

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 8 January 1612 and proved 18 January 1612, of Anne (nee Sutton) Haddon Brooke, alias Cobham, whose son, Sir John Brooke, was involved in a business enterprise with Thomas Russell, the overseer of the will of William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon, and whose daughter, Philippa Brooke, and her husband, Walter Calverley, are said to be the Wife and Husband in *A Yorkshire Tragedy*, attributed to Shakespeare.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testatrix was the daughter of Sir Henry Sutton of Averham, Nottinghamshire, by his third wife, Alice Harrington, widow of Richard Flower (d.1540) of Whitwell, Rutland, and daughter of Sir John Harrington of Exton, Rutland. Sir Henry Sutton's first wife was Alice Hall, the daughter of Francis Hall (d.1534) of Grantham and Elizabeth Wingfield, the daughter of Sir John Wingfield (1428–1481) of Letheringham, Suffolk, and Elizabeth FitzLewis (d.1500). See the will of Francis Hall (d. 10 June 1552), TNA PROB 11/43/610, and the pedigree of Sutton in Marshall, George William, ed., *The Visitations of the County of Nottingham in the Years 1569 and 1614*, (London: Harleian Society, 1871), Vol. IV, pp. 142-4 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=gKwKAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA142>

See also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, p. 140.

See also the registered copy of the will of Sir Henry Sutton (d.1559), TNA PROB 2/375.

See also:

Robert Thoroton, 'Averham', in *Thoroton's History of Nottinghamshire: Volume 3, Republished With Large Additions By John Throsby*, ed. John Throsby (Nottingham, 1796), pp. 106-113. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/thoroton-notts/vol3/pp106-113> [accessed 5 October 2019].

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

The testatrix married firstly, on 17 December 1567, Walter Haddon (1514/15–1571). For his will, dated 21 January 1571 and proved 6 February 1571, see TNA PROB 11/53/63.

The testatrix married secondly, on 27 January 1573, Sir Henry Brooke (1537–1592), fifth son of George Brooke (c.1497 – 29 September 1558), 9th Baron Cobham, and Anne Bray (c.1510-1558), by whom she had three sons and two daughters:

* **Sir Calisthenes Brooke** (1573–1611), who married a widow named Anne.

* **Sir John Brooke** (1575–1660), Esquire of the Body, Gentleman of the Privy Chamber, and later Baron Cobham, who married firstly, before 21 January 1609, Anne Milner (buried 23 February 1625), widow of Thomas Redman, and secondly, on 16 May 1628, Frances Bampffield (d. 13 December 1676), daughter of Sir William Bampffield (d. August 1631). See the will of Thomas Redman, gentleman, dated 12 December 1599 proved 14 November 1601, TNA PROB 11/98/384. Anne Milner may have been the daughter of Edward Milner of Carebeale in the parish of Anthony in Cornwall; see *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, (London: Lovell Reeve, 1858), Vol. I, p. 140:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=1A05AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA140>

Sir John Brooke was involved in a business enterprise with Thomas Russell, the overseer of the will of William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon. In May 1615 Brooke invested in the alum industry, and in 1617 he and Thomas Russell were negotiating with the holder of another alum patent, Sir Arthur Ingram.

The relationship between Sir John Brooke and Thomas Russell can perhaps be explained through their mutual connections to the Bampffield family. Thomas Russell's first wife, whom he married on 7 September 1590, was Katherine Bampffield (d.1595x9), the daughter of Hugh Bampffield (d.1589) of North Cadbury, Somerset. She was the sister of Sir William Bampffield, whose daughter Sir John Brooke later married. For the Bampffields see Hotson, Leslie, *I, William Shakespeare Do Appoint Thomas Russell, Esquire*, (London: Jonathan Cape, 1937), pp. 42, 135-6, 203-6, 208.

About the time Thomas Russell married Katherine Bampffield, her sister, Jane Bampffield, married Thomas Chafin (d.1593) of Folke, Dorset, and North Cadbury, Somerset. After the death of Thomas Chafin in 1593, their eldest son, Bampffield Chafin (1592-1644), became a royal ward. In a letter dated 30 March 1593 to Oxford's brother-in-law, Sir Robert Cecil, John Budden (or Boden) stated that:

Immediately upon receipt of your letter I sent to Sir Matthew Arundell, being gone towards Sir Henry Berkeley's in Somersetshire, where Mrs. Chafin lieth since the death of her husband.

See <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=111591>.

Thomas Russell's widowed sister-in-law, Jane (nee Bampffield) Chafin, was thus residing, after her husband's death, at the home of Thomas Russell's mother, Margaret (nee Lygon) Russell Berkeley, and her second husband, Sir Henry Berkeley (d.1601) of Bruton. Moreover in his will, dated 10 January 1593 and proved 13 April 1593, TNA PROB 11/81/284, Thomas Chafin had appointed Thomas Russell's stepfather, Sir Henry Berkeley, as one of his overseers. It should be noted that Bruton, home of Sir Henry Berkeley, lies only about 7 miles from North Cadbury, home of Thomas Chafin, and Berkeley and Chafin were thus fairly close neighbours at the time Chafin made his will.

