

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 9 October 1558 and proved 5 December 1558, of Thomas Bushell of Cleeve Prior, Worcestershire, eight miles southwest of Stratford-upon-Avon, whose grandson or great-grandson may have been the 'Mr Bushell' of Richard Quiney's letter dated 28 October 1598 to William Shakespeare of Stratford (see SBTRO ER 27/4).

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

According to the Bushell pedigree in Phillimore, *infra*, pp. 27-9, the testator was the son of Edward Bushell by Elizabeth Blount, the daughter of Thomas Blount of Grendon Bishop, Herefordshire, and had two sisters, one of whom married a husband surnamed Gough of Oxfordshire. The other sister, Margaret Bushell, married John Mawnde or Maunde, esquire, of Chesterton, Oxfordshire, the son of John Mawnde (d.1531), by whom she had a son, Simon Mawnde (d.1578?), and two daughters, Anne Mawnde and Isabel Mawnde, who married Edmund Porter and was the mother of Giles Porter (mentioned in the will below). The testator's niece, Anne Clarevise [=Clervaux?], mentioned in the will below, may have been Anne Mawnde, the daughter of the testator's sister, Margaret. See the will of John Mawnde (d.1531), TNA PROB 11/24/33, in which the testator, Thomas Bushell, was appointed as a supervisor; and 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, pp. 238-41 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofcoun00inchit#page/238/mode/2up>

See also the pedigree of Bushell in Phillimore, W.P.W., ed., *The Visitation of the County of Worcester Made in the Year 1569*, (London: Harleian Society, 1888), Vol. XXVII, pp. 27-9 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationcount01mundgoog#page/n45/mode/2up>

For the pedigree of Blount of Grendon see Burke, John, *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland*, (London: Henry Colburn, 1838), Vol. III, p. 166 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=yshsAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA166>

For the Mawnde family, see also Lee, Frederick George, *The History, Description and Antiquities of the Prebendal Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Thame in the County and Diocese of Oxford*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1883), p. 620 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=f1oMAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA620>

and:

'Parishes: Chesterton', in *A History of the County of Oxford: Volume 6*, ed. Mary D Lobel (London, 1959), pp. 92-103. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/oxon/vol6/pp92-103> [accessed 12 April 2018].

For the pedigree of Porter, see Burke, John, *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland*, (London: Henry Colburn, 1838), Vol. III, p. 577 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=yshsAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA577>

For the pedigree of Clervaux, see Burke, John, *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland*, (London: Henry Colburn, 1835), Vol. II, pp. 140-1 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=RgpBAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA140>

### **MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN**

The testator married Anne Norwood, the daughter of John Norwood of Broadway (perhaps John Norwood (c.1465-1526) of Broadway), who appears not to have left a will. Her mother's maiden name was Sheldon. See Phillimore, *supra*, p. 29. According to Grazebrook, she and her sister, Alice, were co-heiresses of their father. See Grazebrook, H. Sydney, *The Heraldry of Worcestershire*, (London: John Russell Smith, 1873), Vol. II, p. 411, available online.

*Ermine, a cross engrailed gules. This coat was borne by John Norwood of Broadway, 18 Henry VII [=1502/3], whose two daughters and co-heiresses, Anne and Alice, were married respectively to Thomas Bushell of Broad Marston, and John Daston of Broadway. (Harl. MS., 1041, fo. 62).*

The testator's brother-in-law, John Daston of Broadway, has not been identified. The testator was a feoffee of John Daston of Dumbleton and Wormington, and was appointed a supervisor of his will, dated 10 March 1531, TNA PROB 11/24/238:

*Item, I make and constitute Thomas Bushell, gentleman, my very assured and faithful friend, to be supervisor of this my said testament and last will.*

In his will, Daston refers to his wife, Eleanor, and to Anne, Joyce and Eleanor, 'my wife's daughters', and to £40 which the latter two were to receive 'of the bequest of John Norwood':

*Item, I give and bequeath to Joyce and Eleanor, my wife's daughters, in money or money's(?) worth £40 equally betwixt them to be divided of the bequest of John Norwood.*

It thus seems that John Daston's second wife, Eleanor, was the widow of John Norwood, the half brother of Thomas Underhill (d.1518x1520) and the half brother of Edward Underhill (d. 5 November 1546?). For the latter's will, see TNA PROB 11/31/647.

