

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 7 June 1639 and proved 13 November 1639, of Sir Henry Carew of Stone Castle, Kent, brother of Thomasine (nee Carew) Amyce Vere (d.1639), who married, firstly, Oxford's servant Israel Amyce, and, secondly, Oxford's first cousin, John Vere (d.1624) of Kirby Hall.

The testator was the son of William Carew (d.1588) and Anne Chapman (d.1599), the daughter of Robert Chapman (d.1574). He had two brothers, William (d.1602) and Thomas, and a sister, Thomasine (d.1639). See the will of the testator's father, William Carew, TNA PROB 11/73/232; the will of the testator's mother, Anne (nee Chapman) Carew, TNA PROB 11/93/220; the will of the testator's brother, William Carew, TNA PROB 11/99/203; the will of the testator's sister, Thomasine (nee Carew) Amyce Vere, TNA PROB 11/181/273; and the Carew pedigree in Richardson, Joan A. Carew, 'Carew of Stone Castle', in *North West Kent Family History*, Vol. 3, No. 3, December 1983, pp. 114-118, available online.

The testator was the nephew of William Leveson (d.1593), whose heir was his nephew, William Leveson (d.1621), one of the trustees used by the Lord Chamberlain's Men, including William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon, in the allocation of shares in the ground lease of the Globe Theatre in 1599. For the will of William Leveson (d.1593), see TNA PROB 11/82/143. For the will of William Leveson (d.1621), see TNA PROB 11/137/600.

The testator was imprisoned in 1601 for his part in the Essex rebellion.

The executor who took administration of the will, Vere Harcourt (d.1683), was the third son of Robert Harcourt (1574/5-1631) and his second wife, Frances Vere, the only sister of John Vere (d.1624) of Kirby Hall. Robert Harcourt was the eldest son of Sir Walter Harcourt (c.1553-1639) of Ellenhall and of Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire, knighted at Rouen in 1591. He was a considerable adventurer with Sir Walter Raleigh, having obtained a patent from King James for planting Guyana. See the entry for Robert Harcourt in the *ODNB*. Vere Harcourt was prebendary of Lincoln, and Archdeacon of Nottingham (see the monument to Vere Harcourt in the church of Plumtree St Mary in Nottinghamshire at <http://southwellchurches.nottingham.ac.uk/plumtree/hmonumnt.php>).

Another of the executors named in the the will, Sir John Jacob (c.1597-1666) of Bromley, Essex, was knighted by Charles II for his service in the Royalist cause. He was the eldest son and heir of Abraham Jacob (d. 6 May 1629) and Mary Rogers, the daughter of Francis Rogers, gentleman, of Dartford, Kent, and his wife, Ellen Chapman. Ellen (nee Chapman) Rogers was the sister of the testator's mother, Anne (nee Chapman) Carew, and the sister of Barbara (nee Chapman) Leveson, wife of William Leveson (d.1593), uncle of William Leveson (d.1621) (see above). For the licence issued on 27 January 1592 for the marriage of Abraham Jacob and Mary Rogers, see Foster, Joseph, ed., *London Marriage Licences, 1521-1869*, (London: Bernard Quaritch, 1887), p. 749, available online. For the Jacob family, see Burke, John and John Bernard Burke, *A*

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*Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies of England*, (London: Scott, Webster and Geary, 1838), p. 279, available online.

For the testator's supervisor, Dean Tyndall (buried 25 April 1678), see Waters, Robert Edmond Chester, *Genealogical Memoirs of the Extinct Family of Chester of Chicheley*, (London: Robson and Sons, 1878), Vol. I, p. 283 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/genealogicalmem01wategoog#page/n318/mode/2up>.

LM: T[estamentum] D[omi]ni Henricj Carew militis

[f. 393v] In the name of God, Amen. I, Henry Carew of Stone Castle in the county of Kent, knight, being of sound & perfect memory, [f. 394r] for which I give unto Almighty God most humble thanks, do make, ordain and declare this my last will and testament in manner & form following:

First and principally I commit my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my heavenly Father, hoping and fully assuring myself that he will receive it into his most gracious protection for the love and merit of his dear Son, my only Saviour, Jesus Christ, and my body to be decently buried in the church or chancel of that parish where I shall depart this life at the discretion of my executors hereafter named, there to remain until the resurrection of the just, and then to rise again and ascend with my blessed Saviour into the kingdom of heaven;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Sir John Jacob of Halstead in the county of Essex, knight, Vere Harcourt of London, clerk, and Matthew Bridges of Chelmsford in the said county of Essex, gentleman, and their heirs all and every my manors, lands, tenements & hereditaments, as well freehold as copyhold, situate, lying and being in the county of Kent and the city of London or elsewhere within the realm of England upon condition and to the intent & purpose that the said Sir John Jacob, Vere Harcourt and Matthew Bridges, their heirs and assigns, shall well and sufficiently convey and assure the same unto my cousin, Henry Carew, eldest son of Henry Carew, my nephew, deceased, and his heirs males when and in such manner as he or they shall be capable thereof to his or their own use by the laws of the land, with such limitations & remainders over and in such manner and form as the same are limited in several indentures of uses by me, the said Sir Henry Carew, unto the said Sir John Jacob, Vere Harcourt and Matthew Bridges, the one, viz., that which concerns my land in Kent bearing date the tenth day of January in the fourteenth year of his Majesty's reign that now is, thother, viz., that which concerns my houses, messuages, tenements and hereditaments in the city of London or elsewhere within the realm of England bearing date the seventh day of June following, being the date of these presents;

