

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 20 July 1617 and proved 10 March 1618, of Jane (nee Stanhope) Townshend Berkeley (c.1547-1618), widow of Henry Berkeley (1534-1613), 7th Baron Berkeley, whose first wife was Oxford's first cousin, Katherine Howard (1537-1596).

The testatrix' father, Sir Michael Stanhope, was involved with his brother-in-law, the Protector Somerset, in the scheme by which Somerset extorted the lands of the Oxford earldom from Oxford's father, the 16th Earl, in 1548. See TNA E 328/345, TNA E 328/403 and other documents on this website, and *The Fall of the House of Oxford* by the author of this website.

CONNECTION TO THE GLOBE THEATRE THROUGH THE STRELLEY FAMILY

The testatrix' father, Michael Stanhope, became head of the Stanhope family after his elder brother, Richard Stanhope, esquire, died on 21 January 1529 without male issue by his wife, Anne Strelley (d. 12 October 1554), who after his death married, as his third wife, Sir John Markham (d.1559) of Cotham, Nottinghamshire.

Anne Strelley was one of the four daughters and co-heiresses of John Strelley (d. 22 January 1502), esquire, by Sanchia Willoughby (d. May 1533), sister of Sir Henry Willoughby (d. 11 May 1528), and daughter of Sir Robert Willoughby (d. before 1485) of Wollaton, Nottinghamshire, by Margaret Griffith. See TNA C 89/2/23; the will of Sir John Markham, TNA PROB 11/42B/583; and the History of Parliament entry for Sir John Markham at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/markham-sir-john-1486-1559>

See also Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, pp. 112, 233, and Vol. II, pp. 132-3 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=kjme027UeagC&pg=RA1-PA133>

Anne Strelley (d. 12 October 1554) was thus a first cousin of Sir Nicholas Strelley (d. 25 August 1560), who by his third wife, Elizabeth Spencer, daughter of Sir John Spencer (d. 14 April 1522), may have been the grandfather of Margaret Strelley and her brother, Henry Strelley, and sister, Mary Strelley. For the will of Sir John Spencer, see TNA PROB 11/20/348. For the marriage of Sir Nicholas Strelley (d. 25 August 1560) and Elizabeth Spencer, see Kerry, Charles, 'Notes to the Pedigree of the Strelleys of Hazlebach' in *Journal of the Derbyshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*, (London: Bemrose and Sons, January 1892), Vol. XIV, p. 95 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9Lw1AAAAMAAJ&pg=RA3-PA95>

Margaret Strelley married Nicholas Brend (d. 10 October 1601), who leased the ground on which the Globe playhouse was built to William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon and other members of the Lord Chamberlain's Men. See the will of Nicholas Brend, TNA PROB 11/98/348.

In a letter dated 20 May 1595, the testatrix referred to Margaret Strelley as 'my cousin, Margaret Brend'. See Berry, Herbert, *Shakespeare's Playhouses*, (New York: AMS Press, 1987), p. 112.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Testatrix' grandparents

The testatrix was the granddaughter of Sir Edward Stanhope (d.1511), knight of the body to Henry VII, by his first wife, Adelina Clifton (c.1469-1507), the daughter of Sir Gervase Clifton (d. 12 May 1491). For Adelina Clifton, see Pedigree LXVIII in Burke, Bernard, *Royal Descents and Pedigrees of Founders' Kin*, (London: Harrison, 1864) at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=SxYYAAAAYAAJ&pg=PR68>

See also:

<https://www.geni.com/people/Sir-Gervase-Clifton-of-Clifton-Knt/6000000008920678213>

See also the will of Sir Gervase Clifton, in which he mentions his daughter, Adeline, and his son [=son-in-law], Edward Stanhope, in *Testamenta Eboracensia*, Vol. IV, (Edinburgh: Blackwood & Sons, 1869), at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=RVIJAAAIAAJ&pg=PA64>

After the death of Adelina Clifton, Sir Edward Stanhope (d.1511) married secondly Elizabeth Bouchier, daughter of Fulke Bouchier, Lord Fitzwarine, a descendant of Edward III, by whom he had an only daughter, Anne Stanhope (c.1510–1587), who became the second wife of Edward Seymour (c.1500-1552), the Protector Somerset. See Stanhope, Philip Henry, *Notices of the Stanhopes as Esquires and Knights*, (London: A. and G.A. Spottiswoode, 1855), p. 9 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=cbWRAAAIAAJ&pg=PA9>

As noted above, it was Anne Stanhope's husband, the Protector Somerset, who in 1548 extorted the lands of the Oxford earldom from Oxford's father, the 16th Earl.

Testatrix' parents

The testatrix was the daughter of the courtier Sir Michael Stanhope (b. before 1508, d.1552) and Anne Rawson (c.1515-1588), the daughter of Nicholas Rawson (1475-1529?), esquire, of Aveley, Essex, by Beatrix Cooke (d. 14 January 1554), the daughter of Sir Philip Cooke (d. 7 December 1503) and Elizabeth Belknap (died c. 6 March 1504). Beatrix Cooke was the aunt of Lady Burghley's father, Sir Anthony Cooke (1505 – 11 June 1576). See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. IV, p. 144, and the will of Sir Anthony Cooke, TNA PROB 11/59/110.

For Sir Michael Stanhope, see the Stanhope pedigree in Cokayne, George Edward, *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. XII, Part I, (London: The St Catherine Press, 1953), p. 230.

See also the *ODNB* entry:

[Sir Michael] Stanhope's sister Anne had by 1535 married Sir Edward Seymour as his second wife. Already a courtier and favourite of Henry VIII, Seymour was probably instrumental in bringing Stanhope to prominence at national level. . . . [B]y 1549 he had become chief gentleman of the privy chamber. His office made him effectively Edward's keeper. Soon acknowledged as both a highly influential member of Somerset's household and a leading figure in the royal entourage, Stanhope's identification with his patron became even more blatant when he accompanied Somerset to Windsor during the coup d'état by the London lords in the autumn of 1549. Once they had successfully taken possession of Edward VI's person, Somerset found himself incarcerated in Windsor Castle and Stanhope was placed under house arrest; and when Somerset was transferred to the Tower of London in mid-October, Stanhope was among those accompanying him to imprisonment.

