

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 8 October 1464 and proved 15 May 1465, of William Marowe, three times Master of the Grocers' Company, and Lord Mayor of London in 1455.

The testator is said to have been the son of William Marowe (d.1430) and his wife, Jane. According to the will below, he had a sister, Agnes, and a married cousin, Ellen Otesdale.

The surname of the testator's first wife, Isabel, is unknown. He married secondly, about 1455, Katherine Rich, the daughter of the London mercer, Richard Rich, by whom he had three sons: William Marowe (d.1499), who married Joan Chedworth, by whom he had a son, Thomas, and four daughters, Anne (Duklyng), Cecily (Welden), Elizabeth and Katherine; John Marowe, who died without issue; and Thomas Marowe (d.1505), serjeant at law; and three daughters: Joan Marowe, who married Sir William Clopton; Katherine Marowe (died c.1503), who married Sir Robert Throckmorton (c.1451-1518), of Coughton Court, Warwickshire; and Agnes Marowe, who died without issue. See Wedgwood, Josiah C., *History of Parliament: Biographies of the Members of the Commons House 1439-1509*, (London: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1936), p. 576.

For the will of the testator's son, William Marowe (d.1499), see Sharpe, Reginald R., *Calendar of Wills Proved and Enrolled in the Court of Husting, London, A.D. 1258 – A.D. 1688*, (London: John C. Francis, 1890), p. 606 at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=ek4MAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA606&lpg=PA606&dq=%22guildhall%22+%22calendar+of+wills%22&source=bl&ots=FAHnB0UNSo&sig=d5Hz1_80ic1TuKAAgZBFcpidPYM&hl=en&sa=X&ei=4RoLUs6WLOK5igKt9YHICA&ved=0CE4Q6AEwBg#v=onepage&q=%22guildhall%22%20%22calendar%20of%20wills%22&f=false.

For the will of the testator's son, Thomas Marowe, serjeant at law, see TNA PROB 11/14/514.

As noted above, the testator's daughter, Joan Marowe, married Sir William Clopton (d. 20 February 1531) of Kentwell Hall in Long Melford, Suffolk, by whom she is said to have had three sons, John, Robert and William, and four daughters, Elizabeth, who married Sir Geoffrey Gates, Dorothy, Katherine, and Anne, who married Richard Poley. For the will of Sir Geoffrey Gates, see TNA PROB 11/37/210. For the Clopton pedigree, see Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Suffolk*, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1882), p. 16 at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=EycAAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA16&lpg=PA16&dq=%22sir+William+Clopton%22&source=bl&ots=ATvuovhOKo&sig=YvhoLea98B7o23J2A_VxOjqRdJY&hl=en&sa=X&ei=xhQJUqaSJoiviQLoqoHwAw&ved=0CDQQ6AEwAjgK#v=onepage&q=%22sir%20William%20Clopton%22&f=false.

For the testator's property called Marowe's Key, see:

'Galley Quay', *Survey of London: volume 15: All Hallows, Barking-by-the-Tower, pt II* (1934), pp. 44-49. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=74968>:

A very full and interesting account of the Marowe family at this time is given by Miss B. H. Putnam in her introduction to the important treatise De Pace Terre et Ecclesie et Conseruacione Eiusdem of Thomas Marowe, serjeant-at-law. William Marowe (Mayor, 1455–6) married, as his second wife, Katherine, daughter of Richard Ryche, mercer, and died possessed of much property in 1465. His children were William, who married Joan, daughter of Alderman William Chedworth; Thomas, the lawyer; Johanna, who married William Clopton of Kentwell Hall, Long Melford; Katherine, wife of Sir Robert Throckmorton; and John and Agnes, who died early.

William Marowe, the son, was in possession of the "Great Place and a wharf called Galley Key" and "the Maydenhede" in 1488, and at his death in 1499 bequeathed them to his wife Joan for life, and left Marowe New Quay to his brother Thomas, the lawyer, whom he made guardian of his son, also named Thomas. The latter married successively daughters of Baldwin Douse of Balsall and Robert Wigston of Wolston, and died in 1538. In the Inquisitio Post Mortem on the property of the latter, in 1539, his son and heir is named Thomas, who died in 1561 and left a son Samuel, the progenitor of the Warwickshire Marowes.

For Galley Key, see also:

http://mapoflondon.uvic.ca/map.htm?section=D7#map_section.

