

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 13 March 1571 and proved 11 May 1571, of Anne (nee Winwood) Shakerley (buried 16 April 1571), whose daughter was the wife of Sir Ambrose Nicholas (d.1578), Lord Mayor of London, purchaser of Oxford's mansion at London Stone, and the stepmother of Daniel Nicholas, a witness in the Belott v Mountjoy lawsuit who is stated therein to have had a personal conversation with William Shakespeare (1564-1616) of Stratford upon Avon.

The testatrix was the sister-in-law of Anne Wingfield, whose brother, Sir Anthony Wingfield (d. August 1522), married Elizabeth Vere, eldest sister of John de Vere (1499-1527), 14th Earl of Oxford.

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

The eccentric Peter Shakerley (buried 18 September 1593), the subject of Thomas Nashe's derogatory comment in *Strange News* (1592) and Gabriel Harvey's 'Gorgon' sonnet (1593), appears to have been the son of Francis Shakerley (1500?-1592?), cousin of the testatrix' husband and appointed as overseer of his will. For Peter Shakerley, see:

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

See also the will, dated 4 January 1592 and 28 September 1592 and proved 29 January 1593, TNA PROB 11/81/74, of Francis Shakerley (1500?-1592?), esquire, in which he mentions his son, Peter; the will of his wife, Erasma Shakerley (d.1596), TNA PROB 11/87/467; and the Shakerley pedigree in Hovenden, Robert, ed., *The Visitation of Kent Taken in the Years 1619-1621*, (London: Harleian Society, 1898), Vol. XLII, pp. 159-60 at:

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

CONNECTION TO SHAKESPEARE

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

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

testified in 1612 that he had visited Shakespeare 'to understand the truth' about the disputed dowry.

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

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

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

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

CONNECTION TO OXFORD

For many years the testatrix' daughter resided in Oxford's former mansion near London Stone which her third husband, Sir Ambrose Nicholas, had purchased from Oxford. See the will of Sir Ambrose Nicholas, TNA PROB 11/60/296:

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

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

On the north side of this church [=St. Swithin's] and churchyard is one fair and large built house, sometime pertaining to the prior of Tortington in Sussex, since to the Earls of Oxford, and now to Sir John Hart, alderman, which house hath a fair garden belonging thereunto, lying on the west side thereof. On the back side of two other fair houses in Walbrook, in the reign of Henry VII, Sir Richard Empson, knight, chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, dwelt in the one of them, and Edmond Dudley, esquire, in the other; either of them had door of intercourse into this garden, wherein they met and consulted of matters at their pleasures. In this Oxford place Sir Ambrose Nicholas kept his mayoralty, and since him the said Sir John Hart.

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

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

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

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

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

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testatrix' family background, see:

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

See also the entry for the testatrix at:

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

The names of Anne Winwood's parents are not known, but she had at least two brothers. Lewis was secretary to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk. Thomas was a London stockfishmonger. Anne married Rowland Shakerley (Sharkerley/Sharkeley/Shackerley) (d. March 1564/5), a mercer. Their children were Anne, Elizabeth, Katherine (d.1595+), Ralph (1532-before 1564), Alice (b.1538), Mary (1540-1605), and John (1541-before 1564), and one online genealogy also lists a Christine. As Mistress Shakerley, Anne was

a silkwoman. She replaced Margery Vaughan as royal silkwoman in 1544. Also in that year, Shakerley purchased the manor of Aynho, Northamptonshire for £1060. This became the family seat. Anne was buried there on April 16, 1571.

The testatrix had two brothers and a sister:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

-Elizabeth Winwood.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testatrix married the London mercer, Rowland Shakerley (1520-1565), for whom see his will, dated 9 March 1565 and proved 24 March 1565, TNA PROB 11/48/92, and:

<https://www.ancestry.ca/boards/surnames.shakerley/1/mb.ashx>

By Rowland Shakerley, the testatrix had a son and five daughters:

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

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

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

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

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

-**Anne Shakerley** (1563-1615), who in 1585 married, as his first wife, Sir Paul Tracy (d.1626), the son of the lay Protestant reformer, Richard Tracy (by 1501-1568), and Barbara Lucy, the daughter of Sir Thomas Lucy (d.1525) of Charlecote, Warwickshire, by Elizabeth Empson, the daughter of Sir Richard Empson (d.1510). See the will of Richard Tracy, TNA PROB 11/50/107, and the History of Parliament entry at:

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

See also the Wikipedia entry for Richard Tracy at:

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

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

* **Elizabeth Shakerley** (d.1583), who married firstly Richard Elkyn (d.1559), secondly Walter Marler (d. 22 June 1561), and thirdly, Sir Ambrose Nicholas (d.1578), Lord Mayor of London. For her children, see her will, TNA PROB 11/65/520.

