuthbert performed various services for them in Newcastle. For example: some goods

were coming from London to the Tyne, and a coachman was sent from Naworth to look after them. Contrary winds delayed the ship in which the goods were embarked, and the coachman ran short of money. To whom could he apply for an advance but to Cuthbert Gray?

Lent to the Coachman by Mr. Cuth. Gray, and allowed by my Lady, byding long at sea, *xvs.*—*Household Book*, p. 65.

From his shop in the Side, Cuthbert Gray supplied the Howards with a pleasing variety of articles—vinegar, cambric for the children, codfish, ling, and sprats, shoes for Mrs. Mary, sack and muscadine, a green velvet cap for Mr. Wm. Howard, and a hat for the footman. Fortune smiled upon him so benignantly that in 1619 he was able to pay not only the half-year's rent of Newbiggen then due, but half-a-year in advance, and the same occurred in 1621. It was an unusual thing for tenants to pay rent in advance in those days. It has been an unusual thing ever since.

The spring of 1623 was fatal to several notable persons in Newcastle. Robert Ledger (the Sheriff), Henry Chapman and Francis Anderson (Aldermen), Ralph Carr, Robert Selby, Jacob and Henry Farnaby (merchants), and Claudius Delaval (gentleman), were buried in April that year at St. Nicholas's. Among them, on the 24th of the month, was laid Cuthbert Gray, cut off in the prime of life and in the height of his prosperity. One of his last acts before signing his will on the 19th April, was the affixing his name to a document regulating the vend of coal for the remainder of the year. The quantity assigned to him was 500 "tens," or keels, equal to 10,500 tons.

The deceased merchant had not found time to cultivate municipal aspirations, nor neglected his business to look after the affairs of other people. How much wealth he inherited, and how much he acquired, by his own enterprise, cannot now be ascertained, but he died a rich man. He had houses, lands, and mills outside Pandon Gate; two "mansions" in the Side; five burgages in Hillgate, Gateshead; a share with his wife's relations of pits at Dunstle and elsewhere, and an interest in mines at Newbiggen, before-named, East Denton, Higham Dykes (Ponteland), Newham near Whalton, Whitbie (or Fitbawe) Moor, in the manor of Kenton, and Bellasis near Stanington. He was a shipowner, too, holding three-sixteenths of the "Diligence," a twelfth of

the "Unity," and an eighteenth of the "Mary Susan," all of Ipswich; a quarter of the "Prudence," and six keels. And besides his own mills outside Pandon, he had a lease of a mill in Painter Heugh—Shafto's mill, possibly, about which Mr. Clephan discoursed so genially at the recent visit of the Archæological Institute. Lastly, at his house in the Side was a miscellaneous stock-in-trade, with plate, linen, and ample household gear.

This valuable property he distributed among his wife and family. To William, the future historian, he bequeathed the houses, land, etc., outside Pandon Gate, the houses at Gateshead, and his interest in the pits which he shared with the Huntleys, subject to payment of his widow's thirds. To the widow he left his dwelling house in the Side, with the plate, furniture, and stock-in-trade, all his interest in ships and keels, and the leases of Newbiggen, Higham Dykes, Bellasis, Newham, Whitbie Moor, and East Denton for life, with equal remainders to William and John. To the latter he gave his mansion in the Side called "Marley's Land," and £100 to repair it, together with £200 payable when he attained his majority. His seven daughters were to receive £200 each when they came of age, or married, and he remembered, with suitable tokens of affection, his brothers Edward, William, and Oswald, his sister Elizabeth, brothers-in-law George Huntley, John Butler, and Jacob Fferinsed, uncle Cuthbert Anderson, cousins John Mitford and Ralph Gray, brother Robert Anderson and wife, and their son William Huntley, Vicar Poore, Robert Jenison, Mr. Alvie, preacher, Robert Henderson, physician, and many others. (See Appendix I.)

The place which Cuthbert Gray occupied as the head of so many commercial undertakings was not easily filled. William, the first born, was only just of age; his brother and sisters were minors. To what extent William assisted his mother in her arduous and unaccustomed work does not appear. Both their names occur in the Howard Household Book, ten years after the death of the husband and father, in a manner which indicates a business relationship:—

March 18 [1633-34]. To Mr. William Graye, which he had layed out for the carriage of severall parcells from London in Candellmas tearme, 1633, as appereth by bill, *iiij*l*. iijs. ij*d*.*

April 1 [1634]. To Mrs. Elizabeth Graye, which she had layde out for the portage of stuffe sent from London by Mr. Bowman. *ixs. Household Book, p. 341.*

There are also entries of the payment of rent for Newbiggen at double the amount paid during Cuthbert's lifetime, from which it is to be inferred either that the rent had been increased, or that the widow had doubled her interest in the speculation :—

Dec. 4 [1633]. Rec. of Mrs. Elizabeth Graye, Widdow, for the halfe yeare's rent of one tenement at Newbiggine in the moore, and the coales pitts ther, due at Martinmas, 1633, *lii*.

