

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 10 April 1587 and proved 20 May 1587, of Anne (nee Tyrrell) Knight Knighton, which establishes that the Charles Tyrrell who married Oxford's mother, Margery Golding, was not the testatrix' brother, Charles Tyrrell, as erroneously stated in *The Complete Peerage*.

### **CONNECTIONS TO THE EARLS OF OXFORD**

The Earls of Oxford were connected to the Tyrrells through the three daughters of Sir Richard Sergeaux (d.1393) and his wife, Philippa Arundel (d.1399). Alice Sergeaux (d. 18 May 1452) married Richard de Vere (d. 15 February 1416/17), 11<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford; Philippa Sergeaux (c.1373 – 11 or 13 July 1420) married Sir Robert Pashley (d. 8 June 1453), and Elizabeth Sergeaux married Sir William Marney (d.1414).

For the connection between the Sergeaux and Tyrrell families, see Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2011, Vol. I, pp. 11-14 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=8JcbV309c5UC&pg=PA14>

See also the Pashley pedigree after p. 12 and the Sergeaux pedigree after p. 32 in MacMichael, N.H., 'The Descent of the Manor of Evegate in Smeeth with Some Account of its Lords', *Archaeologia Cantiana*, Vol. 74, 1960, pp. 1-47 at:

<https://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/index.php/arch-cant/vol/74/descent-manor-evegate-smeeth-some-account-its-lords>

### **OXFORD'S STEPFATHER, CHARLES TYRRELL**

*The Complete Peerage*, Vol. X, pp. 249-50, states that after the death of John de Vere (1516-1562), 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford, his widow, Oxford's mother, Margery Golding (d.1568), married as her second husband, Charles Tyrrell (d.1570), the sixth son of Sir Thomas Tyrrell of Heron in East Horndon, Essex, by Constance Blount, daughter of John Blount (d.1485), 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Mountjoy. If true, this would make Oxford's stepfather, Charles Tyrrell (d.1570), the testatrix's brother. However, although the testatrix mentions a brother named Charles in the will below, he was not Oxford's stepfather. The will, TNA PROB 11/52/187, of Margery Golding's second husband, Charles Tyrrell, names only one brother, Philip Tyrrell, while the testatrix had several brothers, none of whom was named Philip. Moreover the testatrix' will establishes that her brother, Charles Tyrrell, was living in 1587, whereas Oxford's stepfather, Charles Tyrrell, died in 1570. It is thus clear that Oxford's stepfather, Charles Tyrrell, was not the son of Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d.1531?) of Heron in East Horndon, Essex, and Constance Blount.

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

For the testatrix' family background, see the Tyrrell pedigree in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, pp. 15-16 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/visitationsofess13metc#page/14/mode/2up>

and p. 113 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/visitationsofess13metc#page/112/mode/2up>

See also the Tyrrell pedigree in Metcalfe, Charles W., ed., *The Visitations of Essex, Part II*, (London: Harleian Society, 1879), Vol. XIV, p. 717 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/visitationsofess02metc#page/n373/mode/2up>

See also the Tyrrell pedigree in Bright, J.B., *The Brights of Suffolk, England*, (Boston: John Wilson, 1858), p. 228 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/brightsofsuffolk00brig#page/n537/mode/2up>

See also the Tyrrell pedigree in Sewell, W.H., 'Sir James Tyrrell's Chapel at Gipping, Suffolk', *The Archaeological Journal*, (London: Royal Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, 1871), Vol. XXVIII, pp. 23-33 at p. 33:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=YrRSAAAACAAJ&pg=PA33>

There are significant errors in the Tyrrell pedigrees. The most reliable pedigree is in Metcalfe, *supra*, pp. 15-16.

### ***Testatrix' paternal great-great-grandparents***

The testatrix was the great-great-granddaughter of Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d. 28 March 1477) of Heron in East Horndon, Essex, and Anne Marney. See the will of Sir Thomas Tyrrell, TNA PROB 11/6/417.

