

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 20 February 1571 and proved 29 January 1575, of Robert Chapman, gentleman, whose granddaughter, Thomasine (nee Carew) Amyce Vere (d.1639), married, firstly, Oxford's servant Israel Amyce (c.1548-1607), and, secondly, Oxford's first cousin, John Vere (d.1624) of Kirby Hall.

The testator married firstly Winifred Heton, and secondly a wife named Ellen whose surname is unknown. See her will, dated 18 October 1593 and proved 16 August 1595, TNA PROB 11/86/184; and Percival Boyd's Citizens of London, Record 5666, available online at:

<http://histfam.familysearch.org/getperson.php?personID=I45233&tree=London>.

Hasted provides the following background on Stone Castle and the testator's family:

*Stone-Castle is an ancient castellated seat in this parish, standing on an eminence, a small distance southward from the high road from London to Dover. . . in the latter end of the reign of King Henry VIII [it passed] to Robert Chapman of London, Merchant-Adventurer, who died possessed of it in 1574, and was buried in this church. His second wife, Ellen, by whom he had no issue, survived him . . . .*

*In this church, among other monuments and inscriptions, are the following: . . . On a gravestone a brass plate and inscription in black letter for William Carew, esquire, free of the Draper's Company. He had eight children by Anne, his wife, obijt 1588. At the corners of the stone were four shields of arms in brass. The first is lost, which was Carew, three lions passant in pale, the second Chapman, parted per chevron, argent and gules, a crescent countercharged . . . .*

*On another, adjoining, is a brass plate and inscription for Anne Carew, widow, late of Stone Castle, obijt 1599. Above is a shield of arms, Carew in chief, a martlet charged with another as a difference for a fourth brother of the fourth house, impaling Chapman.*

*Over the door of the chapel on the north side is a mural monument with the figures of a man and his wife, kneeling at double desks with books open; behind him are two sons, behind her are eight daughters, and beneath an inscription for Robert Chapman, esquire, of London, Merchant-Adventurer and free of the Drapers' Company. He died at Stone Castle 1574, aet. 65. He married first Dame Winifred, and had by her ten children, and secondly Dame Ellen. Above are the arms of Chapman as above, Chapman impaling quarterly, 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, on a bend engrailed three (blank), 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, a moor's head couped between three fleurs de lis; 3<sup>rd</sup> as in the former, in a lozenge; the colours of them are gone.*

*On a gravestone near the door of the chapel is a brass plate and inscription in black letter for Robert Chapman, esquire, owner of Stone Castle mentioned, who died in 1574. At the corners of the stone are four shields, 1<sup>st</sup> Chapman, 2<sup>nd</sup> arms of the Merchant-*

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*Adventurers, 3<sup>rd</sup> the Drapers Company, 4<sup>th</sup> Chapman, impaling quarterly, as on the monument.*

*On a gravestone is an inscription for William Carew, gentleman, eldest son of William Carew, esquire, obijt 1625, being owner of Stone Castle; above, the arms of Carew.*

See Hasted, Edward, *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent*, (Canterbury: W. Bristow, 1797), Vol. II, pp. 390-1 and 396-7 at:

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=62821>.

The arms given by Hasted for the testator's wife ('a moor's head couped between three fleurs de lis') resemble those of Moore of Alvechurch. See Grazebrooke, H. Sydney, *The Heraldry of Worcestershire*, (London: John Russell Smith), Vol. II, p. 383 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/heraldryworcest01grazgoog#page/n26/mode/2up/>

As noted above, the testator's first wife was Winifred Heton. The pedigree of Heton in the *Visitation of London* states that William Heton, Merchant Taylor of London, married Rose Copwood, the daughter of John Copwood (d.1542), esquire, of Totteridge, Hertfordshire. Sir James Hawes (d.1582), Lord Mayor of London, married Rose Copwood's sister, Audrey Copwood, while Thomas Chapman (d.1561), citizen and draper of London, married Rose Copwood's sister, Anne Copwood. See the will of John Copwood, TNA PROB 11/29/133; the will of Thomas Chapman (d.1561), TNA PROB 11/44/346; and Howard, Joseph Jackson and George John Armytage, eds., *The Visitation of London in the Year 1568* (London: Harleian Society, 1869), Vol. I, p. 59 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationoflond00cook#page/58/mode/2up>.

