

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 23 April 1509 and proved 16 November 1513, of Sir Robert Corbet (c.1477 - 11 April 1513), whose sister, Elizabeth Corbet, was the great-grandmother of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham, and whose daughter, Anne Corbet, was the mother of Sir Richard Newport (d.1570/1), the owner of a copy of Hall's *Chronicle* (formerly Loan 61 in the British Library, and now in the possession of Lord Hesketh, a trustee) containing annotations thought to have been made by Shakespeare.

For the deed of feoffment referred to in the testator's will below, see Corbet, Augusta Elizabeth, *The Family of Corbet*, Vol. II, (London: St. Catherine's Press, n.d.), p. 263 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/familyofcorbetit02corb#page/n151/mode/2up>.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testator's family background, see the pedigree of Corbet in Burke, John, *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland*, Vol. III, (London: Henry Colburn, 1836), pp. 189-90 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/genealogicalhera03burk#page/188/mode/2up>.

See also the pedigree of Corbet in Grazebrook, George, and John Paul Rylands, eds., *The Visitation of Shropshire Taken in the Year 1623, Part I*, Vol. XXVIII, (London: Harleian Society, 1889), pp. 136-8 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationshrop02britgoog#page/n190/mode/2up>.

Testator's grandparents

The testator was the grandson of Sir Roger Corbet (d. 8 June 1467), son and heir of Robert Corbet and Margaret Mallory, by Elizabeth Hopton (d. 22 June 1498), sister of Sir Walter Hopton (d.1461?), and daughter of Sir Thomas Hopton and Eleanor Lucy, daughter and co-heir of Sir Walter Lucy (d. 4 October 1444) of Newington Lucy, Kent, by his wife, Eleanor Archdekne (d. 20 July 1447), daughter and heir of Sir Warren Archdekne. See the History of Parliament entry for Thomas Hopton of Hopton at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1386-1421/member/hopton-thomas>

See also the pedigree of Hopton in Grazebrook, *supra*, Part I, p. 256 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationshrop02britgoog#page/n310/mode/2up>.

After Sir Roger Corbet's death, Elizabeth Hopton married secondly John Tiptoft (b. 8 May 1427, beheaded 18 October 1470), 1st Earl of Worcester. See *The Family of Corbet, supra*, p. 251 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/familyofcorbetit02corb#page/n133/mode/2up>.

Elizabeth Hopton married thirdly Sir William Stanley (born c.1435, beheaded 16 February 1495), the younger brother of Thomas Stanley (c.1433-1504), 1st Earl of Derby, husband of Henry VII's mother, Margaret Beaufort. See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, pp. 463-4; and *The Family of Corbet, supra*, p. 254 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/familyofcorbetit02corb#page/n137/mode/2up>.

See also the *ODNB* entries for John Tiptoft, 1st Earl of Worcester, Thomas Stanley, 1st Earl of Derby, and Sir William Stanley; and Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, pp. 65-9.

Testator's parents

The testator was the eldest son and heir of Sir Richard Corbet (1451 - 6 December 1493) and Elizabeth Devereux (d.1516), the daughter of Walter Devereux (c.1432 – 22 August 1485), 1st Baron Ferrers of Chartley, slain at the Battle of Bosworth, by his wife, Anne Ferrers (1438-1469), the daughter and heir of Sir William Ferrers of Chartley, Staffordshire. Walter Devereux had been the testator's guardian. See *The Family of Corbet, supra*, pp. 253, 257.

Elizabeth Devereux's nephew, Walter Devereux (c.1489 - 17 December 1558), 1st Viscount Hereford, the son and heir of John Devereux (c.1463/4-1501), 2nd Baron Ferrers of Chartley, was the great-grandfather of Queen's Elizabeth's favourite, Robert Devereux (1565-1601), 2nd Earl of Essex. See the *ODNB* entries for Walter Devereux, 1st Baron Ferrers of Chartley; Walter Devereux, 1st Viscount Hereford; and Walter Devereux (1539-1576), 1st Earl of Essex.

After the death of the testator's father, the testator's mother married secondly, before 1495, Sir Thomas Leighton (1443-1519) of Wattlesborough, Shropshire, knight of the body to King Henry VII, whose first wife was Anne Baker, the daughter of Roger Baker of Shrewsbury.

