

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 20 July 1583 and proved 6 July 1598, of John Danyell (d. 15 September 1597), esquire, of Acton, Suffolk, nephew of Oxford's uncle, William Golding, brother of Oxford's mother, Margery Golding.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For pedigrees of the Danyell family, see Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Suffolk*, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1882), pp. 24-5, 132 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationsofsuf00harvuoft/page/24>

and:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationsofsuf00harvuoft/page/132>

See also the Danyell pedigrees in Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *The Visitation of Suffolk*, Vol. I, (Lowestoft: Samuel Tymms, 1866), p. 240 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ExI2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA240>

Testator's parents

The testator was the son of Edmund Danyell (d.1569) and Margaret West. For the will of Edmund Danyell, see TNA PROB 11/51/382. For the will of Margaret (nee West) Danyell, see TNA PROB 11/73/483.

The testator's aunt, Elizabeth West, married, as her second husband, William Golding (d.1588), brother of Oxford's mother, Margery Golding. For the will of William Golding (d. February 1588), see TNA PROB 11/72/210.

Since the will below contains bequests to the testator's uncles, aunts and cousins on his mother's side, it seems likely it also contained a bequest to his mother, who was living at the time the testator made his will in 1583. If there was such a bequest, however, it was likely deleted from the PCC copy when the will was probated since the testator's mother had died almost a decade prior to the date of probate.

Testator's siblings

For the testator's siblings, see the will of his mother, Margaret (nee West) Danyell, *supra*.

MARRIAGE

The testator married Margaret Tyrrell, daughter and coheir of Edmund Tyrrell, esquire, of Beeches, Essex, but died without issue. The terms of the will below suggest that Margaret Tyrrell, was a widow at the time of their marriage. See also:

<http://www.prattens.co.uk/families/DANIEL/notes.html>

See also the testator's memorial brass at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52219527@N00/537166738/>

LM: T{estamentum} Iohannis Daniell

In the name of God, Amen. The twentieth day of July in the year of Our Lord God one thousand five hundred four score and three and in the year of our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the five and twentieth, I, John Danyell of Acton in the county of Suffolk, esquire, being sound of body and of good and perfect memory, for which I give God hearty thanks, do make my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Creator, who hath redeemed the same with the dear price of the death and passion of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, by the which only I hope and trust to be saved, protesting to live and die through his great grace and assistance a true member and in the faith and unity of his Catholic church;

My body I will to be buried in the chancel of the church at Acton aforesaid besides my ancestors there, decently without pomp, and that there be a stone laid over my grave with this writing under my name graven, *Parce mihi Domine*;

Item, I will and give unto my loving wife, Margaret Danyell, to her and her heirs forever all that the manor of North Benfleet alias Coxalles with th' appurtenances in the county of Essex in as free and ample manner as she gave it me;

Item, I will, give and bequeath unto my said wife all such stuff, plate and jewels as were known to be hers at the time of her marriage to me;

Item, I give, will and bequeath unto my said wife of mine own goods her little chain of gold that she wanted to wear, worth by estimation twenty pounds, my jewels of unicorn, the borders that she wont to wear, one gilt standing bowl with the cover all gilt, and in ready money fifty pounds;

Item, I give to every one of my five sisters, that is, Marie, Grissel, Barbara, Dorothy and Elizabeth, for a poor remembrance of their poor elder brother, one portague or one piece of gold of three pounds ten shillings or else as much money in silver to make them each

one a ring with these words within graven, *Orate pro mortuis quia moriemini*, and to every of them one mourning gown;

Item, I give, will and bequeath to every one of my servants remaining with me in service at the day of my death forty shillings, and to every of them a mourning coat, and to every one of my wife's maids twenty shillings;

Item, I give unto every one of my uncles and aunts by my mother's side 20s;

And to every one of their children ten shillings to buy them rings;

And to my god-daughter, Bridget Downes, five pounds to buy her a little chain;

Item, I will there be bestowed in deeds of pity after my death as followeth: at my burial day among the poor five pounds, and afterwards to the poorest people of Acton, Melford, Sudbury, Lavenham, Waldingfield and Much Cornard [f. 63r] at my seventh-day ten shillings a town, at my month day five shillings a town, at my year's day five shillings a town to pray for me;

Item, I will there be given to poor prisoners and others suffering in God's cause within one half year after my death one hundred marks to be delivered by the discretion of my executors;

Item, I will and my full mind is that both the parsonages of Acton and Bulmer when time serveth be restored;

All others my goods and chattels whatsoever not herein bequeathed or devised I give unto my loving brother, Francis Danyell, and Margaret, his wife;

Which said Francis and Margaret I ordain, constitute and appoint my executors of this my last will and testament, desiring them of all brotherly and natural love and affection and as they will answer before God to see the same in all points truly and justly performed, my body honestly buried, my debts and legacies paid according to my plain meaning herein contained;

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above-written.
By me, John Danyell.

Probatum fuit Testamentum suprascriptum apud Londo{n} coram venerabili viro Mag{ist}ro Iohanne Gibson Legum doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cantuariensis Mag{ist}ro Custode siue Commiss{ario} l{egi}time constituto Sexto die mens{is} Iulij An{n}o d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo Quingen{tes}imo nonages{imo} Octauo Iuramento Iohannis Robinson notarij publici procuratoris ffrancisci Daniell et Margarete Daniell eius vxoris

Executorum in huiusmodi Testamento no{m}i{n}at{orum} Quibus commissa fuit administratio bonorum Iurium et creditorum dicti defuncti de bene &c Iurat{is}

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before the worshipful Master John Gibson, Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the sixth day of the month of July in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred ninety-eighth by the oath of John Robinson, notary public, proctor of Francis Danyell and Margaret Danyell, his wife, executors named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased, sworn to well etc.]