

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will dated 3 September 1585 and 21 March 1586 and codicil dated 9 July 1587, proved 20 February 1588, of Sir Lionel Duckett (d. August 1587), brother-in-law of Sir Roger Martyn, and uncle of Humphrey Martyn, the addressee of the *Langham Letter* which describes Leicester's entertainment of Queen Elizabeth at Kenilworth in the summer of 1575.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the Duckett family, see Duckett, G.F., *Duchetiana*, (London: J. Russell Smith, 1869), p. 21 at:

<https://archive.org/details/duchetianaorhist01duck/page/21>

The testator was the son of William Duckett of Flintham, Nottinghamshire, and Jane Redman, of Harwood Castle, Yorkshire.

The testator had a brother:

-John Duckett, esquire, of Flintham, who married Thomasine Copynger, the daughter of John Copynger, esquire. See Duckett, *supra*, p. 21.

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

Testator's first marriage

The testator married firstly Mary Leighton, the daughter of Hugh Leighton of Leighton, Shropshire, by whom he had a son:

* **George Duckett**, who died young. See Howard, Joseph Jackson and George John Armytage, eds., *The Visitation of London in the Year 1568*, (London: Harleian Society, 1869), Vol. I, p. 7 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=Wt4KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA7>

Testator's second marriage

The testator married secondly, on 29 June 1564 at St Peter's, West Cheap, Jane Pakington (d.1589?), the daughter of Humphrey Pakington and Elizabeth Harding. For the will of Humphrey Pakington, see TNA PROB 11/38/212. For the will of Elizabeth (nee Harding) Pakington, see TNA PROB 11/46/444.

When she married the testator, Jane Pakington was the widow of Humphrey Baskerville (d. March 1564), by whom she had two sons and six daughters, the testator's stepchildren:

-Richard Baskerville, who died without issue. He is mentioned in the will of his grandmother, Elizabeth (nee Harding) Pakington, TNA PROB 11/46/444, as one of her godchildren.

-Humphrey Baskerville, who is not mentioned in the Baskerville pedigree, but is mentioned in his father's will.

-Elizabeth Baskerville, who on 14 July 1563 married firstly the London mercer, Henry Hungate, for whose will, proved 1 March 1587, see TNA PROB 11/70/140. Elizabeth Baskerville married secondly a husband surnamed Harte.

-Angelica Baskerville, who married William Maynard of London.

-Sara Baskerville, who married Thomas Owen (d. 21 December 1598), for whom see the *ODNB* entry, his will, proved 28 February 1599, TNA PROB 11/93/181, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/owen-thomas-1598>

-Martha Baskerville, who married John May of Mendip, Somerset.

-Anne Baskerville, who married firstly the testator's nephew, Stephen Duckett, and secondly Thomas Edwards (d. 1635) of Shrewsbury, by whom she was the mother of the politician and regicide, Humphrey Edwards (1582-1658), for whom see the *ODNB* entry.

-Mary Baskerville, who married Benjamin Gonson (b.1551) of Sebright Hall, Essex, son of the naval administrator, Benjamin Gonson (c.1525-1577) and Ursula Hussey, and grandson of the naval administrator, William Gonson (d.1544), for whom see the *ODNB* entry. See also 'The Family of Gunson or Gonson of London and Essex' at:

http://gunsonfamily.com/gunson/?page_id=67

For Jane Pakington's children by her first marriage to Humphrey Baskerville, see Grazebrook, George and John Paul Rylands, eds., *The Visitation of Shropshire Taken in the Year 1623, Part II*, (London: Harleian Society, 1889), Vol. XXIX, pp. 387-8 at:

https://archive.org/stream/TheVisitationOfShropshireV.29/VisitationshrophshireTaken1623_treswellVol.28P2#page/n109/mode/2up

For the will of Humphrey Baskerville, see TNA PROB 11/47/105. For the will of Jane (nee Pakington) Baskerville Duckett, dated 8 September 1589 and proved 4 February 1590, see TNA PROB 11/75/77. See also the entry for her at:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=701

By Jane Pakington, the testator had a son:

* **Thomas Duckett.**

See also the entries for the testator in *The Analytical Index to the Series of Records Known as the Remembrancia* and the *ODNB*.