June 19 [1634]. Rec. of Mrs. Elizabeth Graye for the halfe yeare's rent of one tenement at Newbiggine in the Moor and the coale pitts ther, due at Pentecost, 1634, *lii*.

For twelve years the widow of Cuthbert Gray fulfilled the trust which her husband committed to her, and then the shadows of her life deepened into death. She fell a victim to one of those waves of pestilence which, never long absent, swept over Newcastle and Northern England in the summer of 1636. On Monday, the 22nd August, in that year, she was buried beside her husband and her kindred. Again the record at St. Nicholas's:—

1636—22 August. Elizabeth Gray, widow, bur.*

Of eleven children born to Cuthbert Gray, two, Jane and Maria, died in infancy. Nine were living at the time of his decease—William, John, Margaret, Anne, Ellinor, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Dorothy, and Deborah. So far as can be ascertained, the family circle remained unbroken, save by marriage, when the mother died. William was approaching his thirty-fifth birthday, and his mother's death added to his possessions the dwelling-house in the Side, with its furniture, plate, etc., and one-half the family interest in the coal-mines at Newbiggen, Higham Dykes, etc. If the times had been favourable, William Gray, with this large accession of property, should have become an opulent citizen. But the times were sadly *un-favourable*. The country was drifting into civil war, and within four years after Elizabeth Gray was interred in her parish church, Tyneside became the theatre of

* It is assumed that the Elizabeth Gray herein named was the widow of Cuthbert, because no other interment of a person bearing her name can be found at St. Nicholas's until 1661, when Cuthbert's widow would be about eighty years of age. Her name does not appear in William Gray's will, dated 1656, and it is barely conceivable that he would have omitted her if she had been living. Yet in the Journals of the House of Commons, November 26, 1644, one "Eliz. Grey," (of what town or county is not stated) occurs among others, as obtaining from Parliament restitution of "collieries, and coals that are upon the stathes, stands, and collieries."

military operations which crippled local industry, and for some time practically suspended the coal trade. Newcastle, being one of the "malignant" towns, suffered heavily. William Gray saw the fine estate left by his father gradually impoverished, and he solaced himself by writing a book. The year after King Charles's execution it was published, and he that runs may read in it traces of sadness, proofs that the writer was a man chastened by misfortune.

This Town famous (he writes), being a bulwarke against the Scots: all the power of Scotland could never win it since the walls were built; but of late being assisted by the English, was stormed, our churches and houses defaced, the ornaments of both plundered, and carried away, the crowne of our heads is fallen, woe now unto us for we have sinned.

In the same pathetic strain he describes his more personal experiences:—

Many thousand people are employed in this trade of Coales; many live by working of them in the Pits; many live by conveying them in Waggon and Waines to the River Tine; many men are employed in conveying the Coales in Keels from the Staithes aboard the Ships; one Coale Merchant employeth five hundred or a thousand in his Works of Coale; yet for all his labour care and cost can scarce live of his trade; nay, many of them hath consumed and spent great estates and dyed beggars. I can remember one, of many, that rayseed his estate by Coale-trade; many I remember that hath wasted great estates. . . . they labour and are at a great charge to maintain men to work their Collieries, they wast their own bodies with care, and their Collieries with working, the kernell being eaten out of the nut, there remaineth nothing but the shell, their Collieries is wasted, and their moneys is consumed: this is the uncertainty of Mines; a great charge, the profit uncertain.

Beyond the fact that he had made preparations for a second edition of his book we know but little of the after life of the first historian of Newcastle; indeed nothing certain except the making of his will, the contents of which have been recently summarised by Mr. Longstaffe. He may have been the William Gray who was married to Margaret Gray of Sudick, in September, 1655, when he was fifty years old and she twenty-three, but if so it is noticeable that none of the names which usually appear in connection with this family—neither Huntley nor Ellison—occur in the record, and that the will, dated only fifteen months later, contains no reference to a wife, nor to any of Margaret Gray's family. The matter is further complicated by the fact that of three contemporaneous William Grays in Newcastle, one was a mer-

chant, a son of Francis Gray, preacher at St. Andrew's, and that he, having been apprenticed to Joseph Tully, 26th November, 1644, would be about twenty-five years of age at the time when this marriage was celebrated. The entry of the marriage is, however, worth preserving, for it shows that the bridegroom availed himself of an Act only two years old, which withdrew from the clergy the exclusive right to celebrate marriage, and extended the privilege to justices of the peace. Under that statute, banns of marriage were to be published either on three Sundays at church, or on three successive weekly market days in the open Market Place. This done, and performance certified by a Registrar, the contracting parties might appear before a justice with the certificate, and joining hands, say: "I, A. B., do here, in the presence of God, the searcher of all hearts, take thee, C. D., for my wedded wife; and do also in the presence of God, and before these witnesses, promise to be to thee a loving and faithful husband," the woman repeating the formula with the necessary alterations and addition of the words "and obedient" after the word "faithful."

