

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 14 September 1512 and proved 3 July 1515, of John Newport (d. October 1512), esquire, of High Ercall, Shropshire, grandfather of Sir Richard Newport (d.1570/1), owner of a copy of Hall's *Chronicle*, formerly Loan 61 in the British Library, containing annotations thought to have been made by Shakespeare. See Keen, Alan and Roger Lubbock, *The Annotator*, (London: Putnam, 1954). The volume is now in the hands of a trustee, Lord Hesketh.

According to the pedigree of Newport of High Ercall and Weston-under-Lizard, the testator was the son of William Newport (d. before 1490/1), esquire, by his second wife, Elizabeth Burgh (d. before 1471), daughter (and in her issue coheir) of Sir John Burgh and his wife Joan Clopton, daughter and coheir of Sir William Clopton. See Roskell, J.S., *The Commons in the Parliament of 1422*, (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1954), p. 159 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=StVRAQAAIAAJ&pg=PA159&lpg=PA159&dq=%22Sir+William+Clopton%22+%22Burgh%22&source=bl&ots=d5EoT9gKF9&sig=9zRjWUCqxNBzPjjiNcEcNlqd_qg&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjvyN6bjuvJAhXjGaYKHctuADYQ6AEIHTAB#v=onepage&q=%22Sir%20William%20Clopton%22%20%22Burgh%22&f=false

According to the Newport pedigree, *supra*, the testator was heir to his grandfather, Sir John Burgh, in 1471.

See also Lhoyd, H., *The Historie of Cambria 1584* (London: John Harding), p. 158 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=-gEIAAAQAIAAJ&pg=PA158&lpg=PA158&dq=%22Sir+William+Clopton%22+%22Burgh%22&source=bl&ots=Qtb-_Onf-Y&sig=WaKGtBcTC3EfHoGezAlrig2_6F0&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjvyN6bjuvJAhXjGaYKHctuADYQ6AEINDAI#v=onepage&q=%22Sir%20William%20Clopton%22%20%22Burgh%22&f=false

The testator married Alice Swynnerton, the daughter of Sir Thomas Swynnerton. For the Swynnerton family, see *Collections for a History of Staffordshire*, (London: Harrison and Sons, 1886), Vol. VII, p. 55-6 at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=V204AAAIAIAAJ&pg=RA1-PA59&lpg=RA1-PA59&dq=%22henry+Vernon+of+Hilton%22&source=bl&ots=vPFPE7Jp26&sig=SWXRerRTCTHGT-d_M5-IY83RXNg&hl=en&sa=X&ei=ITDQU-WfFKq1iQLo9oHoBQ&ved=0CEoQ6AEwBA#v=onepage&q=%22henry%20Vernon%20of%20Hilton%22&f=false

See also *Archaeologia Cambrensis*, Vol. IX, 4th Series, (London: J. Parker, 1878), p. 41 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/archaeologiacam43assogoog#page/n66/mode/2up>.

See also the pedigree of Newport 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, pp. 372-4 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationshrop01grazgoog#page/n100/mode/2up>.

The testator and Alice Swynnerton had four sons and two daughters:

* Thomas Newport, eldest son and heir, who married Anne Corbet, the daughter of Sir Robert Corbet (c.1477 – 11 April 1513) and Elizabeth Vernon, the daughter of Sir Henry Vernon (c.1441 – 13 April 1515) of Haddon, Derbyshire. For the will of Sir Henry Vernon, see TNA PROB 11/18/121. For the will of Sir Robert Corbet, see TNA PROB 11/17/471. For the will of Thomas Newport, dated 24 July 1548 and proved 11 June 1551, see TNA PROB 11/34/176. By Anne Corbet, Thomas Newport was the father of Sir Richard Newport (see above), the owner of a copy of Hall's *Chronicle* thought to have been annotated by Shakespeare. See also the pedigree of Corbet of Morton in Grazebrook, George, and John Paul Rylands, eds., *The Visitation of Shropshire Taken in the Year 1623, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1889), Vol. XXVIII, pp. 136-7 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationshrop00britgoog#page/n190/mode/2up>.

Sir Robert Corbet's sister, Elizabeth Corbet, and her husband Thomas Trentham (d.1518/9) of Shrewsbury, were the great-grandparents of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham (d.1612). For the will of Thomas Trentham (d.1518/9), see TNA PROB 11/19/252.

* John Newport, of whom nothing further is known.

* William Newport (d.1559) of Rushock, Worcestershire, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/42B/459.

* Richard Newport of Hunningham, Warwickshire, whose son, John Newport (d.1566), married Dorothy Hatton, sister of Queen Elizabeth's favourite, Sir Christopher Hatton. See the will of Dorothy (nee Hatton) Newport Underhill (d.1566x70), TNA PROB 11/52/36. For the will of Richard Newport, see TNA PROB 11/48/318.

