

SUMMARY: The document below is the will, dated 18 July 1557 and proved 31 March 1559, of Ambrose Wolley of Water Lambeth, Surrey, whose widow, Audrey Tyrrell, married Brian Annesley (d.1604), one of the defenders against Oxford in a tournament at Westminster on 1-3 May 1571. See Segar, William, *The Book of Honor and Armes*, (New York: Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, 1975), pp. 94-6.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Little is known of the testator's family background. In the will below he mentions 'my nephew, Robert Wolley, citizen and grocer of London', and 'my cousin, Gilbert Wolley, son of my cousin, Henry Wolley', as well as Gilbert Wolley's sister, Joan Kynston [=Kingston?] and three other cousins, Joan Pratte, Joan Stockden, and Joan Stockden's sister, Katherine.

For the will, dated 16 October 1578 and proved 27 October 1578, of the testator's nephew, Robert Wolley, citizen and grocer of London, which mentions his wife, Mary, and sons Edward Wolley, Ambrose Wolley, Henry Wolley and Thomas Wolley, and daughter, Mary Wolley, wife of John Jones, as well as the inn called the Sign of the Swan in Water Lambeth bequeathed to him by the testator in the will below, see TNA PROB 11/60/506 (confirmed 14 July 1588).

Both the testator and Thomas Wolley were granted special admission to Lincoln's Inn, Ambrose Wolley of London, grocer, on 8 May 1536, and Thomas Wolley on 10 May 1536. See *The Records of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn*, Vol. I, (Lincoln's Inn, 1896), p. 49 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=8BktAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA49&lpg=PA49>

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

The testator appears to have married three times. In the will below he bequeaths 40s for an obit 'for the souls of my wives deceased':

And I will that at Sherborne aforesaid shall be bestowed other 40s yearly during the same 5 years upon an like obit and in deeds of alms and charity in remembrance of me and to pray for my soul and for the souls of my wives deceased.

Testator's first or second marriage

The testator's first or second wife appears to have been Alice Tyrrell (d. before 1557), the daughter of Humphrey Tyrrell of Shenfield, a younger son of Humphrey Tyrrell (d. 2 June 1507), esquire, and his second wife, Elizabeth Walwyn (d.1524). According to

Christy, by Alice Tyrrell the testator was the father of Anne (nee Wolley) Tyrrell (1530 - 12 April 1592), wife firstly of Davy Hamner, gentleman, and secondly John Tyrrell (d. March 1585), esquire. See the Tyrrell pedigree in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, pp. 114-15 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=0m1KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA114>

See also Christy, Miller and W.W. Porteous, 'On Some Interesting Essex Brasses', *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. VI, New Series, (Colchester, 1898), pp. 146-70 at pp. 159-60 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/transactioness04socigoog#page/n185/mode/2up>

Here lieth the body of Anne, daughter of Ambrose Wolley, esquire, wife of John Tyrrell, esquire, late wife of Davy Hamner, gentleman, who deceased the 12th day of April 1592, being of the age of 62 years.

. . . According to Morant, Ambrose Wolley, the father of the lady here commemorated, was a "citizen of London." Of her first husband (Davye Hanmer), we know nothing. Her second husband (John Tyrrell or Terrell) was a member of the well-known Essex family of that name. He was a son of Sir John Tyrrell of Little Warley Hall (d. Feb. 1540), and died on March 2nd, 1585, leaving a daughter Mary, who was married to Thomas Clinton, second son of Edward Earl of Lincoln. From a genealogy printed by Mr. Chancellor [Sepulchral Monuments of Essex, pp. 173-174], it appears that there were several marriages between the Tyrrells and the Wolleys at about this date. For instance, the mother of the lady here commemorated (daughter of Ambrose Wolley and wife of John Tyrrell) was Alice, daughter of Humphrey Tyrrell of Shenfield; while a certain Richard Tyrrell (d.1566) of Ashdon Place, married Grace, daughter of (blank) Wolley.