After Thomas Underhill's death, Anne Winter married Edmund Lydiard (d.1545?) or Lydyat of Stoneleigh, Warwickshire. See TNA C 1/495/15, a lawsuit dating from 1518-1529 for profits of land in Hunningham brought by John Daston and Eleanor, his wife, executrix and late the wife of John Norwood, brother of Thomas Underhill, in which Anne is said to have been late the wife of Thomas Underhill and executrix of his will, and now the wife of Edmund Lydyat.

The incised slab commemorating Daston and his two wives in Wormington church states that Daston died 23 August 1532, that his first wife, Catherine, died 13 October 1517, and that his second wife, Eleanor, died 20 February 1532 [=1533?]. See:

[andrew.daviel.org/Clayton\\_Book\\_appendix.pdf](http://andrew.daviel.org/Clayton_Book_appendix.pdf)

For the will of John Daston, see also Blacker, Beaver H., ed., *Gloucestershire Notes and Queries*, Vol. III, (London: William Kent & Co., 1887), pp. 668-9 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9MQxAQAIAAJ&pg=PA668>

For the testator's wife, see also:

<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/NORWOOD/2009-02/1234038859>

For John Daston of Dumbleton, and his relationship to Ralph Huband, whose wife was a first cousin of both the wife of Oxford's brother-in-law, Francis Trentham, and the wife of the half-brother of Thomas Russell, the overseer of the will of William Shakespeare of Stratford, see the pedigree of Daston, in Fetherston, John, ed., *The Visitation of the County of Warwick in the Year 1619*, (London: Harleian Society, 1877), Vol. XII, p. 21 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationcount01britgoog#page/n44/mode/2up>

See also the will of Sir John Huband (d. 24 December 1583), TNA PROB 11/66/331; and the pedigree in Keen, Alan and Roger Lubbock, *The Annotator*, (London: Putnam, 1954).

By his wife, Anne, the testator had a son, Edward Bushell (d.1545?), who predeceased him. The testator is also said to have had two daughters, one of whom is said to have married a husband surnamed Norris, while the other is said to have married firstly Gervase Herbert, and secondly William Norris. See Maclean, *supra*, p. 238, and Phillimore, *supra*, p. 29.

The testator's son, Edward Bushell married Ursula Andrews (d. before 1540?), the daughter of Thomas Andrews (d. 2 July 1541) of Charwelton, Northamptonshire (for his will see TNA PROB 11/28/577).

As indicated in the will below, the testator's son, Edward Bushell, predeceased him, leaving two sons, Thomas Bushell (the testator's heir) and Edward Bushell, and two daughters, Ursula Bushell and Anne Bushell. See his will, dated 6 December 1545, Worcestershire Archive U56/07/02G; and Kingsley, Nick, 'Andrews alias Andrew of Charwelton, Winwick, Harlestone and Denton, Baronets' at:

<http://landedfamilies.blogspot.ca/2014/08/138-andrews-alias-andrew-of-charwelton.html>

It also appears from the will that the testator had three illegitimate sons, Thomas, Edward and Nicholas, and an illegitimate daughter, Eleanor, by 'one Elizabeth Crocheley'.

