

SUMMARY: The document below is the will, dated 25 February 1547 and proved 21 May 1547, of Eustace Sulyard (d. 26 February 1547), whose great-nephew, Sir William Cornwallis, purchased Oxford's interest in the mansion of Fisher's Folly in 1588, and who was the father of Sir Edward Sulyard (d. 1610), to whom William Webbe dedicated *A Discourse of English Poetry* (1586), in which Oxford is praised.

*A Discourse of English Poetry* has been described as 'the first extensive printed treatise to deal specifically with English poetry'. See Hernandez-Santano, Sonia, ed., *William Webbe: A Discourse of English Poetry (1586)*, (Modern Humanities Research Association, 2016), p. 1 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=pqXBCwAAQBAJ&pg=PA1>

Oxford is singled out for praise in the Arber edition at p. 33:

*I may not omit the deserved commendations of many honourable and noble lords and gentlemen in her Majesty's court which in the rare devices of poetry have been and yet are most excellent skilful, among whom the right honourable Earl of Oxford may challenge to himself the title of the most excellent among the rest.*

See also the Hernandez-Santano edition, p. 81 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=pqXBCwAAQBAJ&pg=PA81>

## **FAMILY BACKGROUND**

For the testator's family background, see the Sulyard pedigree in Marshall, George W., ed., *The Genealogist*, (London: George Bell and Sons, 1880), Vol. IV, pp. 227-8 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=kzULXfzM16IC&pg=PA227>

See also the Sulyard pedigree in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, p. 494 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationsofes13metc#page/494/mode/2up>

It should be noted that the pedigree in Metcalfe, *supra*, contains errors.

## ***Testator's paternal grandparents***

The testator was the grandson of Sir John Sulyard (d. 18 March 1488), Lord Chief Justice of England (for whose will see TNA PROB 11/8/170), by his first wife, Agnes (d. before 1463). According to the pedigree in Marshall, *supra*, p. 227, she was the daughter and

heir of John Hungate of Yorkshire. According to Page, however, she was the daughter of Richard Hungate (d.1439). See:

'Parishes: Kimpton', in *A History of the County of Hertford: Volume 3*, ed. William Page (London, 1912), pp. 29-33. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/herts/vol3/pp29-33> [accessed 17 October 2017].

*In 1436 John Fray and Agnes his wife sold the manor under the name of Parkbury to Richard Hungate and Elizabeth his wife. (fn. 35) After Richard's death Elizabeth married John Gunter, and they held it for life with reversion to John Suliard and his wife Agnes daughter and heir of Richard Hungate. (fn. 36) Edward Suliard died seised of the manor in 1516, leaving as heir his son William, (fn. 37) who died in March 1539–40, having settled the property on his brother Eustace. (fn. 38)*

For the fine between John Fray and Richard Hungate, see:

[http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/fines/abstracts/CP\\_25\\_1\\_91\\_113.shtml](http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/fines/abstracts/CP_25_1_91_113.shtml)

The identification of Sir John Sulyard's wife as the daughter of Richard Hungate is supported by a suit in Chancery mentioning Richard Hungate's daughter, Agnes. See:

**Reference:** C 1/73/169

*Short title: Neel v Gunter.*

*Plaintiffs: John Neel, master of the house of St Thomas of Acres, and Thomas Stokdale, executors of Richard Hungate.*

**Description:** *Defendants: John Gunter, esquire, and Elizabeth, his wife, previously the wife of the said Hungate.*

*Subject: Tenements in Cambridge and Hertfordshire, and Agnes, Hungate's daughter. Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire.*

*RHP*

**Date:** 1386-1486

**Held by:** The National Archives, Kew

See also "The Gunters of Abergavenny" at:

<http://lastwelshmartyr.blogspot.com/2009/10/gunters-of-abergavenny.html>

*John [Gunter] of Pitney and Racton ob 1474 who married Elizabeth, widow of Richard Hungate.*

For Richard Hungate, see also Thorne, S.E., *Essays in English Legal History*, (London: The Hambleton Press, 1985), p. 153 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ADlug2k9lu8C&pg=PA153>

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*Thus we have Richard Hungate, known to be of Gray's Inn in 1432, and from other records known to have been engaged in legal practice in the 1420s, and Alexander Anne, his contemporary, Common Serjeant of London in 1424, Recorder in 1436. Both these men, who died in the same year, 1439, were born before 1400. . . .*

According to *The Visitation of Suffolk*, Sir John Sulyard had two children by his first wife, Agnes Hungate, and five children by his second wife, Anne Andrews. See:

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/soc.genealogy.medieval/tmd5cS7EMWM>

*Let me post in abbreviated form what the annotated version of the Visitation of Suffolk, 1561, says about the children of Sir John Sulyard, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas [HS new series, with good documentation].*

*Sir John Sulyard, by his first wife, Agnes Hungate, had:*

- (1) Edward, aged 28 in 1488/9, brass at High Laver.
- (2) Elizabeth, m. John Garneys, brass in Kenton, her will proved 1539, PCC 13 Crumwell.

*Issue by second wife, Anne Andrews,*

- (3) Andrew, granted land, etc., in Weston, Norfolk, by his mother 8 Aug. 1493/4, being about to marry his wife.
- (4) John.
- (5) Anne, m. Roger Appleton.
- (6) Alice, m. Sir William Rous (of Dennington).
- (7) Elizabeth, m. Sir Edward Bainton.

*The original visitation reads: "Sir John Sulyard knyght Lorde cheyfe Justyce of England ... maryed to his first wife Agnes Daugter and heyre of Hungatt of [blank] in the counte of Yorke esquyre & by her had yssu Edward Sulyard sonne and heyre and Elizabeth Sulyard maryed to John Garnyshe of kenton in the counte of Suffolke esquyre. "After the sayde Sir John ... maryed to his second Wyfe Anne Daughter and one of theyres of John Andrewes of Baylam in the counte of Suff esquyre and by her had yssu Andrew Sulyard [struck through: second Sonne] John Sulyard third sonne Anne maryed to Roger Apulton of Deriford in the counte of kent esquyre Alys maryed to Sir Wyllyam Rowse of Denyngton in the counte of Suff knyght Elizabeth maryed to Sr Edward Beynton of Bromham in the counte of Wyltshyre knyght."*

For Sir John Sulyard's second wife, Anne Andrews (d. 25 July 1520), who after his death married Sir Thomas Bourchier (d. 26 October 1491), see Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, 2011, Vol I, pp. 462-3 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=kjme027UeagC&pg=PA463>

For the will of Sir Thomas Bourchier, see TNA PROB 11/9/47, and Nicolas, Nicholas Harris, *Testamenta Vetusta*, (London: Nichols and Son, 1826), Vol. I, p. 405 at:

<https://archive.org/details/testamentavetust01nico/page/404>

For the will of Sir John Sulyard's second wife, Anne (nee Andrews) Sulyard Bourchier (d. 25 July 1520), proved 24 August 1520, see TNA PROB 11/19/432. For her mother, Elizabeth (nee Stratton) Andrews (c.1425-1474), see *Plantagenet Ancestry, supra*, Vol. I, p. 462, Vol. II, pp. 468-9, and her will, dated 18 October 1494, in Nicolas, *supra*, p. 329 at:

<https://archive.org/details/testamentavetust01nico/page/328>

For Elizabeth Sulyard (d. 2 April 1539), daughter of Sir John Sulyard (d. 18 March 1488) and Agnes Hungate (d. before 1463), see her will, TNA PROB 11/26/228, and the pedigree of Garneys of Kenton in Muskett, Joseph, James, *Suffolk Manorial Families*, Vol. I, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1900), pp. 190-1 at:

[https://archive.org/stream/bub\\_gb\\_ZxANnBnHKBQC#page/n197](https://archive.org/stream/bub_gb_ZxANnBnHKBQC#page/n197)

### ***Testator's father's first marriage***

The testator's father, Edward Sulyard (d.1517), married firstly Mirabel Copdow (d.1495?). See Miller, Christy and W.W. Porteous, 'On Some Interesting Essex Brasses', *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. VII, New Series, (Colchester, 1900), pp. 1-31 at pp. 13-17:

<https://archive.org/details/transactionsess00socigoog/page/n25>

*High Laver. Effigies of Edward Sulyard Esquire, and wife Myrabyll (nee Copto or Copdowe), four sons, and one daughter, with inscription in verse (last line obliterated). A scroll lost. Date about 1495.*

*Here lieth in grave under this marble hard  
Of John Copto, esquire, the daughter & heir by right,  
Mirabel, late wife of Edward Sulyard,  
Cousin & heir of Sir Thomas Fleming, knight,  
Who is [=in?] virtue, worth(?) and womanly delight  
Remain shall in Essex in perpetual memory.  
Sith death hath her raft out of the present light,  
God grant her soul to joys eternally.*

*. . . This Edward Sulyard was the eldest son and heir of Sir John Sulyard, Kt., one of the Justices of the King's Bench, of Flemings, in Runwell, who died on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1487, holding a moiety of the Manor of Otes, in High Laver. Edward Sulyard married (as stated) first Myrabyll, daughter of John Copto (or Copdowe, as the county historians spell he names), Esquire, by whom he had the one daughter, whose name does not*

*appear, and the four sons shown, namely, the eldest, Sir William (who died March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1539, possessed of considerable estates, but leaving no issue), Edmund, Anthony, and John. By his second wife, Anne, daughter of John Norreys, Esquire, he had two children, Eustace and Mary. The former died holding the Manor of Otes in 1546. The latter married Sir John Cornwallis. The Manor passed to Sir Edward Sulyard, the son of this Eustace, who died in 1610.*

Sources conflict as to the identity of Mirabel Copdow (d.1495?) and her father.

The inscription above states that she was the daughter and ‘heir by right’ of John Copdow, esquire, and the cousin and heir of Sir Thomas Fleming, whereas the pedigrees cited above state that she was the daughter and heir of Thomas Copdow.

A Chancery suit brought by her grandmother, Joan, also states that she was the daughter of Thomas Copdow. See TNA C 1/38/103, said to date from either 1433-1443 or 1467-1472, a suit brought by ‘Johanne, late wife of John Coptoo, of High Easter, grandame of Merable, daughter of Thomas, son of the said John Coptoo’ against Sir Laurence Raynsford (1419-1490) and others.

It seems likely that the inscription above is in error, and that TNA C 1/38/103 is correct, i.e., Mirabel Copdow (d.1495?) was the daughter of Thomas Copdow, and the granddaughter of John Copdow of High Easter and his wife, Joan. It seem possible that Thomas Copdow predeceased his father, and that Mirabel then became heir to her grandfather, John Copdow.

Matters are complicated by the fact that there was a later John Copdow whose wife was named Joan. See ERO D/DL T1/574, a prenuptial settlement dated 24 May 1505 between John Copdow of South Ockendon and Joan James, daughter of William James, late of Ightham, Kent, ‘whom he is about to marry’. After the death of John Copdow, Joan James married secondly Humphrey Shaa. See TNA C 1/447/60, a Chancery suit dating from the period 1515-1518 brought by ‘Humphrey Shaa and Johanne, his wife, late the wife of John Copto’ against John Copdow’s executors, Oliver Vesce, clerk, and John Radley. See also TNA C 1/589/13, a Chancery suit brought during the period 1518-1529 by ‘Oliver Wesse [=Vesce] and John Radley, executors of John Copdo of South Ockendon’, against ‘Humphrey Shawe and Joan, his wife, late the wife of the said John Copdo’ concerning the ‘abduction of Elizabeth, Thomasyn and Maud, the daughters of the said John Copdo, and withdrawal of Robert, his son and heir, from school in the White Hall at Oxford, and afterwards from his master, seizure of the executors’ cattle and entry on their ground called ‘Iwes’ [=Ives]’.

For the Copdow family, see also the will of Geoffrey Gates, TNA PROB 11/37/210. It seems possible that Mirabel Copdow (d.1495?) was the wife of William Gates (d.1485) before she married the testator’s father. Sir Geoffrey Gates (d.1477/8) bought the manor of Garnets in High Easter from the Copdow family. See Christy, Miller et al, ‘Some Interesting Essex Brasses’, *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. IX,

Part II, New Series, (Colchester, 1909), pp. 101-46 at pp. 118-20, available as a pdf file online at:

<http://esah1852.org.uk/research/transactions/old-and-new-series-1858-1960/item/87-new-series-vol-11-contents-list>

*Pray for the soul, all ye that live in light,  
Of Sir Geoffrey Gates, the courteous knight,  
Whose wife is buried here. By God's might  
He bought the manor of Garnets by right  
Of Coppedoe, gentleman, John behight,  
Of High Easter. Witness his wife and executor.  
This year and day come on his daily hours.  
12 day of January 1477.*

### ***Testator's parents***

The testator was the son of Edward Sulyard (d.1517), esquire, of Otes in High Laver, Essex, by his second wife Anne Norreys (living 1517). See *Plantagenet Ancestry, supra*, Vol. I, p. 616 (where, however, Anne Norreys' father is erroneously stated to have been from Bray in Lancashire, rather than Bray in Berkshire).

For Anne Norreys' parents, John Norreys (d.1485) and his stepsister, Isabel Wyfold (d. before 10 April 1509), see:

D J Keene and Vanessa Harding, 'All Hallows Honey Lane 11/6', in *Historical Gazetteer of London Before the Great Fire Cheapside; Parishes of All Hallows Honey Lane, St Martin Pomary, St Mary Le Bow, St Mary Colechurch and St Pancras Soper Lane* (London, 1987), pp. 37-44. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/no-series/london-gazetteer-pre-fire/pp37-44> [accessed 8 September 2020].

