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Early Berkshire Mills, ante 1558.

The following extracts are from Wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, and now preserved at Somerset House, London.

GEO. F. TUDOR SHERWOOD.

I.

The Will of ALICE ADAMS, widow.—To be buried in the Grayfreres Church in London. To Joan Bulkeley mayde and my servant a brass pott, one of those at the Gray Freres in Reding. To the Gray Freres of Reading xld. Son William Ashpoole, executor. Witnesses, Joan Bulkeley, Roger Mese, frear, John Thernall.

Prob. 21 Nov. 1537. (11, Dyngeley).

2.

The Will of JOHN ADEN (ADEANE) of Walyngford.—20 Oct. 1503. To be buried in the church of our lady in Walyngford. To each of my sonnes and daughter children a silver spoone. To Isabell Mores my servant. William Aden my sonne the yonger and my sonne Thomas Aden, executors. Maister John Thornton, priour of Walyngford, supervisor. Witnesses, Robert Marten, Richard Kelyng, John Towsey, Rauf Malthill.

Prob. 2 Jan. 1505. (1, Adeane).

3.

The Will of THOMAS ADBNE (ADEANE) de Wargrave.—17 April, 1517. To be buried in the west part of the Church of B.V.M. of Wargrave. To the mother Church of Sarum ij^d. My sons Henry, William, John, Robert, and Nicholas, my daughters Agnes and Alice, my wife Margery and Ralph Adene, executors. Witnesses, Thomas Bartley, Sir George Bakhouse, curate of Wargrave, Robert Gyll and others.

Prob. 18 May, 1517. (30, Holder).

4.

The Will of JOHN LECHE, als A LARDER, armiger.—10 June, 1477. To be buried in the Parish Church of B.V.M. of Redyng. Mone-
tary bequests to the Friars Minors in Redyng, the Friars Minors in London, the Churches of St. Laurence in Redyng, St. Giles in Redyng, Stratfeld Mortymer, Henley-upon-Thames and Tylehurst. To the Carmelite Friars in Fflete Streete in the suburbs of London, vj^s. viij^d. To Julianne Styll, widow, one of the sisters of Elsyng-spytell, London. To Margery, servant to Ann Rotheley. To John, sonne of Thomas James. To Thomas Potyger, poynte-maker. John Haugh, gentilman, John Deye, William Waryne, salter, and Thomas James, of Redyng, executors. Witnesses, Robert Leggett, skryvener, Juliana Stille, widow, William Sendall and others. Dated at London the year aforesaid.

Prob. 14 July, 1477. (30, Watlys).

5.

The Will of ALICE ALDWORTH, of West Hacborne, widowe.—7 Sept., 1545. Fearyng the fearce and cruell plage of the pestelence being sicke of my body. To be buried in the Church yarde by the sepultures of my Auncetours at the South Ile ende of Hacborne. To the bells at Hacborne xvj^d. To Sir John Parker to pray for me and my friends sixe pounds. Item I will have at my buriall tenne priests, at my moneth mynde x priests, and at my xij. month mynde x priests. And every of them to have at eche tyme viij^d. a pece. To Sir Henry chauntrye priest at Ffyfelde, xx^s. to pray for me. To oon Banks of the same parishe xx^s. To the same Banks' wife my best kirtell. To Elizabeth Gynkis my russet gowne, &c. To Alice Ivey my worst kirtell. To Sibill Mason; to Kateryn Gynkis; to Agnes Gynks; to Julian Bolte, and to Alice Balmore various bequests. To William Belman wife a smock. To Sibill Mason two doghters a kerchief. Item, I will that Willm. Stevyns shall occupie and enjoye the yeres of the Indenture of West Hac-

borne the which was taken by my brother Edward Clark of the Lord Wyndesore, newly and lately left and bequest to me by my loving husbonde John Aldworth, so that the said William Stevyns shall paye yerely an annuall rent over and above the lords accustomed rent as by my frends Mr. Robert Pownde, vicar, and my cousyn Henry Burnam shall thinke it mete. And the overplus of the same to be for my twoo children William and Edward to fynde them towards scoles. To Thomas Taillour and William Taillour fourtie shillings apeece. To Mr. John Stoner three pounds vj^s. viij^d. Witnesses, Robert Pownde, vicar, Sir John Parker, curat, Henry Burnam, Willm. Stevyns, Thomas Taillor, w^t other moo. Item, I give to Elizabeth Burnam my best gowne, &c.

Prob. 27 Sept., 1545. (35, Pynnyng).

6.

