

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 30 July 1590 and proved 10 November 1592 of Brian Cave, two of whose nephews, Roger Cave (d.1586) and Erasmus Smith, were successively the husbands of Margaret Cecil, sister of Oxford's father-in-law, William Cecil (1520/1-1598), Lord Burghley.

For the testator's family, see Waters, Robert Edmond Chester, *Genealogical Memoirs of the Extinct Family of Chester of Chicheley*, Vol. I, (London: Robson and Sons, 1878), pp. 80-1:

*Bryan Cave, the seventh son of Richard Cave Esq. of Stanford, by his second wife Margaret Saxby, was one of his father's executors and residuary legatees. On the dissolution of Leicester Abbey he had a large share in the plunder; for the impropriate Rectory of Hungerton and the Manor of Ingarsby were granted to him by the Crown in 1540. He was Sheriff of the united counties of Warwick and Leicester in 1558, and was Sheriff of Leicestershire in 1569, and again in 1582. He married two wives; but his first wife Margaret was the mother of his children. She was the daughter of Sir George Throckmorton Kt. by Catherine daughter of Nicholas Lord Vaux, by Elizabeth daughter of Henry Lord Fitz-Hugh, by Alice Nevill sister of Richard Earl of Warwick K.G., 'the king-maker.' She had issue four children, namely:*

*-Edward Cave, son and heir apparent, married Barbara daughter and coheir of Sir William Devereux Kt., and died without issue in his father's lifetime. His widow Barbara married secondly Sir Edward Hastings Kt., fourth son of Francis Earl of Huntingdon.*

*-Henry Cave, son and heir apparent, [who] was above 40 years old in 1592, when he succeeded his father at Ingarsby. He married Elizabeth daughter of Gregory Isham Esq. of Braunston, in Northamptonshire, whose descent from the Lovetts and the Veres of Addington has been shown at page 51. She was a posthumous child, and was the sister of Sir Euseby Isham Kt. of Pytchley, the ancestor of the Baronets of this name. Henry Cave died before 1611.*

*-Francis Cave married and had children.*

*-Mary Cave married Thomas Brown Esq. of Wistow.*

*Brian Cave married secondly Bridget daughter of Sir William Skipwith Kt. of Ormesby, co. Lincoln, one of the Maids of Honour of Queen Elizabeth; but she died 26<sup>th</sup> January 1587-8 without children. Brian Cave lived to a great age, and died 12 September 1592.*

For the will of the testator's father-in-law, Sir George Throckmorton (c.1489-1552), see TNA PROB 11/36, ff. 160-2.

For the will of Alice (nee Dymoke) Skipwith, mother of the testator's second wife, Bridget Skipwith, see TNA PROB 11/33, ff. 68-9. See also:

<http://tao221.wordpress.com/2011/10/01/endless-knight/>

and:

[http://countyhistorian.com/cecilweb/index.php/Husbands\\_Bosworth,\\_Leicestershire](http://countyhistorian.com/cecilweb/index.php/Husbands_Bosworth,_Leicestershire)

*Reference: DG39/217 Creation dates: 12th December 1573; 25th December 1573 Scope and Content Feoffment (i) Brian Cave, esq., Ingarsby and his wife Bridget. (ii) William Brocas, gent., Tur Langton and his wife Elizabeth. (i) to (ii) Manor of Husbands Bosworth with appurtenances. . . .*

As noted above, the testator's eldest son and heir, Edward Cave, predeceased him, and his widow, Barbara (nee Devereux) Cave, married secondly, Sir Edward Hastings (d.1603?), fourth son of Francis Hastings (1513/14-1560), 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Huntingdon, for whom see the History of Parliament biography at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/hastings-sir-edward-1603>.

For the will, proved 2 November 1579, of Barbara (nee Devereux) Cave's father, Sir William Devereux (b. c. 1525, d. 28 September 1579) of Merevale, Warwickshire, see TNA PROB 11/61, ff. 333-4. For the History of Parliament biography of Sir William Devereux, see:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/devereux-sir-william-1525-79>.