The register of St. Nicholas's sets out the proclamation of banns preceding this marriage of the Grays in due form:—

William Gray, of the towne and countie of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, marchant, and Margaret Gray, daughter of George Gray, of Sudick, in the countie of Durham, gentleman, published three severall Lord's daies according to Act of Parliament, in the parish Church of Nicholas ["St." omitted] in the said towne and countie, (to wit) the second, ninth, and sixteenth of September, in the year 1655.

On another page, belonging to the same month, is entered the marriage:—

William Gray, of the towne and countie of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, marchant, and Margaret Gray, daughter to George Gray, of Sudick, in the countie of Durham, gentleman, married by Mr Thomas Bonner, alderman and justice of the peace for the towne and countie of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

(Signed)

THOMAS BONNER.

(Witnesses) JOHN BOWES, ROBERT JENISON, jr.

After the making of his will (December, 1656), William Gray lived seventeen years. Under what circumstances and in what position we know not. It is open to conjecture that his estate passed into the hands of his brother-in-law and principal legatee, Robert Ellison, upon conditions which relieved the historian from the cares of business, and

enabled him to spend his declining years in his old home in the Side, which the Ellisons occupied. The inventory of his goods and chattels favours this view, for, apart from his purse, apparel, and library, he had barely £15 worth of household gear, and most of it was in two rooms—"his owne chamber" and "the next chamber." (See Appendix II.) He died in February, 1673-74, aged 72, and was buried among his ancestors in the great church under whose shadow he was born, and baptised, and lived his troubled life. Once more the Register :—

Feb., 7, 1673. Wm. Gray, mchant., bur.

It cannot be doubted that this entry records the burial of the historian, for it was in that same month of February that the inventory was drawn up, and that Robert Ellison proved the will and borrowed it, never to be returned. There is also a corroborative line in the books of the Merchants' Company, to the drapers' branch of which powerful fraternity, like his father and grandfather, he belonged :—

1673. William Gray, draper, ceases.

Of John Gray, William's only brother, and Anne, his second sister, local history yields no trace, and in the parish registers they cannot be identified.

Margaret, the elder sister, married Robert Procter, and died before 1656. Her son William, named after his godfather, the historian, may have been the William Procter who was Sheriff of Newcastle in 1684.

Ellinor was united to Robert Harle, merchant. He was present at the wedding dinner of George Yonge and Barbara Carr when the dispute arose between John Blakiston (afterwards regicide) and Vicar Alvey. On the 19th October, 1644, when the Scots made their final assault and entered Newcastle, he was buried at St. Nicholas's, with Captain Robert Whyte and Lieut. Robert Kirsop—being possibly one of the combatants.

Rebecca married on the 18th February, 1635-36, William, brother of Sir Lionel Maddison, and being left a widow ten years later became the wife of William Rutter, whose burial place, according to Bourne, was in the middle aisle of St. Nicholas's.

Dorothy married one Oswald, but of her or of him we know nothing more than is contained in her brother's will.

Deborah, on the 24th January, 1641-42, was united to Robert Ile, merchant and apothecary, of whose ancestors and descendants Mr. Longstaffe treats copiously in his *History of Darlington*. She died during the festival of Christmas, 1666, and was buried at St. Nicholas's.

Elizabeth, named after her mother, was the most fortunate of the family. She married a relative of one of her father's early friends—Robert, son of Cuthbert Ellison, and he, rising to a high position in the Commonwealth, and purchasing the estate of Hebburn, became the progenitor of a race that has left its mark upon Tyneside. Their eldest son, Cuthbert, was heir of Hebburn, the 3rd son was ancestor of the Ellisons of Lintz, the 6th was Dr. Nathaniel Ellison, vicar of Newcastle, while one of the daughters, Elizabeth (mother's name still) married William Fenwick of Stanton, and thus formed an alliance with one of the oldest and proudest of the county families of Northumberland.

Through the marriage of Elizabeth Ellison and William Fenwick has been preserved to us the better of two known autographs of William Gray. One of them is in the volume presented by Lady Northbourne to Gateshead Free Library, the other is on the back of the marriage settlement of this young couple, made "the one and twentieth day of February in the year of Our Lord God according to the common account used in England 1659, between Edward Fenwick of Stanton, in the county of Northumberland, Esq., and now High-Sheriff of the said county, and Sara, his wife, William Fenwick, son and heir apparent of the said Edward Fenwick, Peter Fenwick, second son of the said Edward Fenwick, and Francis Neville of Chete, otherwise Chevitt, in the county of York, Esq., on the first part; Robert Ellison of Hebborne, in the county of Durham, and now High-Sheriff of the said county, and Benjamin Ellison of the town and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant, on the second part; and William Fenwick of Wallington, in the county of Northumberland, baronet, and Christopher Nicholson of the said town and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant and boothman, on the third part." [Robert Ellison gives his daughter a marriage portion of seven hundred pounds, and Edward Fenwick provides her jointure out of the manor of Stanton, subject to a rent charge of 30*l* payable to Francis Neville.] William Gray was a witness to the deed by which his niece was transferred from Hebburn

to Stanton, and he has written his name over those of his relatives, Robert Ile and Robert Huntley, in a clear, bold hand :—

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the within-named Edward, Sara, and William Fenwick, and Robert Ellison, Benjamin Ellison, William Fenwick, and Christopher Nicholson in the presence of

within Gray.

