

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 20 July 1520 and proved 24 April 1523, of Margery Danyell, whose husband, John Danyell of Felsted, Essex, was in the service of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford.

On 28 October 1506 the 13th Earl appointed John Danyell constable of Castle Hedingham. He was granted an annuity of £10 in the Earl's will, and was named as an executor. See Ross, James, *John de Vere, Thirteenth Earl of Oxford 1442-1513*, (Woodbridge, Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2011), pp. 200, 231; and the will of John de Vere, 13th Earl of Oxford, TNA PROB 11/17/379.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Nothing definite is known of the testatrix' family background. In the will below she mentions household goods 'late in the custody of Matthew Morton' of Brewood, Staffordshire, and appoints as one of her executors her 'cousin' Edward Fowke, clerk'. It thus seems possible the testatrix was a member of either the Morton or Fowke families of Brewood. See *Notes and Collections Relating to Brewood, Staffordshire*, (Wolverhampton: William Parke, 1860), pp. 35, 77-8 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=SwgIAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA78>

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

As noted above, the testatrix married John Danyell, by whom she had a daughter:

* **Mary Danyell**, who married John Newport (d.1523) of Furneux Pelham, Hertfordshire. The descent of the manor of Furneux Pelham and adjacent manors indicates that John Newport was the son of Robert Newport (d. 17 November 1518) and Mary Alington (d.1528), the daughter of John Alington (c.1428-80), and the grandson of George Newport (d.1484), son of William Newport (d.1434) and his wife, Cecilia (d.1477). See Page, William, ed., *The Victoria History of the County of Hertford*, Vol. 4, (London: Constable and Company Limited, 1914), pp. 101-2, 106 at:

<https://archive.org/details/cu31924088434463/page/n169>

and:

<https://archive.org/details/cu31924088434463/page/n177>

See also the inquisition taken after the death of William Newport (d.1434), TNA C 139/64/36 (Hertford); the inquisitions taken after the death of George Newport, TNA C 142/23/61 (Hertford) and TNA C 142/23/62 (Essex); the inquisition taken after the death

of Robert Newport (Hertford), TNA C 142/34/96 and TNA E 150/304/5 (Hertford), TNA C 142/78/89 and TNA E 150/305/6 (Essex); and the inquisitions taken after the death of John Newport, TNA PROB C 142/42/96 (Hertford) and TNA C 142/42/125 (Essex).

See also the will, proved 12 May 1477, TNA PROB 11/6/409, of Cecilia Tyrwhit, daughter of Sir William Tyrwhit and wife of William Newport (d.1434), *supra*, who after her husband's death became Abbess of Ipswich.

For John Alington and his daughter, Mary Alington, wife of Robert Newport (d.1518), see 'Alington of Horseheath Hall and Wymondley' at:

<https://landedfamilies.blogspot.com/2013/11/86-alington-of-horseheath-hall-and.html>

See also the brass of Robert Newport and Mary Alington at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52219527@N00/4890528092/>

By John Newport, Mary Danyell had an only child:

-Grace Newport (c.1515–c.1549), who on 18 May 1523 married Sir Henry Parker (by 1514 – 1552), by whom she had at least two sons and a daughter. See the History of Parliament entry for Sir Henry Parker at:

<http://www.histparl.ac.uk/volume/1509-1558/member/parker-sir-henry-1514-52>

*By his marriage to Grace Newport, who was only eight in 1523, Parker acquired the manors of Furneux Pelham and Stapleford, and in 1536 he procured a private Act (28 Hen. VIII c.20) settling his two Norfolk manors on himself and his wife, in lieu of the jointure that he had covenanted to make her on marriage. In 1541 the under sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire was sued for abducting a 14 year-old ward, Jane Barenton, who had been contracted in marriage to the younger John Newport, presumably Parker's brother-in-law. Parker was apparently a party to the abduction, for his servants escorted the girl in her flight from her guardian and helped her to elude him in London.*⁶

For the will of John Danyell, see TNA PROB 11/19/189.

