

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 24 January 1583 and proved 13 September 1583, of Elizabeth (nee Shakerley) Elkyn Marler Nicholas, who married Sir Ambrose Nicholas (d.1578), Lord Mayor of London, purchaser of Oxford's mansion at London Stone, and was the stepmother of Daniel Nicholas, a witness in the Belott v Mountjoy lawsuit who is stated therein to have had a personal conversation with William Shakespeare (1564-1616) of Stratford upon Avon.

The testatrix' aunt, Anne Wingfield, was the sister-in-law of Elizabeth Vere, eldest sister of John de Vere (1499-1527), 14th Earl of Oxford.

Frances Rich, wife of Oxford's first cousin, John Darcy (d.1581), 2nd Baron Darcy of Chiche, was godmother to the testatrix' daughter, Frances Elkyn.

The eccentric Peter Shakerley (buried 18 September 1593), the subject of Thomas Nashe's derogatory comment in *Strange News* (1592) and Gabriel Harvey's 'Gorgon' sonnet (1593), appears to have been the son of Francis Shakerley (1501?-1592?), cousin of the testatrix' father and appointed as overseer of his will. For Peter Shakerley, see:

<http://sicttasd.tripod.com/shaker.html>

See also the will, dated 4 January 1592 and 28 September 1592 and proved 29 January 1593, TNA PROB 11/81/74, of Francis Shakerley (1501?-1592?), esquire, in which he mentions his son, Peter; the will of his wife, Erasma Shakerley (d.1596), TNA PROB 11/87/467; and the Shakerley pedigree in Hovenden, Robert, ed., *The Visitation of Kent Taken in the Years 1619-1621*, (London: Harleian Society, 1898), Vol. XLII, pp. 159-60 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationofkent00camd/page/158>

CONNECTION TO SHAKESPEARE

As noted above, the testatrix' stepson, Daniel Nicholas, was a witness in the Belott v Mountjoy lawsuit, and is stated therein to have had a personal conversation with William Shakespeare (1564-1616) of Stratford upon Avon (see TNA REQ 4/1/3 on this website). See also Nicholl, Charles, *The Lodger Shakespeare; His Life on Silver Street*, (New York: Viking, 2008), p. 64:

Sir Ambrose Nicholas, a salter by trade, served as Lord Mayor in 1575-6. He died a couple of years later, so Shakespeare would not have known him, but he certainly knew his son, Daniel Nicholas (born about 1560). This was the friend of Stephen Belott, who testified in 1612 that he had visited Shakespeare 'to understand the truth' about the disputed dowry.

See also the facsimile of Daniel Nicholas' deposition on the Shakespeare Documented website at:

<https://shakespearedocumented.folger.edu/exhibition/document/bellott-v-mountjoy-first-set-depositions-bellotts-behalf-including-shakespeares>

Witnesses in this first round of depositions were to answer a list of five questions, called interrogatories, on behalf of Bellott, the complainant. The third interrogatory asked whether the defendant did send "anie person" to persuade the plaintiff to marry the defendant's daughter Mary. The first two deponents, Joan Johnson and Daniel Nicholas, identify that person as "Mr Shakespeare," while the third deponent, William Shakespeare himself, agreed that he had played that role. . . .

The second witness was Daniel Nicholas, gentleman, of the parish of St. Alphage, Cripplegate, 52 years of age. Nicholas' deposition is now bound third. Nicholas asserts that he "herd" one William Shakespeare say that he had been involved in persuading the plaintiff to marry the defendant's daughter. Nicholas thus reports hear-say evidence rather than testifying from his own knowledge. But what he heard, he heard from William Shakespeare personally, who told him that £50 and "certain household stuff" were promised to Bellott as a dowry. (Nicholas was also interrogated in the second round of depositions, where he is identified as 62 years of age.)

CONNECTION TO OXFORD

For many years the testatrix resided in Oxford's former mansion near London Stone, which her third husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas, had purchased from Oxford. See the will of Sir Ambrose Nicholas:

First I will, and my mind and intent is, that all the great capital messuage or mansion-house wherein I do now inhabit and dwell, sometime or of late commonly called or known by the name of Oxenforth Place. . . situate, lying, and being in the parish of St. Swithin near unto London Stone aforesaid, together with the advowson or right of patronage of the parish church of St. Swithin aforesaid, all which I lately purchased and bought to me, my heirs and assigns, forever of the right honourable Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxenforth. . . .

Sir Ambrose Nicholas purchased the mansion from Oxford in 1573, as evidenced by a recognizance for purposes of indemnification given by Oxford to Nicholas in that year in the amount of £2000 (see TNA PRO 30/34/14 and TNA C 54/922, Part 27). Sir John Harte (d.1604) may have purchased the mansion from the executors of Sir Ambrose Nicholas, or there may have been intermediate purchasers. Both men kept their mayoralties there, Sir Ambrose Nicholas in 1575-6, and Sir John Harte in 1589-90:

On the north side of this church [=St. Swithin's] and churchyard is one fair and large built house, sometime pertaining to the prior of Tortington in Sussex, since to the Earls of

Oxford, and now to Sir John Hart, alderman, which house hath a fair garden belonging thereunto, lying on the west side thereof. On the back side of two other fair houses in Walbrook, in the reign of Henry VII, Sir Richard Empson, knight, chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, dwelt in the one of them, and Edmond Dudley, esquire, in the other; either of them had door of intercourse into this garden, wherein they met and consulted of matters at their pleasures. In this Oxford place Sir Ambrose Nicholas kept his mayoralty, and since him the said Sir John Hart.

On the south side of this high street, near unto the channel, is pitched upright a great stone called London stone, fixed in the ground very deep, fastened with bars of iron, and otherwise so strongly set, that if carts do run against it through negligence, the wheels be broken, and the stone itself unshaken.

The cause why this stone was set there, the time when, or other memory hereof, is none, but that the same hath long continued there is manifest, namely since (or rather before) the Conquest. . . .

See Thoms, William J., ed., *A Survey of London Written in the Year 1598 by John Stow*, (London: Whittaker, 1842), pp. 84-5 at:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=hvd.32044021198916&view=1up&seq=106>

For Sir John Harte's will, proved 23 January 1604, in which he leaves a life estate in the mansion to his second wife, Anne (nee Haynes) Hudson Cage Harte (d.1625), see TNA PROB 11/103/59.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the Shakerley family of Little Longstone, Derbyshire, see Cox, J. Charles, *Notes on the Churches of Derbyshire: The Hundreds of the High Peak and Wirksworth*, Vol. II, (London: Bemrose and Sons, 1877), p. 100 at:

Walter Blount, Lord Mountjoy, died seized of the manor of Little Longstone in 1474. Soon after that, probably, immediately on his death, this manor was purchased by Robert Shakerley, of a younger branch of the Cheshire family of that name.

Robert Shakerley married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Roger Levett. His son, Robert, married firstly Anna, daughter of Thomas Balguy, and secondly, Alice, daughter of Nicholas Bagshaw. By his first wife, he had with other issue, Thomas Shakerley, of Little Longstone, who married Jane, daughter of Hugh Revel, of Higham; and one of the children by the second wife, Grace, became the wife of Francis, Lord Shrewsbury. On the death of Thomas Shakerley, his eldest son, Leonard, sold the manor, in the reign of Elizabeth, to the Countess of Shrewsbury. The ancient residence of the Shakerleys still exists, though in a rapidly decaying condition, to the south-west of the church of Great Longstone.

See also the Shakerley pedigrees in *Derbyshire Visitation Pedigrees, 1569 and 1611*, (London, 1895), pp. 77-8 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=NSo6AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA77>

Testatrix' paternal great-grandparents

As noted above, the testatrix was the great-granddaughter of Robert Shakerley and Margaret Levett, the daughter and heiress of Roger Levett.