For the inscription, see also:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52219527@N00/23686538022/>

See also Chancellor, Frederic, *The Ancient Sepulchral Monuments of Essex*, (C.F. Kell, 1890), pp. 173-4.

Testator's third marriage

At the time he made his will, the testator's wife was Audrey Tyrrell (d. 25 November 1591), sister of the testator's son-in-law and executor, Richard Tyrrell (d.1566). After the testator's death, Audrey Tyrrell married Brian Annesley (d.1604). He was one of the defenders against Oxford in a tournament at Westminster on 1-3 May 1571. See Segar, William, *The Book of Honor and Armes*, (New York: Scholars' Facsimiles & Reprints, 1975), pp. 94-6:

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A royal challenge was also there [=Westminster] proclaimed before her Majesty wherein were challengers the Earl of Oxford, Charles Howard, Sir Henry Lee and Christopher Hatton.

The defenders were the Lord Stafford, the Lord Henry Seymour, Edward Herbert, Sir George Carey, Thomas Cecil, Henry Grey, William Howard, Sir Jerome Bowes, Henry Knollys, Henry Knyvet, William Norris, Richard Bulkeley, Thomas Knyvet, William Knollys, Ralph Lane, George Delves, Robert Colsell, Lancelot Bostock, Brian Annesley, Henry Mackwilliam, Thomas Bedingfield, Thomas More, William Worthington, Richard Blount, Thomas Coningsby, Robert Alexander, Roger Clopton.

For Brian Annesley (d.1604), see his will, TNA PROB 11/104/286, and the *ODNB* entry:

*[Brian Annesley] married Audrey, daughter of Robert Tyrrell of Birdbrook, Essex, who gave birth to four children: Brian, who predeceased his father, Christian, who married William, Lord Sandys, and finally Grace and Cordelia, who served the queen as maids of honour and who wed, respectively, Sir John Wildgoose and Sir William Harvey. Anslay's wife, Audrey, probably died in 1591, and, afterwards, when he suffered from senility, his youngest daughter, Cordelia, cared for him. At his death on 7 July 1604, apparently of natural causes, he named her the major beneficiary of his will, which Wildgoose unsuccessfully challenged. Irvin Matus has argued that Cordelia's well-publicized legal problems influenced the writing and popularity of Shakespeare's *King Lear*. Cordelia erected a monument with an inscription to her parents' memory at St Margaret's Church, Lee, Kent, where they were buried.*

According to the will below, the testator had four daughters:

* **Elizabeth Wolley** (d. by 1569), who married firstly Thomas Tyrrell (d.1555?), esquire, of Birdbrook, Essex, eldest brother of the testator's son-in-law and executor, Richard Tyrrell (d.1566). See the will of Thomas Tyrrel (d.1555?), TNA PROB 11/38/263, in which he appoints as executors his wife, Elizabeth, and his brother, Richard Tyrrell (d.1566), and in which he mentions his son, Thomas Tyrrell (1553 – 14 May 1573), and daughter, Anne Tyrrell (buried 19 March 1580).

Elizabeth (nee Wolley) Tyrrell proved her first husband's will on 11 December 1556 as 'Elizabeth Tyrrell alias Worthington', having married William Worthington shortly after Thomas Tyrrell's death. A marginal note to the will states that on 6 May 1569 administration was granted to Thomas Tyrrell's sister (and the testator's widow), Audrey Tyrrell Annesley (d. 25 November 1591), both executors having died.

It seems likely Elizabeth Wolley's second husband was the William Worthington who was one of the defenders in the 1571 tournament mentioned above in which Oxford was a challenger.

