

SUMMARY: The document below is the undated last will and testament, proved 14 May 1537, of Dr. William Throckmorton (d. 12 January 1535/6), the son of Sir Thomas Throckmorton (c.1412-1472) and Margaret Olney, and brother of Sir Robert Throckmorton (c.1451-1518), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/20, ff. 9-12.

The testator was Warden of the Collegiate Church at Shottesbrooke, where the manor was owned by the Trussells and the Earls of Oxford.

See Ditchfield, P.H. and John Hautenville Cope, eds., *The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archaeological Journal*, Vol. 23, No. 1 (August 1919), pp. 8-12, available online at:

<http://archive.org/details/nsberkshirearcha24berkuoft>

Lysons, in the Magna Britannia, informs us that 'The Manor of Shottesbrooke belonged, at an early period, to a family who took their name from the village. About the year 1300 it passes by a female heir to the ancient family of Vis de Lou, now extinct.' In 1340 it was in the possession of Sir William Trussell, whose descendants held it for many years. One later member of the family married one of the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, and their son, Edward de Vere, who had inherited the property, probably parted with it at the time he dissipated a great portion of his fortune. The family of Powle possessed it in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and it afterwards came to the Cherrys and the Vansistarts. Lysons further informs us that 'the manor was anciently held by a singular species of grand serjeantry; namely by the service of providing charcoal to make the crown and other regalia for the king's coronation, the sum of 60 shillings and 10 pence being allowed for it by the king. . . .

In the year 1337, Sir William Tressell or Trussell, as he is severally called, who had shortly before this come into possession of the manor, founded a small college, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, for a warden and five priests, or if the revenue would bear it, five more were to be added (but the number of ten was never to be exceeded), and two clerks and endowed it with the church of Shottesbrooke and a rent charge of 40 shillings per annum on the manor. Soon after its foundation the college was nearly destroyed by fire, and the church of Basilden and other lands were given for its support. At the dissolution of the colleges and monasteries, its revenues were assessed at £33 6s. 8d. per annum, and were granted to the Weldon family, whence it came to the Vansittarts. . . .

Against the north wall is the monument of William Throckmorton (Fig. 16). His effigy, about 3 ft. 11 in. in length, is represented as lying within a stone coffin, clad in a doctor's gown, and with flat cap on the head, and hands clasped on the breast. Across the centre is a solid stone slab, on which is a brass with an inscription in Old English lettering, as follows: --

*Here lyeth Wyllm Throckmarton p'st doctor
of lawe late garden of this church which deces'
sid the XII day of Ianuari ano dni Mo CCCC*

*XXXV on whois soule Ihu have mercy. Ame.
 O terra in vilem resoluta corpore terram
 Sanctam expecto dei misericordis opem
 Expecto & nitidum redive carnis amictu
 Et tandem excelsi regna beata poli.*

The tomb and effigy are composed of alabaster.

See also Harper, Charles G., *Thames Valley Villages*, Vol. II, (London: Chapman & Hall, 1910), pp. 12-17, available online; and Erler, Mary C., *Women, Reading, and Piety in Late Medieval England*, (Cambridge University Press, 2002), p. 113:

Another brother, William, was a doctor of civil and canon law, a master in chancery, servant to Wolsey, and last warden but one of the collegiate church of Shottesbrook, Berkshire., where his effigy remains in the chancel (d.1535).

See also:

<http://www.berkshirehistory.com/churches/shottesbrooke.html>

<http://www.berkshirehistory.com/villages/shottesbrooke.html>.

For Oxford's sale of his manor of Shottesbrooke on 15 June 1579 to Thomas Noke, see TNA C 54/1118, Part 22.

The testator was executor to his sister, Goditha (nee Throckmorton) Peyto (d.1530x1), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/24, f. 4.