And as touching the rents, issues and profits thereof after my decease & during the minority of the said Henry Carew, my cousin, or his heirs males, my will is that the same

be received and so bestowed & disposed by the said Sir John Jacob, Vere Harcourt & Matthew Bridges, their heirs or assigns, that the said Henry Carew, my cousin, or his heirs males may afterward receive the same and the profits thereof to his or their own use & behoof, abating and allowing unto the said Sir John Jacob, Vere Harcourt and Matthew Bridges and their heirs and assigns such sums of money as they shall justly disburse or be damnified for by or concerning the premises;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my beloved nieces, Mary Carew the relict of my nephew, Henry Carew above-mentioned, Lucretia Mann, the relict of Thomas Mann, & Anne Spencer, the wife of John Spencer, to each of them fifty pounds to be paid them or their assigns within six months next after my decease;

Item, I give unto my kind cousin, Mr Robert Jacob, brother to Sir John Jacob aforesaid, my sword, the hilt whereof is inlaid with gold, and my best girdle and hangers embroidered with gold, and my short pistol & the case thereof;

Item, I give unto my noble friend, Dean Tyndall of Chelmsey house in Maplestead, esquire, my armour of proof;

Item, to my cousin, Henry Carew aforesaid, I give my smooth gilt-hilted sword;

Item, I give and bequeath unto the said Vere Harcourt, my nephew, all my wearing apparel, my black sword and the dagger that belongeth to it, and my black embroidered girdle & hangers, with all my fishing instruments and my long writing-box, all which said bequests I will shall be delivered to the parties above-mentioned respectively by my executors within six months after my decease, save only the sword given unto my said cousin, Henry Carew, which I desire may by my executors be kept for him until they shall in their discretions think him fit to wear it;

Item, I give and bequeath all my money remaining after my funeral, and all my plate, linen, beds and bedding with all my other goods & household stuff whatsoever [f. 394v] not before particularly bequeathed in this my will unto my executors hereafter named to be disposed of by them to the use of the four sons of my said nephew, Henry Carew, deceased, viz., my cousin Henry Carew aforesaid, Thomas Carew, Frederick Carew and William Carew, toward their education & setting forth into the world;

And for the evidences & writings of and concerning my said manors, lands, messuages, tenements and hereditaments in the said county of Kent and city of London or elsewhere within the realm of England, I have already delivered them to the said Sir John Jacob, Vere Harcourt and Matthew Bridges or one of them in trust to the uses limited in the indentures above-mentioned;

And I do hereby nominate and appoint the said Sir John Jacob, Vere Harcourt & Matthew Bridges my sole executors of this my last will & testament, entreating them to perform the same;

And I make Dean Tyndall aforesaid and my cousin, Robert Plumbe of Spains Hall in Yeldham Magna supervisors of this my will;

And I hereby revoke and renounce all former wills by me made;

In witness whereof to this my present will containing four sheets of paper I have put my hand & seal the seventh day of June in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France & Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc. Annoq{ue} D{omi}ni 1639;

Item, my will is that my great counter and my cabinet be kept by my executors for my cousin, Henry Carew, my nephew Henry Carew's eldest son, and that my honoured(?) cousin, Sir John Jacob, shall have my horse pistols & the cases & new green velvet saddle belonging to them;

Henry Carew. Signed, sealed & published in the presence of John Cracherod, Richard Bickford.

Probatum fuit Testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram ven{er}abilj viro D{omi}no Henrico Marten milite Legu{m} D{o}c{t}ore Curie Prerogative Cant{uariensis} Mag{ist}ro Custode sive Com{m}issario l{egi}time Constituto Decimo tertio die mensis Novembris Anno D{omi}ni Mill{esi}mo sexcent{esi}mo tricesimo nono Iuramento Vere Harcourt vnus Executorum in h{uius}mo{d}i Testamento nominat{orum} Cui Com{m}issa fuit Administrac{i}o omniu{m} et sing{u}lorum bonorum iurium et Creditorum eiusdem defunct{i} De bene et fideliter Administrando eadem Ad sancta Dei Evangelia Iurat{i} Reservate p{otes}tate similem Com{m}issio{n}em faciend{i} D{omi}no Iohanni Iacob militi et Matheo Bridges Executoribus in d{i}c{t}o Testamento etiam no{m}i{n}at{is} cum venerint seu eorum alter venerit eandem petitur{is}

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before the worshipful Sir Henry Marten, knight, Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the thirteenth day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand six hundred thirty-ninth by the oath of Vere Harcourt, one of the executors named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the same deceased, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same, with power reserved for a similar grant to be made to Sir James Jacob, knight, and Matthew Bridges, executors also named in the same testament, when they shall have come, or either of them, to petition the same.]

[TWO NOTES CONCERNING ADMINISTRATION NOT TRANSCRIBED]