

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 20 October 1529 and proved 8 February 1530, of Henry Barlee (1487 – 12 November 1529) of Albury, Hertfordshire, whose widow, Anne Jerningham, married Sir Robert Drury, chief steward and executor of the 13th Earl of Oxford, and legatee of the Ellesmere manuscript of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* owned by the Earls of Oxford.

The testator's third wife, Lady Anne Grey, leased a house in the Blackfriars.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testator's descent from the Walden family, see Barrett, C.R.B., *Essex: Highways, Byways, and Waterways*, 2nd Series, (London: Lawrence & Bullen, 1893), p. 26 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=DphQAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA26>

Two of the brasses [in Elsenham church] are those of John Walden, who died in 1400, and William Barlee 1521, representatives of two ancient Essex families who succeeded one another in the manor of Elsenham Hall; the connecting link between them being that Katherine Walden, the sister and coheiress of the last male, John de Walden (1419), married John Barley, of Barley, in Hertfordshire.

See also the History of Parliament entry for John Albury (d. 12 February 1446) at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1386-1421/member/barley-john-1446>

s. and h. of John Barley (d. 1420) by his w. Joan (d.1419), sis. and coh. of Sir Walter Lee of Albury. m. by 1419, Katherine (1400-66), sis. and coh. of John Walden (d. 1419) of Rickling Hall, Essex, at least 1s. Henry†.1*

See also the Barlee pedigree (which, however, appears to contain errors) in Tymms, Samuel, ed., 'Notes on the Parish of Wicken Bonant, Essex', *The East Anglian*, Vol. I, July 1862, Nos. XVIII & XIX, (London: Whittaker and Co., 1862), pp. 220-9 at pp. 225-7 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=aAUIAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA227&lpg=PA227>

See also the History of Parliament entry for the testator at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/barley-henry-1487-1529>

In the will below the testator mentions his cousin, John Docwra, esquire, and his cousin, Eleanor Snowe, and her daughters, Elizabeth Snowe, Isabel Snowe, Dorothy Snowe and Anne Snowe.

Testator's father

The testator was the son of William Barlee (c.1451 – 22 March 1522?), esquire, of Albury, Hertfordshire, a supporter of Perkin Warbeck. For the memorial to William Barlee and his wife, Elizabeth, with indents for brasses now lost, see Pritchett, G.E., 'St. Mary's Church, Elsenham, Essex', *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. IV, New Series, (Colchester: Wiles & Son 1893), pp. 120-4 at p. 123:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=uZQWAQAIAAJ&pg=PA123>

See also:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52219527@N00/4971947234/>

Testator's mother

The History of Parliament entry, *supra*, states that the testator's mother was Elizabeth Darcy (d.1520), the daughter of Sir Robert Darcy (c.1420 - 2 November 1469) of Danbury, Essex.

Testator's siblings

The testator is said to have had three sisters:

* **Dorothy Barlee** (d.1557), the last abbess of Barking Abbey, mentioned in the will below. She was godmother in 1535 to Dorothy Petre, eldest daughter of Sir William Petre (1505/6-1572), by his first wife, Gertrude Tyrrell (d. 28 May 1541). For Gertrude Tyrrell, see the will of her father, Sir John Tyrrell (d.1541) of Warley, TNA PROB 11/28/444. For Dorothy Barlee, see her will, proved 6 June 1559, TNA PROB 11/42B/255. See also:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=646

Dorothy Barley (d.c.1559) was the daughter of William Barlee (Barley, Barlow, Barlie, Barliegh) of Albury, Hertfordshire (c.1451-1521) and Elizabeth Darcy. She became a nun and eventually was elected abbess of Barking in Essex. In his will, her brother Henry (1487-1529) left her a doublet and 40s. She used her influence to make the surrender of the nunnery as painless as possible. She was a personal friend of Sir William Petre, who received the deed of surrender. She had been godmother to his daughter in 1535 and his sister-in-law was one of her nuns. Dorothy's pension was a generous one of £133 13s. 4d., one of the two largest awarded to the head of a nunnery.