An inventory of Essex monuments describes an altar tomb in All Saints Church in Ashdon said to be the tomb of ‘Thomas Tyrrell of Warley and his wife, Anne Wolley’. Quare whether this identification is correct. This may be the tomb of Elizabeth Wolley’s first husband, Thomas Tyrrell (d.1555?), or the tomb of their only son, Thomas Tyrrell (1553 – 14 May 1573). See:

'Ashdon', in *An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Essex, Volume 1, North West* (London, 1916), pp. 4-9. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/rchme/essex/vol1/pp4-9> [accessed 1 September 2020].

Monuments: In chancel— in N.E. corner, (1) to [Thomas Tyrrel of Warley and Ann (Wolley) his wife], altar tomb, S. side and W. end cusped and panelled, with four shields, (a) the quartered coat, 1, two cheverons and an engrailed border, for Tyrrel, 2, paly of six, for Swynford, 3, an engrailed cheveron charged with three dolphins, for Flambert, 4, a cross between four scallops, for Coggeshall; (b) the quartered coat impaling a fleur de lis between two wool-packs within two flanches each with a wolf therein, for Wolley; (c) and (d) as (a); slab of Purbeck marble with indent of inscription plate, early or mid 16th-century; on N. wall—(2) to Richard Tyrrel, 1566, achievement of arms set in a deep moulded frame.

There is confusion as to the identity of Elizabeth Wolley’s second husband. The Worthington pedigree states that William Worthington of Orsett, Essex, Gentleman Pensioner, married ‘Anne’ Tyrrell, the daughter of ‘Sir Robert Tyrrell of Warley, Essex, Master of the Horse to Henry VIII’. See Metcalfe, *Part I, supra*, p. 328 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=0m1KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA328>

The statement that William Worthington’s father-in-law was Master of the Horse to Henry VIII appears to be erroneous. The only member of the Tyrrell family recorded as having been Master of the Horse to an English monarch was Sir Thomas Tyrrell (c.1453-1510), who occupied that office at the coronation of Richard III in 1483. See the *ODNB* entry for the Tyrrell family:

Sir Thomas [ii] Tyrell of Heron (c.1411–1476), followed his father into the king's service, and was a knight of the body by 1452. . . . With his wife, Anne, the daughter of Sir William Marney of Layer Marney, Essex, Thomas had four sons. The eldest, William, predeceased him and was buried with his wife, Alianore Darcy, at the Church of the Austin Friars, London, where Thomas's father and stepmother were also buried. Sir Thomas's heir was thus William's son Sir Thomas [iii] Tyrell (c.1453–1510?). This Thomas was an esquire of Edward IV's body by 1480, perhaps through the good offices of Sir Thomas Montgomery, for whom he was to endow prayers in his will. He transferred smoothly into the household of Richard III, and was confirmed as an esquire of the body in July 1483 at a fee of £40. He occupied the office of master of the horse at Richard's coronation, and although this is often taken as an error for James Tyrell of Gipping (d. 1502) there is no reason to assume that this was the case; Thomas is more likely to have been acting as his cousin's deputy.

See also:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Masters_of_the_Horse

See also

<https://www.tudorsociety.com/8320-2/>

For William Worthington, see also Brown, Alexander, *The Genesis of the United States*, Vol. II, (Boston: Houghton Mifflin and Company, 1890), p. 839 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=29w-AAAAYAAJ&pg=PA839>

The William Worthington who shared Cabot's annuity in 1557, and who fell heir to the maps and papers of Cabot, was of Orsett in County Essex, esquire

* **Gertrude Wolley**, who married Geoffrey Vaughan, about whom nothing further is known. Given the connection between the Tyrrell family and the explorer and cartographer, Sebastian Cabot (c.1481/2–1557), Grace Wolley's husband may have been the Geoffrey Vaughan listed in the charter of incorporation, dated 25 February 1555, of the Merchant Adventurers, of which Sebastian Cabot was stated to have been 'the principal promoter of this expedition'. See Cooper, Charles Purton, *Appendices to a Report on Thomas Rymer's Foedera*, p. 352 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=114JAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA352>

Sebastian Cabot was a witness to the will of Thomas Tyrrell (see below), who appears to have been the husband of Elizabeth/Isabel Wolley, and is mentioned in two bequests in the will:

Item, I give to Sir William Petre, knight, one of the King and Queen's Majesties' secretaries, my bay jennet, trusting that he will be good master to Master Captain Cabot whensoever he shall have occasion to sue for his pension.

