

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 1 April 1600 and proved 7 July 1604, of Brian Annesley, father of Cordell Annesley. The assumption that his daughter's Christian name was 'Cordelia', or that her family situation influenced Shakespeare's *King Lear*, appears to be unfounded. Throughout the PCC copy of the testator's will below, her Christian name is spelled 'Cordell', and in a letter to Sir Robert Cecil dated 23 October 1603 (see CP 187/119), she signs herself 'Cordell Annesley'. Moreover her uncle, Richard Tyrrell (d.1566) appointed Sir William Cordell (d.1581), Master of the Rolls, as executor of his will. It thus seems the Christian name of the testator's daughter was associated with Sir William Cordell. Three nieces of Sir William Cordell (d.1581) were christened Cordell as a compliment to his family surname – Cordell Bowes, Cordell Dethick, and Cordell Alington. See the wills of Sir William Cordell, TNA PROB 11/63/590, and his wife, Mary Clopton Cordell (d.1585), TNA PROB 11/68/545. The testator was one of the defenders against Oxford in a tournament at Westminster on 1-3 May 1571. See Segar, William, *The Book of Honor and Armes* (New York: Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, 1975) pp. 94-6.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testator's family background, see Ireland, W.H., *A New and Complete History of Kent*, Vol. IV, (London: G. Virtue, 1830), pp. 688-9 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=NQ0HAAAQAAJ&pg=PA688>

The liberty of Kidbrooke, usually so called, lies adjoining to Charlton . . .

Queen Elizabeth granted a lease of the site of the manor, the rectory, and parcel of the manor woods . . . to Bryan Annesley, of the adjoining parish of Lee, grandson of Bryan, who was the second son of William Annesley, esq., of Rodington in Nottinghamshire, ancestor to the earls of Anglesea and viscount Valentia, by Robert Annesley, his fourth son, a younger brother of Bryan, last mentioned. But the fee of this estate remained in the crown till James I. granted it to Sir William Garway, of London, by whom it was soon afterwards conveyed to his son-in-law, Edward Blount, esq. of Wricksmarsh, who sold the fee simple (the above lease still subsisting,) to Bryan Annesley, esq. He left three daughters his coheirs; Christian, married to William lord Sandys, of the Vine, Southampton; Grace, to Sir John Wildgoose, of Iridge court, in Sussex; and Cordelia, to Sir William Hervey, who conveyed this estate to her husband as part of her inheritance.

Sir William Hervey, of Kidbrooke, . . . married first, Mary, relict of Henry Wriothesley, earl of Southampton, by whom he had no issue; secondly, Cordelia, daughter and heir of Bryan Annesley, esq., as before mentioned, by whom he had three sons, who died before him, all without issue, and three daughters, of whom only Elizabeth survived him . . .

The testator was the son of Brian Annesley (d.1536) by his wife, Anne, an illegitimate daughter of Henry Polsted (d. 10 December 1555). See the will of Brian Annesley (d.1536), TNA PROB 11/25/514.

Lands were left to the testator's mother, Anne, and to two other women, Elizabeth, the wife of John Hemingway, and Julyan Both, widow, and their children, in the will of Henry Polsted without any mention of a family relationship between Henry Polsted and the three women, or any indication as to why the lands in question were being left to them and their children. The History of Parliament entry for Henry Polsted states that he had at least one illegitimate child, and on 23 September 2017 the author of this website put forward the hypothesis that Anne and the other two women, Elizabeth and Julyan, who were left lands in Henry Polsted's will were his three illegitimate daughters. See his will, dated 1 August 1555 and proved 16 May 1556, TNA PROB 11/38/39:

Item, I will & devise that if it happen at any time me, the said Henry Polsted, to be deceased without issue of my body lawfully begotten, that then all my lands, tenements, woods, meads and pastures commonly called Kingsfield and Hobbis and Southland in the parish of Ridgewick in the county of Sussex with the close there of Okewood land, and all that my parcel of land and wood in Billingshurst in the same county, sometime obit land, and all my messuages, lands, woods, mead, pastures, rents, reversions and services as well called Okewood lands in the county of Surrey, sometime parcel of the free chapel of Okewood, and all other my lands and tenements in the parishes of Wotton, Okeley and Abinger in the county of Surrey and in Ridgewick in the county of Sussex, and all [f. 34r] that my coppice wood commonly called Tillinges Hokey in the parish of Shere aforesaid, and all that my messuage with appurtenances in Lombard Street within the county of London, all which I do extend by estimation to the yearly value of £20 6s 8d or thereabouts, shall wholly remain to Anne, the wife of Robert Clerke, gentleman, for term of her life (only my wife's interest appointed by this my will in any part thereof only excepted), the remainder thereof to Bryan Annesley, her son, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and for lack of such issue the remainder thereof to Nicholas Annesley, his brother, and to th' heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and for lack of such issue the remainder thereof to Henry Berde and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and for lack of such issue, the remainder thereof to the same Anne forever.

The lands in the parish of Ridgewick left to the testator's mother, Anne, in the foregoing clause are bequeathed by the testator to his daughter, Cordell, in the will below, lending further support to the hypothesis that Anne was an illegitimate daughter of Henry Polsted.

It appears from the foregoing clause that after the death of her first husband, Brian Annesley (d.1536), the testator's mother, Anne, remarried, her second husband being Robert Clerke, gentleman.

For Henry Polsted, whose will states that he was a cousin of Sir William More (d.1600) of Loseley, and whose son, Richard Polsted (24 June 1545 – 31 March 1576), married Sir William More's daughter, Elizabeth More, see also the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/polsted-henry-1510-55>

For the testator's brother, Nicholas Annesley (1535-1593), Sergeant of the Cellar to Queen Elizabeth for 33 years, see Brayley, Edward Wedlake, *The Beauties of England and Wales*, Vol. VIII, (London: Thomas Maiden, 1808), p. 1361 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=wYtCAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA1361>

Nicholas Annesley is said to have entered the Queen's service at the age of 25, and died in 1593 at the age of 58. See Urban, Sylvanus, *The Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. 112, (London: Nichols, Son and Bentley, 1812), p. 106 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=6rHPAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA106>

See also certificates from 1572 to 1590 showing Nicholas Annesley as resident in the royal household, including TNA E 115/8/184 (1572); TNA E 115/3/144 (1585); TNA E 115/2/38 (1588); and TNA E 115/12/116 (1590).

See also mention of Nicholas Annesley and the testator in East Sussex Record Office DUN 48/2, a document dated 14 October 1587 concerning the marriage of Grace Annesley to John Wildgoose.

Both the testator and Nicholas Annesley are mentioned in the will of Henry Polsted's widow, Alice Polstead, TNA PROB 11/74/529.

For Henry Berde, see Hewardine, Anita, *The Yeomen of the Guard and the Early Tudors*, (London: I.B. Tauris & Co. Ltd., 2012), p. 153 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=kSeEw68die8C&pg=PA153>

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

According to the testator's monument, the testator married Audrey Tyrrell (d. 25 November 1591), only daughter of Robert Tyrrell of Burbrooke [=Birdbrooke?], Essex. She was the sister of Richard Tyrrell (d.1566), for whose will, in which he mentions his sister, Audrey Tyrrell, her first husband, Ambrose Wolley, and her second husband, Brian Annesley, see TNA PROB 11/48/637:

I will that whereas my brother-in-law, Brian Annesley, doth owe unto me the sum of fourscore pounds of lawful money now due to be paid, that the said Brian shall keep in his own custody the said sum of fourscore pounds as my gift without any suit or action to be had or commenced for the same by mine executors or the executors of mine executors against the said Brian, his heirs, executors or administrators, to the intent that the said Brian, his executors or administrators, shall pay and deliver unto Brian, his son, at his

accomplishment of twenty and one years, the sum of forty pounds, parcel of the said sum of fourscore pounds, and to pay to Grace, his daughter, other forty pounds, the residue of the said sum of fourscore pounds, at what time she shall be married, and not before;

