

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 18 January 1515 and proved 5 May 1515, of Sir Henry Vernon (c.1441 – 13 April 1515) of Haddon, Derbyshire, ancestor of Elizabeth Vernon, wife of Henry Wriothesley, 3rd Earl of Southampton, to whom Shakespeare dedicated *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*.

The testator was the son of Sir William Vernon (c.1421 – 30 June 1467) and Margaret Swinfen, and the grandson of Sir Richard Vernon (c.1390 – 24 August 1451) and Benedicta or Bennet Ludlow (d.1444). See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. IV, pp. 280-2, and:

<http://www.discoveringtong.org/tong600/WilliamVernonBrass.htm>.

<http://www.discoveringtong.org/tong600/SirRichardVernon.htm>.

See also the pedigree of Vernon at:

<http://www.haddonhall.co.uk/history-and-virtual-tour/owners-of-haddon-hall>.

The testator married Anne Talbot (d. 17 May 1494), the daughter of John Talbot (c.1413 – 10 July 1460), 2nd Earl of Shrewsbury, by Elizabeth Butler (d. 8 or 11 September 1473), daughter of James Butler, 4th Earl of Ormond. See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. IV, pp. 281-2, and Smith, G. Le Blanc, Haddon: *The Manor, The Hall, Its Lords And Traditions*, (London: Elliot Stock, 1906), p. 19 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/haddonmanorhall00smitgoog#page/n53/mode/2up>.

The testator was buried at Tong, Shropshire, as requested in the will below. See:

<http://www.discoveringtong.org/tong600/HenryVernon.htm>.

By his wife, Anne Talbot, the testator had five sons and five daughters, of whom the five sons and three of the daughters are named in the will below (two of the testator's daughters, Anne and Alice, having predeceased him):

* Richard Vernon (d. 14 August 1517), eldest son and heir, who in 1507 married Margaret Dymoke (c.1490-1550), daughter of Sir Robert Dymoke (c.1461 – 15 April 1545), by whom he had a son, Sir George Vernon (d. 31 August 1565).

After the death of Richard Vernon in 1517, his widow, Margaret (nee Dymoke), married secondly the courtier Sir William Coffin (d. 8 December 1538), and thirdly Sir Richard Manners (d. 9 February 1551) of Garendon, Leicestershire, younger son of Sir George Manners (c.1470-1513) and brother of Thomas Manners (c.1497-1543), 1st Earl of Rutland. She was among the women who attended Queen Anne Boleyn in the Tower of London prior to her execution. See the *ODNB* article on Margaret (nee Dymoke) Coffin

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Manners; Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 125; Smith, *supra*, pp. 21-2; and Brydges, Egerton, *Collins's Peerage of England*, (London: F.C. and J. Rivington, 1812), Vol. I, p. 465 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=LGc5AAAAMAAJ&pg=PA465&lpg=PA465&dq=%22younger+sons,+Sir+Richard+Manners,+knight%22&source=bl&ots=olhcgMTT2f&sig=wyhCqrCgDbXJIIWCIQZhqB3ttXU&hl=en&sa=X&ei=ZojSU67nCaaHjALogIGgAQ&ved=0CBwQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=%22younger%20sons%2C%20Sir%20Richard%20Manners%2C%20knight%22&f=false>.

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir William Coffin at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/coffin-william-1492-1538>.

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir Richard Manners at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/manners-sir-richard-1510-51>.

After his father's death, George Vernon (d. 31 August 1565) became a ward of Cardinal Wolsey and others. He married firstly Margaret Tailboys (d. 25 March 1558), widow of Philip Bullock and daughter of Sir George Tailboys (1467-1538), (whose son, Sir Gilbert Tailboys married Henry VIII's mistress, Elizabeth Blount), by whom he had two daughters, Margaret Vernon (d. 9 September 1596) and Dorothy Vernon (d. 24 June 1584). See the *ODNB* articles on Sir William Tailboys (c.1416–1464) and Elizabeth Blount (c.1500-1539x41); Smith, *supra*, pp. 26-7 and 33-4; and the History of Parliament entry for Sir George Vernon at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/vernon-george-1518-65>.

After the death of his first wife, Margaret (nee Tailboys), George Vernon married secondly Matilda or Maud Longford (d.1596), daughter of Sir Ralph Longford of Longford, Derbyshire, by whom he had no issue. After his death, his widow, Matilda (nee Longford), married, in 1567, Sir Francis Hastings (c.1546-1610) of North Cadbury, Somersetshire (see Smith, *supra*, p. 24 and the *ODNB* article on Sir Francis Hastings, where Matilda Longford is called Magdalen).