The testator's grandson and heir, Thomas Bushell, married firstly Elizabeth Winter, the daughter of Robert Winter (d.1549) of Huddington, Worcestershire, by Katherine Throckmorton, daughter of Sir George Throckmorton (d.1552). See the will of Sir George Throckmorton, TNA PROB 11/36/298, and the pedigree of Winter in Maclean, *supra*, pp. 272-3 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofcoun00inchit#page/272/mode/2up>

By Elizabeth Winter, the testator's grandson, Thomas Bushell, was the father of Thomas Bushell, who married Margaret Greville, sister of Sir Edward Greville (1565-c.1628), lord of the manor of Stratford. According to the pedigree in Hotson, *infra*, the testator's grandson, Thomas Bushell, and his wife, Elizabeth Winter, were also the parents of Sir Edward Bushell, servant in 1591 to Ferdinando Stanley, Earl of Derby, gentleman usher to Robert Devereux, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Essex, knighted at Whitehall 19 December 1604, equerry to James I and Charles I. For the record of his knighthood, see Shaw, William A., *The Knights of England*, (London: Sherratt and Hughes, 1906), Vol. II, p. 136.

After the death of Elizabeth Winter, Thomas Bushell married secondly, Mary Morris, by whom he was the father of Henry Bushell and Eleanor Bushell, who married Adrian Quiney, the son of Richard Quiney (d.1602), who wrote to William Shakespeare of Stratford on 25 October 1598 requesting help in arranging a loan of £30 (see SBTRO ER 27/4, and Hotson, Leslie, *I, William Shakespeare, Do Appoint Thomas Russell, Esquire* (London: Jonathan Cape, 1937), pp. 144-7).

Thomas Bushell's second wife, Mary Morris, was likely the daughter of Mathew Morris, who in 1618 acted as a trustee for the heirs of William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon in connection with the Blackfriars Gatehouse. See the Shakespeare Documented website at:

<http://www.shakespearedocumented.org/exhibition/document/bargain-and-sale-transfer-blackfriars-gatehouse-new-trustees-john-greene-and>

*Bargain and sale from John Jackson and John Hemynge of London, Gents., and William Johnson, vintner of London, trustees of William Shakespeare, deceased, to John Greene of Clements Inn and Matthew Morryes of Stratford-upon-Avon, Gent., trustees for the heirs of William Shakespeare [manuscript], 1618 February 10.*

See Jones, Virginia Alun, 'John Hall: Seventeenth-century Physician of Stratford upon Avon', *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Medicine*, Vol. 70, (October, 1997), p. 709, available as a pdf file online at:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1543438/>

*It is probable that [William Shakespeare's father-in-law, John] Hall came from Bedfordshire, as William Hall, the Bedfordshire physician, had an assistant, Matthew Morris, to whom he left all his books on alchemy and astronomy, while he left his anatomical and medical books to his son. A man called Matthew Morris arrived in Stratford in 1600 as John Hall's assistant, married a local girl and settled down.*

The will of William Hall is printed in Marcham, Frank, *William Shakespeare and his Daughter Susannah*, (London: Grafton & Co., 1931).

It would appear that the testator's other grandson, Edward Bushell, attended St John's College, Oxford, in 1565/6. See Hegarty, Andrew, *A Biographical Register of St. John's College, Oxford 1555-1660*, (Woodbridge, Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2011), pp. lii-lii:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=jhsIycOY6N8C&pg=PR52>

*Around 1572 a great nobleman, Ferdinando Stanley, Lord Strange, heir to the earldom of Derby, and quite likely later on an early patron of Shakespeare, had been for a time at St. John's College, which two younger brothers, Francis and William, the latter of whom succeeded him as Earl and was himself a patron of plays and playwrights. . . .*

*An Edward Bushell features in the first St. John's College entry in the University's matriculation register, c.1565/6. His family was to have links with Shakespeare, and a nephew to be employed in the service of Ferdinando Stanley, aforementioned. Two Russells, John and Thomas, Non-Foundations in the opening years of the seventeenth century, seem to have been nephews of Shakespeare's testamentary overseer, Thomas Russell. Another two men of the name of Huband or Hubaud, possibly father and son, were Non-Foundations, also in the early decades of the seventeenth century, and very likely related to the Ralph Huband with whom Shakespeare had financial dealings.*