Testatrix' paternal grandparents

The testatrix was the granddaughter of Robert Shakerley of Little Longstone, Derbyshire, and his first wife, Anne Balguy, the daughter of Thomas Balguy or Bawgey of Todwick, Yorkshire. See the Shakerley pedigree, *supra*, p. 77, and 'Balguy of Aston Hall, Derwent Hall and Duffield Park' at:

<http://landedfamilies.blogspot.com/2018/11/352-balguy-of-aston-hall-derwent-hall.html>

By her grandfather's first marriage to Anne Balguy, the testatrix had several aunts and uncles of the whole blood including:

(1) Thomas Shakerley, of Little Longstone, who married Jane Revel, daughter of Hugh Revel, of Higham, Derbyshire. See Cox, *supra*, p. 100, and the Shakerley pedigrees, pp. 77-8, *supra*. He appears to be the testatrix' 'uncle Shakerley' referred to in the will below:

Item, I give and bequeath to Robert Shakerley, my uncle Shakerley's son, towards the repairing of Longstone Hall in [f. 349r] Derbyshire twenty pounds, upon condition that he be bound in sufficient band to Leonard, Philip and Henry Shakerley, my cousins, to bestow the same in repairing and amending the manor or mansion house of Longstone Hall aforesaid within one year after the receipt of this my legacy. . . .

It appears from the foregoing bequest that the testatrix' uncle, Thomas Shakerley, had four sons, the testatrix' first cousins, Robert, Leonard, Philip and Henry Shakerley.

(2) Robert Shakerley (by 1510 – c.1569), who married Elizabeth Peyto, the daughter of John Peyto (c.1478-1542?), esquire, of Chesterton, Warwickshire, by whom he had two sons and three daughters. See the History of Parliament entry at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/shakerley-robert-1510-69-or-later>

See the will of John Peyto, TNA PROB 11/29/209, and Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 349.

The testatrix' grandfather married secondly Alice Bagshaw, the daughter of Nicholas Bagshaw. By her grandfather's second marriage, the testatrix had several aunts and uncles of the half blood, including:

(1) Grace Shakerley (d. August 1558), who married Francis Talbot (1500-1560), 5th Earl of Shrewsbury. See:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=707

Grace Shakerley (d. August 1558) was the daughter of Robert Shakerley of Little Longstone, Derbyshire (d. June 17, 1507+) and his second wife, Alice Bagshaw. She married Francis Careless or Carless. In a secret ceremony c.1553 she married Francis Talbot, earl of Shrewsbury (1500-September 24, 1560).

See also the *ODNB* entry for Francis Talbot, 5th Earl of Shrewsbury:

Shrewsbury married twice. His first wife was Mary Dacre, daughter of Thomas, second Baron Dacre of Gilsland, who died in 1538. They had one surviving son, George Talbot (c. 1522–1590), the future sixth earl, and a daughter, Anne, whom Shrewsbury married to his ward John, second Baron Braye. After Mary's death he married Grace, née Shackerley, widow of Francis Carless: the expressions of condolence sent him on her death in 1558 by the fifth earl of Westmorland and Sir William Cordell suggest genuine affection. A year later Shrewsbury was unsuccessfully seeking the hand of Elizabeth, Lady Pope, widow of Sir Thomas Pope, founder of Trinity College, Oxford. . . .

Testatrix' parents

The testatrix was the daughter of the London mercer, Rowland Shakerley (1520 - 9 March 1565). For the will of the testatrix' father, dated 9 March 1565 and proved 24 March 1565, see TNA PROB 11/48/92. For the inquisition post mortem taken after his death, see Madge, Sidney J., ed., *Abstracts of Inquisitiones Post Mortem for the City of London*, Part II, (London: The British Record Society, 1968), pp. 29-30 at:

<https://archive.org/details/abstractsofinqui2627grea/page/n41>

For Rowland Shakerley's message at St Pancras, see:

D J Keene and Vanessa Harding, 'St. Pancras Soper Lane 145/11-13', in *Historical Gazetteer of London Before the Great Fire Cheapside; Parishes of All Hallows Honey Lane, St Martin Pomary, St Mary Le Bow, St Mary Colechurch and St Pancras Soper Lane* (London, 1987), pp. 705-712. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/no-series/london-gazetteer-pre-fire/pp705-712> [accessed 17 June 2019].

. . . . In 1548 this was described as a great messuage formerly leased to Robert Packyngton for a term of 50 years at £7 rent. It was now held by Roland Shakerly, who was probably living there in 1541 and 1544, when he was assessed as a resident of St. Benet (sic) parish and Cordwainer Ward. He had ceased to live there by 1558, when he was described as of Aynho (Northants.) and was granted a lease of the capital messuage representing 13 by the rector, churchwardens, and parishioners of St. Pancras for a term of 500 years at £2. 11s. 2d. rent. The messuage, with its shops, cellars, chambers, warehouses, yards, and entries, was now inhabited by Richard Elkyn and lay in the parishes of St. Pancras and St. Antonin, between 14-15 on the E., 12 on the W. and N., the highway leading from Soper Lane to Watling Street on the W., 'Seint Pancrace Lane' on the N., and a messuage formerly belonging to the college of Higham Ferrers on the S. The lessee and his successors were to keep the 'foredore and entry' of the capital messuage at the street door which then opened into Pancras Lane so that the inhabitants of the house would be counted as parishioners of the parish of St. Pancras. About 1560 the house was inhabited by Walter Marler, citizen and haberdasher, who by his will, dated and proved in 1561, left to his wife Elizabeth his leases and terms of years in the shops and warehouses which she then occupied (probably part of 13) and in the house which he inhabited in the parish of St. Pancras. Elizabeth may then have married Ambrose Nicholas, citizen and salter, who later had a wife of that name and was tenant of 13. (fn. 13) In 1563 13, or a part of it, may have been in the possession of John Alsopp, citizen and haberdasher (see 12).

Roland Shakerley died in 1565 and left the house then held by Ambrose Nicholas, to his wife Anne and her heirs. At the inquisition which followed his death, the house was valued at £10 a year and Shakerley was said to have held it in free burgage of the Queen, suggesting that the long lease under which he in fact held it was intended to conceal the parish's interest. In 1566, in order to remove any doubt concerning this interest the rector and churchwardens quitclaimed their right in the messuage to Ambrose Nicholas, who was said to be seised in demesne. In return Nicholas was to pay the parish £68 in instalments of £2 payable twice a year. Before the end of the year Nicholas and his wife Elizabeth granted and quitclaimed in the messuage with its halls, chambers, cellars, solars, houses, warehouses, yards, and wells to John Wanton, citizen and grocer. Anne, widow of Roland Shakerley, senior, was still alive in 1570, when Roland Shakerley, junior, son of the elder Roland's son Ralph, died leaving as his heir his sister Anne, then aged 7. (fn. 14)

Richard Patrick and his wife Ursula seem later to have been in possession of the property, and in July 1577, in pursuit of an agreement earlier that year, quitclaimed their right in it to Anthony Gamage, citizen and alderman, who was then seised of the great capital messuage or mansion house with its halls (cenaculis), chambers, cellars, solars, houses, warehouses, backsides, and wells. At about this time there was probably a lawsuit or arbitration concerning the property. In November 1577 Ambrose Nicholas, then a knight, made an agreement, the details of which are not known, with Ralph Bouchier, esquire, of Benyngborough (Yorks.) on the one hand and William Cordell, Master of the Rolls, and Robert Mounson, one of the Justices of Common Pleas, on the

other. In pursuit of this agreement Bouchier granted 13 and other properties to Cordell and Mounson. This was presumably a stage in providing Bouchier with an impregnable title, for in 1580 Bouchier and his wife Christiana sold these properties to William Gamage of London, gentleman. William Gamage was the son and heir of Anthony Gamage, who died in 1579, when he was said to be seised of 13. Anthony Gamage lived in the messuage, which soon after his death was occupied by his widow Alice Gamage. (fn. 15)

In 1586 William Gamage sold the capital messuage, which he had occupied to Stephen Soame, citizen, and his wife Ann. In 1588, in consideration of a payment of £90, Gamage and his wife Elizabeth quitclaimed to Soame and Ann in the property. Soame, a wealthy alderman who was knighted in 1599 and died in 1619, used 13 as his London residence.