The Will of ALICE ALDEWORTHE, widdowe, of the Towne of Wantage.—1557, May 16. To be buried in Wantage Church in the south side nighe unto the place where my husband lyeth. To the highwayes lying abowte the towne of Wantage xx^s. My eldest sonne John Aldeworth. My second sonne Robert Aldeworth and his two children. My third sonne Thomas Aldeworth. To Willyam Aldeworth my fourth sonne the debt conteyned by obligacion and by Inventory of a house wherein he dwelleth in Oxforde. Richard Aldeworth my fyveth sonne. Marke Aldeworth my sixte sonne. Johan Pressye my eldest daughter. Johan Tovy my secound daughter and her children. Agnes my thirde daughter and her husband John Smythe and her children. Margery Wright my daughter and her children. Johan Aldeworth my youngest daughter. To Richard Talbott of Wantage. My cozen Robert Aldworth the elder and his children. To Agness Keat and Anne Banting, servaunts. Thomas Aldeworth and Richard Aldeworth my sonnes, executors. John Aldworth my sonne, Robert Aldeworth the elder, and Richard Wright, my overseers. Unto the paying or pickenyng of the hole Market Place of the towne of Wantage tenne pounds. Witnesses, William Estmond and John Payne, Robert Aldeworth the elder, John Aldworth, Richard Wright and Thomas Aldeworth.

Prob. 31 June, 1557. (17, Wrastley).

7.

The Will of JOHAN ALDEWORTH, late the wife of Robert Aldworth, of Wanting, tanner.—2 April, 1527. To be buried in the Church of Saint Petir and Pawle in Wanting. Item, I bequeth to

the wayes in the sowthe side of the towne xl^s. To the Church a stremer of silke, price xiijs. iiij^d. To Robert Aldeworth, son of John Aldeworth. Edward Aldeworth my son, Alice Geryng my da. and Robert Aldeworth, the son of John Waldeworthe (*sic*) to have halfe of my goods not bequest. My sonne Robert Aldeworth and Thomas Webbe, executors. Thomas Geryng and William Towey, overseers. Witnesses : Sir Thomas Brest, curate, Sir Thomas Wadam, chauntrie preest, Thomas Balowe, John Bradok, Edmund Smyth et aliis multis.

Prob. 24 May, 1527. (19, Porch.)

8.

The Will of JOHN ALDORTH, of Wantyng, tanner.—5 April, 1525. To be buried in the Parish Church of Wantyng. To the Parish Church of Hyworth. Robert Aldorth my son. Joane, Agnes, Alice, Marion, and Elizabeth my daughters. Elyn my wife. Elyn Barre my servant. Robert Aldeworth my brother, John Aldeworth, of Lokyng, and John Aldeworth, of Sutton, executors. Robert Doo and Thomas Hulcup, overseers. Witnesses : Sir Thomas Kyng, curat there, Robert Aldeworthe the elder, William Kell with other moo.

Prob. 20 May, 1525. (33, Bodfelde).

9.

The Will of JOHN ALDEWORTH, of Westhacborne, yoman.—1 July, 1545. To be buried in the South Ile of the Church of Hacborne. To Robert Aldworth my son Thindenture of the ferme of Charlton. To my sonne John Aldworth the lease of the parsonage of Charleton. My son William Aldworth thelder. My da. Joane Bruar. My da. Elizabeth. My da. Marion. To my da. Agnes Carpenter the lease of Benhames. William Aldworth the yonger and Edward Aldworth. My wife Alice Aldworth. Unto Hacborne Church ffourtie shillings. Unto Lokkyng Church xl^s. To repaire the wayes in Sutton more x^s. Unto ffourscore pour householders in Lokkyng, Arrynton and Wantege parishes xij^d. apece. Unto Mr. Robert Pownde my curat Twentie shillings to say a Trintall for me. The residue to my sonne Robert Aldworth and Robert Carpenter, my hole executors. John Cockishede, Robert Aldworth the yonger, of Wantage, and William Keitt, thoverseers. Witnesses : Maister Robert Pownde, my goostly father, William Keytt and John Cockishede with other moo.

Prob. 25 Sept., 1545. (35, Pynnyng).

10.

