

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 4 May 1526, of William Willoughby (d. 14 October 1526), 11th Baron Willoughby d'Eresby, whose daughter, Katherine, Duchess of Suffolk, was the mother-in-law of Oxford's sister, Mary de Vere.

CONNECTION TO THE MARPRELATE TRACTS

The testator was the uncle of Elizabeth Hussey, the 'Mistress Crane' at whose manor of East Molesey across the Thames from Hampton Court Palace the first of the Marprelate tracts was printed on a secret press by Robert Waldegrave in October 1588.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the eldest son and heir of Sir Christopher Willoughby (b. about 1453, d. 1498/9) and Margaret Jenney (d.1515/16). For the will of Sir Christopher Willoughby, see TNA PROB 11/11/675.

According to the will of his brother, Sir Thomas Willoughby (d.1545), TNA PROB 11/30/589, the testator had eight brothers and three sisters:

-Sir Christopher Willoughby (d.1538-40), who married Elizabeth (buried 12 December 1546), youngest daughter of Sir George Tailboys (b.1467, d. 24 September 1538), Lord Kyme, and Elizabeth Gascoigne, daughter of Sir William Gascoigne, and sister-in-law of Henry VIII's mistress, Elizabeth Blount (c.1500–1539x41) (see GEC, *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. VII (London: St. Catherine Press, 1929) pp. 356, 359-62, Vol. XII, Part I (London: St. Catherine Press, 1959) pp. 602-3, Vol. XII, Part II (London: St Catherine Press 1959), pp. 701-3, and the entries for Sir William Tailboys (c.1416–1464) and Elizabeth Blount (c.1500–1539x41) in the *ODNB*).

-Sir John Willoughby, who married Cecily (nee Wentworth), the widow of Robert Southwell, esquire (see LRO 2ANC3/A/34 and 2ANC3/A/40).

-George Willoughby, who married Anastace.

-Sir Thomas Willoughby (d.1545), Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, who married Bridget Rede, the daughter of Sir Robert Rede (d.1519), Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and an executor of the will of King Henry VII (see the will of Bridget (nee Rede) Willoughby, TNA PROB 11/40/402; the will of John Caryl (d.1523), TNA PROB 11/21/166; the entries for Sir Robert Rede (d.1519) and John Caryl (1460s–1523) in the *ODNB*; and <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=62855>).

-Robert Willoughby, a priest (see Goff, Cecilie, *A Woman of the Tudor Age* (London: John Murray, 1930), p. 11).

-Richard Willoughby.

-Edmund Willoughby.

-Hugh Willoughby.

-Katherine Willoughby (d.1542), who married Sir John Heydon (d. 16 August 1550) of Baconsthorpe (for his will see TNA PROB 11/34/473).

-Elizabeth Willoughby, who married William Eure (b. about 1483, d. 15 March 1547/8), 1st Baron Eure. See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, p. 16.

-Margaret Willoughby, who married Sir Thomas Tyrrell (1472?-1551) of Gipping, son of Sir James Tyrrell (beheaded 6 May 1502) (for the will of Sir Thomas Tyrrell (1472?-1551), see TNA PROB 11/34/309). See *Plantagenet Ancestry*, *supra*, vol. II, p. 560.

For the foregoing, see also *Plantagenet Ancestry*, *supra*, Vol. III, p. 489.

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

First marriage

The testator married firstly Mary Hussey, the daughter of Sir William Hussey (d. 1495), Attorney-General, and Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and Elizabeth Berkeley, the daughter of Thomas Berkeley of Wymondham, Leicestershire. Mary Hussey's sister, Elizabeth Hussey, married Richard Grey (b. in or before 1478, d. 1524), 3rd Earl of Kent. Mary Hussey's eldest brother, John (1465/6-1537), Lord Hussey, was executed in 1537 after the Pilgrimage of Grace. Another of her brothers was the courtier, Sir William Hussey (b. in or before 1473, d. 1531?). A third brother, Sir Robert Hussey (d.1546), was the father of 'Mistress Crane' of the Marprelate tracts, as mentioned above.