* **Anne Barlee** (d.1558). For clarification of the confusion which exists in many sources concerning the testator's sister, Anne Barlee ('Lady Anne Grey') and the testator's third wife, Lady Anne Grey (d.1559), see Challen, W.H., 'Lady Anne Grey', *Notes and Queries*, 1963, Vol. 10, pp. 5-9, and the entry for the testator's sister at:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=646

Anne Barlee (d.1558)

The details in this entry are taken primarily from W. H. Challen's "Lady Anne Grey" in the January 1963 Notes and Queries, in which he sorts out the marriages of Anne Jerningham and Anne Barlee, both of whom were entitled to use the name Lady Anne Grey. Anne Barlee (Barley, Barlow, Barlie, Barleigh) was the daughter of William Barlee of Albury, Herfordshire (c.1451-1521) and Elizabeth Darcy. She was married three times and in each case was her husband's second wife. Her first husband was Sir Robert Sheffield of Butterwick, Lincolnshire (d.1519). Her second was Sir John Grey, son of the first Marquis of Dorset, and she is the "Lady Grey, Lord John's Wife" who attended the Field of Cloth of Gold in 1520. His date of death is unknown, but since he is mentioned in his mother's will in 1528, he was apparently still alive then. The will of the second Marquis of Dorset in 1530, clearly identifies Anne as "my sister Lady Anne Grey, wife to my brother John Lord Grey and now wife to Richard Clemente," but Collins' Peerage listed her as the daughter of the first Marquis of Dorset and this mistake has been repeated ever since. Her third husband was Sir Richard Clement of Ightham Mote, Kent (d.1538). His will was proved December 2, 1538. His widow's will is dated October 1, 1557 and was proved May 7, 1558. She asked to be buried at Albury with a tomb of marble or white alabaster.

For the will of the testator's sister, Anne Barlee, see TNA PROB 11/40/229.

* **Elizabeth Barlee**. She is not mentioned in the will below. She married firstly, as his third wife, Sir Ralph Jocelyn (d. 25 October 1478), Lord Mayor of London in 1464 and 1476, and secondly Sir Robert Clifford (d. 15 March 1508), third son of Thomas Clifford, 8th Baron Clifford. Sir Robert Clifford was a Knight of the Body and Master of the Ordnance to Henry VIII, and one of the earliest supporters of the pretender to the crown, Perkin Warbeck. There is a canopied altar tomb with brasses to Elizabeth Barlee and her second husband, Sir Robert Clifford, in the parish church at Aspenden, Hertfordshire, and portraits of Elizabeth and both her husbands in the stained glass windows of Holy Trinity church, Long Melford, Suffolk. For the will of Sir Robert Clifford, proved 15 May 1508, in which he mentions his wife, Elizabeth, her former husband, Sir Ralph Jocelyn, and his brother [=brother-in-law?], Thomas Barlee, see TNA PROB 11/15/731.

For the stained glass portraits in Long Melford church, see:

<http://www.therosewindow.com/pilot/LongMelford/table.htm>

However quare whether Elizabeth, wife of Sir Raph Jocelyn and Thomas Clifford, was the testator's sister, or the sole daughter and heir of William Berkeley of Aspenden. See

Monro, Cecil, ed., *Letters of Queen Margaret of Anjou*, (Westminster: John Bowyer Nichols and Sons, 1863), p. 106 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=lxkpAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA106>

Aspeden or Aspenden Manor, on the Rib, between Westmill and Buntingford, Herts, came, early in the 15th century, to William Berkeley, whose only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, married Ralph Jocelyn, esq. Alderman of London, and third son of Geoffrey Jocelyn of Sawbridgeworth in the same county of Herts. Ralph Jocelyn held this manor in right of his wife, and resided there in 1434 (12 Hen. VI.)

Page states that William Barlee was the father of Elizabeth, citing Lodge, John, *The Peerage of Ireland*, Vol. III, (Dublin: James Moore, 1789), p. 262. See:

'Parishes: Linslade', in *A History of the County of Buckingham: Volume 3*, ed. William Page (London, 1925), pp. 387-391. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/bucks/vol3/pp387-391> [accessed 27 November 2018].