For the Marowe family, see also:

Putnam, Bertha Haven, 'Early Treatises on the Practice of Justices of the Peace in the Fifteenth and Sixteen Centuries' (Oxford Studies in Social and Legal History) Vol. VII (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1924).

RM: Test{amentu}m Will{el}mi Marwe

[f. 67r] In the name of God, Amen. I, William Marowe, citizen and grocer and alderman of the City of London, whole of mind and in good memory being, the 8th day of the month of October the year of Our Lord God 1464 and the 4th year of the reign of King Edward the Fourth, make and ordain my present testament of my last will in the manner that followeth:

First I bequeath and commend my soul to Almighty God, my Creator, to the Blessed Mary Virgin, his Mother, and to all holy saints, and my body to be buried in the church of Saint Botolph without Bishopsgate of London between the high altar of the same church and the altar of the chapel by me there late construct(?) and edified;

Item, I bequeath to the parson of the same church to be helping [f. 67v] and well-willing in such things as belongen to my said sepulture 40s;

Item, to the works and reparation of the same church 5 marks;

Item, I bequeath to the high altar of the church of Saint Mary Hill of London for tithes and offerings forgotten 5 marks;

Item, I bequeath to the works of the same church of Saint Mary Hill 40s;

Item, I will that th' expenses funeraries about my burying to be done be done in mean wise and not too oversumptuously forthwith anon after my decease, with 12 torches and 4 tapers, withouten any month mind making but if it be in privy Masses and distribution among poor people, and the said torches be given, that is to say, 6 torches to the said church of Saint Botolph without Bishopsgate, 2 torches to the church of Chelmsford, 2 torches to the church of Stepney, and 2 torches to the said church of Saint Mary Hill for to serve in the same churches in divine service as long as they will dure;

Item, I bequeath to be distributed to poor people at my burying £10;

Item, I bequeath to be distributed to poor people in the counties of Essex and Kent £40;

Item, I will that I have a priest convenable and honest for to sing divine services for my soul and for the souls of my father and mother and Isabel, sometime my wife, and for my wife that now is, and for the souls of all them that I am bound to, and all Christian souls in the said church of Saint Botolph without Bishopsgate at [+the] altar of the new chapel there by me ordained by the term of 30 years next following after my decease abovesaid, to the finding of which priest I bequeath £215 sterlings for to remain safely to be kept unto the Fellowship of my craft of Grocers, they to find the said priest withal during the said years, paying yearly to the said priest 10 marks and to the Master and 2 Wardens for the time being of the same craft yearly 10s, that is to say, to every of them 3s 4d, the same Master and Wardens to oversee the said priest so duly and truly to be found and to do his divine service during the said years, and I will that the same priest be ready at all times of divine service to help in(?) the choir of the said church and otherwise as a priest should do, and when and as oft as it shall hap the said service to be void by what casualty that it be, then I will that the said Master and Wardens of the said craft for the time being choose and put in another priest convenable and honest for to sing divine service in the manner abovesaid, and so to continue yearly during the said term of 30 years;

Item, I bequeath to the 4 Orders of Friars of London, that is to say, Friar Minors, Friar Preachers, Carmes and Friar Augustines, to every one of them 20s, and to the house of the Crutched Friars of London 10s;

Item, I bequeath to the Prior and Convent of Dunmow in Essex 40s;

Item, I bequeath to the Prior and Convent of Saint Mary Hospital without Bishopsgate of London 40s;

Item, to the Hospital of Bethlehem without the said Bishopsgate of London 40s;

Item, to every lazar-house within 15 miles about London 6s 8d;

Item, I bequeath to the prison-houses of Newgate and of the King's Bench for to be delivered and disposed among the prisoners in victual, that is to say, in every house 40s;

Item, in like wise among the prisoners of Ludgate 26s 8d;

Item, in like wise among the prisoners of the Marshalsea 20s;

Item, in like wise among the prisoners of Fleet 20s;

Item, in like wise among the prisoners convict of Westminster 20s;

Item, I bequeath to every of the priests and clerks of the foresaid churches of Saint Mary Hill and of Saint Botolph without Bishopsgate for to say and sing by a month after my decease placebo and dirge and Masses of Requiem and to pray for my soul 13s 4d;

Item, I bequeath to the Prioress and Convent of Kylborne 40s;

