

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 25 April 1589 and proved 17 March 1590, of Bartholomew Clerke (c.1537 – 15 or 16 March 1590), to whose Latin translation of Castiglione's *The Courtier* (*Balthasaris Castilionis Comitis De Curiali siue Aulico*) Oxford contributed a Latin epistle dated 3 January 1572 commending the work, its author, and Clerke's translation (see STC 4782).

From the entry for the testator in the *ODNB*:

*Clerke's studies, meanwhile, embraced both modern languages and the law, and at some stage they took him to France, where he was offered but declined a public readership at Angers. In 1568 he was recommended by Cecil and others to succeed Roger Ascham as Latin secretary to the queen, but the office was already promised to another, and in 1569 Clerke again served as university proctor. Through the influence, in all probability, of the poet turned statesman Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, Clerke was elected member for Bramber in the parliament of April 1571, and shortly thereafter accompanied his patron to Paris on an embassy to congratulate Charles IX on his marriage. On his return he resided for some months in Buckhurst's household where he worked on a much admired translation into Latin of Castiglione's *Il cortigiano* ('The courtier'), a series of discourses expounding the humanist values of the Italian Renaissance in which scholarship was allied to refinement and gentility. As elsewhere in Europe, the book became fashionable reading for the aristocracy, and Clerke's version went through three further editions in Elizabeth's reign (1577, 1579, and 1585). It was prefaced with letters of commendation from Edward de Vere, the earl of Oxford (to whom, it appears, Clerke had been tutor), Buckhurst, and John Caius.*

Oxford's Latin epistle was praised in 1578 by Gabriel Harvey in *Gratulationes Valdinenses* (see STC 12901):

*Go, Mars will see you in safety and Hermes attend you; aegis-sounding Pallas will be by and will instruct your heart and spirit, while long since did Phoebus Apollo cultivate your mind with the arts. Your British numbers have been widely sung, while your Epistle testifies how much you excel in letters, being more courtly than Castiglione himself, more polished. I have seen your many Latin things, and more English are extant; of French and Italian muses, the manners of many peoples, their arts and laws you have drunk deeply. Not in vain was Sturmius himself known to you, nor so many Frenchmen and polished Italians, nor Germans.*

### **FAMILY BACKGROUND**

There is some confusion as to the identity of the testator's parents. According to the *ODNB*, the testator was the grandson of Richard Clerke, gentleman, of Livermere, Suffolk, and the son of John Clerke, of Wells, Somersetshire, by Anne Grantoft, daughter and heiress of Henry Grantoft, gentleman, of Huntingdonshire. See p. 45 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=AC0JAAAAIAAJ&pg=PA45>

The DNB article appears to rely, for the testator's parentage, on this passage in Guillim, John, *A Display of Heraldry*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed., (London: T.W., 1726), p. 246 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=zpZcAAAACAAJ&pg=PA246>

*Or, two Barrs and in Chief three Escallops Azure, is born by the Name of Clarke, and was confirmed to Bartholomew Clerke of London, Esquire, (and to the Posterity of John his Father) Judge of the Arches, and one of the Masters in Chancery, Son of John Clerke of Wells in the County of Somerset, and of Anne his Wife, Daughter and Heir to Henry Grantoft of the County of Huntington, Gent. Son of Richard Clerke of Livermere in Suffolk, Gent. by Robert Cook Clarencieux, the 25<sup>th</sup> of January 1580 in the 25<sup>th</sup> Year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth.*

This is further supported by Page, according to whom the testator's mother, Anne Grauntoft, was the daughter of Henry Grauntoft, the sister of Roger Grauntoft (d.1529), and the granddaughter of Roger Grauntoft (d.1529). See TNA C 1/494/55; TNA C 1/492/17; and:

'Parishes: Hilton', in *A History of the County of Huntingdon: Volume 2*, ed. William Page, Granville Proby and S Inskip Ladds (London, 1932), pp. 315-318. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/hunts/vol2/pp315-318> [accessed 18 March 2016].