Released in February 1550, after entering into a bond of £3000 to 'be from day to day furthcumyng and to abyde all orders' (APC, 1547–50, 398), Stanhope was once more a prisoner in the Tower by the end of October 1551, this time on a charge of involvement in Somerset's conspiracy against the now all-powerful duke of Northumberland. In January 1552 he was brought to trial for having 'feloniously' instigated Somerset to insurrection and 'holding rebellious assemblies, for the purpose of taking, imprisoning and murdering' the duke of Northumberland, the marquess of Northampton, and the earl of Pembroke (HoP, Commons, 1509–58, 3.369). Pleading not guilty and asserting that he had 'never offended against the King's Majestie nor against any of his Counsell' (Wriothesley, 2.67), Stanhope was nevertheless convicted of felony and sentenced to be hanged. In the event he was beheaded on Tower Hill on 26 February 1552. An act confirming his attainder was passed by parliament in April 1552 but reversed early in Queen Mary's reign, when his son and heir, Thomas, took possession of the family lands. His widow, Anne, it was reported, 'brought up all her yonger children in vertue and learninge' at Lenton Priory and 'kept contynewallie a worshipfull house' there until her death in 1587 (Revd J. Standish's paper, 46).

Testatrix' siblings

For the testatrix' ten siblings, see the inscription on the tomb of her mother, Anne (nee Rawson) Stanhope in Shelford Church in Brown, Cornelius, *Lives of Nottinghamshire Worthies*, (London: H. Sotheran & Co., 1882), p. 109, at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=14ZQAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA109>

By Sir Michael she had these children, Sir Thomas Stanhope of Shelford in the County of Nottingham, knight; Eleanor, married to Thomas Cooper of Thurgarton in Com. Nottingham, esquire; Edward Stanhope, esquire, one of her Majesty's Council in the north parts of England; Julian, married to John Hotham of Scarborough in Com. Eborum, esquire; John Stanhope, esquire, one of the Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber to our most dear Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth; Jane, married to Sir Roger Townshend of Eyam in Com. Norfolk; Edward Stanhope, Doctor of the Civil Law, one of her Majesty's High Court of Chancery; Michael Stanhope, esquire, one of the Privy Chamber to Queen Elizabeth; besides Margaret, William and Edward, who died in their infancy.

As noted above, among the testatrix' siblings were five brothers and two sisters:

-Sir Thomas Stanhope (d. 3 August 1596) of Shelford, who married Margaret Port, by whom he was the father of Oxford's brother-in-law, Sir John Stanhope (d.1611). In the will below the testatrix leaves a bequest to Oxford's sister-in-law, Katherine (nee Trentham) Stanhope:

Item, I give unto my loving niece, the Lady Katherine Stanhope, late wife of my nephew, Sir John Stanhope knight, deceased, one jewel set with diamonds and a ruby in the midst thereof with a round pearl hanging thereat, and to her three daughters, to each of them a Jacobine piece of gold.

For the will of Oxford's brother-in-law, Sir John Stanhope (d.1611), see TNA PROB 11/117/473. For the will of Oxford's sister-in-law, Katherine (nee Trentham) Stanhope (d.1621?), see TNA PROB 11/137/516. For Margaret Port, see her will, TNA PROB 11/121/331. For Sir Thomas Stanhope, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/stanhope-sir-thomas-1540-96>

-Sir Edward Stanhope (d. 12 August 1603), who married Susan Coleshill, the daughter and heir of Thomas Coleshill (d.1595), esquire, of Chigwell, Essex, by whom he had several sons and daughters, including Dr. George Stanhope (d.1644), chaplain to Charles I, and a daughter, Jane Stanhope, who married Sir Percival Harte. See the will of Sir Edward Stanhope, TNA PROB 11/103/253, and O'Hart, John, *Irish Pedigrees*, 3rd ed., (Dublin: M.H. Gill and Son, 1881), p. 255 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=STYbAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA255>

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir Edward Stanhope (d. 12 August 1603) at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/stanhope-edward-i-1543-1603>

-John Stanhope (c.1540-1621), 1st Baron Stanhope, who married firstly Mary Knolles (c.1540–1567), the daughter of Sir William Knolles, alderman of Hull, by whom he had a daughter, Catherine Stanhope (d.1581). He married secondly, on 6 May 1589, Margaret Mackwilliams (c.1565–1640), daughter and coheir of the courtier, Henry Mackwilliams (c.1532 – 27 December 1586), by his wife, Mary (nee Hill) Cheke Mackwilliams (a relation of Lord Burghley through the latter's first marriage), by whom he had a son, Charles Stanhope (1595-1675), and two daughters. See the will of Henry Mackwilliams, TNA PROB 11/70/244. For the 1st Baron Stanhope, see his will, TNA PROB 11/137/292, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.histparl.ac.uk/volume/1604-1629/member/stanhope-sir-john-i-1540-1621>

-Sir Edward Stanhope (c.1546–1608), Doctor of the Civil Law, for whom see his will, TNA PROB 11/111/228. Oxford acknowledged several indentures before Sir Edward Stanhope. See TNA C 146/7040, TNA C 147/152, and NRO NPL 201. The latter indenture was acknowledged by Oxford before Stanhope at Oxford's house in Broad Street on 22 June 1578.

Sir Edward Stanhope's scandalous relationship with Elizabeth Blackwell, who is mentioned at length in his will, was alluded to in Martin Marprelate's *Epistle* in 1588:

Riddle me a riddle. What is that? His Grace threatened to send Mistress Lawson to Bridewell because she showed the good father Doctor Perne a way how to get his name out of the Book of Martyrs, where the turncoat is canonized for burning Bucer's bones. Dame Lawson answered that she was an honest citizen's wife, a man well known, and therefore bade his Grace, and he would, send his uncle Shory thither. Ha, ha, ha! Now, good your Grace, you shall have small gains in meddling with Margaret Lawson, I can tell you. For if she be cited before Tarquinus Superbus Doctor Stanhope, she will desire him to deal as favourably with her in that cause as he would with Mistress Blackwell. Tsk, tsk, tsk! Will it never be better with you, Mistress Lawson?

For the will of Elizabeth Blackwell's husband, William Blackwell (d.1610), see TNA PROB 11/115/437.

For a biography of Sir Edward Stanhope, see Cooper, Charles Henry and Thompson Cooper, *Athenae Cantabrigienses: 1586-1609*, Vol. II, (Cambridge: Deighton, Bell & Co., 1861), pp. 470-3, available online.