The testator's grandson, Edward Bushell, married Margaret Delves, by whom he had several children. In the Bushell pedigrees in Phillimore, *supra*, p. 29, and Maclean, *supra*, p. 239, he is erroneously styled 'Sir Edward Bushell', and in Phillimore, *supra*, p. 29, and Fetherston, *supra*, p. 140, he is also erroneously stated to have married, as his

second wife, Anne Gargrave; both his alleged knighthood and his alleged second marriage appear to have resulted from confusion between him and his nephew, Sir Edward Bushell, knighted 1604 (see above), the second son of Thomas Bushell and Elizabeth Winter, who married Anne Gargrave, the daughter of Sir Cotton Gargrave (d. 16 June 1588) of Nostell Priory, Yorkshire, widow of Thomas Venables, esquire. See Hotson, *supra*, p. 201; and Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2011, Vol. II, p. 139 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=kjme027UeagC&pg=RA1-PA139>

For the pedigree of Gargrave, see Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, (London: Hamilton, Adams, 1868), p. 226 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=cs4KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA226>

Margaret Delves, wife of the testator's grandson, Edward Bushell, was the daughter of John Delves (d. 13 or 15 June 1571), esquire, son of Sir Henry Delves (d. 6 August 1560) of Doddington, Chester, and Cecily Broke (buried 3 January 1562). John Delves married Mary Sneyd, the daughter of William Sneyd, the grandfather of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham. See the will of William Sneyd, TNA PROB 11/54/430; and Burke, John and John Bernard Burke, *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Extinct and Dormant Baronetages of England*, (London: Scott, Webster and Geary, 1838), p. 157 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=K1kBAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA157>

John Delves' sister, Margaret Delves, married Thomas Sheldon of Shellington or Shevington. For the marriage of Margaret Delves and Thomas Sheldon, and the marriage of their niece, Margaret Delves, and Edward Bushell, see the will of William Sheldon, TNA PROB 11/53/79, and Ormerod, George, *The History of the County Palatine and City of Chester*, (London: Lackington, Hughes, 1819), Vol. III, p. 268 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/historyofcountyp03orme#page/268/mode/2up>

For the marriage of Margaret Delves and Thomas Sheldon see also Maclean, *supra*, p. 222, and Phillimore, *supra*, pp. 127, 129.

For the marriage of Thomas Sheldon and Margaret Delves, see also:

<http://www.geni.com/people/Thomas-Sheldon/6000000028259844170>

The testator's granddaughter, Ursula Bushell, married John Child of Enstone, Oxfordshire. See Phillimore, *supra*, pp. 29, 36, and Fetherston, *supra*, p. 139, at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationcount01britgoog#page/n164/mode/2up>

The testator's granddaughter, Anne Bushell, married Thomas Gawdy, but is said to have died without issue. See Phillimore, *supra*, p. 29, and Fetherston, *supra*, p. 139.

Anne Bushell and Margaret Delves are mentioned in the will of the testator's executor, William Sheldon (d. 24 December 1570) of Beoley, Worcestershire. See his will, TNA PROB 11/53/79, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/sheldon-william-1511-70>

For the testator's overseer, Ralph Sheldon (d. March 1613) of Beoley, eldest son and heir of William Sheldon, see his will, TNA PROB 11/121/345. Ralph Sheldon's daughter, Elizabeth Sheldon, married Sir John Russell (1552-1593), the half brother of Thomas Russell (1570-1634), the overseer of the will of William Shakespeare of Stratford. See Hotson, *supra*, pp. 29 ff. As noted above, another of Ralph Sheldon's daughters, Katherine Sheldon (d.1626), married Oxford's brother-in-law, Francis Trentham (d.1626). For the will of Katherine (nee Sheldon) Trentham (d.1626), see TNA PROB 11/163/485. Ralph Sheldon's grandson, William Sheldon, purchased the copy of the First Folio now in the Folger Shakespeare Library (see Chambers, E.K., *William Shakespeare: A Study of Facts and Problems*, Vol. I, (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1930), p. 142). For Ralph Sheldon, see also the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/sheldon-ralph-1537-1613>

