

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 1 March 1491 and proved 18 March 1492, of Hugh Shaa.

The testator was the son of Sir Edmund Shaa, Lord Mayor of London in 1482, by his wife Julyan (d. July 1494), whose surname is unknown. For the will of the testator's father, Sir Edmund Shaa, see TNA PROB 11/8/187. For the will of the testator's mother, Dame Julyan Shaa, see TNA PROB 11/10/214.

The testator's inquisition post mortem, dated 4 November 1491, states that the testator died 20 March 1491, and that his heirs were his sisters, Margaret Rich, aged 20 years and more, wife of Thomas Rich of London, mercer, and Katherine Browne, aged 18 years or more, wife of William Browne of London, mercer. See Dawes, M.C.B., *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem*, Vol. III, (London: Her Majesty's Stationary Office, 1955), pp. 379-80 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/calendarofinquis03great#page/378/mode/2up>.

The testator's brother-in-law, Thomas Rich, was still living in 1506, but had died by 1513. For the will of the testator's brother-in-law, Sir William Browne (d. 3 June 1514), see TNA PROB 11/17/567.

In the will below the testator states that had been apprenticed to Sir Reginald Bray (d.1503) and to Sir William Browne. For the will of the testator's master, Sir William Browne, Lord Mayor of London in 1507, see TNA PROB 11/16/19. The testator's master, Sir William Browne, was an uncle of the testator's brother-in-law, Sir William Browne (d. 3 June 1514). For the two Sir William Brownes, see Brown, James Roberts, 'Jno and Wm. Browne, Sheriffs and Lord Mayors of London', in *Notes and Queries*, 7th series, Vol. V, (London: John C. Francis, 1888), pp. 151-3, at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=wWkEAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA152&lpg=PA152&dq=%22notes+and+queries%22+%22shaa%22&source=bl&ots=L10wFR2HX_&sig=cm8pXdWVnxe4markXLMZ1t6uBdM&hl=en&sa=X&ei=bY_EUf_SAsLTiwKS04HoDw&ved=0CDUQ6AEwAg#v=onepage&q=%22notes%20and%20queries%22%20%22shaa%22&f=false

The testator's will suggests that he never married. His eventual heir was his nephew, Sir John Shaa (d. 1503), Lord Mayor of London in 1501. For the will of Sir John Shaa, see TNA PROB 11/14/156.

The new National Archives reference for the testator's will is PROB 11/8/657.

In the name of God be it, Amen. The first day of the month of March the year of Our Lord 1490 and the 6 year of the reign of King Henry the 7th, I, Hugh Shaa, the son of Sir

Edmund Shaa, knight, late citizen and alderman and goldsmith of the City of London, late deceased, on whose soul Jesus have mercy, though I be visit[ed] with sickness, nevertheless being of whole mind and in good memory, laud and praising be unto my Lord God, make and ordain this my present testament of such movable goods as God hath lent me in manner and form as followeth:

First I bequeath and recommend my soul unto my Lord Jesus Christ, my Maker and my Redeemer, and to the most glorious Virgin, his Mother, Our Lady Saint Mary, and to the holy college of his saints, and my body to be buried, wheresoever I die, in the tomb of my said father being within his chapel ready made in the church of Saint Thomas of Acres in London;

And I bequeath to the Master of the same place for my said sepulture there to be had 40s, and I will that as soon as the Master of the said place can have notice of mine departing out of this wretched life, that the same Master, his brethren priests and clerks of his said place by a month after that do placebo, dirge and Mass of Requiem by note in his said church to be sung for my soul, the soul of my said father, the souls of my brethren and sisters passed out of this life, the souls of all our good-doers, and for all Christian souls;

And I will that the said Master or his successor being present thereat by the same month have for his labour 10s, and that every brother of the said place, secular priest and clerk of the same being present under like form have for his labour 6s 8d;

Item, I bequeath to the high altar of the parish church of Saint Peter at the Cross in Cheap where I am a parishes for my tithes or oblations withholden or forgotten in discharge of my soul 40s;

Item, I bequeath to the works of the body of the same church 10 marks;

