

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 12 May and 12 July 1563 and proved 31 October 1564, of Sir Edmund Peckham (b. in or before 1495, d. 29 March 1564), whose niece (of the half blood), Jane Drayton (b.1482, d.1538?), was the mother of Thomas Wriothesley (1505-1550), 1st Earl of Southampton, grandfather of Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton, to whom Shakespeare dedicated *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

A Chancery suit, TNA C 1/75/68, provides an abbreviated pedigree of the Peckham family which suggests that the testator was the second son of Peter (or Piers) Peckham (d.1501), esquire, the son of Robert Peckham, the son of Piers Peckham, and that the latter was the brother of John Peckham of Caversham, who had a daughter, Agnes, who was the mother of Robert Strangbou, gentleman. Another document in Latin dated 16 August 1455 and held by the Berkshire Record Office, D/EZ 125/36/2, mentions the earlier Piers Peckham and Robert Strangbou, and describes the earlier Piers Peckham as citizen and 'bladsmyth' of London.

Although the testator's father, Peter Peckham (d.1501), esquire, was of Denham, Buckinghamshire, a number of documents in the National Archives indicate that the Peckham family was originally from Kent.

In his Latin will, TNA PROB 11/12/315, Peter Peckham states that his first wife, Agnes, was buried at St Michael Bassishaw in London. Her maiden name is unknown, but may have been Crowton. Several entries in the *Calendar of Close Rolls* mention a John Crowton, including one in the reign of Edward IV in Volume 1, 1461-1468, in which 'Pekham' is named as one of the executors of John Crowton. See:

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/search?query=Crowton&title=>

Agnes' father may have been the John Crowton who died c.1466, the year in which gifts by him to the church of St Stephen's, Coleman Street, are recorded. See Freshfield, Edwin, 'Some Remarks upon the Book of Records and History of the Parish of St. Stephen, Coleman Street, in the City of London', *Archaeologia*, Vol. I, (London: Nichols and Sons, 1887), pp. 17-57 at p. 36:

<https://archive.org/stream/archaeologiaopt150sociuoft#page/36/mode/2up/>.

Before she married Peter Peckham, Agnes was the widow of John Broun [hereafter spelled 'Browne', although the spelling 'Broun' is used in earlier documents], the son of Stephen Browne, Lord Mayor of London in 1439. See:

<http://archive.spectator.co.uk/article/26th-may-1866/11/the-brownes>.

Agnes' first husband, John Browne, appears to have died young, predeceasing his father, and leaving two daughters, Rose Browne and Agnes Browne, who also appear to have died young.

For a 1463 indenture mentioning the marriages of Agnes firstly to John Browne and secondly to Peter Peckham (d.1501), see Myers, A.R., ed., *English Historical Documents 1327-1485*, (London: Eyre & Spottiswoode Ltd., 1969; reissued Rutledge, 1996), pp. 1160-1 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=dL12K__XzoAC&pg=PA1160&lpg=PA1160&dq=%22Agnes%22+%22Piers+Pekham%22&source=bl&ots=jaqL1ljeXO&sig=3bA29mt8eptb1JUV2zB42V-Ystc&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjLi8iNzOPSAhUUXWMKHbDbDHsQ6AEIGjAA#v=onepage&q=%22Agnes%22%20%22Piers%20Pekham%22&f=false

Further evidence for Agnes' marriages to John Browne and Peter Peckham (d.1501) is found in an entry in the London Calendar of Letter-Books, which states that on 5 March 1465, Peter Peckham and Agnes, his wife, administrators of the goods of Rose and Agnes, daughters of John Browne, appeared at the Guildhall to acknowledge satisfaction for the third part of the goods and chattels of the said John Browne, appertaining to the said Rose and Agnes when alive. See Sharpe, Reginald R., ed., *Calendar of Letter-Books Preserved Among the Archives of the Corporation of the City of London at the Guildhall*, (London: John Edward Francis, 1912), p. 58 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/lcalendaroflette00londonuoft#page/58/mode/2up>.

For further evidence of Agnes' two marriages to John Browne and Peter Peckham, see TNA C 1/73/51 and TNA C 1/28/143.

An original grant of arms made to Peter Peckham in 1494 is held by the College of Arms.

TESTATOR'S BROTHER AND SISTERS

In his will, the testator's father, Peter Peckham (d.1501), mentions two sons and three daughters. By his first marriage to Agnes, widow of John Browne, Peter Peckham had a son and a daughter:

* George Peckham (d.1505), cleric, the son of Peter Peckham by his first marriage to Agnes, widow of John Browne. For his will, proved 9 April 1505, in which he requests burial in the church of Saint Michael Bassishaw in London 'where the body of my mother, Agnes Peckham, lieth buried, as nigh unto her grave and sepulture as can be thought convenient', see TNA PROB 11/14/513. He is mentioned in the will of his brother-in-law, Robert Drayton, who bequeathed him a black gown.