For the testator's overseer, Anthony Daston (c.1510 - 19 July 1572) of Wormington, Gloucestershire, who married William Sheldon's daughter, Anne Sheldon (c.1528 - 25 October 1619), see the will of Ralph Sheldon, *supra*, and the pedigree of Daston, in Fetherston, John, ed., *The Visitation of the County of Warwick in the Year 1619*, (London: Harleian Society, 1877), Vol. XII, p. 21 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationcount01britgoog#page/n44/mode/2up>

For the Sheldon family, see also the pedigree in Phillimore, *supra*, pp. 127-8 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationcount01mundgoog#page/n143/mode/2up>

See also the Sheldon pedigree in Fetherston, *supra*, pp. 2-3 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationcount01britgoog#page/n26/mode/2up>

Pebworth, where the testator desires to be buried, is apocryphally connected to Shakespeare. See:

<https://tudorstuff.wordpress.com/2009/04/07/drunken-bidford/>

LM: T{estamentum} Thome Busshell

[f. 44r] In dei nomine amen. The 9<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred fifty and eight and in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years of the reigns of our Sovereign Lord and Lady Philip and Mary by the grace of God King and Queen of England, Spain, France, both Sicilies, Jerusalem and Ireland, Defenders of the Faith, Archdukes of Austria, Dukes of Burgundy, Milan and Brabant, Counties of Hapsburg, Flanders and Tyrol, I, Thomas Bushell of Cleeve Prior in the county of Worcester, gentleman, being of whole mind and perfect remembrance, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say:

First and principally I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, to Our Blessed Lady Saint Mary, and to all th' holy company of heaven, and my body to be buried in the parish church of Saint Peter and Paul of Pebworth in the diocese of Gloucester;

Item, I bequeath to the mother church of Worcester aforesaid 12d;

Item, I give and bequeath to the parish church of Pebworth aforesaid three pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to the high altar of the said church in discharge of my conscience for all my tithes and offerings forgotten, mistithed and not tithed, not offered or negligently withholden, 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to the parish church of Mickleton 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to the parish church of Quinton 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to the church of Long Marston 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to the church of Dorsington 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to the church of Honeybourne 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to the church of Cleeve Prior 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to the church of South Littleton 3s 4d;

Item, [f. 45r] I give and bequeath to the church of North Littleton 3s 4d;

Item, I give and bequeath to Edward Bushell, the son of Edward Bushell, late of Cleeve Prior, deceased, all my messuages, lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services, meadows, feedings, pastures, commons and all other hereditaments with their appurtenances set, lying and being in the town and fields of Harvington in the county of



Worcester aforesaid, and also in Bidford [=Bidford-on-Avon], Barton, Marcliff and Grafton in the county of Worcester, to have and to hold all the said messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments with all and singular their appurtenances to the said Edward Bushell, the son, and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to Thomas Bushell, brother of the said Edward and son and heir of the said Edward Bushell, the father, late deceased, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to the right heirs of me, the said Thomas Bushell;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Edward Bushell all my leases, interest and term of years yet continuing and to come of and in the farm of Cleeve Prior in the county of Worcester and of and in all and singular meadows, arable lands, commons, feedings, pastures and all other profits and commodities thereunto in any wise adjacent, appertaining or belonging, and of and in the mills at Cleeve Prior aforesaid, with all the several waters and fishings and all other profits belonging to the said farm and mills or to either of them;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Edward Bushell all my corn, household stuff and all other my movable goods being at the said farm and mills and at the vicarage of Cleeve Prior aforesaid, and also all such stock of cattle as I now have upon the said farm of Cleeve Prior and usually thereupon to be kept other than such as be otherwise disposed hereafter by this my will, except and always reserved unto me, the said Thomas Bushell th' elder, all my plate and money now being at the said vicarage;