* **Katherine Shakerley** (d. before 1571?) In her father's will, she is referred to as 'Katherine Longe'. She is not mentioned in the will below, and may have predeceased the testatrix.

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

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

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

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

* **Alice Shakerley**. In her father's will, she is referred to as Alice Love. She is not mentioned in the will below, and may have predeceased the testatrix. She married Giles Love of Broughton, Oxfordshire, eldest son of Edward Love (d.1557) of Aynho by his first wife, Alice Arden, the daughter of John Arden of Cottisford, Oxfordshire. Edward Love who witnessed the testatrix' will below was Giles Love's younger brother. See the

will of Edward Love, dated 20 June 1557 and proved 2 September 1557, TNA PROB 11/39/366, and the pedigree of Love of Aynho in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Northamptonshire Made in 1564 and 1618-19*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1887), p. 188 at:

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

For the Arden family of Cottisford, see also:

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

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

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

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

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

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

For John Stutsbury, see the will of the testatrix' husband, *supra*.

LM: T{estamentum} Agnetis Shackerley

In Dei nomine, Amen. The 13th day of March in the year of Our Lord 1570 and in the 13th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland [-Queen], Defender of the Faith etc., I, Anne Shakerley of Aynho in the county of Northampton, widow, sickly and diseased in body but being of

whole mind and perfect remembrance, laud and praise be unto Almighty God therefore, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

Fist I commend and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God, my Maker and Creator, and to Jesus Christ, my Redeemer;

And I will that my body be buried within the new chapel of the church of Aynho near unto my husband and my son, Ralph;

Item, I will that my executrice do see my funeral charges and expenses executed and performed in decent and seemly manner by her discretion;

Item, I give and bequeath towards the reparations of the church and chancel of Aynho 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath to Richard Bushope [=Bishop?] of London forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin, Alice Nicols, forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Thomas Clarke, Richard Skilman, William Hunte and Margery Adams, to every of them 20s;

Item, I give and bequeath to Richard Croft ten shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughters, Elizabeth Nicholas and Christian Harding, to each of them one silver pot gilt;

Item, I will that my executrice shall pay unto each of my godsons in Aynho, being 7 in number, 6s 8d;

Item I do make, constitute and ordain Mary Marmion, my daughter, my sole and only executrice of this my last will and testament, unto whom I give and bequeath all my goods and chattels whatsoever that shall remain, my funerals being performed, my debts paid and my legacies discharged;

These persons being witnesses hereof: Richard Winwood, Edward Love, John Stutsbury.

A codicil to be annexed to the testament of me, the said Anne Shakerley

Item, I give and bequeath to Mary Elkyn £20 to be paid unto her at & upon the day of her marriage;

Item, I give and bequeath to Anne Nicholas £6 13s 4d to be paid unto her at & upon the day of her marriage;

Item, I give & bequeath to Francis Elkyn £6 13s 4d to be paid unto him when he shall accomplish his full age of 21 years;

Item, I give and bequeath to Walter Marler £6 13s 4d to be paid unto him when he shall accomplish his full age of one and twenty years.

Probatum fuit h{uius}mo{d}i Testa{men}tu{m} Coram Domino Cant{uariensis} Archiep{iscop}o apud London xjto die Mens{is} Maij Anno D{omi}ni 1571 Iura{men}to Marie Marmyon Executric{is} in huiusmodi testa{men}to no{m}i{n}at{e} Cui com{m}issa fuit Administrac{i}o o{mn}i{u}m et singulor{um} bonor{um} &c de bene &c Ad sancta dei Eu{a}ngelia Iurat{e} &c

[=The same will was proved before the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury at London on the 11th day of the month of May in the year of the Lord 1571 by the oath of Mary Marmion, executrix named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels etc. to well etc.]