Sir George Trenchard (c.1548-1630) married the widowed Jane (nee Bampfield) Chafin, and tried to acquire the wardship of her son, Bampfield Chafin. However the wardship was sold to Sir William Brooke for £100. The was perhaps the testatrix' nephew, Sir William Brooke (1565-1597), rather than the testatrix' brother-in-law, William Brooke (1527-1597), 10th Baron Cobham. See the History of Parliament entry for Bampfield Chafin at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/chafin-bampfield-1592-1644>

As noted above, these relationships between Thomas Russell and the Brooke family through the Bampfields in the 1590s may explain the later association between Sir John Scott and Thomas Russell with respect to the alum patent.

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir George Trenchard at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/trenchard-george-i-1548-1630>

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir John Brooke at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/brooke-sir-john-1575-1660>

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir John Brooke's father-in-law, Sir William Bampfield, at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/bampfield-sir-william-1568-1631>

* **Maximilian Brooke** (1576–1598).

* **Anne Brooke** (born c.1577), who married Sir Edward Heron.

* **Philippa Brooke** (c.1579–1613), who married firstly Walter Calverley (1579-1605), and secondly Sir Thomas Burton (c.1580-1655). For letters from the testatrix to Sir Robert Cecil mentioning the marriage of her daughter, Philippa, to Walter Calverley, see Cawley, A.C. and Barry Gaines, eds., *A Yorkshire Tragedy*, (Manchester University Press, 1986). After the execution of Walter Calverley, Philippa married Sir Thomas Burton (c.1580-1655); see *The Baronetage of England*, pp. 265-6:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=5ikwAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA266>

For further details concerning the Calverley family, see the will of Sir William Sneyd (d. 1571), TNA PROB 11/54/430.

For the testatrix' family see also McKeen, David, *A Memory of Honour; The Life of William Brooke, Lord Cobham*, (Salzburg: Universitat Salzburg, 1986), 2 vols., pp. 379, 701-2. According to McKeen:

Sir Henry Cobham died at home in Sutton on 13 January 1591/2. His widow, driven out of her house by her sons' sale of it in 1596 and forced to take lodgings in London, was the importunate Lady Cobham whom one frequently encounters in Jacobean records, most pitifully as the mercenary mother of the woman dramatized as the heroine of A Yorkshire Tragedy. She died c. 8 January 1611/12.

RM: T{estamentum} D{omi}ne Anne Cobham

[f. 6r] In the name of God, Amen, my only Maker, my only Creator and Redeemer, in whom I hope to be saved.

I give to my son, John Brooke, my annuity of one hundred pounds a year out of the Exchequer to him;

And my thirty pounds out of the Exchequer to my son Calisthenes' children, I mean his three daughters, ten pounds apiece yearly;

And my other ten pounds to my brother, John Sutton, during his life;

And after his life to his wife five pounds a year during her life;

And after their two lives to my said son Calisthenes' children;

My executors I make my son, John Brooke, and my son Burton;

The basin and ewer to my son, John, and all his silver vessel which I bought of him;

The lease of my house which I now dwell in I give to my son Burton;

To my son Heron and my daughter, his wife, my college-pot and the sugar-box of silver with the spoon;

To Mrs Warde the silver owl;

And the rest of my plate to my son and daughter Burton;

To my son, John Brooke, the furniture of his chamber;

And to my brother, John Sutton, the furniture of the chamber wherein I now lie;

To old Nanne I will his [sic?] bed;

And to Madge her bed;

And to each of them forty shillings;

The rest of the furniture to him that hath the house, which is my son Burton;

To my daughter Heron I give the third part of my linen, and the rest thereof to my daughter Burton;

But some of my ordinary linen to my sister, Mary Sutton, three dozen of napkins and three tablecloths and three pair of sheets; to her all my wearing linen, to be divided between my sister Sutton, old Nanne and Madge, I mean that linen which I usually wear on mine body;

I give the green velvet coffer to my son Burton;

To confirm that which before I have given I here set to my hand, being in perfect memory, this eight day of January and in the year of my Redeemer one thousand six hundred and eleven. Anne Cobham. Ralph Taylor, witness. Mary Sutton, her mark.

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram venerabili viro D{omi}no Iohanne Benet milite legum doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cantuariens{is} Magistro Custode siue Commissario legitime constituto Decimo octauo die Mens{is} Ianuarij Anno D{omi}ni iuxta cursum et computac{i}o{n}em Eccl{es}ie Anglicane millesimo sexcentesimo vndecimo Iuramento Iohannis Brooke militis et Thome Burton militis Executorum in eodem test{ament}o nominat{orum} Quibus commissa fuit Administrac{i}o bonorum Iurium et Creditorum dicte Def{uncte} de bene et fideliter administrand{o} &c ad sancta Dei Evangelia Iurat{orum}

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before the worshipful Sir John Bennet, knight, Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the eighteenth day of the month of January in the year, according to the course and reckoning of the English Church, the thousand six hundred eleventh by the oath of John Brooke, knight, and Thomas Burton, knight, executors named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer etc.]