Sir George Vernon's eldest daughter, Margaret Vernon (d. 9 September 1596), married, in 1558, Thomas Stanley (d. 21 December 1576), second son of Edward Stanley (1509-1572), 3rd Earl of Derby, by Dorothy Howard, daughter of Thomas Howard (1443-1524), 2nd Duke of Norfolk (see Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, p. 414 and the *ODNB* entry for Edward Stanley, 3rd Earl of Derby). Margaret Vernon's first husband, Thomas Stanley, is the subject of two epitaphs at Tong thought to

have been written by Shakespeare. After his death, Margaret Vernon married secondly, in 1579, William Mather. See the entry for Margaret Vernon at:

<http://www.kateemersonhistoricals.com/TudorWomenU-V.htm>.

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir Thomas Stanley at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/stanley-sir-thomas-153233-76>.

Sir George Vernon's younger daughter, Dorothy Vernon (d. 24 June 1584), married Sir John Manners (d. 4 June 1611), second son of Thomas Manners (c.1497-1543), 1st Earl of Rutland, and brother of the courtier Roger Manners (c.1536-1607), for whom see the *ODNB* article. See also Brydges, *supra*, Vol. I, pp. 476-7.

See also Brydges, Egerton, *Collins's Peerage of England*, (London: F.C. and J. Rivington, 1812), Vol. VII, pp. 401-2 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=HVY5AAAAMAAJ&pg=PA403&lpg=PA403&dq=Sir+John+Ludlow%22&source=bl&ots=GVZuUXcwmm&sig=rfgyOFs3i17FPnlcZFPiB-BCKzo&hl=en&sa=X&ei=TjzQU6KANeWwjALGpIEo&ved=0CBsQ6AEwADgK#v=onepage&q=Sir%20John%20Ludlow%22&f=false>.

* Thomas Vernon of Stokesay, Shropshire, second son, who married Anne Ludlow, eldest daughter and coheir of Sir John Ludlow of Hodnet by Elizabeth Grey, daughter and sole heir of Richard Grey (d.1497), Lord Powis, by whom he had a son, Thomas Vernon (d. 4 June 1556), esquire, of Stokesay, who married Dorothy Lovell, daughter of Sir Francis Lovell (d. 20 January 1552) of East Harling, Norfolk, second son of Sir Gregory Lovell (died c.1507) and Margaret Brandon, the daughter of Sir William Brandon (c.1425-1491) and Elizabeth Wingfield (d. 28 April 1497), by whom he had a son, Henry Vernon, esquire, who styled himself Lord Powis, and died without issue in 1607. In November 1564 the wardship of Henry Vernon (d.1607), son of the younger and heir of the elder Thomas Vernon, was granted to Bridget (nee Hussey) Morison Manners (d.1601), the widow of Henry Manners (1526-1563), 2nd Earl of Rutland (for the will of Bridget (nee Hussey) see TNA PROB 11/97/10). Thomas Vernon and Anne Ludlow also had a daughter, Eleanor Vernon, who married Francis Curzon (died c.1591), esquire, of Kedleston, Derbyshire. According to the will below, Thomas Vernon also had a daughter, Mary Vernon. For Thomas Vernon, see Brydges, *supra*, Vol. VII, p. 403; and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/vernon-thomas-1532-56>.

See also the History of Parliament entry for Francis Curzon at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/curzon-francis-1523-9192>

See also Fisher, George, *A Companion and Key to the History of England*, (London: Simpkin and Marshall, 1832), p. 151:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=H78IAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA151&lpg=PA151&dq=%22thomas+Vernon%22+%22Anne+Ludlow%22&source=bl&ots=LIN5-6cl8u&sig=ynWnkqE_npE_p5NHQhT1sUPGUmg&hl=en&sa=X&ei=Qo7SU4X8Fs-hogTM7YGYCw&ved=0CCgQ6AEwAw#v=onepage&q=%22thomas%20Vernon%22%20%22Anne%20Ludlow%22&f=false.

See also Cox, John Charles, *Notes on the Churches of Derbyshire*, (London: Bemrose and Sons, 1877), Vol. III, p. 180 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/notesonchurcheso03coxjiala#page/180/mode/2up>.

For Dorothy Lovell, see also Gunn, S.J., *Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk c.1484-1545*, (London: Basil Blackwell, 1988), pp. 46-7; Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, pp. 297-302, Vol. II, pp. 98-9; and *Collections Historical & Archaeological Relating to Montgomeryshire*, (London: Thomas Richards, 1881), Vol. XIV, p. 251 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=PNc4AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA251&lpg=PA251&dq=%22Sir+Francis+Lovell%22+%22Dorothy+Vernon%22&source=bl&ots=mGXRt1SKOD&sig=V5gkj43enEn4kxR2kznVcVbTEFA&hl=en&sa=X&ei=n-bTU8v6BMO9oQSn1oKgDA&ved=0CDEQ6AEwAw#v=onepage&q=%22Sir%20Francis%20Lovell%22%20%22Dorothy%20Vernon%22&f=false>.

