

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 26 June 1574 and proved 19 November 1574, of Jane Wriothesley (d. 15 September 1574), Countess of Southampton, grandmother of Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton, to whom Shakespeare dedicated *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Reliable sources disagree as to the identity of the testatrix' father and mother.

The Wriothesley monument at Titchfield states that she was the 'daughter of William Cheynie of Chessamboyes in ye County of Buckingham, Esquire'. Greenfield states further that she was 'sole heir' to William Cheney, and describes him as the 'grandson and heir of Robert Cheney by the heiress of Lovetoft of Southho, co. Huntingdon'. 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. 64-82 at pp. 72, 77-8:

<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>

The seventh and eighth quarterings [on the Wriothesley coat of arms] are brought in by the marriage of Lord Chancellor Wriothesley, first Earl of Southampton, with Jane, daughter and sole heir of William Cheney, Esq., of the county of Buckingham, who was grandson and heir of Robert Cheney, by the heiress of Lovetoft, of Southho, co. Huntingdon.

Greenfield's claim that the testatrix was 'sole heir' to William Cheney appears, however, to be contradicted by the will of the testatrix' husband, Thomas Wriothesley, 1st Earl of Southampton, TNA PROB 11/34/154, which states that the testatrix had a sister, Anne, living on 21 July 1550. Moreover there appear to be no surviving documents which pertain to a 'William Cheney, esquire, of Chesham Bois', and Greenfield's claim that he was the grandson and heir of Robert Cheney by the heiress of Lovetoft of Southo, Huntingdon, cannot be substantiated.

It is possible that the testatrix' sister, Anne, is the 'Aunt Clerk' who is bequeathed £20 in the will of Henry Wriothesley, 2nd Earl of Southampton. She may also be the 'gentle Mrs

Clerc' mentioned in a letter thought to date from 27 January 1538 from Anthony Roke to the testatrix' husband. See:

'Henry VIII: January 1538, 26-31', in *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Henry VIII, Volume 13 Part 1, January-July 1538*, ed. James Gairdner (London, 1892), pp. 50-66. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/letters-papers-hen8/vol13/no1/pp50-66> [accessed 28 March 2017].

In the will of the testatrix' husband there is also a bequest to an 'Elene Clerc', who may be a member of the same family:

Item, I give to Elene Clerc towards her marriage forty pounds.

As to the testatrix' mother, some sources identify her as Emma Walwyn, the daughter of Thomas Walwyn of Much Marcle, Herefordshire. See the *ODNB*:

By 1533 Wriothesley had married Jane (d. 1574), daughter and heir of William Cheney of Chesham Bois, Buckinghamshire, and Emma, daughter of Thomas Walwyn of Much Marcle, Herefordshire.

See also Cokayne, George Edward, *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. XII, Part I, (London: The St Catherine Press, 1953), p. 125, which cites Greenfield, *infra*, pp. 72, 82; *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol. II, p. 134; *The Visitation of Buckinghamshire*, p. 219; and *The Genealogist*, Vol. VII, p. 254 as authority for the claim that the testatrix was the daughter of Emma Walwyn.

However neither Greenfield nor *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica* mention Emma Walwyn. See Greenfield, *supra*, and Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol. II, (London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co., 1876), p. 134 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=PSQFAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA135&lpg=PA135&dq=%22chequy+or+and+azure+a+fess+gules+fretty%22&source=bl&ots=i-C-rbqPwy&sig=JESiKFKijtWJkRKksDUplRppW4s&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiX7vXKv-rSAhVM4GMKHS4MDh0Q6AEINTAG#v=onepage&q=%22chequy%20or%20and%20azure%20a%20fess%20gules%20fretty%22&f=false>

The pedigree of Walwyn of Aylesbury in the visitation of Buckingham does mention the marriage of 'William Cheyney, esquire', and Emma, eldest daughter of Thomas Walwyn. In the pedigree this Thomas Walwyn is shown as the eldest son of *Thomas* Walwyn, and is said to have married *Eleanor*, the daughter and coheir of Simon Milborne. Eng. Misc. C. 17, ff. 131v and 132 is cited as authority, but there is also a note stating that this pedigree and another Walwyn pedigree do not agree ('The issue of Thomas, who married Eleanor Milburne, does not agree with the pedigree printed in *The Genealogist*, Vol. VII, 1883, p. 253'). See Rylands, W. Harry, ed., *The Visitation of the County of Buckingham Made in 1634*, Vol. LVIII, (London: Harleian Society, 1909), p. 219 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofcoun5859byuphil#page/218/mode/2up>.