According to his will, the testatrix' father held a one fourth interest in the manor of Souldern in Oxfordshire, a few miles south of Aynho. Three fourths of the manor appears to have been held by John Stutsbury. See Davidson, Alan, 'Roman Catholicism in Oxfordshire from the late Elizabethan period to the Civil War (c.1580-c.1640)', Ph.D thesis, University of Bristol, 1970, p. 348, available as a pdf file online at:

<https://research-information.bristol.ac.uk/files/34506097/533572.pdf>

According to his will, the testator's father also held a tenement in West Cheap called 'The Unicorn'. See Weir, Alison, *Mary Boleyn; The Mistress of Kings*, online edition, 2011, p. 382 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=UgIsBUARiC8C&pg=PT382>

The testatrix' father also owned a house and garden in Hoxton which he sold to Sir Roger Martyn (d.1573), Lord Mayor of London, father of Humphrey Martyn (d.1587?), addressee of the *Langham Letter*. See the will of Sir Roger Martyn, TNA PROB 11/56/48:

Item, I will that Elizabeth, my wife, shall have and enjoy to her use during her natural life the lease of my house, garden and orchard of Hoxton which I bought of Master Shakerleie [=Shakerley], if she will keep it for her own use and not let it out, and she to pay only the accustomed yearly rent of the value of the lease for her time, to be deducted out of my third part as my bequest unto her.

Sir Roger Martyn's widow, Elizabeth (nee Castelyn) Martyn, was an investor with the testatrix' second husband, Walter Marler (see below) and Oxford in the Frobisher voyages. See the will of Elizabeth (nee Castelyn) Martyn, TNA PROB 11/65/430.

Testatrix' mother

The testatrix' mother was Anne Winwood (buried 16 April 1571). For the Winwood family, see:

<http://mauriceboddy.org.uk/Winwood.htm>

See also the entry for the testatrix' mother at:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=715

The names of Anne Winwood's parents are not known, but she had at least two brothers. Lewis was secretary to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk. Thomas was a London stockfishmonger. Anne married Rowland Shakerley (Sharkerley/Sharkeley/Shackerley) (d. March 1564/5), a mercer. Their children were Anne, Elizabeth, Katherine (d.1595+), Ralph (1532-before 1564), Alice (b.1538), Mary (1540-1605), and John (1541-before 1564), and one online genealogy also lists a Christine. As Mistress Shakerley, Anne was a silkwoman. She replaced Margery Vaughan as royal silkwoman in 1544. Also in that year, Shakerley purchased the manor of Aynho, Northamptonshire for £1060. This became the family seat. Anne was buried there on April 16, 1571.

The testatrix' mother had two brothers and a sister:

-Lewis Winwood (d. before 1522?), who married Anne Wingfield, the daughter of Sir John Wingfield (d.1509) of Letheringham, Suffolk, and Anne, daughter of John Touchet, 6th Baron Audley. Anne Wingfield's brother, Sir Anthony Wingfield (d. August 1522), married Elizabeth Vere, eldest daughter of Sir George Vere (died c. 1503), and sister of John de Vere (1499-1527), 14th Earl of Oxford. See the will of Elizabeth Vere, dated 28 July 1557 and proved 13 November 1559, TNA PROB 11/42B/640, and the Wingfield pedigree at:

<http://www.letheringhamlodge.com/wingfield-of-wingfield-and-letheringham>

By Anne Wingfield, Lewis Winwood was the father of Richard Winwood (d.1571), who married Joyce Blackenhall (buried 28 May 1617), by whom he was the father of Sir Ralph Winwood (1562/3–1617). See the nuncupative will of Richard Winwood, dated 21 April 1571 and proved 16 June 1571, TNA PROB 11/53/324, and the *ODNB* entry for Sir Ralph Winwood:

Winwood, Sir Ralph (1562/3–1617), diplomat and secretary of state, was born at Aynho in Northamptonshire, one of five children of Richard Winwood (d. before 1570), who worked land in the neighbourhood, and his wife, Joan (née Blackenhall) (d. 1617). The family lived on the fringes of gentility. His paternal grandfather, Lewis Winwood of London, had been a secretary to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk. A great-uncle, Thomas Winwood, was a London stockfishmonger, while a great-aunt, Anne (d. 1571), married Rowland Sharkerley, a London merchant and gentleman who had originally purchased the manor of Aynho from the earl of Arundel for £1600 in 1538. After Richard Winwood's death his widow, Joan, was remarried twice, first to a Mr Richardson and

then, following his death, to John Weekes of Buckinghamshire, a yeoman ordinary to Queen Elizabeth.

After the death of Richard Winwood, Joyce Blackenhall married secondly Thomas Richardson (d. November 1573) of Bow Brickhill, Buckinghamshire, for whose will, proved 10 December 1574, see TNA PROB 11/56/595, and thirdly John Weekes of Buckingham, yeoman of the guard to Queen Elizabeth.

For Lewis Winwood, see also the pedigree of Winwood of Ditton in Rylands, W. Harry, ed., *The Visitation of the County of Buckingham Made in 1634*, (London: Harleian Society, 1909), Vol. LVIII, p. 131 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationofcoun5859byuphil/page/130>

For Lewis Winwood, see also Gunn, S.J., *Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk c.1484-1545*, (Oxford: Basil Blackwell Ltd., 1988), pp. 48, 63, 71.

-Thomas Winwood (d.1522?), stockfishmonger of London. He was born at Wolverley, Worcestershire. In his will, dated 22 September 1522 and proved 26 August 1523, TNA PROB 11/21/203, he mentions three children, Robert Winwood and William Winwood, and the child 'that my wife goeth with'; his mother, Anne Winwood; his sisters, Anne and Elizabeth Winwood; the children of his brother, Lewis Winwood; his mother-in-law, Alice Clerk; his 'brother', Thomas Clerk and 'sister', Joan Clerk; Thomas Parpoynt and John Awode, stockfishmonger.

-Elizabeth Winwood.

For the will of the testatrix' mother, Anne (nee Winwood) Shakerley, dated 13 March 1571 and proved 11 May 1571, in which she mentions her son Ralph, deceased; her daughters, Elizabeth Nicholas, Christian Harding and Mary Marmion; her grandchildren Francis Elkyn and Mary Elkyn, Walter Marler and Anne Nicholas; and her cousin, Alice Nichols, see TNA PROB 11/53/250.

Testatrix' siblings

The testatrix is known to have had a brother and four sisters:

-Ralph Shakerley (d. before 1565), who married Alice Radcliffe, said to have been the daughter of Hugh Radcliffe of Stepney and Millicent Jekyll. After the death of Ralph Shakerley, Alice Radcliffe married secondly George Stratford (d.1581) of Farmcote, Gloucestershire. See her will, dated 15 November 1597 and proved 12 January 1600, TNA PROB 11/95/8, and the will of George Stratford, dated 24 March 1581 and proved 4 November 1581, TNA PROB 11/63/523. See also the Stratford pedigree in Maclean, John and W.C. Heane, eds., *The Visitation of the County of Gloucester, Taken in the Year 1623*, (London: Harleian Society, 1885), Vol. XXI, p. 157 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationofcoun00inchit/page/156>

See also the will, TNA PROB 11/110/418, of Alice (nee Hodgkins) Hoby, whose daughter, Elizabeth Hoby (d.1623), married George Stratford (d.1623) of Farmcote, great-nephew of George Stratford (d.1581).

By Alice Radcliffe, the testatrix' brother, Ralph Shakerley (d. before 1565), had a son and daughter:

(1) Rowland Shakerley (1563-1570). According to the inquisition post mortem taken 23 May 1565 after the death of his grandfather (see Madge, *supra*), he was his grandfather's heir and was aged one year, six months, three weeks and one day at his grandfather's death. At his own death in 1570, his heir was his 7-year-old sister, Anne Shakerley (1563-1615). See Keene, *supra*.

(2) Anne Shakerley (1563-1615), who married, as his first wife, Sir Paul Tracy (d.1626), the son of the lay Protestant reformer, Richard Tracy (by 1501-1568), and Barbara Lucy, the daughter of Sir Thomas Lucy (d.1525) of Charlcote, Warwickshire, by Elizabeth Empson, the daughter of Sir Richard Empson (d.1510). In the will below, the testatrix refers to Anne Shakerley as 'my cousin Tracy, my brother's daughter'.