ROBERT ILE,
ROBERT HUNTLEY,
HENRY WETHERLEY,
JOHN WEST,
EDWD. COLLINGWOOD.

It may be noted, in concluding these fragmentary evidences of Cuthbert Gray and his family, that both Surtees and Hodgson, in their pedigrees of the Ellisons, describe Elizabeth Gray as the daughter of "Cuthbert Gray of Newcastle and Backworth." But in Cuthbert Gray's will no mention is made of any property or interest in that place, or in any adjoining locality. The earliest association of "Gray" and "Backworth" appears to be upon a tombstone in St. Nicholas's, which records the death of Alderman "Ralph Grey," on the 5th December, 1676, and "Ralph Grey of Backworth, in the county of Northumberland, Gent.," 19th November, 1699; the latter being presumably a son of the former, and the former being possibly the "cousin Ralph," or his son, to whom Cuthbert Gray bequeaths an angel in token of his relationship and remembrance.

APPENDIX I.

THE WILL OF CUTHBERT GRAY.

In the name of God, Amen. The Nineteenth day of April, Anno Regni regis James of England, &c., the 21st, and of Scotland the 56th, 1623. ¶ I, Cuthbert Gray, of the Town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Merchant, being weak in body, but of a good and perfect remembrance, thanks and praise be given to Almighty God, do make and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following (that is to say): First and principally I commend and commit my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my Maker, and his Son, Jesus Christ, my

Redeemer, by whom and through whose precious death and blessedness I hope to receive pardon and forgiveness of all my sins. My body I commit unto the earth from whence it came, to be buried within the parish church of St. Nicholas, within the Town of Newcastle-upon [sic in orig.], at the lower end of the said church, within the same place where my late father, John Gray, was buried; and as for the worldly goods which the Lord hath endowed me withall, I give and bequeath as followeth:—Item: I give and bequeath unto the poor people the sum of five pounds, to be distributed to them at the discretion of my executors hereafter named. Item: I give and bequeath unto my son, William Gray, all those my houses, lands, grounds, and mills, with their appurtenances, situate and being without Pandon Gate, which are known of late to belong or appertain unto me, together with all rents, and profits whatsoever thereupon arising, and also all those my burgages or tenements, with their appurtenances, situate in Gateshead, in a street there called Hillgate, one whereof is now in the occupation of Roger Brankeston, another in the occupation of Richard Browne, another in the occupation of one Bourie, another in the occupation of one Green, and another in the occupation of one Sharpe, together also with the full moiety and one half of all those my coal mines, houses, edifices, buildings, garths, profits, and commodities, with their appurtenances, and the other half thereof doth appertain or belong to Robert Huntley, merchant, deceased, his executors and administrators, and George Huntley, to have and to hold all the said houses, lands, grounds, and mills, together with the moiety of the said coal mines, with their appurtenances, unto my said son William Gray, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten for ever, and for default of such issue, unto my son John Gray, and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten for ever, and for default of such issue, then unto my daughters Margaret, Anne, Ellynor, Elisabeth, Rebecka, Dorothy, and Deborah Gray, equally to be divided amongst them, and the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten or to be begotten for ever. Item: I give and bequeath unto my said son John Gray all that great mansion house, with all houses, edifices, buildings, garths, gardens, and appurtenances thereunto belonging, which was late known to be Marley's land, situate and being in the Sid, within the town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne aforesaid, to have and to hold all the said mansion house, with the appurtenances, unto my said son John Gray, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten for ever, and for default of such issue, unto my son William Gray, and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten for ever, and for default of such issue, then unto my said daughters, Margaret, Anne, Ellynor, Elisabeth, Rebeckah, Dorothy, and Deborah Gray, equally to be divided amongst them and their heirs for ever. Item: My will and mind is that Elisabeth, my now wife, shall have her thirds forth of all the aforesaid lands, tenements, and premises above mentioned for and during her natural life. Item: I give and bequeath unto the said Elisabeth, my wife, all that my great mansion house, with the appurtenances, wherein I now dwell, situate in the Sidd aforesaid, together with all my plate, furniture, and implements of household stuff thereunto belonging for and during her natural life, and after her death and decease I give and bequeath the said mansion house, plate, and the implements of household stuff, with their appurtenances, unto my said son William Gray, and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten for ever, and for default of such issue, unto my said son John Gray, and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten for ever, and for default of such issue, then unto the said Margaret, Anne, Ellynor, Elisabeth, Rebeckah, Dorothy, and Deborah Gray, equally to be divided amongst them and their heirs for ever. Item: I give and bequeath unto my said son John Gray one hundred pounds for and towards the repair and building of the said mansion house called Marley's land, also other two hundred pounds to be paid to him, the said John, when he shall accomplish the full age of twenty-one years. Item: I give and bequeath unto the said Elisabeth, my wife, all my leases of lands, tenements, and coal mines, with their appurtenances, in Newbiggine, Heigham Dicks, Bellasses, Newham, Whitbie Moor, and East Denton, with all staith rooms thereunto belonging, for and during her natural life, together with all my ships, keels, stock, furniture, and

