
SUMMARY: The document below is a copy of the will, dated 14 October 1530, of Sir William Clopton (1450 – 20 February 1531), whose granddaughter, Mary Clopton, married Sir William Cordell (d.1581), Master of the Rolls, one of the five trustees appointed by Oxford in an indenture of 30 January 1575 prior to his departure on his continental tour. See ERO D/DRg2/25.

According to Howard, his transcript of the testator's will was made 'From a copy penes W.H.H.'. See Howard, Joseph Jackson, *The Visitation of Suffolke*, Vol. I, (Lowestoft: Samuel Tymms, 1866), pp. 48-51 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofsuff01harv#page/46/mode/2up>

This may be the same copy of the testator's will which is now in the Essex Record Office, D/DRg 1/95.

The copy contains numerous scribal errors. Obvious omissions have been supplied in square brackets.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the son of John Clopton (d.1497), esquire, by Alice Darcy, the daughter of Sir Robert Darcy. See Ross, James, *John de Vere Thirteenth Earl of Oxford: 'The Foremost Man of the Kingdom'*, (Woodbridge, Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2011), pp. 230-1.

For the testator's family background, see Parker, William, *The History of Long Melford*, (London: Wyman & Sons, 1873), pp. 170 ff. at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=VsbWA_Q1NR4C&pg=PA170

See also the Clopton pedigrees in Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *The Visitation of Suffolke*, Vol. I, (Lowestoft: Samuel Tymms, 1866), p. 124 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ExI2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA124>

See also the Clopton pedigrees in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Suffolk*, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1882), p. 16 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=EycAAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA16>

See also the pedigrees of Clopton in Muskett, Joseph James, ed., *Evidences of the Winthrops of Groton co. Suffolk, England*, (Privately printed, 1894-1896), pp. 143-5 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=7dYKAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA144>

MARRIAGES AND CHILDREN

In the will below the testator mentions only four children, a son and daughter by his first marriage, and two sons by his third marriage.

First marriage

The testator married firstly Joan Marowe (b.1470), daughter of William Marowe (c.1419-c.1464), three times Master of the Grocers' Company, and Lord Mayor of London in 1455, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/5/139.

According to the Clopton pedigrees in Metcalfe, *supra*, p. 16, and Howard, *supra*, p. 124, by Joan Marowe the testator had three sons and three daughters:

* **John Clopton** (d. 21 October 1541), esquire, eldest son and heir, who married Elizabeth Roydon, the daughter and heir of John Roydon of Essex by Margaret Knyvet (see below), sister and coheir of Edward Knyvet, by whom he had four sons and three daughters.

* **William Clopton** (d. 26 October 1537), esquire, who married Elizabeth Saye, the daughter and coheir of Thomas Saye, esquire, of Liston Hall, Essex. See the pedigree of Clopton of Liston in Muskett, *supra*, p. 145 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=7dYKAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA145>

For the will of his grandson, William Clopton (d. 25 October 1612) of Liston, who married Anne Barnardiston, the daughter of Sir Thomas Barnardison by Mary Walsingham, see Muskett, *supra*, p. 140.

* **Robert Clopton**, a priest.

* **Elizabeth Clopton**, who married Sir Geoffrey Gates (d.1526) of High Easter, Essex. See the will of Geoffrey Gates, servant of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford, son of Sir Geoffrey Gates (d.1526) by his wife, Elizabeth Clopton, TNA PROB 11/37/210.

* **Anne Clopton**, who married Richard Poley of Boxted, Suffolk

* **(blank) Clopton**, who married a husband surnamed Austyn.

According to the pedigree in Muskett, *supra*, p. 143, by his first wife, Joan Marowe, the testator had two daughters in addition to those mentioned in Metcalfe, *supra*, p. 16, and Howard, *supra*, p. 124:

* **Dorothy Clopton**, who, in her will, proved 26 September 1508, TNA PROB 11/16/117, mentions four sisters, ‘my sister Poley’, ‘my sister Gates’, ‘my sister, Anne Darcy’, and ‘my sister, Katherine’, and five brothers, John Clopton, William Clopton, Robert Clopton, Francis Clopton and Richard Clopton. For the will of Dorothy Clopton, see also Howard, *supra*, p. 44 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ExI2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA44>.

