

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 6 February 1541/2 and proved 14 May 1541 [sic?] of William Saunders (d.1541?) of Welford, Northamptonshire, father of George Saunders, murdered on 25 March 1573 by Oxford's former servant, George Browne. The murder was the subject of a pamphlet by Oxford's uncle, Arthur Golding (1535/6-1606), *Brief Discourse of the Late Murther of Master George Saunders*, and an anonymous play, *A Warning for Fair Women*, performed by the Lord Chamberlain's Men.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the third son of Edward Saunders of Harrington by Joan Makerneys, the daughter of Richard and Felice Makerneys of Wolfhampcote. See the pedigree of Saunders of Little Bowden in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Northamptonshire*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1887), p. 44 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationsofnor00harvrich#page/44/mode/2up>

See also Agutter, Doreen, 'Edward Saunders of Harrington and Rothwell, Northamptonshire', *Monumental Brass Society*, Bulletin 115, (September 2010), pp. 288-9, at:

<http://www.mbs-brasses.co.uk/Bulletin.html>

See also the pedigree in Winchester, Barbara, *Tudor Family Portrait*, (London: Jonathan Cape, 1955), p. 17.

See also the pedigree of Saunders in Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol. I, (London: Hamilton Adams, 1868), p. 159 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/miscellaneageneal12unse#page/n177/mode/2up>

For the testator's family background, see the pedigree of Saunders of Brixworth, Welford and Syresham in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Northamptonshire*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1887), p. 131 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationsofnor00harvrich#page/130/mode/2up>

Testator's siblings

The testator had three brothers and three sisters:

-John Saunders.

-**Lawrence Saunders** (d.1544) of Harrington, Northamptonshire, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/30/232.

-**Thomas Saunders** (d.1528) of Sibbertoft, Northamptonshire, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/22/481.

-**Joan Saunders**.

-**Grace Saunders**, who married Maurice Osborne of Kelmarsh.

-**Isabel Saunders**, who married Walter Curson or Curzon (d.1527) of Waterperry, for whom see his will, TNA PROB 11/22/320, and:

'Parishes: Waterperry', in *A History of the County of Oxford: Volume 5, Bullingdon Hundred*, ed. Mary D Lobel (London, 1957), pp. 295-309. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/oxon/vol5/pp295-309> [accessed 18 October 2018].

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

Testator's first marriage

The testator married firstly Dorothy Belgrave, the daughter of William Belgrave, esquire, of Leicestershire, by whom he had two sons and four daughters:

* **Clement Saunders**, esquire, of Little Bowden, Northamptonshire, who married Joan (nee Farnham) Belgrave, daughter of Robert Farnham of Quorndon, Leicestershire, and widow of George Belgrave of Belgrave, Leicestershire.

* **Thomas Saunders**.

* **Ursula Saunders**, who married Thomas Haddon of Northamptonshire, the son of the testator's second wife, Dorothy Yonge (see below), by her first husband, Walter Haddon.

* **Margaret Saunders**, who married a husband surnamed Parker of Hoo, Kent.

* **Mary Saunders**, who married John Sharpe of Wickham, Leicestershire.

* **Bridget Saunders**, who married Edward Browne of Brownsover, Warwickshire.

Testator's second marriage

The testator married secondly Dorothy Yonge (d. 18 January 1574), the daughter of John Yonge of Croome D'Abitot, Worcestershire. Dorothy Yonge's brother, Humphrey Yonge, married Dorothy Underhill, the great-aunt of William Underhill (d.1597), who

sold New Place to William Shakespeare of Stratford. For the will of William Underhill, see TNA PROB 11/52/126.

At the time of her marriage to the testator Dorothy (nee Yonge) was the widow of William Haddon.

For the testator's children by his second wife, Dorothy Yonge, see her will, TNA PROB 11/56/39. As noted above, the testator's children by his second marriage included George Saunders, murdered on 25 March 1573 by Oxford's former servant, George Browne.

