

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 2 October 1570 and proved 10 November 1571, of William Saunders (c.1497-1571) of Ewell, Surrey, cofferer to Queen Mary I, whose first wife was the sister of Oxford's step-grandmother, Ursula (nee Marston) Golding.

The testator's grandson, Sir Nicholas Saunders (1563 – 9 February 1649), was the dedicatee of *Greene's Vision* (1592), a work, according to the title-page, written 'at the instant' of Robert Greene's death.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testator's biography and family background, see Sanders, Ralph, *Generations; A Thousand-Year Family History*, (Xlibris Corporation, 2007), pp. 118-32, at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=7LIqjJ4Q3nAC&pg=PA127>

See also the Saunders pedigree at p. 108:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=7LIqjJ4Q3nAC&pg=PA108>

See also Sanders, Ralph, *Sanders Family: A Thousand Year History*, (Xlibris Corporation, 2017), at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=VaAMDgAAQBAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q=gittons&f=false

See also Walker, Michael L., 'The Manor of Battailles and the Family of Saunder of Ewell', *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, Vol. 54, (Guildford: Surrey Archaeological Society, 1955), pp. 76-101 at p. 89:

<https://archive.org/details/surreyarchaeol54surr/page/88>

See also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 195; and the History of Parliament entry for the testator at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/saunders-william-1497-1570>

For the Saunders family of Ewell, see also 'Batailles Manor and the Saunder family of Ewell' at:

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/BataillesManor.html>

Testator's father

The testator was the son of Henry Saunders (d.1518?) of Ewell, a younger son of William Saunders (d.1481).

The testator is said to have been a second cousin once removed of Sir Thomas Saunders (d. 18 August 1565) of Charlwood, the eldest of the ten children of Nicholas Saunders (d. 29 August 1553) of Charlwood by Alice Hungate, the daughter of John Hungate of Saxton, Yorkshire. See Sewill, Ruth and Elizabeth Lane, *The Free Men of Charlwood*, new ed., (Crawley, Sussex, 1980), p. 89, available as a pdf file online. Sir Thomas Saunders of Charlwood married Alice Walsingham (d. 21 May 1558), daughter of Sir Edmund Walsingham (c.1480-1550), by whom he had five children. See the will of Sir Thomas Saunders, TNA PROB 11/48/525; *Generations, supra*, pp. 127-9; and the History of Parliament entry for Sir Thomas Saunders at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/saunders-thomas-1513-65>

See also the *ODNB* entry for Sir Edmund Walsingham, his will, TNA PROB 11/33/405, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/walsingham-sir-edmund-1480-1550>

Testator's mother

The testator's mother was Joan Lepton (d. March 1519), the daughter of John Lepton of Kipwick, Yorkshire. See Walker, *supra*, p. 86.

Testator's siblings

The testator had an elder brother, Richard Saunders, and two sisters, Agnes Saunders, who married Richard Keyes of East Greenwich, and Margaret Saunders. See Walker, *supra*, pp. 80, 82, 85.

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE***Testator's first marriage***

The testator married firstly Joan Marston (d. 31 October 1539), the daughter and co-heir of William Marston (d.1512), esquire, of the manor of Horton near Epsom, Surrey, by Beatrice or Beatrix Barlee, likely the daughter of Richard Barlee (d.1500?) of Havering at Bower and Stapleford Abbots, Essex. See the Marston pedigree in Grazebrook, George,

and John Paul Rylands, eds., *The Visitation of Shropshire Taken in the Year 1623, Part II*, (London: Harleian Society, 1889), Vol. XXIX, p. 350 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=HW5KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA350>

After the death of William Marston, Beatrix Barlee married secondly Thomas Lisle, esquire, son of John Lisle of Great Wilbraham, Cambridgeshire, and Alice Daubeney, daughter of Sir Giles Daubeney.

Joan Marston was the sister of Oxford's step-grandmother, Ursula (nee Marston) Golding (died c.1564). For the will of Oxford's grandfather, John Golding, see TNA PROB 11/32/177.