See also the pedigree of Copwood in *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society*, Vol. II, (London: J.B. Nichols and Sons, 1864), p. 79 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=j5IxAQAAIAAJ&pg=PA79&lpg=PA79&dq=%22Transactions%22+%22Copwood%22&source=bl&ots=bzkAJVeaDQ&sig=RK4rhbKro-J7AsNf5EKJ8fW8BI&hl=en&sa=X&ei=6-VkVIy1A4yGigKC14D4Dg&ved=0CB0Q6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=%22Transactions%22%20%22Copwood%22&f=false>

Both Sir James Hawes and William Heton are mentioned in the will of Sir William Huett or Hewett (c.1508-1567), Lord Mayor of London, whose wife was Alice Leveson (d.1561), the third daughter of Nicholas Leveson of Halling, Kent, 'a rich London mercer who was chosen sheriff in 1534.' For the will of Sir William Huett, see TNA PROB 11/49/81. Nicholas Leveson (d.1539), was the grandfather of William Leveson (d.1621), one of the trustees used by William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon in the allocation of shares in the ground lease of the Globe Theatre in 1599.

By his first wife, Winifred Heton, the testator had ten children, of whom only three daughters appear to have survived to adulthood and married:

\* Anne Chapman (d.1599), who married a London draper, William Carew (d.1588). See their wills, TNA PROB 11/93/220 and TNA PROB 11/73/232, and Howard, *supra*, p. 45 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationoflond00cook#page/44/mode/2up>.

\* Ellen Chapman, who married Francis Rogers, gentleman, of Dartford, whose grandson, Sir John Jacob (c.1597-1666), was executor of the will of Thomasine (nee Carew) Amyce Vere (d.1639), TNA PROB 11/181/273. Francis Rogers is said to have died in September 1610, and his wife, Ellen (nee Chapman) Rogers, is said to have been buried 27 November 1611. See Dunkin, John, *The History and Antiquities of Dartford*, (London: John Russell Smith, 1844), p. 291 at:

[http://books.google.ca/books?id=cn8OAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA290&lpg=PA290&dq=%22Francis+Rogers%22+%22Dartford%22&source=bl&ots=tfzd-yKzc4&sig=99j4PUECdS0\\_-bOaDW\\_tGxQSnxg&hl=en&sa=X&ei=KcFiVILSA5H6oQTgxILwDQ&ved=0CB0Q6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=%22Francis%20Rogers%22%20%22Dartford%22&f=false](http://books.google.ca/books?id=cn8OAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA290&lpg=PA290&dq=%22Francis+Rogers%22+%22Dartford%22&source=bl&ots=tfzd-yKzc4&sig=99j4PUECdS0_-bOaDW_tGxQSnxg&hl=en&sa=X&ei=KcFiVILSA5H6oQTgxILwDQ&ved=0CB0Q6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=%22Francis%20Rogers%22%20%22Dartford%22&f=false).

\* Barbara Chapman, who married William Leveson (d.1593), referred to by the testator as his son-in-law in the will below. He was the uncle of William Leveson (d.1621), the trustee of the Globe shareholders. See the pedigree of Leveson in Howard, *supra*, p. 18 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationoflond00cook#page/18/mode/2up>.

There is a discrepancy between the PCC copy of the will below and the copy of the will enrolled in the Court of Husting on 20 June 1575. In the latter, the will is stated to contain a provision not found in the PCC copy:

*To Robert and Ellen, children of Barbara his deceased daughter, late wife of William Lewson, mercer, fifty pounds apiece.*

See Sharpe, Reginald R., ed., *Calendar of Wills Proved and Enrolled in the Court of Husting, London*, Part II, (London: John C. Francis, 1890), p. 690 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=ek4MAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA690&lpg=PA690&dq=%22Chapman+%28Robert%29+of+Stone%22&source=bl&ots=FBBmGYLSPf&sig=3OsJ9kmoHhPxSVhXkEYKTraifBk&hl=en&sa=X&ei=JhZIVPbrCdKsogT03oLACg&ved=0C CIQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=%22Chapman%20%28Robert%29%20of%20Stone%22&f=false>.

The testator's epitaph is given by Sparvel-Bayly:

*Erth goeth upon erth as mould upon mould,  
Erth goeth upon erth all glistring gold,  
As though erth to erth never turn should  
And yet must erth to erth sooner than he would.  
Objt 15 Januarye, anno dom. 1574.*

*Loe here he Lyeth That earst did Lyve, and Robert Chapman highte  
To prove, by gods eternall dome that deathe wyll have his right  
Owner of Stone Castell true what tyme he Lyvved was he  
Esquier, and Marchaunte venturer, of London Draper ffree*

*His soule, wee hoope in Heaven dothe reste, thoughe Carcas Lye full Loe  
Thus god appoints the righteouse Manne ; a fynall ende of woe  
Whose monumente alofte dothe Stande, for every Man to viewe  
Whereby Wee Learne, what brittle Steppes all Mortall men ensue.*