* Joan Peckham, who appears to have died by 1501. She married Robert Drayton (d.1503 or 1504), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/14/4. For two Chancery suits dating from 1475-1485 in which Peter Peckham sued his son-in-law(?), Robert Drayton, see TNA C 1/57/104 and TNA C 1/63/147.

By Robert Drayton, Joan Peckham had a son and a daughter:

-Peter Drayton (d.1518), a cleric, for whose will, in which the chief beneficiary is his sister, Jane Drayton (at the time the widow of William Wriothesley (d.1513?), York Herald, and therefore referred to in the will as 'Jane York'), see TNA PROB 11/19/121.

-Jane Drayton (b.1482, d.1538?), who married firstly Richard Lucy; secondly William Wriothesley (d.1513?), York Herald, by whom she had two sons and two daughters, Thomas Wriothesley (1505-1550), 1st Earl of Southampton, Edward Wriothesley (who died young), Elizabeth Wriothesley (who also died young), and Anne Wriothesley (who married firstly Robert Breton and secondly Thomas Morrene); and thirdly a husband surnamed Beverley, by whom she had two daughters, Ellen Beverley Pounce (d.1589) and Anne Beverley Knight Lawrence (d.1610), for whose wills see TNA PROB 11/74/301 and TNA PROB 11/116/231. For notes written by Jane Drayton Lucy Wriothesley Beverley (b.1482, d.1538?) in her own hand recording her own birthdate, that of her brother, Peter Drayton (d.1518), and the birthdates of her four children by William Wriothesley (d.1513?), see BL Add. Charter 16194.

By his second marriage to Elizabeth Eburton, the daughter of Henry Eburton by Margaret Blount (for his will, proved 2 July 1494, see TNA PROB 11/10/197), Peter Peckham (d.1501), had a son and two daughters:

* Sir Edmund Peckham, the testator.

* Margaret Peckham, unmarried in 1501. Shields and an inscription in Denham church may relate to her, and if so, indicate she died in 1512. See *Transactions of the Cambridge University Association of Brass Collectors*, Vol. II, Part I, No. XI, (Margate, 1892), p. 14 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/transactionsofmo02monu#page/14/mode/2up/>.

* Margery Peckham, unmarried in 1501.

See below for Elizabeth Eburton's second marriage to John Micklowe.

For the inquisition post mortem taken in Middlesex after the death of the testator's father, Peter Peckham (d.1501), see TNA C 142/15/93.

MARRIAGE

According to the *ODNB* and the History of Parliament, the testator married, by 1516, Anne Cheyne (d. 1570), the daughter of John Cheyne or Cheney or Cheyney [all three spellings are common in the documents referred to] of Chesham Bois, Buckinghamshire. See:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/peckham-sir-edmund-1495-1564>.

It appears likely that the testator's wife was the daughter of John Cheyne (d. 1 July 1535) of Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire, by Margaret Ingleton, the daughter of Sir Robert Ingleton (d. 15 October 1472) of Thornton mentioned in the pedigree of Cheyne in Wood, John Philip, *The Peerage of Scotland*, 2nd ed., Vol. II, (Edinburgh: George Ramsay and Company, 1813), pp. 310-11:

<https://archive.org/stream/peerageofscotland02dougouft#page/310/mode/2up>

This Thomas Cheyne married Eleanor, daughter of Sir John Chesham, and had a son, John, who died 6th May 1459, leaving by his wife Perinda, daughter of Sir Robert Whitney, a son, John Cheyne, who succeeded his grand-uncle in the manor of Cogenho, 1468, and died in 1496. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edmund Brudenel of Rains, by whom he had a son, John Cheyne of Cogenho, who died 1st July 1535. He married Margaret, daughter of Robert Ingylton of Thornton, and had a son, Robert Cheyne of Cogenho, who by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Webb, relict of Fulk Wodhull, was father of John Cheyne of Cogenho. This John died in 1585. He married, first, Winifred, daughter of Lord Mordaunt, and by her, who died in 1562, had a daughter Temperance; secondly, Joyce, daughter of Sir Anthony Lee, by whom he had two sons: 1. John; and, 2. Sir Francis, who married Mary, daughter of Thomas Powle, and died without issue in 1619. John, the eldest son, was disinherited, and died in 1587, leaving by Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Skipworth of St Albans, a son, Francis Cheyne, who succeeded to his uncle, Sir Francis, and died 1644.