Towards the close of the 15th century record is found of a second manor of Linslade. It was held of the Abbot of Missenden, and Sir Ralph Josselyn, kt., Mayor of London, (fn. 98) died seised of it in 1478, his heir being his nephew George. (fn. 99) His widow Elizabeth married Sir Robert Clifford, kt., as her second husband. (fn. 100) These parties were sued in 1507 by William Barlee, father of Elizabeth, (fn. 101) and others, apparently trustees, who claimed that they, rather than the Cliffords, were lawfully seised of the manor. (fn. 102) By 1538, however, the 'manor of Linslade and Southcott called Joselyn's manor' was in the possession of the Corbet family

However Lodge does not mention the lawsuit cited above by Page.

For the brass at Aspenden commemorating Sir Robert Clifford and his wife, Elizabeth, see:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52219527@N00/4859721026>

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

Testator's first marriage

The testator married firstly Elizabeth Northwood, the daughter of John Northwode or Norwood, of Middleton next Sittingbourne, Kent. For the will of John Northwood, proved 12 October 1496, see TNA PROB 11/11/71.

Testator's second marriage

The testator married secondly a wife named Anne, about whom nothing further is known. In the will below the testator requests that Masses be said for ‘Elizabeth and Anne, late my wives’.

It is possible that Anne was the widow of Thomas Goddard when she married the testator, and that Anthony Goddard and Dorothy Goddard mentioned in the will below were thus the testator’s stepchildren by his second marriage.

Testator’s third marriage

The testator married thirdly Anne Jerningham (d.1559), the daughter of Edward Jerningham (d.1515) of Somerleyton, Suffolk, by his first wife, Margaret Bedingfield (born c.1476, d. 24 March 1504).

The testator’s third wife, Anne Jerningham, was successively the wife of Lord Edward Grey (1478?-1516?), the son of Thomas Grey (c.1455-1501), 1st Marquess of Dorset; one [Henry?] Berkeley; the testator, Henry Barlee; Sir Robert Drury (b. before 1456, d. 1535); and Sir Edmund Walsingham (b. before 1480, d. 10 February 1550). For the will of the testator’s second wife, Lady Anne Grey, see TNA PROB 11/42B/3.

There were no issue of the testator’s third marriage.

According to the will below, the testator had two sons and three daughters:

* **William Barlee** (d.1561?) who married Joyce Peryent, daughter and co-heir of Sir John Peryent (d.1552) of Digswell, Hertfordshire, Auditor of the Court of Wards and Liveries, second son of Thomas Peryent, esquire, by his first wife, Mary Brockett of Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire. For Sir John Peryent, see the will of Robert Forster (c.1482-1545), TNA PROB 11/39/125, and the pedigree of Perient of Digswell in Metcalfe, Walter C., *The Visitations of Hertfordshire*, (London: Harleian Society, 1886), Vol. XXII, pp. 156-7 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationsofher222732cook#page/n173/mode/2up>

See also Papworth, John, *An Alphabetical Dictionary of Coats of Arms Belonging to Families in Great Britain and Ireland*, Vol. II, (London: T. Richards, 1874), p. 738 at:

<https://archive.org/details/alphabeticaldict02papw/page/738>

* **Anthony Barlee**. He is mentioned in the will of his stepmother, Lady Anne Grey, TNA PROB 11/42B/3.