Item, I will that mine executors here underwritten, as soon as they made goodly [sic?] after my decease, do make at my cost and charge 31 rings of fine gold of the value of 40s, every ring of them to be graven with the well of pity, the well of mercy and the well of everlasting life, and with all images and other things concerning the same like as my cousins, John Shaa and Ralph Lathum [=Lathom?], understand right well the making of them, and the rings of gold so made I will that mine executors distribute unto my singular lovers, friends and kinsfolk here ensuing, beseeching and tenderly praying them to have my soul in their tender remembrance, that is to wit:

I will that my singular good Lady and my most dear mother, Dame Julyan Shaa, have one; and my Master, Sir Reynold Bray, knight, another; and my Lady, his wife, another; my cousin, Geoffrey Downes, another; Sir John Browne, knight, another; my Lady Dame wAnne, his wife, another; my cousin John Shaa another; my cousin, his wife, another; my brother, Thomas Riche, another; my sister, his wife, another; Ralph Lathum a[n]other; Elizabeth, his wife, another; and Emme Hobard, the wife of the said Ralph another; Robert Lathum another; his wife another; Luet(?) that was my father's servant another; my Master, William Browne, another; my Mistress, his wife, another; my brother,

William Browne, my sister Katherine's husband, another; my sister Katherine another; mine aunt Katherine another; John Corbett, shearman, another; Alice, his wife, another; William Poynes another; his wife another; Thomas Butsyde another; Thomas Goodyer, mercer, another; Katherine, his wife, another; Thomas Woode, goldsmith, another; Thomas Annsham another; and Reynold Stephenson another;

Item, I bequeath to my said sister Katherine, the wife of William Browne, to have my soul tenderly in remembrance, a cup covered of silver gilt after the discretion of mine executors of the value of £6;

Item, I bequeath to my sister Margaret, the wife of the said Thomas Riche, another like cup of like value to have my soul in her remembrance;

Item, I bequeath £10 to be disposed for my soul by my said Master, William Browne, after his wise discretion under such use and under such form as it hath been commoned between him and me;

Item, I bequeath to Ellen Haresnapp, my said Lady my mother's servant, to pray for my soul 10 marks;

Item, [f. 290r] I bequeath to John Kyrfoote, the son of Richard Kyrfoote of Essex, to pray for my soul 10 marks;

Item, I bequeath to Master John Crosswell, priest, to pray for my soul 20s;

Item, I bequeath to Thomas Stotard, mine apprentice, £3;

Item, I bequeath to John Welles, my servant, 40s;

Item, I bequeath to every servant of my said Lady, my mother, as well man as woman, to pray for my soul 20s;

Item, I bequeath to my said Lady, my most dear mother, Dame Julyan Shaa, to th' intent that it will please her good motherhood to take upon her the charge of execution of this my testament, £20;

Item, I bequeath to my said Master, William Browne, mercer of London, that it will like him for his party to do the same, £10;

And the residue that shall then remain of my goods, chattels and debts, whatsoever they be, after my debts paid and the legacies fulfilled which beeth comprised in this my testament and all other charges borne that owen to be borne for me, I bequeath to my said Lady, my most dear mother, Dame Julyan Shaa, to th' intent that it will like her good motherhood with part thereof, at such time as to her it shall be thought convenient after my decease, to purchase lands, tenements and rents in the country where she shall seem expedient to be done to the very valure of 20 marks by year over all reprises, and the

lands, tenements and rents so purchased, the King's licence thereupon obtained, to do amortise unto the Master and brethren of the said house of Saint Thomas of Acres at that time being, to have and to hold to them and to their successors for evermore to this intent and under this condition, that they and their successors, after the time that the said lands and tenements and rents be come unto their hands and possession, from that time forthward for evermore shall of the revenues, issues and profits yearly coming of the same lands, tenements and rents find an honest and a virtuous priest, whether he [+be?] brother of the said place or any other secular priest at their election, to sing his Mass daily for evermore at the altar being in my said father's chapel within their said church, and to pray specially for my soul, the soul of my said father, Sir Edmund Shaa, knight, the souls of my brethren and sisters and of mine other kinsfolk and of other my benefactors, and for the soul of my said good Lady, my mother, when God will call her out of this life, and for such other souls as shall like her to assign, and for all Christian souls, and the said Master and brethren and their successors to give unto the said priest for his salary in that behalf like as they can best agree with him, be he brother of the said place or other secular priest;