See Sparvel-Bayly, J.A., 'Stone, Kent: The Castle and Church', in *The Antiquary*, Vol. XVII, January-June 1888 (London: Elliot Stock), p. 262 at:

[http://books.google.ca/books?id=\\_OA-AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA262&lpg=PA262&dq=Loe+here+he+Lyeth+That+earst+did+Lyve%22&source=bl&ots=gS1vvpHQjZ&sig=FmeJXX6I4GRD3H3Q8hlm\\_YnAFb8&hl=en&sa=X&ei=r-lkVMfwPOHuiALa24C4CQ&ved=0CB0Q6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=Loe%20here%20he%20Lyeth%20That%20earst%20did%20Lyve%22&f=false](http://books.google.ca/books?id=_OA-AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA262&lpg=PA262&dq=Loe+here+he+Lyeth+That+earst+did+Lyve%22&source=bl&ots=gS1vvpHQjZ&sig=FmeJXX6I4GRD3H3Q8hlm_YnAFb8&hl=en&sa=X&ei=r-lkVMfwPOHuiALa24C4CQ&ved=0CB0Q6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=Loe%20here%20he%20Lyeth%20That%20earst%20did%20Lyve%22&f=false)

RM: T{estamentum} Rob{er}ti Chapman

[f. 13r] In the name of God, Amen. The twentieth day of February Anno D{omi}ni 1570 and in the thirteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the [f. 13v] Faith etc., I, Robert Chapman of the parish of Stone nigh Dartford in the county of Kent, gentleman, being of good health and perfect memory, knowing that I am naturally born and ordained to die and pass this mutable world and transitory life, but the hour and time uncertain when Almighty God to his unspeakable wisdom shall seem good for my calling to himwards will visit me, to whom all honour, glory and praise be given all-where, do make and ordain this my present testament and last will touching all my goods and chattels in manner and form following, that is to say:

First, as it doth most chiefly appertain to a true Christian man to seek the kingdom of God, I yield and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, beseeching his most merciful goodness for his Son, Jesus Christ's sake, whose

intercession and means God the Father only heareth and accepteth, that I may be partaker of the kingdom and endless bliss of heaven;

And for my body, I choose my sepulture within the parish church of Stone aforesaid, to be buried in such godly & decent order as by mine executor and overseers hereafter named shall seem most best, as belongeth to my degree, to be had;

Item, I will a sermon to be had and made by a learned man at the time of my burial, and I give and bequeath unto him twenty shillings for his pains therein to be taken;

Item, I will that at the time of my burial shall be by mine executor distributed among the poor 40s;

Item, I will that all such debts and duties as of right or in conscience I do owe unto any person or persons be truly paid, or order therefore taken;

Item, I give and bequeath unto every of the children of my daughter, Anne Carew, to every such child as at the time of my decease shall be living, ten pounds of lawful money of England apiece, to be paid unto every of them, the same children, at their several ages of 21 years or day of marriage first happening, and if it happen any of them, the same children, to decease this life before his, her or their several age of 21 years aforesaid or day of marriage, that then the portion of him, her or them so deceased shall remain and be unto and amongst the rest and residue of the same children surviving or living, provided always that if it shall happen all the same children to decease this life before his, her or their said ages or day of marriage, that then as now and now as then my very will and mind is that the part or portion of all the same children so deceasing shall remain and be unto their father and mother;

Item, I give and bequeath unto every of the children of my daughter, Ellen Rogers, wife of Francis Rogers of Dartford aforesaid, gentleman, to every such child as at the time of my decease shall be living ten pounds of lawful money of England apiece, to be paid to every of them, the same children of my said daughter, Ellen, at their several ages of 21 years or day of marriage first happening, and if it shall happen any of the same children of my said daughter, Ellen, to decease before his, her or their said several ages of 21 years or day of marriage, that then the part or portion of him, her or them so deceased shall remain and be unto and amongst the rest and residue of the same children surviving or living, provided always that if it shall happen all the same children of my daughter, Ellen, to decease this life before his, her or their said ages or day of marriage, that then as now and now as then my very will and mind is that the parts and portions of all the same children so deceasing shall remain and be to their said father and mother;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my brother, Guy Chapman, five pounds of lawful money of England, to be paid by my executor within three months next ensuing my decease;

Item, I give and bequeath to James Chapman and Custance [=Constance], his sister, children of my said brother Guy, to either of them, the same children, ten pounds apiece,

to be paid at their several ages of 21 years or day of marriage first happening, and if either of them die before his or her several said ages of 21 years or day of marriage aforesaid, that then the part or portion of him or her so deceased shall remain to thother of them living, and being both dead before their said several ages or day of marriage, in such case I will that the portions of the same James and Constance shall remain and be to my executor;

