

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 8 February 1592 and proved 23 February 1592, of William Arundell, second son of Sir Matthew Arundell (d. 24 December 1598) of Wardour Castle, whose uncle, Charles Arundel (d.1587), was Oxford's close friend, and later bitter foe, and whose brother married Mary Wriothesley, the sister of Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton, to whom Shakespeare dedicated *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*.

The will reveals numerous connections between the Arundell, Cecil, Wriothesley and Howard families.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the son of Sir Matthew Arundell and Margaret Willoughby. For further details of the testator's parents, see the will of his father, Sir Matthew Arundell, TNA PROB 11/93/86.

The testator had an elder brother, Sir Thomas Arundell (c.1560 – 7 November 1639), 1st Baron Arundell of Wardour, who in 1585 married Mary Wriothesley (buried at Tisbury, Wiltshire, 27 June 1607), sister of Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton.

By Mary Wriothesley, the testator's brother, Sir Thomas Arundell, had two sons and a daughter:

* Thomas Arundell (c.1586 – 19 May 1643, 2nd Baron Arundell of Wardour, mentioned in the will below, for whom see:

http://landedfamilies.blogspot.ca/2015/11/195-arundell-of-wardour-castle-and_18.html.

* William Arundell (1591-1653), esquire, of Horningsham, Wiltshire, who married Mary Browne (d.1692), eldest daughter of Anthony Browne (d.1629), 2nd Viscount Montagu,

* Elizabeth Mary Arundell, who married Sir John Philpot of Compton.

See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 45, and the Wikipedia entry for Sir Thomas Arundell at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Arundell,_1st_Baron_Arundell_of_Wardour.

TESTATOR'S EXECUTORS

Lord William Howard

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For the testator's executor, Lord William Howard, a younger son of Oxford's first cousin, Thomas Howard (1538-1572), 4th Duke of Norfolk, and brother of Philip Howard (1557-1595), 13th Earl of Arundel, to whose wife, the Countess of Arundel, the testator leaves a bequest in the will below, see the *ODNB* entry:

Howard, Lord William (1563–1640), antiquary and landowner, was born at Audley End, Essex, on 19 December 1563, the younger son of Thomas Howard, fourth duke of Norfolk (1538–1572), and his second wife, Margaret (1540–1564), only daughter and heir of Thomas, Lord Audley of Walden and widow of Lord Henry Dudley. Howard's mother died shortly after his birth and he was brought up at Audley End with his elder brothers, Philip Howard, later thirteenth earl of Arundel, and Thomas Howard, later first earl of Suffolk. . . .

Norfolk's third wife, Elizabeth Leybourne (d. 1567), was the widow of Thomas, fourth Baron Dacre, with whom she had a son, George, who died in 1569, and three daughters, who became coheirs of the extensive Dacre estates in northern England. Norfolk's plan was to marry his three sons, Philip, Thomas, and William, to the three daughters, by now his wards, and they were duly betrothed in 1569, although the Dacre heiress designed for Thomas died after only one year of marriage in 1578. In 1572, following the execution of his father, William and Thomas were committed to the care of his elder half-brother Philip, and the guardianship of William Cecil, Lord Burghley. However, as planned by his father, on 28 October 1577 William duly married Elizabeth Dacre (1564–1639). They had at least seven sons and three daughters.

As noted in the *ODNB* entry, Lord William Howard's guardian in his youth was Oxford's father-in-law, Lord Burghley.

Edward Gage

For the testator's executor, the Catholic recusant Edward Gage (d. March 1614), esquire, see the will of the testator's father (TNA PROB 11/93/86), as well as the will of Henry Wriothesley, 2nd Earl of Southampton (TNA PROB 11/65/88), to both of whom Edward Gage also acted as executor.

John Budden

For the testator's executor, John Budden or Boden (d. 10 August 1614) of Shaftesbury, Dorset, see his will, dated 18 July 1609 and proved 10 February 1615, TNA PROB 11/125/143, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/boden-john-1547-1614>.