For Sir Paul Tracy, see the will of Alice (nee Hodgkins) Hoby (d.1607?), TNA PROB 11/110/418, and the entry at:

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Tracy-243>

See also the Tracy pedigree in Burke, John and John Bernard Burke, eds., *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies of England, Ireland and Scotland*, 2nd ed., (London: Scott, Webster, and Geary, 1841), p. 531 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=DqkTAAAYAAJ&pg=PA531>

See also the will of Richard Tracy, TNA PROB 11/50/107, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/tracy-richard-1501-69>

See also the Wikipedia entry for Richard Tracy at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Tracy

Sir Paul Tracy married secondly the testatrix' daughter, Anne Nicholas (d.1625). See below.

-Katherine Shakerley (d. before 1571?). In her father's will she is referred to as 'Katherine Longe'. She is not mentioned in her mother's will, and may have predeceased her. Quare whether her husband's surname was perhaps 'Yonge', rather than 'Longe'.

-Christian Shakerley, who married firstly, as his second wife, the London salter and alderman, John Harding (d.1576), for whose will, dated 30 September 1576 and proved 19 October 1576, see TNA PROB 11/58/384.

Christian Shakerley married secondly, by licence dated 29 November 1577, Sir Ralph Bouchier (d. 11 June 1598), whose first wife was Elizabeth Hall, the daughter of Francis Hall (d. 10 June 1552), esquire, of Grantham, Lincolnshire, by Ursula Sharington (d.1569), the daughter of Thomas Sharington (d.1524?) and Katherine Pyrton. Elizabeth Hall was the sister of Lord Burghley's ward, the translator, Arthur Hall (1539-1605). For the will of Francis Hall, see TNA PROB 11/43/610.

After the death of Christian Shakerley, Sir Ralph Bouchier married thirdly Anne Coote (d. August 1598), widow. See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, pp. 363-4 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=kjme027UeagC&pg=PA364>

-Alice Shakerley. In her father's will, she is referred to as Alice Love. She is not mentioned in her mother's will, and may have predeceased her. She married Giles Love of Broughton, Oxfordshire, eldest son of Edward Love (d.1557) of Aynho by his first wife, Alice Arden, the daughter of John Arden of Cottisford, Oxfordshire. See the will of Edward Love, dated 20 June 1557 and proved 2 September 1557, TNA PROB 11/39/366, and the pedigree of Love of Aynho in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Northamptonshire Made in 1564 and 1618-19*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1887), p. 188 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationsnort00vincgoog/page/n202>

For the Arden family of Cottisford, see:

'Parishes: Cottisford', in *A History of the County of Oxford: Volume 6*, ed. Mary D Lobel (London, 1959), pp. 103-116. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/oxon/vol6/pp103-116> [accessed 30 July 2019].

Alice (nee Shakerley) Love's two daughters, Mary Love and Elizabeth Love, are mentioned in the will below.

-Mary Shakerley, who married Thomas Marmion (buried 24 August 1583) of Lincoln's Inn, by whom she was the grandmother of the playwright, Shakerley Marmion (1603-1639). See the will of Thomas Marmion (d.1583), TNA PROB 11/65/518, and the *ODNB* entry for Shakerley Marmion:

Marmion, Shackerley (1603–1639), playwright and poet, was born in the village of Aynho in Northamptonshire on 21 January 1603, the eldest of four children of Shackerley Marmion (1575–1642) and his wife, Mary, née Lukyn (d. 1632). The family estate at Aynho had been secured by the playwright's great-grandfather Rowland Shackerley, who died in 1565. Shackerley Marmion senior was the eldest son of Thomas Marmion of Lincoln's Inn, who died in 1583 but who in 1577 had married Mary, the youngest daughter of Rowland Shackerley of Aynho.

For the Marmion family, see also Lee, Frederick George, *The History, Description, and Antiquities of the Prebendal Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Thame*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1883), p. 530 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=f1oMAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA711&lpg=PA711>

Mary (nee Shakerley) Marmion's daughter, Anne Marmion, is mentioned in the will below.

Thomas Marmion was a witness to the will of the testatrix' third husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas.

Testatrix' cousins

The testatrix' cousin, Joyce Weekes, was Joyce Blackenhall (buried 28 May 1617), widow of the testatrix' first cousin, Richard Winwood (d.1571). See above.

The testatrix 'cousin Sebright' can perhaps be identified with William Sebright (1541-1620) of Blakeshall in Wolverley, Worcestershire, Town Clerk of London from 1574-1613, for whom see the entry for Sebright in Grazebrook, H. Sydney, *The Heraldry of Worcestershire*, (London: John Russell Smith, 1873), p. 505 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=R2MxzMvHylkC&pg=PA505>

William Sebright may have married a daughter of the testatrix' uncle, Thomas Winwood (d.1522), who was born in Wolverley (see above).

For William Sebright, see also:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Town_Clerk_of_London

See also the Sebright pedigree in Howard, Joseph Jackson and George John Armytage, eds., *The Visitation of London in the Year 1568*, (London: Harleian Society, 1869), Vol. I, p. 14 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=vSnTAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA14>

See also MacCoinnich, Aonghas, *Plantation and Civility in the North Atlantic World*, (Leiden: Brill, 2015), p. 310 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=YqGXCgAAQBAJ&pg=PA310>

The testatrix' cousin, Mr Doctor Matthew, appears to be Tobie Matthew (1544?-1628), later Archbishop of York, for whom see the *ODNB* entry. Doctor Matthew is also mentioned as a 'cousin' in the will of the testatrix' third husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas. His family relationship to the testatrix and her third husband is unknown.

The testatrix' cousin, Richard Yonge, was an investor in the Frobisher voyages to the Canadian Arctic in 1576-1578, and was likely the Richard Yonge who was one of the Commissioners to whom Oxford wrote on 21 May 1578 offering to invest £1000 or more in Frobisher's third voyage. See TNA SP 12/149/42, f. 108v. See also TNA E 211/54.

The testatrix bequeaths a gold ring to Richard Yonge's son-in-law ('my cousin Ellis, his son-in-law'). He can likely be identified with the 'Mr Ellis, gentleman of Gray's Inn', mentioned in the will of the testatrix' husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas. An Edward Ellis and a William Ellis were admitted to Gray's Inn in 1574. See Foster, Joseph, *The Register of Admissions to Gray's Inn, 1521-1889*, (London: The Hansard Publishing Union, Limited, 189), pp. 46-7 at:

<https://archive.org/details/cu31924029785452/page/n47>

The testatrix' 'cousin Smyth' can perhaps be identified with Matthew Smyth (1533-1583) of the Middle Temple who is mentioned in a settlement between himself and Francis Barnham, alderman, and Richard Yonge involving the manor of Sturdon in Gloucestershire 'in consideration of a marriage already had between Matthew Smyth and his wife, Jane'. See Bristol Archives AC/S/3/2 in the National Archives online catalogue. Matthew Smyth married Jane Tewther, widow of Bartholomew Skerne of Pattiswick Hall, Essex, and daughter of Thomas Tewther of Ludlow. See Bettey, J.H., *The Rise of a Gentry Family: The Smyths of Ashton Court c.1500-1642*, (Bristol: Bristol Branch of the Historical Association, 1978), p. 13, available as a pdf file online at:

bris.ac.uk/Depts/History/bristolrecords_society/publications/bha043.pdf

For Matthew Smyth, see also Bettey, J.H., ed., *Calendar of the Correspondence of the Smyth Family of Ashton Court, 1548-1642*, (Gloucester: Alan Sutton Publishing Limited, 1982), p. xii, available online as a pdf file at:

<https://www.bristol.ac.uk/Depts/History/bristolrecordsociety/publications.htm>

The testatrix 'cousin Gamage' can likely be identified with William Gamage, ironmonger, mentioned in the will of the testatrix' third husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas, and the 'William Gamage, gentleman', son and heir of Anthony Gamage (d.1579), who was a subsequent owner of the messuage at St Pancras in Soper Lane formerly owned by

the testatrix' father. See Keene, *supra*. See also the will, proved July 1579, of Anthony Gamage, alderman and ironmonger of London, TNA PROB 11/61/341; the inquisition post mortem taken after his death, TNA C 142/190/22, and:

'Inquisitions: 1580', in *Abstracts of Inquisitiones Post Mortem For the City of London: Part 3*, ed. E A Fry (London, 1908), pp. 19-32. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/inquis-post-mortem/abstract/no3/pp19-32> [accessed 31 July 2019].