### ***Testatrix' paternal great-grandparents***

The testatrix was the great-granddaughter of Sir William Tyrrell (d.1471?) and Eleanor Darcy, the daughter of Sir Robert Darcy (d. 3 September 1448) of Maldon, Essex, a prominent lawyer, and Keeper of the Writs of the Common Pleas, by his second wife, Alice Filongley, daughter of Henry Filongley of Warwickshire, Serjeant of the Royal

Scullery, and Knight of the Shire for Warwickshire. For the inquisition post mortem taken after his death, see TNA C 139/136/440. See also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 216 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=8JcbV309c5UC&pg=RA2-PA216>

### ***Testatrix' paternal grandparents***

The testatrix was the granddaughter of Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d.1510) of Heron in East Horndon, Essex, and his second wife, Beatrice Cokayne (d.1513), the daughter of John Cokayne of Cokayne Hatley, Bedfordshire, and Elizabeth Boyville, eldest daughter of John Boyville, esquire, and Isabel Cheney. See the 'Pedigree of Cokayne of Ickleford, County Hertford' after p. 237 in Cokayne, Andreas Edward, *Cockayne Memoranda: Collections Towards a Historical Record of the Family of Cockayne*, (Congleton, 1873) at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=cykIAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA237>

See also:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52219527@N00/6956774722>

Beatrice Cokayne's first husband, by whom she had no issue, was the London mercer, John Sutton (d.1479), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/6/482.

For the will of the testatrix' grandmother, Beatrice (nee Cokayne) Sutton Tyrrell, see TNA PROB 11/17/422.

For the will of the testatrix' grandfather, Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d.1510), see TNA PROB 11/17/263.

For the wills of the testatrix' grandparents, see also King, H.W., 'Ancient Wills', in *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. III, Part IV, (Colchester: Essex and West Suffolk Gazett, 1865), pp. 90-2:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=Bhc5AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA90>

### ***Testatrix' parents***

The testatrix was the daughter of Sir Thomas Tyrrell of Heron by Constance Blount, the daughter of John Blount (d. 12 October 1485), 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Mountjoy.

The testatrix' father appears to have died in 1531. See a document dated 13 October 1531, 'Articles `motioned' by Lord Mountjoy between Dame Constance Tyrell late wife

of Sir Thomas Tyrrell, decd., and John Tyrrell 'squyer', son of said Thomas and Constance', Essex Record Office D/DQ 14/2. The articles state that Sir Thomas Tyrrell left a will. Its whereabouts are unknown.

The testatrix' mother, Constance Blount, was living when the testatrix' brother, John Tyrrell, made his will in 1540.

### *Testatrix' siblings*

The testatrix had six brothers and one sister:

**-John Tyrrell** (d.1540), esquire, of Heron in East Horndon, Essex, who married Anne Browne (1509 – 10 March 1582), the daughter of Sir William Browne (d. 3 June 1514), Lord Mayor of London, by his second wife, Alice Keble (d.1521), the daughter of Sir Henry Keble. See the will of John Tyrrell, TNA PROB 11/28/299. See also the will of Anne (nee Browne) Tyrrell Petre, TNA PROB 11/64/153.

**-Sir Henry Tyrrell** (d. 20 May 1588), whom the testatrix appoints as supervisor of her will. He married Thomasine Gonson, the daughter of William Gonson (d.1544), for whom see the *ODNB* entry:

*Gonson, William* (d. 1544), naval administrator . . . married Benet Waters (d. 1545/6). They had six sons (David, Richard, Christopher, Arthur, Benjamin, and Anthony) and four daughters (Margaret, Elizabeth, Avis, and Thomasine) . . . in 1544 (before 5 August) . . . he 'feloniously killed himself' (LP Henry VIII 20/1, no. 125/7). . . . The will of his widow, Benet, was made on 18 August 1545, the executors being her son Benjamin, to whom she left a few items of plate, and Thomasine's husband, Henry Tyrrell; probate was granted on 23 February 1546.