-Sir Michael Stanhope (c.1549-c.1621), for whom see his will, TNA PROB 11/139/119, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/stanhope-michael-1549-1621>

-**Eleanor Stanhope**, who married Thomas Cooper of Thurgarton. See the will of her elder son, Thomas Cooper (d.1584), TNA PROB 11/67/291; and Marshall, George William, ed., *The Visitations of the County of Nottingham in the Years 1569 and 1614*, (London: Harleian Society, 1871), Vol. IV, p. 140 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/visitationsofcou00flow#page/140/mode/2up>

Eleanor Stanhope's daughter, Anne Cooper, married Nicholas Coote. In the will below the testatrix leaves bequests to two of Anne's sons:

Item, I give unto my two nephews [=great nephews], Thomas and William Coote, two Jacobines apiece.

-**Julian Stanhope**, who married, as his first wife, Sir John Hotham (d.1609) of Scarborough, Yorkshire, for whom see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/hotham-john-1609>

For the testatrix' family, see also the Wikipedia entry for the testatrix' father, Sir Michael Stanhope (d.1552), edited by the author of this website; Marshall, *supra*, pp. 5-8; and Stanhope, Philip Henry, *Notices of the Stanhopes as Esquires and Knights*, (London: A. and G.A. Spottiswoode, 1855), pp. 6-12 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=cbWRAAAAIAAJ&pg=PA9>

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

Testatrix' first marriage

The testatrix married firstly Sir Roger Townshend (c.1544-1590), a servant of the Howards to whom Oxford sold his manor of Wivenhoe and with whom he had other financial relations. For his will, see TNA PROB 11/77/149.

By Sir Roger Townshend, the testatrix had two sons:

* **Sir John Townshend** (1568-1603), eldest son, who married Anne Bacon (1573-1622), the daughter of Sir Nathaniel Bacon (1547-1622) of Stiffkey, Norfolk, and Anne Gresham (d.1594). For Anne (nee Bacon) Townshend (1573-1622), see the *ODNB* entry.

By Anne Bacon, Sir John Townshend had two sons and a daughter:

(1) Sir Roger Townshend (d. 1 January 1637), who in 1627 married Mary Vere (c.1611–1669), the daughter of Oxford's first cousin, Horatio Vere (1565-1635), Baron Vere of Tilbury, by Mary Tracy (1581-1671), widow of William Hoby (d.1602?). See the will of Mary (nee Tracy) Hoby Vere, TNA PROB 11/338/214.

(2) Stanhope Townshend (1597?–1620?), said to have been killed in a duel.

(3) Anne Townshend, who married Sir John Spelman (1594–1643), for whom see the *ODNB* entry.

Sir John Townshend died of wounds received in a duel with Sir Matthew Browne (d. 1 August 1603), whom he slew on the spot. See the Townshend pedigree, *supra*, p. 308, and the History of Parliament entry for Sir John Stanhope at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/townshend-john-1568-1603>

See also the Wikipedia entry for Sit John Townshend edited by the author of this website at:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Townshend_\(died_1603\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Townshend_(died_1603))

For Sir Matthew Browne (d. 1 August 1603), see his will, TNA PROB 11/111/273.

* **Sir Robert Townshend** (b.1580, d. by 1617) second son, for whom see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/townshend-robert-1580>

According to the *ODNB*, the testatrix' second son, Robert Townshend, was the patron of Ben Jonson (1572-1637) and John Fletcher:

During the early years of the new century Jonson lodged with various friends and patrons. 'Ben. Johnson the poet nowe lives upon one Townesend' observed John Manningham the diarist in February 1603—referring to Sir Robert Townshend, at some stage the patron also of John Fletcher—'and scornes the world' (Diary of John Manningham, 187).

The connections between Oxford and the testatrix suggest that Oxford would have known Jonson.

Testatrix' second marriage

After Sir Roger Townshend's death, the testatrix married secondly, in 1598, Henry Berkeley (1534-1613), 7th Baron Berkeley, whose first wife was Oxford's first cousin, Katherine Howard (d.1596), sister of Thomas Howard (1537-1572), 4th Duke of Norfolk, whose life Oxford had tried to save. See Cokayne, George Edward, *The Complete Peerage*, (London: The St Catherine Press, 1912), Vol. II, pp. 138, 144-5, and the will of the 7th Baron Berkeley, TNA PROB 11/123/109.

For mention of the 7th Baron Berkeley in *Leicester's Commonwealth*, see the Wikipedia entry edited by the author of this website at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Berkeley,_7th_Baron_Berkeley

Berkeley died 26 November 1613, leaving a will dated 20 December 1612.^[5] He was succeeded by his grandson, George Berkeley, 8th Baron Berkeley. However, according to Andrew Warmington, the 8th Baron's inheritance was much diminished, as his grandfather had "recently ended the 192-year legal feud over the estates with the Lisle family and their heirs, including the crown", and "due to this and Henry's extraordinary profligacy, the once vast estate had been reduced to twenty-five manors covering about 11,000 acres, mainly in Gloucestershire, with a rental value of some £1200 per year".^[6] Contemporaneous mention of this legal feud is made in Leicester's Commonwealth where the anonymous author, alluding to Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester, writes:

What shall I speak of others, whereof there would be no end? As of his dealing with Mr. Richard Lee for his manor of Hook Norton (if I fail not in the name); with Mr. Lodovick Greville, by seeking to bereave him of all his living at once if the drift had taken place; with George Whitney, in the behalf of Sir Henry Lee, for enforcing him to forgo the Controllership of Woodstock which he holdeth by patent from King Henry VII? With my Lord Berkeley, whom he enforced to yield up his lands to his brother Warwick which his ancestors had held quietly for almost two hundred years together?^[7]

As D.C. Peck explains:

Litigation over the Berkeley lands had been going on for two centuries; at this time it was pursued by the Dudleys against Henry (d. 1613), seventh Lord Berkeley, Lord Harry Howard's brother-in-law, from whom they were able to recover several manors. In August 1574 Leicester persuaded the Queen to leave her itinerary and be his guest at Berkeley Castle in its lord's absence, as if it were his own.^[7]

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

The Giles Fletcher who is stated in the will to have been the tutor of the testatrix' grandson and chief beneficiary, Sir Roger Townshend (1595-1637), was the poet Giles Fletcher (1585/6-1623) the younger.