*In 1529 Roger Grauntoft died seised of a messuage and land in Hilton, Fen Stanton, Hemingford Abbots and Hemingford Grey, and in Elsworth (co. Camb.) called 'Danestestyng,' held of Thomas Lord Berkeley as of his manor of Stanton. Roger Grauntoft had acquired this land of Gerard Danet, (fn. 14) possibly a representative of one of the co-heirs of Edmund de Durham. In the previous year Roger had made a settlement on his wife Joan, and on his grandson Roger, son of his son Henry Grauntoft, of Fen Stanton, with the condition that if Roger died before reaching the age of twenty all the property he was to inherit was to be disposed of for the good of his soul. The grandson Roger also died in 1529, aged 14, leaving four sisters as his co-heirs, Anne, Mary, Ellen, and Margaret. (fn. 15) During the lifetime of the elder Roger, messuages in Hilton were the subject of Chancery proceedings instituted against him, with others, as a feoffee, by Susan, late wife of James Berkeley, (fn. 16) and his death was followed by further proceedings instituted by John Clerke and his wife Anne, together with Eleanor, Mary, Margaret, and Elizabeth Grauntoft in connection with the bequest of their grandfather Roger Grauntoft, of Hilton, to their brother Roger. (fn. 17) This property probably passed to the Malletts, but its later descent is lost.*

In 1497, when he acquired the property referred to in the preceding paragraph from Gerard Dannet (d. 3 May 1520), Roger Grauntoft (d.1529), was a Merchant of the Staple in Calais. See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2011, Vol. IV, p. 143.

In his will, TNA PROB 11/55/11, the testator's father, John Clerke (d.1573), describes himself as a gentleman and a proctor of the Court of Arches in London. He makes no mention of Wells, Somerset, or of the Grauntoft family. If Guillim is to be relied upon, however, John Clerke of Wells, Somerset, and the testator's father, John Clerke (d.1573), were one and the same person. In his will, John Clerke names his second wife, Elizabeth, two sons, Bartholomew Clerke, Doctor of Law, and Francis Clerke, and two daughters, Eleanor Clerke and Dorothy Clerke, as well as his son-in-law [=stepson?], Richard Sherwood. For the will of Walter Sherewood, gentleman, of Wells, Somerset, proved 14 May 1579, who may have been related to the testator's son-in-law, Richard Sherwood, see TNA PROB 11/61/225.

In an entail in the will below, the testator names three brothers, Francis, John and Thomas:

*Touching the small lands it hath pleased God to lend me, my will is they shall descend to my son, Francis, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and for want of heirs of his body lawfully begotten to my daughter Cicely and to the heirs of the body of my daughter, Cicely Clerke, lawfully begotten, and for want of such her heirs, to the heirs males of my brother Francis Clerke, lawfully begotten, and for want of such his heirs males to the heirs males of my brother, John, lawfully begotten, and for want of such heirs males to the heirs males of my brother, Thomas, lawfully begotten, and for want of such his heirs males to the heirs males of Francis Wallis lawfully begotten, and for want of such heirs to the heirs general of me, Bartholomew Clerke.*

The testator's brother, Francis Clerke, was living at the time the testator made his will; however the testator's two other brothers, John Clerke and Thomas Clerke, appear to have predeceased the testator.

The testator's brother, Francis Clerke, had a son, John Clerke of London and Hurtmore, Surrey, who married Mary Prannell, whose brother, Henry Prannell (d. 10 November 1599), was the first husband of Frances Howard (27 July 1578 – 8 October 1639), daughter of Thomas Howard (c.1520 - 28 January 1582), 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Bindon. Both the testator and his brother, Francis Clerke, were appointed executors of the will of the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Bindon, TNA PROB 11/65/112. See also the will of Henry Prannell, TNA PROB 11/94/506; and the History of Parliament entry for the testator's nephew, John Clerke, at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/clarke-john>