When Joan Marston married William Saunders she was the widow of Nicholas Mynne (d.1528), by whom she had five children, including her eldest son, John Mynne (d.1595). For the will of Nicholas Mynne (d.1528), see TNA PROB 11/22/551. Oxford's servant, Nicholas Mynne, appears to have been the son of Nicholas Mynne (d.1528) and Joan Marston. For the Mynne family, see:

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/HortonManor.html>

See also Walker, *supra*, p. 86.

By Joan Marston, the testator is said to have had two sons and two daughters:

* **Nicholas Saunders** (c.1532 – 17 December 1587), Catholic recusant. He married firstly, on 28 May 1560, Isabel Carew (died c.1580), the fourth daughter of Sir Nicholas Carew (beheaded 3 March 1540) of Beddington by Elizabeth Bryan (d.1546). See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, pp. 228-9, 268. Isabel Carew's sister, Mary Carew, married Sir Arthur Darcy, to whose nephew, 'Lord Darcy of the North', Robert Greene dedicated his first work, *Mamillia* (1583). For the will of Sir Arthur Darcy, see TNA PROB 11/44/187.

By Isabel Carew, Nicholas Saunders had two sons and five daughters, including his eldest son and heir, Sir Nicholas Saunders (1563 – 9 February 1649), the dedicatee of *Greene's Vision* (1592).

Nicholas Saunders (c.1532 – 17 December 1587) married secondly Margaret Bostock (living 1599), widow successively of Richard Blount (d.1575), illegitimate son of Sir John Leigh, and Jasper Fisher, by whom he had no issue. For Margaret Bostock's family background, see the will of her first husband, Richard Blount, TNA PROB 11/57/612, and the will of her second husband, Jasper Fisher, TNA PROB 11/61/541.

For Nicholas Saunders (c.1532 – 17 December 1587), see also his will, TNA PROB 11/72/42, and *Generations*, *supra*, p. 132-3 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=7LIqjJ4Q3nAC&pg=PA132>

* **Erasmus Saunders** (d. by 1613) who married a wife named Jane (Johennet in the will below). Both Erasmus Saunders and his wife were Catholic recusants. See Hyland, St. George, *A Century of Persecution*, (London: Kegan Paul, 1920), pp. 379, 381, 384, 400, 401-2, 405 at:

<https://archive.org/details/cu31924005752054/page/n399>

For Erasmus Saunders' children, see the will of his brother, Francis Saunders (d.1613), TNA PROB 11/122/164.

* **Mary Saunders** (born c.1536, living 1613), who married, about 1557, Nicholas Lusher (d.1566) of the manor of Sherland in Puttenham, Surrey, son of Robert Lusher and Elizabeth Leigh, by whom she had a son, Sir Nicholas Lusher (knighted 1603), and four daughters. Elizabeth Leigh's sister, Dorothy Leigh (buried 17 October 1561), married Robert Vere of Addington, Surrey. After the death of Robert Lusher, Elizabeth Leigh married secondly George Beaumont, second son of William Beaumont of Coleorton. See Sanders, *Generations*, *supra*, p. 142 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=7LIqjJ4Q3nAC&pg=PA142>

See also Leveson-Gower, Granville, *Notices of the Family of Leigh of Addington*, (London: Wyman & Sons, 1878), pp. 13, 37 at:

<https://archive.org/details/noticesoffamilyo00gowe/page/n31>

and:

<https://archive.org/details/noticesoffamilyo00gowe/page/n81>

See also Manning, Owen, and William Bray, *History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey*, Vol. II, p. 20.

* **Urith Saunders** (born c.1538), who married, about 1564, John Palgrave (1531-1610) of Norwood Barningham, Norfolk, by whom she had a son, Sir Augustine Palgrave, who married Elizabeth Willoughby, daughter of Sir John Willoughby of Risley, Derby, and a daughter, Jane Palgrave, who married Robert Lawrence. See Sanders, *Generations*, *supra*, p. 142.