RM: Test{amentu}m Will{el}mi Throckmarton

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, three persons, one God, I, Doctor William Throckmorton, make my last will in manner and form following:

First I bequeath my soul to the Trinity and to all the holy company of heaven, my body to be buried in the chancel whereas I die;

To the cathedral church, according to the custom, I give 12d;

I will that every priest of Shottesbrooke have at Dirge and Masse for me 12d, and Sir John Smyth of Howlton 12d to say Dirge and Mass;

Item, the parish priest of Handeswore and the parish priest of Hambury, every of them 12d to say Dirge and Mass;

To the poor people of Hambury 20s;

To the poor people of Handeswore 20s;

To the poor people of Howlton 10s;

To the parishens of Shottesbrooke, every householder 12d to bestow in his house;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin, George Throckmorton, student, all my books that be in London, two featherbeds and all things to them belonging, as bolsters, blankets & sheets in London;

Also I give to the said Sir George all my books that be here in Shottesbrooke;

Item, I bequeath to Henry the bay gelding with all things pertaining;

Item, I bequeath to Robert Gaire, Crokford, the grey gelding;

Item, to Peter the bald gelding and all things belonging;

Item, Robert Horseman the great grey male gelding;

Item, to Thomas Cotton and James Neway four horse, two ploughs, a cart, my traces to draw withal;

Item, to John Fourde two cart-horse and 2 traces;

Item, to William Legyngham the sorrel nag;

Item, to Thomas Alyson two bullocks;

Item, to Thomas Cooke a pot to seethe meat in, best save twain;

Item to the three women, every one of them a cow;

Item, I bequeath to the said George Throckmorton a scarlet gown furred with martens;

Item, to his sister, Margaret, a black gown furred with foins, a russet gown furred with black budge;

Item, a crimson gown furred with foins to my Lady Throckmorton;

Item, a hood lined with green silk be restored to Robert Dacres;

Item, I give to the said George Throckmorton a hood lined with grey;

Item, I give and bequeath the featherbed that I lie in, mattress, blankets, covering, bolster and pillows and the green hanging of silk to my cousin, Margaret;

Item, I give to my cousin, Robert Throckmorton, the featherbed that my mother gave me marked with this letter, E, and a pair of sheets of three breadths, and all things belonging, and a pair of fustian blankets, and a great covering in Legingham's chamber;

Item, I give to my cousin, John Throckmorton, Sir George's son, the little trussing bed with all things belonging thereto;

Item, I bequeath to the Goodwife Noke a featherbed & a bolster;

Item, I bequeath to Henry and to Robert Gayr a featherbed and a bolster;

Item, to Peter and to Legyngham a featherbed and a bolster;

Item, to Richard, a mattress;

Item, I bequeath and give to my successor that that they brew in with three kymlett{es} belonging to the same, and all other pots, pans and kettles in the back-house and kitchen;

And dishes I give to my cousin, Margaret;

Also I give to my successor a garnish of vessel, two of the best pots, and the best rack to hang the pots of within the kitchen;

Item, I give to Sir Robert Latimer the featherbed that he lieth upon and the bolster and all things belonging thereto;

Item, I will that the mule be restored to Master Dacres, the great featherbed in the great chamber and all things belonging thereto, and the bed within the other chamber which I found at my first coming hither of Master Doctor Tallor's;

Item, I give to every priest a single gown unlined;

Also I will that mine executors to deliver to my successor as much wheat and malt as will find the house until new come in if the barns will stretch so far;

Item, I give a load of hay and all my raiment not bequest to my cousin, Margaret;

Item, I bequeath to my Lady Throckmorton my little clock;

Item, I give to Robert Throckmorton, esquire, a crossbow;

Item, I give to William Mediliner another crossbow;

Also I will that nothing be delivered to my cousin, Margaret, till she be divorced from her husband;

The residue of all my goods be distributed betwixt mine executors and his sister equally, whom I make Sir George Throckmorton, student of Oxford, and Sir John Coke, priest and vicar of Dwchenyng, these witness, Sir Robert Latimer, Sir John Studert, Richard Smyth, and other.

Probatum fuit supra scriptum Testamentum coram d{omi}no apud Lambith xiiiio die Mensis Maij Anno D{omi}ni Mill{es}imo Quingentesimo Tricesimo septimo Iuramento Georgij Throckmarton executoris in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento no{m}i{n}ati Ac approbatum et insinuatum Et com{m}issa fuit admi{n}istracio om{n}i{um} bonoru{m} d{i}c{t}i defuncti prefato executori De bene et fideli{te}r admi{n}strand{o} eadem Ac de pleno et fideli Inuen{ta}rio &c Necno{n} de plano et vero compoto reddend{o} Ad sancta dei Eu{a}ngelia iurat{i}

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the 14th day of the month of May in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred thirty-seventh by the oath of George Throckmorton, executor named in the same testament, and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all the goods of the said deceased to the forenamed executor, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same, and to [+prepare] a full and faithful inventory etc., and also to render a plain and true account.]