Moreover in his will, TNA PROB 11/24/179, Thomas Walwyn (d.1532), names his wife as Agnes, not Eleanor, and although he mentions daughters, does not name them, nor does he name any sons-in-law.

Cooke also states that Thomas Walwyn (d.1532) was the eldest son of *Fulke* Walwyn (d.1509), that Thomas married *Agnes* Milborne, the daughter of Simon Milborne, and that Agnes survived him. See Cooke, William Henry, *Collections Towards the History and Antiquities of the County of Hereford in Continuation of Duncumb's History*, Vol. III, (London: John Murray, 1882), pp. 14, 21 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=0zxAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA16&lpg=PA16&dq=%22Walwyn%22+%22Duncumb%22&source=bl&ots=TtPzpzafox&sig=uq6YSjylE7kmYWmhgWfN_r9Ry6o&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjHrrXmvffSAhUJ5WMKHTBeDsUQ6AIGjAA#v=onepage&q=%22Walwyn%22%20%22Duncumb%22&f=false

For the children of Simon Milborne and their marriages, see also Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, p. 516. Richardson agrees that Thomas Walwyn married Agnes Milborne, not *Eleanor* Milborne, thus casting further doubt on the pedigree in Rylands, *supra*, which claims that Emma Walwayn, the daughter of Thomas Walwyn, married William Cheney, esquire, by whom she was the mother of the testatrix.

It thus appears that the sources which state that William Cheney and Emma Walwyn were the testatrix' parents may be in error.

Unfortunately, no light is cast on the testatrix' background in the will below, which mentions no family members apart from her children.

The only fact concerning the testatrix' background which appears to be known with certainty is that the testatrix was either the sister, or half-sister, of Germaine Gardiner, as noted in the *DNB* entry for the testatrix' husband:

[https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Wriothesley,_Thomas_\(1505-1550\)_\(DNB00\)](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Wriothesley,_Thomas_(1505-1550)_(DNB00))

There is some obscurity about the identity of Southampton's wife. He was married before 1533 to Jane, niece of Stephen Gardiner [q. v.], bishop of Winchester, and sister of the unfortunate Germain Gardiner, the bishop's private secretary, who was executed for denying the royal supremacy in 1543 (Letters and Papers, xii. i. 1209, ii. 47, 546, 634, 825). In all the pedigrees, however, his wife is styled 'Jane daughter of William Cheney or Cheyne of Chesham Bois, Buckinghamshire,' and there is no trace of his having had two wives. The inference is that the Countess of Southampton's mother married first a brother of Bishop Gardiner, and secondly William Cheney, being mother of Germain Gardiner by her first husband, and of the Countess of Southampton by her second.

According to the *ODNB*, early in his career, and at about the time that he would have married the testatrix, the testatrix' husband was an associate of Stephen Gardiner (c.1495x8–1555), who was created Bishop of Winchester in 1531, and was the uncle of the testatrix' brother or half-brother, Germaine Gardiner:

In 1529–30 [Thomas Wriothesley] was clerk to Edmund Peckham, cofferer of the household; in 1530 he was king's messenger; and before 4 May 1530 he was appointed joint clerk of the signet under Stephen Gardiner, who was now the king's secretary.

It should be noted that Bishop Gardiner's own family background was obscure, as was the background of his nephew, Germaine Gardiner. From the *ODNB*:

Gardiner, Stephen (c.1495x8–1555), theologian, administrator, and bishop of Winchester, was born, according to John Bale, at Bury St Edmunds, and thus was probably the son of that name mentioned in the will of John Gardiner, a clothmaker from Bury, of 18 January 1507. His mother's name was probably Agnes.

For a letter written in May 1537 in which Germaine Gardiner refers to the testatrix as 'my good sister, for whose sake I forbear to chide', and to the testatrix' husband as his 'good loving brother' [=brother-in-law], see Rowse, A.L., *Shakespeare's Southampton, Patron of Virginia*, (London: Macmillan and Company Limited, 1965), p. 9 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=ULWvCwAAQBAJ&pg=PA9&lpg=PA9&dq=%22Germaine+Gardiner%22+%22sister%22&source=bl&ots=SHtzVWK4Tx&sig=0kOIVaWBo1Iz_rFTFwUcF5ZAPM&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiY34K_wO_SAhUBEGMKHR2GDrAQ6AEIjAA#v=onepage&q=%22Germaine%20Gardiner%22%20%22sister%22&f=false.