In 1606 the testator's nephew, John Clerke, sold his property at Hurtmore to Sir Edward More (d.1623) of Odiham, executor of the will (TNA PROB 11/121/171) of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham, who owned Hurtmore at his death. See his will, TNA PROB 11/141/530:

*Item, I do will and appoint that my daughter, the Lady Stourton, shall have and enjoy my house at Hatmere [=Hurtmore] in the county of Surrey, and the orchard, garden and lands which she and her husband do now hold of me at the rent of £45 or £46 per annum for so long time as she and the right honourable the Lord Stourton shall live, without paying any rent for the same for the time to come after my decease.*

For the testator's brother, Francis Clerke, see also TNA HCA 30/1039; and Baker, J.H., *Monuments of Endlesse Labours: English Canonists and Their Work, 1300-1900*, (London: The Hambledon Press, 1998), p. 72 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=SjoiMnpqSG4C&pg=PA72>

For the testator, see also the *ODNB* entry; the Wikipedia article edited by the author of this website; and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/clerke-bartholomew-1537-90>

In the will below the testator bequeaths to his son 'my great cross of diamonds and rubies which I had of the Lady Frances, Countess of Sussex'. The Countess' husband, Thomas Radcliffe (1526/7–1583), 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Sussex, was another of the executors appointed under the will of the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Bindon, *supra*. In the will of the Countess, the bequest is as follows:

*Item, I give to Mr Doctor Clerke, Dean of th' Arches, a cross of rubies, diamonds and pearl.*

See the will of Frances (nee Sidney) Radcliffe (1531?-1589), Countess of Sussex, TNA PROB 11/74/331 at f. 249v.

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

The testator married a widow, Eleanor (nee Haselrigge) Smythe (d.1594), whose parentage is unknown, although her family is said to have been from Leicestershire. She had two known brothers, John and William: in the will below the testator mentions 'John Haselrigge, my wife's brother, sometimes my servant', and Eleanor's first husband, Thomas Smythe, mentions in his will 'my wife's brother, William Haselrigge'. Eleanor Haselrigge's first husband was Thomas Smythe (buried 26 January 1576), esquire, of Mitcham, Surrey, Clerk of the Green Cloth, whose first wife was Mary Cely. In his will Thomas Smyth names three sons, George Smythe, Edmund Smythe and Edward Smythe, and three daughters, Mary Smythe (wife of Edward Brabazon), Eleanor Smythe (who later married a husband surnamed Borne) and Mary Smythe the younger, as well as a 'daughter-in-law, Macklyn Selye'. In his will Smythe also mentions his chambers at court, as well as his chambers in the Blackfriars. See his will, TNA PROB 11 58/306;

and Jewitt, Llewellynn, ed., *The Reliquary*, (London: Bemrose and Sons, 1877-8), Vol. XVIII, pp. 141-2 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=NJo1AAAAMAAJ&pg=PA143>

For Edward Brabazon, see:

[http://www.termonfeckinhistory.ie/the\\_brabazons\\_of\\_rath\\_36.html](http://www.termonfeckinhistory.ie/the_brabazons_of_rath_36.html)

See also ‘Mitcham Mills (Later Grove Mill and Crown Mill), Mitcham’, available online:

*[B]y his will proved in 1576 [Thomas Smythe] bequeathed two-thirds of his properties in Mitcham to his wife "Ellynore", and one-third to his eldest son George. After his wife's death, her share was to go to George. A year later Eleanor married Bartholomew Clerke, and her property passed to him, but reverted to Eleanor after his death in 1589. Eleanor Clerke died in July 1594, and bequeathed her share of the Mitcham mill, and other properties, to her son George Smythe, in accordance with her first husband's will.*

By Eleanor Haselrigge, the testator had a son, Francis Clerke, and a daughter, Cecily Clarke (buried 12 June 1629), who on 26 January 1595 married Sir Edward Bellingham. See *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, Vol. XXXVI, (Lewes: Sussex Archaeological Society, 1888), p. 73 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=C68xAQAIAAJ&pg=PA73>

For the will of the testator's wife, Eleanor Haselrigge Clerke (d.1594), see TNA PROB 11/84/142.