It also seems likely the testator had another daughter by his first wife:

* **Frances Saunders**. A document dated 9 May 1555, TNA DL 25/1032, suggests that Frances Saunders, widow of Barnard Jenyn, was the testator's daughter:

(i) *Hugh Knight of Streatham, gentleman to Henry Mannock of Hemingford Grey, co. Huntingdon, esquire: Release of any claim in right of Julian his wife to land in Poplar, Stepney, and Ratcliff, late of the Abbey of St. Mary Graces, and general release: London. (5 Edw VI). English.* (ii) *Frances Jennyns, late the wife and executrix of the will of Bernard Jennynge to Henry Mannock, esquire, and Dame Margaret his wife, late the wife and executrix of the will of Nicholas Jennyns: General release. (1 and 2 Philip and Mary).* (iii) *William Saunder of Ewell, co. Surrey, esquire to Henry Mannock, esquire, and Dame Margaret his wife, late the wife and executrix of the will of Nicholas Jennyns: General release. (1 and 2 Philip and Mary).*

See also the will of Barnard Jenyn, TNA PROB 11/34/65.

Testator's second marriage

In 1544 the testator married a second wife named Joan, whose maiden name is unknown. In TNA C 1/1141/51-53, a Chancery suit brought by James Leveson between 1544 and 1551, she is described as Joan, the wife of William Saunders, gentleman, and executrix and late the wife of Thomas Gittons, citizen and vintner of London. For the will of Thomas Gittons, dated 14 February 1543 and proved 2 July 1543, see TNA PROB 11/29/406. In his will, Thomas Gittons mentions his first wife, Constance, his second wife, Joan, and his brother, David Gittons. For the will of David Gyttyns, vintner of London, proved 25 September 1585, in which he mentions his wife, Alice, and three daughters, Anne, Mary and Katherine, and leaves a bequest to 'Olyver Gyttyns, my brother's son', see TNA PROB 11/68/531. Oliver Gittons is mentioned in the testator's will below.

Walker, *supra*, p. 91, questions whether the testator had any children by his second, wife, Joan:

It is uncertain whether Joan, William Saunder's second wife, was the mother of any of his children. The Saunder pedigree dated 1579 compiled at the College of Arms and reproduced by T. Homer-Saunders, names only William's first wife and five of his eight children. All these five are recorded as children of the first wife. Francis, the youngest son (omitted from the pedigree), was alive in 1546, his father could not have married his second wife until after the death in 1543 of her former husband. It seems unlikely therefore that any of the children were the issue of the second marriage.

However quare whether Walker is correct. The testator's first wife, Joan Marston, died in October 1539 (p. 86), and Joan's first husband, Thomas Gittons, died in 1543. It thus seems clear that any of the testator's children born after their marriage c.1544 were his children by his second wife, Joan.

According to *Generations, supra*, p. 143, the testator had four children by his second wife, Joan:

* **Francis Saunders** (d.1613), gentleman, of Ewell, Surrey, said to have been the twin of Frances Saunders below. It appears he never married. For his will, proved 25 August 1613, in which he mentions his brother, Erasmus Saunders, three sisters (Mary Lusher, Frances Spelman and Elizabeth Garneys), and several nieces and nephews, see TNA PROB 11/122/164. See also *Generations, supra*, p. 143. He is not mentioned in the will below.

* **Frances Saunders** (d. 15 October 1622), said to have been the twin of Francis Saunders above, who married, shortly after 1560, as his second wife, Henry Spelman (d. 7 October 1581), esquire, of Congham, Norfolk, second son of Sir John Spelman (c.1480 – 26 January 1546), Justice of the Common Pleas, and Elizabeth Frowyk (d. 5 November 1556), daughter and coheir of Henry Frowyk, esquire, of Gunnersbury, Middlesex, by Jane Danvers, daughter of Thomas Danvers, esquire, and was by him the mother of the historian and antiquary Sir Henry Spelman (1564-1641). See the *ODNB* entry for Sir Henry Spelman:

Spelman, Sir Henry (1563/4–1641), historian and antiquary, was born at Congham, near King's Lynn, Norfolk, the eldest son of Henry Spelman (d. 1581) of Congham and his second wife, Frances (d. 1622), daughter of William Saunders of Ewell, Surrey.

