

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 20 September 1492 and proved 19 December 1498, of Edmund Danyell of Stoke by Nayland, Suffolk, whose son was receiver to Elizabeth (nee Scrope) Beaumont de Vere, Countess of Oxford, widow of John de Vere, 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford

For an earlier will made by the testator on 7 May 1481, see ERO D/DH VB62.

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

For pedigrees of the Danyell family, see Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Suffolk*, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1882), pp. 24-5, 132 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationsofsuf00harvuoft/page/24>

See also the Danyell pedigrees in Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *The Visitation of Suffolk*, Vol. I, (Lowestoft: Samuel Tymms, 1866), p. 240 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ExI2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA240>

See also the pedigrees at:

<http://prattens.co.uk/FAMILIES/DANIEL/trees.html>

See also ‘A Genealogical Note-Book of the Venerable Arthur Bell, OSF, Martyr, 1638’:

<http://prattens.co.uk/FAMILIES/DANIEL/bell.html>

See also ‘Daniel family of Acton’ at:

<http://www.prattens.co.uk/families/DANIEL/notes.html>

### ***Testator's parents***

The testator was the son of Sir Thomas Danyell of Rathwire, Ireland, constable of Dublin Castle, and Margaret Howard, sister of John Howard (d.1485), 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Norfolk, slain at the Battle of Bosworth.

In 1494 the testator was executor to the Duke's widow, Margaret (nee Chedworth), widow successively of the London alderman Nicholas Wyfold (d.1456), and John Norreys (d. 1 September 1466), esquire, and daughter of Sir John Chedworth by his wife, Joan. See the will of Margaret, Duchess of Norfolk, TNA PROB 11/10/315, and Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2011, Vol. II, pp. 271-3.

### *Testator's nephew*

The testator's nephew, John Danyell (d.1519), esquire, of Felsted, Essex, was in the service of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford. For his will, dated 1 May 1518 and proved 22 January 1519, see TNA PROB 11/19/189.

On 28 October 1506 the 13<sup>th</sup> Earl appointed John Danyell (d.1519) constable of Castle Hedingham. He was granted an annuity of £10 in the Earl's will, and was named as an executor. See Ross, James, *John de Vere, Thirteenth Earl of Oxford 1442-1513*, (Woodbridge, Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2011), pp. 200, 231; and the will of John de Vere, 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford, TNA PROB 11/17/379.

### *Other relations*

It seems likely the testator was also related to Ralph Danyell of Swaffham, who married Margaret Blake, by whom he had two daughters:

-**Margaret Danyell**, who married Sir William More (1520-1600) of Loseley.

-**Elizabeth Danyell**, who married Anthony Bedingfield, uncle of Oxford's friend, Thomas Bedingfield, who dedicated his translation of *Cardanus' Comfort* to Oxford.

See the will of Thomas Blake, TNA PROB 11/15/341.

### **MARRIAGE AND ISSUE**

The testator married Grace Baynard (d. 2 January 1509), widow of Thomas Langley, and daughter and heir of Richard Baynard (d.1473) of Messing. For her family background, see Wright, Thomas, *The History and Topography of the County of Essex*, Vol. I, (London: George Vertue, 1836), pp. 384-5 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=SgQVAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA385>

*[I]n 1375, Thomas Baynard held, jointly with Katharine, his wife, the manor of Messing, of the king, as of his honour of Reines; and this is the first time the manor of Messing is mentioned as belonging to the Baynard family: Richard Baynard, their son and heir, had two wives. The second was Grace, widow of John Peyton, of East Thorpe, and daughter of John Burgoyne, Esq., of Drayton, in Cambridgeshire. The children of this marriage were Richard, Lewis, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Bray, and Margery, wife of Thomas Knivett. Richard Baynard, Esq., succeeded his father in this manor of Messing, and possessed, at the time of his death, in 1473, the manor of Harburghs, both holden of the honour of Reines; also Suttons, Gutters or Gotterys in this parish, Inworth, and Feering. By his wife, Margaret, daughter of Thomas Knivett, he had two children: Richard, who*

died young, and Grace, who became his sole heiress, and before his decease, was married to Thomas Langley. Her second husband was Edward Daniel, Esq., son of Sir Thomas Daniel (baron of Rathwire, in Ireland and lord deputy there, under King Edward the Fourth,) by Margaret, his wife, sister to John Howard, duke of Norfolk. Grace Baynard, by her second husband, had Edward, John, and Thomas, and Jane, married to Sir John Jermyn, of Metisfield, in Suffolk; Margaret, wife of (blank) Green, of Witham, in Essex; Elizabeth, abbess of Multym, and Catherine. Grace Langley, daughter of Richard Baynard, died in 1508, and her second son became her heir, who, dying in 1556, was succeeded by Edmund, his eldest son, on whose demise, in 1570, he left a son John, his successor; after whom, were Edmund and John Daniel, Esq., of Messing.