For the testator's cousin, Nevell Good, see ‘St Leonard Shoreditch Baptisms 1558-1640’ at <http://ist-socrates.berkeley.edu/~ahnelson/PARISH/baptisms.html>:

*William Goode s Nevell Goode 22 Nov 1588*

RM: T{estamentum} Bartholomej Clarke Legum D{o}c{t}oris

In the name of th' almighty, merciful and everliving God, I, Bartholomew Clerke, knowing nothing to be more sure than death, and nothing more unsure than the time of death, do make this my last will and testament, whereof I make executors my loving faithful wife and my son, Francis Clerke, praying my good friends, Mr Doctor Griffith th' elder, Mr James Gardiner, my brother, Francis Clerke, and my cousin Nevell Good to be mine overseers, and for that my said cousin Good is best acquainted with my poor estate, I do instantly require him to assist my wife in the execution of my will and my children in the employment of their portions, and in respect of such his pains I give him twenty pounds;

My manor or lordship of Clapham with all other my lands in Clapham or elsewhere I give unto my son Francis, whom God bless for his mercies, reserving always the use, occupation, profit and commodity to my faithful wife during her life, for so my will is that she should have it during her life excepting such legacies as I shall hereafter devise out of my woods;

My lease of the parsonage of Ashe, being of the clear value of two hundred pounds a year and more, I give to my said son, Francis, one hundred pounds a year to be employed by my wife and my cousin Good towards his bringing up until he shall be twenty-one years, viz., two parts thereof being employed upon him and a third part of the said hundred pounds upon the education of my daughter, Cicely, until her age of twenty or marriage, which shall first happen;

The other hundred pounds a year I will to be reasonably and conscionably employed half yearly by my said wife and cousin in the hands of some able men that may do themselves good thereof and preserve the principal and some benefit to the poor orphans, my wife to have the benefit of th' increase every second year, requiring mine executors and overseers continually to renew the said lease after the expiration of five or six years, which I doubt not but the Lords Archbishop will ever do for the long and faithful service that I have done to that See;

Likewise my lease of Grantchester near Cambridge, twenty pounds a year de claro, I give unto my said son, the use and profit to my wife during her life upon condition that she renew the said lease in the name and to the use of my son or exchange it with some other as good or better lease of our College according to a treatise between the provost and me, which I doubt not but the College will perform in that in due regard to that worthy place that brought me up I have forborne to take advantage of divers their lands which my lease doth bear;

The lease of Waddon Mills I give likewise to my son, his mother having the profit during her life and renewing the lease as aforesaid, which I nothing doubt, considering my great charge in new building the said mill;

The lease of my lodging in London I likewise give to my said son, the profit to my wife during her life, saving that I give to my brother, Francis, in respect of his faithful and careful assistance of my will, my wife and children, a lease of the lodging he now hath of me for four pounds a year during his life, being well worth ten pounds a year;

The lease of Vauxhall meadows I give in such sort as aforesaid to my son and wife, which may be renewed when Mr Palmer reneweth his lease in time to come, for that eighteen years do yet remain;

The lease of Maryes Fee and Bushie Lease Copps I give to my wife, to bestow on George Smith the said Bushie lease after her decease;

My plate, furniture and household stuff I give to my said son, Francis, his mother having the reasonable use during her life upon condition that within ten days after my death by the help of my brother Francis and cousin Good she make a true inventory of the weight and value of everything, which I would have done in my lifetime but that I trust her as mine own soul;

My great cross of diamonds and rubies which I had of the Lady Frances, Countess of Sussex, my globe of gold with the unicorn's horn for the centre, my tablet of Charles the Fifth, my tablet with the picture of the Countess of Sussex, one of my tablets with the pelican and phoenix, I give to my son Francis, his mother having the wearing or usage of them or any of them when and as often as she shall think good during her life;