* **Anne Barlee**, who married Philip Gunter (d.1583). She is mentioned in the will of Lady Anne Grey, *supra*. For Philip Gunter, a member of the Skinner’s Company and an

alderman of London, see Strype, John, *A Survey of the Cities of London and Westminster*, Book 2, p. 146 at:

http://www.hrionline.ac.uk/strype/TransformServlet?page=book2_146

* **Margaret Barlee.**

* **Elizabeth Barlee** (died 9 May 1592), who married firstly the testator's ward, Edward Leventhorpe (c.1514 - 22 December 1551), and secondly Edward Brockett (d.1584). See Kerr, P.W., 'The Leventhorpes of Sawbridgeworth', Reprinted from *East Herts Archaeological Transactions*, Vol. IX, Pt. II, pp. 129-151 at p. 141:

<https://archive.org/details/leventhropesofsa00kerr/page/n31>

See also the entry at:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=646

Elizabeth Barley (d.1592) was the daughter of Henry Barley of Albury (1487-November 12, 1529). Her mother was either Elizabeth Northwood (d. before 1517) or Anne Jerningham (d. April 1559). She married Edward Leventhorpe of Shingey Hall, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire (1514-1551). They were the parents of a second Edward (c.1535-October 8, 1566). . . . After her first husband's death, Elizabeth married Edward Brocket (d.1584).

LM: Test{amentu}m Henrici Barlee

In dei nomine, Amen. The twenty day of October in the 21st year [=20 October 1529] of the reign of King Henry the Eight, I, Henry Barlee of Albury in the diocese of London, being of whole mind and perfect memory, thanked be Almighty God, make and ordain this my will and testament as well concerning all my goods and chattels as all the profits of all my manors, lands and tenements in manner and form following:

First, I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Maker & Redeemer, to Our Lady Saint Mary, and to all the holy company of heaven, my body to be buried in the parish church of Albury aforesaid on the left hand of Elizabeth, late my wife, under Saint Margaret's foot;

Also I give and bequeath to the high altar of the same church for my tithes negligently withdrawn and forgotten, 3s 4d;

Also to the high altar of Elsenham for like cause, 3s 4d;

Also to the high altar of Aspenden for like cause, 20d;

Also I will and give to Lady Anne, my wife, all her stuff and goods that she brought with her, and also all th' apparel of one chamber with all necessaries thereto belonging at her choice and election, with all the bonnets, frontlets and pearls;

Also I will and give to William, my son, all the residue of hustelments and stuff of household within my house and stocks, with the land at Elsenham, to be kept by mine executors or by their advice and to be delivered to my said son when he cometh to th' age of 22 years or before at their discretions, and if he die before that time, then I will it be delivered to my next heir at the said age upon such like condition;

Also I will and give to my said son, William, all my plate so that he keep an obit for my soul and his mother's and all Christian souls in Albury during his life, and when he is of age of 22 years;

Also I will and give to Albury church my gown of black velvet furred to make with vestments;

Also to Elsenham church a damask gown for like cause;

Also to Thomas Scrogges a doublet embroidered with margarets;

Also to William Barlee, my son, three doublets, one of crimson velvet embroidered, one of black velvet, and one of black satin twilted;

Also to Mistress Dorothy a black gaberdine, and one doublet of black satin;

Also to Mistress Isabel a gown of say furred with black;

Also to Mistress Christian a gown of russet furred with black;

Also to Edward Brockett a frayne gelding;

Also to my brother parson a gray gelding called Patmore, with a jacket of black velvet, to pray for my soul;

Also to my Lady Anne, my wife, two geldings at her choice;

Also I give to Mistress Stafford forty shillings, and all manner of duties from the beginning of the world unto this day discharged;

Also to Mistress Fenne all the hay now at Elsenham;

Also I will that all my feoffees, their heirs and assigns, and all other persons, their heirs and assigns, seised of and in all my manors, lands and tenements, rents, reversions and services with their appurtenances in the counties of Essex and Hertford and elsewhere

within the realm of England shall stand and be seised of and in the premises to th' use of this my last will and testament, and also to th' use of all the covenants, grants, articles, agreements and provisions had and specified in a pair of indentures made between me, the said Henry, of the one part and John Peryent, of and for the marriage of William Barlee, my son and heir, and Joyce, the daughter of the said John, amongst other things;

Also I will and give to Lady Anne, my wife, lands and tenements to the clear yearly value of forty pounds for the term of her life only, to be assigned and appointed by my sister, Anne Grey, John Docwra, esquire, John Gyll, gentleman, or by mine executors, which [-which] I will & charge them to assign and appoint within forty days next after my decease;

