

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 26 March 1604 and proved 6 February 1605, of Sir Thomas Cornwallis (1518/19 – 24 December 1604) of Brome, whose eldest son and heir purchased Oxford's interest in the mansion of Fisher's Folly.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the Cornwallis pedigree, see *The Private Correspondence of Jane Lady Cornwallis, 1613-1644*, (London: S. & J. Bentley, 1842), p. xxxii at:

<https://archive.org/stream/privatecorrespon00baco#page/n41/mode/2up>

The testator was the eldest son of Sir John Cornwallis (c.1491 - 23 April 1544), Steward of the Household of Prince Edward from 1538 to 1544, and Mary Sulyard, the daughter of Edward Sulyard (d.1516) of London and Otes in High Laver, Essex, by his second wife, Anne Norris (d.1531), the daughter of John Norris, of Bray, Lancashire. For the will of Sir John Cornwallis, see TNA PROB 11/30/155.

The testator was a first cousin of Thomas Cornwallis (d. 13 May 1597), esquire, of East Horsley, Surrey, Gentleman Pensioner and Groom Porter to Queen Elizabeth, who married Katherine Wriothesley (d. 16 August 1626), aunt of Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton. For her will, see TNA PROB 11/150/418. For the will of Thomas Cornwallis (d. 13 May 1597), see TNA PROB 11/89/570.

For other members of the testator's family, see Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 616, and the will of Sir John Cornwallis, *supra*.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The testator married Anne Jerningham (buried at Brome 28 May 1581), the daughter of Sir John Jerningham (d.1558?) of Somerleyton, Suffolk, by Bridget Drury, the daughter of Sir Robert Drury (d.1535), chief steward to John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford, and his first wife, Anne Calthorpe. For the will of Sir Robert Drury, see TNA PROB 11/25/467.

By Anne Jerningham, the testator had three sons and three daughters:

* **Sir William Cornwallis** (c.1549 - 13 November 1611), who married firstly Lucy Neville (c.1549-1608). The testator bequeathed a gilt pot to his daughter-in-law, Lucy Neville:

Item, I give and bequeath to Dame Lucy Cornwallis, my daughter-in-law, one of the daughters and heirs of the Lord Latimer, wife to my son, Sir William Cornwallis, knight, a pot all gilt with a fast cover and fair pounced all over.

Lucy Neville's father, John Neville (d.1577), 4th Baron Latimer, was the son of John Neville (1493-1543), 3rd Baron Latimer, and his first wife, Dorothy de Vere (d.1527), sister and co-heir of John de Vere (1499-1526), 14th Earl of Oxford. Lucy Neville's mother was Lucy Somerset (d.1582), the daughter of Henry Somerset (1495/6-1549), 2nd Earl of Worcester, and his second wife, Elizabeth Browne (c.1502-1565), daughter of Sir Anthony Browne (d.1506). Anthony Browne (1528-1592), 1st Viscount Montagu, grandfather of Henry Wriothesley, 3rd Earl of Southampton, was Lucy Somerset's first cousin. See references cited in the will of Lucy Somerset, TNA PROB 11/65/170.

By Lucy Neville, Sir William Cornwallis had two sons and four daughters, including:

-Anne Cornwallis (d.1635), Countess of Argyll, who has been identified as the 'Anne Cornwaleys' of the anthology known as the Cornwallis-Lysons manuscript, Folger MS V.a.89. See the *ODNB*:

[Anne Cornwallis] came to the notice of literary historians because the short anthology of sixteenth-century poetry known as the Cornwallis-Lysons manuscript, now in the Folger Library (Folger MS V.a.89), bears on its second page the signature, in a large, rather immature italic hand, 'Anne Cornwaleys her booke'. Samuel Lysons, the late eighteenth-century antiquary, was a subsequent owner. Beginning with seven verses by John Bentley, the anthology moves on to twenty-seven more poems, including some by Edward de Vere, seventeenth earl of Oxford, and one which is attributed to Shakespeare: 'When that thyne eyes hath chose the dame'.