The testator's mother was buried at St Mary's Church, Burford, Shropshire with this inscription:

Here lythe Elyzabethe Devroke, dowg'tur unto Sr Wa'ter
Devroke off Webbeley Knygth off ye most noble order off ye Garter
& Lorde Ferrers off Charteley, wch Elyzabethe was wyff unto Sr Rychard
Corbet off Morton Tyrytte [sic] Knygth, & affter maryed unto Sr Thomas

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Lyghton Knygth off Stretton in le Dale, wch Elyzabethe dep'ted owte
off thys transitorie worlde ye yere off owre Lorde God mcccc & xvj
whose sowle Ihu have.

See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, pp. 45-6, 465, and Vol. III, pp. 352-4; and

See also Botfield, Beriah, *Stemmata Botevilliana* (Westminster: Nichols, 1858), pp. 169 and 184 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/stemmatabotevill00botfuoft#page/n191/mode/2up>

and:

<https://archive.org/stream/stemmatabotevill00botfuoft#page/n207/mode/2up>.

Testator's brothers and sisters

The testator had a brother, George Corbet, and is said to have had five sisters:

* Mary Corbet, who married firstly John Ludlow, son and heir of John Ludlow, esquire, of Stoke Haye, Shropshire, by Elizabeth Grey, the daughter of Richard Grey, Lord Powys (d.1466), by whom she had no issue. See the Ludlow pedigree in Grazebrook, *supra*, Part II, p. 341 at:

https://archive.org/stream/TheVisitationOfShropshireV.29/VisitationshrophshireTaken1623_treswellVol.28P2#page/n63/mode/2up.

Mary Corbet married secondly Sir Thomas Lacon (d.1536) of Willey, Shropshire. See his will, TNA PROB 11/25/371, in which he mentions his wife, who had predeceased him; his eldest son and heir, Richard Lacon (who married Agnes Blount, the daughter of Sir John Blount of Kinlet by Katherine Peshall, the daughter of Hugh Peshall); his three younger sons, Edward Lacon, William Lacon and Lancelot Lacon; his daughter, Alice Lacon, who married Robert Corbet of Lee, Shropshire; his daughter Anne Lacon, who married a husband surnamed 'Biriton'; his daughter, Dorothy Lacon, who married firstly Sir William Leighton of Plash, Shropshire, and secondly Richard Walwyn; and his daughter, Mary Lacon (d. 27 April 1563), who married firstly Thomas Acton (d. 2 January 1547), and secondly George Vernon (died. c.1554).

See also *The Family of Corbet*, *supra*, p. 253; the Blount pedigree in Grazebrook, *supra*, Part I, p. 54 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationshrop02britgoog#page/n108/mode/2up>.

See also the Leighton pedigree in Grazebrook, *supra*, Part II, p. 323 at:

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https://archive.org/stream/TheVisitationOfShropshireV.29/VisitationshrophshireTaken1623_treswellVol.28P2#page/n29/mode/2up.

See also the Leighton pedigree in Botfield, Beriah, *Stemmata Botevilliana* (Westminster: Nichols, 1858), pp. 184, 186 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/stemmatabotevill00botfuoft#page/n207/mode/2up>.

See also the Lacon pedigree in Grazebrook, George, and John Paul Rylands, eds., *The Visitation of Shropshire Taken in the Year 1623, Part II*, Vol. XXIX, (London: Harleian Society, 1889), p. 307 at:

https://archive.org/stream/TheVisitationOfShropshireV.29/VisitationshrophshireTaken1623_treswellVol.28P2#page/n29/mode/2up.

It should be noted that the Lacon pedigree in Grazebrook, *supra*, Part II, p. 307, states that Mary Corbet and Thomas Lacon had two daughters not mentioned in Thomas Lacon's will, a daughter, Margery Lacon, who married Robert Berington of Shrewsbury ('Margery' may be an erroneous reference to the daughter 'Anne Biriton' mentioned in Thomas Lacon's will), and Jane Lacon, who married firstly George Bromley (d.1545) of Mittley (and Hodnet?), and secondly William Egerton of 'le Bridgend', Staffordshire.

See the Bromley pedigree in Grazebrook, *supra*, Part I, p. 78 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationshrop02britgoog#page/n132/mode/2up>.