It should be noted that in his will the testator mentions 'my bed at Shaston' [=Shaftesbury, Dorset], which suggests the possibility that the testator had a chamber at John Budden's 'large house' in Shaftesbury. From the History of Parliament entry:

Boden represented Shaftesbury in the 1601 Parliament, and was again elected in 1604. He may have enjoyed the support of the local Arundell interest, but he was a prominent borough figure in his own right. In addition to occupying a large house in the town, formerly the residence of Sir Henry Spiller and his ancestors, he had kept the borough accounts for many years, and owned most of the municipal buildings and common lands. These were transferred to trustees a month after the election, and in July that year Shaftesbury was granted a new charter, in which Boden was named as recorder.*

John Budden's family background is unknown, as is the family background of his kinsman, the civil lawyer, John Budden (1566–1620), for whom see the *ODNB* entry. That there may be an as yet undiscovered family connection between the testator and his executor is suggested by the fact that the testator bequeathed a portrait of his mother, Margaret Willoughby, to Budden:

Item, I give and bequeath to John Budden the sum of thirty pounds in money and my best featherbed, bolster, pillows, bedstead and all furniture to them or either of them belonging, and the chairs and stools in my bedchamber, all at his choice, and my mother's picture.

And to his wife, my cypress chest and three little gold rings.

One of the few persons known to have been related to Budden is his nephew, John Dackombe (c.1570-1618), who was raised in Budden's home. John Dackombe was the eldest son of Richard Dackombe of Motcombe, Dorset, by Alice, the daughter of William Monntier or Mountier of Motcombe. John Dackombe later became steward and eventually secretary to the testator's close friend, Sir Robert Cecil, and received substantial bequests in Cecil's will. See the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/dackombe-john-1570-1618>.

See also the *ODNB*:

[Cecil] spent heavily on conspicuous consumption, including royal entertainments that were intended to reinforce his political position. His chief extravagance, however, was his passion for building. Hatfield House, Salisbury (Cecil) House in the Strand, Britain's Burse, and additional works at Cranborne Manor amounted to the most astonishing building programme of his age. They caused his loyal man of affairs John Dacombe to despair: 'I beseech your Lordship to forbear buildings', he wrote towards the end of 1611 (Stone, 32).

See also:

<http://www.mygenealogies.co.uk/Dackombe/DACK-B11.htm>.

See also the Dackombe pedigree in Rylands, John Paul, ed., *The Visitation of the County of Dorset Taken in the Year 1623*, Vol. XX, (London: Harleian Society, 1885), p. 35.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

For Lord Henry Howard (1540-1614), son of Oxford's aunt, Frances de Vere, see the *ODNB* entry:

Howard, Henry, earl of Northampton (1540–1614), courtier, administrator, and author, was born on 24 February 1540 at Shottesham, Norfolk, the second son of Henry Howard, styled earl of Surrey (1516/17–1547), poet and courtier, and his wife, Lady Frances de Vere (1517–1577), daughter of John de Vere, fifteenth earl of Oxford.

For the testator's close friend, Oxford's brother-in-law, Sir Robert Cecil (1563-1612), later 1st Earl of Salisbury, and his wife, Elizabeth Brooke (1562–1597), whom he married in 1589, see the *ODNB* entry.

The 'Lady Arundel' mentioned in the will was Anne Dacre (1557–1630), the wife of Philip Howard (1557-1595), 13th Earl of Arundel (see above). At the time the testator made his will, Philip Howard was a prisoner in the Tower, where he died on 19 October 1595. For Anne Dacre Howard, see the *ODNB* entry.

For Sir Charles Danvers (c.1568-1601), whom Henry Wriothesley, 3rd Earl of Southampton, helped to escape from England in 1594 after the murder of Sir Henry Long, and who was later involved with Southampton in the Essex Rebellion of 1601, see the *ODNB* entry.

The 'William Cooke' to whom the testator leaves a bequest was likely a relative of Oxford's mother-in-law, Mildred Cooke Cecil, Lady Burghley.

For the testator's aunt, Lady Bevill, and 'Mistress Bishop', see the will of the testator's father.

The 'Master Littleton' to whom the testator leaves a bequest may have been a member of the family of Sir John Littleton (d.1590) of Frankley, Worcestershire. The testator's mother, Margaret Willoughby, had a younger brother, Sir Francis Willoughby (1546/7 – 16 November 1596), who married Elizabeth Littleton (d. 4 June 1595), the daughter of Sir John Littleton. See the *ODNB* entry for Sir Francis Willoughby, and the will of Sir John Littleton, TNA PROB 11/75/268.