RM: Test{amentu}m Margerie Danyell vidue

In dei nomine amen. I, Margery Danyell of Felsted in the county of Essex, widow, late the wife of John Danyell of the same, esquire, being of good mind, whole memory and bodily health, make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form ensuing the 20th day of July the year of Our Lord God 1520:

First I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God, Maker and Redeemer thereof, and my body to Christian burial in the chapel of the Blessed Trinity of Felsted if it shall fortune me there to decease, or else in such place as shall be thought most convenient by discretion of mine executors;

Also I bequeath to the high altar of the church of Felsted aforesaid for tithes withholden or negligently forgotten 20s;

Also I bequeath to the parish church of Pelham Furneux for like cause 6s 8d;

Also I bequeath to my daughter, Mary, 40 marks and all my household stuff now remaining in the custody of my son-in-law, John Newport, her husband, except my jewels, plate and debts that he to me oweth;

Also I bequeath to Grace Newport, daughter to the said John and Mary, £100 sterlings to be delivered to the said Grace at her full age of 21 years, but and if it fortune the said Grace to die within the said age of 21 years or else if the said Grace be heir to the said John, then my will and mind is that my foresaid daughter, Mary, shall have £50 parcel of the said £100 if she then be living, and thother fifty pounds to be disposed for the wealth of my soul and such other souls as I am bound to by the discretion of mine executors;

And if it shall fortune my said daughter, Mary, to decease before the said Grace shall come to the said age of 21 years, then I will that the said £50 herebefore bequeathed to my said daughter, Mary, shall also be disposed by the discretion of mine executors in like form as the [f. 42v] other £50 parcels of the said £100 before expressed;

Also I bequeath to the said Grace Newport all my diaper not afore bequeathed to my said daughter, Mary;

And also my will and my mind is that as concerning my legacies herebefore in this my last will made to the said Grace, mine executors shall find sufficient surety to my said son-in-law and the said Mary, my daughter, or to the lenger liver of the said John and Mary, for the sure deliverance to the said Grace of her said legacy at the time and years above limited, with the which all my bequests and legacies unto my said daughter, Mary, and Grace, her daughter, I trust verily that my said son-in-law, John Newport, will be well content, wherefore I will and desire my said son-in-law that immediately when he shall be required after my death do generally acquit, release and discharge mine executors, or such as shall take on them th' administration of my goods, all manner such debts and demands by reason of any promise, agreement or covenant or otherwise herebefore had between my said husband and me and my said son-in-law or between either of us and my said son-in-law;

And if my said son-in-law do not acquit my said executors or other that shall take on them th' administration according to the premises, then I will and my mind is that all my legacies and bequests as well before expressed as hereafter ensuing unto my said

daughter, Mary, and Grace, her daughter, and every of them be utterly void and of none effect, but be otherwise disposed by the discretion of mine executors;

Also I bequeath to the reparation of the church of Pelham Furneux aforesaid and for adornments of the said church of Pelham £10;

Also I bequeath to the reparations of the church of Brewood in the county of Stafford and adornments of the same church of Brewood £10, and all my implements of household there late in the custody of Matthew Morton of the said parish of Brewood;

Also I bequeath to the reparation of the church of Felsted beforesaid £10, and also for a vestment, a chalice and other adornments to be provided by the discretion of mine executors for the said chapel of the Trinity 10 marks;

Also I bequeath to the priory of Dunmow for the reparations of the church 100s;

Also I bequeath to the canons of the said priory 10s to be distributed amongst the said canons;

Also I bequeath to the priory of Leez and adornments of the said church of Leez 40s;

Also I bequeath to the canons of the said priory of Leez 6s 8d to be distributed among the said canons;

Also I bequeath to the reparations of the church of Stebbing in the said county of Essex 20s;