Also I will and give unto Anthony, my son, lands and tenements to the yearly value of twenty pounds for term of his life only, to be assigned and appointed by the said persons or by my executors, which I will and charge them to assign and appoint within forty days next after my decease, provided always that mine executors take all th' issues and profits of the said lands and tenements so assigned and appointed unto my son, Anthony, unto the time the said Anthony come or might come to th' age of twenty and one years, with which issue and profits I will that mine executors find my said son, Anthony, to school and learning, and also all my daughters unto such time that they and every of them be married;

Also I will that mine executors take all th' issues and profits of all my other lands and tenements, rents, reversions and services within the counties of Essex and Hertford or elsewhere within the realm of England for so many years' time and space as is comprised in the same indentures or any article of the same to th' use and performance of this my last will:

First, I will that all my debts be paid as shortly as may be conveniently;

Also I will and give to Anne and Margaret, my daughters, to each of them three hundred marks, to be paid when they be married, and if any of them die before they be married, then I will that her part be equally divided between her that overliveth, and my daughter [-and my daughter] Elizabeth, which I will shall be married to Edward Leventhorpe at the appointment of mine executors, to whom I will and give fifty pounds to be paid when he maketh my said daughter Elizabeth a jointure of lands and tenements to the clear yearly value of thirty pounds only for term of her life, and if the said daughter, Elizabeth, cannot or be not married to the said Leventhorpe for any cause, then I will the custody and marriage of the said Leventhorpe and his heir to be sold by mine executors to the best profit, which profit I give to the said Elizabeth when she shall be married, and if she die, then to be divided among the other children that overliveth;

Also I will that mine executors immediately after my decease cause two hundred & twenty Masses to be sung and said in manner and form following, that is to say, the first hundred and twenty Masses to be sung of the Five Wounds of Our Lord, and the other

hundred in trentals for my father's soul and the souls of Elizabeth and Anne, late my wives, and all Christian souls;

Also I will that mine executors cause thirty Masses of the Five Wounds of Our Lord to be sung for the souls of Sir Thomas Bocher, knight, and William Bensted, and for all Christian souls;

Also I give to Anthony Goddard his mother's wedding-ring;

Also I give to Dorothy Goddard, her mother's chain with the cross, to be delivered when she shall be married;

Also to Anthony Barlee, th' other wedding-ring;

Also I will and give to Elizabeth Snowe, my cousin, forty marks, to be paid when she shall be married and according to the will of Mistress Fychett, her grandam;

Also I will and give in like wise to Isabel Snowe, her sister, twenty pounds, to be paid in like form;

Also I will and give in like wise to Dorothy Snowe, her sister, twenty pounds to be paid in like form;

Item, I give and bequeath to Dame Anne Snowe, her sister, £3 6s 8d;

Also I will and give to Eleanor Snowe, their mother and my cousin, every year during her life twenty shillings, to be paid by mine executors;

Also I will that mine executors do keep and find Anthony Goddard and Dorothy, his sister, until the said Anthony be 18 years old all things that to them appertaineth with the annuity of nine pounds granted by Thomas Goddard of Ocborne [=Ogbourne?] within the county of Wiltshire if they will abide with mine executors or by their appointment;

Also I will that if my said son, William, die before he cometh to all his manors, lands and tenements as is specified by certain articles in the foresaid indenture, then I will that mine executors take all th' issues and profits of all such manors, lands and tenements comprised, reserved, provided or appointed by the articles of the same indenture for as long time and space as is so provided and appointed, therewith to fulfil this my last will;

Also I will that my executors have all such manors, lands and tenements which I have taken to farm of John Burde, gentleman, and all the profits of the same towards the performance of this my last will, and also to pay to the said John Burde forty pounds yearly according to such indenture made between the said Burde and me, the said Henry Barlee;

Also I will that mine executors pay to the Abbess of Barking, my sister, forty shillings, and to Reynolde Whitbrede, forty shillings, for term of their two lives, echen(?) of them according to the said indentures;

