

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 16 September 1527 and proved 24 July 1528, of Nicholas Trotter.

The testator was the son of the London grocer, Benedict Trotter (d.1496), and his wife Joan (nee Holte?) Trotter Fitzherbert. For the will of Benedict Trotter (d.1496), see TNA PROB 11/11/101. After the death of Benedict Trotter, the testator's mother, Joan, married John Fitzherbert (d.1502), Remembrancer of the Exchequer, whose great-granddaughters, Dorothy Port (d.1607) and Margaret Port (d.1613), married into families related to Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham. For the will of the testator's mother, see TNA PROB 11/28/447.

Several of the testator's brothers and sisters are named in his father's will, including Benett, mentioned in the will below as having been buried at Saint Albans, Wood Street; John; Robert, mentioned in the will below as a priest at Saint Anne and Agnes in London, buried at Saint Albans, Wood Street; Hugh; Katherine; and Elizabeth.

For the will of the testator's sister, Dorothy (nee Trotter) Lake (d.1545), see TNA PROB 11/30/349.

For the testator's brother, Hugh Trotter, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/trotter-hugh-1504-3536>.

The testator married a wife named Jane. She was the daughter of Agnes Pysford (d.1541) by her first husband, whose name is unknown. Agnes Pysford married secondly William Wigston (d. 8 July 1536). For the will of Agnes (nee Pysford) Wigston, see TNA PROB 11/28/592. For the will of William Wigston, see TNA PROB 11/25/556.

For William Wigston, see also:

<http://www.leicester.gov.uk/about-leicester/lordmayorcivic/roll-of-mayors/1400-1499-roll-of-mayors/1499-william-wigston-younger-2/>.

After the testator's death, his widow, Jane, married the London grocer, Henry Barnes or Bernes, for whose will, dated 14 December 1557 and proved 26 January 1559, see TNA PROB 11/42A//258. See also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 127 at:

[http://books.google.ca/books?id=8JcbV309c5UC&pg=PA127&lpg=PA127&dq=%22henry+Barnes%22+%22Trotter%22&source=bl&ots=kviCH\\_LQ64&sig=O0oy6GrWVbc8DmFj-gxr\\_Thz7hQ&hl=en&sa=X&ei=et8NVP7JAdfZoASxqYKQDA&ved=0CCMQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=%22henry%20Barnes%22%20%22Trotter%22&f=false](http://books.google.ca/books?id=8JcbV309c5UC&pg=PA127&lpg=PA127&dq=%22henry+Barnes%22+%22Trotter%22&source=bl&ots=kviCH_LQ64&sig=O0oy6GrWVbc8DmFj-gxr_Thz7hQ&hl=en&sa=X&ei=et8NVP7JAdfZoASxqYKQDA&ved=0CCMQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=%22henry%20Barnes%22%20%22Trotter%22&f=false).

In his will, William Wigston leaves bequests to his stepdaughter, Jane Barnes, and her children:

*Item, I bequeath to my wife's daughter, Jane Barnes, £50, and to her daughter, Mary Trotter, to her marriage £50.*

*Also I bequeath to her son, Henry Barnes, £20.*

It appears from the will below that the testator had two children, Mary and John. However the testator makes no provision in his will for any children, and the wording of the will suggests that Mary and John had predeceased him. However a case in the Star Chamber from about 1537 indicates that the testator had another daughter, Mary Trotter, perhaps born posthumously. See STAC 2/3 at:

<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C7121795>.

See also Mundy, Percy D., ed., *Abstracts of Star Chamber Proceedings Relating to the County of Sussex*, (Sussex Record Society, 1913), pp. 5-8 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/abstractsofstarc00greauoft#page/4/mode/2up>.

LM: Test{amentu}m Nich{ola}i Trotter

[f. 281v] In dei nomine amen. The 16<sup>th</sup> day of September the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred twenty and seven and in the 19<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of King Henry the 8<sup>th</sup>, I, Nicholas Trotter, citizen and grocer of London, being whole of mind and good memory, lauded be God, make and ordain this my present testament and last will in manner and form following:

First I bequeath humbly my soul unto Almighty God, my Maker and my Redeemer, unto his Blessed Mother and Virgin Saint Mary, and unto all the holy company of heaven, and my body to be buried within the church of Saint Albans in Wood Street within London in the Trinity chapel in the same place where my father, Benett Trotter, lieth buried, and upon the same at the discretion of my wife and mine executors or on some other stone there be made convenient images of my father and mother with all their children, and this scripture to be written thereon: *Here lieth buried Benett Trotter etc.* (as is there written), *and Nicholas Trotter, citizen and grocer, and Jane his wife* (if she will be content so), *and 2 children, Mary and John.* Also in the same scripture, *Robert Trotter, priest, late parson of Saint Anne and Agnes in London, and Benett Trotter*, which all lie buried in the said place;

I will that there be made altar cloths to furnish the said altar of fine canvas stained, the principal image in the mids to be Our Lady of Pity holding Our Lord in her lap with his blessed wounds bleeding, and on the one side Saint Nicholas, on the other side Saint