The Will of ROBERT ALDEWORTHE thelder, of Wantinge, *als* Wantage, tanner.—1 Aug., 1555. To be buried within the Church of Wantage in the southeside by my brother John Aldeworthe. To the mending of the Kinges highwaye in the southeside of the towne of Wantage xl^s. to be bestowed from Clements shiphouse to the furthiste parte of Gallowe lane end by my overseers. John Aldeworth my eldest son. My sons Robert Aldeworth, and Thomas Aldeworth. Joan Tovy my eldest da. My daurs. Agnes Smythe, Margery Wright and Joane Aldeworthe, my youngest da. My son Wyllyam Aldeworthe. To my son Richard Aldeworthe towards his learning of the Comen Lawe twentie poundes. Marke Aldeworthe my youngest sonne. To the mendinge of the highe waye from Pynkemans lane ende unto Drayton felde xiijs. iiij^d. To Agnes Cowper, of Bluberie, in consideracon of her long service done to me xxvj^s. viij^d. Joane Presey my da.-in-law. Alice my wife, sole executrix. Wyllyam Ballowe, John Aldeworthe, Richard Write and Thomas Tovy, overseers. Witnesses: Mr. Thomas Rawe, vicar of Wantage, Wyllyam Andros, curate, Wyllyam Ballowe, and Wyllyam Estmonde.

Prob. 8 June, 1556. (8, Ketchyn).

11.

The Will of THOMAS ALDOWORTH, of Drayton.—2 August, 1512. To be buried in the churchyard of Drayton. To the pixmakynge of my pishe church of Drayton ij^s. To our lady autler in the same Church iiij^d. To Seynt Thomas autler iiij^d. Alice my wyff. My v. children. To the iiij. orders of ffriers in Oxford to every of them v^s. To John my sonne my ffarmy that I dwell nowe in at the tyme of his mariage, and I woll that John Curson have the occupying of it till the time abovesaid of his mariage. My brothers John and Richard Aldworth. John Curson, executor. John Audillat shalbe myn overseer. Witnesses, Sir William Meryman, John Fforty, William Wyse, w^t. dyñs other moo.

Prob. 3 Aug., 1513. (19, Fetiplace).

12.

The Will of THOMAS ALDEWORTHE, of lockyng.—15 May, 1515. To be buried in Saint Kateryn's Isle of lokyng. To the hygh autler of Lokyng xij^d. To the rode lyght xij^d. To our Lady lyght viij^d. To the heise lyght vj^d. To Saint Kateryn's lyght iiij^d. and a taper of wax to burne ther by a yere in tyme of dyvyne suice, I give to that same xlvj^s. viij^d. To S^r. Rycharde psonne xij^d. My son

Wylliam. My daughter Agnes. To John Chare. To Cristian Chare I gyve xl^s. for to bye a cope for the churche of lockyng. Agnes my wyff and John my sonne, executours. Robert Doo and John Kete, overseers. Wittenes, Maister John Estmonde psonne ther, Robert Aldeworth, Syr Rychard psonne pisshe preest, With other moo.

Prob. 16 July, 1515. (8, Holder).

13.

The Will of WILLIAM ALDORTH, of Clopcote.—Saint Symonde and Jude day [19 June] 1524. To be buried in the church of Saint Nicolas within the Castell of Walingford. To the churches of Saint Mary, Saint Petir, and Saint Leonard in Walingford iij^s. iiij^d. apece, and to my parish church of Alhalowen in Walyngford vj^s. viij^d. To the church of Saint Kateryn in Hynton vj^s. viij^d. and to the reparacon of the high waye in Crowmershe iij^s. iiij^d. and to Walingford brige iij^s. iiij^d. To Isabell my wife the years of my ferme at Clopcote to go on her marriage or decease to John Aldworth my younger son, and in case of his decease then to William Aldworth my son, his brother. To John Aldworth of Sutton, my eldest son, the years of my ferm in Sotton Cortney. To John Aldworth of Harwell, Robert Symons and John Chamber. My da. Agnes Symondes. To my son William Aldworth a messuage in Sutton Wyke in possession of Leonard Rede, esquire, called Cowpers and Thrysts. My lands in Walyngford, Reding and Henley upon Thamys. My daurs. Alice and Joan Aldworth and Isabell Yate. Alice Yate my daughter's daughter. Isabell More maide servant. To Isabell my wife a teneement in Redyng which I purchased lately of Thomas Maxfelde and Anne his wife called Scochyns. Robert Symons my son in law and my da. his wife. My da. Joan Trewlock of Sutton. My good maister Thomas Inggelfeld, Esquier, overseer. Andrew Yate my son in law and John Aldworth of Harwell my youngest son, executours. Witnesses: Sir Richard Hawkyns, prest, John Karver, oon of the clerks of the College, and Maister John Butler, my curat.

Prob. 3 Feb., 1524. (30, Bodfelde).