Item, I give and bequeath unto the said Edward Bushell, the son, my leases of Ullington in the county of Gloucester and of Little Dorsington, with the whole stock of all manner of cattle there being, and all mine interest, years and terms yet continuing and to come in the said leases;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Ursula and Anne Bushell, to every of them one hundred pounds of lawful money of England, to be paid unto them by mine executors when they or any of them shall happen to marry by th' advice and consent of their friends after that they shall come to th' age of fifteen years, or else if they marry not, when they come to th' age of 20 years, with their finding until they ought to receive their legacies;

Item, I give and bequeath towards the reparation and amendment of the highway in Owseley lane £3, and also 20s of the gift of Mrs Anne Andrews of Charwelton, deceased, which 20s was delivered to me to be bestowed there;

Item, I give and bequeath to every cottager dwelling in Cleeve Prior that hath no plough going two strikes of wheat, and in likewise to every cottager dwelling in Pebworth and Marston two strikes of wheat;

Item I give and bequeath to William Bushell, my servant, £20, and all my years and term in Harvington mills;

[f. 45v] Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin, Giles Porter, and Thomas Porter, to every of them forty shillings, and furthermore I give and bequeath to the said Giles Porter and Thomas Porter and to every child of my cousin, Edmund Porter, their father, 20 sheep;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin, Anne Clarevise, my sister's daughter, ten pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Bushell, son of the said Edward, the father, deceased, my best standing cup of silver and gilt and my best salt of silver and gilt with the cover, half a dozen of my best silver spoons, and one gold ring which is my signet and hath graven in it T and B;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Edward Bushell, brother to the said Thomas, my other salt of silver and parcel gilt with the cover, one flat piece of silver and parcel gilt, one mazer with a band of silver and parcel gilt, half a dozen of my best spoons silver, and one hoop of gold that I was wont to wear upon my finger;

Item, I do leave unto the said Thomas Bushell, son of Edward Bushell, being mine heir, the third part of all my lands, tenements and hereditaments to be taken and had in manner and form following, that is to say, of all my lands in Long Marston and Broad Marston in the county of Gloucester which sometime did belong unto the late monastery of Evesham, and of my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Mickleton and Larkestoke in the said county of Gloucester, and in Ilmington, Brailes and in Willington in the county of Worcester, so much thereof as with the said lands in Long Marston and Broad Marston aforesaid shall amount unto a full third part of my said lands so that the King and Queen's Majesties may have and enjoy the same third part during the minority of my said heir according to the state and laws of this realm;

And all the residue of the said lands, tenements & hereditaments in Mickleton, Larkstoke, Ilmington, Brailes and Willington which shall be and amount above the third part of my lands and tenements, and all other my lands, tenements and hereditaments with their appurtenances, whatsoever they be, lying and being in the county of Gloucester and elsewhere in the realm of England shall for the space of seven years next after my death until such time as my heir or heirs shall accomplish his or their full age of 21 years shall remain, go and be employed to th' use, intent and performance of this my last will and testament;

And I will, give and bequeath to Thomas Crocheley, Edward Crocheley and Nicholas Crocheley, sons of one Elizabeth Crocheley, to every of them £20 with their finding and keeping until they do come to their ages of 14 years, and then they to be put and made apprentices by th' advice of mine executors and overseers, and then their several legacies to be put to their masters or otherwise employed by the consent of mine executors and overseers for the most benefit and profit of them;

And also I will, give and bequeath unto one Eleanor Crocheley, daughter of the said Elizabeth, towards her preferment of marriage, the sum of 20 marks with her keeping until she do come to the full age of 14 years, and then the same her legacy to be delivered and paid;

Item, I will, give and bequeath unto Philip Rose £20;

And I do give and bequeath unto every of my servants which have dwelled with me in my house the space of one years [sic] 6s 8d, except Thomas Mayo(?), unto which Thomas Mayo I do give and bequeath the sum of £5;