The testatrix' niece, Lady Haughton, mentioned in the will below, was Anne (nee Stanhope) Holles, the wife of Sir John Holles (d.1637), later 1st Earl of Clare, who in July 1616 paid £10,000 for the barony of Haughton. See the *ODNB* entry for Sir John Holles (c.1637).

The testatrix is said to have died on 3 January 1618 at the Barbican in London.

RM: T{estamentum} honorande femine Jane D{omi}ne Berkley vid{ue} def{uncte}

In the name of God, Amen. This twentieth day of July anno Domini one thousand six hundred and seventeen, and in the years of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith etc., that is to say, of England, France and Ireland the fourteenth, and of Scotland the fiftieth, I, Jane, Lady Berkeley, widow, late wife of the right honourable Henry, Lord Berkeley, deceased, calling to mind the certainty of death, the end of every living creature, and the uncertainty of the time thereof, and having a reasonable care and disposition, now being in perfect health, and while my senses and memory do best serve me, to dispose of those livings and worldly goods that Almighty God of his great goodness and blessings hath bestowed on me, whereby all contentions, doubts or questions that after my decease might otherwise arise about the same may be cut off and cleared, and whereby I shall not have cause to be troubled, vexed or disquieted whenas sickness and weakness shall come upon me and oppress me, but that I may then especially, like as at all other times I ought, wholly set my mind and direct my faith to be fixed steadfastly upon heavenly things and everlasting joys, and also that I may then have the better time to call and cry to Jesus Christ, my only Saviour and Redeemer, for mercy, grace and forgiveness of all my sins, like as he hath commanded, do by this writing under my hand and seal make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following, revoking all other and former wills by me made whatsoever, that is to say:

First and principally I do yield and commit my soul into the merciful hands of Almighty God in full hope and constant faith and believe [=belief?] to be saved only by the merits of the most precious death and passion of my sweet Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and by none other means, most humbly beseeching him to receive my poor soul into his merciful hands and everlasting life, the which he hath so dearly bought and ransomed with his most precious death and bloodshedding innocently upon the cross of his passion, and in the most steadfast faith and belief of the same I do willingly leave and forsake the life of this transitory world and all worldly things to come to the same everlasting kingdom and joys of heaven, Amen;

Secondly, I give and bequeath unto my well-beloved brother, John, Lord Stanhope of Harrington, one piece of plate of the value of twenty pounds, and one key of gold set with diamonds, and to my honourable sister, his lady, one jewel thick-set with small diamonds, only with a round pearl at each end thereof, for remembrances of my love unto them;

Item, I give unto my nephew, Sir Charles Stanhope, knight, son of my foresaid brother, the Lord Stanhope, one piece of plate of the value of twenty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my well-beloved brother, Sir Michael Stanhope, knight, one piece of plate of the value of twenty pounds, and one ring with a table diamond therein;

Item, I give and bequeath to my well-beloved brother-in-law, Sir Nathaniel Bacon, knight, one piece of plate of the value of twenty pounds;

Item, I give unto my well-beloved daughter-in-law, the Lady Elizabeth Berkeley, my little clock of gold to wear for a remembrance of my love, and I do also forgive unto her the sum of twenty pounds which her late husband, Sir Thomas Berkeley, did owe unto me at the time of his death, being money which I formerly lent unto him, and [-and] I give unto my Lord Berkeley, her son, my godson, one ring set with diamonds which was his grandfather's, to wear as a token of my love;

Item, I give unto my honourable niece, the Lady Haughton, one jewel thick-set with small diamonds, only with some enamel of red therein with a pearl at each end thereof, and unto my honourable nephew, the Lord Haughton, her husband, one ring of the value of forty shillings;

Item, I give to my very good lady and friend, the Lady Kitson, widow, one ring set with small diamonds for a remembrance;

Item, I give unto my well-beloved sister-in-law, the Lady Susanna Stanhope, my jewel thick-set with small diamonds, only with a round pearl at each end thereof, and to her daughter Frances, my niece, one jewel with diamonds therein and a ruby in the midst of the same and a pearl hanging thereat;

Item, I give unto my well-beloved niece, the Lady Harte, one jewel thick-set with small diamonds, only with a pearl at each end thereof, and unto my loving nephew, Sir Percival Harte, her husband, a ring of the value of forty shillings, and to Elizabeth Harte, their daughter, a portague of gold;

Item, I give unto my loving niece, the Lady Katherine Stanhope, late wife of my nephew, Sir John Stanhope knight, deceased, one jewel set with diamonds and a ruby in the midst thereof with a round pearl hanging thereat, and to her three daughters, to each of them a Jacobine piece of gold;

Item, I give unto my well-beloved daughter-in-law, the Lady Anne Townshend, one basin and ewer of silver, the basin being in fashion oval, and a waistcoat doublet of ash-colour satin wrought with silver, and a black satin kirtle to the same laid on with a broad bone-lace of silver, and a piece of black stuff embroidered with silver O's to make her a mantle of;

Item, I give unto my nephews, Michael Stanhope, John Stanhope, George Stanhope and Thomas Stanhope, sons of my deceased brother, Sir Edward Stanhope, knight, to each of them forty shillings apiece, and to the said George Stanhope more, a Jacobine piece of gold to make him a ring of;

Item, I give unto my two nephews [=great nephews], Thomas and William Coote, two Jacobines apiece;

Item, I give unto Mr Giles Fletcher of Trinity College in Cambridge, late tutor to my grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, a Jacobine piece of gold;

item, I give and bequeath unto my grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, knight and baronet, son and heir of my late son, Sir John Townshend, knight, deceased, my best basin and ewer parcel-gilt, besides the gilt basin and ewer given unto him by my late brother, Sir Edward Stanhope, knight, deceased, remaining in my custody, and also one jewel of diamonds called a(?) Harrow, and one other jewel, being a rose of diamonds, both which I will and desire him to keep and wear, and after his decease to leave them and the said basins and ewers as heirlooms to his heir after him in remembrance of me;