For another letter from Germaine Gardiner to the testatrix' husband addressed 'To my good brother, Master Thomas Wriothesley', see No. 1322 at:

'Henry VIII: May 1537, 26-31', in *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Henry VIII, Volume 12 Part 1, January-May 1537*, ed. James Gairdner (London, 1890), pp. 584-607. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/letters-papers-hen8/vol12/no1/pp584-607> [accessed 24 March 2017].

There is also a possible link to Germaine Gardiner in the will of the testatrix' husband. Germaine Gardiner was executed on 7 March 1544 together with '[John] Larke, parson of Chelsea', and a clause in the will of the testatrix' husband provides for the education of one 'Lark' at Oxford. See O'Flaherty, T.J., trans., *Letters on the Spanish Inquisition*, 2nd ed., (Boston: Patrick Donohoe, 1850), p. 107 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=IOtDAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA107&lpg=PA107&dq=%22Germaine+Gardiner%22&source=bl&ots=Io-aA5pgE9&sig=6ngYVK8gMLPoO60v54IRv3pVZec&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwje9>

Lyqu-
_SAhVK7mMKHWq3Dh44ChDoAQhDMAw#v=onepage&q=%22Germaine%20Gardiner%22&f=false.

According to Reynolds, John Larke was presented to the living at Chelsea in 1530 by Sir Thomas More. See Reynolds, E.E., ed., *Lives of St Thomas More*, (London: Dent, 1963), p. xiv at:

<https://archive.org/stream/livesofsaintthom000169mbp#page/n17/mode/2up>.

For Peter Larke, a servant to Germaine Gardiner's uncle, Stephen Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester, see Collins, Brian M., 'The Pomp of Two Bishops of Winchester When Travelling':

<https://www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/wp-content/.../The-Pomp-of-Two-Bishops.pdf>.

It should perhaps also be noted that another member of the Larke family connected to a powerful statesman at about this time was Joan Larke, mistress of Cardinal Wolsey, by whom she had two illegitimate children. For Joan Larke, see Emerson at:

<http://www.kateemersonhistoricals.com/TudorWomenL.htm>.

The question thus arises as to where the testatrix should be placed in the pedigree of Cheyne of Chesham Bois. One tangible clue is that she is said to have been a 'cousin' of Henry Peckham (d.1556), son of Sir Edmund Peckham (b. in or before 1495, d. 29 March 1564), whose wife was Anne Cheyne (d.1570). If the relationship between the testatrix and Henry Peckham (d.1556) was that of first cousins, her father, William Cheyne, esquire, of Chesham Bois, must have been a son of John Cheyne (d. 1 July 1535), the father of Anne Cheyne (d.1570), wife of Sir Edmund Peckham. The testatrix would thus be the niece of Robert Cheyne (d. 9 December 1552), and the niece of Sir Edmund Peckham's wife, Anne Cheyne (d.1570).

If this analysis is correct, it seems likely the testatrix' father, William Cheyne, died not long after the testatrix' birth, and that the testatrix' 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 the pedigree of Cheyne of Chesham Bois, see Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitation of Buckinghamshire in 1566*, (Exeter, William Pollard, 1883), pp. 9-10 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofbuck00harvrich#page/8/mode/2up>.

For the pedigree of Cheyne of Chesham Bois, see also 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>.

See also the will of Sir Edmund Peckham, TNA PROB 11/47/325.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The testatrix married Thomas Wriothesley (1505–1550), 1st Earl of Southampton, by whom she had three sons and five daughters:

- * William Wriothesley (1535 - August 1537).
- * Anthony Wriothesley, who died an infant c.1542.
- * Henry Wriothesley (21 April 1545 – 4 October 1581), 2nd Earl of Southampton.
- * Elizabeth Wriothesley (buried 16 January 1555).
- * Mary Wriothesley (buried 13 December 1561).
- * Katherine Wriothesley (d. 16 August 1626).
- * Anne Wriothesley (living 21 July 1550, when her father made his will).
- * Mabel Wriothesley (living 17 July 1602 when her aunt, Anne Wriothesley Knight Lawrence, made her will; see TNA PROB 11/116/231).