For the foregoing, see the will of Sir Robert Hussey, TNA PROB 11/31/244, and the *ODNB* entries for Sir William Hussey (b. 1481, d. 8 September 1495); John, Lord Hussey (1465/6-1537); George Grey (d. 21 December 1503), 2nd Earl of Kent; and Richard Grey (b. in or before 1478, d. 1524), 3rd Earl of Kent. See also Cokayne, George Edward, *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. VII (London: St. Catherine Press, 1929), pp. 15-18; Maddison, A.R., *Lincolnshire Pedigrees* (London: Harleian Society, 1908), pp. 526-30, available online; and 'The Hussey Manuscript' at:

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~gowenrf/husseys_003.html

Richard Grey (b. in or before 1478, d. 1524), 3rd Earl of Kent, dissipated the Grey estates, and was also fined by King Henry VII for abducting Elizabeth Trussell (b. 1496, d. in or

before 1527). From the *ODNB* entry for Richard Grey (b. in or before 1478, d. 1524), 3rd Earl of Kent:

Aged at least twenty-five when he succeeded his father in 1503, he wasted his family's fortunes—possibly, as Dugdale says, he was a gambler. In a striking series of alienations he gave away or sold most of the lands, principally in Bedfordshire, that he had inherited: the beneficiaries were Henry VII's administrator–courtiers, Charles Somerset, Baron Herbert (later earl of Worcester), Sir John Hussey (Kent's brother-in-law), Sir Richard Empson, Sir Henry Wyatt, and Giles, Baron Daubeney. The earl also fell quickly into debt to the king: he failed to pay livery for his father's lands, and he was fined 2500 marks for abducting Elizabeth Trussell, whose wardship the second earl had left to Richard's half-brother Henry; he then failed to keep up the instalments laid down for the payment of the fine.

The wardship of Elizabeth Trussell (b. 1496, d. in or before 1527) was again in the hands of the King, who sold it for 2000 marks to the Earl of Oxford. Some sources indicate that the purchaser of the wardship was John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford, but what is certain is that Elizabeth Trussell (b. 1496, d. in or before 1527) became the wife of John de Vere (1482-1540), 15th Earl of Oxford, and Oxford's paternal grandmother.

The testator's niece by his first marriage, Elizabeth (nee Hussey) Crane Carleton, the 'Mistress Crane' of the Marprelate tracts, was the daughter of the testator's brother-in-law, Sir Robert Hussey (d.1546), and his second wife, Jane Stydolf. Mistress Crane's first husband was Anthony Crane (d.1583), Master of the Queen's Household. In his nuncupative will (see TNA PROB 11/65/507), Anthony Crane left all his goods to his wife, Elizabeth (nee Hussey) Crane, and his daughter, Mary Crane, including his 31-year lease of the manor of East Molesey which he had acquired from the Queen by a grant dated 19 April 1571 and which was to commence from the expiration of a 66-year lease which had been granted in 1518 to Sir Thomas Heneage (b. before 1482, d. 21 August 1553). The printing of Martin Marprelate's *Epistle* at her manor of East Molesey resulted in Star Chamber proceedings being instigated against Elizabeth (nee Hussey) Crane in 1590 under the name Elizabeth Carleton, she having at some time in the late 1580s married George Carleton (1529-1590) of Overstone, Northamptonshire. According to the *ODNB*, she was fined 1000 marks for refusing the oath ex officio and a further £500 for sheltering the secret press, and was confined during the Queen's pleasure, although the records do not reveal how long she remained in prison. Her then husband, George Carleton (1529-1590), had been called before the Privy Council in April 1589 and ordered to attend daily until otherwise advised. However his death in January 1590 forestalled further proceedings against him if any were intended. For the identification of Elizabeth Hussey as 'Mistress Crane', see McCorkle, Julia Norton, 'A Note concerning 'Mistress Crane' and the Martin Marprelate Controversy', *The Library* 1931 s4-XII(3):276-283, and the *ODNB* entry for Elizabeth (nee Hussey) Crane Carleton. For the will of Elizabeth (nee Hussey) Crane Carleton's second husband, George Carleton (1529-1590), see TNA PROB 11/75/14.

Second marriage

The testator's second wife was the Castilian noblewoman, Maria de Salinas (d.1539), Maid of Honour to Henry VIII's Queen, Katherine of Aragon. By letters patent dated 14 July 1516, King Henry VIII granted the reversion of the manors of Grimsthorpe, Southorpe and Edenham to the testator and Maria de Salinas as a marriage portion (see LRO 2ANC1/62/1). Elizabeth (nee Scrope) Beaumont de Vere (d.1537), Countess of Oxford, wife of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford, held a life estate in Grimsthorpe under the marriage settlement negotiated when she married her first husband, William (d.1505), Viscount Beaumont. A payment of £50 for rent of Grimsthorpe to 'my Lady Oxsinforth' is recorded in a document signed by the testator in 1525 (see Goff, p. 11).

By Maria de Salinas the testator had two sons and a daughter:

* **Henry Willoughby**, who died young.

* **Francis Willoughby**, who died young.

* **Katherine Willoughby** (1519–1580), later Duchess of Suffolk, friend of Lord Burghley, and mother-in-law of Oxford's sister, Mary de Vere (d.1624).