See also her will, dated 6 December 1508 and proved 16 March 1509, TNA PROB 11/16/317. In the will she mentions five sons and three daughters:

\* **Edmund Danyell**, referred to as deceased in his mother's will.

\* **John Danyell** (c.1486 - 5 September 1556) of Messing, who married Elizabeth Denny (d.1516 or 1517), the daughter of Sir Edmund Denny (d.1520), Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and the sister of Mary (nee Denny) Gates (d.1583?), whose husband, Sir John Gates (1504–1553), was named as an executor in the 1552 will of the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford. See the will of Sir Edmund Denny, TNA PROB 11/19/409.

The testator's son, John Danyell, was receiver to the 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford's widow, Elizabeth (nee Scrope) Beaumont De Vere, Countess of Oxford, and a witness to her will, TNA PROB 11/17/144:

*Item, I give and bequeath to John Danyell, my receiver, a standing cup of silver and gilt with a cover, newly made, weighing 37 ounces di{midium}, di{midium} quarter, to be of the value of £10 sterling.*

The testator's son, John Danyell, was also named as an executor to the will of the Countess' brother-in-law, Sir John Seyntclere, TNA PROB 11/31/383.

\* **Thomas Danyell** (b. after 1488, d.1566), for whom see the *ODNB* entry:

*Danyell, Thomas (b. after 1488, d. 1566), administrator, probably was born in Suffolk shortly after 1488, the third of five sons of Edmund Danyell, esquire, of Stoke by Nayland, Suffolk (d. 1497×1504), and his wife, Grace (d. 1509), daughter and heir of Sir Richard Baynard of Messing, Essex. In the will of his mother, dated 6 December 1508, Danyell and his younger brothers were each assigned the annual sum of £5 until they attained the age of twenty on condition that they continue their 'learning'. No information on Danyell's education survives, and his early life is obscure before he entered the service of Thomas Howard (1443–1524), earl of Surrey, duke of Norfolk, and lord treasurer of England. Danyell's paternal grandparents were Sir Thomas Danyell of Rathwire, Ireland, constable of Dublin Castle, and Margaret, sister to John Howard, first duke of Norfolk (d. 1485). In 1494 his father was named executor for the duke's widow.*

*As clients of the Howards, the Danyell family rose within East Anglia and at court. On 16 July 1517 Thomas Danyell was admitted for life by Norfolk to the recently vacated position of writer of the tallies in the receipt of the exchequer. There he joined his cousin Henry Everard, esquire, of Deverston, Suffolk, secretary to the lord treasurer in 1514 and subsequently a teller of the exchequer (1514–40), and other members of the Howard entourage. Danyell's eldest surviving brother, John, esquire, of Messing, had already married a daughter of Edmund Denny (d. 1519/20), lord treasurer's remembrancer and baron of the exchequer. Another cousin, John Danyell, gentleman, of Felsted, Essex (d. 1518), was in the service of John de Vere, earl of Oxford. Thomas Danyell continued to be active in the private affairs of the Howard family until at least 1540. . . .*

*Danyell married first, at an unknown date, Anne, daughter of Sir Edmund Lucy of Suffolk. This marriage produced his only surviving child and heir, Edmund, who married Margaret, daughter and heir of Edmund West, esquire, of Cornard, Suffolk. Danyell married second, by 1550, Frances, daughter of John Butler, recorder of Coventry, and widow of Edmund Felton of Pentlow, Essex (d. 1542). Danyell had long been associated with Felton, and in 1550 he resigned his exchequer post in favour of Felton's relative, Thomas Felton of Clerkenwell, Middlesex, who had served as clerk to the writer of the tallies from 1535.*

As noted above, Thomas Danyell married firstly Anne Lucy, daughter of Sir Edmund Lucy, by whom he was the father of Edmund Danyell (d.1569) of Acton, Suffolk, who married Margaret West, daughter of Edmund West. Margaret West's sister, Elizabeth West, married, as her second husband, William Golding (d.1588), brother of Oxford's mother, Margery Golding. See the will of Edmund West, TNA PROB 11/24/136.