For Jane Lacon's marriage to William Egerton, see also the will of Thomas Trentham, TNA PROB 11/19/252; and Vaughan, H.F.J., 'Donington Church and Lordship', *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*, Vol. VI, (Shrewsbury: Adnitt and Naunton, 1888), p. 60 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=tpE_AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA60&lpg=PA60&dq=%22William+Egerton%22+%22Jane+Lacon%22&source=bl&ots=RrWI4MTUby&sig=x0Xx9StZvySNtXdhhC6o5cgB5Bs&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwj0gdSuwrvVAhVDMGMKH RqtCVcQ6AEINDAD#v=onepage&q=%22William%20Egerton%22%20%22Jane%20Lacon%22&f=false

Sir William Lacon of Willey married Magdalene, daughter of Richard Wisham of Holt, Co. Worcester, and was father of Sir Richard [Lacon], who, by Alice [Horde], daughter of Thomas Horde of Bridgnorth, was father of Sir Thomas Lacon of Willey, who married Mary [Corbet], relict of John Ludlow, and daughter of Sir Richard Corbet of Morton, (by Elizabeth [Devereux], daughter of Walter Devereux, Lord Ferrers of Chartley). One of their daughters, Jane Lacon, married William Egerton of Betley

As noted above Mary Lacon (d. 27 April 1563) married firstly Thomas Acton (d. 2 January 1547), esquire, of Sutton, Worcestershire, and by him had two sons, Lancelot

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Acton and Gabriel Acton, who died in infancy, and a daughter, Joyce Acton (1532 – 10 February 1595 [sic?]), who married Sir Thomas Lucy (d. 7 July 1600) of Charlecote, Warwickshire, from whose park William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon is alleged to have poached deer. See the entry for Sir Thomas Lucy (b. in or before 1532, d. 1600) of Charlecote in the *ODNB*:

Thomas Lucy was educated at home, at one time by John Fawkenor, an Oxford graduate, and then, for a year or so between the summer of 1545 and early in 1547, by John Foxe, the martyrologist. During this period Thomas, still only fourteen or so, was betrothed to Joyce (1532–1595), the twelve-year-old only child and heir of Thomas Acton of Sutton Park, in Worcestershire. Their marriage settlement is dated 1 August 1546, the marriage itself presumably taking place shortly afterwards. Five months later, in January 1547, Acton died, and his extensive estates, subject only to his wife's dowry, were thus inherited by his daughter.

Thomas Lucy might not now be so well known had his name not come to be associated with one of the earliest examples of Shakespeare folklore. Nicholas Rowe was the first to publish this, in 1709 and in some detail, but similar stories can be found in three other autonomous sources of late seventeenth-century date, all ultimately derived, no doubt, from local Stratford gossip. Rowe's account records that the young William Shakespeare, having got into bad company, had more than once stolen deer from Thomas Lucy's park at Charlecote, that he had been caught and rather too severely punished, and that in revenge had composed a ballad satirizing Lucy, which got him into such trouble that he had to leave Stratford for London. Another version of the story introduces the concept that Shakespeare's revenge included a caricature of Lucy in the person of Justice Shallow. Further embellished, this has proved to be one of the most popular and enduring Shakespeare legends, and has provoked much debate as to its authenticity. Some writers have drawn attention to inconsistencies (there was, for example, no formal park at Charlecote at this date), and few claim that the story can be true throughout. Nevertheless, during Shakespeare's youth Thomas Lucy was certainly well known in Stratford.

After the death of Thomas Acton (d. 2 January 1547), Mary (nee Lacon) married George Vernon (died c.1554) of Hodnet, Shropshire, who, by his first wife, Elizabeth Pigott, was the father of John Vernon (d.1591), the father of Elizabeth Vernon (born 11 January 1573, d. after 1655), who married Henry Wriothesley (1573–1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton. For the will of Mary (nee Lacon) Acton Vernon (d. 27 April 1563), see TNA PROB 11/46/222. For the will of George Vernon (died c.1554) of Hodnet, see TNA PROB 11/37/222.

* Anne Corbet (d.1548), who married Sir Thomas Cornwall (1468 – 19 August 1538) of Burford. See *Family of Corbet, supra*, pp. 253, 257-8, and Reade, Compton, *The House of Cornewall*, (Hereford: Jakeman and Carver, 1908), pp. 189, 207-8 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/houseofcornewall00live#page/n259/mode/2up>.

* Elizabeth Corbet, who married Thomas Trentham (died c.1519) of Shrewsbury. See his will, TNA PROB 11/19/252, and *The Family of Corbet, supra*, p. 253. As noted above, Elizabeth Corbet was the grandmother of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham (d.1612). See the Trentham pedigree in College of Arms MS Glover 1, f. 190, and the Trentham pedigree in Grazebrook, H. Sydney, ed., *The Visitation of Staffordshire*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1883), pp. 139-141 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitacionofstaf00graz#page/140/mode/2up>.