And I do give and bequeath unto the [-unto the] curate of Cleeve now being the sum of 20s to pray for my soul and all Christian souls;

And I do constitute and make William Sheldon of [f. 46r] Beoley, esquire, and the said Edward Bushell, son of Edward Bushell, mine executors of this my testament and last will;

And I do constitute and make overseers of this my said will Richard Sheldon and Anthony Darston [=Anthony Daston], esquires, Ralph Sheldon, son of the said William Sheldon, Edmund Porter, gentleman, and Sir William Foxe, vicar of Pebworth, aforesaid;

And unto every of my said executors and overseers for their pains and labours I do give and bequeath the sum of £4;

And all the residue of my goods and chattels unbequeathed, my debts and funerals discharged and all the profit of the lands, tenements and hereditaments which I have bequeathed to my said executors to be taken and had to the performance of this my last will, I do will, devise and bequeath and give unto the said Thomas Bushell, my son's son, which my will and mind is shall be delivered unto him at his full age of 21 years and not before;

Also I do will and devise that my said executors shall yearly make an account unto my said overseers of all the profits by them to be taken of and in all the said lands and leases and all other the premises to my said executors devised to the performance of this my last will or in their order, and then yearly a perfect book of reckoning indented to be made between my said executors and overseers of the same whereby the said Thomas and Edward may the more certainly know what they shall have of the same at their full ages, and I will that the costs and charges of the said accounts to be made shall be paid and borne of my goods, and allowance made thereof in every of the said accounts;

These being witness to this my last will: Sir Richard Eliatt{es}, curate of Cleeve, Philip Rosse, Thomas Hunt, William Rosse and divers other;

Also I will and bequeath unto the said William Sheldon one red sorrelled ambling splayed mare, and to the said Ralph Sheldon one great bay ambling gelding, and to the

said Edmund Porter a grey trotting horse colt of 3 years old, and to the said Thomas Bushell one stoned ambling horse called Old Button with my saddle and bridle that I used to ride with, and to the said Edward Bushell one stoned horse ambling called Young Button, and to the said William Bushell, my servant, three load-horses that commonly be at Harvington mill, with all other my goods and necessaries in the same mill;

And to the said Philip Roose my black ambling nag that was a stray;

And to Nicholas Jackson, servant to the said William Sheldon, 5s;

And to Margaret Tandy, wife of Henry Tandy of Morton, £4;

And to either of Alice Harwood and Anne Hooke, my servants, 20s;

And to Roger Chamberlain, my servant, one milch cow;

And where I have an advowson of the vicarage of Cleeve Prior, my will is that mine executors shall present the said Sir Richard Eliatt{es} to be vicar thereof if it fall void during his life, and if he will accept the same.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum test{amentu}m cora{m} D{omi}no apud London quinto die mens{is} Decembris Anno D{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingentesimo qui{n}quagesimo octavo Iuramento Will{el}mi Walker procur{ator}is Will{el}mi Sheldon Armiger{i} executoris in h{uius}mo{d}i testame{n}to no{m}i{n}ati Ac approbatum et insinuatu{m} L{egi}timeq{ue} pronu{n}ciatum pro vero valore eiusd{em} Com{m}issaq{ue} fuit admi{n}istra{c}io &c prefato Will{el}mo De Bene &c Ac de pleno et fideli Inventario &c Necnon de plano et vero compoto &c iurat{o} Res{erua}ta p{otes}tate si{mi}lem comiss{ionem} faciend{o} Edwardo Busshell executori etia{m} &c cum venerit &c

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at London on the fifth day of the month of December in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fifty-eighth by the oath of William Walker, proctor of William Sheldon, esquire, executor named in the same testament, and probated and entered and lawfully pronounced for the true value of the same, and administration was granted etc. to the forenamed William, sworn to well etc., and [+to exhibit] a full and faithful inventory etc., and also [to render] a plain and true account etc., with power reserved for a similar grant to be made to Edward Bushell, executor also etc., when he shall have come etc.]