RM: T{estamentum} D{omi}ni Lionelli Duckett militis

xxjo martij 1585

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, three persons and one God, be with me now and evermore, Amen. I, Sir Lionel Duckett, knight, alderman of the City of London and late Mayor of the same, minding through the grace of God to set such worldly things in perfect order wherewith it hath pleased him of his singular goodness to bestow upon me, being a wretched sinner, and now considering with myself the mortality of all mankind and the uncertainty of the time when it shall please God to call me out of this miserable world, I, being aged and of great years and thereby impotent of body yet, God be praised, of perfect memory, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First, I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Creator, and to Jesus Christ, my Redeemer, firmly trusting and believing that through the grace of the Holy Ghost I shall be numbered among the children of eternal salvation to be an inheritor in the kingdom of God amongst his holy saints, and that I do not deserve the same through any merits or good deeds done by myself, but only by the great mercies of God and through the bloodshedding and most bitter passion of Jesus Christ, my only Redeemer;

Secondly, I do will and require mine executors that after my decease my body may be brought to the earth without any vain pomp or ceremony, but yet nevertheless in a decent and comely order in respect of my calling in the commonwealth;

And as concerning the disposition of my lands, tenements and hereditaments, as well free as customary or copyhold lands wherein I have any estate of fee simple, forsomuch as I am sure and certain that the same are holden in socage, and neither by knight's-service in capite of the Crown or otherwise by knight's-service of the Queen's most excellent Majesty or of any other person or persons whatsoever, I, the said Sir Lionel Duckett, knight, do devise, will, give and grant all and singular my manors, lands and tenements,

rents, reversions, remainders, and all and singular my said hereditaments with their appurtenances within the realm of England wherein I have any estate of fee simple to Jane, my right well-beloved wife, and to my only son, Thomas Duckett, to have and to hold to them and to the heirs of the body of the same Thomas Duckett lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue, the remainder thereof to the said Thomas Duckett and his heirs forever;

And by this my last will and testament I do charge the same Thomas Duckett that he be obedient and comfortable to his said mother, and that he do follow the good counsel and advice of such of my dear friends as I shall assign to be overseers of this my last will and testament, and in so doing God shall bless both him and his, and I, his father, in the name of God the Father, and God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost do bless both him and all his offspring to the world's end;

Lastly, as concerning the disposition of all and singular my goods and chattels, debts and credits, forso much as I am an alderman and also a freeman of the said City of London, and am bound in duty to observe the lawful customs of the same to the uttermost of my power, I do therefore declare by this my last will and testament that my mind and will is that the ancient and laudable custom of London concerning orphanage shall be fully executed in all parts, and [sic?] time out of mind of man it hath been used, and therefore I, the said Sir Lionel, by this my last will and testament do bequeath, declare, leave, will and appoint that my said wife shall have and enjoy to her own proper use and behoof one whole third part and portion of all and singular my good[s] and chattels, as well real as personal, and also the third part of all my debts and credits whatsoever;

And the second third part of all my said goods and chattels, as well real as personal, and likewise the second third part of all my said credits, [f. 68v] I do bequeath, declare, leave and appoint unto the said Thomas Duckett, my son, being my sole and only child, to have unto him to his own proper use according to the true meaning of the same custom of orphanage [sic?];

And as concerning the last third part of all my said goods, chattels, debts and the credits, as well real as personal, I do leave the same to mine executrix for the payment of my debts and the performance of my bequests and legacies expressed in this my last will and testament;

And first, I do bequeath to the mayor, citizens and commonalty of the said City of London to the use of the children of Christ's Hospital within Newgate in London one hundred pounds;

Item, I do bequeath unto the Company of the Mercers, whereof I am free, two hundred pounds to continue as a stock amongst them forever, and to be delivered to four young men of the same Company, fifty pounds apiece for five years' time, putting in sufficient sureties to the Wardens for the same money;

I will that my servants now dwelling with me, being of the same Company, have the first preferment thereof; if there shall not be four such with me at my death, then I will that such who have been my servants and now occupiers have the same before any other;

And after their five years be expired, then I will that four other honest and towardly young men mercers have the same from five years to five years, paying for every fifty pounds forty shillings, and the profit of the same money I give yearly to the poorest and eldest persons that may be found in the parishes of St Lawrence in the Old Jewry, St Mary Magdalen's in Milk Street, and Saint Peter's in Cheap where I now dwell, the money to be distributed amongst the poor of these parishes at Christmas yearly by the Reater Warden of the Mercers according to his discretion, he retaining to himself for his pains therein taken four nobles yearly;

Item, I give unto the prisons of Newgate, Ludgate and the two Counters twenty pounds, to be by my executors bestowed in bread and meat where most need shall be within one twelvemonth after my decease;

Item, I will and bequeath to the poor of the parishes of Flintham, Linton(?), Sibthorpe and Syerston in Nottinghamshire four pounds, to every parish twenty shillings, to be given to the poorest and eldest of each parish by the discretion of the churchwardens of the same parishes;