For the marriage of the testator's daughter, Mary Cave, to Thomas Browne of Wistow, see:

[http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=056-dg24\\_1&cid=1-7-3#1-7-3](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=056-dg24_1&cid=1-7-3#1-7-3)

*Agreement for Marriage Settlement DG24/345 31 August 1576*

*Parties:- (i) Fraunces Browne of Wistow, esq. (ii) Bryan Cave of Irigesby, esq.  
In consideration of a marriage to be solemnised between Thomas Browne, son and heir apparent of the said Francis Browne and Mary Cave, daughter of the said Bryan Cave before xviiiith of September next following . . . .*

For other members of the testator's family, see the will of his brother, Sir Ambrose Cave (d. 2 April 1568), TNA PROB 11/54, ff. 66-7.

LM: T{estamentum} Briani Cave

In dei nomine amen. I, Brian Cave of Ingarsby in the county of Leicester, esquire, being of reasonable good health of body and of perfect mind and memory, the thirtieth day of July in the year of Our Lord God one thousand five hundred ninety, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form hereafter following:

First I bequeath my soul unto God the Father Almighty, and to God the Son, Redeemer of the world, and to God the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, three persons and one God, my body to the earth to be buried within the chancel of the north side of the parish church of Hungarton if I depart this life within the realm of England;

And the day of my funerals I will that my executors cause a learned man to make a sermon to the people, and likewise a sermon to be made on the thirtieth day next after, and the preacher to have for either sermon ten shillings;

The order of my funerals I commit wholly to the good discretions of my executors and overseers, requiring and praying them that it may be done to the honour and glory of God honestly and seemly as appertaineth to my behaviour;

I will, give and bequeath to the poor in Hungarton twenty shillings, and towards the repair of the [f. 311r] church there twenty shillings;

To the prisoners in the country gaol at Leicester ten shillings;

And also I do ordain and make this my last will and testament of all my goods, cattle, chattels real and personal, movable and unmovable, in manner and form following:

I will, give and bequeath unto my son, Henry Cave, now being my son and heir, or to any other of my sons that shall fortune to be mine heir at the day of my death, all my household stuff and implements of household whatsoever they be;

Also I give and bequeath to my son, Henry, now being my heir, or to any other of my sons that shall fortune to be my heir at the day of my death, all my armour and weapons appertaining to the wars;

And also I do give and bequeath to my said son and heir or to any other of my sons that shall fortune to be my heir at the time of my decease the use of all my plate, being gilt and white plate, except such plate only as I shall otherwise dispose of, give and bequeath by this my last will and testament to any other person or persons whatsoever by word or writing;

Item, I do give and bequeath unto Brian Cave, th' eldest son of my said son, Henry, my godson, twenty pounds in money, my basin and ewer of silver, my two great gilt salts, my two silver wine-pots and my nest of gilt bowls, so that my said son, Henry, now my heir, or any other that shall fortune to be my heir at the time of my death, shall have but only

the use of the said-recited plate for term of his life, and then to remain to my said godson and his heirs forever as my special legacy to him only;

And the said Brian to have my best gelding or horse;

And to every of his brothers and sisters born before my death the sum of twenty pounds the piece, to be paid at their several ages of twenty-one years, and if any of them die before that age, the twenty pounds equally to remain among the survivors;

Item, I give and bequeath to my son and heir three of my best gowns, which he will choose, and the residue of my apparel, being silk, I will my younger son, Francis Cave, shall have;

Item, I will, give and bequeath unto my son, Henry Cave, my lease of the hight field at Poultney, to have all the years that shall be to come herein after my death in the said lease, and he to pay or cause to be paid yearly one annuity or yearly rentcharge of an hundred marks to Sir Edward Hastings, knight, and the Lady Barbara Hastings, his wife, during the whole life of the said Lady Barbara if the said lease so long continue, and to pay the yearly rent due to Mr Poultney, and perform all thother covenants of the said lease between Mr Poultney and me;