Sithe the Virgin, on the nether part in the mids the Resurrection of Our Lord, and on each side an image, the one of Saint Jerome, the other of Saint Katherine the Virgin, and these cloths to be well and substantially done to the value of four marks at the discretion of mine executors;

I bequeath to the high altar in the said church for my tithes and offerings negligently withholden or forgotten, if any such be, 3s 4d;

Item, I will that as shortly as conveniently may be after my departing that the debts that I do owe at the hour of my departing be clearly content and paid;

And the residue of all and singular my goods, chattels, plate, money & good debts, whatsoever they be, as shortly as may be conveniently after my departing I will, by the discretions of mine executors, that they be made and sold to the most advantage and profit after good right and conscience, and the said wares and goods made and ordained to the laudable custom of this city of London, that is to say, the first part of them to be ordered to the performance and fulfilling of this my last will and for my funeral expenses, and the other part to Jane, my wife, she to do her own free will and pleasure withal and to pray for my soul;

Item, I bequeath unto the said Jane, my wife, £26 13s 4d of my part and portion to th' intent that she shall see this my present testament performed and fulfilled as much as in her is, and to pray for my soul;

Also I will that as shortly as conveniently may be after my departing that mine executors do provide an honest priest of good name and conversation, and the said priest to sing for my soul at the said altar in the same church of Saint Alban in Wood Street for the space of 14 weeks, and to say after his Mass done daily standing near my burying-place the psalm *De profundis* with collect accustomed, and to cast holy water on the same grave and people about standing, and the said priest at every time so doing specially to rehearse and pray for these names, for the soul of Nicholas, Benett, George and Robert;

And I will the said priest have for his wages five nobles, and to be at and help all manner divine service to be said and sung in the said church for the time being;

I bequeath to my mother 3 yards di {midium} black cloth for a gown;

To my brother, Hugh Trotter, if he be in London at the time of my burying, 4 yards black cloth;

Also he to have my jacket of black velvet and doublet sleeved with violet satin, and not to pay for them or anything else of mine apparel like as it shall be praised;

Also I will that Master Newton, priest, vicar of Cressall, have five yards black cloth, 24s 6d, to pay for my soul;

[f. 282r] Also I will there be given to the Wardens of the Grocers soon after my departing 40s in money to make a dinner to all the Clothing that shall be at my burying;

Also I bequeath to Saint Albans church in Wood Street where my body, God willing, shall be buried, shall be kept an obit in the said church during the space of ten years after my decease, and to spend at the said obit during the said (blank);

Item, where the said Nicholas Trotter made and wrote with his own hand his testament and last will the 16<sup>th</sup> day of the month of September in the year of Our Lord God 1527, in the which testament or last will the same Nicholas relinquished, omitted and left out the nomination of his executors;

And after the making and writing of the same testament and last will the said Nicholas did constitute, make, ordain and name Joan, his wife, his sole executrix of his said will and testament in the presence of the said Joan, his wife, and Master Walter Cromer, Thomas Alexander, William Lambe and Christopher Rogeway and other mo.

Probatum fuit testamentu{m} suprascripti defuncti Coram prefatis Com{m}issarijs in eccl{es}ia Cath{edrali} Diui Pauli London xxiiijs Die mensis Iulij Anno D{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingen{tes}imo xxviijs Iurament{o} Walteri Cromer in Medicinis Doctoris Will{el}mi Lambe & Thome Alexander test{iu}m in ea p{ar}te exa{m}inator{um} necnon Ioanne Relicte & executricis in h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}o no{m}i{n}at{e} Ac approbatu{m} & insinuat{um} Et com{m}issa fuit admi{n}istracio auct{orit}e prefatoru{m} R{euerendissimor}u{m} patru{m} o{mn}i{u}m & singulorum bonorum Iuriu{m} & creditor{um} d{ic}t{i} defuncti prefat{e} Executrici In p{er}sona mag{ist}ri Thome Docwra notarij pu{bli}ci procu{rator}is sui in hac p{ar}te De bene & fidel{ite}r admi{n}istrand{o} Ac de pleno & fideli In{uenta}rio secundo die post festum sancti Barth{olome}i Ap{osto}li prox{imum} futur{um} exhibend{o} Necnon de plano & vero compoto reddend{o} Ad s{an}c{t}a dei Eu{a}ngelia in debita iuris forma Iurat{e}

[=The testament of the above-written deceased was proved before the forenamed Commissioners in the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul in London on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of the month of July in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 28<sup>th</sup> by the oath of Walter Cromer, Doctor of Medicine, William Lambe & Thomas Alexander, witnesses examined in that regard, and also Joan, relict and executrix named in the same testament, and probated & entered, and administration was granted by the authority of the forenamed Most Reverend Fathers of all & singular the goods, rights & credits of the said deceased to the forenamed executrix in the person of Master Thomas Docwra, notary public, her proctor in that regard, sworn on the Holy Gospels in due form of law to well & faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full & faithful inventory on the second day after the feast of Saint Bartholomew the Apostle next to come, and also to render a plain & true account.]