* **Katherine Clopton.**

Second marriage

The testator married secondly, about 1489, Katherine Hopton, by whom he appears to have had no issue. See ‘The Clopton Chronicles’ at:

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~clopton/peche.htm>

Third marriage

The testator married thirdly Thomasine Knyvet (c.1475-1538), the daughter of Thomas Knyvet (d.1479), esquire, and Elizabeth Lunsford (d. 4 July 1471), daughter of William Lunsford, esquire, by Thomasine Barrington, daughter and heiress of John Barrington.

The testator’s third wife, Thomasine Knyvet, had a sister, Margaret Knyvet (see above), who married John Roydon, and a brother, Edward Knyvet (d. 4 February 1500), who had an only daughter, Elizabeth Knyvet (d. 4 February 1508), who married Sir John Rainsford. See TNA C 1/198/51; the will, dated 14 September 1559, of Sir John Rainsford, TNA PROB 11/42B/484; and the History of Parliament entry for Sir John Rainsford at:

[http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/raynsford-\(rainforth\)-sir-john-1482-1559](http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/raynsford-(rainforth)-sir-john-1482-1559)

See also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, pp. 509-10, and Muskett, *supra*, p. 144 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=7dYKAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA144>

Thomasine, dau. of Sir Thos. Knevett of Stanway in Essex; sister and ultimately coheir of Edward Knevett, Esq.; aunt and coheir (with her two nieces, Elizabeth, wife of John Clopton of Kentwell, and Katherine Roydon) to Elizabeth Rainsford, wife of John Rainsford, Esq., her brother's daughter; as appears by the Inq. p. m. of the said Elizabeth

Rainsford, 24 H. 7, from whom she inherited the Manor of Castelyns in Groton. She was then aged 40 years and upwards. See also Knevett pedigree Harl. MS. 380, fo. 128.

See also 'Descendants of John Knyvett' at:

<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/l/e/w/Tamsin-N-Lewis/GENE3-0006.html>

See also the Roydon pedigree in Roydon, Ernest Bland, *Three Roydon Families*, (Edinburgh: R. & R. Clark, Ltd., 1924), between pp. 32-3 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/threeroydonfamil00royd#page/n61/mode/2up>

By his third wife, Thomasine Knyvet, the testator is said to have had three sons:

* **John Clopton**, of whom nothing further is known.

* **Francis Clopton**, who married Bridget Crane, daughter of Robert Crane (c.1508 - d. 12 September 1591) of Chilton, Suffolk. Robert Crane's younger brother, Anthony Crane (d.1583), was the first husband of 'Mistress Crane', at whose manor of East Molesey across the Thames from Hampton Court Palace the first of the Marprelate tracts was printed on a secret press by Robert Waldegrave in October 1588. See the will of Anthony Crane, TNA PROB 11/65/507, and Appleton, William S., *Memorials of the Cranes of Chilton*, (Cambridge: John Wilson and Son, 1868), pp. 60-1 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=p_8HAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA60

See also the will of Francis Clopton (d.1559), TNA PROB 11/42B/359, and Howard, *supra*, pp. 54-7 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ExI2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA54>

* **Richard Clopton**, who appears to have predeceased his brother, Francis. He married firstly Margaret Bozun, daughter of Sir Richard Bozun (died 18 August 1524) of Barrowby, Lincolnshire, and Thomasine Dene, daughter and heiress of James Dene, by whom he had one daughter:

--**Mary Clopton** (d.1585), who married Sir William Cordell (1522-1581), one of the five trustees appointed by Oxford in an indenture of 30 January 1575 prior to his departure on his continental tour. See ERO D/DRg2/25. For Mary Clopton, see her will, TNA PROB 11/68/545; and the *ODNB* entry for Sir William Cordell. For Mary Clopton's connection to Oxford's father-in-law, Lord Burghley, see *Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica*, Vol. VII, (London: John Bowyer Nichols and Son, 1841), pp. 67-8 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=tL1nsjpJkj8C&pg=PA67&lpg=PA67>

Katharine [Pedwardyn] married first to Nicholas Dene of Barrowby in the county of Lincoln; and secondly, to David Sitsilt or Cecil, grandfather of Lord Burghley. By the second she had no children; but by the first she had a son named James Dene, whose only daughter and heir Thomasine was twice married; first to Sir Richard Bozon, Knt. who died on the 18th of Aug. ao 16 Hen. VIII. and by whom she had five daughters; and secondly to William Vernon, by whom she had an only daughter. The five daughters by the first husband (Dene) were . . . (3) Margaret, wife of Richard Clopton, of Groton in Suffolk, Esq., by whom she had only a daughter named Mary, who married to Sir William Cordell, Knt. Master of the Rolls, who I believe died s. p.

Richard Clopton, married secondly Margery Playters, daughter of William Playters, esquire, of Sotterley, Suffolk, and Jane Jenney (buried 4 March 1540), daughter of Sir Edmund Jenney (d. 26 August 1522). For Sir Edmund Jenney, see the History of Parliament entry for his son, Sir Christopher Jenney (by 1489-1542) at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/jenney-christopher-1489-1542>

See also ‘Descendants of John Jenney’ at:

<http://www.matthewhobvious.co.uk/Jenney/pafg03.htm#80>

By his second wife, Margery Playters, Richard Clopton is said to have had three sons and six daughters, for whom see the will of his brother, Francis Clopton (d.1559), *supra*.

For the testator’s third marriage, see also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, pp. 520-1.

TESTATOR’S LANDS

For the 80-year lease dated 23 December 1501 between the Abbot and Convent of Bury and the testator mentioned in the will below, see Parker, William, *The History of Long Melford*, (London: Wyman & Sons, 1873), pp. 25-7 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=VsbWA_Q1NR4C&pg=PA25

See also Parker, *supra*, p. 25:

The older house of Kentwell, before the erection of the present Kentwell Hall, was called “Lutons.”

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

In the will below the testator leaves a substantial bequest to his servant, John Cordell (d. before 3 November 1554), and his wife, Emme:

I will that John Cordell, my servant, and Emme, his wife, shall have the tenement with the ground called the Saffron pane(?) and other th' appurtenance[s] which Robert Heudson dwelleth in, to them and their heirs according to the copy of court roll unto them thereof made.

According to the *ODNB* entry for Sir William Cordell, who married the testator's granddaughter, Mary Cordell, John Cordell was originally from Edmonton, and became the testator's 'principal servant'. The *ODNB* suggests that Sir William Cordell was probably brought up in the testator's household.

See also the will of Emme Webbe Cordell, TNA PROB 11/37/266.

In Dei nomine, Amen. I, William Clopton, knight, of Long Melford in the county of Suffolk, the 14 day of October in the 22nd year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord Henry the 8th and the year of Our Lord God 1500 and 30, being whole in mind and of good and perfect remembrance, thanked be God, make and ordain this my present testament in manner and form ensuing, revoking and annulling all other testaments by me heretofore at any time had, made or spoken, and this to be my first and last testament concerning my movable goods, corns, cattles [=chattels?], plate and ready money;

First I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, and to his glorious Mother, Our Lady Saint Mary, and to all the holy company of heaven, and my body to be buried within the parish church of Melford nigh unto the places whereas Jane and Dame Katherine, late my wives, lieth buried;

Item, I give to the high altar of the same parish church for my tithes and offerings by me forgotten or negligently withholden in discharging of my soul 20s;

Item, I give for breaking of the ground for my sepulture and burial 20s;