Henry Spelman's first wife was Anne Knyvet, daughter of Sir Thomas Knyvet (c.1485–1512) of Buckenham, Norfolk, by Muriel Howard (d.1512), widow of John Grey, Viscount Lisle (d.1504), and daughter of Thomas Howard (1443-1524), 2nd Duke of Norfolk, by his first wife, Elizabeth Tilney (d.1497). For the will of Muriel Howard Knyvet, see Nicolas, Nicholas Harris, *Testamenta Vetusta*, Vol. II, (London: Nichols and Son, 1826), p. 516 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ivsUAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA515>

See also *Generations, supra*, p. 143, and the Spelman pedigree in Dashwood, G.H., ed., *The Visitation of Norfolk in the Year 1563*, Vol. I, (Norwich: Miller and Leavins, 1878), p. 253 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationnorfo00dashgoog/page/n268>

* **Katherine Saunders** (d.1608), who married firstly Edmund Kervile (d.1570?), third son of Humphrey Kervile (d.1540?) of Wiggshall St Mary, Norfolk, and Anne Cobb (d.1541). See the inquisition post mortem taken after the death of Edmund Kervile, TNA C 142/158/23; the will of Humphrey Kervile, TNA PROB 11/28/598; the will of Anne (nee Cobb Kervile), TNA PROB 11/28/596; and the will of the will of Thomas Kervile, elder brother of Edmund Kervile, TNA PROB 11/42B/245.

By Edmund Kervile, Katherine Saunders had a daughter, Anne Kervile, who married, about 1570, Clement Spelman (d. 24 September 1607), esquire, of Narborough.

Katherine Saunders married secondly, on 25 June 1571, John Spelman (d. 27 April 1581), esquire, of Narborough, the grandson of Sir John Spelman (c.1480 – 26 January 1546), Justice of the Common Pleas, and Elizabeth Frowyk (d. 5 November 1556), and the son of John Spelman (d. 27 December 1545), eldest son and heir of Sir John Spelman by Margaret Blennerhassett (d. 15 December 1558), daughter of Sir Thomas Blennerhassett (1461 – 15 June 1531). For Sir Thomas Blennerhassett, see:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/110309223/thomas-blennerhassett>

See also the *ODNB* entry for Sir John Spelman (c.1480 – 26 January 1546), Justice of the Common Pleas; his will, TNA PROB 11/31/37; and the will of Elizabeth (nee Frowyk) Spelman, TNA PROB 11/39/60.

Katherine Saunders married thirdly, on 28 June 1582, Sir Miles Corbet (d.1609), of Sprowston. Sir Miles Corbet's first wife was Catherine Heydon, the daughter of Sir Christopher Heydon (c.1488-1540) of Baconsthorpe and Anne Heveningham. See:

<https://sites.google.com/site/haydonhaydenkeysgenealogy/OLIVER-HAYDEN-WITH-2ND-WIFE-ELIZA-FUNK-AND-THEIR-OHIO-DESCENDANTS/rev-coleman-green-keys--branch/HEYDON-HAYDON-HAYDEN-KEYS-FAMILY-HISTORY/HEYDONS-OF-NORFOLK-GENEALOGY>

See also:

Francis Blomefield, 'Freebridge Hundred: Wigenhale St. Mary's', in *An Essay Towards A Topographical History of the County of Norfolk: Volume 9* (London, 1808), pp. 176-183. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/topographical-hist-norfolk/vol9/pp176-183> [accessed 2 December 2018].

Thomas, his eldest, William his second, and Edmund the third, who married Catharine, daughter of William Saunders, Esq. she married to her second husband, John Spelman, Esq. of Narburgh, and to her third. Miles Corbet, Esq.

See also:

Francis Blomefield, 'Taverham Hundred: Sprouston', in *An Essay Towards A Topographical History of the County of Norfolk: Volume 10* (London, 1809), pp. 458-464. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/topographical-hist-norfolk/vol10/pp458-464> [accessed 1 December 2018].

(c) Sir Miles's second wife Catherine, daughter of Saunders, was relict of John Spelman, Esq. of Narburgh, he died in 1609; his daughter Elizabeth married Henry Richers, Esq. of Swanington.