On 30 November 1609 Anne Cornwallis married, as his second wife, Archibald Campbell (1575/6-1638), 7th Earl of Argyll, whom she converted to Catholicism in 1618. For her will, see TNA PROB 11/167/70.

Sir William Cornwallis married secondly Jane Meautys (1580/81-1659), the daughter of Hercules Meautys by Philippa Cooke, the daughter of Lady Burghley's brother, Richard Cooke (d.1579), and thus a first cousin of Oxford's wife, Anne Cecil. See the will of Hercules Meautys, TNA PROB 11/73/110, and the *ODNB* entry for Jane Meautys.

By Jane Meautys, Sir William Cornwallis had a son and heir:

-Frederick Cornwallis.

After the death of Sir William Cornwallis, Jane Meautys married secondly, Sir Nathaniel Bacon (1585-1627), by whom she had a son and two daughters. See the *ODNB* entry:

Bacon, Sir Nathaniel (1585-1627), painter, was born at Redgrave in Suffolk in August 1585, the grandson of Lord Keeper Bacon and the youngest son of Sir Nicholas Bacon (c.

1543–1624) [see under Bacon, Sir Nathaniel (1546?-1622)], subsequently the premier baronet of England, and his wife, Anne Butts (c.1547–1616). He was admitted to the Order of the Bath in February 1626 to mark Charles I's coronation. Raised at Redgrave Hall, Bacon acquired Brome Hall in Suffolk on his marriage, on 1 May 1614, to Jane, née Meautys (1580/81–1659) [see Bacon, Jane], widow of Sir William Cornwallis, and inherited Culford Hall, 4 miles north of Bury St Edmunds, from his parents.

As noted above, Sir William Cornwallis purchased Oxford's interest in the mansion of Fisher's Folly in the parish of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate. For a discussion of Oxford's interest in Fisher's Folly, see the will of Jasper Fisher, TNA PROB 11/61/541. For correspondence between the testator and Lord Burghley concerning the purchase by Sir William Cornwallis of Oxford's interest in Fisher's Folly, see CP 166/80 and CP 17/60.

For the will of the testator's eldest son and heir, Sir William Cornwallis, see TNA PROB 11/118/441. See also the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/cornwallis-sir-william-1549-1611>

* **Sir Charles Cornwallis** (c.1555 - 21 December 1629), for whom see the *ODNB* entry. Sir Charles Cornwallis married firstly Anne Fincham (buried 4 (or 29) July 1584), the daughter of Thomas Fincham (d. 30 July 1551) of Fincham, Norfolk, and widow of Richard Nicholls (d.1573/4) of Islington, Norfolk, by whom he was the father of the essayist William Cornwallis the younger (c.1579-1614), for whom see the *ODNB* entry. For Anne Fincham, see Blyth, William, *Historical Notices and Records of the Village and Parish of Fincham, in the County of Norfolk*, (King's Lynn: Thew & Son, 1863), pp. 119-20.

Sir Charles Cornwallis married secondly, in 1585, Anne Barrow (buried 30 March 1617), widow of Sir Ralph Shelton (died by 1581). She was the sister of the religious separatist, Henry Barrow (c.1550–1593), for whom see the *ODNB* entry, and the daughter of Thomas Barrow (d.1590) of Shipdham, Norfolk, and Newton Hall near Sudbury, Suffolk. For Thomas Barrow, see Copinger, W.A., *The Manors of Suffolk: The Hundreds of Babergh and Blackbourn*, (London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1905), p. 174 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/manorsofsuffolkn01copiuoft#page/174/mode/2up>

For Thomas Barrow, see also Dashwood, G.H., ed., *The Visitation of Norfolk in the Year 1563*, (Norwich: Miller and Leavins, 1878), p. 114 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=Bv1QAQAIAAJ&pg=PA114>

For Sir Ralph Shelton, see Shelton Family History' at:

<https://sheltonfamilyhistory.wordpress.com/>

Sir Charles Cornwallis married thirdly, on 29 April 1620, Dorothy Vaughan, the daughter of Richard Vaughan (c.1553–1607), Bishop of London, and widow of John Jegon, Bishop of Norwich.