Item, I give and bequeath to John Clopton, my son, all the hangings within the hall, parlour and great chamber, with the bedding, cushions, tables, forms, stools being within the same hall, parlour and great chamber;

Item, I give to the said John Clopton, my son, the stuff of my chapel as altar cloths, book, chalice and vestments being and serving on and for the working days within the said chapel, and the half of all manner of implements as pewter, brass and latten belonging and being within my kitchen;

Item, I give unto the said John Clopton, my son, six horses going with one of my ploughs or plough, with the teme [=team?] of iron and collars being [sic for 'belonging?'] to the same, with a cart and a tumbrel;

Item, I give to the said John Clopton, my son, the half of all manner of implements being within my brewhouse and bakehouse or kelters [=cellars?], tubs, bravelles(?), troughs, fats and hogsheads;

Item, I give to my daughter, Anne Poley, my silver piece with a rose in the bottom;

Item, I give unto Dorothy Chamber, my woman, £2 13s 4d, to be paid unto her be [=by] my executors within 4 years next after my decease;

Item, I give unto John Cordell, my servant, 40s;

Item, I will that every servant in my house being a yeoman have of my gift 6s 8d, every carter and ploughman 3s 4d, and every woman servant 3s 4d;

Item, I will that my executors and other assigns dispose in deeds of charity for the weal of my soul and all Christian souls within the town of Melford [to] priests, clerks and poor people within a month after my decease £40 of lawful money of England if chieft[e] [sic for 'it?'] may be made therefore by mine executors of such goods, corns and cattles, or else as shortly after [as] possible [=possibly?] may;

The residue of all my goods movable and unmovable, household stuff, plate, jewels, cattles [=chattels?], tilth of lands, corns as well being within my place as all such as be howing [=growing?] upon my lands and before unbequeathed, after my debts first and principally paid, my burial done, and this my present testament fulfilled, I give them freely and clearly unto Dame Thomasine Clopton, my wife, she to do therewith her free will and pleasure;

And of this my present testament I make, ordain and constitute to be my executors this same Dame Thomasine, my wife, Francis Clopton, Richard Clopton, my sons, and Sir William Bretener, parson of Hawstead, and I give to every of the same Francis, Richard and Sir William Bretener for their labours and business therein to be had and sustained 20s;

And overseer of this my said testament and last will I heartily desire and pray Sir Roger Townshend, knight, to be, and I give to him for his labour and business herein to be had and sustained a hogshead of wine;

And whereas I have divers pieces of broidered works of silk and gold to furnish and serve for the whole suit of vestments as well for a cope vestment, deacon and subdeacon, I will that my executors do buy crimson velvet or cloth of gold, if my goods will extend unto it, for to accomplish this same suit of vestments in form before-written, which suit of vestments every parcel thereof I give and bequeath to Melford church so that this same

cope, vestments and every parcel thereof shall be at the commandment of him that God shall provide to be my heir male and dwell at my place of Lutons and [sic for 'at?'] such time as shall fortune to be any marriage at my said place, and immediately after to be delivered unto the churchwardens again;

Item, I give unto the above-written John Clopton, my son, my cross of gold which I wear daily about my neck after the decease of my wife;

And after the decease of this same John Clopton, my son, I will this same cross shall remain unto the heirs males of the body of this same John Clopton lawfully begotten;

And for default of such issue to [the] heirs males of the body of me, the same William Clopton, knight, lawfully begotten, upon the condition that they and every of them do lenne [=lend?] this same cross unto women of honeste [=honesty?] being with child the time of their labour, and immediately [after] to be surely delivered unto howrs [=house?] again;

And further I will that no clause nor article containing [sic for 'contained?'] and in specially in my last will concerning my manors and lands and tenements with the appurtenances date the day yearly [sic for 'dated the day and year?'] above-written be hurtful or in any wise prejudicial to any article or clause containing [sic for 'contained?'] and specified in my will concerning my priest's service in Melford called Jesus and Our Lady's service, but I will that the same be firm and stable in every thing and things according to the same purpose and intent as in this same at large is written and declared;

These witnesses: Thomas Palmer, clerk, William Parson, clerk, Edward Tyrrell, clerk, William Munson, John Cordell, John Marshal, John Clarke, Edward Watson, Roger Hardy, and other.