Item, I do give and bequeath to my son, Francis Cave, one silver salt and a dozen of silver spoons, both of them to be of the value of twenty marks;

Item, I do give and bequeath unto Brian Cave, his son, my godson, the sum of ten pounds;

And to every of his other brothers and sisters born before my death the sum of ten pounds the piece, to be paid at every of their full ages of twenty and one years;

If any of them die before, the ten pounds to remain equally amongst the survivors born before my death;

Item, I do give and bequeath to my daughter Browne my best diamond and the ring it is in, and in money the sum of ten pounds or else in lieu thereof plate to the value of ten pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath unto every of my daughter Browne's children the sum of ten pounds the piece that are born before my death, to be paid to every of them at the age of twenty and one years;

If any of them die before, the ten pounds to remain amongst the survivors of them born before my death equally;

Item, I do give and bequeath unto Brian Vincent, my godson, towards the buying him books for the furthering of his learning, the sum of twenty marks;

Item, I do give and bequeath unto John Dalby, my old servant, one annuity or yearly rentcharge of forty shillings by the year for term of his life, to be issuing out of the manor of Hungarton, to be paid unto him at two times by the year, that is to wit, at the feast of St Michael the Archangel and at the feast of th' Annunciation of Our Lady every year by even portions, the first payment thereof to begin at whether of the said two feasts shall first happen next after my decease, and to distrain for non-payment thereof in any part of the manor there after twenty and one days be expired after either of the said two feasts at which it shall come due and ought to be paid, as is before expressed;

Item, I do give and bequeath unto every manservant that serveth me at the time of my death and hath served me for wages by the [f. 311v] space of three years last before and upwards the sum of twenty shillings apiece over & besides their wages due, and to every maidservant that hath served me in like manner the sum of thirteen shillings and four pence apiece over and besides their wages;

Item, all the rest of my goods, cattle, chattels whatsoever I shall have at the time of my death I do give and bequeath wholly to my well-beloved son, Henry Cave, upon special trust that he will be careful for the payment of my debts truly, and for the true performance of this my last will and testament;

Item, I do ordain, constitute and make my well-beloved son, Henry Cave, my well-beloved nephews, John Cooke [sic?] and Thomas Cave, executors of this my present last will and testament, desiring them to see the same truly performed according to my especial trust in them reposed, and in part of recompense for their pains I do give and bequeath to either of my said well-beloved nephews the sum of five pounds apiece;

Item, overseers of this my present last will and testament I do ordain and make my well-beloved nephews, Thomas Skeffington and William Cave of Pickwell, and I give to either of them one ring of gold to the value of forty shillings apiece, and to have my words in the same.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum apud London coram m{agist}ro Iohanne Amie legum doctore Surrogato m{agist}ri Will{el}mi Lewin legum etiam doctoris curie Prerogative Cantuarien{sis} Mag{ist}ri Custodis siue Commissarij l{egi}time constituti decimo die mensis Novembris anno d{omi}ni mill{es}imo Quing{entes}imo Nonagesimo Secundo in persona Alexandri Searle notarij publici procuratoris Henrici Cave filij naturalis d{i}c{t}i defuncti Iohannis Croke et Thome Cave Exequutoru{m} in suprascr{ipt}o test{ament}o nominat{orum} quibus commissa fuit adm{inistraci}o &c ad s{an}c{t}a dei evangelia iurati

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before Master John Amie, Doctor of the Laws, Surrogate of Master William Lewin, also Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Count of Canterbury, on the tenth day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred

---

ninety-second in the person of Alexander Searle, notary public, proctor of Henry Cave, natural son of the said deceased, John Croke and Thomas Cave, executors named in the above-written testament, to whom administration was granted etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels.]