For Sir Charles Cornwallis, see also the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/cornwallis-sir-charles-1555-1629>

* **John Cornwallis**, baptized at the church of St Nicholas, Oakley, Suffolk, 8 September 1547.

* **Elizabeth Cornwallis** (d. 6 June 1628), who married Sir Thomas Kitson (d. 28 January 1603) of Hengrave, Suffolk, for whom see the will of his mother, Margaret Donnington Kitson Long Bouchier, Countess of Bath, TNA PROB 11/45/55, and the will, TNA PROB 11/29/2, and *ODNB* entry for his father, Sir Thomas Kitson:

Sir Thomas Kitson (1540–1603) was born on 9 October 1540. In 1557 he married Jane, daughter of William, first Baron Paget, but she died in the following year. Thomas was thus barely twenty at the time of his second marriage, which took place at Kenninghall Palace in December 1560 under the auspices of the duchess of Norfolk. His second wife, Elizabeth Kitson, Lady Kitson (1546/7–1628), was the eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Cornwallis of Brome, and came to her marriage handsomely dowered with a portion of £600 and a training in the duchess's household which fitted her to preside over large households in Suffolk and London, where players and musicians were welcomed and splendour was tempered with elegance. The Kitsons were notable patrons of music in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, forming an excellent collection of instruments and music books, and employing first Edward Johnson and later the celebrated madrigalist John Wilbye, who acted as their resident musician in both Suffolk and London from about 1598 until Elizabeth Kitson's death. At a more mundane level, Thomas Kitson was piloted through the intricacies of county politics by his father-in-law, Sir Thomas Cornwallis, learning to hold his tongue and keep his temper, even in the face of deliberate provocation.

By Sir Thomas Kitson, Elizabeth Cornwallis had a son and two daughters:

-**John Kitson**, who lived only a few days.

-**Margaret Kitson** (1563-1582), who married Sir Charles Cavendish (1553–1617), the son of Bess of Hardwick (1527?–1608), Countess of Shrewsbury, and died in childbirth.

-**Mary Kitson** (1565/6–1644), who in 1583 married Thomas Darcy (c.1565 - 21 February 1640), 3rd Baron Darcy of Chiche, Viscount Colchester and Earl Rivers, the son of Oxford's cousin, John Darcy (d. 3 March 1581), 2nd Baron Darcy of Chiche. Mary Kitson and Thomas Darcy had an only son, Thomas Darcy, who died in the lifetime of his father, and two daughters. Their eldest daughter, Elizabeth Darcy (1581 – 9 March

1651), married, on 14 May 1602, Thomas Savage (d. 20 November 1635), 1st Viscount Savage, who on 8 October 1613 obtained a grant for life of the reversion of the barony of Chiche after the death of the 3rd Baron with remainder to his male heirs by Elizabeth Darcy. In the event, Thomas Savage predeceased the 3rd Baron, and the barony of Chiche created in 1551 thus became extinct with the death of the 3rd Baron in 1640, although the title was inherited in remainder by the son of Thomas Savage and Elizabeth Darcy, John Savage (c.1603 – 10 October 1654), Viscount Savage, Viscount Colchester, and Earl Rivers. See Cokayne, George Edward, *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. IV (London: The St Catherine Press, 1916), p. 79, Vol. XI, (London: The St Catherine Press, 1949), pp. 26-7. See also the will of John Darcy, TNA PROB 11/63/135.

The testator's son-in-law, Sir Thomas Kitson, was responsible for the secret marriage of the testator's youngest daughter, Mary Cornwallis, to William Bouchier (1557 – 12 July 1623), 3rd Earl of Bath, to Mary Cornwallis (see below). From the *ODNB*:

Kitson's efforts were not always crowned with success. In 1577 he had taken advantage of a visit from his young nephew William, fourth earl of Bath, then an undergraduate at Trinity College, Cambridge, to engineer his marriage to Mary Cornwallis, his wife's youngest sister. The marriage ceremony was performed late at night and the couple duly bedded. All seemed well until the young man returned to Cambridge and declared his delight in his new bride to his tutor. His mother was summoned to Cambridge, shut the bridegroom with her in her chamber, and, after what was evidently a scene worthy of her own mother, Margaret, dispatched him far from Hengrave. Although the marriage was judged to be valid, it appears eventually to have been set aside on grounds of disparagement, arising from Mary Cornwallis's Catholicism. Nevertheless, to her family and especially to Kitson, who acknowledged that the marriage had been of his contriving, she remained the rightful countess of Bath, receiving a handsome bequest of £300 under Sir Thomas Kitson's will and an annuity of £20 from her sister in 1626, which she was able to enjoy until her own death in 1627.

For Francis Davison's account of the marriage, see Nicolas, Nicholas Harris, *The Poetical Rhapsody*, Vol. II, (London: William Pickering, 1826), p. 387 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=YNUIAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA407>

It should be noted that sources conflict as to the date of the marriage. The *ODNB* entry states that the marriage took place in 1577, Davison's account in Nicolas, *supra*, p. 391, dates it to 15 December 1578, while in *Private Correspondence*, *supra*, p. xx, it is dated to 1579. At the time of the death of his grandfather, John Bouchier, 2nd Earl of Bath, on 10 February 1561, William Bouchier, 3rd Earl of Bath, was aged three years and eight months. See *Private Correspondence*, *supra*, p. xxi. He was thus born in June 1557, and would have been 20 years of age if the marriage took place in December 1577, 21 years of age if the marriage took place in 1578, and 22 years of age if the marriage took place in 1579.

As noted above, the marriage to was set aside, and William Bouchier, 3rd Earl of Bath, married secondly, on 7 August 1583, Elizabeth Russell (d. 24 March 1605), second daughter of Francis Russell (1526/7-1585), 2nd Earl of Bedford.

For the will of Frances Kitson, dated 1 March 1586 and proved 16 April 1586, see TNA PROB 11/69/188. For the will of John Bouchier, 2nd Earl of Bath, proved 22 April 1561, see TNA PROB 11/44/139. For the will of William Bouchier, 3rd Earl of Bath, proved 25 September 1623, see TNA PROB 11/142/325.

The testator's son-in-law, Sir Thomas Kitson was the subject of interrogatories put to Charles Arundel by the authorities in early January 1581 in connection with allegations made by Charles Arundel and Lord Henry Howard against Oxford at that time:

What papers and printings did you and the Lord Henry burn together? What did you at Sir Thomas Kitson's, and whether did you hear any Mass there, and whether did you burn any writings there?

To which Charles Arundel responded:

Other errand had we none at Sir Thomas Kitson's than to dine, and I some business with Sir Thomas Cornwallis.

See TNA SP 12/151/47, ff. 105-6 and TNA SP/151/48, ff. 107-8.

* **Alice Cornwallis** (d. 2 October 1636) baptized 23 August 1552 at St Nicholas, Oakley, who married Richard Southwell of Woodrising, Norfolk, brother of the Jesuit, Robert Southwell (1561–1595), for whom see the *ODNB* entry. By Richard Southwell, Alice Cornwallis had three sons, Sir Thomas Southwell (d. 12 June 1626), Robert Southwell and Anthony Southwell (d.1623). See the will of Sir Richard Southwell (1502/3-1564), TNA PROB 11/47/231, and Lodge, John, *The Peerage of Ireland*, Vol. VI, (Dublin: James Moore, 1789), pp. 6-7 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/peerageofireland06lodg#page/6>

* **Mary Cornwallis** (buried 17 May 1627), who, as noted above, married William Bouchier (1557 - 12 July 1623), 3rd Earl of Bath. For Mary Cornwallis, see her will, TNA PROB 11/151/729, and Cokayne, George Edward, *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. II, (London: St Catharine Press, 1912), pp. 16-18.