* Humphrey Vernon (d.1542), third son, who married Alice Ludlow (d.1531), the daughter and coheir of Sir John Ludlow (d.1495) by Lady Elizabeth Grey. She was the sister of Anne Ludlow, wife of Humphrey's brother, Thomas (see above). Humphrey Vernon and Alice (nee Ludlow) are commemorated in an epitaph in Tong church:

Here lyeth the bodye of Homfrye Vernon, of Hodnet, who died 1542, and Alyce, his wife, Ladye of Hodnet, who died 1531.

Humphrey Vernon and Alice (nee Ludlow) had three sons, George Vernon (died c.1554) (who married Elizabeth Pigott, the daughter of Thomas Pigott of Chetwynd, by whom he was ancestor of Elizabeth Vernon, wife of Henry Wriothesley, 3rd Earl of Southampton, to whom Shakespeare dedicated *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*); Thomas Vernon (d. 17 January 1557) of Houndshell, Staffordshire who married Eleanor Shirley; and Henry Vernon, who died without issue. According to the will below, Humphrey Vernon and Alice (nee Ludlow) also had two daughters, Bennet and Elizabeth, and according to Brydges, *supra*, Vol. VII, pp. 403-4, two other daughters, Margaret and Katherine, perhaps born after the testator made the will below. Katherine Vernon

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married Francis Pole of Radbourne, Derbyshire, eldest son and heir of German Pole (1482-1552) by Anne Plumpton, daughter of Sir Robert Plumpton. According to the will of Francis Pole's brother, Richard Pole (died c.1560), who married a wife named Margaret but died without issue, Francis Pole and Katherine Vernon had three sons, German Pole (d.1559), Richard Pole and Edward Pole, and four daughters, Ellen Pole, Elizabeth Pole, Mary Pole and Frances Pole. Francis Pole predeceased his father, and his eldest son, German Pole (d.1599), thus became heir to his grandfather, German Pole (1482-1552). See the will of Richard Pole, dated 15 March 1560 and proved 8 November 1561, TNA PROB 11/44/361, and Tilley, Joseph, *The Old Halls, Manors and Families of Derbyshire*, (London: Simpkin, Marshall, 1893), Vol. II, p. 145 at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=ROIMAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA145&lpg=PA145&dq=%22Catherine+Vernon%22+%22Francis+Pole%22&source=bl&ots=hVavVyZiYR&sig=dkVUe04EL_b8P3OCiXnDH2VfNSk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=_2XtU_7uMur7iwKY14CADA&ved=0CBwQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=%22Catherine%20Vernon%22%20%22Francis%20Pole%22&f=false.

See also Cox, John Charles, *Notes on the Churches of Derbyshire*, (London: Bemrose and Sons, 1877), Vol. III, pp. 258-60 at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=yx5NAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA255&lpg=PA255&dq=%22edward+levett%22+derbyshire&source=web&ots=DSvY3cryw5&sig=NJAh3jgU5nTw6PXU_vWAVhew234&hl=en&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q=%22edward%20levett%22%20derbyshire&f=false.

For further details concerning the children of Humphrey Vernon and Alice (nee Ludlow), see the will of George Vernon (died c.1554), TNA PROB 11/37/222.

* Arthur Vernon (d. 15 August 1517), a priest, rector of Whitchurch, Shropshire. He was buried at Tong. See his will, TNA PROB 11/18/556; Brydges, *supra*, Vol. VII, p. 403; and Petit, J.L., 'Tong Church, Salop', in *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*, Part I, Vol. V, October 1881, (Shrewsbury: Adnitt and Naunton), p. 306 at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=7HIHAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA306&lpg=PA306&dq=%22Arthur+Vernon%22++Whitchurch%22&source=bl&ots=_koRri2fj_&sig=hRLj2AUf5sp h5G2f45IW1Wiz2Vc&hl=en&sa=X&ei=XObSU5L1CYLFigKr2YHwDg&ved=0CCoQ6AEwBA#v=onepage&q=%22Arthur%20Vernon%22%20%20Whitchurch%22&f=false.

* Sir John Vernon (d. 4 February 1545) of Sudbury, Derbyshire, who married Ellen or Helen Montgomery, one of the three daughters and coheiresses of Sir John Montgomery (d.1513), by whom he had a son and heir, Henry Vernon (d. 29 September 1569). For further details concerning Henry Vernon (d. 29 September 1569) and his descendants, see his will, TNA PROB 11/51/409, on this website.