By Thomasine Gonson, Sir Henry Tyrrell had a son:

**(1) Thomas Tyrrell** (c.1548 - 25 September 1592), esquire, mentioned in the will below. In 1565 he married Margaret Sulyard, the daughter of Sir John Sulyard (d. 4 March 1575). In his will, dated 1 September 1569 and proved 1 November 1575, TNA PROB 11/57/552, Sir John Sulyard mentions his daughter, Margaret Tyrrell, and his son-in-law, Thomas Tyrrell, as well as lands he purchased from John Tyrrell, esquire. See also:

[http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page\\_id=707](http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=707)

*Margaret (or Mary) Sulyard* (1542-1581+) was the daughter of John Sulyard of Wetherden, Suffolk (d. March 4, 1574/5), a Catholic lawyer, and his second wife, Elizabeth Jerningham. In 1565 (either January 1 or July 7), at Quidenham, Norfolk, she married Thomas Tyrrell of Ramsden Tirrell (c.1540-September 25, 1592). Their children were Anne, John (b.c.1572), Thomas, and Avis. There are numerous Thomas Tyrrells (also spelled Tirrell) and considerable confusion over which is which. Her husband

apparently owned *Heron Hall/Herongate in the parish of East Thornden, Essex. Margaret's second husband was William Browne. Portrait: 1581 at 38 by John Bettes the Younger in the collection of Newham Heritage Services.*

See also the Sulyard pedigree in Marshall, George W., ed., *The Genealogist*, (London: George Bell and Sons, 1880), Vol. IV, p. 230 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=kzULXfzM16IC&pg=PA231>

See also the Sulyard pedigree in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Suffolk*, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1882), pp. 69-70 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=EycAAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA70>

Sir Henry Tyrrell is buried under a plain slab in the parish church of Downham, Essex, with this inscription:

*Here lyeth buried good Sir Henry Terrell, Knight, & Dame Thomasin, his wife, who deceased the 20 of May in the yeare 1588.*

See King, *supra*, p. 177 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=Bhc5AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA177>

For Sir Henry Tyrrell and his descendants, see also the pedigree in Metcalfe, *Part II, supra*, p. 717 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/visitationsofess02metc#page/n373/mode/2up>

**-Sir William Tyrrell** (d.1557), a Knight of Rhodes. In July 1541 he was a prisoner in the Tower on suspicion of treason after the disbanding of the Order, and was later attainted. He was pardoned in March 1543. See O'Malley, Gregory, *The Knights Hospitaller of the English Languge 1460-1565*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005), pp. 324-5:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=R7MSDAAAQBAJ&pg=PA324>

In his will, TNA PROB 11/39/602, he mentions his wife, Anne, his son and daughter, William Tyrrell and Frances Tyrrell, his 'base son' Henry, as well as his brothers, George Tyrrell, Charles Tyrrell and Thomas Tyrrell. He married Anne, widow of John Freeman, esquire, of Collier Row, Essex (for whose will, proved 13 October 1553, see TNA PROB 11/36/245) and purchased the wardship of John Freeman's three daughters.

He was given a heraldic funeral on 16 November 1557 in the Church of St Martin, Ludgate, as recorded in Machyn's *Diary*. See Nichols, John Gough, ed., *The Diary of Henry Machyn*, (London: Camden Society, 1848), p. 158 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=XIy3SJVHYFYC&pg=PA158>

*The 16 day of the same month was buried at Saint Martin's at Ludgate Master (blank) Tyrrell, Captain of the Galley and Knight of the Rhodes sometime was, with a coat, pennon and 2 banners of images and 3 Heralds of Arms, and 2 white branches and 12 torches and 4 great tapers.*

See also p. 361 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=XIy3SJVHYFYC&pg=PA361&lpg=PA361>

*Funeral of Tyrell captain of the galley. "1557, Nov. 15, Mr. William Turrell sometime knight of Rhodes." Register of St. Martin's Ludgate; and his marriage at the same church, "1553, Nov. 9, sir William Tyrrell knt. and Mrs. Anne Freeman widow." Malcolm's Londinium, vol. iv. pp. 357, 358. He was brother to sir Henry Tyrell, of East Horndon, Essex: see Morant's History of that county, vol. I, p. 209.*

For Sir William Tyrrell, see also King, *supra*, p. 178:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=Bhc5AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA178>

**-Thomas Tyrrell**, mentioned in the will below.

**-George Tyrrell**, a courtier during the reign of Queen Mary. He is mentioned in the 1557 will of his brother, William, *supra*, but is not mentioned in the will below. He is known to have had two sons, Robert Tyrrell and Anthony Tyrrell, and a daughter Gertrude Tyrrell, a nun. For Anthony Tyrrell (1552–1615), see the *ODNB* entry, and Brownlow, F.W., *Shakespeare, Harsnett, and the Devils of Denham*, (Newark: University of Delaware Press, 1993), p. 170-1 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=dXsxIxWPpKc&pg=PA170>

According to the *ODNB*, after the accession of Queen Elizabeth, George Tyrrell, his wife and children left England for the Spanish Netherlands, where they 'lived in considerable poverty'.