See also Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 352; and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/trentham-thomas-1487-1519>.

* Katherine Corbet, who is said to have married Thomas Onslow of Rodington. See *The Family of Corbet, supra*, p. 258, and the pedigree of Corbet in Grazebrook, *supra*, Part I, p. 136 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationshrop02britgoog#page/n190/mode/2up>.

See also the pedigree of Onslow in Grazebrook, *supra*, Part II, p. 378 at:

https://archive.org/stream/TheVisitationOfShropshireV.29/VisitationshrophshireTaken1623_treswellVol.28P2#page/n101/mode/2up/search/Onslow*+of+Onslow.

However in the pedigree of Gregory of Rodington, reference is made to a charter in the possession of John Gregory of Rodington in 1623 concerning covenants of marriage between George Onslow and Katherine Corbet:

Couenants of Mariage that George Oneslow gentelman shall marry Katherin one of the sisters of Sir Robert Corbett Knight. Dated 19 Junij ao 23 H. 7. [=19 June 1508].

See Grazebrook, *supra*, Part I, p. 204 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationshrop02britgoog#page/n258/mode/2up>.

According to the Gregory pedigree, George Onslow and Katherine Corbet had two daughters, Susanna Onslow, who married Thomas Kynaston of Walford, Shropshire, and Anne Onslow, who in 1549/50 married John Gregory of Gray's Inn. See the pedigree of Kynaston of Walford in Grazebrook, *supra*, Part II, p. 294 at:

https://archive.org/stream/TheVisitationOfShropshireV.29/VisitationshrophshireTaken1623_treswellVol.28P2#page/n17/mode/2up/search/Onslow*+of+Onslow

George Onslow (presumably the George Onslow who married Katherine Corbet) was the son and heir of William Onslow, whose inquisition post mortem was taken in 1497. See:

Maskelyne and H. C. Maxwell Lyte, 'Inquisitions Post Mortem, Henry VII, Entries 1201-1258', in *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem: Series 2, Volume 1, Henry VII* (London, 1898), pp. 535-565. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/inquis-post-mortem/series2-vol1/pp535-565> [accessed 1 August 2017].

William Onslow's wife appears to have been named Mary. See TNA REQ 2/2/106.

* Margaret Corbet (d.1573), for whose marriage the testator makes provision in the will below. She married Richard Clyve (d. 22 May 1562) of Walford, Shropshire. See *Family of Corbet, supra*, p. 258; the will of Margaret (nee Corbet) Clyve, TNA PROB 11/55/432; and the pedigree of Clyve in Jewitt, Llewellynn, ed., *The Reliquary*, Vol. VI, 1865-6 (London: Bemrose & Sons), p. 27 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=yyNAAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA281&lpg=PA281&dq=%22The+Reliquary%22+%22Vol.+VI%22+%221865%22&source=bl&ots=31qbua9dv2&sig=jY0vHJPbugNue69gQIRgzEs9aB0&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CCUQ6AEwA2oVChMIntDc8av3yAIVj5SIC2kCQty#v=onepage&q=%22The%20Reliquary%22%20%22Vol.%20VI%22%20%221865%22&f=false>.

For the foregoing see also Richardson, *supra*, Vol. II, pp. 163-5 and Vol. III, p. 69 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=8JcbV309c5UC&pg=RA2-PA69&lpg=RA2-PA69&dq=%22Burford%22+%22Shropshire%22+%22church%22+%22Ferrers%22&source=bl&ots=kvllIMWLO98&sig=wyQrOSHkww6YBOvtgsXhFivIPw&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CBsQ6AEwAGoVChMIgqbLtZr3yAIVz6OIC2kCQty#v=onepage&q=%22Burford%22%20%22Shropshire%22%20%22church%22%20%22Ferrers%22&f=false>.

After the death of Sir Richard Corbet (1451 - 6 December 1493), Elizabeth Devereux (d.1516) married Sir Thomas Leighton (1443-1519) of Wattlesborough, Shropshire, by whom she had three sons: Sir John Leighton (d.1532), who had several sons and daughters, including Sir Edward Leighton (d. 12 September 1593) and Sir Thomas Leighton (c.1530–1610); Richard Leighton, who married Katherine Parry, but died without issue; and Thomas Leighton, who died an infant. See *The Family of Corbet, supra*, pp. 257-8; the *ODNB* entry for Sir Thomas Leighton (c.1530-1610); and the pedigree of Leighton in Botfield, Beriah, *Stemmata Botevilliana* (Westminster: Nichols, 1858), pp. 169 and 184, at:

<https://archive.org/stream/stemmatabotevill00botfuoft#page/n191/mode/2up>

and:

<https://archive.org/stream/stemmatabotevill00botfuoft#page/n207/mode/2up>.