See also the Gamage pedigree in Howard, Joseph Jackson and George John Armytage, eds., *The Visitation of London in the Year 1568*, (London: Harleian Society, 1869), Vol. I, p. 14 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=vSnTAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA14>

William Gamage married Elizabeth Harding, the daughter of the testatrix' brother-in-law, John Harding (d.1576). See the will of John Harding, TNA PROB 11/58/384.

The testatrix also mentions her stepsons, John Nicholas and Daniel Nicholas. As mentioned above, Daniel Nicholas was a witness in the Belott v Mountjoy lawsuit, and is stated therein to have had a personal conversation with William Shakespeare (1564-1616) of Stratford upon Avon.

The London grocer, Richard Yonge, and members of the Ellis, Sebright and Gamage families are also mentioned in the 1578 will of the testatrix' third husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas.

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

Testatrix' first marriage

The testatrix married firstly, by 1551, Richard Elkyn (d.1559), about whose family little is known. He had a brother living in 1583 to whom the testatrix leaves a bequest in the will below.

The testatrix' first husband was likely the Richard Elkyn who by licence dated 15 July 1529 married Joan Carter of the parish of St Bartholomew the Less. See Armytage, George J., ed., *Allegations for Marriage Licences Issued by the Bishop of London 1520 to 1610*, Vol. I, (London: Harleian Society, 1887), Vol. XXV, p. 7 at:

<https://archive.org/details/allegationsform01londgoog/page/n13>

Circa 1558 Richard Elkyn resided in the 'great messuage' in St Pancras which had been leased successively to Robert Pakington and to the testatrix' father, Rowland Shakerley. See Keene, *supra*:

The messuage, with its shops, cellars, chambers, warehouses, yards, and entries, was now inhabited by Richard Elkyn

For the will of Robert Pakington, see TNA PROB 11/27/46.

For Richard Elkyn as a charter member of the Muscovy Company incorporated 26 February 1555, together with Oxford's future father-in-law, Sir William Cecil, and the testatrix' second husband, Walter Marler, see *Accounts and Papers of the House of Commons*, Vol. 55, 1856, p. 53 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=4KpbAAAAQAAJ&pg=RA1-PA53>

For the Muscovy Company, see also the Wikipedia entry at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muscovy_Company

Richard Elkyn was buried 'beside the font' in the church of St Pancras, Soper Lane, on 13 June 1559. See Bannerman, W. Bruce, ed., *The Registers of St. Mary le Bowe, Cheapside, All Hallows, Honey Lane, and of St. Pancras, Soper Lane, London; Part I: Baptisms and Burials*, (London: Harleian Society, 1914), Vol. XLIV, p. 287 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/286>

In the will below, the testatrix names six children, four of whom were the children of her first marriage to Richard Elkyn:

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, Anne Nicholas, so much money of my legacy and gift as her portion and orphanage due to her by and from her father, Sir Ambrose Nicholas. . . .

And if it shall happen my said daughter, Anne, to die before her said lawful age or marriage, then my will and mind is, and by this my last will and testament I will, give and bequeath five hundred pounds of that my legacy to her bequeathed to my five children, that is to say, Francis Elkyn, Walter Marler, Ester [=Hester] Powell, Grace Harding and Mary Jarvys, to every of them one hundred pounds.

It appears from the parish register of St Pancras, Soper Lane, that by Richard Elkyn the testatrix had a son and four daughters (one of whom, her daughter, Frances Elkyn, predeceased her):

* **Francis Elkyn** (baptized 14 February 1554). His godparents were Sir Francis Fleming, Sir William Damsell, and Lady Jane Lomner. See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 131 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/130>

The testatrix' son can perhaps be identified with Francis Elkyn, mercer, who married Joan Becke, the daughter of Richard Becke(?), esquire, and made his will 6 September 1586 stating that he was 'departing for Middleburgh for my freedom'. The will was proved 13 January 1587. See TNA PROB 11/70/22.

* **Hester Elkyn** (baptized September 1552, living 1583). She and her sister, Grace, appear to have been twins. Her godparents were Mark Dyngle, gentleman, Dame Joan Warren, and Winifred Gervys. See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 130. According to the will below, she married a husband surnamed Powell, by whom she had three sons (Roland Powell, Thomas Powell and William Powell) and two daughters (Elizabeth Powell and Anne Powell).

* **Grace Elkyn** (baptized 17 September 1552, living 1603). Her godparents were Christopher Meringe, Joan Wilkinson, and Elizabeth Medley. See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 131. She is left a bequest in the will, TNA PROB 11/58/384, of the testatrix' brother-in-law, John Harding (d.1576), husband of Christian Shakerley. In the will of the testatrix' third husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas (d.1578), Grace and her future husband are referred to as 'Thomas Harding, salter, and Grace, his wife that shall be'; it thus appears that Grace Elkyn and Thomas Harding were married c.1578. For the nuncupative will of Thomas Harding, salter, of Stepney, proved 15 August 1603, in which he bequeaths all his goods to his wife, Grace, leaving it to her discretion to dispose 'anything to her daughter', see TNA PROB 11/102/52. According to the will below, Grace Elkyn and Thomas Harding had a son, John Harding.

* **Mary Elkyn** (baptized 30 November 1553, living 1583). Her godparents were Mr George Wrytt, Lady Jane Fleming, and the testatrix' aunt, Grace (nee Shakerley) Talbot (d.1558), Countess of Shrewsbury. See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 131. She is mentioned in the 1571 will of her grandmother (see above). She married a husband surnamed Jarvys or Gervys, perhaps the son of Richard Gervys and his wife, Winifred (see above), by whom she had a daughter, Christian Jarvys.

* **Frances Elkyn** (baptized 1 May 1559). Her godparents were Sir William More of Loseley (d.1600), Frances Rich, wife of Oxford's first cousin, John Darcy (d.1581), 2nd Baron Darcy of Chiche, and Clare Needham, wife of George Needham. See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 133. For the will of John Darcy, 2nd Baron Darcy, see TNA PROB 11/63/135. Frances Elkyn was buried 'beside the font' in the parish church of St Pancras, Soper Lane, on 5 August 1559. See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 287 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/286>

Testatrix' second marriage

The testatrix married secondly the London haberdasher, Walter Marler (d. 22 June 1561), who, as noted above, was a charter member of the Muscovy Company in 1555.

For the pedigree of the Marlar family of Essex, see Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, p. 74 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=0m1KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA74>

Walter Marler's first wife, whom he married on 12 May 1545, was Mary Dale, the daughter of the London haberdasher, Matthew Dale (d.1550). For the will, proved 6 May 1550, of Matthew Dale in which Walter Marler was appointed one of the overseers, see TNA PROB 6 May 1550, and:

<http://govthomasdale.blogspot.com/2011/11/matthew-dale-of-london.html>

See also the pedigree of the Dale family in Metcalfe, *supra*, p. 186 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=0m1KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA186>

In his will dated 22 June 1561 and proved 26 July 1561, TNA PROB 11/44/277, Walter Marler mentions his wife, Elizabeth, and two sons and four daughters (Walter, William, Jane, Elizabeth, Mary and Eleanor), as well as the 'child my wife goeth with'. The will stipulates that the London haberdasher, Clement Kelke (d. 23 September 1593), is to have custody of Walter, Elizabeth and Mary Marler, while Henry Dale is have custody of William, Jane and Eleanor Marler. For the will of Clement Kelke, see TNA PROB 11/82/357.

Walter Marler's will thus suggests that he had two sons and four daughters by his first wife, Mary Dale:

-Walter Marler (d.1582), haberdasher of London. In his will, dated 24 October 1582 and proved 8 December 1582, TNA PROB 11/64/551, he mentions his brothers, William Marler and Walter Marler, and his sister, Jane Marler, wife of Ambrose Gylott, as well as Clement Kelke.