Item, I give and bequeath to Mr Sebastian Captain Cabot one crucifix of gold to the value of 40s, and the same crucifix to be made by mine executors immediately after my decease.

* **Grace Wolley**, who married Richard Tyrrell (d.1566), the testator's executor. For his will, see TNA PROB 11/48/637. Richard Tyrrell and his wife, Grace, are mentioned in several Yorkshire fines. See:

'Yorkshire Fines: 1562', in *Feet of Fines of the Tudor Period [Yorks]: Part 1, 1486-1571*, ed. Francis Collins (Leeds, 1887), pp. 257-273. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/feet-of-fines-yorks/vol1/pp257-273> [accessed 20 September 2017].

By Richard Tyrrell, Grace Wolley had a son, Edward Tyrrell (d. 26 February 1594), and two daughters, Mary Tyrrell, and Philippa Tyrrell (d.1585). For the will of Philippa Tyrrell, see TNA PROB 11/68/375.

After Richard Tyrrell's death, Grace Wolley married secondly John Calton, Warden of the Fleet Prison. She made her will as Grace Calton, widow, on 29 August 1589. In her will, Philippa Tyrrell mentions 'my father-in-law, John Calton, and my mother, his wife'.

* **Anne Wolley** (1530 - 12 April 1592), for whom see Christy, *supra*. She married firstly Davy Hanmer, gentleman, and secondly John Tyrrell (d. 2 March 1585), son of Sir John Tyrrell (d.1541) of Little Warley, Essex. See the will of Sir John Tyrrell (d.1541), TNA PROB 11/28/444.

In the Tyrrell pedigree, Anne Wolley's second husband is erroneously identified as 'James' Tyrrell of Warley. See Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, p. 115 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=0m1KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA115>

By her second husband, Anne (nee Wolley) Hanmer Tyrrell (1530 - 12 April 1592) had a daughter, Mary Tyrrell (born 1552?), who married Thomas Clinton (1548-1610), second son of Edward Fiennes de Clinton (1512-1585), 1st Earl of Lincoln. See the *ODNB* and Wikipedia entries for the 1st Earl of Lincoln.

For Mary Tyrrell, see:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=709

According to the History of Parliament, Mary Tyrrell (1552-1593+) was the daughter of John Tyrrell of Warley, Essex. According to an online genealogy, she was the only child of Thomas Tyrrell (son of John Tyrrell and Anne Norris) and Anne Wolley. In about 1571, she married Thomas Clinton (or Fiennes de Clinton) of Horbling, Lincolnshire (c.1548-c.1613), second son of the first earl of Lincoln and a gentleman pensioner. They had one son, Francis, and two daughters. Mary brought the manor of Warley and other Essex lands to the marriage and the earl settled lands worth £900 on the couple. In his will, Lincoln left Thomas a £50 annuity from property in Lincolnshire. Thomas was involved in a lawsuit with his older brother Henry, 2nd earl of Lincoln, claiming in part that Henry deprived Mary of the profits of her Tyrrell inheritance. Thomas was heavily in debt by 1579. By July 1590, Thomas and Mary had separated and were on very bad terms. He refused to maintain her and she reportedly feared for her life. The Privy Council ordered the captain of pensioners to make sure that she received £30 a year out of his wages. The earl of Lincoln was also having marital difficulties at about this time. In 1593, Thomas was charged with trying to take away the Tyrrell inheritance. He claimed he had been setting aside £50 a year for his wife and again blamed his brother. It is unclear which of them was responsible for alienating her lands through sales and

mortgages. Thomas and Mary may have reconciled. No dates of death have been recorded for either of them, but in c.1613/14, Francis Clinton sold Horbling and other lands to his uncle, the earl. Francis was deeply in debt and, to add insult to injury, there was a rumor circulating that he had been born to Mary Tyrrell before her marriage to Thomas Clinton and was therefore not the legal heir.