Item, I bequeath to the Vicary [=Vicar] of Stepney 6s 8d;

Item, I bequeath to the works of the church of Stepney 20s;

Item, I bequeath for to be distributed to the poor people of the same parish 20s;

Item, I bequeath to William, John and Thomas, my sons, that is to say, to every of them four hundred pounds sterlings for to be delivered to them when they come to their lawful age;

Item, I bequeath to Joan, Katherine and Agnes, my daughters, to [sic] is to say, to every of them 500 marks sterlings for to be delivered to them when it happeth them to be married;

And I will that the said money to my said sons and daughters bequeathen be in sure and safe keeping by sufficient surety thereof to be found in the Chamber of the Guildhall of the City of London after usage and custom of the same City, my said sons and daughters truly thereof to be answered at their lawful age and marriage abovesaid;

And if it hap any of my said children to die afore the said age and marriage, then I will that the part of such child or children so dying remain to the other of them overliving, and if all the said children die or time they come to the said age and marriage, then I will all

the said money to the said children bequeathen be distributed and disposed in alms-deeds for the health of my soul and of the souls abovesaid by mine executors to poor householders, as well within the City of London as without, and in other charitable works most to the pleasing of God;

Item, I bequeath to Agnes, my sister, £40 sterlings to her own use, and 10 marks sterlings to bestow in alms-deeds for my soul, and a plain gilt cup covered, and a salt-cellar of silver, and 6 spoons of silver;

Item, I bequeath to Elene Otesdale, my cousin, £5, and to every of her daughters to her marriage 40s;

Item, I bequeath to Anneys Bette 6 marks, to be delivered to her at times as it needeth to her sustentation by Katherine, my wife;

Item, I bequeath to every of the children of the said Agnes Bette to her marriage 40s;

Item, I bequeath to Margaret Langley, my servant, 5 marks;

Item, to Elizabeth Iyon, my servant, 4 marks;

Item, to [f. 68r] John Smert, my servant, £6 13s 4d;

Item, to William, my cook, 26s 8d;

Item, to [-Item, to] John Elde, my servant, 20s;

Item, I bequeath to every of mine other servants that been prentices and have been prentices being with me at time of my decease 4 marks;

Item, to Laurence of Lee 10s;

Item, to Thomas Spencer, beadle, 20s;

Item, to Pety Iohane(?), widow, 40s, and I pardon her the debt that her husband ought me;

Item, I bequeath to Thomas Marwe [=Marowe], priest, to pray for my soul 40s;

Item, to John Marwe, his brother, dwelling at Bristowe [=Bristol], 40s;

Item, to Richard, his brother, dwelling in Dunstable, 40s;

Item, to Thomas Marwe, his brother, 40s;

Item, I bequeath to Sir John Colyns, priest, 5 marks;

Item, I bequeath to Thomas Prowde of Canterbury 40s;

Item, to Gaywode of Maldon 40s;

Item, I bequeath to Thomas, the son of William Essex, for to be delivered to him when he cometh to lawful age 10 marks;

Item, I bequeath to Margery and Elizabeth, daughters of the said William Essex, that is to say, every of hem [=them] 10 marks to be delivered at time of her [=their] marriages;

And if the said Thomas decease afore his said lawful age, then the said 10 marks to him bequeathen remain to be disposed in alms-deeds for the health of my soul by mine executors;

And if the said Margery and Elizabeth die or they been married, then the said money to them bequeathen remain to be disposed by mine executors in the manner abovesaid;

Item, I remit and release to Thomas Morecok of Ingatestone half the debt that he oweth me, so that he pay the other half of the same debt to mine executors;

Item, I bequeath to Margery Pepir, widow, 10s;

Item, to John Page, late mine apprentice, 26s 8d;

Item, to Lawrence Acoy{n?}, late mine apprentice, 13s 4d;

Item, I bequeath to William Spencer of Popeler [=Poplar?] 13s 4d;

Item to Thomas Grove, late my servant, 26s 8d;

Item, to John Hervy, late my prentice, 26s 8d;

Item, to William Nasying of Creye 20s;

Item, to all the children of my kindred of Brettes, that is to say, to every of them 6s 8d;

Item, I bequeath to Margaret Smyth of Colchester 20s;

Item, to Sir Edward Rykman, priest, to pray for my soul 20s;

Item, to Sir Robert Carvile, priest, 13s 4d;