-William Marler (born 30 April 1556?, living 1583). See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 5 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/4>

As noted above, William Marler is mentioned in the will of his brother, Walter Marler, *supra*. He is also mentioned by the testatrix in the will below.

-Jane Marler (baptized 28 January 1551, living 1583). See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 4. She and her husband, Ambrose Gylatt of London, salter, are mentioned in the will of her brother, Walter Marler, *supra*. She is also mentioned by the testatrix in the will below.

-Elizabeth Marler (baptized 15 July 1553). See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 5. She is not mentioned in the 1582 will of Walter Marler.

-**Mary Marler** (baptized 19 February 1555?). See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 5. She is not mentioned in the 1582 will of Walter Marler.

-**Eleanor Marler** (baptized 11 September 1557?). See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 6. She is not mentioned in the 1582 will of Walter Marler.

It appears the child born to the testatrix after Walter Marler made his will in 1561 was a son:

* **Walter Marler** (baptized 2 September 1561). See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 134. The testatrix' will below implies that he was under 21 years of age on 24 January 1583:

Item, I give to Walter Marler, my son, to be paid unto him when he shall accomplish th' age of one and twenty years, five hundred pounds.

However it appears from the date of his baptism that he would already have turned 21 years of age on 2 September 1582.

For Walter Marler as the testatrix' executor, see TNA C 2/Eliz/M12/39.

It appears Walter Marler married, by licence dated 17 July 1584, Anne Barne, daughter of Sir George Barne. See Foster, Joseph, ed., *London Marriage Licences 1521-1869*, (London: Bernard Quaritch, 1887), p. 886 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=Xf8cAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA885>

See also the Barne pedigree in Howard, Joseph Jackson, and George John Armytage, eds., *The Visitation of London in the Year 1568*, (London: Harleian Society, 1869), Vol. I, p. 25 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=W1s_AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA25

For the marriage of Walter Marler and Anne Barne, see also Pleasants, J. Hall, 'The Lovelace Family and Its Connections', *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 29, No. 1, (January 1921), pp. 110-124 at p. 121, available as a pdf file online at:

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/4243807.pdf>

For the burial of the testatrix' second husband, Walter Marler, on 25 June 1561, see Bannerman, *supra*, p. 173 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/172>

See also Bannerman, *supra*, p. 287 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/286>

22 June 1561, Walter Marler, haberdasher of this parish, died 22 June 1561 & was buried in Bowe church 25 day of the same month

Testatrix' third marriage

The testatrix married thirdly Sir Ambrose Nicholas (d.1578). For his children by his first marriage, see his will, TNA PROB 11/60/296.

By Ambrose Nicholas, the testatrix had one child:

* **Anne Nicholas** (d.1625) who married firstly, by licence dated 2 October 1583, William Dutton (d.1618), esquire, of Sherborne, Dorset, by whom she had seven sons and seven daughters. See Foster, Joseph, ed., *London Marriage Licences 1521-1869*, (London: Bernard Quaritch, 1887), p. 431 at:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=gri.ark:/13960/t3rv3t64r&view=1up&seq=246>

See also the Dutton pedigree in Burke, John and John Bernard Burke, eds., *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies of England, Ireland and Scotland*, 2nd ed., (London: Scott, Webster, and Geary, 1841), p. 178 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=DqkTAAAYAAJ&pg=PA178>

Anne Nicholas married secondly, on 19 August 1619 at St James Clerkenwell, Sir Paul Tracy (d.1626), whose first wife was Anne Shakerley (d.1615), the daughter and heiress of the testatrix' brother, Ralph Shakerley (see above).

As noted above, the testatrix' third husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas, purchased Oxford's mansion near London Stone in 1573.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

Jane Boxe was the testatrix' stepdaughter, Jane Nicholas, who married the London grocer, Thomas Boxe, by whom had a son and two daughters, William Boxe, Elizabeth Boxe and Anne Boxe. See the will of Sir Ambrose Nicholas, TNA PROB 11/60/296.

Elizabeth Gilborne was the testatrix' stepdaughter, Elizabeth Nicholas, who married the London draper, John Gilborne, by whom she had several children, including a son, Nicholas Gilborne. See the will of Sir Ambrose Nicholas, *supra*. For John Gilborne (d.1602), see his will, dated 20 March 1601 and proved 7 September 1602, TNA PROB 11/100/186, in which he bequeaths £3 to 'my brother [=brother-in-law] Daniel Nicholas'. See also the Gilborne pedigree, which states that John Gilborne, second son of William Gilborne of Erswick, married the daughter of Sir Ambrose Nicholas. See Hovenden,

Robert, *The Visitation of Kent Taken in the Years 1619-1621*, (London: Harleian Society, 1898), Vol. XLII, p. 192 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=Xq1zM7rt9LkC&pg=PA192>

See also an order dated 19 November 1599 in a Chancery suit brought by Elizabeth Nicholas and her husband, John Gilborne, against Anne Nicholas and her husband, William Dutton, in Munro, Cecil, *Acta Cacellariae*, (London: William Benning and Co., 1847), p. 731 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=q3ZjAAAACAAJ&pg=PA731>

The testatrix leaves bequests to Nicholas Turner, Thomas Turner, Ambrose Turner and Jane Turner, the children of the testatrix' deceased stepdaughter, Susan Nicholas, and her husband, William Turner. See the will of Sir Ambrose Nicholas, *supra*.

Ambrose Gillett, salter, mentioned in the will below can likely be identified with Ambrose Gillett, nephew of the testatrix' third husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas.

'Mistress Hammerton' can likely be identified with Bennet Castelyn, who married William Hammerton on 16 March 1548. See *Allegations for Marriage Licences*, *supra*, p. 12 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/allegationsforma00cant#page/12/mode/2up>

Bennet Castelyn was the daughter of the London mercer, William Castelyn, and Angelet Vlacho (buried 19 August 1570), the eldest daughter and heir of Michel Vlacho of Chios, Greece. See the will of William Castelyn, TNA PROB 11/32/39, and *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society*, (London: J.B. Nichols and Sons, 1870), Vol. III, p. 7 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=5joQAAAAAYAAJ&pg=RA2-PA7>

For the will of Bennet Castelyn Hammerton's sister, Elizabeth Castelyn, who married, as his second wife, Sir Roger Martyn (d.1573), Lord Mayor of London, father of Humphrey Martin (d.1587), addressee of the *Langham Letter*, see TNA PROB 11/65/430. She is referred to as 'the Lady Martyn' in the will of the testatrix' husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas.

For the testatrix' friend, Sir Lionel Duckett (d.1587), Lord Mayor of London in 1572, see the *ODNB* entry, and his will, TNA PROB 11/72/212.

For the testatrix' friend, Sir Rowland Hayward (c.1520-1593), Lord Mayor of London in 1570 and 1591, see the *ODNB* entry.

For the testatrix' friend, Sir John Rivers (d.1584), Lord Mayor of London in 1573, see the Wikipedia entry at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Rivers

For the testatrix' friend, Sir Nicholas Woodruff (c.1530-1598), Lord Mayor of London in 1579, see the Wikipedia entry at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicholas_Woodroffe

For the testatrix' friend, William Fleetwood (c.1525-1594), Recorder of London, see the *ODNB* entry.

For the testatrix' friend, Sir Edward Osborne (1530?-1591), Lord Mayor of London in 1583, see the Wikipedia entry at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Osborne

For the testatrix' friend, Sir George Barne (c.1532-1593), Lord Mayor of London in 1586, see the Wikipedia entry at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Barne_III

The testatrix' friend 'Master Alderman Dixon' was likely Sir Wolstan Dixie (c.1524-1594), Lord Mayor of London in 1585, for whom see the Wikipedia entry at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wolstan_Dixie

Thomas Thornton, Robert Sole, John Jackson, John Ireland, Thomas Barber and Mary Hatton mentioned in the will below are also mentioned in the will of the testatrix' husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas, TNA PROB 11/60/296.

For Robert Sole, salter, see his will, dated 18 July 1593 and proved 17 April 1595, TNA PROB 11/85/247. For a summary of his will, see Ridlon, G.T., *A Contribution to the History, Biography and Genealogy of the Families Named Sole, Solly, Soule, Sowle, Soulis*, (Lewiston, Maine: Journal Press, 1926) at:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=wu.89066291287&view=1up&seq=214>

Robert Sole was appointed an overseer of the will of the testatrix' husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas. It is unclear why he is referred to as 'Robert Sole *Pakington*' in the will below.