Also I further will that whereas it is agreed between my said brother-in-law, Brian Annesley, and Audrey, his wife, my sister, and me, that in consideration they shall deliver into the hands of mine executors one deed of grant of annuity to be cancelled which she hath for term of her life of fifty pounds by the year, made and assured unto her by her late husband, Ambrose Willie [=Wolley?] in the name of her dowry issuing and going out of all the lands and tenements of the said Ambrose within the county of York, as by the same deed appeareth, in consideration whereof I do will, give and bequeath unto the said Brian and Audrey during the life of the said Audrey forty pounds by the year of good and lawful money of England issuing and going out of my manor of Backenho within the county of Bedford

See also the will of Ambrose Wolley, citizen and grocer of London, dated 18 July 1557 and proved 31 March 1559, TNA PROB 11/42A/52B.

By Audrey Tyrrell, the testator had a son and three daughters:

* **Brian Annesley**, who predeceased his father.

* **Grace Annesley**, who married Sir John Wildgoose.

* **Christian Annesley**, who married, as his second wife, William Sandys (d.1623), 3rd Baron Sandys of The Vyne. William Sandys married firstly Katherine Brydges (d.1596), daughter of Edmund Brydges (d. 11 September 1573), 2nd Baron Chandos (for whom see the *ODNB* entry). For Katherine Brydges, see Emerson:

<http://www.kateemersonhistoricals.com/TudorWomenBrooke-Bu.htm>

KATHERINE BRYDGES (1554-1596)

Katherine Brydges was the daughter of Edmund Brydges, 2nd baron Chandos (d. September 11, 1573) and Dorothy Bray (c.1524-October 31,1605). She went to court with her sister Eleanor to be maids of honor to Queen Elizabeth. She was considered the most beautiful of that group and a poem by George Gascoigne (d.1577), "In Prayse of Bridges," called her the damsel at court who "doth most excell" and praised "her sweet face." In 1573 she married William Sandys, 3rd baron Sandys of the Vyne (c.1545-September 29, 1623). They had a daughter, Elizabeth (d. between April 5, 1644 and 1649).

William Sandys (d.1623) married secondly the testator's daughter, Christian Annesley, and is said to have married thirdly, Anne Baker who had been twice widowed. See Palmer, Alan and Veronica Palmer, *Who's Who In Shakespeare's England*, (New York: St Martin's Press, 1999), pp. 215-16 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=6BK1Vu6pw84C&pg=PA215>

Both Lord William Sandys (d.1623) and his brother, Thomas Sandys, are mentioned in the will of Oxford's brother-in-law, Edward Windsor, 3rd Baron Windsor, TNA PROB 11/57/332.

For William Sandys (d.1623), see also the will of Thomas Wriothesley (1500-1550), 1st Earl of Southampton, TNA PROB 11/34/154, and the Sandys pedigree in Banks, T.C., *The Dormant and Extinct Baronage of England*, Vol. II, (London: T. Bensley, 1808), pp. 457, 459 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=8TUvAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA459>

Lord William Sandys (d.1623) took part in the Essex Rebellion in 1601, for which he was fined £5000, and his manor of The Vyne was seized. For the 'Confession of Lord William Sandys', see Montagu, Basil, *The Works of Francis Bacon, Lord Chancellor of England: A New Edition*, Vol. VI, (London: William Pickering, 1826), p. 388 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=uV8cZjVNRR8C&pg=PA388>

See also documents concerning the lands of Lord William Sandys (d.1623) in Green, Mary Anne Everett, ed., *Calendar of State Papers Domestic Series, Elizabeth, 1598-1601*, (London: Longmans, Green, and Co., 1869), p. 144:

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

* **Cordell Annesley**, who married Sir William Hervey (see below).

