

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the brief last will and testament, dated 23 December 1558, of one of the 16th Earl's yeoman servants, Thomas Hunt. The Earl witnessed the will, along with others, including his trusted servant, Robert Christmas. The testator's request that he be buried in the churchyard of St. Swithin's suggests that he died at the Earl's mansion near London Stone. Richard Wood, named as an executor in the will, is one of the yeomen servants of the 16th Earl to whom bequests are made in the 16th Earl's wills of 21 December 1552 and 28 July 1562 (see BL MS Stowe Charter 633-4 and TNA PROB 11/46, ff. 174v-176).

LM: Testamentum Thome Hunt

In the name of God, Amen. The 23rd day of December in the year of our Lord God 1558, I, Thomas Hunt of London, yeoman and servant to the right honourable Earl of Oxenford, do ordain, make and institute this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First, I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my Saviour and Redeemer, and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Saint Swithin's in London aforesaid;

Item, I give and bequeath to Robert Hunt, my brother, £5, parcel of an obligation of £40;

Item, I give and bequeath to William Hunt, my brother, £3 6s 8d, parcel of the said obligation;

Item, I give and bequeath to Joyce, my sister, the wife of (blank), £6 13s 4d, parcel of the same obligation;

LM: Item, I give and bequeath to Miles Hunt, my brother, also £3 6s 8d, parcel of the said obligation;

Item, I do ordain and make my executors of this my last will and testament Edward Glascock and Richard Wood;

Witness, the right honourable Earl of Oxenford, Robert Christmas, gentleman, Robert Rede(?) and John Ludham(?), with others.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum Testamentum Coram Magistro Walter Haddon Legum Doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cantuariensis Custode siue Commissario sede Archiepiscopali iam vacante vicesimo quinto die Augusti anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo quinquagesimo Nove Iuramento Edwardi Glaskock executoris in huiusmodi Testamento

Modern spelling transcript copyright ©2007 Nina Green All Rights Reserved

<http://www.oxford-shakespeare.com/>

nominati Cui &c Ac de pleno Inuentario &c Necnon de plano compoto &c Iurato Reseruata potestate Richardo Wood etc.

[=The above-written testament was proved before Master Walter Haddon, Doctor of the Laws, Keeper or Commissary of the Archiepiscopal seat now vacant, on the twenty-fifth day of August in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fifty-ninth by the oath of Edward Glascock, executor named in the same testament, to whom etc., and a full inventory etc., and also a plain account etc., with power reserved to Richard Wood etc.]