This is the last will of me, William Clopton, knight, made the 14th day of October in [the] 22nd year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Henry the 8th, being of whole mind and perfect memory, thanked be God, do ordain and make this my present testament and last will of, for and upon all such my manors, lands and tenements, rents and services with all and singular their appurtenances set and lying within my [sic for 'the?'] towns, fields and parishes of Long Melford, Stanstead, Shimpling, Cowling, Asheton, Henstead, Chipley or elsewhere within the countries [sic for 'counties?'] of Suffolk and Essex or other towns or counties within the realm of England whereof any person or persons stand and be seised to the use of me, the same William Clopton, knight, in manner and form hereafter following, that is to say:

First I will that Richard Poley [and] Francis Clopton, my sons, and other my feoffees of and in my manor of Woodhouse in Stanstead, the meadow called Neyles meadow otherwise called Gyffordes in Melford, my tenement called Blake's, my manors of Wood Fowles and Schardlows in Cowlyng, with all and singular their appurtenances in the county of Suffolk shall stand and be seised and enfeoffed [of] the third part thereof and of

every parcel thereof to the use of Dame Thomasine Clopton, my wife, that she shall have the said third part of all the said manors, lands, tenements and other the premises and appurtenances for the term of her natural life in satisfaction and allowance of her dower which the same Dame Thomasine is entitled to have of the same manors and other the premises by reason that I myself was thereof sub-seised [sic for 'so seised'?] during the espousals between me and the said Dame Thomasine;

And of all the residue of the said manors, lands and tenements and other the premises with [the] appurtenances called Woodhouse, Woodfoles, Schardelowes in Cowling, Neles and Blake's tenement, I will that my said feoffees shall stand and be seised thereof to the use of John Clopton, son and heir of me, the same William Clopton, knight, during his natural life;

And after his decease to the use of the heirs males of the body of the same John lawfully begotten;

And for default of such issue to remain to the heirs males of the body of me, the same William Clopton, knight, lawfully begotten;

Item, I will if [sic for 'that'?] my feoffees of and in my manor of Kentwell with [the] appurtenances shall stand and be seised thereof to the use of the same John Clopton, my son, during his natural life;

And after his decease to the use of the heirs males of the body of the same John Clopton lawfully begotten;

And for defect of such issue to remain to the heirs males of the body of me, the same William Clopton, knight, lawfully begotten;

Also I will that my feoffees of and in my place and manor of Lutons with th' appurtenances wherein I dwell shall stand seised thereof to the use of the same Dame Thomasine, my wife, during her natural life, keeping the reparations sufficiently;

And after her decease I will that my said feoffees and their heirs shall be and stand seised and enfeoffed of and in the same manor of Lutons with the appurtenances to th' use of the same John Clopton, my son, during his natural life;

And after his decease to the use of [the] heirs males of [the] body of the same John Clopton lawfully begotten;

And for default of such issue to remain to the heirs males of the body of me, the same William Clopton, knight, lawfully begotten;

Also I will that the same Dame Thomasine, my wife, shall have my manor of Newinham Hall in Ashedon with th' appurtenances in the county of Essex for the term of her life

according to such writing as tofore thereof his [=sic for 'is?'] unto her and after to her use made;

And after her decease I will the said manor of Newenham Hall with th' appurtenances remain unto the same John Clopton, my son, for term of his life;

And after his decease to the heirs males of the body of the same John Clopton lawfully begotten;

And for fault of such issue to remain to the heirs males of the body of me, the same William Clopton, knight, lawfully begotten;