*Nicholas Wyfold died in 1456, and his widow married John Howard, duke of Norfolk (k. 1485). . . . Wyfold's heir was his daughter Isabel, who married John Nores and afterwards Sir Henry Marny, kt. (cr. Lord Marny 1523). The London properties appear to have been settled, by agreement, on Isabel's children by Sir Henry Marny. In 1503 John Marny, esquire, probably the elder son of Sir Henry by a previous marriage, and Robert Sympson, clerk, recovered certain properties in London, including 4 messuages in All Hallows Honey Lane, against Edmund Nores, son of John Nores and Isabel. The recovery was to the use of Thomas Marny, son of Sir Henry and Isabel, and his heirs, with remainders successively to Grace Marny, daughter of Sir Henry and Isabel, Edmund Nores, and Anne, wife of Edmund Suliard and daughter of John Nores and Isabel. John Marny and Robert Sympson granted the properties to Sir Henry Marny and Robert Badby, clerk, to hold for the former's life with remainders as above. In 1505 Edmund Nores quitclaimed in the property for Sir Henry Marny's life and to Thomas Marny and Grace Marny and their heirs. (fn. 14)*

For Isabel Wyfold's father, Nicholas Wyfold (d.1456), see his will, TNA PROB 11/4/424, and the discussion at:

[https://groups.google.com/forum/#!msg/soc.genealogy.medieval/1\\_1\\_wIP3TEg/QGzocvANeuoJ](https://groups.google.com/forum/#!msg/soc.genealogy.medieval/1_1_wIP3TEg/QGzocvANeuoJ)

For Anne Norreys, see also Wright, Thomas, *The History and Topography of the County of Essex*, Vol. I, (London: George Virtue, 1836), pp. 142-3 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=SgQVAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA142>

. . . Sir John Sulyard, Knt., was, in 1485, the first year of Henry the Seventh, made one of the justices of the King's Bench. His first wife's maiden name was Hungate, by whom he had Edward, his first son and heir; and by his second wife, Anne, daughter and co-heiress of John Andrewes, Esq., of Baylam, in Suffolk, he had John Andrew, who married Margery, daughter and co-heiress of John Lyston, but had no children, Elizabeth, wife of Sir Edward Baynton, Anne, wife of Roger Apulton, Esq., and Alice, wife of William Rous, Esq. Edward, the eldest son of Judge Sulyard, had also two wives: the first was the daughter and heiress of Thomas Copdowe, Esq.; by her he had Sir William Sulyard, his eldest son and heir, also Edmund, Anthony, and John. His second wife was Anne, the daughter of John Norrys; by her he had Eustace, and Mary, wife of Sir John Cornwallis. Sir William died in 1540, but left no children. His next heir was his cousin, Robert Garneys, a descendant of Judge Sulyard, by the mother's side. Eustace, half-brother to Sir William, inherited Flemings, with various other possessions; he died in 1546. By his wife, Margaret, daughter of Robert Forster, of Little Burch, he had Edward, Mary, Margaret, Jane, Anne, and Bridget. Edward, the son and heir, was knighted, and died in 1610, leaving Edward and Thomas, and a daughter, named Elizabeth, who became successively the wife of Sir Francis Harris, Knt., and of (blank) Wright of Kelvedon.

### ***Testator's siblings of the half blood***

The will in Latin, TNA PROB 11/18/348, of the testator's father, Edward Sulyard (d.1517?), indicates that he had five sons and four daughters by his first marriage to Mirabel Copdow (d.1495?), the testator's siblings of the half blood:

**-Sir William Sulyard** (d.1540), the testator's eldest half brother, who died without issue. According to Wright, *supra*, Sir William Sulyard's next heir was his cousin, Robert Garneys, the son of John Garneys and Elizabeth Sulyard (d. 2 April 1539). For Sir William Sulyard's will, in which he appoints the testator as his executor, see TNA PROB 11/28/90. See also:

'Lambourne: Manors', in *A History of the County of Essex: Volume 4, Ongar Hundred*, ed. W R Powell (London, 1956), pp. 76-81. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol4/pp76-81> [accessed 11 October 2017]

*By 1540 Dews Hall had passed to Sir William Sulyard who died in that year. (fn. 142) He was succeeded by his half-brother Eustace Sulyard (d. 1547).*

It should be noted that the Sulyard pedigree in Metcalfe cannot be relied on. It makes the testator's childless elder half-brother, Sir William Sulyard (d.1540), the testator's son and heir, and states that Sir William Sulyard married Anne Eden, whereas it appears from his will that Sir William Sulyard died unmarried. See Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, p. 494 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationsofe13metc#page/494/mode/2up>

**-Anthony Sulyard.**

**-Francis Sulyard.** He is mentioned in the will of his brother, Sir William Sulyard (d.1540).

**-Andrew Sulyard.**

**-Gabriel Sulyard.**

**-Bridget Sulyard.**

**-Mirabel Sulyard.**

**-Grissell Sulyard.**

**-Fortune Sulyard.**

According to the pedigree in Marshall, *supra*, the testator also had a sister of the half blood who was a nun:

**-Susan Sulyard**, who is mentioned in the will below.

*Item, I will, give and bequeath unto my sister, Susan Sulyard, forty shillings by the year during her natural life, to be paid her quarterly by mine executors.*

Susan Sulyard is also mentioned in the will of Julyan (nee Tyrrell) Norreys Norwich, TNA PROB 11/38/70.

***Testator's siblings of the whole blood***

The testator had one sibling of the whole blood:

-**Mary Sulyard**, who married Sir John Cornwallis (c.1491 - 23 April 1544), Steward of the Household of Prince Edward from 1538 to 1544, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/30/155. See also *Plantagenet Ancestry, supra*, Vol. I, p. 616, and Wright, *supra*, p. 143. She may be the Mary Sulyard mentioned in the will of Jane Radmyld (d.1501), TNA PROB 11/12/387.

The testator appoints as one of his executors his nephew, Sir Thomas Cornwallis (1518/19–1604) of Brome, eldest son of Sir John Cornwallis and the testator's sister, Mary Sulyard. For the will of the testator's nephew, Sir Thomas Cornwallis (1518/19–1604), whose son, Sir William Cornwallis (c.1549 – 13 November 1611), purchased Oxford's interest in the mansion of Fisher's Folly, see TNA PROB 11/105/106. For the will of the testator's great-nephew, Sir William Cornwallis, see TNA PROB 11/118/441.

### ***MARRIAGE AND ISSUE***

The testator married Margaret Forster (d. 5 February 1587), daughter of Robert Forster (c.1482-1545), esquire, of Little Birch, Essex, and widow of Gregory Bassett (d.1528), esquire. For the will of Robert Forster, see TNA PROB 11/39/125.