**-Charles Tyrrell**, mentioned in the will below. As noted above, since Oxford's stepfather, Charles Tyrrell, died in 1570, the mention of Charles Tyrrell in the will below establishes that Oxford's stepfather was not the Charles Tyrrell who was the son of Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d.1531?) of East Horndon, Essex, and Constance Blount, as erroneously stated in *The Complete Peerage*.

According to Morris, the testatrix' brother was the Charles Tyrrell, 'servant to the Lord Rich', who is included, together with Oxford's stepfather, Charles Tyrrell (d.1570), in an entail in the 1566 will of Richard Tyrrell (d.1566), TNA PROB 11/48/637:

*And for default of such issue the remainder thereof unto Charles Tyrrell that married the Countess of Oxford and his heirs males lawfully begotten.*

*And for default of such issue the remainder thereof to Charles Tyrrell, servant to the Lord Rich, and to his heirs males lawfully begotten.*

See Morris, John, ed., *Two Missionaries Under Elizabeth, A Confessor and an Apostate*, (London: Burns and Oates, 1891), p. 293 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=tgpFAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA293>

It should be noted that Morris conflates the testatrix' grandfather, Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d.1510?), with the testatrix' father, Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d.1531?), and Richard Tyrrell (d.1566), Warden of the Fleet, with his son, Edward Tyrrell, also Warden of the Fleet.

For Richard Rich (1496/7-1567), 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Rich, Lord Chancellor, see the *ODNB* entry.

According to Feldman, before becoming servant to Lord Rich, Charles Tyrrell had been Master of the Horse to John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland. See Feldman, Bronson, *Hamlet Himself*, (Indiana: iUniverse, 2010), at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=Z79IDwAAQBAJ&pg=PT19>

The pedigree in Metcalfe, *Part I, supra*, p. 113, states that Charles Tyrrell was a physician, which seems unlikely.

**-Katherine Tyrrell** (d. 24 April 1599), who married George Keble of Newbottle, Northamptonshire. There was formerly an inscription commemorating her in the church of St Edmund and St Mary at Ingatestone:

*Here lyeth Katheryne Kebyll the wife of George Kebyll & the daughter of Sr Thomas Tyrrell of Heron Court, Knight, who died the 24<sup>th</sup> April 1599 about the 70 year of her age.*

See Wilde, E.E., *Ingatestone and the Essex Great Road with Fryerning*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1913), p. 217 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/ingatestoneande00wildgoog#page/n281/mode/1up>

The difficulty presented by the inscription is that it indicates that Katherine was born about 1529, and would thus have been only eleven years of age when the testatrix' brother, John Tyrrell, made his will in 1540, yet according to his will she was already married in 1540, since he calls her 'my sister Keble'.

For George Keble, see also Warwickshire County Record Office CR0457/4/17, a writ of entry dated 3 January 1536 for the manors of Newbottle, Radstone, Charleton and Clacksthorpe, Northamptonshire.

Katherine Tyrrell and George Keble had a daughter, Mary Keble, who married John Pascall (d.1581) of Much Baddow, Essex. For the will, dated 15 January 1581 and proved 10 March 1581, of John Pascall, see TNA PROB 11/63/132. For the Pascall pedigree, see Metcalfe, *supra*, p. 261at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationsofess13metc/page/260/mode/2up>

For lawsuits involving Oxford and John Pascall, see TNA STAC 5/01/24 and TNA 5/08/32.

The pedigree in Metcalfe, *Part I, supra*, p. 113, also shows an Ada Tyrrell, ‘who was drowned’. She was presumably the testatrix’ sister.