After the testator's death, Dorothy Yonge married, as her third husband, Paul Dayrell (d.1556), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/38/54.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

The testator's executor, William Jenkinson (d.1566) of Market Harborough, Leicestershire, was the father of Anthony Jenkinson. From the *ODNB*:

Jenkinson, Anthony (1529–1610/11), traveller and writer, was born at Market Harborough, Leicestershire, on 8 October 1529, the second son of William Jenkinson (d. 1565/6), the owner of several inns and considerable property, and his wife, Elizabeth (d. after 1572).

The testator's overseers were Sir Edward Montague (1480s-1557), Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and the testator's nephew, Sir Edward Saunders (1506-1576). From the *ODNB*:

Saunders, Sir Edward (1506–1576), judge, was born on 4 April 1506, the eldest surviving son of Thomas Saunders (d. 1528) of Sibbertoft, Northamptonshire, and Margaret, daughter of Richard Cave of Stanford in that county.

By the time the testator made his will, Sir Edward Saunders' mother, Margaret Cave, had remarried, and is referred to by the testator in the will below as Margaret Chauntrell. See the will of her father, Richard Cave (d.1538) in Waters, Robert Edmond Chester, *Genealogical Memoirs of the Extinct Family of Chester of Chicheley*, Vol. I, (London: Robson and Sons, 1878), pp. 76-80 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/genealogicalmem01wategoog#page/n114>

LM: Will{el}mi Saunders

[f. 221v] In dei nomine Amen. The 6 day of February in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred forty and one I, William Saunders of Welford, being whole of body and of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be to God, considering and naturally dreading the peril and danger of death hereafter to come when God shall be pleased, make, constitute and ordain this my last will and testament, as well for the disposition of my soul and body as for the order and disposition of all such terms and interest as I have or hereafter shall have of and in divers manors, lands and tenements hereafter named as of all my plate, jewels, goods and chattels as hereafter followeth and is expressed:

First, above all other things principally to be remembered, I bequeath, give and commend my soul unto Almighty God, maker of heaven and earth, my Saviour and Redeemer, and to Our Lady Saint Mary, his Blessed Mother, and to all the holy company of heaven, there by the great mercy of God to be in joy perpetually without end, and my wretched and sinful body to be buried in Saint John's Chapel in Welford by Edward Saunders, my late father, and the vicar that sometime was there, lately made and builded, now commonly called Master Saunders' Chapel, or else in the next church where it shall fortune me to depart, and I will that the vicar of Welford shall have for my mortuary such duty as by the statute thereof lately made is limited and appointed;

Item, I give to the vicar of Welford to pray for my soul twenty shillings;

Item, to Harry, my old chaplain, if he be now on live, ten shillings;

Item, I give to every godchild of mine now living one sheep or 20d in money by the discretion of mine executors, so it be apaid with[in] one year next after my decease;

Item, I give to the church of Lincoln 12d;

Item, I will that mine executors in convenient haste after my departing send to all the towns and villages to be at my burial, and that the said parsons, vicars and priests incontinent upon such desire as is beforesaid cause and warn their parishioners to tarry and abide at home and not to come to my burial, seventh day nor month day, but to take such money as shall be delivered unto them by mine executors, which I will be delivered and distributed in manner and form as hereafter followeth and plainly appeareth, that is to say, that mine executors deliver or cause to be delivered to the poorest householders in every of the towns hereafter named, to every poor house whereas most need shall be, 4d, so that there be bestowed in every town hereafter following the sums written upon the head of every of the same towns under-named, that is to say, in the township of Welford ten shillings; Harrington 4s; Clipston 2s; Lytyll 3s 4d; Bowden 3s; in (?) Guilsborough 3s; Nortoft 2s; Naseby 4s; Stanford 3s; Yelvertoft 4s; West Haddon 4s; Crick 2s; Winwick 3s; Brixworth 4s; Watford 3s; Cosworth 4s; Churneby 2s; Creaton Magna 2s; Rothwell 10s; Orton 2s; Arthingworth Much 2s; Oxendon 2s; Farndon 2s; Marston 2s; Sibbertoft 2s; Kelmarsh 3s; Spratton 2s; Haselbech 2s; Maidwell 2s; Draughton 2s; Faxton 2s; Hollowell 2s; Teeton 20d; Ravensthorpe 2s; Coton 2s; Under Guilsborough 3s; Lamport 2s(?); Houghton 20d; East Haddon 5s; North Kilworth 2s; South Kilworth 3s; Hothorpe 2s; Cold Ashby and Staverton 5s 4d, which money shall be distribut[e]d,