The testator died on 24 December 1604 at the age of 85, and was buried at Brome on 28 December.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

Ralph Sheldon, esquire, a legatee in the testator's will, was Ralph Sheldon (d.1613) of Beoley, whose daughter, Katherine Sheldon, married Oxford's brother-in-law, Francis Trentham, and whose daughter, Elizabeth Sheldon, married Sir John Russell (1552-1593), stepbrother of Thomas Russell (1570-1634) whom Shaksper of Stratford named as an overseer of his will. In addition to leaving Ralph Sheldon a ring of gold, the testator requests him to assist with the legal action to be commenced against his daughter Mary's husband, the Earl of Bath. See McGrath, Patrick and Joy Rowe, 'The Recusancy of Sir Thomas Cornwallis', p. 245, available online.

TESTATOR'S MANORS

For the testator's manor of Brome, see

<https://archive.org/stream/cu31924092579568#page/n249/mode/2up/>

On Sir Oliver Calthorpe's death, the manor [Brome Hall] passed to his son and heir, Sir William Calthorpe, who married Eleanor, daughter of Sir John Mantly, and died in 1420, when the manor descended to his son and heir, Sir John Calthorpe, who married Amy, daughter and heir of Sir John Wythe, and on his death the manor passed to his son and heir, Sir William Calthorpe, who, dying in 1494, left by Elizabeth, his first wife, daughter of Reginald, Lord Grey of Ruthyn, a son, Sir John Calthorpe, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Wentworth, of Nettlestead, and died in his father's lifetime, and on Sir William's death the manor passed to his grandson and heir, the son of Sir John, Sir Philip Calthorpe, who married 1st Mary, sister and heir of Sir William Say, and 2^{ndly} Jane, daughter of John Blenerhasset, and dying in 1535 the manor passed to his son and heir by his first wife, Sir Philip Calthorpe. He married Jane (? Amata or Amy), daughter of Sir William Boleyn, of Blickley, in Norfolk, and aunt of Queen Anne Boleyn, and died 7th April 1549, leaving an only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, married to Sir Henry Parker, K.B., son and heir of Lord Morley, who sold the manor in 1550 to Robert Hyde, from whom it passed to Sir Thomas Cornwallis, eldest son of Sir John Cornwallis.

RM: T{estamentum} D{omi}ni Thome Cornwallis

In dei nomine amen. The six and twentieth day of March in the second year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James by the grace of God King of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., and of Scotland the seven & thirtieth, Anno Domini one thousand six hundred and four, I, Sir Thomas Cornwallis of Brome in the county of Suffolk, knight, do make my last will and testament wherein I mind to dispose as well of the sepulture of my body as of all my ready money, plate, jewels, armour, movable goods, grain, cattles, chattels, implements of household and husbandry whatsoever in manner & form following:

First, I commit my soul to Almighty God and to his dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ, my Redeemer and Saviour, by whose bitter death and passion I trust to have remission and forgiveness of all my sins, and to Our Blessed Lady St Mary the Virgin, and to all the holy company of heaven;

Item, I will that my body, if I depart within one hundred miles of Brome aforesaid, shall be carried thither and be buried in the aisle of the church there which my great-grandfather made and I enlarged, and to be buried by the body of Dame Anne, my late well-beloved wife (whose soul I beseech Jesus to assoil), under the tomb made for myself & my said wife;

And I will the body of my father, Sir John Cornwallis (whose soul I beseech Jesus also to assoil) shall be removed by the appointment of my executor at such time as he shall think meet from Berkhamsted in Buckinghamshire where he died (attending on Prince Edward as Steward of his Household), and laid in the same aisle in Brome church aforesaid under the tomb that I have made and set up for him and Dame Mary, my mother, the daughter of Edward Sulyard of Essex, esquire;

Item, I will that blacks, viz., black broadcloth for gowns and cloaks or coats, shall be bestowed upon my children and servants and to such of my friends' servants as shall be present at my funeral and to none other, and black frieze gowns to five poor men and five poor women of Wilton in Cleveland in Yorkshire, and to two poor men and two poor women of these several towns following, that is to say, of Brome, Oakley, Thrandeston, Eye, Palgrave & Stuston in the said county of Suffolk, Tivetshall, Thorpe and Scoale [=Scole?] in the county of Norfolk at the discretion and appointment of mine executor, to be worn upon the day of my funeral and obsequy by such of them as can conveniently be there in person, which day I will shall be kept within such short time after my decease as the same may be conveniently compassed, and to be done in such frugal and decent sort without pomp, for so is my very true meaning, but to the comfort of the poor as shall seem best to mine executor according to the proportion of my poor calling, mean wealth and living;