Item, I give unto Joan, my woman-servant, being my servant at the time of my decease, three pounds 6s 8d, to be paid unto her at her day of marriage;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Richard Holmes, my servant, forty shillings, to be paid at his lawful age of 21 years;

The rest and residue of all and singular my goods, chattels, cattle, [-cattle], plate, jewels, ready money [f. 14r] and debts (my debts, funerals and legacies before bequeathed first deducted) I will forthwith shall be equally divided into three just and indifferent equal parts, one equal part whereof I give and bequeath unto Ellen, my well-beloved wife, and one other equal part thereof I give and bequeath unto the said Anne Carew, my daughter, wife of William Carew, citizen and draper of London, and the other equal part thereof I give and bequeath unto the said Ellen Rogers, my daughter;

And of this my testament and last will I make and ordain the said William Carew my sole executor, and supervisors or overseers hereof I make and nominate the said Guy Chapman, my brother, and Francis Rogers, my son;

And I utterly revoke, renounce and do disannul all and every former wills, legacies, gifts, bequests, executors and overseers before this time by me made, ordained and given, willing this my will to stand as my very last will and testament concerning my said goods, and none other or otherwise;

In witness whereof I, the said Robert Chapman, to this my last will and testament concerning my goods have subscribed my name and put to my seal given the day and years first above-written. By me, Robert Chapman. Sic subscriptus Georgius Kevall Notarius publicus. Sealed, subscribed and delivered by the said Robert Chapman in the presence of me, the said notary, and of John Thomson and Thomas Newman, my servants, and I ratify the said three words ('piece', 'before') which are interlined and ('last') raised. Per me Iohannem Thomson servientem eiusdem notarij. Per me Thomam Newman servientem dicti Notarij. The seal imprinted thus [ ].

This codicil made the four and twentieth day of October Anno Domini 1572 and in the 14<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France & Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., annexed to the last will and testament of goods of me, Robert Chapman of the parish of Stone near Dartford in the

county of Kent, gentleman, I will shall be as parcel of the same my last will or testament as touching the gifts, legacies, bequests and devises ensuing, that is to say:

First I will and devise that my son-in-law, Francis Rogers, gentleman, and Helen, his wife, my daughter, or one of them, shall within six months next ensuing my decease truly content and pay or cause to be contented and paid unto my son-in-law, William Lewson [=Leveson], citizen and mercer of London, at his now dwelling-house in London, twenty pounds of good and lawful money of England, and thereof and of all actions, suits and troubles concerning the same clearly to discharge or save harmless my executor named and appointed in my said testament;

And in default of payment and discharge thereof, that then my very will and mind is and I do devise by this my codicil that all such part, portion, legacy, gift, devise and bequest by me in my said testament and in or by any other testament of lands to them, the said Francis and Helen, and her heirs given and bequeathed shall unto all constructions and purposes be utterly void and of none effect, and from thenceforth irrecuperable by the said Francis and Helen, his wife, and her heirs or any of them, or by any other person or persons to his, her or their use or behoof or to the use or behoof of any of them, my said testaments or any of them or any custom to the contrary notwithstanding;

In witness whereof I, the said Robert Chapman, have hereunto put my seal given the day and years first above-written. Sealed, subscribed and delivered by the said Robert Chapman in the presence of Richard Parnam, cloth-worker; Laurence Monnes, draper; William Birkhead, John Thomson, Thomas Newman, and of me, the said notary. Sealed with a ring wherein the like mark is printed [ ]. Thus written by me, Robert Chapman. Georgius Kevall Notarius publicus.

Probatum fuit h{uius}mo{d}i Tes{tamen}tum coram m{agist}ro Will{el}mo Drewry legu{m} Doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cant{uariensis} Comissario apud London vicesimo nono die mens{is} Ianuarij Anno D{omi}ni s{e}c{un}d{u}m cursu{m} et computac{i}o{n}em eccl{es}ie Anglicane mill{es}imo quingentesimo septuagesimo quarto Iuramento Will{el}mi Carew executoris in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento no{m}i{n}at{i} Cui comissa fuit admi{n}istr{acio} &c De bene et fideliter Administrand{o} eandem Ac de pleno Inventario &c Necnon &c

[=The same testament was proved before Master William Drury, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, at London on the twenty-ninth day of the month of January in the year of the Lord according to the course and reckoning of the English Church the thousand five hundred seventy-fourth by the oath of William Carew, executor named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted etc., [+sworn on the Holy Gospels] to well and faithfully administer the same, and [+to prepare] a full inventory etc., and also etc.]