For the testator's second wife, Maria de Salinas (d.1539), and the testator's daughter and heir, Katherine (nee Willoughby) Brandon Bertie (1519–1580), Duchess of Suffolk, see the *ODNB* entries; Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 375; and Goff, Cecilie, *A Woman of the Tudor Age* (London: John Murray, 1930), pp. 1-8.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

'My nephew Digby' and 'my nephew Townshend' mentioned in the will below were the sons-in-law of the testator's sister, Katherine Willoughby (d.1542), who married Sir John Heydon (d. 16 August 1550) of Baconsthorpe, and by him had several sons and five daughters: Elizabeth Heydon, who married Thomas Darcy (d.1557) of Tolleshunt Darcy in Essex, esquire (for his will, see TNA PROB 11/39/485); Eleanor Heydon, who married John Townsend (d.1540), esquire, son and heir of Sir Roger Townsend (d.1551) of Rainham; Margaret Heydon, who married Sir Everard Digby (b. by 1472, d. 11 April 1540) of Rutlandshire; Alice Heydon, and Ursula Heydon, who died unmarried. See the will of Sir John Heydon (d. 16 August 1550), TNA PROB 11/34/473; Bindoff, S.T. *The House of Commons 1509-1558*, Vol. I, (London: Secker & Warburg, 1982), pp. 43-4, available online; Moreton, C.E., *The Townshends and Their World* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1992), p. 6; and:

Francis Blomefield, 'Hundred of South Erpingham: Baconsthorp', in *An Essay Towards A Topographical History of the County of Norfolk: Volume 6* (London, 1807), pp. 502-513.

British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/topographical-history-norfolk/vol6/pp502-513> [accessed 19 April 2020].

‘My nephew Clere’ mentioned in the will below was the son-in-law of the testator’s sister, Margaret Willoughby, who married Sir Thomas Tyrrell (1472?-1551) of Gipping, and by him had a daughter, Anne Tyrrell (d.1576?), who married Sir John Clere (d.1557) of Ormesby, Norfolk, the son of Sir Robert Clere (d.1529) of Ormesby and his second wife, Alice Boleyn, the aunt of Henry VIII’s Queen, Anne Boleyn. For the will of Alice Boleyn Clere, dated 28 October 1538 and proved 23 January 1539, see TNA PROB 11/27/398. For the wills of her sons, Sir John Clere (d.1557) and Thomas Clere (d. 14 April 1545), see TNA PROB 11/39/381 and TNA PROB 11/30/376. See also *Plantagenet Ancestry, supra*, Vol. I, pp. 95-6.

The testator died 14 October 1526 (see Goff, *supra*, p. 13).

RM: T{estamentum} hon{oran}di W{ille}mi d{omi}ni Willoughby def{uncti}

In the name of God, Amen. The 4th day of May the 18th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Henry the 8th and the year of Our Lord God 1526, I, William Willoughby, knight, Lord of Willoughby & Eresby, being of good mind and memory, make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and to Our Blessed Lady Saint Mary and to all th’ holy company of heaven, and my body to be buried at the College of Spilsby, and for the wealth of my soul and when it shall fortune me to depart from this present life, I will immediately after knowledge be had of my departure and death that a trental of Masses be said for the wealth of my soul, and over and besides I will that every priest of such religious houses whereas I am founder have 8d, and other of the same houses being no priests have 4d, and the prior or suffragan, every of them to have 16d, and in like wise I will that every religious woman of such houses where I am a founder have in like wise;

Item, I will that 20 marks of money be disposed and given by my executors to poor men dwelling and abiding within my lordship where they shall think most convenient;

Item, I will that a suit of vestments, the price of 20 marks, be given to the chantry of Spilsby;

Item, I will that another of the same price to the house of Mettingham, or else some other jewel that the said house hath more need of of the said price of 20 marks;

To the house of Hagnaby another suit of vestments of the same price of 20 marks;

Item, another of the same price of 20 marks to the house [+of?] Alvingham;

Item I will and bequeath to the Black Friars of Boston a suit of vestments, price 10 marks, and in like wise to the Black Friars of Ipswich, and in like wise to the Austin Friars of Orford;

Item, I will and bequeath to the house of Campsea a suit of vestments of the price 20 marks, and in like wise to the house of Greenfield for a remembrance and to th' intent that the ladies and nuns should pray for me of the said houses;

Item, I will that all my officers continue still in their offices, or else to have their fees;

Item I will that all my household servants have their wages truly besides a twelvemonth wages, and then to go where they will;

Item, I bequeath to the church of Parham for my tithes and offerings negligently forgotten £4, and in like wise to the church of Spilsby, and in like wise to the church of Hellow.