For details concerning the testatrix' children and their marriages and issue, see the will of Thomas Wriothesley, 1st Earl of Southampton, TNA PROB 11/34/154.

Of the testatrix' children it would appear that only her son, Henry, and daughters Katherine and Mabel, were living at the time she made her will. For a discussion of the testatrix' children and their marriages, see the will of the testatrix' husband, TNA PROB 11/34/154.

See also Emerson's biography of the testatrix at:

<http://www.kateemersonhistoricals.com/TudorWomenC-Ch.htm>.

The testatrix is said to have been a lady of the chamber to Henry VIII's sixth wife, Katherine Parr. See White, Micheline, ed., *English Women, Religion, and Textual Production, 1500-1625*, (Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2011), p. 132 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=N-2ungcgFKsC&pg=PA132&lpg=PA132&dq=%22Jane+Wriothesley%22&source=bl&ots=tjgRgInYww&sig=dxkPPX_5oBMe4ISw6STn4vKnNPo&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwi3ydSPy6fKAhVY-GMKHUDcB284ChDoAQgyMAk#v=onepage&q=%22Jane%20Wriothesley%22&f=false

The testatrix received a letter of condolence on the death of her young son from Queen Katherine Parr. See Mueller, Janel, ed., *Katherine Parr: Complete Works and Correspondence*, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011), pp. 80-1 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=cBzuka1QBkC&pg=PA75&lpg=PA75&dq=%22Queen+Katherine+and+her+Correspondents%22&source=bl&ots=eZlh4bCDde&sig=llW4fiOqrgL8JN9Zzas-F1e0raU&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjsnY36x_fSAhVI5mMKHeWPBtUQ6AEIGjAA#v=onepage&q=%22Queen%20Katherine%20and%20her%20Correspondents%22&f=false.

For the prayer book owned by the testatrix, see:

http://dla.library.upenn.edu/dla/schoenberg/record.html?sort=title_sort%20desc&fq=seller_facet%3A%22Quaritch%22%20AND%20place_facet%3A%22England%22&id=SCHOENBERG_49501

For the testatrix' ownership of Add Ms 38691 which contains her signature, see:

http://www.ampltd.co.uk/digital_guides/medieval-and-early-modern-women-part-2/detailed-listing.aspx?h=viii

For mention of the testatrix in the casebook of a Hampshire physician, see Add Ms 28023 at:

http://www.ampltd.co.uk/digital_guides/medieval-and-early-modern-women-part-2/detailed-listing.aspx?h=viii.

For the testatrix as the patient of this Hampshire physician, see also Stopes, Charlotte Carmichael, *The Life of Henry, Third Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's Patron*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1922), p. 517 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=_ZM4AAAIAAJ&pg=PA517&lpg=PA517&dq=%22Clerkenwell%22+%22Longlands%22&source=bl&ots=VPMZt8ToO6&sig=C-k1uglFEtU3mLtS47kym6pNw0I&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjt-bGcz_fSAhVK6WMKHZBtBkIQ6AEIPzAJ#v=onepage&q=%22Clerkenwell%22%20%22Longlands%22&f=false.

For the testatrix' executor, Sir Roger Manwood (d. 14 December 1592), see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/manwood-roger-ii-1532-92>.

For the testatrix' executor, Edward Baber (d. 23 September 1578), see the History of Parliament entry at:

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<http://www.oxford-shakespeare.com/>

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/baber-edward-1532-78>.

T{estamentum} D{omi}ne Jane Comitiss{e}(?) South{ampton}

[f. 341r] In the name of God, Amen. The six and twentieth day of June in Anno Domini 1574 in the sixteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., I, Jane, Countess of Southampton, being whole of mind and of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be unto Almighty God, make and ordain this my present testament and last will in manner and form following, and by the same do repeal, annul and make void all testaments and wills before this time by me made;

First I commend my soul wholly to the infinite mercy of Almighty God, trusting assuredly to be saved by the merits of the passion of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, his only Son, and our only Mediator, the second person in Trinity;