For the marriages noted above of Elizabeth Webb firstly to Fulk Wodhull (d. 1508 or 1509), esquire, and secondly to Robert Cheyne (d. 9 December 1552), see Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 522.

For the marriage of the testator to a daughter of John Cheyne and Margaret Ingleton, daughter of Robert Ingleton of Thornton, see the pedigree of Cheyne of Chesham Bois in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitation of Buckinghamshire in 1566*, (Exeter, William Pollard, 1883), pp. 9-10 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofbuck00harvrch#page/8/mode/2up>.

For the testator's marriage to Anne Cheyne, see also the pedigree of Cheyne of Chesham Bois in Rylands, W. Harry, ed., *The Visitation of the County of Buckingham Made in 1634*, Vol. LVIII, (London: Harleian Society, 1909), pp. 152-3:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofcoun58phil#page/152/mode/2up>.

The pedigrees in both Metcalfe and Rylands indicate that Anne Cheyne was the sister of Robert Cheyne (d. 9 December 1552), who by his first wife, Elizabeth Webbe, the daughter of John Webbe of Hertfordshire, was the father of John Cheyne (1514-1585), who married Winifred Mordaunt (d. 8 July 1562), the daughter of John Mordaunt (d.1562), 1st Baron Mordaunt, by Elizabeth Vere, daughter and coheir of Sir Henry Vere of Great Addington, Northamptonshire. For John Mordaunt, 1st Baron Mordaunt, see the *ODNB* entry. For Robert Cheyne (d. 9 December 1552), see his brief nuncupative will, TNA PROB 11/36/73. For John Cheyne (d.1585), see his will, TNA PROB 11/69/156, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/cheyne-john-i-1514-85>.

A question then arises as to where Jane Cheyne (d.1574), wife of Thomas Wriothesley (1505-1550), 1st Earl of Southampton, should be placed in the pedigrees of Cheyne of Chesham Bois. She is said to have been a 'cousin' of the testator's son, Henry Peckham (d.1556), and if their relationship was that of first cousins, her father, who on the Wriothesley tomb at Titchfield is stated to have been William Cheyne, esquire, of Chesham Bois, must also have been a son of John Cheyne (d. 1 July 1535). Jane Cheyne (d.1574), Countess of Southampton, would thus be the niece of Robert Cheyne (d. 9 December 1552), and the niece of the testator's wife, Anne Cheyne (d.1570).

If this analysis is correct, it seems likely the Countess' father, William Cheyne, died not long after the Countess' birth, and that the Countess' mother (whose identity has never been firmly established), then married a husband surnamed Gardiner, by whom she was the mother of Germaine Gardiner (c.1495x8-1555), and perhaps of another daughter, Anne (mentioned in the 1st Earl of Southampton's will). For letters in which Germaine Gardiner refers to the Countess of Southampton as his sister, and to her husband, the 1st Earl of Southampton, as his brother-in-law, see the Countess' will, TNA PROB 11/56/535.

Further support for this analysis is found in the fact that the testator was an executor of the will of Thomas Wriothesley (1505-1550), 1st Earl of Southampton, TNA PROB 11/34/154, and in the fact that the monument of Sir Robert Ingleton (d. 15 October 1472) of Thornton has the same Cheyne arms (Chequey or and azure, a fess gules fretty argent) as the Cheyne arms on the Wriothesley monument at Titchfield as described by Greenfield. For the Cheyne arms on the Thornton monument, see:

<http://www.mkheritage.co.uk/wdahs/thornton/docs/ms1.html>.

For the Cheyne arms on the Wriothesley monument, see Greenfield, Benjamin W., 'The Wriothesley Tomb in Titchfield Church', in Minns, G.W., ed., *Papers and Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club*, (Southampton: F. A. Edwards, 1890), Vol. I, pp. 72, 75-7 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=LsFAAQAAMAAJ&pg=RA3-PA76-IA3&lpg=RA3-PA76-IA3&dq=%22In+describing+the+heraldic+insignia+on+the+Wriothesley+tomb%22&source=bl&ots=tswAQiPgYh&sig=G3GQ7NMFk0TfHYLKYoskp981Sh8&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjLnbG0hP3TAhVW7WMKHTJiAbYQ6AEIjAA#v=onepage&q=%22In%20describing%20the%20heraldic%20insignia%20on%20the%20Wriothesley%20tomb%22&f=false>.

For John Cheyne (d. 1 July 1535), see also:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cheyne/p11292.htm>.