TESTATOR'S LANDS

For the testator's manor of Wilsthorpe, purchased from Sir Oswald Wilsthorpe, see TNA C 1/1516/41 and TNA C 1/1084/44.

For a fine in 22 Henry VIII between Ambrose Wolley, citizen and grocer of London, Henry Wolley and John Thurston, and John Tyse and Joan, his wife, involving property in Eston and Alconbury Weston in Huntingdonshire, see Turner, G.J., ed., *A Calendar of the Feet of Fines Relating to the County of Huntingdon*, (Cambridge: Cambridge Antiquarian Society, 1913), pp. 124-5 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/octavopublicatio37camb#page/n295/mode/2up>

For a fine in 12 Elizabeth between Edward Thurston and Thomas Thurston, and Robert Wolley and Mary, his wife, concerning lands in Eston and Alconbury Weston, see Turner, *supra*, p. 161.

With one or two exceptions, the testator's surname is spelled 'Woolley' in the PCC copy of the will. In the transcript below, the spelling 'Wolley' has been used.

LM: T{estamentum}(?) Ambrosij Woolley

In the name of God, Amen. The 18 day of the month of July in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred fifty & seven, and in the third & fourth years of the reigns of Philip and Mary by the grace of God King and Queen of England, Sayne [sic], France, both the Sicilies, Jerusalem and Ireland, Defenders of the Faith, Archdukes of Austria, Dukes of Burgundy, Milan & Brabant, Counties of Habsburg, Flanders and Tyrol, I, Ambrose Wolley of Water Lambeth in the county of Surrey, esquire, being of whole mind and perfect memory, glory be given to Almighty God, do make, ordain and declare this my present testament indented containing herein my very last will, as well concerning the disposition of all my manors, lordships, messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments as also of all other my goods and chattels in manner and form following, that is to wit:

First I commend my soul to Almighty God and to his dear beloved Son, Jesus Christ, my Redeemer, only Lord and Saviour, and I will my body shall be buried in hallowed ground

wheresoever it shall please God to appoint the same by the good discretion of mine executor hereunder named;

And as touching the disposition of the said lordships, manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments, I give, devise and bequeath unto Audrey Wolley, my wife, and to her heirs forever all that my messuage or tenement with all and singular th' appurtenances wherein I now inhabit in Water Lambeth aforesaid;

And also all and all manner my movable goods, money, plate, jewels, napery, bedding, implements and stuff of household whatsoever which shall be within the same messuage or tenement at the time of my departing out of this mortal world;

Item, I give and devise and bequeath unto the said Audrey, my wife, fifty pounds of lawful money of England every year yearly during the term of her natural life out of my manor of Huddleston and Sherborne in the county of York, to be paid unto her by my son-in-law, Richard Tyrrell, esquire, mine executor hereunder named, at 4 principal and quarterly usual terms in the year by even portions;

And furthermore I give and bequeath to the said Audrey, my wife, an hundred pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto her by mine executor shortly after my decease, provided always and my mind and will is and I do by these presents forprise and ordain that if she, the same Audrey, or any other person or persons for her or in her name or behalf shall happen to claim any dowry or third foot [sic for 'part?'] of or in all or any of my manors, lordships, messuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments or any parcel of them whatsoever or wheresoever they lie within the realm of England, that then and from thenceforth all manner of legacies, gifts and bequests by me unto her by these presents given, willed and bequeathed shall be utterly void, and she to have no part of any of them, anything in this my last will otherwise to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding;