ordered and bestowed in convenient time after my departing to the most poorest people within the same townships as is aforesaid by th' advice and counsel of the constable and curates of every of the said townships and by the oversight of mine executors, and like dole to be made in the said townships at my month's day;

Also I will that all those my kinfolk and friends that shall fortune to be at my burying have an honest dinner prepared and ordained by the discretion of mine executors, and all the priests that shall be at my burial every of them to say a Mass for my soul and to be at the same dinner, and every priest to have 6d and every clerk 2d;

Item, I will that there be a convenient gravestone prepared for me by the discretion of mine executors, and that to be done within one year next after my decease;

Also I give to Clement, my son, a hundred ewes and a hundred wethers, a featherbed, a mattress, with all things belonging to the same, and forty pounds in money, to be delivered to him by mine executors at his age of 21 years;

Also I will that Dorothy, my wife, shall have the occupation of the same my farm in Cold Ashby called the Grange after the years that Anne Marshall, my daughter-in-law, hath within the same Grange, unto the time as Thomas Saunders, my son, shall come to his full age of 24 years, and then I will that the same Thomas Saunders shall have to him, his executors and assigns, the said farm called the Grange in Cold Ashby aforesaid stored with cattle, and all my terms and interest of and in the same;

And if my son, Thomas, before his age of 24 years, happen to die, then I will that Francis Saunders, my son, shall have all my said terms in the said Grange of Ashby aforesaid likewise stored at his full age [+of] thirty years;

And if my son, Francis, before he come to th' age of 30 years, happen to die, then I will that my son, Saul, shall have all my terms and interest in the Grange of Ashby aforesaid to him, his executors and assigns, likewise stored;

Also, if Saul, my son, die, then George, my son, to have all my terms in the Grange aforesaid likewise stored;

Also I will that Dorothy, my wife, immediately after my death shall have the occupation of my mansion or farm-place in Welford wherein I now dwell, with all such farms and pastures as I have in Welford aforesaid, as well of the lease of the Earl of Huntingdon as of the lease or grant of any other person or persons of Welford aforesaid, and also the occupation of all my pastures called the Middle field or Bishop's field and the South field & Towne [f. 222r] in Eltingdon [=Elkington?] in the said county of Northampton, and also the occupation of my pasture of Bechenden in the county of Buckingham with the occupation of all such cattle as shall be in the said pastures at the time of my death except such cattle as I have so willed and bequeathed by this my present testament, to have and to hold all my farms and pastures aforesaid and all the cattle in the same to the same Dorothy during the term of 15 years next after my death, and with the revenues and

profits coming and growing of and upon my said pastures and cattle I will that my said wife do honestly find, bring up and marry my said children after their degree, and if the said Dorothy within the said term of 15 years happen to die, then I will that the residue of mine executors hereafter named shall have the occupation of [-the occupation of] the pastures & cattle aforesaid unto th' end of the said term of 15 years toward the finding, bringing up and marriages of my said children then being unprovided of marriages, and after th' end of the said 15 years ended and expired, then I will that my son, Clement, shall have to him, his executors and assigns, all my terms and interest in the house of Eltingdon, the Middle field or Bishop's field in Eltingdon aforesaid, and the Doveshouse close all stored with cattle;

And if the said Clement before th' end of the said 15 years happen to die without issue, then I will that Francis, my son, after the said term of 15 years end[ed] and expired, and after the death of the said Clement, shall have to him, his executors and assigns, all my terms and interest then to come in the said house and pasture called the Middle field or Bishop's field and the Dovehouse close;