For Mary Browne Wriothesley (born in or before 1552, d.1607), Countess of Southampton, to whom the testator leaves the 'ring with diamonds which was my mother's', see the *ODNB* entry for her husband Henry Wriothesley (bap. 1545, d.1581), 2nd Earl of Southampton.

For Lord Burghley's servants, Sir Henry Maynard, (b. after 1547, d.1610), Sir Michael Hicke (1543–1612), and Sir Walter Cope (1553?–1614), see the *ODNB* entries.

For John Foyle (d. 19 September 1648), see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/foyle-john-1564-1648>

He died 19 Sept. 1648, aged 84. In his will, dated 1 July 1647 and proved 3 Nov. 1648, he confesses to having embezzled, with John Budden, a crooked feodary of Dorset, £100 intended by Matthew Arundell for the poor of Shaftesbury 'for which there is no proof by witness or writing to charge either of us'.

For Robert Spiller, steward to Anne Dacre Howard, see the *ODNB* entry, *supra*:

The possessions that should have come to Anne after the death of her husband were withheld. In her financial affairs she was guided by her steward, Robert Spiller, who served her for more than forty years before his death in 1615.

BURIAL

The inscription on the testator's gravestone in the parish church of St John the Baptist in Tisbury reads:

Here lieth the body of William Arundell, the youngest sonne of Sir Mathew Arundell, Knight, as rare a young man as ever England bred; he dyed the 6th day of Febr. in the yeare 1590.

See Jackson, John Edward, *Wiltshire: The Topographical Collections of John Aubrey, F.R.S.*, (Devizes: The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, 1862), p. 362 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=E6BOAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA362&lpg=PA362&dq=%22Sir+Robert+Cecil%22+%22William+Arundell%22&source=bl&ots=PztzIDqKnX&sig=gbpTuxGrgyxdDjy2v6mOVmoxLEU&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjL1-zYn53TAhXqi1QKHd81CUgQ6AEIKDAC#v=onepage&q=%22Sir%20Robert%20Cecil%22%20%22William%20Arundell%22&f=false>

RM: T{estamentum} Will{el}mi Arundell

[f. 77r] In the name of God, Amen. The eight day of February anno regni D{omi}ne nostre Elizabethe dei gr{aci}a Anglie ffrancie et Hib{er}nie Regine fidei Defensor{is}

&c tricesimo quarto, I, William Arundell of London, esquire, being sick of body but of whole and perfect remembrance, I laud and praise Almighty God, as well for the satisfying of my mind as also for the settling of such little store of money, plate, goods and chattels as it hath pleased God to endue me withal, do make and ordain my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First, I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my only Maker, Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus Christ, hoping through the infinite goodness of his exceeding great mercies(?) he will pardon and forgive me all mine offences which I have done or committed against him in this transitory life, and that it will please him of his great goodness and mercy to receive me into his grace and favour, and make me partaker of his eternal joys forever;

And my body I will to be buried or interred in such [f. 77v] convenient church where it shall please God to call me as to the good discretions of mine executors shall seem fit and convenient;

Item, I give and bequeath to the church where I shall be buried forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to the right honourable my great good friend Sir Robert Cecil, knight, and my Lady, his wife, in token of my goodwill, my silver basin and ewer;

Also I give and bequeath to my Lady of Arundell the sum of twenty pounds to bestow in what jewel she list for a remembrance of my goodwill, and one and thirty silver compters [=counters] which I have;

Also I give and bequeath to my Lady Mary, my brother's wife, the jewel she hath of mine and the diamond which I have in my purse;

I give and bequeath to my Lord William Howard the sum of twenty pounds and my two pictures;

And to my Lady, his wife, my bracelets;

Also to my Lord Henry Howard one silver pot, two silver bowls, and six silver spoons;

To my brother, Mr Thomas Arundell, six silver dishes and two saucers of silver;

To Sir Charles Danvers, knight, my hangings in my bedchamber;

To Mr Bisson my leather hangings;

Item, I give and bequeath to John Budden the sum of thirty pounds in money and my best featherbed, bolster, pillows, bedstead and all furniture to them or either of them belonging, and the chairs and stools in my bedchamber, all at his choice, and my mother's picture;