* Elizabeth Vernon (d. 29 March 1563), who married Sir Robert Corbet (c.1477 - 11 April 1513), eldest son and heir of Sir Richard Corbet (1451 - 6 December 1493) and Elizabeth Devereux (d.1516), the daughter of Walter Devereux (1432-1485), 1st Baron Ferrers of Chartley, slain at the Battle of Bosworth on 22 August 1485. For the will of Sir Robert Corbet, see TNA PROB 11/17/471. Sir Robert Corbet's sister, Elizabeth Corbet, and her husband, Thomas Trentham (d.1518/9), were the great-grandparents of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham (d.1612). For the will of Thomas Trentham, see TNA PROB 11/19/252. Elizabeth Vernon's eldest son, Roger Corbet (d.1538/9) was a ward of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford (see TNA C 1/1485/58). For the will of the testator's son and heir, Roger Corbet (d.1538/9), see TNA PROB 11/27/408. Roger Corbet's brother-in-law, Thomas Newport (d.1548x51), was the father of Sir Richard Newport (d.1570/1), the owner of a copy of Hall's *Chronicle* (formerly Loan 61 in the British Library, now in the hands of a trustee, Lord Hesketh), containing annotations thought to be by Shakespeare. For the wills of Thomas Newport (d.1548x51) and Sir Richard Newport (d.1570/1), see TNA PROB 11/34/176 and TNA PROB 11/53/456. See also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, pp. 69-70, and Vol. IV, pp. 281-2.

* Mary Vernon, who married Sir Edward Aston (d. 8 September 1568) of Tixall, Staffordshire, but died without issue in 1525, and was buried at Wanlip, Leicestershire. See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 59; and the pedigree of Vernon in Grazebrook, George and John Paul Rylands, eds., *The Visitation of Shropshire Taken in the Year 1623*, Part II, (London: Harleian Society, 1889), Vol. XXIX, p. 471 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationshrop01grazgoog#page/n198/mode/2up>.

* Margaret Vernon, who is said to have been Cromwell's correspondent, Margaret Vernon, Prioress of Sopwell, St Mary de Pre, Little Marlow, and Malling (see Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. IV, pp. 281-2).

However this identification seems doubtful, as in the will below the testator bequeaths his daughter, Margaret Vernon, 700 marks towards her marriage, and Cromwell's correspondent was already Prioress of Sopwell in 1509, six years before the testator made his will. See Erler, Mary C. 'Cromwell's Abbess and Friend: Margaret Vernon', Chapter Four in *Reading and Writing During the Dissolution: Monks, Friars and Nuns 1530-1558*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013), p. 88 at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=C-AuC3ERluYC&pg=PA88&lpg=PA88&dq=%22Sopwell%22+%22Margaret+Vernon%22&source=bl&ots=0xcpNHlHau&sig=zV0Iwxnnt4GmZX4iSv3_ngrI5As&hl=en&sa=X&ei=wW7VU4SzDtD6oATF7IC4Dg&ved=0CDAQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=%22Sopwell%22%20%22Margaret%20Vernon%22&f=false.

See also Erler, Mary C., 'Thomas Cromwell's Abbess, Margaret Vernon', *History Today*, Vol. 64, Issue 2, 2014 at:

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<http://www.historytoday.com/mary-c-erler/thomas-cromwells-abbess-margaret-vernon>.

* Anne Vernon, who is not mentioned in the testator's will, as she predeceased him. She married, by settlement dated 23 July 1496, as his second wife, Sir Ralph Shirley (d. 6 January 1517), eldest son and heir of John Shirley (d. 18 May 1486), by whom she had no issue. She had died by 1507, when Sir Ralph Shirley married, as his third wife, Anne Warner, the daughter of Sir Thomas Warner. She may have been the 'Lady Shirley' to whom Henry VII's mother gave an illuminated Office of the Blessed Virgin, inscribed in her own hand. See Shirley, Evelyn Philip, *Stemmata Shirleiana*, pp. 52-8 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/cu31924029787250#page/n75/mode/2up>.

* Alice Vernon, referred to by the testator in the will below as 'my daughter Alice'. She appears to have predeceased the testator.

Brydges, *supra*, Vol. VII, p. 403, provides details of the testator's daughters and their marriages which in some respects contradict the will below, as does the pedigree of Vernon in Grazebrook, *supra*.

For the testator's executor, Sir Anthony Fitzherbert (c.1470 – 26 or 27 May 1538), see the *ODNB* article, and his will, TNA PROB 11/27/312.

For Edmund Dudley (c.1462-1510), mentioned in the will below, see the *ODNB* article.

For an original spelling transcript of the testator's will, see Smyth, *supra*, pp. 94-103 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/haddonmanorhall00smitgoog#page/n189/mode/2up>.