For effigies of the testator and his wife, Anne Cheyne, in Denham church, see *Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England): An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Buckinghamshire*, Vol. I, (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1912), pp. xxviii, 116:

<https://archive.org/stream/inventoryofhisto01roya#page/n39/mode/2up>.

CHILDREN

By Anne Cheyne (d. 1570), the testator is said to have had five sons and two daughters:

* Sir Robert Peckham (b. by 1516, d. 13 September 1569), eldest son and heir. He married, c.1537, Mary Bray, daughter of Edmund Bray (d. 18 October 1539), 1st Baron Bray, but had no issue. For the ten daughters and co-heiresses of Edmund Bray, 1st Baron Bray, see Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, p. 629 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=kjme027UeagC&pg=RA1-PA629&lpg=RA1-PA629&dq=%22Edmund+Bray%22+%221539%22&source=bl&ots=qvLnGv0gmk&sig=FVXbN2GKiqW-d1A7-W6YUpaRvwI&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwj6z7LdiP_TAhVL6GMKHQwvD4E4ChDoAQhFMAs#v=onepage&q=%22Edmund%20Bray%22%20%221539%22&f=false.

See also the Latin will of Sir Robert Peckham, TNA PROB 11/51/414 and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/peckham-sir-robert-1516-69>.

* Henry Peckham, (by 1526-1556) who married, by licence dated 6 November 1547, Elizabeth Dacres (c.1530–1602), the daughter of Robert Dacres (d. 20 November 1543) of London and Cheshunt, and niece of Sir Anthony Denny (1501-1549) and Sir John Gates (1504-1553). Henry Peckham was executed for his part in the Dudley conspiracy.

His widow, Elizabeth Dacres Peckham, married John Blount of London. She is not always mentioned in the Dacres pedigrees. However there is a bequest to her as 'Elizabeth Blount' in the will of her aunt, Anne Dacres, TNA PROB 11/47/103:

And to George Dacres, Elizabeth Blount and Dorothy Dacres, to every of them a ring of gold of twenty shillings.

For Henry Peckham, see the *ODNB* entry and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/peckham-henry-1526-56>.

Henry Peckham is said to have been a 'cousin' to Jane (d.1574), Countess of Southampton according to this statement on several internet sites, for which the author of this website has not been able to find the original source:

In 1556 a dinner was held by Jane at Titchfield, present was Christopher Ashton, John Bedell, Thomas White, Richard Rythe, all of whom were engaged in a plot to overthrow Queen Mary, as was her cousin Henry Peckham. Somehow Jane managed to survive being surrounded by treasonous suspects.

The alleged incident, with its significant statement that Henry Peckham and the Countess of Southampton were cousins, is not mentioned in the *ODNB* entry for Henry Peckham:

*Henry Dudley and his supporters were hostile to Mary's husband, Philip of Spain, her persecution of protestants, and the possible restoration of former ecclesiastical lands to the church. They sought backing from Henri II of France for a rising in southern England to oust Mary in favour of her sister, Princess Elizabeth, and they plotted to steal £50,000 in silver bullion from the exchequer to finance it. The conspirators met several times in Peckham's rooms at Blackfriars and considered storing stolen bullion there. Peckham involved his relatives Edmund and Francis Verney and John Bray, second Baron Bray, and boasted that he could raise a host in Buckinghamshire. He also persuaded Edward Lewkenor to obtain a copy of Henry VIII's will to prove that Mary was a usurper. However, Peckham was among the first group arrested and sent to the Tower of London on 18 March 1556. Indicted on 29 April, he was tried with John Danyell in the Guildhall on 7 May. . . . Mary insisted that Peckham and Danyell suffer the full penalty of hanging, drawing, and quartering 'by reason of the small fruit derived from her past indulgence' (Loades, *Mary Tudor*, 336).*

* John Peckham, said by Lodge to have been a son of the testator, but about whom nothing further is known. He is not mentioned in his father's will.

* Edmund or Edward Peckham, said by Lodge to have been a son of the testator, but about whom nothing further is known. He is not mentioned in his father's will.

* Sir George Peckham (d.1608), who at the time the testator made his will had two sons, Edmund Peckham (b. 11 December 1555, d. 7 July 1586) and George Peckham.

He was heir to his elder brother, Sir Robert Peckham (d. 13 September 1569), and was knighted in 1570 by the Earl of Leicester at Queen Elizabeth's command. See Shaw, William A., *The Knights of England*, Vol. II, (London: Sherratt and Hughes, 1906), p. 74 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/knightsofengland02shaw#page/n81/mode/2up>.