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

For the testator's overseer, Sir William Hervey (d.1642), later Baron Hervey of Kidbrooke, see the will of his first wife, Mary Browne (d.1607), Countess of Southampton, TNA PROB 11/110/388. Shortly after the death of Mary Browne, Sir William Hervey married, on 5 February 1608, the testator's daughter, Cordell Annesley. See the 'Hervey Family Tree', which can be downloaded online at:

www.ickworthchurch.org.uk/file/67/download?token=p65qvisF

For the testator's overseer, Thomas Fanshawe (c.1533-1601), see the *ODNB* entry.

For Sir John Wolley (d.1596), see his will, TNA PROB 11/87/198, and the *ODNB* entry.

For Elizabeth More, daughter of Sir William More (d.1600) of Loseley, whose godmother at her christening on 1 May 1552 was Alice Polsted, and who married firstly, on 3 November 1567, Richard Polsted (1545-1576), the only son of Henry Polsted

(d.1555) and Alice Polsted; secondly Sir John Wolley, later Oxford's trustee (see TNA C 54/1393, mm. 22-3); and thirdly, Thomas Egerton (1540-1617), Lord Chancellor, see also McCutcheon, Elizabeth, 'Playing the Waiting Game: The Life and Letters of Elizabeth Wolley', *Quidditas*, Vol. 20, 1999, pp. 31-54, available online.

TESTATOR'S LANDS

For the testator's lands, see East Sussex Record Office DUN 49/14, a copy, dated 17 November 1604, of the inquisition post mortem taken after the testator's death, which recites his will, and appears to indicate that his second daughter, Christian Annesley Sandys, predeceased him:

<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/58509603-4078-43f9-a4dc-33d227e39277>

For fines concerning the testator's manor of Withdean Kayliffe, and messuages of Forest Place and Brockley farmhouse, see Dunkin, Edwin H., ed., *Sussex Manors, Advowsons, Etc. Recorded in the Feet of Fines*, Vol. I, (Sussex Record Society, 1914), pp. 250-1 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/sussexmanorsadvo00dunkuoft#page/250/mode/2up>

For the testator's manor of Withdean Kayliffe, see also:

'Parishes: Patcham', in *A History of the County of Sussex: Volume 7, the Rape of Lewes*, ed. L F Salzman (London, 1940), pp. 216-220. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/sussex/vol7/pp216-220> [accessed 24 September 2017].

For the testator's manor of Catford, see:

Daniel Lysons, 'Lewisham', in *The Environs of London: Volume 4, Counties of Herts, Essex and Kent* (London, 1796), pp. 514-536. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/london-environs/vol4/pp514-536> [accessed 24 September 2017].

For the testator's manor of Hall Place, which had earlier been granted by Henry VIII to Henry Polsted (d.1555) and Sir William More (d.1600) of Loseley, see:

'Parishes: Thorpe', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1911), pp. 437-440. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol3/pp437-440> [accessed 24 September 2017].

For Wricklemarsh, see:

<http://www.ideal-homes.org.uk/greenwich/assets/historic-maps/blackheath-park/1746>

For Darent, see Hasted, Edward, *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent*, Vol. II, (Canterbury: W. Bristow, 1797), p. 382 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9S0tAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA382>

For the testator's monument, see Heath, Charles, *Monmouthshire: Historical And Descriptive Accounts Of The Ancient and Present State of Tintern Abbey*, (Monmouth, 1806), pp. 7, 15:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=ydplX3_4zP8C&pg=RA4-PA7

Here lieth buried the bodies of Brian Annesley, esquire, late of Lee in the county of Kent, and Audrey, his wife, the only daughter of Robert Tyrrell of Burbrooke [=Birdbrooke?] in the county of Essex, esquire. He had issue by her one son and three daughters: Bryan, who died without issue; Grace, married to Sir John Wildgoose, knight; Christian, married to the Lord Sandys; and Cordell, married to Sir William Hervey, knight. The said Brian, the father, died on the 10th day of July 1604. He served Queen Elizabeth as one of the band of Gentlemen Pensioners to her Majesty the space of 30 years. The said Audrey died on the 25th of November 1591. Cordell, the youngest daughter, at her own proper cost and charges, in further testimony of her dutiful love unto her father and mother, caused this monument to be erected for the perpetual memory of their name against the ingrateful nature of oblivious time.