RM: Test{amentum} d{omi}ni Henrici Vernon militis

[f. 66r] In the name of God, Amen. In the year of Our Lord God 1514 the 18th day of January in the year and reign of King Henry the 8th the 6th year, I, Sir Henry Vernon, knight, whole of mind and of body in good prosperity, oftentimes thinking of this wretched life, seeing by circuit of days & revolution of years the day of death to fall which nothing living may pass, therefore of this healthful mind thus I make my testament:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and to Our Lady Saint Mary and to all the holy company of heaven and to Blessed Saint Anne and to be defended against all wicked sprites;

Item, I bequeath my body to be buried in the place at Tong where I have assigned myself to lie, and forasmuch as with good prayers and alms-deeds the soul is delivered from

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everlasting death and pain, therefore it is that I will and bequeath that a convenable priest shall sing for my soul, my wife's soul, father and mother and all my children and all Christian souls, and say daily with full office of death in the said church of Tong or in the chapel when it is made, taking for his sawde [=sold] 100s yearly during the space of 5 years next after my death;

And that 3 trentals be said with convenable priests the day of my burying if it may so be done, and else to be done afore my month's mind;

And over this I will that 7 trentals over the said three within half a year after my death be said;

And of this my testament afore written and after truly to be done, I ordain, constitute and make my true executors Richard Vernon, my son and heir, Arthur, my son, Anthony Fitzherbert, serjeant at the law, and Sir Thomas Rawson, my chaplain, the which executors all things afore written and after motte [=sic for 'must?'] truly do as they will answer afore the high Judge at the dreadful Day of Doom;

Item, I will that my wife's bones be taken up and laid with me when our tomb is made there as I have appointed;

Item, I will that my said tomb and chapel be made within 2 years next after my decease or erst, and the better and the more honourable for the blood that my wife is comen of;

Item, I give and bequeath for making of the said tomb and chapel £100;

Item, I will and bequeath that my said executors have 300 marks to purchase 10 marks land, or else to have so much out of some abbey or priory for the said money in a perpetuity, and that to be given and to be employed to a convenable priest to sing in the said chapel and to pray for my soul and the souls aforesaid, and to say all manner service within the said chapel, and every holy-day to help them and sing in the choir at the High Mass with such ordure [sic for 'other?'] ordinance as my said executors shall devise for the said priest for the weal of my soul and souls aforesaid;

Item, I will that every almsman and woman in the almshouse at Tong have the day of my burying 13d to pray for my soul and the souls aforesaid;

Item, I will that there be 2 tapers set upon me, one at my head and another at my feet, with a hearse upon me, and the said tapers or one of them to be light during the Mass while that is said for my soul, and so to continue as long as my tomb is unmade;

Item, I will that there be given the day of my burial to priests [f. 66v] and clerks as many as shall come to my dirge and Mass, every priest 8d, and every priest with an amice 12d, and every clerk with a surplice 4d, and every poor man and woman meat & drink & 1d that cometh to my Mass of Requiem;

Item, I will that there be 12 poor men about that carrion body of mine, every of them having a White Friars' gown with a hood according to the same over their head, holding every of them a torch in his hand burning as long as the said dirge and Mass be in saying, and such light to be set about my foul body as can be thought by mine executors worshipful for me;

Item, I will that at my month's mind there betaken of the most poorest men and as many as I was years of age the day of my death, every of them hearing the Mass of Requiem praying for my soul and other as aforesaid, and after the said Mass every of them to have convenient meat and drink and 5d in ready money when they have dined, and then to go in to [+the?] place where I am buried and say 5 Paternosters, 5 Aves and a Credo for my soul, my wife's soul and all the souls aforesaid;

Item, I will that the land in Rysshall [=Rushall?] in the county of Stafford which is the yearly value of 12s be made sure to the warden for the time being of the College of Tong and the priests there being to this intent, that the said warden and priests there being be bounden to mine heirs and mine executors that they shall truly keep my obit and Mass of Requiem yearly the day of my death, and so forever, or else to lose the said land, and it to be at the will of my said heirs;

Item, I will that the said warden give in alms after the said Mass to 13 poor men and women which shall be at the hearing of the same Mass, being none of the almshouse of Tong, have every of them 1d;

Item, I will that the house and prior of Stone have in the honour of God and Saint (blank) 100s, that to be employed to th' honour of God and the said saint to pray for my soul, dirge and Mass;

Item, I will that the Dean of Lichfield, vicars and canons being resident have 10 marks to say dirge and Mass of Requiem to pray for my soul and to have forgiveness of all manner matters that hath been betwixt them and me, as well in negligence of tithings as otherwise;

Item; I will that the Abbott of Rocester and convent of the same, doing as aforesaid, have 20s;

Item, I will that the prior and convent of Lenton, doing as abovesaid, have 5 marks;