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See also Lloyd, William Valentine, *The Sheriffs of Montgomeryshire*, (London: T. Richards, 1876), pp. 244, 248 at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=e3kHAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA244&lpg=PA244&dq=%22Elizabeth+Devereux%22+%22Sir+Thomas+Leighton%22&source=bl&ots=Kk_BolTBsu&sig=_IUJqyGfEqrB5wVt5rdIa4e2GUk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=_RTZU5axA8_SigKo-oD4CA&ved=0CC4Q6AEwAw#v=onepage&q=%22Elizabeth%20Devereux%22%20%22Sir%20Thomas%20Leighton%22&f=false.

See also Betham, William, *The Baronetage of England*, (London: W.S. Betham, 1803), Vol. III, pp. 97-8 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=IGAOAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA98&lpg=PA98&dq=%22Betham%22+%22Baronetage%22+%22Leighton%22&source=bl&ots=HedsaQU6UW&sig=X2z26eKxMnx55tnrWjIv0Js9so&hl=en&sa=X&ei=pBbZU9DxI-HKiwL-84FI&ved=0CDIQ6AEwBw#v=onepage&q=%22Betham%22%20%22Baronetage%22%20%22Leighton%22&f=false>.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The testator married Elizabeth Vernon (d. 29 March 1563), the daughter of Sir Henry Vernon (b. circa 1441, d. 13 April 1515) of Haddon, Derbyshire, and his wife, Anne Talbot (d. 17 May 1494), the daughter of Sir John Talbot (1413-1460), 2nd Earl of Shrewsbury. See *Richardson, supra*, Vol. III, pp. 69-70, and the *ODNB* entry for the Vernon family.

Richard Vernon (d.1517) of Haddon, mentioned in the will below, was the second son and heir of the testator's father-in-law, Sir Henry Vernon. For the will of Sir Henry Vernon, see TNA PROB 11/18/121.

According to *Richardson, supra*, Vol. III, pp. 69-70, and the Corbet pedigree in *Grazebrook, supra, Part I*, pp. 136-8, the testator and his wife, Elizabeth Vernon, had three sons and four daughters, although only three daughters, Anne, Dorothy and Jane, are mentioned in the will below):

* Roger Corbet (d.1538/9), who married Anne Windsor (d.1550/1), the daughter of Andrew Windsor (b.1467, d. 30 March 1543), 1st Lord Windsor. Roger Corbet was a ward of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford (see TNA C 1/1485/58). For the will of Roger Corbet see TNA PROB 11/27/408. For Roger Corbet's wardship, see *The Family of Corbet, supra*, p. 263 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/familyofcorbetit02corb#page/n151/mode/2up>

Sir Robert held Commissions of the Peace both in this year 1511 and in the following year, and in 1512 his name is among the "Appointments for War." "Names of lords and others with the number of men which they have granted, to serve the king's grace by land, viz., : The Duke of Buckingham, Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Fitz-Warren, Sir Thomas Lovel, Sir Robert Corbet etc. . . .". The Commissions of Peace for Feb. 1513 contain Sir Robert's name, but an entry of 10th Jan. and again of 30th Jan. tells of his decease. The entry runs: "For Chas: Brandon Viscount Lisle. Wardship of Roger son and heir of Sir Robert Corbet." "Richmond 5 Hen. VIII." Dodsworth also records from the Escheat for the Essex lands on Sir Robert's death, 5, Hen. VIII. No. 87, that "Robert Corbet held the Manor of Woodham Mortimer and the Manor of Welbrigge-hall, and died on the 11th April 4. Hen. VIII. and Roger Corbet is his son and heir and of the age of 12 years." A Reference also among the Harrison Indexes gives "Inq: P.M. of Sir Robert Corbet, knt, taken at Salop 16, June 5, Hen. VIII. Sir Robert Corbet died 11th April 5, Hen: VIII, leaving a widow Elizabeth, and children Roger (aged 11) Anna, Dorothy, Joanna, and Maria." A Deed which is almost in the form of a will is also recorded in Dods. MSS. It bears no date, but "was proved in Nov: 1513." "Whereas I Sir Robert Corbet etc.