A recusant, who according to the *ODNB* was imprisoned in 1580 for harbouring Catholic priests, Sir George Peckham financed, with Sir Thomas Gerrard, the 1578 expedition of Sir Humphrey Gilbert (1537–1583) aimed at establishing a colony in America in which Catholics could live free of the burdensome recusancy laws. The 1578 voyage was unsuccessful, and after Gilbert's death in 1583, Sir George Peckham attempted to spur interest in a further expedition, but was unable to bring it to fruition. See the *ODNB* entry for Sir Humphrey Gilbert:

Gilbert next used his letters patent in November 1582 to gather a joint-stock mercantile company around him in Southampton in order to support his planned maritime venture. The members of this corporation were to have exclusive rights to freedom of trade with whatever lands might be gained under his patent, and landowning privileges in those newly discovered areas. At the same time Gilbert entered into agreements with a group of Catholics led by Sir George Peckham and Sir Thomas Gerrard to enable them to set up a colony in the New World, thus evading England's increasingly severe recusancy laws. Originally intending to accompany them on their voyage Gilbert assigned them at least 8,500,000 acres in the Americas for their proposed settlement in 1582–3. This scheme foundered largely because of the privy council's requirement that the departing Catholics should pay their recusancy fines before leaving the realm.

See also the *ODNB* entry for Sir George Peckham (d.1608):

In a bid to spur interest in the project, Peckham published his True reporte, of the late discoveries ... by that valiant and worthy gentleman, Sir Humfrey Gilbert on 12 November 1583.

For Sir George Peckham's *True Report* (1584), see:

https://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/nael/16century/topic_2/peckham.htm.

For allegations that exorcisms were carried out at Sir George Peckham's house at Denham in 1585-6, see Harsnett, Samuel, *A Declaration of Egregious Popish Impostures*, (London: James Roberts, 1603), p. 2 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/declarationofegr00hars#page/n19/mode/2up>

This play of sacred miracles was performed in sundry houses accommodate for the feat, in the house of the Lady Vaux at Hackney, of Master Barnes at Fulmer, of Master Hughes at Uxbridge, of Sir George Peckham at Denham, and of the Earl of Lincoln in Cannon Row in London. The time chosen to act & publish these wonders were the years 85 and 86, ending with the apprehension and execution of Ballard and Babington, and the rest of that impious consort.

For Sir George Peckham's ownership of the land on which James Burbage built the Theatre in Shoreditch in 1576, see BL Add. Charter 16194.

* Amphilis Peckham (d. March 1545). See *Transactions*, *supra*, p. 14 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/transactionsofmo02monu#page/14/mode/2up>

* Dorothy Peckham (d. 23 May 1547), who in 1546 married Edmund Verney (25 July 1528 – 13 December 1558), son of Sir Ralph Verney (d. 26 April 1546) and Elizabeth Bray (d.1574?), sister of Mary Bray, *supra*, but died without issue. As noted above, Edmund Verney was involved with Henry Peckham in the Dudley conspiracy. See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 416, and the History of Parliament entry for Edmund Verney at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/verney-edmund-1528-58>.

His wardship, first acquired by the 2nd Earl of Rutland was bought in 1546 by Sir Edmund Peckham; the resulting marriage with Dorothy Peckham ended with her death in childbirth in May 1547 but her father retained custody of the property until November 1549.

After the death of Sir Ralph Verney (d. 26 April 1546), Elizabeth Bray (d.1574?) married secondly Sir Richard Catesby (d. 4 March 1553), son and heir of George Catesby by Elizabeth Empson, daughter of Sir Richard Empson (c.1450-1510) (for whom see the *ODNB* entry). For the will of Sir Richard Catesby, see TNA PROB 11/53/36/261.

For the testator's children, see also Lodge, Edmund, *Illustrations of British History, Biography and Manners*, 2nd ed., Vol. I, (London: John Chidley, 1838), pp. 341-2 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=TpKK0CK923wC&pg=PA342&lpg=PA342&dq=%22Sir+Robert+Peckham%22&source=bl&ots=ecfby0BaGp&sig=bJAOoRLHGhw8MPD-IJhvyoE7A84&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjXjli4xOjSAhUD32MKHVZ9A0A4ChDoAQgjMAM#v=onepage&q=%22Sir%20Robert%20Peckham%22&f=fal>

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

The testator bequeaths 5 marks a year to be distributed among his ‘poor neighbours of Denham’ to pray for the soul of John Micklowe, esquire, second husband of the testator’s mother, Elizabeth Eburton Peckham. John Micklowe is also mentioned in the Latin will of the testator’s father, Peter Peckham, TNA PROB 11/12/315, and in two Chancery suits, TNA C 1/250/13 and TNA C 1/250/17, both of which were brought in 1501-1502 by George Peckham (d. 1505) against his stepmother, Elizabeth Eburton Peckham, and her second husband, John Micklowe. Elizabeth Eburton Peckham Micklowe was living when her second husband, John Micklowe, made his will on 10 November 1518. In his will, John Micklowe left the testator and his heirs forever all the lands which Micklowe had purchased in Denham subject to the following condition:

Provided always that the said Edmund and his heirs do keep or cause to be kept forever a yearly obit in the said parish church of Denham or elsewhere for my soul and all Christian souls, and to expend at the said obit to priests, clerks, ringing of bells and other necessary charges and in alms to poor people every year five marks.