By Sir Miles Corbet, Katherine Saunders had a son, Thomas Corbet, who married Anne Barret of Belhouse in Alveley, Essex. See the Spelman pedigree in Dashwood, *supra*,

pp. 253-4; Sanders, *Generations, supra*, p. 143; and the Kervile pedigree in Gurney, Daniel, *Supplement to the Record of the House of Gournay*, (King's Lynn, Thew & Son, 1858), p. 797 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=gFUBAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA797>

* **Elizabeth Saunders** (living 1613), who married firstly, about 1570, Roger Castell (d.1581), esquire, of Raveningham, Norfolk, son (or grandson?) of Anne Townshend, sister of Sir Roger Townshend (d.1551?). Elizabeth Saunders married secondly William Forth or Ford (d. before 1613) of Hadleigh, Suffolk, and thirdly Thomas Garneys of Horningtoft, Norfolk, likely the son of Nicholas Garneys and Margaret Tyrrell. See Sanders, *Generations, supra*, p. 144 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=7LIqjJ4Q3nAC&pg=PA144>

See also the Castell pedigree at:

Francis Blomefield, 'Clavering Hundred: Raveningham', in *An Essay Towards A Topographical History of the County of Norfolk: Volume 8* (London, 1808), pp. 45-56. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/topographical-hist-norfolk/vol8/pp45-56> [accessed 29 November 2018].

See also the Townshend pedigree in Dashwood, *supra*, p. 306.

For the testator's children by his second marriage, see also Sanders, *Generations, supra*, p. 124.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

Lord Lumley, named as an overseer of the will, was Oxford's kinsman, John Lumley (c.1533-1609), 1st Baron Lumley. See the *ODNB* entry.

Thomas Lisle, esquire, named as an overseer of the will, appears to have been Thomas Lisle of Great Wilbraham, Cambridgeshire, the second husband of Joan Marston Saunders' mother, Beatrix Barlee, whom she married after the death of William Marston of Horton in 1511.

TESTATOR'S MANORS

For the testator's manors of Cardens and Parrock, see *Generations, supra*, p. 125 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=7LIqjJ4Q3nAC&pg=PA125>

For the testator's manor of Ewell, see:

'Parishes: Ewell', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1911), pp. 278-284. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol3/pp278-284> [accessed 19 September 2018].

For the testator's manor of Chessington, see:

'Parishes: Chessington', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1911), pp. 263-266. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol3/pp263-266> [accessed 30 November 2018]

Rigges and Gearing may have been trustees for Nicholas Saunders of Ewell, who was holding the manor in 1590, at which date he mortgaged it to Thomas Fletcher of London. (fn. 26) In 1601 Nicholas Saunders conveyed the manor to Benedict Haynes, gentleman, (fn. 27) son of William Haynes and Alice his wife, (fn. 28)

Appurtenant to the prior's manor were certain woods called Lynell Coppice (18 acres), Fusgrove Coppice (7 acres), Beatrice Hill Coppice (2 acres 7 roods), and 'Le Hedgerowe' in Alderfield (1 acre), which in 1552 were held on a lease granted by the prior to John Garroway; (fn. 44) also a wood called Gosborough Hill Wood, leased in 1537 to William Saunders, with liberty to fell the timber, on condition of leaving thirty 'standers' (trees left for increase) on every acre. (fn. 45)

LM: T{estamentum} Will{el}mi Saunder

In the name of God, Amen. I, William Saunders of Ewell in the county of Surrey, esquire, whole of body and perfect of mind and memory, thanks be to Almighty God, by good deliberation, advice and remembrance, revoking all other former wills at any time before made, do make this my present last will and testament the second day of October in the year of our Lord God 1570 in manner and form following:

First, I bequeath my soul to our Saviour, Jesu Christ, Maker and Redeemer of the world, and my body to be buried in the chapel nigh my tomb within the parish church of Ewell aforesaid if I shall so happen there to die and to depart this transitory world, or else in Christian burial where it shall please God I shall happen to die, without any pomp in any wise to be made, beseeching all good and well-disposed people to beseech God to have mercy on my soul, Amen.