And if the said Francis before the said 15 years expired happen to die without issue, then I will that Thomas, my son, shall have to him and to his executors all my terms and interest in the said house and pasture called the Middle field or Bishop's field;

And if my son, Thomas, die without issue before the said term of 15 years so expired and ended, then I will that George, my son, shall have my said terms in the said house and pasture called the Middle field or Bishop's field and the Dovehouse to him and his executors;

And if George die, then Saul, my son, shall have my said terms in the Middle field during my terms;

Item, I will that my son, Thomas Saunders, after the said 15 years ended and expired, shall have to him, his executors or assigns, my farm or farms called the South field and the Towne in Eltingdon aforesaid, and all my terms and interests in the same;

And if the said Thomas before the said 5 years ended and expired happen to die, then I will that George, my son, shall have my said farm or farms called the South field and the Towne in Eltingdon aforesaid;

And if my son, George, before the said term of 15 years expired and ended do happen to die, then I will that Saul, my son, shall have all my farm or pasture called the South field and the Towne in Eltingdon aforesaid to him and unto his executors;

And if my son, Saul, before th' end of the said 15 years happen to die, then Clement, my son, to have the same pasture called the South field and Towne to him and to his executors during all my terms in the same;

Furthermore I will that Dorothy, my wife, after the term of the said 15 years ended and expired next after my death, if she be then living, shall have the occupation of all my houses, farms, pastures, land and cattle in Welford aforesaid during her life, of which houses and other the premises the right honourable Lord George, Earl of Huntingdon, Lord Hastings and Hungerford, Botreaux and Moleyns, and also the right noble Francis, now Lord Hastings, have covenanted and granted to make a lease for term of 70 years by indenture of the premises before the feast of Saint Michael th' Archangel next coming to the said William Saunders or to his executors, which house and pastures so to be letten I will the same Dorothy shall have during her life well and sufficiently stored with cattle, which cattle and farms of Welford aforesaid, after the death of the same Dorothy, and all my terms and interest at the time of her death to come in the same, I will, give and bequeath to Francis Saunders, my son, his executors and assigns, and all my indentures of lease of and in the same;

And if the same Francis during the life of the said Dorothy happen to die without issue, then I will that George Saunders, my son, after the death of my said wife shall have my farms in Welford aforesaid stored with cattle;

And if the same George before his age of 21 years happen to die without issue, then I will that Saul, my son, after the death of my said wife, shall have all my terms in Welford aforesaid and all my terms & interest in the same to him and to his executors;

And if the same Saul without issue of his body happen to die, then I will that my said farms of and in Welford aforesaid after the death of my said wife shall be to the next heir male of the bodies of me, the said William Saunders, and of the [-the] same Dorothy, now my wife, lawfully begotten;

And where I, the same William Saunders, do occupy certain lands and tenements of the inheritance of my nephew, Edward Saunders, now Serjeant at the Law, lying in two fields in Bechenden in the county of Buckingham, in recompense whereof Margaret Chaunterell, my sister-in-law, mother to the said Edward, doth occupy a close of mine in Bechenden aforesaid joining to Over Winchendon, which close is much more in yearly value than the lands and tenements of the inheritance of the same Edward Saunders in Bechenden aforesaid, my will is that the said Margaret Chaunterell, for the preferment of her children, and also my said nephew, Edward Saunders, her son, after her decease and mine, being owner of the said lands and tenements in Bechenden aforesaid and also being good, loving and friendly unto my said wife and children, shall have the said close in Bechenden aforesaid next unto Over Winchendon, and also my loads of hay yearly out of the meadows in Bechenden aforesaid to be felled, made and carried by the said Margaret Chaunterell and Edward Saunders at their costs, which close and my loads of hay I will the same Margaret Chaunterell and Edward Saunders shall have so long as I, the said William Saunders, my executors or assigns, do occupy the lands and tenements of the said Edward Saunders lying in the other two fields of Bechenden aforesaid, the said Margaret Chaunterell & Edward Saunders [f. 222v] paying yearly therefore unto such person or persons as shall hereafter occupy the close in Bechenden aforesaid next unto Eythrope four marks sterling at the feasts of Saint Michael th' Archangel and th'

