SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 5 November 1514 and proved 5 February 1515, of Thomas Brewes of Little Wenham, Suffolk, brother-in-law of Elizabeth (nee Scrope) Beaumont de Vere (d.1537), the second wife of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford.

The testator was the son of Robert Brewes (d. 7 December 1513) of Little Wenham, Suffolk, and Katherine Wingfield (d.1525), the daughter of Sir John Wingfield (d. 10 May 1481) of Letheringham and his wife Elizabeth FitzLewis (d.1500?), and the grandson of Sir Thomas Brewes (d. 17 June 1482) of Little Wenham, Suffolk, and his second wife, Elizabeth Debenham (d.1503). For the will of Elizabeth (nee Debenham) Brewes (d.1503), TNA PROB 11/13, ff. 150-1. The testator married Jane [Joan] Scrope, the daughter of Richard Scrope (d.1485) and Eleanor (nee Washbourne) Scrope Wyndham (d.1505/6). For the will of Richard Scrope (d.1485), see the copy on this website and in *Testamenta Eboracensia*, Vol. III (London: Surtees Society, 1865), pp. 297-9, available online. For the will of Eleanor (nee Washbourne) Scrope Wyndham (d.1505/6), see TNA PROB 11/15.

The testator and his wife Jane Scrope had three children: Sir John Brewes of Little Wenham, born 13 December 1512, died 13 February 1585, aged 73; Giles Brewes of Denton, Norfolk (d.1558/9); and Ursula, a nun at Denny, buried at Little Wenham 9 December 1598. For the foregoing, see the Brewes pedigree in Crisp, Frederick Arthur, *Fragmenta Genealogica*, Vol. VIII (Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, 1996), pp. 57-60, available online; and the discussion of the Brewes family in Moreton, C.E., *The Townshends and Their World* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1992), pp. 95-100.

In her will, the testator's sister-in-law, Elizabeth (nee Scrope) de Vere (d.1537), Countess of Oxford, leaves bequests to her sister, Jane (nee Scrope) Brewes, and to Jane's three children (see TNA PROB 11/27, ff. 84-6):

Item, I give and bequeath to my sister, Jane Brewes, a basin and an ewer chased gilt of the oldest sort, weighing five score and 6 ounces, having my Lord of Oxenford['s] arms in the bottom of the basin; item, a great goblet with the cover of silver, parcel-gilt, weighing 31 ounces, graven with crankettes and mullets, which she lately gave me after the chance of fire; item, my cross of gold ragged which was my father's, accustomably worn about my neck; item, a trussing bed of black velvet and scarlet cloth engrained paned, embroidered with letters of cloth of gold and black velvet, a counterpoint of the same, one featherbed with a bolster, 2 pillows, 2 pair of sheets of 2 breadths dimidium, and one pair of fustians.

Item, I give and bequeath my nephew, John Brewes, my cross of gold with the Five Wounds and a flower-de-luce of diamonds.

Item, I give and bequeath to my nephew, Giles Brewes, a standing cup of silver and gilt with a cover, newly made, weighing 24 ounces dimidium, dimidium quarter.

I give and bequeath to Dame Ursula Brewes, my niece, to pray for my soul, 40s in money.

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After the testator's death, his son and heir, Sir John Brewes (b. 13 December 1512, d. 13 February 1585), became a ward of the testator's maternal uncle, Sir Richard Wingfield (b. in or before 1469, d. 1525). The testator's son, Giles Brewes (d.1558/9), was also in Sir Richard Wingfield's care, as indicated in these clauses from the latter's will (see TNA PROB 11/22, ff. 20-22:

Item, I will also that mine executors shall have the custody of all such manors, lands and tenements and other hereditaments which I have now in my hands or hereafter shall come or fall by reason of the nonage of my nephew, John Brewes, with the marriage of the same without disparagement, and shall receive yearly the profits and revenues of the same by all such time as the custody thereof might have remained in my hands by virtue of the King's letters patents thereof to me made, with all such advantages and profits as in the same letters patents be expressed and contained, to th' use of and for the performance of this my last will and testament.

Provided always that mine executors during the nonage of my said nephew, John Brewes, and as long as the said manors, lands and tenements shall or might remain in their hands, shall yearly pay unto my sister, Katherine, at the feasts of Saint Michael th' Archangel and Easter forty pounds by even portions of the revenues and profits of the said manors, lands and tenements, provided also that whensoever my said sister, Katherine, die, then the said annuity of £40 to cease and continue no lenger.

Item, I will that the said Dame Bridget, my wife, shall have the governance and keeping of all my children and of my said nephew and his brother, Giles, trusting that she will see them virtuously brought up and found to school and learning.

For the will of the testator's son and heir, Sir John Brewes (b. 13 December 1512, d. 13 February 1585), see TNA PROB 11/68, ff. 72-3.

For the will of the testator's son, Giles Brewes (d.1558/9), see TNA PROB 11/43, ff. 21-2.

LM: Testamentum Thome Browys

In the name of God, Amen. The 5th day of November in the year of Our Lord God 1514, I, Thomas Brewes, esquire, of the county of Suffolk in the diocese of Norwich, being in good mind and whole memory, make and ordain this my testament and last will in manner and form hereafter following:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, and to his Mother, Our Lady Saint Mary, and to the holy company of heaven, and my body to be buried in the chancel of Wenham;

Item, I charge mine executors to perform my father's will to the uttermost;

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Item, I will that Jane, my well-beloved wife, have my lordship of Topcroft with all the advantage, and my said wife to pay to my mother during her life a yearly pension of forty pounds out of the same manor at 2 terms in the year;

Item, I will that my said [+wife] have Barton mill during the nonage of John, mine eldest son and heir;

Item, I will that my said wife have my lordship of Hawkers, paying the pension out of it which is £10 paid at 2 terms in the year;

Item, I will that my mother have Wenham, Vause, Germyns and all the profits thereof during the life of my Lady Debenham, paying the pension, and after her death to remain to my said wife with all the profits, and my mother then to have the said lordship her dwelling during her life;

Item, I will that John, mine eldest son, have my father's chain and all the plate that was my grandam's when he cometh to the age of 21 years;

Item, I will that my brother have my scarlet gaberdine with all that is in mine other will;

Item, I will that my said wife have all my movables, as well those that be at Wyuenhoo [=Wivenhoe] as those that be at Wenham, and also all the revenues of my lands due at Michaelmas last past;

Item, I will that Richard Apleton, gentleman, have my russet gown furred with fox;

Item, I will that one Thomas Gardyner have 20s, and Sir(?) William Reve 6s 8d;

Item, I will that Benett, my parker, have yearly during his life 26s 8d, he doing such service as my mother shall command him;

Item, I ordain and make mine executors Katherine Brewes my mother, and Joane [=Jane], my wife.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum coram domino Apud Lamhith quinto die mensis ffebruarij Anno domini Millesimo [-Millesimo] quingentestimo quartodecimo Iuramento Willelmi Crowland procuratoris Executorum Ac Approbatum et insinuatum Et Commissa fuit Administracio omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti prefatis Executoribus de bene et fideliter Administrando eadem Ac de pleno et fideli Inuentario &c citra festum &c Necnon de plano et vero compoto reddendo Ad Sancta dei Euangelia Iurati

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[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord [+Archbishop] at Lambeth on the fifth day of the month of February in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fourteenth by the oath of William Crowland, proctor of the executors, and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all and singular the goods and debts of the said deceased to the forenamed executors, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same, and to [+prepare] a full and faithful inventory etc. before the feast etc., and also to render a plain and true account.]

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