

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 2 April 1533 and proved 6 June 1533 of the London goldsmith, John Pyke, whose widow, Isabel (nee Hosyer) Pyke (d.1565), married, as his third wife, Sir Richard Gresham, Lord Mayor of London.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator's family background is unknown.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testator married Isabel Hosyer (d.1565), daughter and heir of the London mercer and Merchant of the Staple, John Hosyer (d.1521?), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/20/138. By Isabel Hosyer, the testator had two daughters:

* **Elizabeth Pyke**, who appears to have died unmarried in 1532 (see below).

* **Joan Pyke**, who married, as his second wife, Barnard Jenyn (d.1552), by whom she appears to have had no issue. For the will of Barnard Jenyn, see TNA PROB 11/35/195.

The testator's widow, Isabel (nee Hosyer) Pyke, married secondly, as his third wife, Sir Richard Gresham (c.1485-1549), Lord Mayor of London. See her will, TNA PROB 11/48/161, and the transcript in Leveson Gower, Granville, *Genealogy of the Family of Gresham*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1883), p. 76 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9ZQNAAAQAAJ&pg=PA76>

See also the entry in 'A Who's Who of Tudor Women' at:

www.tudorwomen.com

ISABEL GRESHAM (d. April 1, 1565) (maiden name unknown) Isabel is called Isabella Worpfall in the Oxford DNB entry for her second husband, Sir Richard Gresham (c.1485-February 21, 1549), a mercer and stapler who was Lord Mayor of London in 1537/8, but this appears to confuse her with Gresham's first wife, Thomasyn Worsopp. The DNB further records that in October 1532, when Isabella's daughter Elizabeth died of an unspecified illness, she and her son by Gresham were also extremely ill. At that time, however, Isabel was still married to her first husband, John Pyke (d.1533), a goldsmith. Their daughter, Joan Pyke, married Barnard Jenyn, a skinner, as his second wife. Family wills in that line identify Isabel as the mother of Joan and the wife of Sir Richard Gresham. Isabel is sometimes said to have been the wealthy widow of a knight named Taverson, by whom she had at least two daughters. This is possible, but the timing would be tight. She was married to Gresham, who was much disliked as a moneylender

*and land grabber, by November 16, 1537. On January 21, 1543, the Gresham house in Milk Street was targeted by the earl of Surrey and his minions during a five-hour rampage through London. They broke windows in the house by firing stonebows at them. At the time of his death, he owned Inwood Hall, Norfolk, Ringshall, Suffolk, Orembery, Yorkshire, the house in Milk Street in London, and one in Bethnal Green, valued together at £800 per annum. He died at the house in Bethnal Green. He was buried in St. Laurence Jewry, London. His will, made February 20, 1549, left one third of his estate to his widow, providing her with an annual income of £282. According to Anne F. Sutton, *The Mercery of London*, Isabel purchased a mansion in Lad Lane from the Mercers on May 10, 1550, together with five other tenements. Its value as a rental was £13 10s/year. In 1551, she began to make gifts to the Mercers' Company and continued to do so until her death. These included her mansion and the tenements that went with it, a bequest made in spite of opposition from her stepson, Sir Thomas Gresham.*

For Sir Richard Gresham's first wife, Audrey Lynne (d. 28 August 1522), see the will of her father, William Lynne (d.1511?), TNA PROB 11/17/40.

For Sir Richard Gresham's three wives, see also the WikiTree profile at:

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Gresham-35>

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

For Sir Rowland Hill (c.1495-1561), see the *ODNB* entry.