See the will of John Micklowe, proved 29 July 1522, TNA PROB 11/20/363. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the testator could not observe Micklowe’s condition concerning Catholic ceremonies, but in his will below directs that the entire 5 marks be given to the poor of Denham.

The testator bequeaths a ring of gold to Thomas Fleetwood, who may have been Thomas Fleetwood (1517/18-1570), for whom see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/fleetwood-thomas-151718-70>.

The testator leaves a gold ring to William Hawtrey, who would appear to be the William Hawtrey in whose home at Chequers in Buckinghamshire Lady Mary Grey was confined for a time in 1565. See De Lisle, Leanda, *The Sisters Who Would Be Queen*, (London: HarperPress, 2008), pp. 254, 273, and Jordan, Jim D., *The Queen’s Merchant: The Life and Times of Sir Thomas Gresham*, (Lulu.com U.S.A., 2017):

https://books.google.ca/books?id=UrcQDgAAQBAJ&pg=PT215&lpg=PT215&dq=%22William+Hawtrey%22+%22Buckinghamshire%22&source=bl&ots=gq3LiY--18&sig=UxpWBD8rcS8seWqDMW4d94z2urg&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjnwt21nv_TAhVB4GMKHY2FB6kQ6AEIQDAI#v=onepage&q=%22William%20Hawtrey%22%20%22Buckinghamshire%22&f=false.

For the pedigree of Hawtrey of Chequers, see Rylands, *supra*, pp. 172-3 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofcoun58phil#page/172/mode/2up>.

The testator leaves a bequest to ‘my nephew, John Babham’. According to the Cheyne pedigree in Rylands, *supra*, Eleanor Cheyne, sister of the testator’s wife, Anne Cheyne, married John Babham of Cookham, Buckinghamshire.

The testator's nephew, John Babham, is also mentioned in the History of Parliament entry for Anthony Restwold (by 1517-55/60), where it is stated that Anthony Restwold was the third but first surviving son of Edward Restwold (d.1547) by Agnes Cheyne, daughter of John Cheyne of Drayton Beauchamp, and that Edward Restwold's executors were his wife, Agnes Cheyne, and her brother-in-law, Sir Edmund Peckham, the testator. See the will of Edward Restwold, TNA PROB 11/31/668, and:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/restwold-anthony-1517-5560>.

After the death of Edward Restworld, Agnes Cheyne married secondly Sir Thomas Waterton (d. 28 July 1558). See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 453 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=kjme027UeagC&pg=RA2-PA453&lpg=RA2-PA453&dq=%22Restwold%22+%22Cheyne%22&source=bl&ots=qvLnFA-bhe&sig=x8zuOBJ9zW_bYKn6me63_oXCBGw&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjLh8rVyp3TAhUSz2MKHSsGDNAQ6AEIKjAB#v=onepage&q=%22Restwold%22%20%22Cheyne%22&f=false.

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir Thomas Waterton at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/waterton-thomas-i-1501-58>.

The testator appoints as overseer 'my most assured and loving friend and alliance, Sir Robert Drury, knight'. For Sir Robert Drury (by 1503-1577) of Hedgerley and Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire, see his will, TNA PROB 11/59/337, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/drury-sir-robert-ii-1503-77>.

TESTATOR'S LANDS

The History of Parliament entry states that the testator had lands at Halse in Northamptonshire. However in his will the testator mentions 'all my lands lying in Halfe(?) in the county of Northampton'. A Chancery suit brought by Nicholas Clarke against George Peckham between 1558 and 1579 apparently also refers to them by that spelling ('land called Half pastures, Northamptonshire'). See TNA C 3/43/49.