And I do also give and bequeath unto my said grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, these parcels of household stuff following, viz., one large carpet, one square tablecloth, one cupboard-cloth, one great chair, one dozen and two stools and two long cushions all of Turkey work, the ground thereof being white, all which were made and wrought in my own house, and all of one whole suite of hangings, being the story of David and Solomon, part whereof do now hang my great chamber in my house in Barbican, and the rest of them do likewise hang my own chamber in my house at Kensington; and also all those my hangings of imagery whereof one suite, being the story of Judith and Holofernes, do hang my great chamber in my said house in Kensington, and the rest now hang my bedchamber and withdrawing chamber in my house in Barbican; and also one other suite of hangings of forest-work containing five pieces now hanging in my withdrawing chamber in my said house in Kensington; and also one gilt field-bed with the tester, valance and curtains to the same made of green velvet and laid on with gold lace, with a quilt of sea-green taffeta and a high chair and two stools of green velvet suitable to the same, with all the bedding and furniture of bedding thereunto belonging, and a cloth of gold canopy with a train of yellow sarsenet with the couch-beds and bedding, sea-green taffeta quilt, two long cushions and chairs and stools of yellow velvet suitable to the same; and also one high chair, two French chairs and two stools and a long cushion all of scallop-shells wrought in coloured silks, and one long carpet, one cupboard-cloth, one chair, two long cushions and six stools all of Turkey work of waterwork or leaves wrought in my own house; and also one bedstead with a tester, valance and curtains to the same made of sea-green damask laid on with silver lace, with a quilt of green taffeta and a cloth of gold chair, and a long cushion of sea-green velvet suitable to the same, and bed and bedding thereunto; and also one tester and valance of [] embroidered with crowns, flower-de-luces and portcullises, with curtains, bedding and furniture to the same; and also one other bedstead with tester, valance and curtains of

crimson taffeta with carpets, cushions, stools and chairs suitable and belonging to the same, with bed and bedding thereunto; and also one other bedstead with the tester, valances and curtains of blue velvet, with all bedding and furniture of bedding to the same belonging;

Item, I give and bequeath all that my manor of Beufoes [=Baufois?] in South Creake in the county of Norfolk, with all and singular the appurtenances and all that my liberty of fold-course, foldage and shack for sheep to the same belonging in South Creake aforesaid, and all that close or closes called Caldwell Close with th' appurtenances in Tittleshall in the said county, and all those lands, tenements and hereditaments with the liberty of fold-course to the same belonging called or known by the name of Normans Borough alias Normansburgh in South Raynham in the said county of Norfolk, and all that my capital messuage or tenement with th' appurtenances late Bolters in South Creake aforesaid, and all lands, tenements, closes, pastures, feedings, arable and in field lands, wastes, heaths and liberties of fold-course, foldage and shack for sheep, and all other hereditaments whatsoever to the said capital messuage, tenement and premises any ways belonging or appertaining, lying and being in South Creake aforesaid and North Creake in the said county of Norfolk unto my foresaid grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue, to Stanhope Townshend, my grandchild, younger brother to the said Sir Roger Townshend, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue to the heirs of the body of the said Sir Roger Townshend lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue to the heirs of the body of the said Stanhope Townshend lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue to the heirs of the body of my late son, Sir John Townshend, knight, lawfully begotten, and in default of such issue to my two brothers, John, Lord Stanhope, and Sir Michael Stanhope, knight, and their heirs forever;

But the rent of a hundred and fifty pounds per annum reserved upon a lease of the premises by me made unto Richard Mason, gentleman, my servant, for and during the term of one and twenty years to commence from and immediately after my decease (which lease and term of one and twenty years in the said premises I do ratify and confirm unto the said Richard Mason accordingly by these presents), I do give and bequeath unto my executors hereafter named until my debts and funeral expenses and all other my gifts, legacies and bequests in this my last will mentioned and contained shall be fully and wholly satisfied and paid;

Item, I do also give & bequeath all that my manor or lordship of West Rudham in the foresaid county of Norfolk with all and singular the rights, members and appurtenances to the same belonging and appertaining, and all other my messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever in West Rudham and East Rudham which I lately purchased and bought to me and my heirs by and of the grant and conveyance of Sir Robert Wynde of South Wootton in the said county of Norfolk, knight, and of Dame Elizabeth, his wife, and also those threescore acres of land, more or less, lying in Burwick and Burmer in the said county of Norfolk, and all that moiety of Bruerie there called Whynbarghill, with the liberty of fold-course and foldage there which lately I bought and purchased to me and my heirs by and of the grant and conveyance of Thomas Goddard, gentleman, unto my

foresaid grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue to my foresaid grandchild, Stanhope Townshend, and to the heirs of his body lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue to the heirs of the body of the said Sir Roger Townshend lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue to the heirs of the body of the said Stanhope Townshend lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue to the heirs of the body of my late son, Sir John Townshend, knight, lawfully begotten, and in default of such issue to my two brothers, John, Lord Stanhope, and Sir Michael Stanhope, knight, and to their heirs forever;

But the rents, issues and profits of the said manor, lands and premises I do give and bequeath to my executors hereafter named from the time of my decease until my debts and funeral expenses and all and every the gifts, legacies and bequests herein given and bequeathed shall be by my said executors fully and wholly satisfied and paid in such manner and sort as herein is set down & declared;

Item, I do also give and bequeath unto my said grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, knight, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully to be begotten all that my sheep pasture with th' appurtenances in West Rudham in the county of Norfolk commonly called the Great Ground, and the liberty of fold-course, foldage, feed and shack for sheep to the same belonging, and all those lands, closes, pastures, commons, heath-grounds and hereditaments in West Rudham aforesaid, late Thomas Russell's, which I have and hold to me and my heirs by and of the grant of Sir Michael Stanhope, knight, and Richard Mason, gentleman, by indenture bearing date the sixth day of January in the eleventh year of the King's Majesty's reign that now is of England, and the seven and fortieth of Scotland, and also all that messuage with th' appurtenances and divers lands, meadows and pasture-grounds in East Raynham and Tofts in the said county of Norfolk, late Jenysons, which I have and hold to me and my heirs by and of the grant of William Pearne, Richard Sherwyn and William Mason by indenture bearing date the sixteenth day of March in the fifth year of the reign of the King's Majesty that now is of England, and the one and fortieth of Scotland, and if my said grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, shall depart this present life without issue male of his body lawfully begotten, then I give and bequeath the same unto the foresaid Stanhope Townshend, my grandchild, brother of the said Sir Roger, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue to the heirs of the body of the said Sir Roger Townshend lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue to the heirs of the body of the said Stanhope Townshend lawfully to be begotten, and in default of such issue to the heirs of the body of my late son, Sir John Townshend, lawfully begotten, and in default of such issue to my two brothers, John, Lord Stanhope, and Sir Michael Stanhope, knight, and their heirs forever;