To my daughter, Cecily, I give my jewel with nine diamonds, and mine other tablet or jewel with the phoenix and pelican, and the little tablet of gold enamelled with my picture after the decease of her mother, to whom I give the same during life;

To my said daughter I give one thousand pounds in money to be taken out of the nineteen hundred pounds which I shall hereafter set down with mine own hand (best known to my cousin Good) upon condition that she marry with the advice of her mother, my brother and my cousin Good or two of them, whereof her mother to be one, and if it may conveniently, I wish with one of mine own name, but that I leave to God's providence, requiring mine executors and my cousin Good to employ for safety the said thousand pounds to her benefit in reasonable and conscionable sort;

And if either of my children die without heir and unmarried, I will the one to be heir and executor to the other, requiring my faithful wife to have that care of my poor children that both she and I have had of Mr Smith's children, whose accounts, debts and dangerous estate, as she knoweth, I have settled to my extreme charge and travail, mingling my poor quiet estate with his dangerous and troublesome reckonings, debt and encumbered titles, and albeit at the time of his decease (as by the inventory made before our marriage appeareth) for purchases, suretyships and accounts he was in debt, danger and bond of two thousand pounds, insomuch that all his leases and chattels were for present necessity sold, and some of them after by me redeemed, yet as I have purchased and redeemed his choice house and lands which he held by no title in law and presently made them over to his eldest son, so my meaning is that his youngest sons should, as near as might be, enjoy those leases as of my gift which he gave unto them, being liable to his debts and as then litigious, and seven or eight years together to my great charge defended and kept by me per force [=perforce?], and therefore my will is that Edmund Smith (if his mother shall so think good) shall have the lease of the down farm in Wandsworth, his mother having half the clear rent during her life, and if the said Edmund shall prove graceless (as he hath done hitherto) and shall not seem worthy of it to his mother, then my will is that whereas for a sum of money I conveyed the said lease to John Walton, gentleman, and my brother, Francis, who is now the survivor, my will is that my said brother shall take the benefit thereof according to the conveyance remaining in my study, upon condition that he justify Mr Maxies [=Maxey's?] lease, and yield the one half of the clear yearly rent to my wife during her life;

To Edward Smith I give the lease of the middle mills in Wandsworth;

To Mary Smith I give one hundred pounds, and thirty pounds of the nineteen hundred above-mentioned and hereafter specified, and the benefit of the felling of threescore acres of my woods to be felled presently after my death, and well fenced and preserved, which being ten years' growth is worth seven score and ten pounds, all this upon condition that George Smith cancel one single band to her use which I delivered unto him at my going beyond the seas, lest she should be utterly unprovided in case I died beyond seas in that dangerous service;

The rest of the nineteen hundred pounds and odd, I will thus to be employed:

First, I allot one hundred pounds for my burial at Clapham without pomp or charge unnecessary;

One other hundred pounds to my poor kinsfolks, whereof threescore to the preferment of the poor children of my brother, John, and the other forty to the poor children of Henricke Kellicke and Bowland of Croydon (if he have any) according to the discretion of my executors and overseers;

One hundred I will to remain with my executors to redeem all such troubles as may fall after Mr Smith's extent nine score year hence on the moiety of the moiety of my manor of Clapham, for the defence whereof there are sufficient instructions in this book and sufficient depositions in the Chancery;

The residue of the nineteen hundred pounds I give to mine executors to the end to keep them together fast in this hard world for God's good favour, and to the end they may the better, with such brick as I have now made, make a little chapel and a tomb for me, my wife, our children and posterity close to Clapham chancel north window, taking the window lower to hear and see what is read and preached in the church, and to set one window in the chapel to be erected right over against the chancel window for fear of darkening the light of the chancel;

To each of mine overseers I give a mourning gown and a ring of twenty shillings;