Item, I bequeath to the parish church of Ewell 6s 8d, and for my tithes negligently forgotten, 12d;

Item, I give to the poor people of the parish of Ewell 20s, and to the poor of Epsom 20s, and unto the poor people of the parish of Cliffe in Kent 20s, to be divided at the discretion of my executors [sic?];

Also I bequeath unto every of my godchildren 12d;

Item, I will that all my debts that I do owe to any person or persons in law or conscience to be truly paid & contented by my executors;

Item, I give unto my well-beloved wife all her apparel and jewels which she hath in her keeping, reserving my plate saving that I do hereafter bequeath unto her, and I give unto her the one half of all my kine at Ewell and of my hogs at Ewell, with my black ambling nag and the bay curtal, with the one half of all my fattening sheep and the one half of all my corn in my barns at Ewell after my month's day to be divided;

Item, I give and bequeath unto her the bed with all the apparel of the chamber that she lieth in at Ewell, and th' one half of all my bedding and household stuff which I have at my house at Cliffe in Kent, and th' other half of all such household stuff as bedding, hangings, linen, woollen, coverlets, blankets, cushions, pewter & brass I would should remain there still to th' use of him who shall have the said house after my wife's decease as hereafter shall be mentioned;

Provided that my said wife may have the occupying of all the said household stuff there during her life if she do dwell in and at the said house at Cliffe, not having nor removing any part of the said half out of the said house nor from the said house, nor in any wise to minish it nor to misuse it, and that she find sureties for the leaving of it there after her death, whereof I would an inventory to be made thereof between my said wife and mine executors immediately after my death in avoiding of all strife and variance;

Also I give and bequeath unto my said wife one silver salt, one silver pot, one silver goblet with a dozen of silver spoons, with all my stoned pots covered with silver lids;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Erasmus Saunders, my son, my cross of gold with a pearl in th' end thereof, and my best doublet of purple satin, and one hundred pounds to be paid him by my executors;

Item, I give in token of remembrance unto Johennet, his good wife, two old angels;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Francis Saunders, my son, my ouch of gold with a Morian's face, with a cross of mother-of-pearl, [f. 305r] my great ring of gold with a turquoise in it, with all mine apparel saving that I do give away hereafter, with one complete harness, and also I give unto him all the bed and that belongeth unto it with all the hangings in the chamber which is called Mr Saint John's chamber, and I give to him my lease which I have of my Lady's Grace of Somerset in Ashtead;

Item, I do forgive my daughter Lusher all such money that her late husband oweth me by specialties or otherwise, and all such money which I have paid for her in the obtaining of the wardship of Nicholas Lusher, her son, any manner of ways, and all that I have lent

her at any time, and I give and bequeath unto her one ring with a (blank) in it and 2 old angels;

And I give and bequeath unto every of her daughters, as unto Jane, Elizabeth, Mary and Margaret Lusher, ten pounds to be paid unto them by mine executors at the day of their marriage, and if it shall happen that any of them shall die before they shall be married, then I will that the part of her to first so die should remain unto Mary Lusher, her daughter, and if any more than one of them shall happen so to depart this world, the part or parts of them so deceased should remain equally between them that be living;

Item, I give unto my daughter, Frances Spelman, (blank), and unto my daughter, Elizabeth Castell, a ring (blank), and unto my daughter, Urith Palgrave, and to my daughter, Katherine Carvell (blank);

Item, I give unto Oliver Gittons my gown furred with genet, my velvet jerkin and my cloak, and a pair of my hose, and (blank);

Item, I give unto Thomas Bromley my best coat, my doublet of (blank);

Item, I give unto every of my servants, men and women, 40d apiece;

The residue of all my goods, my debts and legacies paid, I give unto Nicholas Saunders;

Item, I would that my said son, Nicholas Saunders, should keep house at Ewell for my wife and all my servants one quarter of a year next after my death so that they may get masters in the meantime;

Item, I will that Edward Griffin and his wife and Richard Stephen should sit in their several farms one year next after my death rent-free, paying the quit-rents to the chief lord of the fee the same year next after my death, or else to give unto them so much money as their several rents shall amount unto within one year next ensuing after my death, and I give unto the said Richard Stephen twenty shillings in money;