According to the will below and the pedigree in Marshall, *supra*, p. 228, the testator had three sons and five daughters by Margaret Forster:

\* **Sir Edward Sulyard** (d. 5 June 1610), to whom William Webbe dedicated *A Discourse of English Poetry* (1586), in which Oxford is praised. He married, before 22 October 1572, Anne Eden, the second daughter of Thomas Eden (c.1502-1568) of Sudbury, Suffolk, by Grissel Waldegrave (d.1572?), the daughter of Edward Waldegrave (d.1545?). For the will of Sir Edward Sulyard, dated 1 June 1610 and proved 9 July 1610, TNA PROB 11/116/183. For the will of Thomas Eden, see TNA PROB 11/50/383. For the will of Edward Waldegrave, see TNA PROB 11/30/620. For the will of Grissel Waldegrave, see TNA PROB 11/55/72.

By Anne Eden, Sir Edward Sulyard had a daughter, Margaret Sulyard, who married Edward Jackman, the grandson of Alice Pakington (d.1609?), aunt of Humphrey Martyn, the addressee of the *Langham Letter* which describes Leicester's entertainment of Queen Elizabeth at Kenilworth in the summer of 1575. See the Langham page on this website.

When she married Sir Edward Sulyard, Anne Eden was the widow of Henry Heveningham, eldest son of Sir Anthony Heveningham (c.1507 – 22 November 1557). Henry Heveningham is said to have married firstly Anne Wyndham, daughter of Sir Edmund Wyndham, but died without issue by either of his wives.

\* **John Sulyard**, second son.

\* **Eustace Sulyard**, third son.

\* **Mary Sulyard**, eldest daughter.

\* **Margaret Sulyard** (1539-1586) second daughter. According to the pedigree in Marshall, *supra*, p. 228, she married Thomas Southwell. Nothing further is known of this marriage, and it appears she married Thomas Darcy (1538-1586), esquire, of Tolleshunt Darcy, the son of Thomas Darcy (1511?-1557) of Tolleshunt Darcy and his first wife, Anne Munday, the daughter of the goldsmith and Lord Mayor of London, Sir John Munday (d.1537). For the will of Sir John Munday, see TNA PROB 11/27/118. See the will of Thomas Darcy, TNA PROB 11/69/668, in which he appoints as supervisors his brothers-in-law, Sir Edward Sulyard (d.1610) and Anthony Maxey (d.1591).

\* **Jane Sulyard** (b.1545), third daughter, who married her stepbrother, William Ayloffe (c.1535-1584), eldest son of her mother's third husband, William Ayloffe (d.1569). For the will of William Ayloffe (c.1535-1584), see TNA PROB 11/67/475.

\* **Anne Sulyard** (born c.1546), fourth daughter, who married, firstly, John King of Althorne, Essex, for whose will, dated 17 May 1576 and proved 22 November 1580, see Gilbert, William, 'A Digest of Essex Wills', *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, Vol. XL, No. 3, (New York: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 1909), pp. 155-9, at p. 158:

<https://archive.org/stream/newyorkgenealog040newy#page/158/mode/2up>

Anne Sulyard married secondly, John Glascock (d.1595) of Roxwell, Essex, for whose will, which mentions his late wife's son, Thomas King, see TNA PROB 11/85/53.

\* **Bridget Sulyard**, whose husband, according to her mother's will, was surnamed Watts.

After the testator's death, Margaret Forster married thirdly, William Ayloffe (d.1569). For the will of William Ayloffe, see TNA PROB 11/51/50.

For the brass commemorating the testator and his wife, see Wright, *supra*, p. 143:

*Here do lie Eustace Sulyard, esquire, and Margaret Ayloffe, sometime his wife, who had to her first husband Gregory Ballet [sic for 'Bassett'], esquire by whom she had issue Dorothy, her only daughter and heir, and now wife unto Anthony Maxey, esquire, and to her second husband, the said Eustace Sulyard, between whom they had issue Edward Sulyard, esquire, their son and heir, and Mary, Margaret, Jane, Anne and Bridget, their daughters, and to her third and last husband she had William Ayloffe of Bretons, esquire, by whom she had no issue, which said Eustace Sulyard died in February in the first year of King Edward the Sixth, and the said Margaret died the fifth of February the 9 and twentieth year of our Sovereign Queen Elizabeth.*

See also Christy, Miller, W.W. Porteous and E. Bertram Smith, 'Some Interesting Essex Brasses', *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. IX, Part I, New Series, (Colchester, 1903), pp. 22-67, at pp. 35-6:

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<https://archive.org/stream/transactionsess01socigoog#page/n55/mode/2up>

*This inscription (7 by 23 ½ inches) commemorates Eustace Sulyard, Esquire, of Flemyngs, in Runwell, and his wife, Margaret [a daughter of Robert Forster, of Little Burch, by Margaret, eldest daughter and heiress of William Tendring, of the same place], who was married, firstly to Gregory Bassett, Esquire, of Bradwell-juxta-Coggeshall (by whom she had a daughter, Dorothie, wife to Anthony Maxey, Esquire); secondly, to the aforesaid Eustace Sulyard (by whom she had Edward, Mary, Margaret, Jane, Anne, and Brigett: he died the 26<sup>th</sup> February 1546-7); and, thirdly, (as his second wife,) to William Ayloffe, Esquire, of Brittens, in Hornchurch (by whom she had no children). She died on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 1586-7.*

For the testator's children, see also the will of his widow, Margaret Forster Bassett Sulyard Ayloffe, TNA PROB 11/72/1. It appears that two sons, John and Eustace, and one daughter, Mary, predeceased the testator's widow, as they are not mentioned in her will.

#### **OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL**

The testator's executor, William Morice, would appear to have been the eldest son of James Morice (d.1557), and the brother of Ralph Morice , for whom see the *ODNB* entry:

*Morice, Ralph (fl. 1522–1570), principal secretary to Thomas Cromer, was a younger son of James Morice (d. 1557) of Roydon, Essex, clerk of works to Lady Margaret Beaufort, and his wife, the daughter and heir of a man named Buckbeard. James's eldest son, William Morice (c.1500–1554), was a gentleman usher first to the scholar and diplomat Richard Pace (probably by 1525), and then to the royal household (by 1533). He was also joint receiver-general with his father, both in the court of general surveyors (1530–47) and for possessions recovered by the court of common pleas (from 1536). A fervent evangelical, he, along with his brother Ralph, Edward Isaac, and Hugh Latimer, visited James Bainham on 29 April 1532 in the Newgate prison the day before he was burnt as a relapsed heretic.*

#### **WILLIAM WEBBE**

William Webbe dedicated his *A Discourse of English Poetry* to the testator's son, Sir Edward Sulyard (d.1610), and was tutor to the latter's sons, Edward Sulyard and Thomas Sulyard. For Webbe's dedication to Sir Edward Sulyard, see Arber, Edward, ed., *A Discourse of English Poetry 1586 by William Webbe*, (London, 1870), pp. 5, 13-16, at:

<http://www.archive.org/stream/discoursefengli00webbuoft#page/n5/mode/2up>

Almost nothing is known of William Webbe. From the *ODNB*:

*Webbe, William (fl. 1566?–1591), author, is known chiefly for his *A discourse of English poerie, together with the authors judgment, touching the reformation of our English verse*, published in 1586; little is known of his life. A letter by Webbe addressed to Robert Wilmott, prefacing the latter's 1591 printed edition of an Inner Temple play, *Tancred and Gismund*, implies that Webbe was present at its performance before the queen, probably in 1566. He is probably the William Webbe who graduated BA from St John's College, Cambridge, in 1572/3, in the same year as Edmund Spenser, although from a different college. In *A Discourse*, Webbe draws extensively and admiringly upon *The Shepheardes Calendar* (published anonymously in 1579) and demonstrates that he knows the identity of its author. He refers admiringly to the discussion of quantitative metres in the correspondence between Spenser and Gabriel Harvey which appeared as *Three Proper and Wittie Familiar Letters and Two other Very Commendable Letters* in 1580. However, *A Discourse* does not suggest any intimate acquaintance between Webbe and Spenser or Harvey.*

*Webbe's Discourse yields some clues about his career. It is dedicated to 'my verie good Master, Ma. Edward Sulyard, Esquire' who resided at Flemyngs, a large house in the parish of Runwell, in the hundred of Chelmsford, Essex. Webbe indicates that he was employed as tutor to Sulyard's two sons, Edward and Thomas, and refers on a number of occasions to his manuscript translation into quantitative verse of the Georgics which he presented to Sulyard. By 1591, the date of his letter to Wilmott, Webbe was living, possibly also as a tutor, at Pirgo, in the parish of Havering atte Bower, Essex, a house owned by Henry Grey, a relative by marriage of the Sulyards. Tancred and Gismund was partly dedicated by Wilmott to Lady Anne Grey, wife of Henry Grey. Nothing further is known of Webbe's life.*

Arber states that by 1591 Webbe was living at Pyrgo at the home of Henry Grey, 'a relative by marriage of the Sulyards'. The pedigree in Marshall, *supra*, p. 228, shows that William Sulyard (d. before 1 June 1610), eldest son and heir of Sir Edward Sulyard (d. 1610), married Mary Grey (d. 5 September 1650), the daughter of Henry Grey (1547 - 26 July 1614), 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Grey of Groby, by Anne Windsor (buried 28 June 1605), the daughter of William Windsor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron Windsor, and sister of Oxford's brother-in-law, Edward Windsor (1532?-1575), 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Windsor, husband of Oxford's half-sister, Katherine de Vere (1538-1600). For the will of William Windsor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron Windsor, see TNA PROB 11/42A/91. For the will of Edward Windsor, 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Windsor, see TNA PROB 11/57/332. For the will of Katherine de Vere, see TNA PROB 11/95/237. For the Grey family, see Cokayne, George Edward, *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. VI, (London: St Catherine Press, 1926), pp. 135-6.

For Henry Grey, see his will, TNA PROB 11/124/460, the *ODNB* entry, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/grey-sir-henry-1547-1614>

See also the will of his father, Lord John Grey (d. 19 November 1564) of Pyrgo, TNA PROB 11/48/27.

It seems likely that William Webbe went to Pyrgo with William Sulyard (d. before 1 June 1610) after the latter married Mary Grey. Webbe may have been tutor to Henry Grey's sons.

Oxford complained of the behaviour of Henry Grey's eldest son, Sir John Grey (buried 7 October 1611), in a letter to King James dated 30 January 1604 (see ERO D/DMh C1):

*Seeing that it hath pleased your Majesty of your most gracious inclination to justice & right to restore me to be keeper of your game as well in your Forest of Waltham as also in Havering Park, I can do no less in duty and love to your Majesty but employ myself in the execution thereof, and to the end you might the better know in what sort both the forest & the park have been abused, and yet continued, as well in destroying of the deer as in spoiling of your demesne wood by such as have patents & had licences heretofore for felling of timber in the Queen's time lately deceased, presuming thereby that they may do what they list, I was bold to send unto your Majesty a man skilful, learned & experienced in forest causes, who being a dweller and eye-witness thereof might inform you of the truth. And because your Majesty upon a bare information could not be so well satisfied of every particular as by lawful testimony & examination of credible witness upon oath, according to your Majesty's appointment by commission a course hath been taken in which your Majesty shall be fully satisfied of truth. This commission, together with the depositions of the witness, I do send to your Majesty by this bearer, who briefly can inform you of the whole contents, so that now, having lawfully proved unto your Majesty that Sir John Grey hath killed and destroyed your deer in Havering Park without any warrant for the same, his patent is void in law, & therefore I most humbly beseech your Majesty to make him an example for all others that shall in like sort abuse their places, & to restore me to the possession thereof, in both which your Majesty shall do but justice and right to the one & other. This 30 of January 1603. Your Majesty's most humble subject and servant, E. Oxenford.*

RM: Eustacij Sulyard armigeri

In the name of god, Amen. I, Eustace Sulyard of Flemings in the county of Essex, esquire, being of whole mind and perfect memory, thanks be unto Almighty God, do make this my last will and testament concerning the disposition and order as well of all my goods and chattels as of all my lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever the 25<sup>th</sup> day of February in the first year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Edward the 6<sup>th</sup> by the grace of God King of England, France and Ireland, defender of the Faith, and in earth the Supreme Head under God of the Churches of England and Ireland in form following:

First, I yield and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God, and my body unto the earth until the day of the general resurrection, when they shall join again together and appear before the trone [=throne], judgment-seat and majesty of our Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus Christ, by whose merits and mercy only I believe to be saved and accepted amongst the faithful number of those blessed to whom it shall be said, 'Venite ad me etc.';

Item, I will and bequeath by this my said last will and testament all that my lease and farm of Acreflete in the county of Essex with my stock of eighteen score wethers and forty bullocks now going in an{d} upon the same unto Margaret, my wife, willing and requiring her that she do in no wise separate any part of my said stock from any of my said farm, but that she do occupy the same farm and stock together during such term of years as I have yet to come not expired, and the money and profit thereof as it shall rise and grow yearly from time to time to employ to such use and uses as hereafter in this my said last will is fully set forth and declared;

And as concerning the disposition of all other my goods and chattels, except such as be hereafter bequeathed and given by this my last will and testament unto Edward, my son and heir apparent, or to such person or persons as it shall please God to ordain to be mine heir or heirs, or to other my children, I will, give and bequeath them unto the said Margaret, my wife, upon condition that she, the said Margaret, shall within 14 days next after my death, having knowledge of the same, be bounden by her sufficient deed and writing obligatory unto my nephew, Thomas Cornwallis, William Morice and George Foster [=Forster], esquires, in the sum of two hundred marks sterling to content and pay unto my said son, Edward, or to such person or persons as shall happen to be mine heir or heirs, one hundred pounds sterling at th' age of 21 years, to th' intent that my said heir or heirs may with the same sum by the oversight and assistance of her and my said other executors buy all such parcel of household stuff for the furniture of his household as in a schedule hereunto annexed more plainly is declared, set forth and specified;