To every servant, two years' wages;

And to Thomas Tarte twenty nobles;

To Mr Doctor Hone and to my physician, Mr Farmarie(?), each of them a mourning gown, beseeching the Almighty to bless all, and to forgive me my secret sins;

Made and written with my own hand the five and twentieth of April a thousand five hundred eighty and nine. Bartholomew Clerke

In case my wife shall purchase Mr Cockinnes [=Cockyn's?] lands in Clapham in mine absence with my specialties and other helps hereafter mentioned to my son Francis his use, then my will is that Cecily, my daughter, shall have ten hundred pounds the first five years following such purchase out of Ashe parsonage and upon such conditions as before are specified in my will;

And in such case I will that my leases of Vauxhall, Grantchester, Waddon and my London lodging shall go to the finding of my children, whom I will to remain with their mother until the age of one and twenty years unless they marry before, as abovesaid;

And in case my wife die during their minority, then I will Mr Doctor Hone and my cousin Good to take the use of my house at Clapham, of the gardens, orchards, fishponds, Conigr(?) and twenty acres of land in the east fields worth fifty pounds a year and better, to the end they may carefully bring up my children by a schoolmaster in the house unless it shall please the good Lady Buckhurst to take my daughter into her virtuous tuition, having an increase of twenty pound a year out of my manor of Clapham until the thousand pounds aforesaid be paid to her use of the parsonage of Ashe, and for a poor remembrance I give unto the said virtuous Lady my best horse, as the best thing I have in this world, and to mine honourable Lord, to whom I have been ever bound, my cabinet of cypress which I had out of Germany, beseeching them both to protect my poor wife and children. Bartholomew Clerke.

Touching the small lands it hath pleased God to lend me, my will is they shall descend to my son, Francis, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and for want of heirs of his body lawfully begotten to my daughter Cicely and to the heirs of the body of my daughter, Cicely Clerke, lawfully begotten, and for want of such her heirs, to the heirs males of my brother, Francis Clerke, lawfully begotten, and for want of such his heirs males to the heirs males of my brother, John, lawfully begotten, and for want of such heirs males to the heirs males of my brother, Thomas, lawfully begotten, and for want of such his heirs males to the heirs males of Francis Wallis lawfully begotten, and for want of such heirs to the heirs general of me, Bartholomew Clerke, which I leave to God's divine providence for that it is he only that maketh heirs, whose blessing maketh a little much, and whose curse turneth much to nothing. Written and signed with mine own hand the five and twenty of April a thousand five hundred eighty-nine. Bartholomew Clerke.

Anno Domini a thousand five hundred and ninety:

Two hundred pounds in my chest, £200;

sexto Martij, my privy seal, fifty pounds;

duodecimo die Martij, Mr Towers, counsellor, fifty pounds;

tertio Aprilis, Abdie Robinson, one hundred pound;

decimo octauo die Aprilis, Hutchon Ganien Langley, one hundred and five pound;

xviiijo Ap{rilis}, Rotheram Grigge £105;

xviiijo Aprilis, Hutchen Pemberton Nuthed £105;

xviiijo Ap{rilis}, Wotton Pope £105;  
 xviiijo Aprilis, Clerke Pope Johnson, £105;  
 xviiijo Aprilis, Shepham Woller £104 3s 8d;  
 xviiijo Ap{rilis}, Langley Hamon Simpson £105;  
 xxvjto Ap{rilis}, my brother Wallis £20;  
 iiiijto Iulij, Paul Pope, Tho{mas} Pope £105;  
 vjto Iulij, Wood Atkinson £105;  
 viiijo Iulij, Aungell Poney Haselfoote £100  
 xxijo Septembr{is}, my Lord Buckhurst and his son, £600;  
 eodem die, my Lord Buckhurst £60;  
 Arthur Gorge, fifty pounds.  
 Bartholomew Clerke. Teste me, Iohanne Kyne, notario publico.