Nec primus, nec ultimus, multi ante cesserunt, et omnes sequentur

It should be noted that according to the PCC copy, the testator's will was proved 7 July 1604, which contradicts the date of death given on his monument, 10 July 1604.

RM: T{estamentum} Briani Annesley

[f. 152r] In the name of God, Amen. The first day of April Anno Domini one thousand six hundred and in the two and forty year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen etc., I, Brian Annesley of Lee near Lewisham in the county of Kent, esquire, being in perfect health and of sound memory (I humbly thank Almighty God) do advisedly and upon good consideration me moving make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following, revoking and annulling all other wills heretofore by me made, written or spoken:

First I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, and my body to be buried in the chancel of the parish church of Lee aforesaid near unto my wife there buried;

The costs and charges to be bestowed thereabout I leave to the good discretion of my executrix, but do desire the same may not exceed the value of fourscore pounds or thereabout;

And as touching the gift and devise of all my lands and hereditaments whatsoever, I have none to my knowledge wherein I have any estate that are holden any way of her Majesty to draw unto her Highness wardship, marriage or primer seisin, but that I may give and bequeath all my said lands and hereditaments by this my last will and testament at my will and pleasure;

And therefore by the grace and permission of Almighty God, I do first give and bequeath unto Grace, my eldest daughter, now wife to John Wildgoose, esquire, all that my manor of Keylyfe alias Weyden Keylyfe [=Withdean Kayliffe], and all my lands, tenements and hereditaments thereunto belonging or accepted or reputed as part, parcel or member thereof lying and being near and upon the South Downs within the county of Sussex and near the town of Lewes, to have and to hold unto her, the said Grace, and to her heirs forever;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my second daughter, the Lady Christian Sandys, now wife to the right honourable William, Lord Sandys, all that my manor and great messuage and farm sometime called Forest Place and now called Brockley farmhouse with th' appurtenances situate, lying and being within the hamlet of Brockley in the parish of Lewisham in the said county of Kent, and all other messuages, tofts, gardens, orchards, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, feedings, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services and hereditaments with all and singular their appurtenances thereunto belonging situate, lying and being in the said hamlet of Brockley within the said parish of Lewisham, to have and to hold unto her, the said Lady Christian Sandys and to her heirs forever;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Cordell Annesley, my third & youngest daughter, all those my lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, feedings, woods and underwoods, commons, rents, services, commodities and hereditaments with th' appurtenances commonly called or known by names of Kingesfoulde alias Kingsfield, Hobbes and Southlands in the parish of Ridgeweeke [=Ridgewick] within the county of Sussex, with one close in Ridgewick aforesaid, parcel of the lands called Okewood lands, and all and singular my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Ridgewick aforesaid, with all and singular their rights, members and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining;

And also all those lands, tenements and hereditaments called Etherley sometime in the several tenures and occupations of John Nye and Emerie Dawlton, and now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Foster or his assigns;

And all other my lands, tenements and hereditaments situate, lying and being in the parishes of Wotton, Okeley and Abinger alias Abingworth in the said county of Surrey;

And also all that my lands called Byrkeley farm, and all messuages, houses, barns, stables, edifices, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services, customs, profits, commodities and hereditaments with th' appurtenances to the same belonging [f. 152v] or in any wise [-in] appertaining, situate, lying and being in the parishes of Shalford and Dunsfold or elsewhere within the said county of Surrey, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Steven Tycknor or his assigns, and also all that my lands commonly called Lyethe Farm, and all messuages, houses, barns, stables, edifices, orchards and gardens with th' appurtenances, and all the lands, meadows, pastures, feedings, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services, customs, profits, commodities and hereditaments with th' appurtenances to the same belonging or in any wise appertaining, situate, lying and being in Shalford and Dunsfold aforesaid or elsewhere within the said county of Surrey now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Henry Weston, gentleman, or his assigns, and one yearly rent of five shillings belonging to the said farm, and all the quitrent or rent-service of twenty pence yearly going out and other services and duties of and for a tenement in Shalford aforesaid within the said county of Surrey called Henry Gynnes alias Gynnes, to have and to hold all and singular the before-mentioned premises bequeathed unto the said Cordell Annesley unto her, the said Cordell, and to her heirs forever;

