



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

(Continued from page 82.)

114.

The Will of WILLIAM BROWNYNG, ffermer of Cholsey, in the dioc. of Salysbury.—18 March, 1515. To be buried in the parysshe church of Cholsey. All my goodys moveable and unmoveable I gyve and bequeth to Alys my wyff ffurst to pay my detts And the resydue of all my goodys to the use and profute of hir And my chyl dren. Said wife executrice. Maister Rychard Randall, vycar of Cholsey, overseer. Hiis testibus: Magro Rico Randall, vic. de Cholsay, Thoma Barton, capellano, Thoma Symonds, Paulo Traion cum multis aliis die et anno supradcis.

Proved at Lamhith 21 June, 1515, by the executrix.

(7, Holder.)

115.

The Will of HENRY BRUGES, of Newburye, of the dioc. of Sarum, squyre. 5 Dec., 1538.—Margery my wife late deceased. To Johan Thornehull my daughter twenty pounds. To John Gifford sonne of my said daughter and to Anne sister of the said John twenty pounds apiece. To Anne Darell the daughter of Constantyne Darell £20. To Robert Bedford son of my said wife and to Robert Sewey, sundry bequests. The residue to Richard Bruges my son, sole executor. Yeven et Newbury the fyfth day of Decembre, 1538.

Witnesses, John Wynscombe thelder of Newbury, John Mayget, parson of West Shifford, John Knyght of Newbury and Robert Sewey and other.

Proved 28 Jan., 1538[9] at London.

(24, Dyngeley).

116.

The Will of RICHARD BRUSSH of Redyng.—29 Aug. 1508. To be buried in the parish church of St. Lawrence. I bequeath all my goods &c. to John More, Robert Dodson, and John Badcok for the

benefit of Joan my wife. My lands &c. at Whitchurch, co. Oxon.
Wife Johane executrix. Richard Turner *als.* Baker supervisor.

Witnesses, John Cokks, Symone Lambe, and Thomas Wyche
als Smyth.

Proved at Lamehith 3 Nov., 1508.

(7, Bennett.)

GEO. F. TUDOR SHERWOOD.

50, Beecroft Road,

Brockley, S.E.

(*To be continued.*)

MALTHUS FAMILY.—Have you, amongst the wills of the Berkshire folk, come across that of one of the early scions of the Malthus family? That family resided in Binfield, or rather one branch of that family, and records of it are found in the Registers from 1551 and disappears after 1606. The earliest will existing of any member of that family is in the year 1429. The family resided in this parish for about 200 years, although there is no record of it in the Registers (for an obvious reason) till 1551. By this will William Malthus leaves "to the poor and indigent dwelling in the Parish of Benfield 10/- in perpetuity, the said sum to be obtained from a meadow called Paradise and to be distributed to the poor for my Soul:" and "for this money the Priest in residence there shall pray for my Soul every Sunday and for the Souls of the faithful departed:" and "if he do not the 10/- shall no longer be paid." Then the next will is that Michael Malthus, October 17, 1537, but he was of "Ffarnham," Surrey, not of Berks. In 1546, Thomas M., of Swallowfield, desires to be buried in the Church of All Hallows in that parish. William Blount was executor (possibly connected with John Blunt, of Swallowfield, whose will—1500—is amongst the archives of the Corporation of Reading. Thomas M. makes William Blount executor, and "my Master Christopher Lytcot overseer of my will." Here you have the name about which there is a query in the last number. (In our Church is a marble stone to the memory of Blount of Sodington). Lytcot was at that time Lord of the Manor of Swallowfield; the pedigree was returned by the family at the Visitation of Oxford in 1574, printed by Sir T. Phillips from a MS. in the British Museum (Lansd. 880). Lytcot died at Swallowfield 6th December, 1554. His will was proved 15th March, 1555. The inscription on the tomb is given in Ashmole. There are other wills of other members of the Binfield branch: November, 1558, John M. of Binfield; October, 1628, John M. of S. Lawrence, Reading. If any of these are wanted I can supply them.—E. SAVORY, Binfield Rectory.

We have received a paper on "Notes on the Archæology of Oxford and its Neighbourhood" from Mr. Manning, F.S.A., which we hope to publish in our next number.

We have in type the report of the Sub-Committee of the Oxford Architectural and Historical Society, appointed to organise the Photographic Survey of Oxfordshire, but regret extremely that at the last moment this has been crowded out of our present issue. It will appear in the next numbers.