appurtenances thereunto belonging; and after her decease my will and mind is that the aforesaid leases, with the appurtenances, shall be equally divided between my said sons William and John Gray, and failing of them, then the aforesaid leases, benefits, and profits thereupon arising to redown unto my aforesaid seven daughters, equally to be divided amongst them. Item: I give unto my said daughters, Margaret, Anne, Ellynor, Elisabeth, Rebecka, Dorothy, and Debora Gray, and every one of them, two hundred pounds a piece, and my will is that the same shall be paid unto them when they come to their several lawful years of age, or otherwise be lawfully married, and my mind further is that if my said daughters, or any of them, die in the meantime and depart this mortal life then the portion or portions of such daughter or daughters so dying shall be equally [*sic*] amongst the rest of my said daughters who shall be then living. Item: I give and bequeath unto my brother Edward Gray one twenty shilling piece, and to his wife and his son Thomas, and to either of them, ten shillings a piece. Item: I give unto my brother-in-law, Jacob fferinsid, xx^s. piece of gold, and to every one of his four children an Angel for a token. Item: I give and bequeath unto my sister, Elisabeth Gray, xx^s. Item: I give unto my uncle, Cuthbert Anderson, and to his wife, either of them, xx^s. and to their daughter Elisabeth xx^s. and to their son, Robert Anderson, x^s. Item: I give and bequeath unto my brother, John Butler, and his wife, and to either of them, one Angel, and to every one of their children an Angel a piece. Item: I give unto my cousin, John Mitford, one Angel, and to his son Robert another Angel. Item: I give to my cousin, Ralph Gray, and Elisabeth his wife, and to either of them, an Angel. Item: I give to my brother-in-law, George Huntley, twenty shillings, his wife ten shillings, and to every one of the said George his children x^s. a piece. Item: I give unto my brother, Henry Anderson, and his wife, to William Huntley, her son, and to the rest of her children, and to every one of them, x^s. a piece. Item: I give to Mr. Poore, Vicar, xx^s. and to his wife x^s. Item: I give to Mr. Robert Jenison xx^s. and to my cousin Ward x^s. Item: I give and bequeath to Mr. Alvie, preacher, and to Mr. Gray, either of them, an Angel. Item: I give unto my brother, William Gray, five pounds, and to my brother, Oswald Gray, twenty pounds. Item: I give unto Mr. Robert Henderson, physician ["phesetion,"] xx^s. Item: I give unto my servant, Robert Gray, ten pounds, to be paid unto him within two years next after my death, to his wife xx^s. and to every one of his children x^s. Item: I give to Ellynor Ruarton v^s. to Christian Hall v^s. and to either of my other two women servants xij^d. a piece. Item: I give to my man, Thomas Mason, x^s. to Michael Rand x^s. to my staitthman, Roger Davison, xx^s. to my overman, Michael Robinson, xl^s. Item: I give to every householder in Newbiggine who have continued and dwelt there for the space of three years now last past every of them v^s. a piece. Item: I give to James Hensley, of Walbottle, x^s. to Henry Hall, of Heigham, x^s. and to my hird of Heigham x^s. And as to the rest of my goods and chattels, as well moveable as un-moveable, my debts, legacies, and funeral expenses being paid and discharged, I give and bequeath unto the said Elisabeth, my wife, whom I make and ordain my full and sole Executor of this my last Will and testament, and I ordain, constitute, and appoint the said Jacob fernside, John Butler, Edward Gray, Robert Gray, and John Mitford to be Supervisors of this my last will and testament, hoping that they will see all things executed and performed according to the tenor of this my last Will, and according to the trust and confidence which in them I do repose. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Signed, CUTH. GRAY. (Seal, plain.)

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of

BULMAN ILE.
HENRY HALL.
ANTHONY NOBRAN, Scr.

CUTHBERT GRAY, MERCHANT.

INVENTORY, DATED 28 APRIL, 1623.

On the staith at Denton, 5 tens of coals	...	...	...	18 <i>l</i> .
At Whitbie Moore, 20 tens	"	...	...	40 <i>l</i> .

NEWBIGGEN PITTS.

At the East Pit	...	...	12 tens of coals, at 3 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> . per ten.
" Pit within the Dyke	...	7	"
" First Pit in the Moore	...	18	"
" Middle	"	4	"
" Third	"	6	" and coals of the value of about 21 <i>l</i> . 6 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> .