Item, I give and bequeath twenty pounds of lawful money of England to be distributed to the poor inhabitants of such towns as I am owner of by the appointment of mine executor upon the day of my funeral or in short time after;

Item, I bequeath towards the reparation of Brome church six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence of like money to be bestowed there as need shall require in such sort as shall seem best to mine executor and the churchwardens with the best inhabitants for the time being;

Item, I give and bequeath to Dame Lucy Cornwallis, my daughter-in-law, one of the daughters and heirs of the Lord Latimer, wife to my son, Sir William Cornwallis, knight, a pot all gilt with a fast cover and fair pounced all over;

Item, I give and bequeath to Dame Anne Cornwallis, now wife to my son, Sir Charles Cornwallis, knight, my jewel with a chain whereon hangeth a piece of an unicorn's horn garnished with gold and with seven diamonds, one ruby and two pearls which I usually wear, praying her to leave the same to Dorothy Cornwallis, her daughter, my grandchild;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Sir Charles Cornwallis, my son, these several and particular legacies following, to be delivered unto him within one month next after my decease, that is to say, six corslets, all black, with the burgonets and furniture unto them, six French halberds, six bills and ten pikes, all which parcels of armour be or late were at my house in Norwich in the possession of the said Sir Charles, and also all my utensils, implements in household and household stuff whatsoever remaining also at my said house in Norwich;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Sir Charles, my son, in silver plate these parcels following, viz., one nest of goblets with a cover pounced parcel gilt, p{er} oz. fourscore seven ounces; two livery pots with covers, p{er} oz. threescore twelve ounces; one dozen of silver spoons with knops gilt, p{er} oz. nineteen ounces; one chafing-dish, p{er} oz. forty-three ounces three quarters; four small cups, p{er} oz. thirty ounces; a Magdalene cup with a cover, p{er} oz. eleven ounces three quarters; six silver plates, p{er} oz. forty-seven ounces; a deep basin and ewer in my chamber, p{er} oz. (blank); a nest of bowls without a cover, p{er} oz. forty-four ounces, the which said several parcels of plate my will is that the said Sir Charles, my son, shall leave the same after his decease to his son, my grandchild, Sir William Cornwallis, knight;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Cornwallis, my grandchild, the younger son of the said Sir Charles, one hundred pounds of lawful money of England, to be paid to him by mine executor within one year next after my decease;

Item, I give and bequeath to Dorothy Cornwallis, the daughter of the said Sir Charles, one hundred pounds of lawful money of England due unto me by the said Sir Charles Cornwallis, my son, by one obligation bearing date the fifteenth day of February in the three and thirtieth year of the reign of the late Queen Elizabeth; also threescore one pounds and three shillings as so much owing unto me by her said father upon a reckoning over and above all allowances, as appeareth by two bills written by William Crowe;

Item, I give and bequeath more to the said Dorothy forty pounds of lawful money of England, which maketh the sum of my said gift two hundred & one pounds, the last said forty pounds to be paid to the said Sir Charles, my son, to the use of the said Dorothy by mine executor within two years next after my decease;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Lady Kitson, my well-beloved daughter, my ring with a table diamond therein that I do usually wear;