Item, I will that all my goods, chattels and debts owing unto me upon specialties and otherwise, after my debts paid, shall run unto the performance of this my present will, and if in case that my goods unbequeathed, chattels and corn, with such debts which are owing unto me by any person or persons, will not amount unto the perfect manner(?) of this my present will, that then I will that the first crop or selling of all my coppice-woods which are now standing and growing in Varnet wood at Bearwell(?), Lynnet's [=Lynnell's?] grove, Bettris(?) [=Beatrix?] hill or in any other coppice-woods pertaining unto the manor of Chessington, late parcel of the dissolved monastery of Merton Abbey, should run to the performance thereof, and if that will not amount thereunto, then I will that the yearly revenues, issues, rents and profits other than are granted out of the manor of Parrock and the iron-mill there, with the yearly rents and profits of the foresaid manor of Chessington, should run yearly unto the performance of this my present will and testament unto such time that this my present will may wholly be performed and fulfilled,

and if in case the said Nicholas Saunders, my son, will not see to the performance of this my present will, that then I will that (blank), my feoffees of and in the said manors of Parrock and Chessington, do enter into the said manors and every part of them, and so to take the profits of them unto this my present will shall be fully in everything performed according to my will and intent, anything before rehearsed to the contrary notwithstanding;

Provided always that Francis Saunders, my son, may take, reserve and enjoy the only yearly rent or annuity of £20 by year going out of the foresaid manor of Parrock during his natural life without any let or interruption of any person or persons, the same to be paid yearly at two several times in the year, that is to wit, within 31 days next after the feast of the Annunciation of Our Blessed Lady Saint Mary the Virgin and Saint Michael th' Archangel by even portions to be paid, and so to begin at the said feast which shall next ensue after the death of me, the said William Saunders, and not before, and the said rent so to be paid yearly unto the said Francis Saunders by my said executor, and if he will not pay it to him, that then my said executors [sic?] to have the receipt of the said manor of Parrock and so to see him paid, and if it be not paid as it is before expressed, that then it shall be lawful unto the said Francis Saunders and his assigns to distrain in any part of the said manor of Parrock or in any part of the manor of Chessington, and the said distresses so taken lawfully to lead, drive and carry away, and them to detain till that he of the said rent with the arrearages of the same be fully to him satisfied, contented and paid;

Also I will that Joan, my well-beloved wife, shall have in full satisfaction and contentation of her jointure or dower, over and besides the manor of Cardens with all and singular their appurtenances in Cliffe, Higham and Frindsbury, all these my lands, tenements, rents, woods and profits which I, the said William Saunders, bought of Sir Oliver Leder, knight, and David Gittons, citizen and vintner of London, situated, lying and being within the parishes of Cliffe, Cowling, Higham, & Frindsbury aforesaid in the county of Kent during her natural life, keeping the reparations of the premises without doing strip or waste of any part of the premises;

Item, I will that after the decease of Joan, my said wife, I will that all the said manor of Cardens with the appurtenances and all other such lands and tenements, rents and services, woods, waters, leasows, pastures, meadows, marshes that late were parcel of the late dissolved Charterhouse in London situated, lying, standing and being within the parishes of Cliffe, Higham and Frindsbury, and with all such messuages, lands, tenements, marshes, woods, meadows, pastures, leasows, arable ground with all manner rents and services to them belonging or pertaining which I bought of Sir Oliver Leder and of David Gittons aforesaid situated, lying and being within the parishes of Cliffe, Cowling, Higham and Frindsbury within the county of [f. 305v] Kent aforesaid, shall wholly remain unto Nicholas Saunders, my eldest son, and to his heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, I will that all the said manor of Cardens and all other such lands and tenements before expressed with their appurtenances lying and being within the foresaid parishes of Cliffe, Cowling, Higham & Frindsbury shall wholly remain unto Erasmus Saunders, my son,

and unto the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue of his body lawfully begotten, then I will that all the said manor of Cardens and all other the foresaid lands and tenements with their appurtenances should wholly remain unto Francis Saunders, my son, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, then I will that the said manor of Cardens and all other lands and tenements before expressed lying and being within the parishes of Cliffe, Cowling, Higham and Frindsbury within the county of Kent shall wholly remain unto the right heirs of me, the said William Saunders, forever;