Memorandum. That whereas in my last will and testament I have given unto my Lady Buckhurst my best horse, my meaning now is for special causes me thereunto moving instead thereof to give her my best mare which Mr Foster now keepeth, and in respect of the charges he hath been at in pasturing her, I will that he shall have her first colt;

Item, whereas my brother [=brother-in-law?] Wallis oweth me twenty pounds due the five and twentieth of April next ensuing, I will that the said twenty pounds be divided and bestowed on his two daughters unmarried, ten pounds apiece, for their preferment in marriage;

Item, I give unto my cousin, Alice Clerke, also twenty pound in preferment of her marriage;

Item, whereas I gave to my loving brother, Francis Clerke, in my will that part of my lodging which he now hath during his life, paying four pound rent yearly for the same, now my will and meaning is that he shall have the said lodging during his life paying no rent at all so as he keepeth no household there, or if he do, then to build a chimney in the nether room towards Mr Sandes his court where it may be no offence to any lights, and make thereof a kitchen, and do not employ his upper room to that use as he now doth to the hurt and decay of the timber and principals of the said lodging, and whereas the lease thereof was made unto him in trust, I will that he release the same and make a sufficient assurance back again in law, or else this legacy and all other whatsoever in my said will given unto him to be void. Bartholomew Clerke.

Another codicil to be added to the last will and testament of me, Bartholomew Clerke, as followeth:

Memorandum. That upon Sunday, being the fifteenth day of this March 1589, I, the said Bartholomew Clerke, being of perfect mind and memory, adding by way of codicil to my said will and testament, do will and bequeath in manner and form following, viz.:

As concerning my apparel, I will that three my best gowns be reserved for my son, Francis;

Item, I give to John Haselrigge, my wife's brother, sometimes my servant, my best grogora [=grogram?] cloak and such other of my apparel as my wife shall think meet;

And the rest of my apparel I leave to be bestowed at the discretion of my said wife;

Item, I give to Alice Ball, my servant, in respect of her pains and service, six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence.

Probatum fuit hu{ius}mo{d}i testamentum apud London coram Mag{ist}ro Iohanne Hone legum Doctore Surrogat{o} venerabilis viri Mag{ist}ri Will{el}mi Lewin legum etiam Doctoris ad excercend{um} officium Mag{ist}ri Custodis siue comissarij cur{ie} Prerogatiue Cantuarien{sis} L{egi}time Deputat{i} Decimo septimo die Martij Anno Domini iuxta cursum et computac{i}o{n}em Ecc{le}sie Anglicane millesimo quingentesimo octogesi{m}o nono Iuramento Elianore Relicte et Executric{is} in eodem testamento nominat{e} Cui commissa fuit Administrac{i}o bonoru{m} iurium et creditoru{m} d{i}c{t}i Defuncti de bene et fideliter Administrand{o} ad sancta Dei Evangelia Iurat{e}

[=The same testament was proved at London before Master John Hone, Doctor of the Laws, Surrogate of the worshipful Master William Lewin, also Doctor of the Laws, lawfully deputed to exercise the office of Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the seventeenth day of March in the year of the Lord according to the course and reckoning of the English Church the thousand five hundred eighty-ninth by the oath of Eleanor, relict and executrix named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer.]

Vicesimo quarto die mensis Iulij Anno dom{ini} 1594 emanauit comissio ffrancisco Clerke fratri naturali et l{egi}timo dicti defuncti ad administrand{um} bona iura et credita dicti def{uncti} per Ellenoram Clerke relicta{m} et Executricem test{ament}i def{uncti} iam etiam def{unctam} non administrat{a} iuxta tenorem test{ament}i ipsius defunct{i} duran{te} minori etate ffrancisci Clerke filij et Executoris superstitis in d{i}c{t}o testamento no{m}i{n}at{i} De bene etc Iurat{o}

[=On the twenty-fourth day of the month of July in the year of the Lord 1594 a grant issued to Francis Clerke, natural and legitimate brother of the said deceased, to administer the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased by Eleanor Clerke, relict and executrix of the testament of the deceased, now also deceased, not administered,

according to the tenor of the testament of the same deceased during the minority of Francis Clerke, son and executor, living, named in the said testament, sworn to well etc.]