Annunciation of Our Lady by even portions, provided always that the same Margaret Chaunterell nor Edward Sanders nor any of them shall not grant, give, sell nor put away the said close nor 4 loads of hay nor no part thereof to no person nor persons during such interest therein as I have willed unto them by this my present testament, and if they so do, then this my bequest unto them made to be void and of none effect;

Also I will that my said son, Francis, after the said term of 15 years ended and expired, shall have to him and to his executors the mansion or dwelling-house and all the houses and buildings in Bechenden aforesaid with one close lying next Eythrope during my terms in the same, and I will that Clement Saunders shall have the occupation of a close in Bechenden aforesaid late in the holding of Walter Curson, my brother-in-law, which close lieth westward from the said mansion, paying to Francis Saunders yearly £7 rent for the same during my terms in the same, and that the said closes at th' end of the said term of 15 years be left to my said son, William Saunders, by mine executors well and sufficiently stored with cattle;

And I will that such as shall have the occupation of my said farms and terms according to this my last will shall yearly during the said 15 years before the overseers of this my present testament make a true reckoning and account of all the revenues and profits by them received or taken the said year before, and the same profits to go towards the performance of this my said testament and last will;

Also I will that all my manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments within the realm of England immediately after my decease and after such years as I have willed and declared in my testament made of my said manors shall go, descend, remain and be to such persons and to such [+purposes?] and intents as I have thereof made, declared, disposed and willed by my last will of my lands and tenements, as by the same will hereunto annexed more evidently it appeareth;

Also I will that my said wife nor no person nor persons that hereafter shall have the occupation or meddling in or with any of my said farms or pastures which I or any other person or persons to my use have or hath for term of years shall do, cause or suffer to be done any act or acts whereby the said term or terms or any of them shall or should be lost, forfeited, ended and determined by doing of waste, non-payment of rent, making of foeffments, making of surrenders, ayde(?) pyers(?), non-performance or breaking of covenants, or giving any cause of entry or otherwise, but that the persons that shall have the meddling or occupation of and in the same farms or pastures shall suffer the same farms and pastures to come and be to my said children according to this my last will as before appeareth;

Also I will that Dorothy, my wife, shall have yearly 26s 8d and 6 swans out of the fens, to be paid to her by Robert Pinder, his executors or assigns, yearly during the terms comprised in a pair of indentures of lease thereof made by me, the same William Saunders, to the said Robert Pinder, and after the said years ended and determined, then I will that Dorothy, my wife, shall have the profits of my said mark of swans during her

life, and after her death then I will that my son, Francis, shall have my said mark of swans to him and to his heirs forever;

Also I will that Dorothy, my wife, shall have the occupation of all my plate, jewels and household stuff except such as I have before or after willed during her life, and after her decease I will that my said plate and household stuff be evenly divided in three parts, whereof I will that Francis, my son, or such of the sons of me, the said William, and Dorothy, now my wife, as shall be eldest son at the time of the death of my said wife, shall have one part of my said plate and household stuff, and to have the first choice thereof, and my son, Clement, the second part, and my son, Thomas, the third part, to have to them for evermore;

Also I give to Francis, my son, all my books of the law, trusting that he will apply himself diligently to learn and study the same, and if Francis, my son, die, then Thomas, my son, to have them to the same intent, charging him of my said sons that by God's grace shall attain and have the learning of the law upon my blessing that he give counsel to the poor people for the love of God without taking of them any money or any other reward;

Also I give and bequeath to my 4 sons, Francis, Thomas, George and Saul, every of them £30 to be delivered to them at their ages of 26 years, and if any of my said four sons happen to die before his said age of 26 years, then I will that they that survive shall have the portion of money of him so deceased evenly to be divided betwixt them;