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

The testatrix married firstly Edmund Knight (d.1544) of Orpington, Kent, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/30/80, and secondly John Knighton (d.1586), esquire, of Bayford, Hertfordshire, for whose wills see TNA PROB 11/69/287 and TNA PROB 11/70/252, and the inquisition post mortem taken after his death, TNA C 142/211/191. For the testatrix’ second husband, see also:

‘Parishes: Bayford’, in *A History of the County of Hertford: Volume 3*, ed. William Page (London, 1912), pp. 419-423. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/herts/vol3/pp419-423> [accessed 13 August 2020].

According to the will below, by her second husband the testatrix had two sons, John Knighton, and Ralph Knighton. She also had four married daughters mentioned in the will below.

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

For the testatrix’ god-daughter, Anne Symmes, see:

<http://www.frenchfamilyassoc.com/FFA/CHARTSWEB/BurtonScroggsSymmesHarlakenden.htm>

‘Sir Harry Cooke’ has not been identified. He was likely related to Lord Burghley’s wife, Mildred (nee Cooke) Cecil. A ‘Harry Cooke’ is mentioned in BL Lansdowne 25/27, ff. 56-8, a letter dated 15 December 1577 from Katherine (nee Willoughby) Brandon Bertie (1519-1580), Duchess of Suffolk, to Lord Burghley.



LM: T{estamentum} Anne Knighton

In the name of God, Amen. The tenth day of April in the year of Our Lord God 1587, I, Anne Knighton, widow, within the county of Hertford, being in good mind and perfect memory, thanks be given to Almighty God, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Creator, and my body to be buried wheresoever it shall please God to dispose of it;

Item, I will to be bestowed at my burial five pounds;

Item, I bequeath to my daughter Burton, my daughter Barlow, my daughter Barter(?), and to my daughter Birchlie, each of them a ring of gold to the value of two angels apiece for a token of remembrance;

Item, I give to my god-daughters, Anne Cliff, Anne Birchly [f. 216r] and Anne Symmes, each of them a ring of gold to the like value for a token of remembrance;

Item, I give to my god-daughter, Anne Tuck(?), one of my cloth gowns and a kirtle;

Item, I bequeath to my god-daughter, Anne Lowson [=Leveson?], five shillings in money;

Item, I bequeath to my brother, Sir Harry, to my cousin, Thomas Tyrrell, his son, and to my cousin, his wife, each of them a ring of gold to the value of two angels apiece for a token of remembrance;

Item, I give to my brother, Thomas, and to my brother, Charles, each of them likewise a ring of gold for a token of remembrance;

Item, I bequeath to Elizabeth Tyrrell one of my cassocks;

Item, I give to my cousin, Eleanor Tyrrell, my best gown and my best kirtle;

Item, I bequeath to Sir Harry Cooke and to my Lady, his wife, each of them a ring of gold to the value of two angels apiece for a token of remembrance;

Item, I give to William, my servant, twenty shillings besides and above his wages;

Item, I bequeath to my servant, Joan Brough, twenty marks in money and all my wearing linen;

Item, I give to my son, Ralph Knighton, ten pounds in money, and also do acquit him other ten pounds which he oweth unto me, as it appeareth by his own letter;

Item, I will that my executor shall cause a marble stone to be laid upon my first husband's grave at Orpington;

The residue of all my goods and chattels unbequeathed, my debts, legacies and funerals discharged, I give unto my son, John Knighton, whom I make my sole executor of this my last will and testament;

And my brother, Sir Harry, my overseer;

In witness whereof to this my last will and testament I have set to my mark and seal the day and year above-written in the presence of these persons hereunder named. Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of us, H. Goodiere, Thomas Goodere.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum apud London coram venerabili viro magistro Willmo Drury Legum doctore curie prerogative Cantuariensis Commissario & vicesimo die mensis maij Anno Domini millimo quingentesimo octogesimo septimo Iuramento Johannis Burrough notarij publici procuratoris Iohannis Knighton filij dicte defuncte et Executoris & Cui comissa fuit administratio & De bene et fideliter administrandis & Iuratis

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before the worshipful Master William Drury, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury etc., on the twentieth day of the month of May in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred eighty-seventh by the oath of John Burrough, notary public, proctor of John Knighton, son of the said deceased and executor etc., to whom administration was granted etc., sworn to well and faithfully administer etc.]