This is the last will of me, William, Lord Willoughby, knight, to the disposition of all my manors, lordships, lands and tenements, rents [-rents], reversions, services and all other(?) my hereditaments within the realm of England made the 4th day of May the year and the day above-written:

First I will that the Lady Mary Willoughby, my wife, have for term of her life my manors and lordships of Hellowe [=Belleau?], Abby [=Aby?], Swaby, Welles, Alford, Partney, Theddlethorpe in the county of Lincoln, and my manors of Walcott, Wheatacre and Wheatacre Burgh in the county of Norfolk, and also my manors of Ufford, Bredfield, Sogennowe, Winderfelde, Woodbridge, Orford, Wykes Ufford, and Cambys in the county of Suffolk according to the covenants made upon marriage betwixt her and me and solemnized, and according to the evidences and deeds of estate made and executed of the same;

And as to the residue of all my other manors, lordships, lands, tenements, rents, reversions and services with all other th' appurtenances, that is to say, my manor of Eresby, Spilsby, Toynton, Willoughby, Steeping, the Great Hanby, Fulstow Bek, Fulstow Arsyke, Saltfleet Haven, Cockerington, Friskney, Ingoldmells, Westerkeale [=West Keal?], Stickford, Raithby, Shirbeke [=Skirbeck?], Tolle in Boston, Weberton [=Wyberton?], Tofte beside Boston, Doubledyke in Gosberkirke otherwise called Gosberton, and Pinchbeck in the county of Lincoln, Rowton(?) in the county of Norfolk, and the manor of Parham in the county of Suffolk, with the reversion after the decease of my said wife of all my manors and tenements and other premises above-named and appointed to my said wife for term of her life, and also the reversion of my manor of Edgefield in the county of Norfolk, and Wispington in the county of Lincoln after the decease of my brother, John Willoughby, and Cicely, his wife, and also the reversion of my manor of Baudsey in the county of Suffolk after the decease of my brother, George Willoughby, and Anastace, his wife, and also I will that all my manors of Orby, Brugh,

Hogsthorpe, Skidbrook, Belchford, Folteby in the county of Lincoln go to the performance of this my will;

And also after the decease of my brother, Thomas Willoughby, and Bridget, his wife, and th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, I will that the manor of Brandon in the county of Warwick should remain and abide in my feoffees' hands to the performance of this my last will and for the payment of my debts, whereof at this time I have made a bill hereunto annexed;

Item, I will that my daughter, Katherine, have of th' issues, profits and revenues of all my lands 200 marks by year till the sum of two thousand marks sterlings be paid, and the said money yearly to be received by mine executors and to be put and kept at Mettingham in like wise as before is rehearsed to th' use of her marriage if it be so that God of his grace send me a son to be my heir, and if not, I will that the said two thousand marks shall go to the performance of my will and testament and to be disposed by my executors for the wealth of my soul, and if I have a son to be mine heir, then my daughter, Katherine, to have yearly of the issues, profits and revenues of all my said manors, lordships, lands and tenements and other the premises 20 marks sterling till she come to th' age of 12 years for her finding, and after she hath accomplished the age of 12 years, if she be not married, then to have to her finding 40 marks sterling till that she be married, and I bind my said daughter, Katherine, by this my said will to be ordered in her marriage by th' advice of our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Katherine, her godmother, and my wife, her own mother, and if she refuse so to do, then I will my said gift or [sic?] her marriage go to the performance of my said will and testament as before is rehearsed;

Item, I will that my executors and assigns shall well and truly of the revenues, issues and profits of all my said lordships, manors, lands and tenements and other premises pay my debts, fulfil all my legacies and bequests contained in my testament;

And I will that my wife, Mary, that now is, shall lie and abide at her pleasure in my manor of Parham and Eresby, and to take her pleasure there as well in my parks, woods, waters reasonable for her fire so that she maketh no waste, and if she do make waste evidently proved, then to lease her abiding and dwelling there and commodities before rehearsed;

Item, I will my said wife have in jointure for term of her life my manor place at London called the Barbican, otherwise called the Bascourt, with all the gardens and tenements belonging to it, and also all those gardens and tenements that I bought of Mistress Darnolde, I will that my said wife have them for term of her life, and after her decease as above is specified, I will that my foresaid wife shall have in full recompense of her dowry my manor of Tofte beside Boston, and Doubledyke in Gosberton otherwise Goseberkirke, with all their appurtenances belonging to them, as well tenements, meses as other hereditaments, and she to claim therefore no dowry notwithstanding any appointment or bequest therefore made in this my present will;