14.

The Will of ROBERT ALY, of Wyndesore.—8 Dec., 1542. To be buried in the church of Cluwerth. To Cristian my wife my lands in Wycam, co. Bucks, for life and then to John Aly my eldest son and his heirs for ever. To the said Cristian the lands &c. that Warde gave unto her by her father. To Alice Gynger. The residue to my children to be divided equally by John Aly and

Andrew Aly my sons, whom I make my executors. James Prynse and Cristian my wife, overseers. Witnesses, Henry Tayler, James Prynse and James Fitzwater.

Prob. 26 April, 1543. (19, Spert).

15.

The Will of ARTHURE ALLEN, of Wantedge, gent.—1 August, 1557. To my sister Anne Alleyn and my cousen Richard Alleyn £8, which Sr. Edmonde Peckham, knight, oweth me and also my cattell in Hynton in the custody of Robert Vallaunce and also such sums owing me in the countie of Northampton. To Elizabeth May my servant £10. To Hugh Hide a gowne. William Huton, clerke, parson of Leatcombasset and George Clifford, gent., executors. Joan my wife, Thomas Broke, John Broke, Lucy Broke and Anne Broke my wife's children. To John Shawe a bullock. Mr. William Hide and Mr. Thomas Yate my overseers. To my goostly father Sir John Judde, clerk, xx^s.

Witnesses, John Judde, curate of the parish church of Wantedge, John Wellisbourne, John Shaa, John Helliord, Elizabeth Mey, Margery Payte, Margaret Fletcher.

Prob. 20 Feb., 1557, by Johan Broke, stepson of the deceased, George Clifford, gent., one of the executors, having died, and William Wotton, the other executor, having renounced execution. (8, Noodes).

16.

The Will of KATHERYN ALLEN, widow, late wife of Thomas Allen, of Southwark, vintener.—6 June, 1551. To be buried in churchyard of St. John Baptist in New Windesor. To Johane my elder da. my copiehold lands in Bedfordshire. Item I give her over and beside the bequest of her father John Colson my first husband xvj^{li}. xvjs. iiij^d. that is the half of xxxiiij^{li}. vjs. viij^d. which sum my father-in-law John Lyllingston of Mylbroke co. Bedf. received of the King's Ma^{tie}. for certain lands the which sum remaineth in the hands of the said John Lyllingston for and during the term of my mother his wyff's life. To Hester my younger da. the other moiety of the said sum and my lease which the said John Colston had of the Dean and Chapter of Windesor called the Chapell of St. Maurice, Plymton Erley co. Devon, dated 20 Sept. 2 Edw. VI. [1548] to remain in custody of my executors till she come of age and be married. If the said Johane and Hester die before they come of age and be married then I give to Christian my maid xiiij^{li}. vjs. viij^d. of the said sum and the rest which is xx^{li}. to the aforesaid John

Hollyngston. My cosyn William Frankelyn of London, goldsmith, the younger and John Hake of the King's College of Windesor, executors. John Whitehorn and Regnold Reding of Windesor, overseers. Witnesses, James Busbye, curat, Robert Gye, John Whitehorn, Regnold Reding.

Proved 12 April, 1552, by the exors. (11, Powell).

17.

The Will of WILLIAM ALEYN (ALLEN), of Okyngham, gent.—27 Sept., 1499. To be buried in the chancel of Okyngham Church. Wife Anne, executrix. . . . Bellyngham my overseer.

Proved 14 Nov. 1503, by the executrix. (31, Blamyr).

18.

The Will of CHRISTIAN ALLEY, of London, widow.—25 Jan., 1556. To my son John Alley and his children £30. To my da. Prynces children £10. My great gilt goblet which is in my son Androwes keeping unto Mathew Alley his son. To my son Symon Alley that bargain &c. that I have from Renold Redinge of the black Egle in Wynsor. My da. Elizabeth Chowne and her husband Nicholas Chowne. To my son Symon all my household stuff, plate, &c., which he is already possessed of in the town of Wynsor. To my son John his wyfe a ring. To cousyn Annie Gough a frock. To Myllycent my son Symon's wife a frock. To Waterman's wife of Wynsor my cassock. To Johan Toke of Wynsor. To Robert Torke. To the poor of Wyndesor where I late dwellyd. My da. Elizabeth Chowne and son John Alley exors. Witnesses, Nicholas Chowne, Philipp Holde, George Horde, Nicholas Byngeham.

Proved 6 May, 1557, by the exors. (12, Wrastley).

(To be continued.)