Item I give and bequeath to either of my daughters now being unmarried, every of them 200 marks apiece, except my daughter, Mary, which was a nun in the monastery of Polesworth, whom if she live virtuously and unmarried, I give ten pound to be delivered to her by mine executors in 10 years next after my decease, and also except my daughter[s] Elizabeth and Anne, which if they be married to Master Newenham's son and to Nicholas Beaumont that then they to have none of the said two hundred marks, and if they be not married to Master Newenham's son nor to Nicholas Beaumont, then I will that they shall have two hundred marks as their other sisters have, which money I will shall be perceived, levied and gathered by my said wife or else by mine executors as well from the rents and revenues of my lands and tenements as is before [-as is before] appointed as of the revenues and profits of my farms and cattle aforesaid;

Also I give and bequeath to my son-in-law, Thomas Haddon, ten pound, praying him to be good to my daughter Ursula, his wife;

Also I will that my brother, John Saunders, shall have my farm in Nortoft [f. 223r] during his life if my terms so long endure, and if he die before my term ended, then I will that Edward Saunders, now his son, shall have my said farm in Nortoft aforesaid during the years to come within mine indenture;

Item, I give to my son, Clement, my farm of the parsonage of East Haddon, to him and to his assigns during the terms to come in my indenture;

Also I will that my debts which I owe to any person or persons be truly contented and paid shortly after my departing;

And further I will that all wrongs and injuries by me done and duly and substantially proved before mine executors within 4 years next after my decease be recompensed by mine executors;

Also I give and bequeath to Dorothy, my wife, a £100 in ready money, with the residue of all my goods, my will performed and my pastures stored with cattle, and debts owing or to be owing by my Lord Hastings, without any account thereof to be made before the ordinary, except such goods and chattels as I have hereafter and before given, willed and bequeathed, provided alway and my will is that if the same Dorothy, my wife, at any time hereafter happen to marry and take another husband, then I will that the same Dorothy and such person as shall be married to the same Dorothy before their marriage shall cause 4 sufficient persons, whereof every of them to have 40 marks of land in fee simple or five hundred marks in goods, by their sufficient deed in the law to be bound to the residue of such of mine executors as then shall be on live and to their executors in the sum of two thousand marks that this my present last will and testament shall be truly performed and fulfilled according to the true meaning, intent and mind of me, the same William Saunders;

Also I will that forty pound shall be yearly spent for the maintenance of my house of Welford, my said wife being there, without any account thereof to be had or made to my other executors;

And also I will that she shall [+have?] threescore sheep going at Bechington without paying any rent, and the goods and chattels at Sulby to have and occupy at her pleasure;

And if the same Dorothy and such person as should be married unto her before such marriage do not cause four sufficient persons to be bounden in manner and form above-written for the true performance of this my present last will & testament, then I will that all my legacies, gifts and bequests made to my said wife by this my present will and testament except the legacy of my manors of East Haddon and Yelvertoft [+and?] except the legacy of a hundred pound made to my said wife be utterly void and of none effect, and then I will that the residue of my said goods except my cattle be evenly divided between all my sons by the oversight of mine executors, and the same Dorothy, my wife, immediately after such marriage had, to be discharged of the executorship or administration of my said goods, and also of the occupation of my said farms and cattle, any clause in this my present will and testament to the contrary before made or had notwithstanding, and then I will that the residue of mine executors during so many of the said 15 years as at the marriage of my said wife shall be to come shall have the occupation of my farms and cattle and the receipt of all the rents and profits as well of my lands and tenements as of my cattle and farms except such lands as be appointed for the jointure of the same Dorothy, and therewith to marry and bring forth virtuously my said

children, and to perform this my will, and then I will that my said mark of swans be to Francis, my son, and to his heirs forever;

Also I give to Walter Haddon and James Haddon, my sons-in-law, every of them twenty pound to be paid to them at their ages of 24 years, and if any of them before their said ages of 24 years happen to die, then I will that he that overliveth shall have the whole forty pound;

Item, I will that all leases for term of years by indenture [-by indenture] by me before this time made be good and effectual according to the true meaning and intent of the same;