LEASES OF COLLIERIES.

8th part of Dunstle Coal Mine, from Wm. Emerson	...	...	30 <i>l</i> .
" Athe's Lease	...	...	40 <i>l</i> .
" Broom Close, Stoney Copper, and Eckwell Hill	...	...	40 <i>l</i> .
Lease of Coal and Ground at Newbiggen Quarter, and half the coal mine	...	...	50 <i>l</i> .

EAST DENTON.

Half of divers leases of certain coal mines in Gateshead	...	10 <i>l</i> .
Lease of Higham Dykes	...	50 <i>l</i> .
" Bellesees	...	50 <i>l</i> .
Lease for three lives of the mill and ground in Paynter Hewgh,	13 <i>l</i> . 6 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> .	
Leases of parcel of ground at Newham	...	50 <i>l</i> .

OF SHIPPING.

The Diligence, of Ipswich, of 3-16th part	...	60 <i>l</i> .
Of one quarter of the Prudence	...	80 <i>l</i> .
Of the one twelfth part of the Unity, of Ipswich	...	30 <i>l</i> .
Of the 18th part of the Mary Susan,	"	20 <i>l</i> .
6 Keels	...	7 <i>l</i> .

1623, May 19.—Will of Cuthbert Gray, of the parish of St. Nicholas, Newcastle, proved by Bulman Ile and Henry Hall, witnesses thereto, and administration of goods committed to Elizabeth Gray, his widow, who was appointed Guardian, &c., of John, Margaret, Agnes, Ellinor, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Dorothy, and Deborah. Personalty, 2138*l*. 18*s*. 9*d*.

APPENDIX II.

THE WILL OF WILLIAM GRAY.

In the name of God, Amen. I, William Gray, of the town and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Merchant, being in good health and of sound and perfect memory, blessed be God, and knowing it is appointed unto all men once to die, and not knowing how soon it may please the Lord to call me out of this transitory life, being willing and desirous that what estate it hath pleased God to bless me with, immediately after my death should go unto whom I really and only intend it, and that there may be no variance nor suit between my kindred and friends for or concerning the same, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following, that is to say:—First of all I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my most glorious Creator and

merciful father in Christ Jesus, being assured by a true and lively faith in his blood to have the free pardon and forgiveness of all my sins, and being made partaker of eternal glory. And for my body I commend it again to the earth from whence it was taken there to rest in hope until it shall be raised up again by the and power of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life, and become the first fruits of them that sleep in Christ, desiring it may be buried and interred in a comely and decent manner in the burial place of my ancestors in Saint Nicholas' Church, in the said town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. And whereas I have been very much engaged and beholding to my brother-in-law, Robert Ellison, of Newcastle, aforesaid, Merchant, and to his wife, my sister, Elisabeth Ellison, upon all occasions and straights whatsoever, and have found much comfort and contentment in my dwelling and cohabiting with them, I give and bequeath to my said brother, Robert Ellison, his heirs and assigns for ever, all those my lands and tenements hereafter in and by these presents mentioned, specified, and expressed, that is to say, all that my message or tenement with the appurtenances situate and being in the said town and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in a street there called the Side, and now in the tenure or occupation of the said Robert Ellison or his assigns. Also I give and bequeath unto the said Robert Ellison, my brother, all that my other message or tenement with the appurtenances situate and being in the said town and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in the street aforesaid called the Side, and now in the several tenures or occupations of my sister, Ellenor Harle, widow, James Pringle, tailor, Ralph Romaine, upholsterer, and Robert Huntley, merchant, their heirs or assigns. Also, I give and bequeath unto the said Robert Ellison, my brother-in-law, all my lands and tenements in Pandon, within the liberties of the said town and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, that is to say, one message or tenement and garden or close of land called Pandon Dean Close, now in the tenure or occupation of Mary Rowell, widow, or her assigns; two closes of land lying and adjoining near the King's Dikes, now in the tenure or occupation of John Aire, miller, or his assigns; one close of land called Dawson's Close or Bank Close, now in the tenure or occupation of William Farmer, or his assigns; one close of land called by the name of the Paddock Close, now in the tenure or occupation of David Shevell, chirurgeon; one close of land called the Tyler's Close; one message or tenement, lately built, now in the tenure or occupation of Margery Airey, widow, and John Ladon, and their assigns; two messages or tenements and a garth near unto Pandon Gate, now in the tenure or occupation of George Vertue, or his assigns. Also, I give and bequeath unto the said Robert Ellison, my brother, his heirs and assigns, for ever, all and every my houses, messages, and tenements, and hereditaments whatsoever, situate, lying, and being without Pandon Gate, within the liberties of the town and county of Newcastle, aforesaid, in whose possession, tenure, or occupation soever they be, and all other my lands, tenements, and hereditaments in any place whatsoever, within the Nation and Commonwealth of England, as fully and amply to all intents and purposes as if they had been particularly and by their several and proper names herein by these presents mentioned, specified, and expressly declared. Also, I give and bequeath unto my God-son, William Proctor, son of my sister, Margaret Proctor, the sum of one hundred pounds of lawful English money, to be paid unto him within one year after my death. Also, I give unto God-daughter Jane Proctor, daughter of the said Margaret Proctor, the sum of one hundred pounds of like English money, to be paid unto her within one year after my death. Provided always, and it is my true intent and meaning, that unless the said William Proctor and Jane Proctor, their executors and administrators, do before the payment of the said several and respective sums of one hundred pounds, give unto my executor herein, and by these presents named, good and sufficient security by bond in the sum of four hundred pounds, to save, keep harmless, and indemnify my said executor from time to time, or at all times hereafter of and from all and every mortgage or mortgages, statutes, recognizances, judgments, bonds, bills, debts, duties, actions, suits, recognizances, accounts, claims, and demands whatsoever, which their father, Robert Proctor, in his lifetime, or his heirs, executors, or administrators, or all or any of them