Item, I do by these presents for me and mine executors forgive, release, acquit and clearly discharge my son-in-law, John Tyrrell, esquire, his executors and administrators, both of the sum of eight score pounds of lawful money of England which he now presently oweth me, and of all other sums of money which I may demand of him;

And also I release him of all such statutes, bonds, specialties and writings which I have him bound in;

And yet over and besides that I bequeath unto his wife, my daughter, Anne Tyrrell, one hundred pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto her within two years next after my decease;

And also I will and by these presents bequeath that she shall have and enjoy during the term of her natural life that yearly annuity of £10 of lawful money of England which by deed of annuity dated the last day of April last past before the date hereof I have made and [f. 388r] granted unto her for term of her life out of my manor of Danson with the appurtenances in the county of Kent;

Item, I do by these presents acquit and release my son-in-law, Jeffrey [-Geoffrey] Vaughan, of all that thirty pounds which he borrowed of me for the buying of an house and certain lands in Essex, and as well of twenty and five pounds that he at two several times borrowed of me upon bills of his hands, as of all and singular other sums of money that I may or can demand of him, his executors or administrators, and I do by the[se] presents will that my said executor nor his executors, administrators or assigns, shall claim or challenge the same house and land or any part or parcel thereof, but that they shall suffer the said Jeffrey, his heirs, executors and assigns, peaceably to have, hold and enjoy the same forever without any let or trouble of my said executor, his executors, administrators or assigns, at any time hereafter;

And over that I will and bequeath that my daughter, Ierytraide [=Gertrude] Vaughan, wife of the same Jeffrey, shall have and enjoy during the term of her natural life all the yearly annuity of ten pounds of lawful money of England which by deed dated the last day of April last past I have made and granted unto her for term of her life out of my messuages, lands and tenements within the county of York;

And moreover I bequeath unto her one hundred pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto her within two years next after my decease by my said executor or his executors;

Provided always that if my said two daughters, Anne Tyrrell and Iertrude [=Gertrude] Vaughan, and their said husbands or any of them will not hold themselves contented with the legacies aforesaid by me to them before in these presents severally bequeathed, and for their deeds deliver sufficient and lawful general quittance to my said executor at such time as he shall be ready to pay them their said legacies at or within the said 2 years' space before limited, then I will and by these presents forprise that he, my said executor, nor his executors shall not by any means be charged to pay or deliver to any such of them as so shall happen not to be contented any of the legacies or bequests aforesaid, but that without all questions or ambiguities all the legacies by me to such of them as shall so happen not to hold themselves contented shall utterly be void, had for nought, and of none effect, anything to the contrary notwithstanding;

Item, I will & bequeath unto my nephew, Robert Wolley, citizen and grocer of London, all my manor of Danson within the parish of Bexley in the county of Kent, and all the edifyings, buildings, yards, gardens, orchards, ponds, waters, lands, tenements, meadows, leasows, pastures, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services, rights, liberties, commodities and appurtenances to the same manor belonging or in any wise appertaining, and also all other my messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, feedings, woods & underwoods, rents, reversions, services and all other mine hereditaments whatsoever they(?) be, with all and singular th' appurtenances which I have, should, might, may or in any wise in time to come I ought to have within the town, parish and fields of Bexley aforesaid or elsewhere within the said county of Kent;

To have and to hold all the said manor of Danson and all manner other the premises with all and singular th' appurtenances unto the said Robert Wolley and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for default of such issue, the remainder thereof to the next right heirs of me, the said Ambrose Wolley, forever;

Also I will and by these presents bequeath unto the said Robert Wolley as well all that my messuage or tenement [+or?] inn called the Sign of the Swan in Water Lambeth aforesaid, and all the lands, tenements, edifyings, buildings, yards, gardens, orchards, arable lands, meadow & pasture whatsoever they be with their appurtenances in the foresaid county of Surrey [RM: which I have and ought to have within the parish of Lambeth aforesaid];