For John Jackson, pewterer, see his will, dated 10 May 1591 and proved 30 September 1592, TNA PROB 11/80/265.

For John Ireland, salter, see his will, proved 27 June 1614, TNA PROB 11/123/716.

The testatrix' 'very good friend, Mr Dean of Paul's' was Alexander Nowell (c.1516-1602), Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, a first cousin of Oxford's tutor, the antiquary, Laurence Nowell (1530-c.1570). See the *ODNB* entries for Alexander Nowell and Laurence Nowell.

'Master Doctor Walker' appears to be John Walker (d.1588), Archdeacon of Essex and prebendary of Mora of St Paul's Cathedral, for whom see the *ODNB* entry. He is referred to as 'Mr Archdeacon Walker' in the will of the testatrix' husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas.

'Master Foxe, the preacher' appears to be the martyrologist, John Foxe (c.1516-1587), for whom see the *ODNB* entry.

LM: T{estamentum} Domine Elizabethe Nicholas

In the name of God Amen, the 24th day of January in the five and twentieth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, I, Dame Elizabeth Nicholas of London, being in good health and of perfect remembrance (laud and praise be unto Almighty God), do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First and principally I recommend my soul to Almighty God, my Creator and Maker, and to his only beloved Son, Jesus Christ, my only Saviour and Redeemer, by and through whose bitter death and passion I faithfully trust [+and] verily believe to be saved;

And my will and mind is that my body shall be buried [f. 348r] in Saint Mildred's over that vault where Sir Ambrose Nicholas, knight, my late husband, lieth, without any great pomp or vain show of the world;

And touching all my goods and chattels, plate, ready money and jewels which God shall leave me at the time of my decease, after my debts paid and my funeral charges borne, my will and mind is that the same shall be paid and bestowed by my executors in manner and form as hereafter in this my last will and testament I shall give and bequeath:

Whereof first and principally I give and bequeath to the poor people of the parish of Saint Mildred's in Bread Street in London twenty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor of the Hospital of Christ's Church twenty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor of th' Hospital of Saint Thomas in Southwark ten pounds;

Item, I give to the poor in th' Hospital of Saint Bartholomew's in Smithfield thirty-three pounds six shillings eight pence;

Item, I give for the redemption and delivery of poor prisoners lying in Newgate, Ludgate and either of the Counters twenty pounds, that is to say, to the prisoners of either of the said prisons five pounds, which money I will shall be delivered to such prisoners as have been accounted honest men and women by the direction and appointment of the Dean of Paul's, if he be then living, and if he be not living, then by the' appointment of my executors;

Item, I give to twenty poor men and forty and nine poor women to go with my body to be buried, to every of them a gown of black cloth of six shillings eight pence the yard, of which number I will twelve of them to be those poor almswomen which my late husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas, did appoint to be relieved with his charity and alms forever;

RM: Confirmat{ur} per S{e}n{tenc}iam diff{initiv}a{m} Latem sexto maij 1584to
[=This was confirmed by definitive sentence allowed on the sixth of May 1584]

Item, I give and bequeath to the Company of the Salters in London a hundred pounds to remain with them as a stock forever, which stock my will and mind is shall be delivered to two young men of that Company in occupying, that is to say, to every of them fifty pounds for three years, they putting in good band with sureties for the true and just answering thereof at the three years' end to the Master and Wardens of the Company of Salters for the time being, and then to be delivered to two other young men of the same Company in manner and form aforesaid, and so to continue forever, the said young men to yield and pay yearly to the said Master and Wardens in consideration of the use and occupying of the said hundred pounds, forty shillings, that is to say, every fifty pounds twenty shillings, which forty shillings my will and mind is that the said Master and Wardens of the Company of Salters shall yearly forever pay to the poor people of the parish of Saint Mildred's, London, twenty shillings thereof to be distributed and paid on Christmas even, and thother twenty shillings on Easter even, and my will and mind is that the same hundred pounds shall be delivered for the first three years to Thomas Thornton and Ambrose Gillett, they entering into band with good sureties to the Master and Wardens of the Company of Salters as I have before willed and devised;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Master, Wardens & Company of Salters one hundred pounds to remain with them as a stock forever, which hundred pound my will and mind is shall be delivered to two honest young men of the said Company in occupying for two years, they putting in good band with sureties to the Master and Wardens of the said Company for the time being for the repayment thereof at the two years' end, and also to answer and pay for the occupying thereof six pounds thirteen shillings four pence yearly, which six pounds thirteen shillings four pence I will, give and bequeath to the poor people dwelling in Needingworth and Saint Ives in the county of Huntingdon, to be distributed yearly forever by th' appointment of the Master and Wardens of the Company of Salters aforesaid, that is to say, one year to the poor people of Needingworth and the next year to the poor people of Saint Ives;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor people dwelling within the ward of Bread Street, London, ten pounds;

Item, I give unto the poor dwelling within the wards of Walbrook & Portsoken [f. 348v], to every of the same wards five pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor colliers dwelling in the parishes of Longstone and Aynho, to either of them forty shillings;

Item, I will, give and bequeath to the two universities, Oxford and Cambridge, threescore pounds, that is to say, to either of them thirty pounds, to be paid within one year after my decease, and my mind and desire is that the same threescore pounds shall be given to the poor [-scholars] [+and?] needy scholars such as have small exhibition and have directed their studies to divinity only by the direction of my cousin, Mr Doctor Matthew;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, Anne Nicholas, so much money of my legacy and gift as her portion and orphanage due to her by and from her father, Sir Ambrose Nicholas, by the laudable custom of the city of London shall amount unto, for which there is now sureties put into the Orphans' Court, I mean fifteen hundred pounds, the same to be paid to her when she shall accomplish her lawful age of one and twenty years or marriage, which of them first shall happen;

And if it shall happen my said daughter, Anne, to die before her said lawful age or marriage, then my will and mind is, and by this my last will and testament I will, give and bequeath five hundred pounds of that my legacy to her bequeathed to my five children, that is to say, Francis Elkyn, Walter Marler, Ester [=Hester] Powell, Grace Harding and Mary Jarvys, to every of them one hundred pounds;

Item, I give to Francis Elkyn, my son, two hundred pounds;

Item, I give to Walter Marler, my son, to be paid unto him when he shall accomplish th' age of one and twenty years, five hundred pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter Powell one hundred pound;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter Jarvys one hundred and fifty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, Grace Harding, one hundred and forty pounds upon condition that her husband, Thomas Harding, and she shall release to my executors all actions and demands whatsoever which they or either of them may have against my executors for any promise made to the said Thomas Harding by my late husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas, in consideration of the marriage of my said daughter, Grace;

Item, I give to John Harding, her son, twenty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to Christian Jarvys, my daughter's daughter, one hundred pound to be paid at the day of her marriage or the age of one and twenty years, which of the first shall happen, and if the said Christian happen to die before her said age of one and twenty years or marriage, then I give and bequeath the said hundred pound to my daughter, Mary Jarvys, her mother, and if it happen my daughter Mary Jarvys to decease before the said Christian shall happen to be married or come to her lawful age of one and twenty years, then after the death of the said Christian Jarvys as aforesaid I give and bequeath the said hundred pound to the children of my daughter Powell and the children of my daughter, Grace Harding, that then shall happen to be living, to be equally divided amongst them;

Item, I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Powell, Roland Powell, Anne Powell, Thomas Powell and William Powell, to every of them twenty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter [=stepdaughter], Jane Boxe, one hundred pounds;

Item, to her children, William, Elizabeth and Anne, to every of them six pounds thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Gilborne, my daughter [=stepdaughter], fifty pounds, and to her son, Nicholas, my godson, six pounds thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to Jane Marler and Ambrose, her husband, twenty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to William Marler ten pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to my sister Marmion ten pounds, and to her daughter, Anne Marmion, six pounds thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to Mary and Elizabeth Love, my sister's Love's daughters, to either of them twenty pounds;