Item, I will and bequeath to them that shall be my heirs and succeed me in Parham to have these things hereafter following to remain as heirlooms there in Parham:

Item, 8 featherbeds, one of my good beds of down, and 3 of my middle sort, and 4 of the worst, and bolsters to them;

Item, a counterpoint of verders with beasts, another of fine verders;

Item, another of old tapestry;

Item, 5 of coarse coverlets after a Spanish work;

Item, 2 pair of fustians and 2 pair of pillows of down;

Item, 2 trussing beds with the apparel, one of crimson satin and russet velvet with curtains of sarsenet of the same colour;

Item, the tother trussing bed of green sarsenet, and curtains of the same;

Item, 2 pair of andirons;

Item, in the kitchen, 2 great spits and 2 small;

Item, a boiling lead;

Item, 2 great brass pots and other 2 mean pots;

Item, one ladle, and a brazen mortar and a great mortar of stone;

Item, a pair of mustard querns;

Item, a frying-pan and 2 dripping-pans of iron;

Item, a chafing-dish of latten;

Item, 2 strainers;

Item, 2 pans of brass, one greater and another smaller;

Item, 2 cupboards of iron;

Item, in the bakehouse, 2 mash-fats, a keeling fat, a great copper pan for baking;

Item, to the chapel, the hanging of the Dance of Poules, with the old altar-cloths and the old vestments, with a chalice and a Mass book;

Item, 3 carpets;

Item, I bequeath and will to them that shall be my heirs of my lordship of Eresby, and to be left there as heirlooms to th' use of them, these parcels following:

Item, 20 featherbeds, whereof 6 beds of down, and the residue of my coarser beds;

Item, 10 good counterpoints, and other 10 coarse coverlets;

Item, 12 pillows of down;

Item, 20 bolsters to the featherbeds, and 10 pair of fustians, and ten pair of fine sheets and ten pair of coarse sheets;

Item, my bed of cloth of gold, damask and purple velvet, with the curtains, and my bed of green velvet and russet satin broidered with letters of gold, Ms and Vs, and the curtains belonging to the same;

Item, 4 other beds of silk;

Item, my hanging of counterfeit arras that I bought of Robert Straunge, and the hangings of tapestry-work that James Pakk and Richard Fryer bought for me in Flanders;

Item, 2 hangings of say;

Item, 2 large carpets and 3 fine small carpets, and other 3 coarse carpets;

Item, in the chapel, a pair of organs that I bought at Orford;

Item, 2 Mass books and a porteous, and those books that Bria{n}, my auditor, bought me at London which be of print, and thone half be for one feasts and the other di{midium} be for other feasts;

Item, my altar-cloth of black velvet and cloth of gold broidered with branches;

Item, the apparel belonging to the said altar;

Item, 2 chalices, one of silver and gilt and another of silver and parcel gilt;

Item, 2 silver cruets, and 7(?) surplices for men, 2 for priests and 4 for children;

Item, a suit of vestments of the suit of the altar-cloth of black velvet and cloth of gold;

Item, in the kitchen, a great brass pot and 5 other brass pots, with a boiling lead;

Item, 6 pans, great and small, of brass;

Item, 6 spits, great and small, of iron;

Item, 2 pair of cupboards of iron;

Item, 2 garnish of vessel, one of my best and tother of coarser;

Item, a brazen mortar and another of stone;

Item, 2 dripping-pans of iron;

Item, 2 frying-pans;

Item, 2 chafing-dishes of latten;

Item, 2 ladles and a scummer of latten;

Item, in the bakehouse, a great copper pan to brew withal beer;

Item, 2 fats, and a keeling fat for beer;

Item, a lead for the baker;

Item, in the chamber, 6 pair of andirons of iron;

Item, 12 chairs and 6 forms and 12 buffet-stools;

Item, 12 cushions of verdours and beasts;

Item, 2 long cushions of silk, and 2 short of silk;

Item, in the pantry, a pair of carving-knives, 2 chipping-knives, 2 find board-cloths and 4 coarse board-cloths, 2 fine towels and 2 coarse towels, 12 fine napkins and 12 coarse napkins;

Item, 6 cupboard cloths and a cover-pane of Spanish work;

Item, in plate, a basin and an ewer, 2 silver pots, a chafing-dish of silver, 2 standing cups, a nest of goblets gilt with cover of silver, and another of silver with a cover parcel gilt;

Item, 2 salts of silver gilt with one cover;

Item, 12 spoons of silver gilt, and 12 ungilt of silver spoons;

Item, 4 chafers of latten for the chambers, and 12 latten candlesticks;

Item, to my wife, Mary Willoughby, that now is, my hanging of counterfeit arras that I bought of the Rent-Master in Flanders of the story of Gryswell [=Grizel];