And I do also give and bequeath unto and for the poor and needy people inhabiting and dwelling within the town and parishes of East Raynham, West Raynham, South Raynham, Helhoughton and East Rudham in the said county of Norfolk forever the several annuities or yearly rents following, that is to say: to the poor and needy people of the town of East Raynham per annum five pounds; to the poor and needy people of the town of West Raynham per annum three pounds six shillings eight pence; to the poor and

needy people of the town of South Raynham per annum three pounds six shillings eight pence; to the poor and needy people of the town of Helhoughton per annum three pounds six shillings eight pence; and to the poor and needy people of the town of East Rudham per annum five pounds, the said several annuities or yearly rents to be forever issuing and going out of the sheep pasture, fold-course, lands, closes, pastures, messuage, hereditaments and premises in West Rudham and East Rudham and Tofts last before bequeathed, and the same several annuities or yearly rents to be severally paid as aforesaid unto and for the said poor perpetually inhabiting and dwelling within the several towns and parishes aforesaid upon the feast-day of Saint Thomas the Apostle yearly forever, and the said several annuities or yearly rents to be also paid as aforesaid unto the parson, vicar, churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the several towns and parishes aforesaid for the time being, to be by them paid and distributed unto and amongst the most aged and impotent poor of the several towns aforesaid, and if any default of payment shall be made of any the several annuities or yearly rents aforesaid at any the days and times aforesaid, then it shall and may be lawful to and for the parson, vicar, churchwardens and overseers of every the towns and parishes aforesaid for the time being where any such default of payment as aforesaid shall be made, into all, any and every the sheep pasture, fold-course, lands, closes, pastures, messuage and premises last before mentioned to be bequeathed to enter and distrain, and the distress and distresses then and there from time to time had and found to lead, take, drive and carry away, and the same to retain and keep until such of the said annuities or yearly rents and the arrearages of the same (if any be) shall be to them fully satisfied and paid to and for the use and benefit of the poor and needy people of such of the foresaid towns and parishes to whom the same shall be so behind and unpaid as aforesaid;

Item, I do also give and bequeath unto my said grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, and his heirs forever all that my mansion or dwelling-house with the orchards, gardens and appurtenances to the same belonging in Kensington in the county of Middlesex which I lately purchased of Sir George Coppin and Sir Walter Cope, knights, in the name of Sir Michael Stanhope, my brother, (as by the fine and conveyance thereof appeareth), and which my said brother hath since conveyed to me and my heirs accordingly;

And I do also give and bequeath unto and for the poor people inhabiting and dwelling within the said town of Kensington forever one annuity or yearly rent of ten pounds to be issuing and going out of the said mansion or dwelling-house with th' appurtenances in Kensington aforesaid, and the same to be paid unto and for the said poor perpetually inhabiting and dwelling within the town of Kensington aforesaid at the four usual feast-days in the year, that is to say, the Nativity of Our Lord God, the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Nativity of St John Baptist, and St Michael th' Archangel by even and equal portions thereof, or upon the day next before every the said feast-days, the first payment thereof to begin at such of the said feast-days next ensuing after the death of me, the said Lady Berkeley, and the said annuity or yearly rent of ten pounds to be also paid as aforesaid unto the vicar, churchwardens and overseers of Kensington for the time being, to be by them paid and distributed unto and amongst the most aged and impotent poor of the town of Kensington aforesaid, and if any default of payment shall be made at any the said days and times as aforesaid, then it shall and may be lawful to and for the

said vicar, churchwardens and overseers for the time being or any two of them into the said messuage or mansion-house and premises with the appurtenances before mentioned to enter and distrain, and the distress and distresses then and there from time to time had and found, to lead, drive, take and carry away, and the same to retain and keep until the said annuity and the arrearages thereof (if any be) shall be to them fully satisfied and paid to and for the use and benefit of the said poor as is aforesaid;

Item, I do also give and bequeath unto my said grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, and to his heirs forever one burgage or tenement with th' appurtenances situate and being in a street called Barbican in the parish of St Giles without Cripplegate, London, on the south side of the same street between my now mansion or dwelling-house there on the west and the new-built house of Richard Mason, gentleman, there on the east, from and after the decease of John Herbert, my servant, who now dwelleth therein, and to whom I do hereby also bequeath the same for and during the term of his natural life, he, the said John Herbert paying therefore yearly during his said life unto my said grandchild, his heirs and assigns, the rent of two shillings per annum at the feasts of St Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of Our Blessed Lady St Mary the Virgin by equal portions, and also maintaining the same burgage or tenement in sufficient reparations during the said term;

Item, I do also give, forgive and release unto my said grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, and his heirs all and all manner of statutes, bonds and recognizances which heretofore were made, knowledged or entered into to any person or persons whatsoever by my late son, Sir John Townshend, father of the said Sir Roger, and wherein I am any ways interested either by assignment from others or by payment of the sums therein mentioned and taking of the same into my own hands, such statutes, recognizances and bonds as by him were knowledged for warrantise of the manor of Beufoes in South Creake and of Normansburgh and Caldwell Close in the county of Norfolk upon his sale thereof only excepted;