And I will that this mine aforesaid gift made unto my said wife, Margaret, of my goods and chattels, except before excepted, shall not take place nor be of any force until such time as my said wife shall become bounden unto the said Thomas, William and George, anything in this my last will contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding;

Item, I give unto my son, Edward, or to such person or persons as shall first attain to th' age of 21 years, being then my next heir or heirs, these parcels of silver plate following, videlicet, first, one basin with an ewer of silver parcel gilt, weighing 83 ounces; two quart pots of silver parcel gilt, weighing 62 ounces or thereabout; three bowls of silver parcel gilt with a cover, weighing one hundred and one ounces di{midium}; one salt with a cover gilt, weighing 20 ounces; one dozen spoons, whereof 3 gilt, weighing 25 ounces; and one [-g one] old casting-bottle parcel gilt which was my mother's;

Item, I will and bequeath unto every one of my daughters hereafter named for a benevolent token and natural remembrance these parcels of silver plate following, that is to say, to every of them one salt with a cover parcel gilt with mine arms and my wife's thereupon engraven and enamelled, weighing 12 ounces, and also to every of them six

silver spoons weighing 8 ounces, every of the spoons having my cipher engraven upon them, to be delivered unto them at the day of their marriages or else as they shall attain to th' age of 18 years, all which parcels of plate given to my said daughters to be bought by mine executors of the profits of my lands and farms;

Nevertheless, I will that my said wife shall have the custody and reasonable use of all the said parcels of plate which I have given unto my said son, Edward, as long as she shall keep herself sole and unmarried, and after during her life upon sufficient bond obligatory to mine executors for the redelivery thereof;

I will and bequeath unto William Clenche of London, tailor, forty shillings sterling, to be paid yearly by mine executors during his natural life;

Item, I give and bequeath to Anne Clenche, his daughter, ten pounds sterling, the one half thereof as my gift and thother half thereof for and to the performance of Thomas Grene his will, late of Stanford Rivers in the said county of Essex, deceased;

Item, I give and bequeath to Jane Foster [=Forster], my wife's sister, twenty pounds, to be paid her by mine executors at the day of her marriage if she [+be] married by th' advice of mine executors;

Item, I give and bequeath to every of my servants, as well men as women, which take wages of me one quarter wages for that quarter that it shall please Almighty God to call me out of this transitory life unto his mercy, and to every of my said servants that hath served me one whole year before my death, one whole year's wages and a livery coat of my color accustomed and none other;

And as to the disposition of all my manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments with their appurtenances, forasmuch as I am perfectly, by the deliberate advice of my learned counsel in the laws of this realm instructed, as well by the sight of several offices found after the death of my father and by other offices found after the death of my brother, and by ancient evidences of mine own verifying the said offices in every point to be true concerning the tenure of my said manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments, that no part of my said manors, lands, tenements or hereditaments been holden of the King's Majesty nor of any other person or persons by knight-service, but that all my said manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments with th' appurtenances been holden of common person by socage and by none other tenure, therefore I have full power and authority by the laws and statutes of this realm of England to make and declare my last will for that all my said manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments been fee simple lands and holden of common persons by socage tenure in manner and form above-mentioned and plainly declared, I, the said Eustace Sulyard, therefore do of all my said manors, lands, tenements and other hereditaments with their appurtenances, profits, pleasures and commodities ordain, declare and make this my last will and [+testament] in manner and form following:

First, I do by this my present last will give and bequeath to the said Margaret, my wife, for term of her life all that my manor called Flemings with th' appurtenances, and all and singular my other lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever set, lying and being within the said towns, fields and parishes of Runwell, Rettendon, Rawreth, Much Stabridge, Ramsden Bellhouse, Wickford, Downham, South Hanningfield, East Hanningfield and West Hanningfield, with th' advowson of the church of Runwell in the same county of Essex, and also all that my frank-tenement called Giffordes with th' appurtenances lying and being in the parishes of South Hanningfield, East Hanningfield and Downham during her natural life upon these intents and conditions following, that is to say, that she, the said Margaret, shall at her only costs and charges find, nourish and bring up from the time of my death in virtue and learning my five daughters called Mary, Margaret, Jane, Bridget and Anne until the day of their marriage or marriages, and my three sons also named Edward, John and Eustace unto the day of their marriage or marriages or until every of them shall attain to th' age of 21 years if they so long do live, and I will in any wise the same my said sons brought up continually in learning as well and specially towards God as the world during their nonage;

And also upon condition that the said Margaret shall yearly from my said death during her natural life cause to be expended and bestowed in, about and upon the necessary upholding, repairing, maintaining and amending of the edifices, water-conduits and buildings of the said mansion of the said manor of Flemings from time to time as need shall require 66s 8d sterling, and also shall pay all manner rents and other duties going or to be going out of the said manor yearly during the life of the said Margaret;

Moreover I give unto my second son, John Sulyard, immediately after he shall attain unto th' age of 21 years, the manor of Deuxhall [=Dews Hall] now in the tenure of James Haydon in the parish of Lambourne within the said county of Essex with th' appurtenances to him and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue male to descend unto Eustace Sulyard, his brother, and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of issue male of their bodies lawfully begotten, to descend, revert and turn unto such person and persons whom God shall please to ordain and make my next heir or heirs;

Item, I give unto the said Eustace, my son, a house with th' appurtenances sometime parcel of Deux [=Dews] lands and a parcel of Maples lands lying within the said parish of Lambourne now in the tenure of John Soby, and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of issue male of his body lawfully begotten to descend and remain to my said son, John Sulyard, and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue to remain and descend unto such person or persons as God shall appoint and assign to be my next heir;

Also I will that mine executors shall take, perceive and enjoy th' whole yearly profits of my manor of Leggatts and Parkbury and of all other my lands, tenements and hereditaments until such time as my said sons and every of them shall sufficiently accomplish their full age of 21 years;

And I further will that mine executors shall immediately from and after my death receive, possess, perceive and enjoy all the rents, issues, revenues, farms and other profits of all and singular my lands, tenements and hereditaments with th' appurtenances known by the names of Otes and Rolles within the said county of Essex, and of Libry in the county of Hertford, and my yearly rent of ten marks sterling going out of my capital mese called Lincoln's Inn within the county of Middlesex, being one of the Inns of Court, until the said Edward, my eldest son, shall attain unto the age of 21 years, to th' intent that my said executors shall as well of the said issues, revenues and profits of all the premises as of all other issues, profits, revenues and commodities as shall grow, rise and be received by mine executors or any of them of my said lease, farm and stock of Acreflete before mentioned, content and pay to every of my said daughters two hundred marks sterling at every their several day or days of marriage or else at every such time as every of my said daughters being unmarried shall attain or come to their full age of 18 years, and also to th' intent the same mine executors shall [+or?] may perform, accomplish and fulfil therewith in every behalf the residue of this my said last will and testament;