Item, the hanging of Jesus;

Item, to my said wife, the hanging of tapestry that I bought of Harpesfelde;

Item, 2 hangings of say;

Item, 20 featherbeds, ten of the best and ten of the worst, whereof 4 of down;

Item, 12 pillows of down;

Item, 12 bolsters for the beds;

Item, 8 fine bolsters for the beds besides the 12;

Item, 6 fine counterpoints and 14 coarse coverlets;

Item, 6 pair of fustians;

Item, 12 pair of fine sheets of my best, and 12 pair of coarse, 6 carpets, 2 large, two mean, of my finest carpets, and the other 2 small fine;

Item, my sparver of tinsel and crimson and black velvet, my sparver of black velvet and yellow damask, with the curtains belonging to both beds;

Item, 6(?) cushions of silk, of my best;

Item, 12 cushions of verdures and beasts;

Item, 4 other silk beds, with trussing beds and curtains belonging to them;

Item, 4 fine board-cloths, and 6 board-cloths coarse;

Item, 4 fine towels, and 6 coarse towels;

Item, 2 dozen of fine napkins and 2 dozen of coarse;

Item, 6 cupboard cloths;

Item, 6 pair of andirons of iron;

Item 2 pair of carving-knives, 2 chipping-knives ofor [sic] the pantry;

Item, 2 chafing-dishes of latten;

Item, 12 candlesticks of latten;

Item, 4 latten chafers for the chambers;

Item, 2 basins and ewers of pewter;

Item, a dozen of pewter pots and basins together of pewter for chambers;

Item, 4 brass pots and 6 brass pans;

Item, 4 spits of iron;

Item, 2 cupboards of iron;

Item, 3 garnish of pewter vessel, one fine and 2 coarse garnishes;

Item, a basin and an ewer of silver, 2 silver pots, a nest of silver and gilt goblets with a cover, another nest of silver parcel gilt with a cover;

Item, 2 standing cups gilt of silver, my gilt bowl with a cover, a dozen of gilt spoons of silver and gilt, another dozen of silver ungilt, a powder-box of silver parcel gilt, with all my cruets of silver, gilt as ungilt, a chafing-dish of silver, 2 pair of salts of silver gilt, with all her jewels and apparel longing to her body;

Item, I will that my said wife have the custody of my said bequest given to my heirs till that they come to full age, so that she be unmarried, or else my executors to have the custody to [=till] they come to full age;

Item, my said wife to have all my sheep, and 20 milk kye [=kine], and a bull;

Item, my said wife to have my fine altar-cloth of cloth of tissue and crimson satin, with the vestment belonging to the same;

Item, a chalice of silver and gilt, a pair of cruets of silver and gilt, a Mass book, with a pax of silver and gilt;

Item, I will that my brother Sir Christopher's son and heir, my godson, William Willoughby, have of my gift 20 almain-rivets complete, of my best, with my best complete harness, and 12 bows and 8 bills and 12 sheaves of arrows cased, with a good gelding, price 4 marks;

Item, my brother George's son and heir to have 10 almain-rivets complete, with 6 bows and 6 sheaf of arrows, and 4 bills;

Item, my brother Thomas's son and heir to have as my brother George's son hath;

Item, my nephew, Sir Christopher Heydon, to have as my brother Christopher's son and heir hath;

Item, my brother Eure's son and heir to have as my brother George's son and heir hath;

Item, my brother Tyrrell's son and heir to have as my brother George's son hath;

Item, my nephew Digby's son and heir to have 6 almain-rivets complete, 4 bows and 4 sheaf of arrows, and 2(?) bills;

Item, my nephew Townsend's son and heir to have as my nephew Digby's son hath;

Item, my nephew Clere to have as my nephew Digby's son hath;

Item, I will that Elizabeth Fiennes, my kinswoman, have to her marriage £20 sterling money, so that she be married by my wife's mind if my wife be living, or by my cousin, John Jenney, and my brother Thomas, and my brother, Sir John, and if she refuse so to do, to go without it;

Item, I will that Margaret Blackbourne, bringer up of my children, to have for her pain and labour 53s 4d yearly of annuity taken out of my purchased lands at Elmham called Saunders for term of her life;

Item, I will that my tomb be set up for myself, my wife and me, at Spilsby College that should be made by the Master of Mettingham's manner, and the tother in like manner at Mettingham for the late Lord Willoughby, Sir Robert, that lieth there, my nigh kinsman, and the workmanship to be paid for as appeareth by the indenture of covenants;

Item, I will that this [sic?] shall be bestowed upon my burial upon all the charges, as well black gowns, the dole, the hearse, the dinner and carriage of my body thither to Spilsby, £200 sterlings money;