Also I bequeath to the sustentation of the chapel of Northend in the parish of Much Waltham in the said county of Essex 10s;

Also to the reparation of the parish church of Navenby in the county of Lincoln and to adornments of the same 10s;

Also I will that mine executors in as convenient time as they may after my decease shall find an honest and virtuous priest by the space of 4 years to pray for my soul and my husband's soul and such other as we are bound to pray for, that is to wit, three years in the parish church of Felsted and the 4th year in the parish church of Pelham aforesaid, giving yearly to the said priest for his salary 10 marks;

Also I bequeath unto 8 the poorest householders in the said parish of Felsted, to every one of them 3s 4d;

Also I will and bequeath to all my household servants being with me at the time of my death, every one of them a livery of black cloth by the discretion of mine executors;

And to every one of my said servants not hereafter remembered 6s 8d;

Also I bequeath to my servant, Richard Gybon 40s;

And also I bequeath to Robert Joly £4 and such horse and horse-harness as he shall usually occupy at that time;

Also I bequeath to Sir John Morton 40s;

Also I bequeath to Katherine Danyell 40s;

Also I bequeath to Katherine Albert one seme of wheat and one seme of malt;

Also I bequeath to John Steven 6s 8d and half a seme of wheat;

Also I bequeath to Eleanor Albert a seme of wheat and a seme of malt;

Also I bequeath to every one of my godchildren half a seme of malt;

Also I will that my household be kept at my charge by mine executors by the space of a month after my death, and my servants in like wise to have their wages for the said time;

Also I bequeath to every one of mine executors such as shall take pain to see due administration of my goods for their labour and pain £10;

The residue of all my goods heretofore not disposed, my debts and funerals paid and done and my legacies afore expressed performed, I give and bequeath to my daughter, Mary, if she then be living, so that my said son-in-law, John Newport, do general[ly] acquit and discharge mine executors according as is before expressed in this my last will;

And if it fortune my said daughter, Mary, for to decease, as God forbid, before this my last will be performed, or that my said son do not acquit my said executors according to the premises, then I will that all the residue of my goods shall be distributed toward th' exhibition of poor scholars after the discretion of mine executors;

And for the full performance of this my last will and testament and due administration of the same to be done, I ordain and make mine executors my well-beloved cousins, John Danyell of Messing and Master Edward Fowke, clerk;

And supervisor of the same I ordain and make my son-in-law, John Newport.

Present at the reading of this my testament and required to testify the same, Sir John Morton, clerk, Robert Joly, and other.

Probatum fuit testamentum prescripti defuncti Coram prefatis Com{m}issarijs In eccl{es}ia Cath{edrali} diui Pauli London xxiiijo die mensis Aprilis Anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingentesimo xxiiijo Iurament{o} executorum in(?) h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}o no{m}i{n}at{orum} Ac approbatum & insinatu{m} Et com{m}issa fuit admi{ni}stracio auct{oritat}e prefator{um} R{euerendissi}mor{um} patru{m} o{mn}i{u}m & sing{u}lor{um} bonorum & debitorum d{i}c{t}i defuncti prefat{is} executorib{us} De b{e}n{e} & fidel{ite}r admi{ni}strand{o} Ac de pleno & fideli In{uenta}rio citra festum Ap{osto}lor{um} Ph{ilipp}i & Iacobi prox{imum} futur{um} exhi{ben}d{o} Necnon de plano & vero compoto reddend{o} Ad s{an}c{t}a dei Eu{a}ng{elia} Iurat{is}

[=The fore-written testament was proved before the forenamed Commissioners in the Cathedral Church of St Paul in London on the 24th day of the month of April in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 23rd by the oath of the executors named in the same testament, and probated and entered, and administration was granted by the authority of the forenamed Most Reverend Fathers of all & singular the goods & debts of the said deceased to the forenamed executors, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well & faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full & faithful inventory before the feast of the Apostles Philip and James next to come, and also to render a plain & true account.]