Provided alway and I will that if any of my said daughters shall happen to die before marriage had and before they shall attain to the full age of 18 years, or if any of them shall against the will of the said Margaret, my wife, and other mine executors marry themselves to any person or persons not having whereof in certainty to maintain them and every of them to their havor [=haviour?], state and degrees, but shall marry to their dishonesties or disparagement, then I will that the part or portion bequeathed to every such my said daughter or daughters that so shall happen to marry themselves against the will of my said executors to their dishonesties or disparagement as before is said shall remain and be to thother of my said daughters then living, equally to be divided between them;

And if it happen four of my said daughters to die before marriage had or before they shall attain to their full age of 18 years, then I will that such one of my said daughters as shall happen to overlive her sisters shall have five hundred marks sterling to her marriage, by mine executors to be paid unto her of the issues, revenues and profits of the premises before specified;

Also I will that if it shall happen my said sons, John and Eustace, to die unmarried before their full age of 21 years, my next heir then being within age, and also if it shall happen the same Margaret, my wife to die before that my right heir or heirs shall attain to his or their full years, then I will that as well the reversion of the foresaid lands, tenements and hereditaments with their appurtenances given by this my present last will unto the said Margaret, my wife, for term of her life, and the reversion of all other my lands wherein the said Margaret is enfeoffed for term of her life, as also the reversion of my said manor or [sic] Parkbury and Legattes, and of all other my lands, tenements and hereditaments with their appurtenances being heretofore in this my present last will assigned, given and bequeathed unto my said sons, John and Eustace, and to th' heirs males of their bodies lawfully begotten as above is said, come, go, be and remain during the nonage of my right heir or heirs to mine executors, to th' intent the same mine executors shall receive

and perceive th' issues, revenues and profits of the same to perform therewith this my said last will and testament;

And also I will the residue and overplus of all the yearly issues, revenues and profits of my foresaid lease and farm of Acreflete with the foresaid stock of the cattle upon the same, and all other my manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments before assigned and appointed to be received by mine executors during the minorities of my said sons, Edward, John and Eustace, and every of them as above is said, over and above as much of the same revenues as shall suffice to satisfy, content and pay all my legacies, gifts and bequests above-mentioned, shall be bestowed and employed to the profit of my said sons, Edward, John and Eustace, indifferently to be divided and delivered between them by mine executors for their better advancement and maintenance of living;

Item, I will and bequeath unto the said Margaret, my wife, the leases [sic?] of years(?) and of my houses in Chelmsford for term of her life, and after her death to remain to the performance of this my last will;

Item, I give my house in Runwell Street which was Acreleys to pay the sexton's wages forever for the whole parish except Flemings, Runwell Hall, Pyres and Lymford if the King's laws will permit the same;

Also I will that there be made yearly forever in Runwell Church aforesaid four sermons, the first to be made on the first Sunday of Lent, the 2<sup>nd</sup> upon Whit Sunday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> on Sunday yearly next after Lammas-day, the 4<sup>th</sup> the first Sunday of October, and the preacher to be appointed by mine executors, and he to have for every the same yearly sermons 6s 8d sterling, and 20d with 20 halfpenny loaves of bread to be given at every of the said sermons to 20 poor men being at the beginning and ending of every the said sermons at the discretion of my said executors, the charge whereof to be had of my house in Runwell Street, and the residue of the said charges to be paid by mine executors;

Item, I will that my servant, Roger Skreme, have a lease of 21 years of my tenement at Albrigge in the parish of Lambourne, paying yearly therefore ten pounds sterling, and he to enter at Michaelmas next after the date hereof, bearing his goodwill and service towards my said wife during her widowhead;

Item, I will that my servant, John Jackson, have a lease of 21 years of my tenement called Burrys, paying yearly therefore six pounds 13s 4d, and he to enter also at Michaelmas next coming, bearing his goodwill and service towards my wife during her widowhead;

Item, I give unto Henry Stonard forty shillings, to be paid him by mine executors;

Item, I give all my wearing apparel having no guard of velvet to be divided equally between John Harley, William Danyell, Saunder Ryckes and William Downes;

Item, I give unto the said John Harle twenty shillings sterling;

Item, I give unto my nephew, Thomas Cornwallis, my great horse called Grey Rouse;

Item, I give unto my nephew Henry Cornwallis, my other young grey horse, a gown of black damask guarded with velvet, a doublet of crimson satin, and a pair of hose stocked with crimson satin, and 40s for the translation and making of such garments as I have given unto him;

Item, I will that Mr Thomas Mildmay have the ledde [=lead?] which I owe him at his pleasure;

Item, where that I do owe unto my sister, Bridget Foster [=Forster], threescore pounds, I will the same to be paid immediately after my death, and also I do give unto her for her travail and pains taken with me £13 6s 8d;

Item, I will, give and bequeath unto my sister, Susan Sulyard, forty shillings by the year during her natural life, to be paid her quarterly by mine executors;

Also I will and bequeath unto Edward, my eldest son, or to whom God shall make heir of Flemings, all my harness, bows, arrows, bills, pikes, poleaxes, swords, daggers, guns and all other mine habiliment of war, charging mine executors to see the same scoured and kept clean until such time as my said heir or heirs shall come to his or their full age;

Item, I given unto Edward, my son, or to whom God shall make my next heir, immediately after the death of my said wife one sparver of crimson velvet and tissue gold purled, and one other of tawny damask and yellow damask with the curtains of sarsenet belonging to the same;

And of this my last will and testament I do ordain, name and make the said Margaret, my wife, Thomas Cornwallis and William Morice, esquires, mine executors, provided always that the said Thomas and William shall not meddle with any parts of my goods or lands as long as my said wife keepeth herself sole and unmarried;

Notwithstanding, if it shall fortune that my said wife do marry at any time before this my last will and testament shall be fully performed and satisfied to all intents, constructions and purposes in every degree, nature and condition, then I will that the said Thomas and William shall do, execute, accomplish and minister in, of and to the performance of the same my said last will and testament together jointly with my said wife in as ample manner, like trust, form, nature, degree and condition to all intents, constructions and purposes as the said Margaret, my wife;

Provided also and I do further will that if the said Margaret, my wife, for her part after my death take upon her to minister and be mine executrix as I have put her in trust and appointed, then I will that she shall within one month next after my decease become and stand bounden by her deed and writing obligatory sufficient in the law to the said Thomas and William, mine executors, and to George Foster [=Forster], esquire, whom I do make and ordain and name supervisors of this my said last will and testament, in the sum of one

thousand and five hundred pounds sterling to perform, fulfil, content, & satisfy this my said last will and testament in every degree, nature, order, form, bequest, legacy and in and to all intents, constructions, device, purposes and condition, and if the said Margaret, my wife, shall refuse so to stand and become bounden within the said time before by me, the said Eustace, assigned, then I will that she be none of mine executors, but as well the same my last will and testament as all my goods, chattels, lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever they be in the same will contained, I will to be only and wholly accomplished, administrated, satisfied, performed and executed in every degree, nature and condition to all intents, constructions and purposes by the said Thomas Cornwallis and William Morice, mine executors;