Also I give to Alexander Veus(?) 20s;

Item, to Thomas Salter 40s;

Also I give to Robert Benet 20s;

Item, I give to Dorothy, my wife, my 2 advowsons or presentments, whereof the one is the advowson or presentment of and to the vicarage of Welford, and that other is the advowson or presentment to the church or parsonage of (blank);

Also I will that Nicholas Beaumont, my ward, be married to such one of my daughters as my wife shall think most meet, provided always that if any of my children without the consent of my said Lord Chief Justice, my nephew, Edward Saunders, Serjeant at the Law, Dorothy, my wife, Walter Yonge, and William Jenkinson happen to make or enter into any contract of matrimony without the consent of the persons above-named or such of them as then shall be on live, that then such of my children so offending in marriage shall lease the half of such lands and tenements, goods and chattels as I have before willed unto them if it be so thought reasonable by mine executors and overseers;

Also I give to my Lord Hastings my great colt of one year old, and if my said Lord redeem Welford, then I will that the money paid for the redemption thereof be paid to th' hands of Dorothy, my wife, and that none of mine executors meddle with the receipt thereof, and my said wife with such money as I have willed afore to George, my son, and with part of the same money that she shall receive for the redemption of Welford aforesaid, shall pay to the said George at his full age of 24 years one hundred pound sterling, and if Welford be not redeemed, then I will that my wife shall have all my part thereof during the space of 60 years next after my death if she so long live, the remainder thereof after the death of the said Dorothy to Francis, my son, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and with suchlike remainder as I, the same William Saunders, have declared and made to John Multon [=Moulton?] and John Mutton of my lands and tenements in Brixworth in the said county of Northampton, as by deeds thereof made to the said John Multon and John Mutton more plainly appeareth;

And of this my present last will and testament I make, constitute and ordain mine executors my most entirely beloved wife, Dorothy Saunders, Walter Yonge, my brother-

in-law, Francis Saunders, my son, William Jenkinson of Hauerbrugh [=Harborough] mine executors, trusting that they will see this my said will and testament truly performed, executed and fulfilled as my especial trust is in them;

And I desire Sir Edward Montague, knight, Lord Chief Justice of England, and Edward Saunders, my nephew, Serjeant at the Law, to be the overseers of this my said will and testament, that it may be truly executed, fulfilled and performed according to the true meaning and intent thereof;

And for the pain of the said Lord Chief Justice to be taken for and about the oversight thereof, for that he should [f. 223v] be good to my said wife and children by his good advice and counsel, I give unto him four pound, and to my said nephew for the same intent and purpose forty shillings;

In witness whereof I, the same William Saunders, to this my said last will and testament have set my seal and subscribed my name the day and year above-written in the presence of (blank).

[WILL OF MANORS AND LANDS NOT YET TRANSCRIBED]

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum Coram domino apud London xiiijto die mensis Maij Anno Domini Mill^{es}imo quingentesimo Quadagesimo primo Ac approbatum et insinuatum etc Et comissa fuit administracⁱo o^mnⁱu^m et singulorum bonorum iuriu^m et creditorum dicti defuncti Dorothee Relicte et executric^{is} in h^{uius}mo^di testament^o no^miⁿat^e De bene etc Ac de pleno et fideli Inuentario o^mnⁱu^m et singulorum bonorum h^{uius}mo^di conficiend^o citra festum sancte fidis Virginis prox^{imum} futur^{um} exhibend^o Necnon de plano et vero compoto etc reddend^o Ad sancta dei Eu^angelia iurat^e Res^{er}uat^a p^{otes}tate alijs executoribus cu^m venerint etc

[The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at London on the 14th day of the month of May in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred forty-first, and probated and entered etc., and administration was granted of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased to Dorothy, relict and executrix named in the same testament, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well, etc., and to prepare a plain and true inventory of all and singular the same goods [+and?] to exhibit [+it] before the Feast of Saint Faith the Virgin next to come, and also to render a plain and true account, with power reserved to the other executors when they shall have come etc.]