Also I will that my feoffees of and in my manor of Henstead with [the] appurtenances and the advowson of the church of the said manor of Henstead shall stand and be seised and enfeoffed of the yearly revenues and profits of the same manors [sic for 'manor?'] of 20 marks by year and the said advowson to th' use of the same Dame Thomasine, my wife, during her natural life;

And of all the residue of [the] issues and profits of the same manor during my said wife's life, and also of the said 20 marks by year after her decease, I will that my said feoffees of the same manor of Henstead with [the] appurtenance[s] and their heirs shall stand seised and enfeoffed thereof to th' use of my executors unto such time as my executors have received of th' issues, revenues and profits of the same manor of Henstead the sum of two hundred pounds of lawful money of England to dispose for me in deeds of charity for the weal of my soul and all Christian souls;

And after the decease of my said wife, and also after the receipt of the same sum of two hundred pounds to be received of the revenues, issues and profits of the same manor of Henstead, item [sic for 'then?'] I will that my said feoffees and their heirs shall [-be] stand seised and disposed of and in the same to th' use of the same John Clopton for the term of his life;

And after his decease to th' use of the heirs males of the body of the same John Clopton lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue to remain to the heirs males of the body of me, the same William Clopton, knight, lawfull[y] begotten;

And whereas I have enfeoffed Richard Clopton, my son, Sir Roger Townshend, knight, Robert Crow, esquire, and other of and in a tenement with th' appurtenance[s] set and lying in Chipley in the county of Suffolk, sometime Malbornes, to th' use of this same Richard Clopton, my son, and also Sir William Bretoner of Henstead be enfeoffed of the manor of Chipley with th' appurtenances, and [at] my commandment, request and desire have made an estate of this same manor of Chipley with th' appurtenances unto the same Richard, my son, Sir Roger Townshend, knight, Robert Crow and other to th' use of the said Richard, my son, during the natural life of this same Richard, my son, I will that he

and his assigns during his said natural life shall have this same manor of Chipley with th' appurtenances as [sic for 'and'?] this same tenement with th' appurtenance[s], sometime Milburne;

And after the decease of this same Richard, my son, I will that the feoffees of and in this same stond [sic for 'and'?] their heirs shall be and stand seised and dispose[d](?) to th' use of this same John Clopton, my son, during his natural life;

And after his decease to th' use of his [sic for 'the'?] heirs males of the body of the said John Clopton lawfully begotten;

And for default of such issue to the heirs males of the body of me, this [sic for 'the'?] same William Clopton, knight, lawfully begotten;

And where also I have a lease of the monastery of Saint Edmundsbury of and in certain lands, meadows, pastures, woods and tithes in the town of Melford as it appeareth by an indenture thereof made under the convent seal for term of 80 years, I will that this said same Dame Thomasine, my wife, Francis Clopton and Richard Clopton, my sons, their executors and assigns, shall have of [sic for 'for'?] term of 20 years next ensuing after my death, parcel of the said 80 years, of all the said lands, meadows, woods and tithes with pastures, paying yearly the rent and farm reserved upon this same lease of 80 years at such days as be limited and [appointed?] in the same lease, and also keeping an obit for me and all Christian souls in Melford church in such form as I accustomedly use to keep for the soul of John Clopton, my father;

Saving I will that the said Richard Clopton, my son, shall have all the tithes, being parcel of the said lease, coming and renewing of all such lands and meadows as lieth on the firsyde [=far side?] of the highway that leadeth from Melford to Bury Saint Edmund from the tenement in Melford called Buchers unto the untermost [sic for 'uttermost'?] part of Melford that the same lease will bear and sue [sic?] during all such years yet to come of the said lease of 80 years, and he to pay yearly for the same during the term of all such years as be yet to come of the said lease of 80 years 33s 4d, parcel of the rent and farm reserved upon the same lease of 80 years, [-as] at such days as be limited in the said lease;