Item, whereas I have demised by indenture of lease under my hand and seal unto Richard Mason, gentleman, my servant, among other things, all my flock and number of eight hundred mother ewes, accounting six score to the hundred, which at the time of my decease shall be kept and depasturing in and upon the manor of Beufoes in South Creake in the county of Norfolk and fold-course to the same belonging for the term of one and twenty years after my decease, as by the same indenture of lease appeareth, now my will is, and I do hereby charge and appoint my executors hereafter in this my present last will named, that immediately after my decease they deliver or cause to be delivered into the hands and possession of the said Richard Mason the said flock and number of eight hundred mother ewes accordingly, and if there shall be at my decease any wanting of the said number according to the former computation, then the same to be supplied and made up out of some of my other stocks with such mother ewes as he, the said Richard Mason, shall like of, which number of eight hundred mother ewes aforesaid, or the value of them at the rate of thirty pounds the hundred, at the end of the term of one and twenty years before mentioned to be by the said Richard Mason yielded up or paid according to a covenant in the foresaid demise, I, the said Jane, Lady Berkeley, do by these presents give and bequeath upon the expiration of the foresaid term of one and twenty years unto

my said grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, all the rest of my flocks and stocks of sheep as now they are and be depasturing and going upon their several grounds and fold-courses, viz., Lipton(?) flock, Robin Hood's flock, Sherford(?) flock, Coxford Lodge flock, Manyhowse flock, Rudham Southgrounds flock, and West Rudham Great Grounds flock, I give and bequeath unto my said grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, upon condition that he, the said Sir Roger, shall and do immediately after the probate of this my last will give unto such persons as I shall herein name and appoint to be my executors and will take upon them the probate thereof good and sufficient security to their liking that if the rest of my personal estate whereof I shall be possessed at the time of my decease shall not be sufficient fully to satisfy and discharge all the legacies, gifts, bequests, funeral expenses and charges of this my last will and testament according to my true intent and meaning herein specified and declared, that then he, the said Sir Roger Townshend, shall and will in their due times according to the limitations herein set down and declared, satisfy, pay and deliver and discharge all and every the same in such manner and sort as herein is and shall be set down and expressed;

Item I give and bequeath unto Stanhope Townshend, my grandchild, second son of my late son, Sir John Townshend, the sum of one thousand pounds in money besides the two thousand pounds which I gave and delivered unto his father in his lifetime to preserve from sale the manor of Stinton Hall with th' appurtenances, and which manor thereupon at my request he conveyed unto the said Stanhope after the decease of his mother, the Lady Townshend, the said sum of one thousand pounds to be paid unto him by the executors of this my last will and testament when he shall accomplish his full age of four and twenty years, and in the meantime until he shall accomplish the said age of four and twenty years, my will is that my said executors herein to be named shall pay unto him, the said Stanhope, for and towards his maintenance and education, the sum of one hundred marks per annum by half-yearly payments during the said time;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Anne Townshend, my grandchild, daughter unto my foresaid son, Sir John Townshend, the sum of two thousand pounds in money, to be paid unto her by my executors hereafter named when she shall accomplish the age of four and twenty years or within one year next after the time of her marriage, which of them shall first and next happen, and in the meantime my will is that my executors shall pay unto her a yearly pension of one hundred pounds per annum by half-yearly payments for and towards her better maintenance and education, and if it shall fortune the said Anne to die before her said age or marriage, then my will is that the said sum of two thousand pounds shall be by my executors equally divided, parted and paid between my foresaid grandchildren, Sir Roger Townshend and Stanhope Townshend, and I do also give unto my said grandchild, Anne Townshend, my black velvet kirtle embroidered all over with silver OO's, and also one other kirtle of ash-colour tabine wrought with silver, and a petticoat of green velvet laid on with silver lace;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my servant, Richard Mason, my great silver can, being parcel of the plate belonging unto my chamber;

Item, I give and bequeath all the rest of my plate and silver vessel not before bequeathed unto my foresaid grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, conditionally that he do bestow the quantity of one hundred ounces thereof upon his brother, my grandchild Stanhope Townshend, as of my gift when he, the said Stanhope, shall be married and keep a house;

Item, I give and bequeath my coffer of wearing linens for my body to be indifferently divided between my gentlewomen and the maids of my chamber who at the time of my decease and for the space of one whole year next before shall have attended me, to every of them a like quantity thereof;

Item, I give unto my servant, William Sinclair, the sum of forty pounds, whereof he oweth me £20, and unto Anne Sinclair, his wife, my servant also, I give twenty pounds more in money and one of my shag nightgowns and also my petticoat of blue caffá, and I do give unto their daughter Jane Sinclair, my god-daughter, the sum of ten pounds in money, to be delivered into the hands of some friends of hers upon good security to her use;

Item, I give unto my servant, John Herbert, the sum of ten pounds in money;

Item, I give and bequeath unto every of my household servants, as well men as women, who shall serve me at the time of my decease, and shall have so done by the space of one whole year then next before, one whole year's wages besides such wages as shall be due unto them and unpaid at my decease, and to my servant, John King, I do give the sum of twenty nobles in money, to be delivered into the hands of some good friend of his upon good security to his use, and my will is, and I do charge my executors hereafter named, that they keep and maintain my house and household servants together in the same with sufficient meat, drink and lodging by the space of one whole month next after my decease, whereby my said servants may have the better time to provide for themselves, they in the mean space behaving themselves well and honestly as becomes them to do, and my will is that those legacies which I have given and appointed unto my said servants shall by my executors be paid unto them within the said month, so as they in the meantime be careful for the preservation of all such goods as are under their several charges without concealment or purloining of any of the same from the knowledge and hands of my executors hereafter named when they shall be required to deliver up the same, and if within the month aforesaid any of my said servants shall willingly conceal or purloin any of my goods or household stuff from my said executors, then he so doing shall lose his legacy and benefit of this my will;

Item, my will is, and I do hereby charge and appoint my executors hereafter named, that they buy and deliver unto my grandchildren and every of my servants and unto Mr Compton of Newgate Market, my apothecary, and to such others as to my said executors shall seem meet and convenient, black cloth as the manner is for mournings, to be worn by my said servants during the month aforesaid in remembrance of me and as my last livery and farewell unto them;

Item, my will is, and I do straitly charge and require my executors hereafter named, that they suffer not my body after my decease to be cut or opened, but that as soon as conveniently may be after my life shall be departed, they cause the same to be wholly buried in the chancel or parish church of St Giles without Cripplegate, London, where the body of my first husband, Sir Roger Townshend, doth also lie interred, and this I also charge and require my executors to see performed and done in private manner and sort without set or solemn funeral or any other vain pomp or worldly ostentation;

Item, my will and desire also is that my executors hereafter named shall within two years next after my decease cause a handsome and decent monument or tomb in memory of my first husband, Sir Roger Townshend, and of myself and our children to be made and erected in or near unto the chancel of the parish church of St Mary in East Raynham in the county of Norfolk with such inscriptions therein as to my executors shall seem fit;

Item, I give and bequeath unto threescore and fourteen poor women of the parishes of St Giles without Cripplegate, London, and of Kensington in the county of Middlesex as my executors shall make choice of as having greatest need, to each of them one gown of black cloth and twelve pence in money;