As also all and singular those lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, woods and underwoods, rents, reversions, services, hereditaments and appurtenances which I purchased of John Tyce, gentleman, set, lying and being within the parish of Eston and Alconbury Weston in the county of Huntingdon;

To have and to hold all and singular the said messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, woods and other all and singular the premises with their appurtenances within the said 2 counties of Surrey and Huntingdon unto the said Robert Wolley and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for want of such issue the remainder of all the said recited premises in Lambeth aforesaid to the next rightful heirs of me, the said Ambrose, forever;

And the remainder of all the said premises within the [-the] said county of Huntingdon unto my cousin, Gilbert Wolley, son of my cousin, [f. 388v] Henry Wolley, and to the heirs males of the body of the same Gilbert Wolley lawfully begotten;

And for want of such issue the remainder thereof to my next right heirs;

And I will by these presents that the said Robert Wolley and his said heirs of his body lawfully begotten shall bestow out of the said premises in the said county of Huntingdon yearly during 5 years next after my decease as well the sum of 6s 8d of lawful money of England upon an yearly obit or year's mind to be holden and kept once every year during the same term at Estone aforesaid for ringing of bells and doing of divine service for the souls of my father and mother and also for my soul and all Christian souls;

Also 20s of lawful money of England to be distributed to and amongst poor people yearly at my said obit during the same term of 5 years to pray for the souls of us aforesaid;

And also 13s 4d of like lawful money of England to be bestowed and employed every year during the same term in repairing of the highways nearabouts Eston aforesaid by the good discretion of Edward Thurston and other the said inhabitants of the said town;

Item, I bequeath unto the said Robert Wolley one hundred pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto him shortly after my decease;

Item, I give, devise and bequeath unto my daughter, Grace Tyrrell, wife of Richard Tyrrell, esquire, upon condition that they and either of them, their executors or assigns, well and truly perform, fulfill and clearly discharge and satisfy all and singular sums of money, legacies and bequests by me willed and bequeathed in this my present last will as I do in and by these presents appoint and will the same Richard Tyrrell, his executors and assigns, to pay and perform, as well all such part and portion as I have already in my possession of the manor of Wilsthorpe in the county of York, as also all such part, portion, estate, reversion, interest and demand as I have, should, might, may or in any wise in time to come I ought to have of, in or to all and every part, parcel and member of the same manor of Wilsthorpe, and also all other the messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, leasows, pastures, feedings, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services and all other mine hereditaments, whatsoever they be, with all and singular their appurtenances which I have, should, may, might or in any wise in time to come I ought to have within the parish of Sherborne in the said county of York and elsewhere ought of the said parish within the same county and also within the city of York and in the county of the same, except ten pounds of lawful money of England yearly during 20 years next after my decease which I bequeath out of all the same premises in the said county of York for and towards the keeping of a priest to sing divine service for my soul, mine ancestors' souls and all Christian souls at Sherborne aforesaid, and to the keeping of the school there and towards the mending of needful highways thereabouts during the term of the said 20 years;

And to the performance thereof I firmly bind my said executor and his executors by these presents to have and to hold all the said manor of Wilsthorpe and all manner other the premises with all and singular their appurtenances within the said county and city of York to the said Grace Tyrrell, my daughter, and to the heirs of her body lawfully begotten;

And for default of such heirs lawfully begotten of the said Grace or to be [be]gotten, I will and bequeath the remainder thereof to Thomas Tyrrell, the son of my daughter, Isabel Worthington, and to the heirs males of the same Thomas forever;

Item, I bequeath to Gilbert Wolley and to Joan Kynston [=Kingston?], the children of my cousin, Henry Wolley, 40s apiece to be paid to them forthwith after my decease;

And to my cousin, Joan Pratte of Badforde [=Bedford?], £6 to be paid unto her forthwith after my decease;