had, or at any time hereafter may have against me, the said William Gray, my heirs, executors or administrators, or any of them, for and concerning the same, that then my said Executor shall pay neither of the said sums of one hundred pounds, but shall keep and detain them in his hands until both of them shall do and perform the same. Also, whereas I have by one deed indented bearing date the 6th March, 1655, demised unto my sister, Ellenor Harle, widow, the house wherein she now dwelleth, situate in Newcastle, in a street there called the Side, and two shops belonging to the same, the one of them as was in the tenure or occupation of the said Ellenor Harle, and the other in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Teasdale, feltmaker, for the term of eleven years from Candlemas last past before the date hereof, for the yearly rent of a peppercorn in the first year, and for seven pounds a year for the other ten years, payable at Lammas and Candlemas, as by the said Indenture whereunto reference being had, and more at large it may and doth appear, I give and bequeath the said yearly rent, and every part and parcel thereof, for and during the term of the said demise, unto my said sister, Ellenor Harle, and her son, Edward Harle. Provided always, and it is my true intent and meaning, that unless my said sister, Ellenor Harle, and her son, Edward Harle, do before the keeping back and detaining of the said yearly rent in their hand, give unto my said executor good and sufficient security by bond in the sum of two hundred pounds, to save, keep harmless, and indemnify my said executor from all mortgage or mortgages, statutes, recognizances, judgments, bonds, bills, and demands whatsoever, which her husband, Robert Harle, merchant, deceased, in his lifetime, the said Ellenor, my sister, or the said Edward, her son, or the executors or administrators of the said Robert Harle, or any other persons whatsoever claiming by, from, or under them, or any of them, may have against me the said William Gray, my heirs, executors or administrators, for or concerning the same, that then my said executor shall yearly and every year during the whole term of the said demise take and receive the yearly rent in the said demise reserved. Also, I give and bequeath unto Samuel Ellison, one of the sons of my said brother and sister Ellison, one hundred pounds of lawful English money to be paid unto him when he shall attain the age of eighteen years, and if it shall please God he depart this life before he attains to that age, I give and bequeath the said sum of one hundred pounds unto his younger brother and next in age unto him, to be paid unto him when he shall attain eighteen years. Also, I give unto my sister, Dorothy Oswald, ten pounds a year for life. Also, I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Maddison, daughter of my sister Rebeckah, now wife unto William Rutter, draper, fifty pounds of lawful English money, to be paid to her two years after my death. I give and bequeath unto the eldest daughter of my said sister, Rebeckah Rutter, which she hath by her husband, William Rutter, the sum of fifty pounds of like money, to be paid unto her when she attains sixteen years; but if it please God she depart this life before she be sixteen years old, then I give and bequeath the same to her younger sister, that is next in age to her, to be paid unto her when she shall be sixteen years. Also, I give unto Anne Ile, daughter unto my sister Deborah, wife to my brother Robert Ile, merchant, one hundred pounds, to be paid to her when she accomplish sixteen years, and if it please God she depart before she attains to the said age, then I bequeath the same to her next younger sister, and so to every sister successively; but if it please God that they all die before they or any of them attain their respective ages of sixteen years, then I give and bequeath the said sum of one hundred pounds unto Bulmer Ile, eldest son of the said Robert and Deborah Ile, to be paid to him when he shall accomplish his full age of twenty-one, and if it please God the said Bulmer Ile depart this life before that time, then I give and bequeath the same to the younger brother of the said Bulmer, and next of age to him, to be paid to him when he shall accomplish the age of twenty-one, and if he die before he be of that age, then to his younger brother, and so from brother to brother successively. Also, I give and bequeath unto my brother-in-law, William Rutter, and my sister, Elisabeth, his wife, to each of them twenty shillings. Also, I give unto my sister, Elisabeth Ellison, and my nephew, Cuthbert Ellison, her son, and my niece, Elisabeth Ellison, her daughter, to every

of them twenty shillings. Also, I give and bequeath unto my cousin, Edward Harle, twenty shillings; to my cousin, Robert Huntlie, merchant, twenty shillings; to Mr. Stephen Dockwray, preacher, twenty shillings; to Mr. Robert Prideaux, twenty shillings; to Mr. William Cole, twenty shillings; and last, I give and bequeath unto the poor of the parish of Saint Nicholas, in Newcastle, aforesaid, the sum of three pounds, to be disposed of at the discretion of my Executor of this my last Will and Testament I do hereby make and ordain my said brother, Robert Ellison, my sole and only Executor. And I do hereby revoke, adnull, and make void, all and every other former Wills and Testaments whatsoever by me at any time heretofore made and ordained. In Witness whereof, I, the said William Gray, have hereunto set my hand and seal, the 8th December, 1656.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of