Item, I give and bequeath to and for the use and relief of the poor people of the parish of Saint Giles without Cripplegate, London, forever the sum of one hundred pounds in money, to be disposed of, put forth and bestowed in such sort for the perpetual use and benefit of the said poor as by my executors, the parson and ten of the chief parishioners for the time being shall be thought most fit and convenient, so as the benefit of the same may forever yearly hereafter upon Good Friday be indifferently dealt and distributed as my alms amongst the most impotent, poor and needy people of the same parish then being, and hereof I charge my executors to have a godly and special care and regard so as the said poor both for the present and time to come be not wronged, but well served of the benefit and profit thereof as far-forth as in them lies to perform;

Item, I give and bequeath the sum of one hundred pounds in money to be [+by] my executors within one month next after my decease paid and delivered for the clear discharging, freeing and redemption out of the prisons of Newgate and the two Counters of such and so many poor men lying imprisoned there for their own proper debts as to my said executors shall seem fittest in charity to be freed and redeemed thence, either by reason of their great age, charge of children or long imprisonment;

And that all and every the gifts, legacies and bequests herein given, bequeathed, willed and contained may be the better paid and performed, I, the foresaid Jane, Lady Berkeley, do by this my writing under my hand and seal which I make and declare to be my last will and testament, bequeath, give, grant, will and appoint all and singular my manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments, leases, statutes, recognizances, jewels, plate, money, household stuff, goods, chattels, flocks and stocks of sheep, and whatsoever worldly goods else I have and am owner of at the time of my death to be liable and subject to the performance of this my will and payment of the gifts, legacies and bequests herein willed, given, appointed, and contained according to the several limitations herein expressed and

declared and to no other use or uses whatsoever, and when all and every my debts, funeral expenses, charges, legacies, gifts, grants, bequests and appointments in this my last will and testament contained, expressed and declared shall be fully performed, paid and discharged according to my true intent and meaning herein specified, then whatsoever of my worldly goods, chattels and substance shall remain, I give and bequeath wholly to my said grandchild, Sir Roger Townshend, and for that I am not ignorant that this my present will in the execution and performance thereof will require both travel and expenses in the careful managing of the same and prosecution and defence of such suits in law as may happen to arise or grow thereupon, therefore my will is, and I do hereby appoint, that what travel charges and expenses soever my said executors hereafter named or any of them or any person or persons by the appointment of them or of any two of them or of the survivor of them employed therein shall any way be put unto, pay, disburse or lay out for or any ways concerning the due performance of this my last will and testament or by reason or occasion of anything herein contained, shall by my said executors or any two of them or the survivor of them be from time to time [-be] deducted, taken, paid and allowed out of my goods, chattels and estate liable to the performance of this my will, my said executors or any two of them or the survivor of them keeping a true & particular account thereof for the better satisfaction of themselves and of the legataries herein named;

And that this my last will and testament may be the better and more duly executed, and all and every the gifts, grants, legacies, bequests, limitations, conditions and appointments herein contained the better paid and performed, I, the aforesaid Jane, Lady Berkeley, do ordain, constitute, nominate, appoint and make my well-beloved brothers, John, Lord Stanhope of Harrington, and Sir Michael Stanhope of Sudbury in the county of Suffolk, knight, Sir Roger Townshend, my grandchild, and Richard Mason, my servant, to be my executors of this my last will and testament, whom I charge and heartily desire to see the same well and truly executed, performed and accomplished in every part thereof according to my true intent and meaning set down and declared in and by the same so far-forth as by any lawful way or means they may or can, and for the better execution, performance and doing thereof I do hereby give unto my said executors full power and authority to be my only true and lawful executors of this my last will and testament in as large and ample manner as by any means I may or can do;

In witness and full acknowledgement whereof and of all and every thing herein before particularly expressed and declared, and for the better authority of the same I, the said Jane, Lady Berkeley, have subscribed my name and affixed my seal hereunto this twentieth day of July first above-written one thousand six hundred and seventeen. Jane Berkeley.

Decimo die Mensis martij Anno D{omi}ni iuxta cursum et computac{i}o{n}em Eccl{es}ie Anglicane millesimo sexcentesimo Decimo septimo Emanavit Commissio D{omi}no Rogero Townshend de East Reig{n}h{a}m in Comitatu Norff{olkien}si Baronetto ad administrand{um} bona Iura et Credita dicte Defuncte iuxta tenorem et

Effectum Testamenti suprascripti h{uius}mo{d}i eo quod honorand{us} vir Iohannes D{omin}us Stanhope de Harrington Michael Stanhope de Sudburie in Com{itatu} Suff{olkiens}i miles prefatusque D{omin}us Rogerus Townshend Baronettus necnon Richardus Mason gen{er}os{us} Executores vt asseritur in tes{tamen}to siue scripto h{uius}mo{d}i nominat{i} ex certis causis eos in hac parte respectiue moventibus oneri Executionis dicti Testamenti siue Scripti exp{re}sse renuntiaverunt prout ex actis Curie Prerogatiue Cantuariens{is} Desuper expeditis plenius Liqueat De bene &c Ac de pleno et vero Inventario bonorum &c dicte Defuncte conficiend{o} deq{ue} plano et vero Computo iuxta Iuris in ea parte exigentia reddend{o} ad s{an}cta Dei Evangelia sub protestac{i}o{n}ibus in Actis vt prefertur expresse Iurat{o}

[=On the tenth day of the month of March in the year of the Lord according to the course and reckoning of the English church the thousand six hundred seventeenth a grant issued to Sir Roger Townshend of East Raynham in the county of Norfolk, baronet, to administer the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased according to the tenor and effect of the same testament above-written for that the honourable Sir John, Lord Stanhope of Harrington, Michael Stanhope of Sudbury in the county of Suffolk, knight, and the forenamed Sir Roger Townshend, baronet, and also Richard Mason, gentleman, executors, as it is asserted, named in the same testament or writing, for certain causes them in that regard them respectively moving, have expressly renounced the burden of the execution of the said testament or writing, as by the acts of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury above explained more at large appears, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc., and to prepare a plain and true inventory of the goods etc. of the said deceased, and to render a plain and true account according to the exigency of the law in that respect under the protestations in the acts expressly, as is previously mentioned.]