LM: T{estamentum} Iohan{n}is Pyke

In the name of God, Amen. The second day of April in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred 33 and the 24 year of the reign of King Henry the 8th, I, John Pyke, citizen and goldsmith of the city of London, being whole of mind and in good memory, laud and praising be unto Almighty God, make, ordain and dispose this my present testament and last will in manner and form following, that is to say:

First I bequeath and recommend my soul unto Almighty God, my Creator and Redeemer, to his blessed mother, Our Lady Saint Mary the Virgin, and to all the holy company of heaven;

And my body to be buried in the parish church of Saint Vedast besides West Cheap of London in such place as it shall please mine executrice underwritten to provide and ordain for me;

And I will that my funeral charges shall be honestly done after the wise discretion of mine executrice;

And that all my debts which I do owe of right or conscience to any manner of person or persons shall be well(?) and truly paid by mine executrice or else ordained so for to be paid;

Also I bequeath unto the high altar of the parish church of Saint Peter besides the Cross in West Cheap of London for my tithes and oblations by me forgotten or withholden, if any such be, in discharge of my soul 6s 8d;

Item, to the high altar of the foresaid parish church of Saint Vedast for my tithes and oblations by me forgotten or negligently withholden, if any such be, in discharge of my soul and conscience 6s and 8d sterling;

And forasmuch as before this time I have given, delivered and paid to Barnard Jenyn, citizen and skinner of London, in marriage of and with Joan, my daughter, the sum of two hundred marks sterlings in the name of her full portion and part of all my goods, chattels and debts after th' use and custom of the said city of London belonging to her, which sum is the very third part of all my goods, chattels and debts, and therefore I exhort, will and desire the said [-the said] Barnard and Joan and either of them therewith to be fully [-to be] contented and pleased without any further claim by them or their [sic] of them hereafter to be made:

Item, I bequeath to the said Barnard, my son-in-law, one ring of gold with the Trinity and with two stones fixed in the same ring;

Item, I bequeath to every of the five orders of friars in London to pray for my soul 3s 4d;

Item, I bequeath to the reparations of the beds for poor people in every of the hospitals of Saint Bartholomew and Saint Mary Spital and Saint Thomas Spital in Southwark 6s 8d;

Item, I bequeath to Rowland Hill, mercer, my pouch-rings of silver;

Item, I bequeath unto the poor prisoners in every of the prison-houses of Ludgate, Newgate, the King's Bench and the Marshalsea bread to the value of 5s, summa 20s;

The residue of all my goods, chattels and debts, after that my debts be paid, my funeral charges done and these my legacies and bequests expressed in this my present testament and last will performed and fulfilled, I give and bequeath wholly, freely and clearly unto Isabel, my wife, to her own proper use and behoof;

And of this my present testament and last will I make and ordain the said Isabel, my wife, my sole executrice;

In witness whereof to this my present testament and last will I have set my seal, given the day and year abovesaid, these witnesses: John Wilford, notary, John Lewes, Thomas

Baven{er}(?) and William Sympson, goldsmiths. Sigillat{um} et delib{er}at{um} in p{rese}ncia mei Iohannis Wylford notarij pu{bli}ci

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum cora{m} d{omi}no apud Lamethith vjto die mens{is} Iunij Anno D{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingen{tesim}o xxxiiijo Iuramento Isabelle Relict{e} et executric{is} in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento no{m}i{n}at{e} Ac approbatum et insinuatum Et com{m}issa fuit admi{ni}strac{i}o o{mn}iu{m} et singulor{um} bonor{um} iuriu{m} et creditor{um} d{i}c{t}i defunct{i} pefat{e} executrici De bene et fidel{ite}r admi{ni}strand{o} eadem Ac de pleno et fideli Inue{n}tar{io} o{mn}iu{m} et singulor{um} bonor{um} iur{ium} et creditor{um} conficiend{o} Necno{n} de plano et vero compoto reddend{o} ad s{an}c{t}a dei Eu{a}ngelia iurat{e}

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the 6th day of the month of June in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 33rd by the oath of Isabel, relict and executrix named in the same testament, and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased to the forenamed executrix, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same, and to prepare a full and faithful inventory of all and singular the goods, rights and credits, and also to render a plain and true account.]