LM: T{estamentum} Edmundi Peckham mi{li}tis

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, I, Edmund Peckham, knight, being whole in body and mind, thanks be given to Almighty God, do ordain and make my last will and treatment the 12th day of May in the year of Our Lord God 1563 and in the fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth in manner and form hereafter following, that is to say:

First I do commend my soul to Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, 3 distinct persons in Trinity and one God in unity, yielding myself wholly unto his infinite mercy, having assured faith that by his superabundant mercy and by the merits of the painful passion, bitter death and the effusion of the precious blood of my Saviour, Jesus Christ, the second person in Trinity, my Redeemer and Saviour, to have full remission of all my sins wherein I have offended his divine Majesty during the whole time of my life, and to be one of his inheritors in his holy kingdom everlastingly;

And for my body and vile carcass which is but earth and dust, the same I do will unto the earth again from whence it came, therein to be buried in such place as shall seem by my executors convenient, and that to be done without pomp or vainglory otherwise than it shall be thought decent by the discretion of mine executors according unto my vocation;

Also I will that all my debts the which of right and duty I ought to pay to any person be entirely and wholly paid by my executors in as short time after my death as the same may be conveniently done;

I do will unto my well-beloved wife, Anne Peckham, in ready money, plate, household stuff, corn or cattle to the full sum of five hundred pounds;

And also all her own apparel and jewels over and besides the same bequest of five hundred pounds;

Item, I do will and bequeath unto my son, Robert Peckham, one hundred pounds;

Also I do will unto my daughter, his wife, forty pounds;

I do will unto my son, George Peckham, one hundred pounds, and unto my daughter, his wife, twenty pounds;

I do will unto my godsons, Edmund Peckham and George Peckham, my son George his children, to every of them twenty pounds, amounting to the sum of forty pounds;

Also I will to every one of my godchildren, so many as will ask the same, to every one of them 6s 8d;

Also I will that my executors shall yearly distribute unto my poor neighbours of Denham for their relief among them five marks to pray for the soul of John Micklowe, esquire, according as his last will was so to be done, to be distributed yearly the 24th of May,

which was the day of his death, for the yearly payment thereof I do will unto my executors, and after their death to their executors, all my lands lying in Halfe in the county of Northampton and my tenement lying in Croydon in the county of Surrey;

And whereas the yearly rent of the said lands in Halff and of the said tenement in Croydon do rise unto the sum of 76s, which is 9s 4d over and above the before-named sum of 66s 8d, I will [f. 216r] the said sum of 9s 4d shall be taken by the said executors as well for their pains in the distributing of the foresaid sum of 66s 8d with their charges in the receipt of the said money, as also for the reparations of the said tenement when need shall require, the which my covenant is to do;

Also I do will and bequeath unto my loving friend, Mr John Smithe, Sergeant at Arms, six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence;

Also to Mr William Hawtrey one ring of gold of the value of fifty-three shillings and four pence;

To Mr Thomas Fleetwood in like wise one ring of gold of the value of 53s 4d;

To Mr Keble also one ring of the said value of 53s 4d;

And unto my nephew, John Babham, the sum of twenty pounds in ready money;

Also I do will unto the rest of my household servants the sum of one hundred marks, to be divided and distributed unto them as by the discretion of my executors, unto whom I do commit the charge unto, as they shall think good;

Also I do will and bequeath unto my poor neighbours of Denham to pray for my soul the sum of twenty marks, to be distributed unto them by mine executors either in apparel, in bedding or in ready money as by their discretions it shall seem best;

I do furthermore will forty pounds to be bestowed in deeds of charity in making of highways, in releasing and relieving of prisoners, or to the marriages of poor maidens or otherways by my executors as by their discretion they shall think best to be done;

The rest of all my goods not willed or not bequeathed remaining after the payment of my debts and legacies I do will unto my executors to do therewithal at their free will and liberty;

This is the last will of me, the said Edmund Peckham, of all my goods, finished and determined the day and year before mentioned;

And by this my last will I do make void and frustrate all other wills at any time heretofore made by me, the said Edmund Peckham;

And I do ordain and make to be executors of this my last will and testament my dear and well-beloved wife, Anne Peckham, my son, Robert Peckham, and my son, George Peckham;

And do most heartily desire my most assured and loving friend and alliance, Sir Robert Drury, knight, to be overseer of this my last will and testament, unto whom I do will and bequeath the sum of ten pounds for his pains to be taken in this behalf;

In witness hereof I, the said Edmund Peckham, have written this my last will and treatment with mine own hand, subscribed my name and put to my seal the aforesaid 12th day of May in the year of Our Lord God 1563 and in the 5th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth. By me, Edmund Peckham.