Also I will that my feoffees of and in my manor of Albury with th' appurtenances do grant an annuity of sixteen pounds 13s 4d to the said John Byrde for term of his life according to the said indenture;

Also I will that mine executors keep Elizabeth Snowe, my cousin, Isabel, her sister, and Dorothy Snowe, her sister, all things necessary until they be married;

Also I will and give unto James Fitzwarren, my trusty and well-beloved servant, forty shillings term of his life, that is to say, my house and land in Stonden, late Arsemas, which I purchased lately, which is worth by year 26s 8d, and thother 13s 4d I will that my feoffees of and in the manor of Cockhamsted by their sufficient deed grant out of the said manor, with a clause of distress for non-payment, and if the said James marry and take to wife Christian Steward, sometime my servant, then I will she shall have the said lands & annuity during her life, and the longer liver of them;

Also I give to each of my servants their quarter wages, which I will be paid to them at their departures, that is to say, when my month day is kept;

Also I will that mine executors find my house at my costs for the space of one month next after my decease;

Also where my son, William, hath but twenty marks towards his keeping according to the covenants of his marriage, I will and give him ten marks more after my decease towards finding in the Inns of Court until he be of th' age of twenty and two years;

Also I give to Robert Heyward, my servant, 26s 8d during his life, of which 26s 8d I will that my feoffees of and [+in] my manor of Albury make a sufficient grant with a clause of distress during his life, so that he give attendance of my son and heir, being of full age, at Albury four times in the year, every time six days, during his life;

The residue of all my goods and also th' issues and profits of all my manors, lands and tenements not before given and bequeathed, I wholly give and will to mine executors after my funerals and year's days kept [-as shall be kept] as shall be thought by them convenient, their costs and charges deducted and paid, and all other charges borne and reparations of the houses done, equally to be divided amongst all my children then being alive;

Provided always that if my son, William Barlee, live until he come to th' age of 22 years, that then I will he have at the said age all my manors, lands and tenements, rents, reversions and services, except such lands & tenements [LM: appointed to Lady Anne, my wife, and Anthony, my son, during their lives, and also lands and tenements] to the yearly value of forty pounds, until these my legacies may be performed or for the term of

twenty years according to the indenture made between John Peryent and me, and if they be performed in short time, then no further to meddle, any article or clause in this will rehearsed and made notwithstanding;

And of this my last will and testament I make and ordain my trusty and well-beloved sister, Anne Grey, my cousin, John Docwra, esquire, Anthony Walgrave [=Waldegrave], and John Gylle, gentleman, mine executors, and my wife to be overseer, and my brother, John Peryent, these witnesses being present: (blank) Beuerlacy, Abbot of Tyltey, John Peryent, Edward Brokett, Will{ia}m Barlee, clerk, Thomas Scrogg{es} cum alijs.

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascripti defuncti Coram D{omi}no apud Lameth octavo Die mens{is} ffebruarij Anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingen{tesi}mo xxix^o Iurament{o} Ioannis Docwra Executoris in h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}o no{m}i{n}at{i} Ac approbatum & insinuatum Et com{m}issa fuit admi{ni}stracio om{n}i{um} et sing{u}lorum bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti pefat{o} executori De bene & fidel{ite}r admi{ni}stra{n}d{o} Ac de pleno & fideli In{uenta}rio secundo Die post festum Inuencionis s{an}c{t}e Crucis prox{imum} futur{um} exhibend{o} Necnon de plano et vero compoto reddend{o} Ad sancta Dei Eu{a}ngelia Iurat{i} Reseruat{a} potestat{e} alijs executorib{us} in h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}o no{m}i{n}at{is} cum venerint in debita iuris forma admissur{is}

[=The testament of the above-written deceased was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the eighth day of the month of February in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 29th by the oath of John Dowcra, executor named in the same testament, and probated & entered, and administration was granted of all and singular the goods and debts of the said deceased to the forenamed executor, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well & faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full & faithful inventory on the second day after the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross next to come, and also to render a plain and true account, with power reserved to the other executors named in the same testament when they shall have come to be admitted in due form of law.]