Item, I bequeath to my said wife a cup of gold and 2 spoons of gold & a salt of gold that the Queen gave to her;

Item, I will that my wife that now is be my chief executrix, and my brother, Sir John Willoughby, my brother, Thomas Willoughby, my cousin, John Jenney, Thomas Rushe, Sir Francis Stonar, clerk, and Sir Christopher Hill, clerk, I ordain these 7 to be my executors, and my said wife chief, to dispose for my soul, the 6 besides my wife to have each of them £10 of sterling money for their labour and pain;

Item I will that the most gracious Queen Katherine, Queen of England, be supervisor of this my last will, and she to have a jewel of my gift worth £40 sterling;

And this will [-is] written with my own hand the day and year above-written, I knowledge myself to be my true will, & therefore I sign it with my hand, & seal it with my seal;

Item, I will and bequeath that the chantry of Spilsby shall have to the building of it and the church £20 of sterling money in recompense of the lead that I had there;

Item, £6 a year to find a priest to sing for my wife and me and my father, mother and children and good friends, and £4 for a[n] obit every year for me to be had for 80 and 19 year, and land purchased therefore and put in a feoffment to the said use continuing and enduring the said 99 years, and then the said £10 of land to remain to my right heirs, and this not to be failed;

Item, a goodly suit of vestments to be given at my burial besides the other expressed in my will;

Item, I will that this be a scheduled [sic?] to my last will;

Also I will that my nephew and godson, William Heydon, have yearly during his life, to be taken and perceived yearly of th' issues, profits and revenues of my manors, lands and tenements within the county of Lincoln such as be in feoffment for the performance of my will and testament, £40 yearly for this consideration, that he is my near kinsman, godson and servant, and for that he is a younger brother;

Item, I will that my servant, John Woodhouse, shall have yearly during his life, to be taken and perceived of th' issues and profits of my purchased lands in North Glemham, 5 marks;

Item, I will that my said lands and tenements in North Glemham and all other my purchased lands and tenements in London within the parish of Saint Giles or elsewhere within the realm of England after the death of my said wife, the said John Woodhouse, and the said Margaret Blackbourne, that then the part of them and every one of them so deceasing immediately after their several deceases shall remain and go to th' use and performance of my last will for and towards the finding of a priest and of an obit as I have appointed in my will;

Item, I will that Thomas Wheatecroste shall have term of his life an annuity of 53s 4d going out of all such lands and tenements as is assigned for the performance of this my last will;

Item, I will and give to John Hoggeson all such title and right as I have, as well for his wardship as for such interest that I ought to have in his marriage or in his lands, upon consideration that he be of good rule and governance and behave himself like an honest man to my said wife;

Item, I will that if any man can claim any true debt or that I have done any injury or wrong, then I will that they and every one of them shall be recompensed and satisfied according to right and good conscience by my executors, and that to be paid of the revenues, issues and profits of such manors, lands and tenements as be appointed and assigned for the performance of this my last will;

Item, where I gave to Elizabeth Fiennes by my will written with my own hands £20, I will now she have of my gift to the preferment of her marriage other £20, and so the whole to be £40, to be levied and taken by my executors of the revenues and profits of my said manors, lands and tenements appointed and assigned for the performance of this my last will, so she be ruled as is specified in my said will;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Prior of the Friars Augustines in Oxford [sic?] towards his exhibition to find him to school 40s;

Item, I will that my wife and my executors shall give after their discretions to the reparations of the parish church of Orford and to the reparations of the Friars Augustines of the same, to pray for my soul and all Christian souls, after their discretions as much money as they shall think necessary and convenient for the reparations of the same, to be taken and levied of th' issues and profits of my said manors;

Item, I will that forasmuch as I, the said William, Lord Willoughby, have not declared and expressed my full and plain mind and intent at large for the performance of all and every thing contained, expressed and specified in my last will and testament, as well written with my own hand and also by me willed and declared by my words before good witness, I then, being in whole mind, lying upon my death-bed, if in case that my daughter and heir, Katherine Willoughby, my brother, Christopher Willoughby knight, their heir or heirs or any person and persons in their name or by their commandment of them or of any of them, at any time hereafter will deny, interrupt, disturb or let my executors to take and perceive th' issues and profits of all such manors, lands and tenements as by my said will and testament been comprised and declared for the true performance of the same, or in any manner of wise disturb or let the execution of this my last will in any point or article thereof, that then I will that my executors shall bargain and sell unto any person or persons and to their heirs at their pleasure my manor of Hanby with th' appurtenances in the county of Lincoln, and the said reversion of my manor of Partney with th' appurtenances in the same county, and the reversion of my manors of Wheatacre and Wheatacre Burgh and Walcott East Hall and Walcott West Hall with th' appurtenances in the county of Norfolk after the decease of my said wife, and the money thereof coming or growing to be employed and used to and for the performance of this my last will, and over that I will that all such person or persons as now stand and be seised of and in the manors of Hanby, Partney, Wheatacre, Wheatacre Burgh and Walcott East Hall and Walcott West Hall or any of them by focre of any recovery or otherwise shall stand and be seised of the same to th' uses and intents above expressed;