And touching the disposition of my manors, lands and tenements, this is my last will and testament, that is to say:

I do will unto my well-beloved wife, Dame Anne, all that my manor of Denham lying and being within the county of Buckingham with all other my lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever they be in Denham aforesaid or elsewhere within the realm of England not being heretofore given or bequeathed for term of her natural life;

The remainder thereof to be unto my son, Robert Peckham, knight, and to th' heirs of his body lawfully begotten;

And for default of such issue of his body lawfully begotten, then I will that all my said manors, lands and tenements shall descend and remain unto my son, George Peckham, and unto the heirs of his body lawfully begotten forever more;

And whereas I, the said Edmund Peckham, by one indenture bearing date the 18th day of June in the fifth year [=18 June 1563] of the reign of Our Sovereign Lady the Queen that now is have demised, granted and to farm letten unto my son, George Peckham, all that my manor of Denham together with the whole mansion house of the same manor and divers other houses, messuages, lands and hereditaments mentioned and expressed in the same indenture, to have and to hold to the same George, his executors and assigns, from the feast of Saint Michael th' Archangel next ensuing the date of the same indentures unto th' end and term of 21 years, yielding and paying therefore unto me, the said Edmund Peckham and to Dame Anne, my wife, and to either of us longest living, and after our deceases to the heirs, executors or assigns of me, the said Edmund Peckham, as before it is mentioned, during the said term the yearly rent of one hundred forty and four pounds of lawful English money, payable as by the same indentures more plainly doth appear, I, the said Edmund Peckham, having a natural zeal, love and affection towards Edmund [f. 216v] and George Peckham, the sons of my said son, George Peckham, and that they be both my godsons, being therefore very desirous and careful that they may be hereafter well brought up in the fear of God, virtue and good learning, have thought good for their better furtherance and help thereunto to give and bequeath unto them and by this

my present last will and testament do give and bequeath unto the said Edmund and George Peckham, my godsons, towards their exhibitions and finding in the universities, Inns of Court or elsewhere forty pounds of yearly rent, that is to say, to every of them yearly twenty pounds, parcel of the aforesaid rent of one hundred forty and four pounds reserved by the aforesaid former indenture of lease in manner and form aforesaid and going out of th' aforesaid manor of Denham and out of all the lands, tenements and hereditaments demised and letten to farm to the said George Peckham, my son, by the same indenture, to have and to hold, perceive and enjoy the same rent of forty pounds unto the said Edmund and George, my godsons, and their assigns immediately after the death of me, the said Edmund Peckham, and Dame Anne, my wife, unto the feast of Saint Michael th' Archangel which shall be in the year of Our Lord God 1580, to be yearly perceived during the said term out of the said manor, lands and tenements by th' hands of my said son, George, their father, his executors or assigns, during and for so long time as the said rent shall be due unto them;

And I do further will and declare and my full mind, will and intent is that my said son, George, his executors and assigns, in consideration thereof shall be clearly acquitted and discharged of the rent of the said forty pounds, parcel of the said rent of one hundred forty and four pounds against mine heirs and assigns for and during so long time as the said rent shall be due to them or to either of them in the manner and form aforesaid, and shall be charged only to pay and employ the same about the exhibition and finding of the said Edmund and George, his sons;

Provided always that if it shall fortune the said Edmund and George, the sons of my said son, George, to depart out of this world or any of them (as God forbid) before the said feast of Saint Michael the which shall be in the said year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred and fourscore, that then this my present grant and devise of the foresaid rent of forty pounds shall [-be] from thenceforth cease and no longer for to continue or endure to him or them so deceased, but the rent so to them granted to return unto my next heir;

This is the last will of me, the said Edmund, touching the disposition of my lands made the 12th day of July in the year of Our Lord God 1563 and in the fifth year of the reign of our Queen Elizabeth. By me, Edmund Peckham.

Probatum fuit h{uius}mo{d}i testamentu{m} coram Mag{ist}ro Waltero Haddon Legum Doctore Curie Prerogative Cant{uariensis} Commissario apud London vltimo die mensis Octobris anno D{omi}ni Millesimo quingent{es}imo sexagesimo quarto Iuramento Will{el}mi Babham notarij pub{li}ci p{ro}cu{rato}ris D{omi}ne Anne Peckham vidue executric{is} in h{uius}mo{d}i testament{o} no{m}i{n}ate Cui Commissa fuit administracio omniu{m} et sing{u}loru{m} bonoru{m} &c Roberto Peckham milite et Georgio Peckham armi{ge}ro executoribus in p{er}sona dicti Will{el}mi Babham expresse renunciant{is}

[=The same testament was proved before Master Walter Haddon, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury at London on the last day of the month of October in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred sixty-fourth by the oath of William Babham, notary public, proctor of Dame Anne Peckham, widow, executrix named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods etc., Robert Peckham, knight, and George Peckham, esquire, executors, expressly renouncing in the person of the said William Babham.]