* Richard Corbet (d.1564x6), who married Margaret (nee Savile), the widow of Thomas Wortley, esquire, of Wortley, Yorkshire, but died without issue. She was the daughter of Sir John Savile (d.1504) of Thornhill, Yorkshire, Captain of the Isle of Wight, by his second wife, Elizabeth Paston, the daughter of Sir William Paston and Joan Beaufort, the daughter and co-heiress of Edmund Beaufort, first cousin to Henry VII's mother, Margaret Beaufort (Sir John Savile married firstly Alice Vernon, the daughter of Henry Vernon). See *The Family of Corbet, supra*, pp. 266-7, and the will of Richard Corbet, TNA PROB 11/48/556. See also the pedigree of Savile of Thornhill in Foster, Joseph, *Pedigrees of the County Families of Yorkshire*, Vol. II (London: W. Wilfred Head, 1874) at:

<https://archive.org/stream/pedigreesofcount02fost#page/n147/mode/2up>.

See also:

<http://www.savilehousehold.co.uk/the-saviles2.html>

See also 'The Savile Family' at:

<http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/sources/saville/clay2.shtml>.

* Reginald Corbet (c.1510 - 19 November 1566), who married Alice Gratewood (d.1603), daughter of John Gratewood of Wollerton, Shropshire, by Margaret Hill, sister of Sir Rowland Hill (c.1495-1561). For the will of Reginald Corbet, see TNA PROB 11/49/18. For the will of Sir Rowland Hill, see TNA PROB 11/44/360. See also the *ODNB* entries for Reginald Corbet and Sir Rowland Hill.

* Anne Corbet, who married Thomas Newport (d.1548x51), by whom she was the mother of Sir Richard Newport (d.1570/1), the owner of a copy of Hall's *Chronicle*

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(formerly Loan 61 in the British Library, and now in the possession of Lord Hesketh, a trustee) containing annotations thought to have been made by Shakespeare (see Keen, Alan and Roger Lubbock, *The Annotator*, (London: Putnam, 1954). For the will of Thomas Newport, see TNA PROB 11/34/176. For the will of Sir Richard Newport, who was also the uncle of Humphrey Martyn, addressee of the *Langham Letter*, see TNA PROB 11/53/456.

* Dorothy Corbet, who married Sir Richard Mainwaring (c.1499 - 30 September 1558) of Ightfield, Shropshire, by whom she had twelve sons and four daughters. See Richardson, *supra*, Vol. III, p. 94.

* Jane Corbet, who married Thomas Lee (d.1561x3) of Langley, the son and heir of Fulke Lee by Alice Cornwall, the daughter of Sir Richard Cornwall of Berrington, Herefordshire. See the will of Thomas Lee, TNA PROB 11/46/40; and the pedigree of Lee in Vaughan, H.F.J., 'Inscriptions from the Tombs in the Parish Churches of Tong and Donington, Co. Salop', *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*, Vol. V, (Shrewsbury: Adnitt and Naunton, 1882), pp. 313-90 at pp. 374-9:

<https://archive.org/stream/transactionsofsh05shro#page/n811/mode/2up>.

* Mary Corbet, who married Thomas Powell of Oswestry. She is not mentioned in the testator's will below, and was presumably born between the date of the will, 23 April 1509, and the testator's death on 11 April 1513.

TESTATOR'S EXECUTORS

The testator's executor, George Onslow, appears to have been the husband of the testator's sister, Katherine Corbet (see above).

The testator's executor, Sir Thomas Cornwall (1468 – 19 August 1538) of Burford, was the husband of the testator's sister, Anne Corbet (see above). For Sir Thomas Cornwall, see Reade, Compton, *The House of Cornwall*, (Hereford: Jakeman and Carver, 1908), pp. 189, 207-8 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/houseofcornwall00live#page/n259/mode/2up>.

The testator's executor, George Bromley (d.1545) of Hodnet, Shropshire, was the husband of Jane Lacon (b. about 1505), one of the daughters of the testator's sister, Mary Corbet by Sir Thomas Lacon (d.1536). See above.