Deinde xxjmo die mens{is} ffebr{uarij} A{nn}o dom{ini} iuxta etc 1594 emanauit comissio Edwardo Hall de Asheford in com{itatu} Canc{ie} gen{eroso} ad admi{ni}strand{um} bona iura et credita d{i}c{t}i def{uncti} iuxta tenorem test{ament}i h{uius}mo{d}i Duran{te} minori etate ffrancisci Clerke filij et ex{ecuto}ris superstitis in d{i}c{t}o test{ament}o no{m}i{n}at{i} p{er} Ellenora{m} Clerke rel{i}c{t}a{m} et ex{ecuto}rem eiusdem test{ament}i iam etiam def{unctam} non administrat{a} De bene etc Iurat{o} L{itte}ris ad{ministratio}nis bonor{um} d{i}c{t}i def{uncti} cum test{ament}o eidem annex{o} al{ias} xxiiijto die mens{is} Iulij Anno dom{ini} 1594 cuidam ffrancisco Clerke fr{at}ri et sup{er}visor{i} in test{ament}o dicti def{uncti} no{m}i{n}at{o} vtriumq{ue} comiss{is} et conc{essis} introduct{is} et renu{n}ciat{is}

[=Afterwards, on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of the month of February in the year of the Lord according etc. 1594, a grant issued to Edward Hall of Ashford in the county of Kent, gentleman, to administer the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased according to the tenor of the same testament during the minority of Francis Clerke, son and executor, living, named in the same testament, by Eleanor Clerke, relict and executor of the same testament, now also deceased, not administered, sworn to well, etc., the letters of administration of the goods of the said deceased with the testament annexed to the same at another time on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of the month of July in the year of the Lord 1594 both entrusted and granted to a certain Francis Clerke, brother and overseer named in the testament of the said deceased, having been introduced and renounced.]

Deinde xjo die Novembris 1595 probatu{m} fuit h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}um coram ven{er}abili viro m{agist}ro Will{el}mo Lewin legu{m} d{o}c{t}ore etc Iuramento ffrancisci Clerke Iunioris filij et vnus ex{ecuto}r{um} Cui etc De bene etc Iurat{i} prioribus l{itte}ris ad{ministratio}nis bonor{um} d{i}c{t}i def{uncti} al{ia}s ffrancisco Clerke fr{atr}i d{i}c{t}i def{uncti} comiss{is} introduct{is} et renu{n}ciat{is} ac l{itte}ris ad{ministratio}nis bonor{um} d{i}c{t}i def{uncti} al{ia}s cuidam Edwardo Hall etia{m} comiss{is} duran{te} minori etate anted{i}c{t}i ffrancisci Clerke Iu{nioris} filij et ex{ecuto}ris d{i}c{t}i def{uncti} rac{i}one plene etat{is} d{i}c{t}i executoris expiratis et introduct{is} Ellianora Clerke Rel{i}c{t}a et executric{e} etiam in h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}o no{m}i{n}at{a} demortua

[=Afterwards on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 1595 the same testament was proved before the worshipful Master William Lewin, Doctor of the Laws etc., by the oath of Francis Clerke, junior, son and one of the executors, to whom etc., sworn to well etc., former letters of administration of the goods of the said deceased at another time entrusted to Francis Clerke, brother of the said deceased, having been introduced and renounced, and letters of administration of the goods of the said deceased at another time also entrusted to a certain Edward Hall during the minority of the aforesaid Francis Clerke, junior, son

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and executor of the said deceased, having been introduced and having expired by reason of the full age of the said executor, [+and] Eleanor Clerke, relict and executrix also named in the same testament, having died.]