And moreover I will that the said Master and brethren and their successors of the said revenues, issues and profits shall yearly for evermore hold and keep in their said church on the day that it shall fortune me to depart out of this mortal life, if it may so be done, and else a little before or a little after that day as it may easily be done, mine obit and anniversary, beside the obit and anniversary that my said father hath assigned to be kept for himself in the same church, and in my same obit or anniversary I will that they pray specially for my soul, my said father's soul, and for my said Lady my mother's soul when God shall call her unto his grace, and for the other souls afore rehearsed;

And I will that the Master of the said place for the time being shall spend yearly for evermore of the revenues and profits aforesaid in every such obit or anniversary so to be kept 20s in the form suing, that is to wit, thereof taking unto himself, he being present at the said obit, 12d, and distributing to every brother of the place there being present at the same obit 6d, and to every secular priest and clerk of the same place under like form 4d, and in bread, cheese and ale to be ordained for their recreations in the said place after dirge done if the season of the year will suffer it, and for light to burn at my said sepulture in the said obit time all the remnant of the said sum of 10s;

And all the remnant of the revenues, issues and profits yearly coming of the said lands, tenements and rents over the salary of the said priest and the said charges of mine obit borne, I will that the said Master and brethren and their successors convert yearly to their own proper uses toward the ordinary charges of their said place for to pray specially for my soul and to keep the reparations of the said lands and tenements;

Provided alway that if the costs of the purchasing of the King's letters of licence for to amortise to the said place of Saint Thomas of Acres such lands, tenements and rents to be purchased [f. 290v] in the country by the said Lady, my mother, of the said yearly valure of 20 marks over all reprises as I have above assigned to be bought to that intent will extend to so excessive charge as cannot be to the ease of my said Lady, my mother, to

bear, then for the easier cost of my said Lady, my mother, in that behalf, instead of the said lands, tenements and rents that I have assigned to be bought in the country, I will that lands, tenements and rents being within the City of London or without the same City within the franchise and liberty of the same City of the said yearly valure of 20 marks over all reprises be purchased by my said Lady, my mother, and amortised to the said place of Saint Thomas under semb[*l*]able intent and condition as I have above assigned the lands, tenements and rents to be purchased in the country for to be amortised if it may so be done;

And I will and tenderly desire and beseech my said Lady, my mother, that it will like her by th' advice of such good learned counsel as she can call unto her for to see such sure amortisement to be made to the said Master and brethren of the said lands and tenements with their appurtenances and under such form that the said charges may be truly borne and observed thereof yearly for evermore by the said Master and brethren and by their successors according to the true meaning of mine intent thereof afore rehearsed;

Item, I will that my said Lady, my mother, have for term of her life all my manors, lands and tenements with their appurtenances as I be [=by] the law may so assign unto her, for to have without any gainsaying of any of mine;

And of this my present testament I make and ordain my said good Lady, my dear mother, Dame Julyan Shaa, mine executrice, and my said good Master, William Browne, mercer of London, late dwelling in Bow Lane, I make co-executor with her of the same testament, then there being present for witnesses called and required Master John Breteyn, Doctor of Divinity, Sir John Laton, parish priest of the said church of Saint Peter's at the Cross in Cheap, an[*d*] other.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentu{m} Cora{m} &c Apud Lamehith xviiio die mensis Marcij Anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo CCCC Nonagesimo primo Iuramento M{agistri} Ioh{an}nis Breten(?) & d{omi}ni Will{el}mi Laton Et com{m}issa fuit admi{n}istracio o{mn}i{u}m bonor{um} &c d{omi}ne Iuliane Shaa & Will{el}mo Browne executorib{us} &c de bene &c Ac de pleno Inuentario &c cit{ra} p{r}im{o} (?) Maij Necnon de plano & vero compoto &c ad sancta Dei eu{a}ngelia Iurat{orum} etc

[=The above-written testament was proved before etc. at Lambeth on the 18th day of the month of March in the year of the Lord the thousand 400 ninety-first by the oath of Master John Breten(?) & Sir William Laton, and administration was granted of all the goods etc. to Dame Julyan Shaa & William Browne, executors etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels etc. to well etc., and to [+exhibit?] a full inventory etc. before the first(?) of May, and also a plain & true account etc.]