Item, I will that all my officers, as well my stewards of my lands, surveyors, receivers, auditors, bailiffs, keepers of parks and all other having any fees or offices by my grant,

appointment or assignment by writing or otherwise for term of life or at will or sufferance of me the day of my death, shall from thenceforth have, occupy and enjoy all their said offices, rooms, fees and annuities so to them and every one of them by me granted and appointed for term of their lives without impeachment, disturbance of my wife, mine heir or heirs, or any other in their name or by their procurement, trusting that they and every of them will be true, diligent and serviceable to my said wife, heirs and executors;

And if it fortune hereafter any of my said officers as is aforesaid to be disturbed, letted or discharged by my said wife, executors or heirs in exercising, using or occupying of their said offices or of any of them or in taking & perceiving of their fees for the same by my said wife, mine heir or heirs or executors or any of them or any other person or persons in their name or by their commandment, doing their offices and duties, yet I will that my said officers and every one of them so letted and disturbed in occupying their said office or offices so to them granted shall have and enjoy yearly to them during their lives their fees as afore to them and every one of them been appointed, assigned or granted for their said rooms and offices, to be yearly perceived, levied and taken of th' issues and profits of my said manors, lands and tenements appointed and assigned for the performance of my last will and testament;

Item, I will that if any of the said officers or servants, those I have appointed and assigned any fee, annuity or wages yearly to be taken of and in any of my manors, lands or tenements certainly named and according to my said grant or promise, if it cannot from henceforth according to my true meaning take effect for the benefit of that person so to him by me granted, yet I will that he shall be truly content and paid of his said fee every year during his life in form aforesaid out of all my other manors, lands and tenements, those I have assigned and appointed for the execution of my last will and testament;

Item, the residue of all my goods not bequeathed by my said will I give to my said wife forever to her own use;

Item, I will that if any question, doubt or ambiguity may hereafter grow and rise in any article or point of this my last will and testament whereby any variance may hereafter grow by occasion of the same, then I will that the same question, ambiguity or doubt shall be reformed and declared according to the true meaning of the same by my wife and mine executors with their counsel learned;

Item, I will that all those debts those [sic] were due by my father and mother in their lives or either of them which I promised them alonely for to pay, and as yet divers of them rest unpaid, yet I will that they be paid by my executors as they can be truly proved by the parties to whom the said debt is due, and this to be done of th' issues, revenues and profits of all such manors, lands and tenements as I have appointed for th' execution and performance of this my last will;

Item, I will that my executors shall, in as convenient and short time as they possibly can, purchase as much land as shall be convenient, serve and be necessary for the building and setting up of a new church and churchyard to be made and wholly builded and finished at

my cost and charge to the value of 200 marks within the town of Mablethorpe in the county of Lincoln, and that to be paid by mine executors of th' issues, revenues and profits of all my said manors, lands and tenements, those I have appointed for th' execution of this my last will, in consideration that I myself took to my own use all such lead as the said church was covered with, and of the which church I am patron;

Item, I will that where I have appointed by my will written with my own hand that my body should have been buried at Spilsby in the county of Lincoln aforesaid if it had pleased God that I should have died there, nevertheless now I will that if [+it] shall please God that I shall die in the county of Suffolk, that my body be buried within the College of Mettingham Castle in the foresaid county, of the which College I am founder;

Item, I give and bequeath to Christpean [=Christian?] Harman, servant to my daughter, Katherine, for the preferment of her marriage, 10 marks to be paid to the same Christpean by th' hands of my executors of th' issues, revenues and profits of all such manors, lands and tenements as I have appointed for th' execution of this my last will;

These witnesses being present: Friar Osmound, his ghostly father, John Parrishe, Bachelor of Divinity, Prior of the Friars Augustines of Orford, Sir Robert Knight{es}, priest, Sir George Goore, priest, William Heydon, esquire, Brian Taylour, auditor, John Woodhouse, gentleman, John Weyde, gentleman, Thomas Whetecrost, gentleman, Thomas Elwood, John Garnam, William Bannbr, Richard Hunte, Robert Bockle, John Hodgedy of Orford.