Item, I give and bequeath to Mary, my youngest daughter, unfortunately married to the Earl of Bathen [=Bath], over and above all the implements, bedding and all other furniture now belonging or used in the chamber where she lieth, and also over and

besides all the parcels of napery, linen and several pieces of plate, which napery, linen and plate is particularly expressed and set down in a bill indented whereunto I have subscribed my name and been left out of mine inventory because I have given the same unto her in my lifetime and delivered them absolutely her own, one bell salt of silver without a cover, p{er} oz. ten ounces; item, two silver dishes whereof one of the middle sort and one of the lesser sort; item, two bedsteads for servants furnished with featherbeds, bolsters, pillows, blankets and coverlets to every of them; item, my Italian clock with one plumet given unto me by the late Duke of Norfolk; also an ambling gelding or ten pounds of lawful money of England to buy her one withal, and my coach with the harness and furniture unto it; also hangings of verders sufficient to hang her a convenient chamber or twenty pounds in money to buy her the same, the said bedding, ambling gelding, coach with the harness and furniture, & hangings of verders and other things before to her given, my will is the same shall be paid and delivered to the said Mary, my daughter, or her assigns by mine executor or his assigns within one month next after my decease, and to be chosen, set out and appointed by the said Lady Kitson, my daughter;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Mary, my daughter, five hundred marks of lawful money of England if she (bona fide) by the consent and advice of the said Lady Kitson, my daughter, the said Sir Charles Cornwallis, my son, Ralph Sheldon, esquire, my loving cousins Michael Hare, esquire, and Edward Grimston, esquire, and John Cornwallis, my nephew, and of my very good friends, Doctor Steward and Doctor Creak, or the more part of them or the more part of the survivors of them under their hands in writing shall commence suit for restitution ad societatem coniugalem to the Earl of Bathen, her husband, or for recovery of dower in his lands, to be paid to the said Mary, my daughter, by mine executor in manner and form following, that is to say, at the feasts of St Michael the Archangel or the Annunciation of Our Blessed Lady which shall first and next follow after the commencement of the said suit one hundred marks, and so forth one hundred marks every year then next following until the said legacy of five hundred marks be well and truly satisfied and paid to the said Mary or her assign[s], the said suit proceeding and continuing in law;

Item, I give and bequeath to Mary Warren, my sister, the late wife of Roger Warren, esquire, fine black cloth for a mourning gown for her, and one ring of value six and twenty shillings eight pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to my nephew, John Cornwallis, esquire, the eldest son of my brother, Richard, fine black cloth to make him a gown or a cloak;

Item, I give and bequeath to my nephew, Edward Sulyard of Wetherden, esquire, cloth fine for a cloak;

And to his son, Sir John Sulyard, knight, black cloth to make him a mourning gown;

Item, to Thomas Sulyard, gentleman, my nephew and godson, fine black cloth to make him a cloak;

To Ralph Sheldon, esquire, a ring of gold to be made for him with an inscription or motto (Vt mihi sic meis);

Item, to John Bedingfield of Bedlingfield [=Bedingfield], esquire, a black cloak;

To my cousin, William Aucher, esquire, a piece of plate of the value of six pounds thirteen shillings four pence with mine arms upon it;

And also to William Cornwallis, who attendeth on my son, Sir William, ten pounds of lawful money of England, to be paid unto him by mine executor within seven months next after my decease;

Item, my will, meaning and intent is that all mine apparel not being velvet or silken shall be given and distributed amongst such of my servants as have served me five years or above at the discretion of my said son, Sir William, and the said Mary, my daughter, who know best their service and my liking of the same;

Item, I will that mine executor shall keep house at Brome and give my servants meat and drink that will tarry for the space of three months next after my decease, in which time such of my servants as my said executor shall not like to entertain may provide themselves of other services;

And further I will that such of my servants as have served me fully the space of five years in household next before my decease shall be paid their wages for one whole year following next after my decease;

Item, I give and bequeath to those of my servants hereafter named these legacies following, viz., to Robert Morse, surveyor of my lands, a piece of plate with mine arms; to William Crowe, receiver of my revenues, my new russet cloak with buttons, and my jerkin of velvet; to William Rixe, steward of my house (blank); to Thomas Covell (blank); to Robert Cornwallis, attending in my chamber, ten pounds of lawful money of England and such apparel as my said son and daughter shall bestow on him;

Item, I desire my said son, Sir William Cornwallis, to grant unto Edward Shawe, my cook, the reversion of the farm where his father dwelleth at some reasonable rent with good covenants for reparations, his said father and mother having very unconscionably much decayed the houses;