Item, I will that there be a priest perpetual singing and there abiding in the chapel in Nether Haddon according to the will of my grandfather, there to serve God, Saint Nicholas and Saint Anne, and to pray for my soul, my grandfather's soul, my wife's soul, and for all the souls that come of my said grandfather, taking for his wages all those lands and tenements which Sir John Smyth otherwise called Sir John Peneston lately had during his life, that is for the say, the land now in the holding of Robert Bagshawe and Robert Wodruff, the land in Seckington, Tamworth, Wigginton and Chelmerdon;

Item, I bequeath to the church of Bakewell and to the making of the rood loft £6;

Item, I bequeath to my chapel of Tong my great and fairest Mass book and a chalice which I bought and is of the old fashion;

Item, I will that all the stuff remaining in the chapel at Haddon continue there still except such as I will give in this my will or after;

Item, I will that all my debts as soon as they can be conveniently known be paid;

Item, I will that all my coals and ore my son, Richard, shall have, and all manner pieces of lead go to mine executors to perform my will;

Item, I will my eldest son have my collar of gold, and also at every manor that I have and for building of the same all manner of stuff that belongeth to building;

Item, I will that my said son have my best gown, and the remnant of mine array to be distributed evenly betwixt Thomas, Humphrey, Arthur and John, my sons, and all other habiliments of wear to remain in this place at Haddon except such as I bequeath in this my last will;

Item, I will that Thomas, my son, have my chain with cross of gold that I wear daily;

And my son, Humphrey, a cross with stones set in it and a little chain and all of gold at the same cross;

Item, I will that John, my son, have the chain of gold that my son, Richard, had at his marriage, and else my said son shall not have my best collar of gold;

Item, I will that my daughter, Margaret, have 700 marks to her marriage, being married by the vice of her worship [=worshipful?] friends and of good and honest dealing, and she to find herself with party of such money and land as I have bequeathed her, and if fortune the said Margaret to decease afore her marriage, then I will that her part which is left and not spent she to dispose it for the weal of her soul;

Item, I will that my son, Arthur, have five hundred marks to his preferment;

And my son, John, a thousand pound to purchase him land or to get him marriage;

Item, I will that my son, Thomas, and Anne, his wife, have 60 wethers, 60 ewes and 60 stone of wool;

Item, my son, Humphrey, and Alice, his wife, as much;

Item, my daughter, Mary, and her husband as much;

Item, Margaret Bretton I will have 20 stone wool and 60 ewes;

Item, I will that my son, Richard, have 2 the best pots gilt and 2 the best standing cups gilt, the best basin and the best ewer of silver;

And my godson, his son, a little cruse of silver with a cover;

Item, my said son, Richard, shall have 2 of the best silver dishes, and my daughter, his wife, one;

Item, I will that my sons, Thomas and Humphrey, and either of them have a pot of silver [f. 67r] of the best, and either of them a bowl of silver;

Item, I will that my son, Arthur, have one of the little pots of silver, and a bowl of silver with cover;

Item, I will that John, my son, have the other pot, fellow to Arthur's, and a bowl of silver;

Item, I will that every one of my said 4 sons have a dish of silver;

Item, I will that my daughter, Margaret, have a pot, a bowl and a dish of silver;

Item, I will that my daughter, Mary, have a bowl of silver, a standing cup with a cover parcel gilt, and a dish of silver;

Item, I will that George, my son Humphrey's son, have a little cruse of silver;

Item, I will that my son, Richard, have my 2 best salts with a cover, and all such plate as I give unto him to be and to stand as heirlooms to him and to his heirs males;

Item, I will that my other 2 salts of the best, the one of them to Arthur and thother to John;

Item, I will that the other 2 salts, the one gilt and the other chased parcel gilt, the one of them to Thomas and the other to Humphrey;

Item, 2 basins and 2 ewers of silver, the one of them to Arthur and thother to John, my sons;

Item, I will that my Lady Corbet have an ouche of gold set with a ruby and pearls, which ouche is make lozengewise, and a dish of silver and the best goblet of silver;

Item, I will that my son, Richard, have all the hangings and beddings in the new chambers, great chamber with the withdraught of the same;

Item, I will that my said son, Richard, have the beddings and hangings in the chamber called the Arras chamber and the parlour under it, and the hangings in the hall, and all such hangings and beddings in the chamber where I lie myself;

Item, I will that my sons, Thomas and Humphrey, have the hangings and beddings in the Rose chamber and Hunter chamber evenly divided;

Item, I will that all the featherbeds have 2 good pillows with beres and all thing that appertaineth to a bed, sheets and other of the best as they be set in order above

Item, I will that my daughter Mary, have the chamber over the gates(?) bed and hanging furnished as abovesaid;

Item, I will that my son, Richard, and his wife have the bedding and hangings where they lie themselves, furnished as aforesaid;

And the chamber over them, my son, John, to have furnished as other aforesaid;