And to his wife, my cypress chest and three little gold rings;

To my servant Vanner(?) £13 six shillings and eight pence in money, my bed at Shaston [=Shaftesbury?], and all my apparel saving my best velvet cloak, shirts and bands;

To William Cooke ten pounds in money and a nag;

To my father, my picture of Saint Peter;

To Mr Edward Gage of Bentley in the county of Sussex, esquire, the sum of ten pounds in money to be bestowed in a silver bowl or some like remembrance;

To Mistress Gerrarde my little desk;

To Mr Herbert Craftes my grey nag and my fairest purse;

To my Lord of Southampton a purse;

To my aunt, the Lady Bevill, the sum of six pounds thirteen shillings four pence, to be bestowed in a bowl or cup of silver;

To Mr Littleton, a purse;

To my cousin, Mistress Bishop, a purse;

To Dorothy, my brother's servant, the sum of six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence in money and all my shirts and bands;

And whereas my brother, Mr Thomas Arundell, doth owe me one hundred pounds in money which I lent him, my special hope is he will pay the same to my executors to th' end this my will may be the better performed, the which if he do pay accordingly, as I trust he will, then my full mind, will and intent is that my executors shall distribute for me in alms to such poor people as they shall think convenient the sum of two hundred pounds, but if my brother refuse to pay my executors the said hundred pounds, or shall die before the same be paid or before my executors may or shall recover and receive the same, then my full intent, will and mind is that there shall be but the sum of one hundred pounds distributed in alms as aforesaid, anything in this my will mentioned to the contrary notwithstanding;

And my will and intent is that my Lady of Southampton shall have the use and occupation of my ring with diamonds which was my mother's during her life upon condition she will take order at the receipt thereof to deliver the same at her death to my Lady Mary, my sister [=sister-in-law], if she be then living, who my will is shall have the like use of it, taking the like order to leave the same at the time of her death to my nephew, Thomas Arundell, if he be then living; if he be dead, then to the eldest son of my

said brother then living, and if he have no son then living, then to the eldest daughter of my said brother then living, and so to one after another of my brother's children I will and bequeath the said ring;

I give and bequeath to Mr Maynard, Mr Hickes and Mr Cope, to each of them twenty nobles to be bestowed in silver bowls in token of my goodwill;

To Robert Spiller, gentleman, my second best featherbed and furniture belonging to the same;

To my cousin, Mary Sydenham, my little ring like a snake;

To the poor of Shaston fifty-three shillings and four pence of the three pounds six shillings eight pence which William Monke doth owe me, and the other mark to the said William Monke;

To John Foyle my best velvet cloak;

And Robert Bartlett the bay nag;

And I do make and ordain the said Lord William Howard, Edward Gage, and John Budden mine executors of this my will and testament;

In witness whereof and this to be my true will and testament I have set my hand and seal, given the day and year abovesaid. William Arundell. Witnesses to this: T{este} Ioh{ann}e Budden 1591. T{este} Ioh{ann}e Foile. W. Cooke.

[f. 76r] Probatum fuit Testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram Mag{ist}ro Will{el}mo ffarrand legum Doctore Surrogat{o} venerabilis viri Mag{ist}ri Will{el}mi Lewin legum etiam d{o}c{t}o{r}is ad exercendu{m} officium Mag{ist}ri Custodis siue Commissarij Curie Prerogatiue Cantuarien{sis} l{egi}time Deputat{i} vicesimo tertio die mensis ffebruarij anno Domini iuxta cursum et computac{ionem} Eccl{es}ie Anglicane Millesimo quingentesimo nonagesimo primo Iuramento Will{el}mi Creake Notarij pu{bli}ci procuratoris honorandi viri Domini Will{el}mi Howarde Edwardi Gage et Iohannis Budden Executor{um} in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento nominat{orum} Quibus commissa fuit Administrac{io} bonorum Iurium et creditorum D{i}c{t}i Defuncti de bene et fideliter Administrand{o} ad sancta dei Evangelia Iurat{is}

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before Master William Farrand, 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 twenty-third day of the month of February in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred ninety-first by the oath of William Creake, notary public, proctor of the honourable Lord William Howard, Edward Gage and John

Budden, executors 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 [+the same].]