George Bromley (d.1545) was a first cousin of Margaret Bromley, the wife of Sir Richard Newport (d.1570/1), owner of the annotated copy of Hall's *Chronicle* mentioned above. George Bromley (d.1545) and Jane Lacon (b. about 1505) were the parents of Queen Elizabeth's Lord Chancellor, Sir Thomas Bromley (c.1530–1587), who was a trustee of

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the indenture Oxford entered into on 30 January 1575 prior to his departure for his continental tour (see ERO D/DRg2/25). See the *ODNB* entry for Sir Thomas Bromley:

Bromley, Sir Thomas (c.1530–1587), lord chancellor, was a younger son of George Bromley (d. 1545) of Hodnet, Shropshire, and his wife, Jane (b. c.1505), daughter of Sir Thomas Lacon of Willey, Shropshire.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

For the testator's feoffee, Sir Thomas Englefield (1455 – 3 April 1514), Speaker of the House of Commons, see the *ODNB* entry, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/englefield-sir-thomas-1455-1514>.

See also the biography in 'David Nash Ford's Royal Berkshire History' at:

<http://www.berkshirehistory.com/bios/tenglefield.html>.

See also the will of his son and heir, Sir Thomas Englefield (1488-1537).

The testator's feoffee and first cousin, Roger Thornes (b. by 1469, d.1531), esquire, was the son of Thomas Thornes (d. before 1503) and Mary Corbet, daughter of Sir Roger Corbet . See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, p. 416, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/thornes-roger-1469-153132>.

LM: Test{amentum} d{omi}ni Rob{er}ti Corbet Milit{is}

In the name of God, Amen. Whereas I, Sir Robert Corbet, knight, have made a feoffment by deed unto Sir Henry Vernon, knight, Thomas Englefield, knight, Thomas Cornwall, knight, Thomas Lacon, esquire, Roger Corbet, my son and heir apparent, esquire, Richard Vernon, esquire, Roger Thornes, esquire and George Onslow of all and singular my lordships, manors, meses, lands and tenements, rents, reversions and fines and all other hereditaments with th' appurtenances in Hopton, Fitz, Eaton Constantine, Lawley, Waters Upton, Dallington, Linslade, Southcote(?), Howbridge Hill and Wigginton within the county of Salop, Northampton, Buckingham, Essex and Hertford, to have and to hold to them, their heirs and assigns, to the use of me, the foresaid Sir Robert, and of mine heirs, to fulfil my last will made or hereafter to be made, know ye, me, the said Sir Robert, whole of remembrance and perfect mind, thanked be God, make, ordain and declare my last will and testament in manner and form following:

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First, I bequeath my soul to God Almighty and to his Blessed Mother, Saint Mary, and to all the holy company of heaven, and my body to be buried in the church of Saint Bartholomew at Moreton Corbet, if it please God I decease there, and if it happen me by the pleasure of God to decease in any other place, then I commit my body to be buried in such a holy place as mine executors think most meetliest and convenient;

Also I will that my said executors prepare and ordain for meat, drink, light and all other things necessary and belonging for me at the time of my burying as they think convenient and according after their discretion;

Item, I will that my said executors see my dirges and Masses be songen and said with secular priests, clerks and religious men at the same time as they shall think most expedient and profitable for my soul health;

Item, I will that my said executors cause my trentals and 30 Masses, every of them, to be songen and said with secular priests, clerks and religious men at the day of my said burying if they so may have priests to do it, and if they may not, then to see it be done as shortly after as they conveniently can have time;

Item, I will have that my said executors, in as short time as they can conveniently after my burying, prepare and ordain the Great Trental of Saint Gregory to be sung, said and done in due form and order as it ought to be for my soul and all Christian [+souls];

Item, I will that every secular priest, clerk and religious man be rewarded for their divine service saying and doing at the time of my said burying after the laudable custom thereto belonging and the discretion of my executors;

Item, I will that my said executors provide and hire two honest and conveniable priests, such as shall be of good name and fame, to song and say dirge Masses and other devout prayers by the space of 2 whole years next following the day of my said burying, to pray for my soul and all Christian souls in manner and form following, that is to say, every Monday during the said 2 years, every of them to say Masses of the Trinity, Dirge and Commendations; every Tuesday, Mass of the Holy Ghost and Our Lady[’s] Psalter; every Wednesday, Mass of Requiem, Dirge and Commendations; every Thursday, Mass of the 5 Wounds, 7 Psalms and Litany; every Friday, Mass of J{o}hn(?), Dirge and Commendations; every Saturday, Mass of Our Lady and Our Lady[’s] Psalter; and every of the said priests to have 8 marks for their hire or more after as they be hired;

Item, I bequeath to Roger, my son and heir, my best salt with the covering, my best piece of silver with the covering, my best goblet and half my spoons, and all the residue of my said plate I bequeath to Elizabeth, my wife, during her life, and after her decease to remain to Roger, my said son;