Item, I will and charge my said son, Sir William, and my will and earnest desire and meaning is that he suffer all my farmers to whom I have made any lease or demise by indenture to enjoy quietly their leases and farms according to the tenor and true meaning of their several leases, they behaving themselves to him and his in dutiful manner & in such good order as becometh dutiful farmers to do;

And whereas under my handwriting I have promised and given to the said Robert Cornwallis the reversion of the tenement in Oakley late Aldhowso[ⁿ]'s(?) now in the farm of Robert Brady for term of his life, and to Nicholas Wyard the reversion of a tenement in Brome which I purchased of William Smythe now in th' occupation of Robert Baxter for term of his wife's life, my desire is and I charge the said Sir William, my son, that as they shall severally come to his hands he grant to the said Robert Cornwallis & Nicholas Wyard the said tenements according to the true meaning of the said several writings subscribed with my hand;

The residue of all my plate, jewels, chattels and cattles whatsoever not before bequeathed I give and bequeath to my said son, Sir William Cornwallis, to the intent that he shall carefully perform and fulfil this my last will and testament in all points according to my true meaning, of the which said last will and testament I do make the said Sir William Cornwallis, my son, my only and sole executor, earnestly charging him (as my trust is he will) to have a special care to the full performance thereof in form aforesaid according to my true meaning & intent herein;

And of this my last will and testament I make supervisors the said Lady Kitson, my daughter, and the said John Cornwallis, my nephew;

In witness whereof I, the said Sir Thomas Cornwallis, have hereunto set my seal to a label in the top thereof & signed every leaf with mine own hand in the presence and testimony of Robert Morse, John Sherwood, William Crowe and Thomas Morse. Thomas Cornwallis.

An addition made by me, the said Sir Thomas Cornwallis, the sixth day of November anno R^{egni} R^{egis} n^{ostri} Iacobi sup^{ra}dⁱc^ti &c secundo, which I will shall stand and be of the same force that my former will is for such things and to such persons as hereafter follow, viz.:

I give and bequeath to Robert Cornwallis, who hath very diligently and painfully attended upon me all the time of my sickness, a yearly payment of five marks of lawful money of England, to be paid unto him by mine executor every year during the life of Robert Brady, my late servant, at the feasts of the Annunciation of Our Blessed Lady and St Michael th' Archangel by even portions, the first payment thereof to begin at either of the said feasts which shall first and next happen after my decease;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said daughter, Mary, unfortunately married to the Earl of Bathon, over and above the legacies before to her given, twenty pounds of lawful money of England, which I desire my said executor he would deliver unto her in good gold. Thomas Cornwallis. Witnesses: Elizabeth Ritson(?), William Crowe, Walter Warde.

Probatum fuit Testamentu{m} Suprascript{um} apud London coram ven{er}abili viro D{omi}no Iohanne Bennett milite legu{m} D{o}c{t}ore Surrogato ven{erabi}lis viri D{omi}ni Iohannis Gibson militis Legum etiam D{o}c{t}oris Curie Prerogative Cantuar{iensis} mag{ist}ro Custodis sive Com{m}issarij l{egi}time constituti Sexto die Mens{is} ffebruarij Anno d{omi}ni iuxta cursum et comput{acionem} Eccl{es}ie Anglicane millesimo sexcentesimo quarto Iuramento D{omi}ni Will{el}mi Cornwalleys milit{is} filij n{atur}alis et l{egi}timi D{i}c{t}i Defuncti et Executoris in huiusmodi testamento no{m}i{n}ati Cui com{m}issa fuit admin{istra}c{i}o omniu{m} et singulorum bonorum Iurium et creditorum eiusdem defuncti De bene et fidel{ite}r administrando eadem Ad sancta Dei Eu{a}ngelia iurat{i} ex{aminatum}

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before the worshipful Sir John Bennet, knight, Doctor of the Laws, Surrogate of the worshipful Sir John Gibson, knight, also Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the sixth day of the month of February in the year of the Lord according to the course and reckoning of the English Church the thousand six hundred fourth by the oath of Sir William Cornwallis, knight, natural and legitimate son of the said deceased and executor 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. Examined.]