Item, I give to my nephew, Stephen Duckett, one hundred pounds;

Item, to Lionel Duckett, his son, my godson, twenty pounds if he live to the age of twenty and one years; if he die, to John Duckett, his brother, I give the same sum;

Item, I give to Bennett Redman, my servant and kinsman, twenty pounds;

Item, I give to Allen Duckett, my servant and kinsman, twenty pounds;

Item, I give to Thomas Nelson twenty pounds;

Item, I give to John Farmer twenty pounds;

Item, I give to Richard Farmer, Martha Farmer, Elizabeth Farmer and Thomazen Farmer, each of them ten pounds apiece;

Item, I give to Joan Moodye, my servant and kinswoman, thirty pounds;

Item, I give to Hugh Baskerville twenty pounds with request to my executrix to be good to him;

Item, I give to Jane Hungate ten pounds, to be paid to her at the day of her marriage;

Item, I give to Richard Wenlock twenty nobles, and also do forgive him all such debt as he oweth me;

Item, I give to Henry Jones twenty pounds;

Item, I give to every servant, as well manservant as woman-servant, to whom no other special bequest is given forty shillings apiece;

Item, I give to my very good friend, Mr William Fleetwood, Recorder of London, a mourning gown;

Item, I give to my cousin Wake and his wife, each of them a mourning [+gown?];

Item, I give to Richard Maningham and Richard Pingle, my old servants, each of them a mourning gown, and also to the rest of my servants, each of them gowns, cloaks or coats according to the discretion of my executrix;

Item, I give to the poorest sort of men that may be found by my executrix, with the consent of my overseers hereafter to be named in this my last will and testament, thirty gowns of twenty shillings apiece;

The residue of the said third part, over and above all my debts, duties, legacies and funerals paid and discharged, I give to my said wife and son to be equally divided between them, saving I will that my wife shall have the house wherein I now dwell in London and the lease thereof during her life;

Item, I make of this my last will and testament my said wife, Dame Jane, mine executrix, and I require my good friend, Mr Thomas Owen, gentleman, to whom by this my last will I give twenty pounds, and my nephew, Stephen Duckett, gentleman, to be my overseers of this my last will and testament.

Written the third day of September in the year of Our [f. 69r] Lord God one thousand five hundred fourscore and five;

Whereas one Stephen Riddlesdom [=Riddlesden?] hath commenced since in the Queen's Bench by action of the same case against my servant, Thomas Nelson, for and touching a hundred twenty-nine pounds and twelve pence or thereabouts, which money was received and taken to my use and came to my hands, my full mind and intent is and I do will by these presents that the said Thomas Nelson shall be discharged or saved harmless by mine executrix of, for and from the said money and the said suit, and of and from all damages and loss by reason of the same;

Whereas the Earl of Westmorland acknowledged a recognizance of six thousand pounds or thereabouts to Humphrey Colles, William Clifton, esquires, deceased, and to me, which recognizance in true meaning was to the only use and benefit of the said William Clifton, of which recognizance only I have before this time made my will and testament,

and according to the trust in me reposed I have of the said recognizance made Sir John Clifton, knight, being the son and heir of the said William, mine executor, I do hereby confirm and allow the said will touching the said recognizance and everything in the same contained to remain and be without any revocation or alteration, and hereby do make the said Sir John Clifton of the said recognizance only mine executor. Lionel Duckett. Witnesses: Thomas Owen, Robert Lee, Robert Owen, signum Henry Jones, signum Anne Duckett, vicesimo primo martij a thousand five hundred eighty-five.

Nono Iulij Anno Regni Domine nostre nunc Regine Elizabethhe vicesimo nono [=On the ninth of July in the year of the reign of our Lady now Queen Elizabeth the twenty-ninth]

Whereas I, Sir Lionel Duckett, have made my last will and testament bearing date the one and twentieth day of March Anno domini a thousand five hundred eighty-five, now I, the said Sir Lionel Duckett, being minded and disposed to alter and change some of the legacies and bequests in the same will contained, and also to make some other legacies and bequests in such manner and form as hereafter in these presents is expressed, do publish and declare this codicil to be annexed to my said last will and testament:

First, whereas by my said last will and testament I have given the residue of my third part over and above all my debts, duties, legacies and funerals paid and discharged to my well-beloved wife, Dame Jane Duckett, and to my son, Thomas Duckett, to be equally divided between them, saving I willed that my wife should have my house wherein I dwell in London and the lease thereof during her natural life, now for that my son, Thomas, hath married one Margaret Nelson without my consent and against my express commandment, and for that my said well-beloved wife, Dame Jane Duckett, hath had and taken great care and pains of me by a long time in my sickness, and for that I have sold my said house wherein I dwelt and the lease thereof which my will was my wife should have had during her life, therefore and for divers other considerations I will and devise to my said loving wife all the residue of my said third part of all my goods, chattels and debts whatsoever over and above my debts, legacies and funerals except my third part of my leases, which third part of my leases I will to be equally divided between my said wife and son;

Also, forasmuch as Thomas Nelson hath not dealt well with me in the marriage of my son with his kinswoman, therefore and for some other considerations I will that he shall not have the twenty pounds which I gave him by my said last will;

Item, for that Henry Jones hath taken great pains with me in my sickness, I will that he shall have ten pounds more, that is to say, thirty pounds in the whole;

Item, I give unto Alice Jones, my servant, who hath taken great pains with me in my sickness, twenty nobles;

Item, I give to Edward and John Brooke, sons of Martha Brooke, my kinswoman, ten pounds apiece;

Item, I give unto Henry Hungate, now in the house with me, ten pounds;

Item, I give to Joan Moody twenty pounds more than is in my last will, that is to say, fifty pounds in all;

And whereas I have devised my lands by my other will in such sort as by the same doth appear, now my meaning is to alter the same in such sort, manner and form as hereafter is shortly expressed:

First, I will that my manor and farm of Barcott with the appurtenances and all my lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever in the county of Berkshire shall be to my well-beloved wife, Dame Jane Duckett, according to th' assurances thereof to her made during her life, and that she shall have all rents and yearly profits whatsoever issuing and going out of the same;

And afterwards I do give and devise the same to my son, Thomas Duckett, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and for lack of such issue to Stephen Duckett and th' heirs of his body lawfully begotten;

Provided [f. 69v] always that if the said Thomas Duckett or any heir of his body lawfully to be begotten at any time or times hereafter shall consent or attempt to do, knowledge or suffer any act or thing which upon the full execution thereof shall or may be any bar, alteration, forfeiture, determination or discontinuance of any premises afore specified or of the freehold thereof or of any part or parcel thereof, or shall by any means charge or encumber the same premises or any part thereof with any rent or rents or other charges or encumbrances to the disheriting or hurt of his issue or whereby the same premises or any part thereof shall [+be] charged or encumbered after his death that his issue or those in remainder cannot lawfully avoid the same charge or encumbrance, or whereby the true intent and meaning of these presents may not or cannot take place;

That then and from thenceforth and immediately from and after the time of such consenting or attempting, and before any such bar, forfeiture, alteration, determination or discontinuance had, made suffered and done, all and every the use and uses, estate and estates, limited and declared in and by these presents as to him or them only which shall consent or attempt to or for any such act or acts, thing or things, to be had, done, acknowledged or suffered contrary to the true intent and meaning of these presents, of and in such and of so much of the premises whereof any such consent or attempt shall be, shall cease only as in respect and having regard to such person and persons so attempting or consenting in such sort degree, quality & condition as if such person and persons so attempting or consenting were naturally dead, and none otherwise;

And that then and in such case, such and so much of the premises whereof any such consent or attempt shall be so had, made or done shall be immediately to such person and

persons to whom by the limitation of the uses aforesaid the same should have remained, come or been according to the true intent and meaning of these presents;

And I do by these presents ratify and confirm all other things in my former will which are not contrary to these presents.

Signum Henrici Jones. Signum Nicholai Jolly John [sic?]. Signum Iohannis Surbye. Michael Vaughan. Humphrey Mitton, scriptor. Lionel Duckett.

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram venerabili viro magistro Willmo Drury Legum Doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cantuariensis magistro Custode siue Commissario & c vicesimo Die mensis februarij Anno Domini iuxta computacionem ecclesie Anglicane millimo quingentesimo octagesimo septimo Iuramento Edwardi Orwell notarij publici procuratoris Domine Iane Duckett relicte dicti defuncti et executricis in huiusmodi testamento nominat[e] Cui commissaria fuit administratio bonorum iurium et creditorum eiusdem defuncti de bene et fideliter administrand[o] & ad sancta dei Evangelia iurat[e]

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before the worshipful Master William Drury, Doctor of the Laws, Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury etc., on the twentieth day of the month of February in the year of the Lord according to the reckoning of the English Church the thousand five hundred eighty-seventh by the oath of Edward Orwell, notary public, proctor of Lady Jane Duckett, relict of the said deceased and executrix named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of the goods, rights and credits of the same deceased, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer etc.]