* Jane Newport, of whom nothing further is known.

* Eleanor Newport, of whom nothing further is known.

John Salter, mentioned in the will below, was John Salter (d.1532) of Salters Hall in Newport, Chief Justice of North Wales, whose will (see TNA PROB 11/24/75) establishes that his daughter, Jane Salter, married Thomas Chetwynd (d. 30 September

1555) of Ingestre, Staffordshire, after whose death Jane Salter married, as her second husband, Sir William Sneyd (d.1571), the grandfather of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham (d.1612). Moreover Jane Salter's daughter by her first marriage, Mary Chetwynd, married Elizabeth Trentham's maternal uncle and Oxford's trustee, Ralph Sneyd (c.1527 - 15 August 1620), the eldest son and heir of Sir William Sneyd (d.1571). Chancery proceedings (see TNA C 1/888/2) also indicate that John Salter's widow, Elizabeth, married, as her second husband, William Yonge of Caynton, Shropshire, who was likely related to Giles Yonge, who was a co-purchaser in 1597, together with Ralph Sneyd and Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham, of King's Place in Hackney (see TNA C 66/1476).

LM: Test{amentu}m Iohannis Newport

[f. 58v] In dei nomine Amen. Quartodecimo die mensis Septembris Anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo Quingentesimo xijo, I, John Newport of High Ercall within the county of Salop, esquire, being in a whole mind, make my testament in this manner following:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God & Our Blessed Lady and all the company of heaven, and my body to be buried within the chancel of the church of High Ercall;

Item, I will have 12 new tapers with 6 new torches to burn about my body at the day of my burying;

Item, I will have 6 black gowns with their hoods to 6 poor men that bear the same torches;

Item, I give and bequeath to my 3 younger sons, that is to say, John Newport, William Newport and Richard Newport, one annuity of £10 sterling, that is to wit, to every one of them 5 marks sterling yearly out of the lordship of High Ercall to be received and paid to them yearly by th' hands of Thomas Newport, my son and heir, or his heirs or assigns during their lives at the feasts of Saint Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of Our Lady in Lent by even portions, and after the decease of them or any of them, the portion of him or them so deceased to remain again to Thomas Newport, my son and heir, and his heirs forever;

Item, I bequeath to my two daughters, Jane and Eleanor, to their marriage, 200 marks sterling which lieth in the hands of Sir Robert Corbet, knight, that is to say, to every daughter an 100 marks sterling to be paid at such days according to the bargain betwixt the same Sir Robert Corbet and me made afore John Salter, learned, at the marriage of Thomas Newport, my son and heir;

Also I will that my wife, Alice Newport, and Thomas, my son, take and receive of the same Sir Robert Corbet another 100 marks sterling to content and pay my debts and bequests, and [+the?] remnant to dispose for the health of my soul as they see best;

Item, I will that Alice, my wife, have to her proper use the chambers called the New Chambers, and them to have and occupy at her pleasure and liberty during her life;

The residue of all my goods above not bequeathed I give and bequeath and put into the disposition of Alice, my wife, and Thomas, my son, which I ordain and make my true executors to content my debts and to perform and fulfil this my last will according to right and conscience;

And further I ordain and make Sir Robert Corbet, knight, and my cousin, Sir Thomas Leighton, knight, mine overseers of this my last will to be performed and for the health of my soul;

These being witness: Sir Gilbert Heghton(?), vicar of High Ercall, Sir Richard Selebrant, parish priest there, Sir Ralph, clerk of the same priest, and other mo, given the day and year abovesaid.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum coram d{omi}no Apud Lamhith tercio die mensis Iulij Anno domini Mill{es}imo quingentesimo decimo quinto Iur{amento} Executor{um} in persona Will{el}mi Crowland procu{rato}ris sui &c Ac approbatum et insinuatum Et comissa fuit admi{ni}stracio o{mn}i{u}m et singulorum bonor{um} et debitoru{m} dicti defuncti prefatis Execut{oribus} in p{er}sona predicti Will{el}mi De bene et fidel{ite}r admi{ni}strand{o} ead{e}m Ac de pleno et fidei Inventario o{mn}i{u}m bonorum et debitor{um} h{uius}mo{d}i conficiend{o} Et nobis citra festum sancti Mich{ael}is Arch{angeli}i prox{imum} futur{um} exhibend{o} Necnon de plano & vero compoto calculo nobis aut Successorib{us} n{ost}ris in ea p{ar}te reddend{o} Ad sancta dei Eu{a}ngelia Iurat{is}

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the third day of the month of July in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fifteenth by the oath of the executors in the person of William Crowland, their proctor etc., and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all and singular the goods and debts of the said deceased to the forenamed executors in the person of the foresaid William, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same, and to prepare a full and faithful inventory of all the goods and debts of the same, and exhibit [+it] to us before the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel next to come, and also to render a plain & true account [+and?] reckoning to us or our successors in that regard.]