WILLIAM ASTELL.
ROBERT CARR.
ISAAC ASTELL.

[Examined with the original by me, GAB. NEWHOUSE, Registrar].

Be it known unto all men by these presents that whereas I, William Gray, of the Town and County of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Merchant, by my last Will and Testament in writing, bearing date the 8th December, 1656, did give unto my God-son, William Proctor, son of my sister, Margaret Proctor, deceased, one hundred pounds, to be paid unto him within one year after my death, as in my will doth appear. And whereas for diverse good causes and considerations me, the said William Gray, specially moving, I have since the making of my said will paid the said sum of one hundred pounds unto the said William Proctor. Now know ye I, the said William Gray, do by this codicil revoke my said gift of the said sum of one hundred pounds unto the said William Proctor. In witness whereof I have to this present codicil set my hand and seal the 27th March, 1658.

[Examined with the original by me, GABRIEL NEWHOUSE, Registrar].

Upon a sheet of paper attached to copy of the Will at Durham.

Mem: that I, Robert Ellison, Esq., executor of the last Will and Testament of William Gray, late of Newcastle, Merchant, deceased, do hereby acknowledge that I have received the original will of the said deceased from the hands of Mr. Gabriel Newhouse, Principal Registrar of the Consistory Court of Durham, which I do hereby engage well and safely to preserve and keep, and deliver the same into the said Registrar's office, whenever there shall be any occasion to use the same. Witness my hand this 23 February, 1673.

(Signed,) ROBERT ELLISON.

Witnesses, RICHARD WATERHOUSE.
ROBERT BULMAN, Not. Pub.

INVENTORY OF WM. GRAY'S GOODS, &c.

A true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the goodes and chattells whereof William Grey, late of the towne and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Merchant, dyed possessed, taken and appraised the 10th day of February Anno Regis Carol. sec'ndi nunc Angl' Vicesimo Sexto, Anno D'm 1673, by Robert Mitford, Wm. Huntley, Edward Freeman, and Christopher Greetham, pewterer.

In his owne Chamber.

Imps: One Standing Bedd, one paire of Curtings and Vallance,
one feather Bedd, Bolster, and pillow, one paire of
Blanketts, one rug and curteing Rods ijl. xs. id.
Itt: Three old wooden chaires, one large greene chaire, two high
greene chaires, Leaven stooles, two low greene chaires ... ijl. viijs. ijd.

Itt: Eight old pictures and a map of England	iijs. vjd.
Itt: One paire of hornes	xjs. iiijd.
Itt: Two old trunckes	iijs.

In the newt chamber.

Itt: One old bedstedd, one longsatle bedd, one large chest ...	vjs. viijd.
Itt: Two bedstedds, two stript curtaines and paire of vallance, one close bedd, one dresser frame il.	is. ij d.
Itt: One Table in the Clossett or study	ijs. iiijd.
Itt: One old Chaire and one old Desk	is. vjd.
Itt: One picter Box	vjd.
Itt: fflower long cushin and sixteen small old Cushions, sixteene cushion	xs.

In the ffore Chamber.

Itt: ffifteen course Napkins, ffifteene course striped Napkins, twelve laid work Napkins, six plaine Napkins, and two dozen and ffive Diap Napkins, ffive diap table clothes, three Diap dresser cloathes, one large diap towell, two lynneing towells, five short towells, a spreedeing sheete and two lawne aprons, one spreedeing sheete of one breedth and an halfe, three ffine table cloathes, three coarse table cloathes, nynteene pillowess, eight paire of lynneing sheetes, five old sheetes, and one chist	iiijl. vjs. vjd.
Itt: One bedd stead	iijs. iiijd.

In the Dyneing Room.

Itt: Three pictures and one table	xiijs. xd.
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In the love Hall.

Itt: One small marbell table	xs.
Itt: One greene ffringe dresser cloth, and one greene table cloth	iijs. viijd.
Itt: One Turkie table cloth and one greene dresser cloth ...	xxxvjs. viijd.
Itt: The deceased's purse, apparell, and library	xvl.

Sum xxixl. xvjs. iiijd.

Signed, ROBT. MITFORD.
WILLIA. HUNTLEY.
EDWARD FREEMAN.
RICHD. WALL.
CHRISTOPR. GRREETHAM.