Item, I further give and bequeath unto my said daughter, Cordell, all that my house and lands with th' appurtenances which I lately bought of Gerrard Goore [=Gore?], citizen and Merchant-Taylor of London, and of Thomas Goore, his brother, citizen and Grocer of London, lying and being in the parish of Lewisham in the said county of Kent, with all and singular profits, commodities and advantages thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining, to have and to hold unto her, the said Cordell Annesley, and to her heirs forever;

Also I do further give and bequeath to my said daughter, Cordell, all that my house with a garden and orchard thereunto belonging, lying and being within the said parish of Lewisham in the said county which I bought of Nicholas Mackerell of Sundridge within the said county, to have and to hold unto her, the said Cordell, and to her heirs forever;

Also I do further give and bequeath to my said daughter, Cordell, all that my house and lands with th' appurtenances lying and being within the hamlet of Wriclemarsh within the parish of Charlton in the said county of Kent, to have and to hold unto her, the said Cordell, and to her heirs forever;

And whereas I purchased of my cousin, Francis Polsted, deceased, the reversion of the manor of Catford in Lewisham aforesaid within the said county of Kent and divers messuages, lands, tenements, woods and hereditaments within the said parish of Lewisham and the parishes of Lee and Deptford within the said county of Kent, and the reversion of the manor of Hall Place within the county of Surrey, and divers messuages, lands and tenements, pastures, feedings, waters, commons and hereditaments in the parishes of Thorpe, Chertsey and Egham within the said county of Surrey;

And where also by further assurance I bought again the moiety and one half of all the last-recited premises of Edward Randall, esquire, and of my said cousin, Francis Polsted, as by good conveyances of the same may appear, the moiety and one half of all the which recited premises I after bargained and sold to Sir John Wolley, knight, by the name of John Wolley, esquire, and to Elizabeth, then his wife etc., who then held the same during the life of the said Elizabeth, sometime wife of Richard Polsted, esquire, deceased, and lately the wife of Sir (blank) [=Thomas] Egerton, knight, Lord Keeper of [-of] the Great Seal of England, which Elizabeth died before the making of this my last will and testament, by whose death the said moiety and half part of the last-recited premises came and fell unto me, the said Brian Annesley, in possession, as of right they ought to do, I do now hereby give and bequeath unto my said daughter, Cordell Annesley, all my interest, estate, right and title of, in and to all the said manor of Catford with all and singular the said messuages, lands, tenements, pastures, feedings, woods, underwoods, waters, commons and hereditaments within the said parishes of Lewisham, Lee and Deptford within the said county of Kent, and all my interest estate, right, title and possibility of, in and to all the said manor of Hall Place within the said county of Surrey, and of, in and to all messuages, lands, tenements, pastures, feedings, woods, underwoods, waters, commons and hereditaments within the said parishes of Thorpe, Chertsey and Egham within the said county of Surrey, to have and to hold unto her, the said Cordell Annesley, and to her heirs forever;

Item, I further give and bequeath unto my said daughter, Cordell, all my interest, estates and [f. 153r] terms for years yet to come in the site and demesnes of the manor of Kidbrooke in the said county of Kent, and all my interest and term of years yet to come in the parsonage of Kidbrooke aforesaid, and all my right, interest and term of years yet to come in all the coppice woods there belonging to the said manor of Kidbrooke;

And also I give and bequeath unto my said daughter, Cordell, all my interest and term for years yet to come in the site and demesnes of the manor of Lee in the said county of Kent, and all my interest in the coppice woods growing in and upon the said manor of Lee;