For the will of Thomas Danyell, see TNA PROB 11/49/56.

For the will of Henry Everard, esquire, dated 10 November 1540 and proved 13 January 1541, in which he leaves five marks to 'my cousin, Thomas Danyell, esquire', and appoints him as a supervisor of his will, see TNA PROB 11/28/352.

\* **George Danyell**, referred to in his mother's will as under twenty years of age.

\* **Edward Danyell**, referred to in his mother's will as under twenty years of age.

\* **Jane Danyell**, referred to in her mother's will as unmarried. She is said to have married John Jermy of Metfield, Suffolk. For the Jermy family, see:

<http://www.jermy.org/valdar.html>

See also the Jermy pedigree in Rye, Walter, ed., *The Visitacion of Norffolk*, (London: Harleian Society, 1891), Vol. XXXII, pp. 173-4 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=HS8EAAAIAAJ&pg=PA173>

\* **Katherine Danyell**, referred to in her mother's will as unmarried. She is said to have died without issue.

\* **Elizabeth Danyell** (d.1524), elected abbess of the abbey of Malling, Kent, in 1524. See:

'Houses of Benedictine nuns: The abbey of Malling', in *A History of the County of Kent: Volume 2*, ed. William Page (London, 1926), pp. 146-148. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/kent/vol2/pp146-148> [accessed 23 December 2018].

According to the Danyell pedigrees, the testator and Grace Baynard had another daughter:

\* **Margaret Danyell**, who married a husband surnamed Greene of Witham, Essex.

In dei nomine amen. The 20 day of September the 8 year of the reign of King Henry the 7, I, Edmund Danyell of Stoke Nayland, being of whole and perfect mind, make my testament in this wise:

Imprimis, I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Saviour, to Our Blessed Lady, and to all the holy company of heaven, my body to be buried within the choir of Stoke church where it is most convenient beside my Lord Berners th' elder;

Item, I bequeath to the high altar of Stoke church aforesaid 20s in a recompense of all my duties and tithes forgotten;

Item, I bequeath to Saint John's(?) guild 20s to be prayed for by their priest;

Item I give to the reparations of the said church 6s 8d;

And I give to the said church my black damask gown;

Moreover I will that the church of Messinger [=Messing?] have 6s 8d and a vestment convenient for a priest to sing therein, price 20s, in the name of Dame Margaret Beynham(?) and me;

Item, I give to Sir Thomas Baker, priest of Stoke, 10s to sing a trental for me;

Item, I give to the Grey Friars in Colchester 5s to pray for me;

And to the friars of Clare other 5s;

Moreover I give to Grace, my wife, all the lands and tenements that I have purchased, wheresoever they lie, to give and sell at her pleasure;

And all other goods and chattels to me belonging in any place, I give them to her disposition, whom I make my executrix alone;

In witness of this, Thomas Swayne, vicary of Stoke Nayland, Sir Thomas Baker, priest of the said town, Richard Kenet(?), gentleman, George Danyell junior, and other, the year and day abovesaid.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum Coram d{omi}no apud Lamhith xixo die Mensis Decembris Anno domini Mill{es}imo CCCCo Nonagesimo Octauo Iuramento [-Iuramento] Iohannis Noote l{ite}rati p{ro}cur{atoris} Ac [-Ac] approbatum et insinuatu{m} etc Et com{m}issa fuit admi{ni}strac{i}o Gracie relicte et executrici in p{er}sona dicti p{ro}curatoris etc De bene et fideliter admi{ni}strando Ac de pleno et fideli Inuentario Citra festum Natalis domini [+exhibendo?] etc Necnon de plano et vero co{m}poto [+reddendo?] etc ad s{an}c{t}a Eu{a}ngeli{a} [+iurati?]

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of the month of December in the year of the Lord the thousand 400 ninety-eighth by the oath of John Noote, literate, proctor, and probated and entered etc., and administration was granted to Grace, relict and executrix, in the person of the said proctor sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full and faithful inventory before the feast of the Birth of the Lord, and also to render a plain and true account.]