Also I will that if by any mean it shall happen whereby this my last will shall be interrupt and not take place or be accomplished according to the true meaning of mine intent and purpose, then I will and I authorize the said Margaret, my wife, being executrix, with th' advice and consent of the same Thomas, William and George, mine executors and supervisor, or the said Thomas and William, if they shall happen to be my sole executors, to alter, transpose, increase and diminish, as good cause why shall require, any word, article, clause, sentence or matter in this my last will and testament contained, any word herein contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding;

Item, I will that the said Margaret, my wife, during the time of her sole administration shall render and make a just, true, perfect yearly particularful account as well of all issues, revenues, rents and profits coming, rising and growing of all my said lands, farms and goods, as also of all manner charges ordinary and extraordinary coming in or going out of the same to the said Thomas, William and George, or to or before two of them at the least, or if they cannot yearly then assemble, to or before one of mine other executors, the said Thomas Cornwallis or William Morice, and every of them to receive yearly of the said Margaret, my wife, for their pains and charges in that behalf sustained forty shillings sterling;

Also I will and bequeath to every the said mine executors, Thomas and William, for their pains to be taken in and about the travail and accomplishment of this my said last will and testament, ten marks sterling;

Item, I give unto my brother-in-law, George Foster [=Forster], for his pains and travail in the accomplishment of this my last will, my gown of black damask gared [=guarded?] with velues [sic?], furred with martens, and a jacket of black satin to the same;

Item, I give unto John Hixe alias Lopper, five pounds;

Item, I give unto Mrs Clovell [=Clovile?], widow, for her pains taken with me, 40s sterling;

Dated the day and year above-written in the presence of [-of] George Foster [=Forster], esquire, Henry Cornwallis, Sir John Gelder, parson of Runwell, John Kent, and other. Thomas Cornwallis. Ex{aminatur}(?) p{er} William Morice.

The particulars as well of all such implements and utensils of household as I, Eustace Sulyard, have willed to be bought to the use of Edward Sulyard, my son and heir apparent, or such other person or persons as it shall [-be] please Almighty God to ordain to be mine next heir or heirs, with parcel of the said hundred pounds which I, the said Eustace, have bequeathed unto him or any other mine heir or heirs hereafter, as also such other parcels utensil and standards of household removable and irremovable remaining they [sic] day of making hereof at and in my house of Flemings as I by these presents do ordain, will and bequeath unto the said Edward and to other mine heir or heir[s] as they shall happen, that is to say:

LM: Parcels of pewter, latten, brass, iron and brewing vessel

First, one whole new garnish of pewter vessel with a charger, 30s; one chafing-dish of latten, new, 5s; one basin with an ewer of parter(?), 6s 8d; 4 brass pots, forty shillings; 3 pans, 20s; 3 kettles, 13s 4d; 4 spits, every of them meaner than other, 10s;

Item, for other utensils for the kitchen, 6s 8d;

Item, for utensils for the buttery, 6s 8d;

Item, for a copper and other necessary brewing vessel, as colefatte, mass fatte, kilderkins and other necessaries tubs, £6 13s 4d;

S{u}m{ma} £13 11s 8d

LM: Apparel for bedding, viz., ticks, feathers, fustians, coverlets, pillows, sheets, says, with tablecloths, napkins, towels and carpets

Two brussell [=Brussels?] ticks of one yard and 3 quarters broad, price forty shillings; 20 stone of living feathers, videlicet, 8 lbs. to every stone, price 53s 4d; ten yards of blankets new out of the piece at 16d the yard, 13s 4d; two coverlets of verdure fine, meet for such beds, at 33s 4d the piece, 66s 8d; 4 pillows of 8 yards of fustian at 8d the yard, 5s 4d; six pound of down, price ten pence the pound, for the same pillows, 5s; sheets, ten pair, containing 8 ells in every pair, at 16d the ell, containing in all 80 ells, 6s 8d; 3 ticks counterfeit Brussell for bed and bolster, containing a yard and 3 quarters broad, at 12s le piece, 36s; 21 stone of living feathers for the same at 2s 8d le stone, 56s; ten yards of fustian for pillows at 8d the yard, 6s 8d; 12 pound of down to fill the same pillows at ten pence the pound, 10s; 3 coverlets for the same beds, price le piece, 16s, 48s; 15 yards blanket out of the piece for the same 3 beds at 14d le yard, 17s 6d; 220 ells of good linen cloth at 14d the ell to make ten pair of sheets for every bed, every pair to contain 7 ells, £12 5s; 8 pieces of beyond-sea say, red and yellow, at 16s le piece, £6 8s; 4 pieces of

English say of the best at 20s le yard, £4; item, my new thrummed carpet; linen cloth for tablecloths and cupboard cloths, £4; towels and napkins, 53s 4d. S{u}m{ma} £52 10s 10d.

LM: Utensil and standards of household, removable and irremovable

All manner boards, forms, stools, trestles, portals, ceilings, bedsteads, glass, locks, bolts, latches and all other ironwork and lead about the house, with all manner troughs and my horse-mill, with all my coffers being an ell and a m{er}er(?) above in height, with all other utensils and household necessaries being within the house or houses and offices of the manor of Flemings aforesaid at this present day, I will shall remain unto my son, Edward, and unto whatsoever other heir or heirs Almighty God shall provide to inherit the same;

Notwithstanding, I will that Margaret, my wife, shall have, occupy and exercise all and every the premises within the said house to her best commodity when and as often as she shall abide, remain or make her abode within the same house and not elsewhere.

Probatum fuit h{uius}mo{d}i testamento{m} cora{m} Domini Cantuarien{sis} Archiep{iscop}o apud London vnuacu{m} Codicill{o} vicesimo primo die mensis maij Anno d{omi}ni mill{es}imo quingen{tesim}o xlviijo Iuramento Will{el}mi Morice personali{te}r p{rese}ntis et M{ar}garete Rel{i}c{t}e et Thome Cornewales in p{er}sona Chr{ist}oferi Robynson procurat{oris} eor{um} ex{ecuto}rum in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento no{m}i{n}atorum ac approbatu{m} et insinuatu{m} &c Et comissa fuit admi{ni}strac{i}o om{n}i{um} et sing{u}lorum bonoru{m} d{i}c{t}i defuncti prefatis executoribus De bene et fideli{te}r admi{ni}strand{o} eadem &c ad sancta dei Eu{a}ngelia Iurat{is}

[=The same testament was proved, together with the codicil, before the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury at London on the twenty-first day of the month of May in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred forty-seventh by the oath of William Morice, personally present, and Margaret, relict, and Thomas Cornwallis, executors named in the same testament, in the person of their proctor, Christopher Robinson, and probated and entered etc., and administration was granted of all and singular the goods of the said deceased to the forenamed executors, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same etc.]