Item, I give & bequeath to my cousin, Elizabeth Winwood, six pounds thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin, Frances Winwood, six pounds thirteen shillings four pence, and to my cousin, Ralph Winwood, ten pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to Robert Shakerley, my uncle Shakerley's son, towards the repairing of Longstone Hall in [f. 349r] Derbyshire twenty pounds, upon condition that he be bound in sufficient band to Leonard, Philip and Henry Shakerley, my cousins, to bestow the same in repairing and amending the manor or mansion house of Longstone Hall aforesaid within one year after the receipt of this my legacy, and if he refuse to enter into band as aforesaid, or if he do enter into band and do not bestow the said twenty pounds according to this my will, then my will and mind is that my said cousin[s]

Leonard, Philip and Henry Shakerley shall recover the said twenty pounds by force of their bond and retain the same to their own use, to be equally divided amongst them as a legacy by me to them willed and devised;

I give and bequeath to my sister Bouchier twenty pounds, to my brother [=brother-in-law] Marmion twenty pounds, and to my cousin, Mr Richard Yonge, fifty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to Mistress Jennings ten pounds, and to Thomas Thickers six pounds thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to Nicholas Turner and Jane, his sister, to either of them six pounds thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Turner and Ambrose Turner, to either of them three pounds six shillings eight pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to Master Dalby, one of the Lord Mayor his clerks, for his painstaking in making and writing this my last will and testament, ten pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and commonalty of the City of London, for a remembrance of my dutiful goodwill to the state of this honourable City to remain forever, two dozen of silver trenchers parcel gilt, to be engraven with my husband Sir Ambrose Nicholas' arms and mine, which my mind is shall remain with the Lord Mayor for the time being, to be used and occupied upon solemn feasts and other needful times as occasion shall serve;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Master, Wardens and Company of Salters for a recreation or dinner to be made at their hall the day of my burial six pounds thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Greenwood, my servant, for that he shall be careful to help my executors to receive in my debts, five pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to Anthony, my servant, three pounds six shillings eight pence;

To Thomas Ivett, my apprentice, five pounds;

To Mary Hatton, twenty pounds;

To Ellen Kellett, ten pounds;

To Thomas Jones, forty shillings;

To Edward Tomwell, forty shillings;

To William Whighte [=White?], twenty shillings;

To Thomas Thorneton, twenty pounds;

To Anne Burleys [=Borlace?], fifty-three shillings four pence;

To Elizabeth Ireland, forty shillings;

To Susan Nicholson, twenty shillings;

To Ellen White, twenty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to the right worshipful and my very good friend, Sir Lionel Duckett, knight, one ring of gold of the value of three pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to the right worshipful and my very good friends, Sir Rowland Hayward and Sir John Rivers, Sir Nicholas Woodroff, knight, Mr William Fleetwood, esquire, Master Alderman Osborne, Master Alderman Barne and Master Alderman Dixon [sic?], to every [+of them?] a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings;

To my brother [=brother-in-law] Elkyn a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings;

To Mistress Hammerton a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings;

To my cousin Tracy, my brother's daughter, and to her husband, to either of them a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings;

To my cousin, Joyce Weekes, a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to Robert Sole Pakington [sic?] and John Jackson, to every of them a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin Sebright a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings;

To my cousin Master Doctor Matthew, a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings, and to his wife a ring of gold of the value of thirty shillings;

To my cousin Smyth, esquire, a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings, and to his wife a ring of gold of the value of thirty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to Walter Plumer and Francis Braborne, to either of them a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings;

To my [f. 349v] cousin, Master Richard Yonge, a ring of gold of the value of three pounds;

To my cousin Ellis, his son-in-law, a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings, and to his wife a ring of gold of the value of thirty shillings;

To my cousin Mr Richard Yonge's wife a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings;

To my friend, Mr Dalby, one of my Lord Mayor's clerks, a ring of gold of the value of three pounds, and to his wife a ring of gold of the value of forty shillings;

To Thomas Gawood(?) a ring of gold of the value of three pounds six shillings eight pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter [=stepdaughter] Boxe a black gown; to John Ireland, salter, and Elizabeth, his wife, to either of them a black gown, and to his daughter, Elizabeth, a black gown; to Mistress Pagentonn [=Pakington?] a black gown; to Mistress Wainham, a black gown; to Thomas Barber, a black gown; to Thomas Thornton, a black gown; to my brother [=brother-in-law] Elkyn and his wife, to either of them a black gown; to my cousin Sebright and his wife, to either of them a black gown; to my cousin Gamage and his wife, to either of them a black gown; to my very good friend, Mr Dean of Paul's, a black gown; to Master Doctor Walker a black gown; to Master Foxe, the preacher, a black gown; to [+the?] parson of Saint Mildred's, a black gown; to Mr Dalby & his wife, to either of them a black gown; to Master Collins and his wife, to either of them a black gown;

Item, I give and bequeath to my brother [=brother-in-law] Bouchier, to buy him and his wife a black gown, ten pounds;

Item, where I have given and bequeathed to my daughter, Anne Nicholas, the sum of fifteen hundred pounds, and to my son, Walter Marler, five hundred pounds, my will and mind is that if it please God to take out of this world my said daughter, Anne, before her lawful age or marriage, or my son, Walter, before his lawful age of one and twenty years, then I will and devise one thousand pound of those fifteen hundred pounds to her by me bequeathed shall be equally and indifferently divided to and amongst all my children and children's children then living, and in like manner those five hundred pounds to my son, Walter, bequeathed to be also divided if God call him to his mercy before his lawful age;

The residue of all and singular my goods and chattels whatsoever which shall remain after my debts paid and my funerals charges borne and these my legacies performed, my will and mind is and I give & bequeath one hundred pound thereof to be given to poor maids' marriages, not to be given above ten shillings to any one maid, and one hundred pounds of the said residue I give and bequeath to poor decayed men and women not able to maintain themselves by their labour and trade dwelling in London at the discretions of my executors;

And the residue of all my said goods and chattels which then shall remain I give and bequeath to my executors equally between them;

And further I will and my mind is that whensoever it shall please God to call me to his mercy, that my executors shall cause all my household stuff to be sold by the outroper to the best value for the advancement of my children and payment of my legacies;

Item, I will and my mind is that my son, Walter Marler, shall pay yearly to my son [=stepson], Daniel Nicholas, as a legacy given to him by me, ten pound during his natural life, the same to be paid him quarterly, and to my son [=stepson], John Nicholas, ten pounds yearly during his natural life, to be paid him half yearly, and my will and mind is that if Walter, my son, do refuse to pay yearly in manner and form as I have devised, then in consideration thereof I give and bequeath to the said Daniel and John Nicholas, to either of them one hundred pounds;

And as touching the disposition of the inheritance of my house wherein I now dwell, my will and mind is and I give and bequeath the same with their appurtenances to my son, Walter Marler, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue, to my daughter, Anne Nicholas, and to the heirs of her body lawfully begotten forever;

And of this my last will and testament I make and ordain my daughter, Anne Nicholas, and my son, Walter Marler, to be my executors, charging them upon my blessing and as they will answer before God to see my debts and legacies justly and truly [f. 350r] paid, and I pray and heartily desire [NOTE: Text breaks off here].

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum apud London coram m{agist}ro Will{elm}o Mowse Legum Doctore Surrogato venerabilis viri mag{ist}ri Will{el}mi Drury Legum etiam Doctoris curie prerogatiue Cantuarien{sis} Commissarij etc Decimo tertio die mens{is} Septembr{is} Anno Domini mill{es}imo quingentesimo octogesimo tertio Iuramento Richardi Windor notarij publici procuratoris Anne Nicholas et Walteri Marler liberoru{m} et executorum etc Quibus commissa fuit administracio bonorum etc De bene etc Iurat{i}

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before Master William Mowse, Doctor of the Laws, Surrogate of the worshipful Master William Drury, also Doctor of the Laws, Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury etc., on the thirteenth day of the month of September in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred eighty-third by the oath of Richard Windor, notary public, proctor of Anne Nicholas and Walter Marler, children and executors etc., to whom administration was granted of the goods etc., sworn to well etc.]