And after the said term of 20 years so expire, I will that my said son, John Clopton, shall have the residue of all the years then being to come of the said lease of 80 years except and reserved unto the same Richard Clopton, my son, and his executors all such tithes as I have before given and assigned unto him, the same John Clopton, my son, paying yearly such rent and farm reserved upon the same lease of 80 years at such days as be limited in the same, and also keeping my obit in such manner and form as I have assigned the same Dame Thomasine Clopton, my wife;

And I will if the said John Clopton chance to die any time before th' end of the said term of 80 years, then I will the said residue of the said term after the said 20 years so given to my said wife, Francis and Richard, my sons, be expire, shall be to the next heirs males

of the body of the said John Clopton, my son, reserving unto the said Richard, my son, his executors or assigns, all such tithes as I have before given and assigned unto him, the heirs males of the said John Clopton, my son, paying for his part 5 pounds of lawful money of England by year at such days as be limited in the same lease, and the same Richard Clopton, my son, his executors and assigns, to pay yearly and by the year 33s 4d, being the residue of the rent reserved upon the said lease;

Item, I give to Richard, my son, and his heirs all my copyhold lands, meadows and pastures in Melford with th' appurtenances belonging to my tenantry;

I will that John Cordell, my servant, and Emme, his wife, shall have the tenement with the ground called the Saffron pane(?) and other th' appurtenance[s] which Robert Heudson dwelleth in, to them and their heirs according to the copy of court roll unto them thereof made;

Provideth [sic for 'provided'?] always that if the same John Clopton, my son, William Clopton, son of the same John Clopton, or any other person or persons for them or in their name or names of any of them or be [=by] their procurement, consent, stering(?) or abetting will interrupt, vere ['sic for 'vex'?] trouble, disturb or let the same Dame Thomasine, my wife, Francis Clopton and Richard Clopton, my sons, or any of them to [-have] peaceable [=peaceably] levy, perceive and enjoy and take all the issues and profits of the premises or any part or parcel thereof to them and every of them before given and assigned, or doth interrupt or let my said will to be performed in any point or condition in manner and form as is before written and declared, or that the same John Clopton, or William, his son, or any other be [=by] their names doth interrupt or take any of my goods, chattels or other things other than be [=by] my testament made concerning my movable goods be given and bequeathed be [=by] my said testament unto the same John Clopton, my son, then I will that my feoffees of and in my manor of Henstead with [the] appurtenance[s] and the advowson of the same church of Henstead shall be and stand [-and] seised and enfeoffed thereof to th' use of the same Dame Thomasine, my wife, during her natural life;

And after her decease to th' use of Francis and Richard Clopton, my sons, and to th' use of every of them to sell, and the money thereof coming of the same sale I will shall be disposed by the same Francis and Richard, my sons, in deeds of charity for the weal of my soul and all Christian souls by their discretions, and the same John Clopton, my son, and his heirs thereof to be utterly excluded;

And then I will that the tenements with all and singular th' appurtenances set and being in Chipley and Poslingford, sometime Milburnes, before by me given and assigned unto Richard Clopton, my son, for term of his life, the feoffees of and in the same I will that they shall stand and be seised and enfeoffed therein to th' use of the same Richard Clopton, my son, and of his heirs forever;

And also that all the residue of all the years, after the said term of 20 years so given to my said wife, Francis Clopton and Richard Clopton, my sons, be expired, that then all the

same residue of the said years and term of the same lease shall be to th' use of the same Francis and Richard, my sons, their executors or assigns, and the same John Clopton and his heirs males in manner and form beforesaid given to be thereof clearly excluded and to have no part nor parcel thereof, nor yet of no movable goods given by my testament unto the same John Clopton, my son, but the same to be at the disposition of my executors, whom I ordain and make the same Dame Thomasine, my wife, Francis Clopton, Richard Clopton and Sir William Breytner.

These witness: Thomas Palmer, clerk, William Peyrson, clerk, Edward Tyrrell, clerk, William Munson, John Cordell, John Marshall, John Clarke, Edward Watson, Roger Hardy, and other.