And I give unto my cousin, Joan Stockden of Mirthlacke [=Mortlake?] aforesaid in the county of Surrey 40s, and to her sister, Katherine, 40s, to be paid unto them forthwith after my decease;

I bequeath unto every of my godchildren [f. 389r] in Lambeth or elsewhere 40s apiece to be paid to them forthwith after my decease;

Item, I bequeath unto every one of my menservants that shall dwell with me at the time of my decease 20s apiece, to be forthwith paid to them after my decease over and besides all their wages then to them to be due;

Item, I will my said executor shall give a black gown to every one of my daughters and a black gown to each of their husbands and to other of my kinsfolk, upon which gowns and other charges of my burial I will that my said executor shall bestow one hundred pounds;

And I will that mine executor shall bestow yearly during 5 years after my decease 40s upon an obit and to poor people at such place as I shall fortune to be buried, to pray for my soul and all Christian souls;

And I will that at Sherborne aforesaid shall be bestowed other 40s yearly during the same 5 years upon an like obit and in deeds of alms and charity in remembrance of me and to pray for my soul and for the souls of my wives deceased;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my boy, John Robinson, ten pounds of lawful money of England which I will and by these presents bequeath shall be paid unto him at his age of 26 years, and in the meantime I will that mine executor, as I put him in trust, shall cause the same £10 to be employed to the increase, profit and behoof of the same John Robinson;

I will that my boy, Thomas Marlet, and all his inheritance shall be at the government of my foresaid nephew, Robert Wolley, whom I will shall keep the said Thomas Marlet at school and bind him prentice unto his full age, and in the meantime willing the said Robert Wolley to bestow part of the revenues and profits of all the inheritance of the same Thomas Marlet upon the reparations of the house and edifyings of the same Thomas when and where as need shall require during the nonage of the same Thomas Marlett;

Item, all the residue of my goods and chattels, debts, ready money, plate, napery, implements and stuff of household whatsoever they be and wheresoever they may be found before not bequeathed, my legacies performed, my debts paid, my funerals discharged, I wholly give and by these presents bequeath unto the said Richard Tyrrell, whom I make my sole executor of this my last will and testament;

And I make overseers of the same my sons-in-law, John Tyrrell, esquire, & Jeffrey Vaughan of London, merchant, and Richard Haywoode and Leonard Sandell of London, gentlemen, to see and cause this my said last will and testament to be performed according to mine will and meaning herein declared;

And I will and by these presents bequeath unto each of them, to the said John Tyrrell and Jeffrey Vaughan for their pains in this behalf to be sustained 5 pounds apiece, and to the said Richard Haywoode and Leonard Sandell £5 apiece;

In witness whereof I have hereunto put my seal the day and year above-written. By me, Ambrose Wolley. By me, Richard Tyrrell, Richard Haywoode, Leonard Sandell.

Probatum fuit h{uius}mo{d}i Testamentu{m} Coram Mag{ist}ro Waltero Haddon Legum doctore Curie Prerogatiue venerabil{um} viroru{m} Decani et Capit{u}li Cant{uariensis} Sede Archie{pisco}pali Cant{uariensis} iam vacan{te} Commissario vltimo die mens{is} Marcij Anno d{omi}ni mill{esi}mo quingen{tesim}o Lix o Iuramento Rich{ard}i Terrell Executoris in h{uius}mo{d}i Testamento no{m}i{n}ati Ac probatu{m} &c Et Comissa fuit administracio o{m}ni{u}m bonor{um} d{ic}t{i} def{uncti} p{re}fato executori de bene &c Ad sancta Dei Eu{a}ngelia Iurat{o}

[=The same testament was proved before Master Walter Haddon, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary of the Prerogative Court of the worshipful Dean and Chapter of Canterbury of the Archiepiscopal seat of Canterbury now vacant, on the last day of the month of March in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 59th by the oath of Richard Tyrrell, executor named in the same testament, and probated etc., and administration was granted of all the goods of the said deceased to the forenamed executor, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc.]