Item, to Sir John Newbold, priest, 10s;

Item, to Sir Robert, my priest, 20s;

Item, I bequeath to Joan Colvile, otherwise called Oxenford, 20s;

Item, I bequeath to Anneys Ramsey, late my servant, of Deptford 13s 4d;

Item, to Joan Rouse, late my servant, 13s 4d;

Item I bequeath to the Fellowship of my craft of Grocers, to their reparations of their tenements £5;

Item, I release and forgive unto the Masters of the Bridge of London all the debt that they owe me, and over that I bequeath to them to the reparation of the same bridge 40s;

Item, I bequeath to Katherine, my wife, as for her part of all my movable goods to her belonging, a thousand pound sterlings and silver plate to the value of a 100 marks of such sorts and fashion as she will chose, and all mine household except silver vessel and silver plate, money and merchandises, and all the remnant of the said my present testament, except thereof I will that every of my said sons have a couple of silver cups, a pottle pot of silver, a dozen of silver spoons, and 2 salt-cellars of silver, one covered, and that every of the said daughters have 2 silver cups, a dozen of silver spoons, and 2 salt-cellars of silver, one covered, and that the eldest of my said sons choose first his part, and so one after another as they been of age, and in semblable wise my said daughters to do the same, and except also a plain gilt cup covered, a salt-cellar and 6 spoons of silver to Anneys, my sister, bequeathen as it is abovesaid;

And I bequeath to the said Katherine, my wife all my state and terms coming of and in all the tenement back-house with th' appurtenances that I hold term of years in Saint Mary Hill Lane in the foresaid parish of Saint Mary Hill, in the which that Thomas Fuller, baker, dwelleth, to have and to hold to the same Katherine and her assigns during the term of years thereof coming after my decease if she live so long;

And if it hap the said Katherine to die or time the said years been finished and fulfilled, then I will that the said state and terms coming after the decease of the said Katherine remain to William, John and Thomas, my sons, to have and hold to hem [=them?] and her [=their?] assigns during the terms then coming of the said tenement if they live so long;

And if it hap my said sons to die or time the said terms be ended, then I will that the said state and terms coming after the decease of my said sons remain to Joan, Katherine and Anneys, my daughters, and their executors and assigns during the said years then coming of the said tenement backhouse;

Item, I bequeath to every of mine executors underwritten £10;

Item, to Master Edward Story, clerk [f. 68v] their overseer, £5;

The residue of all my goods and chattels and debts whatsoever they be and wheresoever they be found, after the debts that I owe being paid, my burying done, and the fulfilling of

this my present testament, I will to be distributed, done and disposed by mine executors in alms-deeds for the health of my soul and of the souls abovesaid, as in singing of Masses, dealing amongst poor people, marriage of poor maidens, amending of highways, acquitting of prisoners of debt out of prison, relieving of poor churches, and other charitable works of pity and mercy, most specially to the poor people, as it shall be thought best to please God and most health to the said souls;

And of this testament I make and ordain my executors Thomas Urswyk, Recorder of London, William Essex of London, gentleman, and John Styward of London, chandler, and their overseers I make and ordain the foresaid Edward Story, Sir John Colyns and John Smart, justly and truly to oversee to be executed all things concerning this my present testament;

Given at London the day and year abovesaid, then being present Master Edward Story, clerk, John Thetford, tailor, Robert Scarlett, barber, John of Woode, grocer, and Walter Culpett, scrivener, witnesses thereto called and required.

Sequitur vltima voluntas Willielmi Marwe in seculo quaterno proximo

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum apud Lambeth xv die Maij Anno domini Mccccxvto ac approbatum &c Et commissaria fuit administratione omnium et singulorum bonorum dicti defuncti Thome Ursewyk Willielmo Essex & Iohanni Styward executoribus &c de bene ad administrationem &c ac de pleno & fidei Inuenta bonorum &c citra festum sancti Michaelis Archangelis proximum futurum &c ac de plano composito &c

[=The above-written testament was proved at Lambeth on the 15 day of May in the year of the Lord 1565, and probated etc., and administration was granted of all and singular the goods of the said deceased to Thomas Urswyk, William Essex & John Styward, executors etc., [+sworn] to well administer etc., and [+to exhibit] a full & faithful inventory of the goods etc. before the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel next to come etc., and also [+to render] a plain account etc.]