Item, I will that all such lands that I bought of John Potts, and all such lands that I bought of Nicholas Orwell, gentleman, and all such lands that I bought of (blank) Goldock lying in Southwood within the parish of Cliffe in the foresaid county of Kent shall wholly remain immediately after my death unto Francis Saunders, my son, and unto his heirs forever;

Item, where I bought of Nicholas Orwell, gentleman, a marsh in Cliffe called Harsing [=Harshing] marsh, it is to the use of Erasmus and Francis Saunders, my sons, forever, as by the letters patents thereof made may appear;

Item, I will and bequeath unto Francis Saunders, my son, mine annuity or annual rent of £6 by year which I bought of George Lusher and William Lusher, his son, going out of Nicholas Lusher's lands in Puttenham in the county of Surrey, to him and to his heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue of his body lawfully begotten, I will that the said annuity of £6 by year shall wholly remain unto Nicholas Lusher, my godson, and to his heirs forever;

Item, I will that my foresaid manor of Parrock with the iron-mill and all such my lands, tenements, rents, woods, meadows, leasows, arable ground, pastures, feedings, ponds and waters with all their appurtenances which I have set, lying and being within the parish of Hartfield within the county of Sussex called Parrock Inhams [=Inholmes], & with all the manor of Chessington and the parsonage of Ewell with all such lands, meadows, pastures, woods, tenements, tithes, emoluments and profits pertaining to either of them lying and being within the parishes of Chessington, Ditton, Kingston and Ewell within the county of Surrey shall wholly remain unto my son, Nicholas Saunders, and unto the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, then I will that the said manor of Parrock, iron-mill, Parrock Inholmes with their appurtenances in the county of Sussex and the said manor of Chessington with the parsonage of Ewell aforesaid in the county of Surrey shall remain wholly unto Erasmus Saunders, my son, & to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue of his body lawfully begotten, I will that the said manor of Parrock, iron-mill and Parrock Inholmes with their appurtenances within the county of Sussex & the foresaid manor of Chessington and parsonage of Ewell aforesaid with all manner of their appurtenances shall wholly remain unto Francis Saunders, my son, & to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, then I will that all the said manors of Parrock and Chessington with the parsonage of Ewell with all other before expressed & mentioned lands and tenements

within the parishes of Hartfield, Chessington, Ditton, Kingston & Ewell within the foresaid counties of Sussex and Surrey shall wholly remain unto the right heirs of me, the said William Saunders, forever;

Item, I will that all my other manors, lands and tenements which I had of my good father, Harry Saunders, situate, lying & being within the parishes of Ewell, Epsom(?), Chessington, Saint Saviour's in Southwark, Bletchingley, Nutfield, Charlwood, Horley, Newdigate and Ockley within the county of Surrey shall wholly remain still according unto the last will and testament of my said late father, Harry Saunders, without breaking or infringing of any part or parcel thereof in any manner of wise;

Item, I make & ordain overseers of this my present last will and testament my especial good Lord Lumley and Thomas Lisle, esquire, desiring them to see this my present will performed, and if any case of variance shall happen between my said wife and my said son, Nicholas Saunders, or of any of my other children after my death for any manner, thing, requiring them to set some good agreement between them, and I bequeath to every of them 20s, and unto my especial good Lady Lumley, one old rial;

And I make Nicholas Saunders my sole executor of this my present will, desiring him to be good unto my said wife and unto all my children, giving him and all the rest of them my blessing;

In witness whereof unto this my present last will & testament I have subscribed my name the day and year above-written. Per me sup{ra}script{um} Will{elmu}m Saunder.

Probatu{m} fuit huiusmodi testa{men}tu{m} Cora{m} d{omi}no cant{uariensis} Archiep{isco}po apud London xo Novembris 1571 Iura{men}to Peter Johnson no{ta}r{i}j pu{bli}ci p{ro}cur{atoris} Nich{ola}i Saunder ex{ecuto}r{i} &c Cui &c de bene &c Iurat{i} &c

[=The same testament was proved before the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury at London on 10th November 1571 by the oath of Peter Johnson, notary public, proctor of Nicholas Saunders, executor etc., to whom etc., to well etc., sworn etc.]