Item, I bequeath half my stuff of household and half my cattle to Roger, my said son, and the other half to Elizabeth, my wife;

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Item, I will that my wearing gear and all other things not bequeathed stand at my pleasure till my departing to give, do with and bequeath where I or my executors shall think most best and convenient;

Item, I will that my said feoffees or the overlivers of them and their heirs shall stand and be seised of and in the said lordships, manors, meses, lands, tenements and all other hereditaments above-rehearsed to th' intent they shall suffer mine executors to take, receive and levy th' issues and profits of all the said lordships, manors, meses, lands and tenements and all other hereditaments with th' appurtenances and every parcel of them to pay my debts and all other things pertaining to my interment and soul health in manner and form abovesaid, and after that done, I will that my said executors with the yearly profits and issues aforesaid content, pay and bestow to and for the marriage of every of my daughters, that is to say, Anne, Dorothy and Jane, the sum of 100 marks and their arrayment, which sums, after my debts paid, shall be received to the use and form following, that is to say, that every of my said daughters shall have yearly a portion of the said issues and profits of the said lordships, manors, meses, lands and tenements with their appurtenances till her said sum and bequest be fully content and paid;

Also I will that my said daughters and every of them have sufficient finding of meat, drink and cloth convenient and meetly for them, over and beside their portion of 100 marks apiece and their arrayment abovesaid for their marriage, till they be married, and at such time as any of them shall be married, she that so shall be married shall have her portion if it be levied, or as much as is levied, and her arrayment, and no further finding, and that sum of her portion that is not paid at the time of her marriage to be paid in manner and form abovesaid;

Item, I will that my executors content and pay to and for the marriage of Margaret, my sister, the sum of 40 marks and her arrayment of the yearly issues and profits abovesaid, and her finding of meat, drink and arrayment till she be married upon the same issues and profits beside her said bequest;

Item, I will that my said feoffees or the overlivers of them, after my debts paid and my will and testament in everything accomplished and fulfilled, make an estate of all the said lordships, manors, meses, lands and tenements and all other hereditaments with th' appurtenances abovesaid unto Roger Corbet, my son and heir, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and for lack of such issue, the remainder to my right heirs;

Item, I make and ordain Thomas Cornwall, knight, Thomas [surname not transcribed; perhaps Thomas Lacon?], esquire, Elizabeth, my wife, George Bromley and George Onslow my executors, and Henry Vernon, knight, and Richard Vernon, his son and heir, overseers;

In witness whereof to this my present will and testament I have put to my seal and sign manual the 23rd day of April in the year of our Lord God 1509, and of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Henry the 7th after the conquest of England the 24th.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum coram d{omi}no Apud Lamhith xvj die Mensis Nouembris Anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingentesimo t{er}ciodecimo h{ab}ent{is} dum vixit et mortis suo tempore bona siue debita in diu{er}sis Dioc{esis} sive(?) p{ro}vinc{ijs} Cant{uariensis} Iur{amento} D{omi}ne Elizabeth{e} Relicte et Executric{is} in h{uius}mo{d}i tes{tamen}to no{m}i{n}ate in p{er}sona Will{el}mi Cromwell procuratoris sui in hac p{ar}te sufficient{er} et l{egi}time constituti Ac approbatum et insinuatum Et com{m}issa fuit Admi{ni}stracio o{mn}i{u}m et singulor{um} bonor{um} et debitor{um} d{i}c{t}i defuncti p{re}fate Executrici de bene et fidelit{er} Admi{ni}strand{o} eadem Ac de pleno et fideli Inuen{ta}rio &c citra festum Natalis d{omi}ni p{ro}ximum futur{um} &c Necnon de plano et vero compoto &c Reddend{o} Ad sancta dei Eu{a}ngelia Iurat{e} Alijs Executoribus onus execuc{i}o{n}is tes{tamen}ti eiusdem expresse refutar{u}nt

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord [+Archbishop?] at Lambeth on the 16th day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred thirteenth, having while he lived and at the time of his death goods or debts in divers dioceses or provinces of Canterbury, by the oath of Lady Elizabeth, relict and executrix appointed in the same testament, in the person of William Cromwell, her proctor sufficiently and lawfully constituted in that respect, and probated and registered, and administration was granted of all and singular the goods and debts of the said deceased to the forenamed executrix, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same, and a full and true inventory etc. before the feast of the Birth of the Lord next to come etc., and also to render a plain and true account etc., the other executors having expressly refused the burden of the execution of the same testament.]