Item, I will that my son, Arthur, have hangings in the chamber next that over the yeomen's chamber, with all manner thing longing to the same, furnished as aforesaid;

Item, I will that my daughters, Margaret and Mary, have the hangings and beddings in Butterslee(?) chamber and the chamber next to it evenly divided, furnished as aforesaid;

Item, I will that my daughter Alice's chamber and the chamber under with all the stuff in them shall remain still to my son, Richard;

Item, I will that the Green chamber next the Arras chamber and all the stuff of the same remain still unto my son, Richard;

Item, I will that my son, Richard, have 6 of the best cushions, and every of my children after 3, if they will come so many to;

Item, I will that my son, Richard, have 2 chairs of leather, all the brass pots, cauldrons, broaches, pewter vessel, and all other utensils of household not bequeathed to remain still;

Item, I will that all featherbeds that I have bequeathed, every of them have a counterpane of verdure besides the covering they have now, and in like wise every bed that shall remain in the place to have the same, and the residue to John and Arthur;

Item, I will that every one of my children have a board-cloth, a towel and a napkin of the best, and my son, Richard, to be the first chooser, and so after as they be of age, and as for the hall, 6 coarse board-cloths shall be left, and 3 for my chamber;

Item, I will that all the chapel stuff in Haddon shall remain except that I will give any way;

Item, the residue of all my napery shall be distributed evenly in 4 parts betwixt my son, Richard, Arthur, John, and Mary;

Item, the hangings of the parlour under the Great chamber shall remain at the place at Haddon, and all manner stuff of household at Harlaston shall remain there still to the behoof of mine heirs as heirlooms;

Item, all such stuff of bedding and household stuff as I have at London my sons, Arthur and John, shall have;

Item, I will that all my servants have as I have made a bill with mine own hands here enclosed, the one half or all in ready money and else thother half in cattle over their whole year wages, which I will they have after my decease whether that they tarry or depart;

Item, I will that my household be kept together by the space of a year at my son Richard's charge of meat and drink, and if any of them will depart and go his way, mine executors shall pay them their wages besides their rewards afore granted;

Item, I will that my son, Richard, have £100 to see that he break no part of this my will;

Item, I will that my son, Richard, have 12 oxen, 12 kine and 2 of the best wains and all thing appertaining to them;

Item, I will that my said son have an hundred ewes, an hundred wethers, and my best horse next the church;

Item, I will that my son, Humphrey, have 6 oxen, 6 kine;

And my daughter Mary, as many;

Item, I will that my daughter, Margaret, my son Richard's wife, have 80 ewes to move my son, her husband, that he break no part of this my will, and also a pair beads of coral gauded with silver and gilt to pray for my soul;

Item, I will that every of my sons have a horse;

Item, the residue of all my goods not bequeathed, my debts paid, my chapel made and my tomb, I will be evenly distributed betwixt my sons, Arthur and John, foreseen alway that my debts be paid of the whole;

Item, I will that all the black work at my boles go to [f. 67v] the performing of my will except the bole walls and as much black work as will cover the blocks of the bole to burn once again;

Item, if there be not sufficient left of my goods to perform my will, then I will that my executors shall take it up of all mine ore and mines in very place, notwithstanding any bequest made before;

Item, I will that Bennet and Elizabeth, daughters to my son, Humphrey, have an hundred marks which he oweth me;

Item, to Mary and (blank), daughters to my son, Thomas, 100 marks;

Item, to my daughter, Mary, 50 marks to the marriage of her daughter if God send her any;

Item, to the daughters of my daughter Corbet which be unmarried 50 marks, evenly to be divided;

Item, to the church of Pipe Ridware a vestiment, the price 26s 8d;

Item, I give to my son, Richard, another hundred pound to begin his house with for his kindness that he hath promised to fulfill my last will;

Item, I give to the church of Harlaston a vestiment with that that longeth to the same, price 40s, and a book such as they have most need of to have;

Item, I will that every of mine executors for labouring and executing of this my will have for their labour £10 over and above their costs;

Item, where the King that dead is caused me to be bounden to pay £900, whereof £500 is paid, and which sum in my conscience I ought not to have paid or pay, but to have restitution of that that I have paid, and so appeareth by a bill assigned with th' hand of Edmund Dudley, and forasmuch as this my will may be taken doubtful in many points, therefore I will that if any ambiguity, contrariosity or any misrehearsal or doubleness be founden in any of the articles precedent of this my will, I will that it be interpretate, reformed, ordered and amended by th' advice of my said executors, 2 or 3 of them, to whom I have declared more plainly my mind by mouth so that the same may be executed according to the true intent and mind of me, the said Henry;

Item, I will that Robert Tunstyd have an hundred shillings;

Item, Marten Eyre 100s;