Item, I further give and bequeath unto my said daughter, Cordell, all my interest and term of years yet to come in the manor and parsonage of Darninth(?) alias Darninthe(?) alias Darenthe [=Darent] within the county of Kent, parcel of the lands and possessions belonging to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary of Rochester;

Item, I do further give and bequeath unto my said daughter, Cordell, all my interest, estate and term of years yet to come in a coppice wood called Pryors Slippe alias Fryers Slippe adjoining to my great coppice wood, parcel of my said manor of Forest Place or Brockley farmhouse, and all other the parcels of lands to me letten by the same lease;

Also I do further give and bequeath unto my said daughter, Cordell, all my estate, interest and term of years yet to come in a grant made unto me under the Great Seal of England by my most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, in recompense of my long

service, in which there are yet to come divers years, for the only bringing in of all manner of steel from the parts beyond the seas, by virtue of which grant I have out thereof granted divers years yet to come to Peter Flucke of Cullyn, merchant, and Thomas Browne of Chiddingstone in the said county of Kent, ironmaster, and their assigns by lease, and reserved for the same a yearly rent, the one half of which yearly rent I do give and bequeath unto my said daughter, Grace Wildgoose, during the continuance of my said grant and no longer, if she shall so long live, and not otherwise, to be paid at the feast of the Annunciation of Our Blessed Lady the Virgin St Mary, and at the feast of St Michael by even portions, to begin at which of the said feasts shall first happen after my death;

Item, I do further give unto my said daughter, Grace Wildgoose, my plain chain of gold made of small links containing (blank) ounces which she now hath by my delivery in her keeping;

Also I do further give and bequeath unto my said daughter, Grace Wildgoose, all the yearly rent her husband oweth me after six shillings and eight pence for every year by the year due to me for the rent of the house and part of the lands belonging to the manor of Lee wherein he now dwelleth, and all my plate, beds and other implements of household which I lent her husband at the time they first came to dwell in the said farm of Lee;

And as touching the rest of all my plate, money, goods and other movables already not bequeathed, and all my horses, geldings and other cattles of what kind soever they be, I give and bequeath them unto my said daughter, Cordell Annesley, whom I nominate and appoint my only executrix of this my last will and testament;

And do also nominate and appoint my assured good friends, Sir William Hervey, knight, Thomas Fanshawe, esquire, Remembrancer of her Majesty's Court of Exchequer, and William Towes of the Inner Temple, esquire, overseers of his my last will and testament, earnestly requesting them to be aiding and assisting unto my said executrix in the due execution of this my last will and treatment, and for their pains to be taken therein I give and bequeath to either of them five pounds in gold apiece, to be delivered unto them presently after my decease;

In witness hereof I have written & published this my last will with my own hand and subscribed my name to every leaf, and to this last part have put to my hand and seal the day and year first above-written in the presence of William Towse. Brian Annesley.

Probatum fuit Testamentu{m} sup{ra}scriptu{um} apud London coram mag{ist}ro Thoma Edward{es} legum D{o}c{t}ore Surrogato ven{erabi}lis viri d{omi}ni Iohannis Benett militis legu{m} etiam D{o}c{t}oris Curie Prerogative Cantuarien{sis} mag{ist}ro Custodis sive Com{m}issarij l{egi}time constituti Septimo die Mens{is} Iulij Anno D{omi}ni millesimo sexcentesimo quarto Iuramento Iohannis Price Notarij publici Procuratoris Cordelie Annesley filie n{atu}ralis et l{egi}time D{i}c{t}i defunct{i} et

Executricis in huiusmodi testamento nominate Cui commissa fuit administratio omnium et singulorum Bonorum Iurium et Creditorum eiusdem defuncti De bene et fideliter administrandis eadem Ad sancta Dei evangelia iuratur

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before Master Thomas Edwards, Doctor of the Laws, Surrogate of the worshipful Sir John Bennet, also Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the seventh day of the month of July in the year of the Lord the thousand six hundred fourth by the oath of John Price, notary public, proctor of Cordell Annesley, natural and legitimate daughter of the said deceased and executrix named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the same deceased, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same.]