Item, Alen Sutton 100s;

Item, John Neell 100s;

Item, Robert Neell 100s;

Item, Robert Dakyn 100s;

Item, John Ryce 100s;
Item, Ralph Downs(?) 5 marks;
Item, Henry Calton 100s;
Item, Roger Bagshawe 4 marks;
Item, Humphrey Barker £4;
Item, Thomas Lawley £4;
Item, Richard Vernon of Sheyle £10;
Item, Thomas Vernon £6;
Item, Edmond Ellyott 100s;
Item, Humphrey Hall £3;
Item, William Bennett £3;
Item, Thomas Coke £3 6s 8d;
Item, Roger Wagstaffe 40s;
Item, William Acurlands 26s 8d;
Item, Ralph Bramall 26s 8d;
Item, Roger Gladwyn 26s 8d;
Item, Thomas Newton(?) 20s;
Item, William Thornelegh 20s;
Item, Richard Hehcote(?) 26s 8d;
Item, William Ashborne 20s;
Item, Thomas Hochkynson 20s;
Item, Roger Rydyarde 36s 8d;
Item, Joan Brokesopp 20s;
Item, Agnes Sharpe 13s 4d;
Item, Charles Kyrke 100s;
Item, to Thomas, the child of the kitchen, 6s 8d;
Item, Richard Smethley 13s 4d;
Item, to the shepherd of Cowdon 10s;
Item, to Thomas Browne 10 marks;
Item, Elizabeth Vernon £13 6s 8d;
Item, William Stafford, 4 marks;
Item, John Carte 40s;
Item, William Eyton 4 marks;
Item, Sir Thomas Rawson, my chaplain, £20;
Item, Sir James Marshall an hundred shillings;
Item, Sir Henry Shawe 100s;
Item, Sir Roger Lyne 10 marks;
Item, James Bargh 100s;
Item, William Rose 40s;
Item, William Bagshawe 26s 8d;
Item, Thomas Frost 20s;
Item, James Chapman 13s 4d;
Item, Thomas Langley 13s 4d;
Item, Richard Walwen 13s 4d;
Item, John Hadfeld 13s 4d;
Item, Ralph Sente 13s 4d;

Item, Perns(?) Olryrnshawe 20s;
 Item, Robert Browne 20s;

Item, to buy a coucher to Bakewell kirk 6 marks;

Item, for mending of Pynnewall Lane besides Harlaston 10 marks;

Item, to my daughter my son Richard's wife a pomander;

Item, to Hamworth's wife of Longysdon 26s 8d;

Item, to my daughter, Mary, a ring;

Item, to poor people 26s 8d;

Item, to buy timber for the belfry and floors of Bakewell church as mine executors think most for the same expedient;

And for the knowledge that this is my will I, the said Sir Henry, have set to my seal, these witness: Arthur Vernon, Sir Thomas Rawson and Charles Kyrke, written the day and year abovesaid;

Item, I will that if mine eldest son interrupt my sons, Arthur and John, of those lands and tenements which I have given them in this my last will as aforesaid, then I will that Arthur and John have all my purchased lands in every place during their lives, and my son, Richard, no part thereof.

Probatum fuit supradicti defuncti testamentum habentis dum vixit & mortis sue tempore bona siue debita in diuersis diocesis prouincie cantuariensis quinto die mensis Maij Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xvo Iuramento Domini Thome Rawson capellani personaliter presentis & Ricardi Vernon ac Arthuri Vernon In persona Willielmi Crowland procuratoris sui in hac parte sufficienter & legitime constituti Executorum in huiusmodi testamentorum notariatorum Ac approbatum & insinuatum Et comissa fuit ad ministracionem & singulorum bonorum & debitorum dicti defuncti dictis Thome Ricardo & Arthuro Executoribus predictis De bene & c Ac de pleno Inuentario conficiendo Et nobis citra festum Natiuitatis sancti Iohannis baptiste proximum futurum exhibendo Necnon de plano compoto reddendo Ad sancta dei Evangelia Iurat is Reseruata potestate Antonio ffitzherbert executori cum venerit & c

[=The testament of the abovesaid deceased, having while he lived & at the time of his death goods and debts in divers dioceses of the province of Canterbury, was proved on the fifth day of the month of May in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 15th by the oath of Sir Thomas Rawson, chaplain, personally present, & Richard Vernon and

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Arthur Vernon in the person of William Crowland, their proctor sufficiently & lawfully constituted in that respect, executors named in the same testament, and probated & entered, and administration was granted of all & singular the goods & debts of the said deceased to the said Thomas, Richard & Arthur, the foresaid executors, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc., and to prepare a full inventory and exhibit [+it] to us before the feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist next to come, and also to render a plain account, with power reserved to Anthony Fitzherbert, executor, when he shall have come etc.]