Item, I give and bequeath to my son, Henry, the Earl of Southampton, the profits of all my leases and terms of years that I have yet to come of and in th' whole rectory and parsonage of Titchfield, as well of the lease that I bought of Mr Ughtred, wherein I have fifteen years to come, as also the lease that I last did take of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester for 99 years after the expiration of the same lease, to have the same profits to him for so many years of the said terms as he shall live;

And after his decease I will the profits of the same leases shall remain to the Lord Henry Wriothesley, his son, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten;

And for default of such issue to the Lady Mary Wriothesley, my said son's daughter, and to the heirs of her body lawfully begotten;

And for default of such heirs to my daughter, the Lady [f. 341v] Katherine, and to the heirs of her body lawfully begotten;

And for default of such issue to my daughter, the Lady Mabel, and to her heirs;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said son, the Earl of Southampton, half of my household stuff that shall remain and be in my house at Titchfield at my departing this present life, and all the other half part of my household stuff there I give and bequeath to the said Lord Henry Wriothesley, my son Southampton's son, to be delivered to him when he cometh to the age of twenty-one years, if he be then living;

And if he die before, then the same half part to remain to the Lady Mary Wriothesley, my son's daughter, if she be then living;

If not, then I will her part of the same shall by equal portions remain to my daughter, the Lady Katherine, and to my daughter, the Lady Mabel, and to their children;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my said son, the Earl of Southampton, all my stock and store of sheep at Titchfield except one hundred of good wether sheep which I give and bequeath to my son Cornwallis and to my daughter, the Lady Katherine, his wife;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said son Southampton all my cattle and rother beasts remaining at my house and grounds at Titchfield except twenty of the best steers there and also ten kine and a bull which I give to my said son Cornwallis and to my daughter, the Lady Katherine, his wife;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my son Henry, the Earl of Southampton, all my horses, geldings, mares and colts remaining at my said house at Titchfield except three horses and three mares which I give to my son Cornwallis and to my daughter, the Lady Katherine, his wife, and for the order of choice of the same I will my son Southampton shall choose two, and they the third, and so by turn;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my son Cornwallis and to my daughter, the Lady Katherine, his wife, ten quarters of good wheat well and clean winned, to be delivered to them out of my garner at Titchfield;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Lord Henry Wriothesley, my said son Southampton's son, the use and occupation of all my leases and terms of years that I have of and in the parsonage of Micheldever, East Stratton and West Stratton in the county of Southampton, to have unto him and to his heirs [+and?] assigns for & during the same leases and terms of years, if the said Lord Henry live so long, to this end, intent and purpose, that the same Lord Henry Wriothesley, his executors, administrators and assigns, shall yearly after my death pay unto the Lady Mabel, my daughter, one yearly rent of charge of twenty marks of lawful money of England until the said Lady Mabel shall happen to be married according to the purport, intent and true meaning of one deed of grant thereof by me made to the same Lady Mabel;

And if the same Lord Henry Wriothesley happen to die during the same my leases or any of them, then I give and bequeath the use and occupation of the same leases and terms of years to the Lady Mary Wriothesley, my son's daughter, to the intent and purpose last aforesaid for the payment of the said twenty marks yearly;

And if she die, then I will the same leases and terms of years shall wholly remain to my son, the Earl of Southampton, and to his executors and assigns;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said daughter, the Lady Mabel, for term of her life the occupation, use and profit of all my lease and terms of years that I have of and in a parcel of ground called Longlands and Grivil(?) Pytts, parcel of the possessions of the late monastery of Clerkenwell in the county of Middlesex which I hold of the Queen's

Majesty by the rent of seven pound and five shillings by the year now in the tenure and occupation of one John Smith, wherein I have twenty years to come after th' end and term of the lease which the said John Smith now holdeth of me;

And after her decease I give and bequeath the same leases and terms of years to Robert Cornwallis, my daughter the Lady Katherine's son;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, the Lady Katherine, as much of my plate as shall amount to the sum of and value of one hundred pounds;

Item I give and bequeath to my daughter, the Lady Mabel, as much of my plate as shall amount to the sum and value of one hundred pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Lord Henry Wriothesley, my son Southampton's son, as much of my plate as shall amount to the sum and value of one hundred marks, to be delivered unto him when he cometh to the age of twenty-one years;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Lady Mary Wriothesley, my son's daughter, as much of my plate as shall amount to the sum and value of one hundred marks, to be delivered to her at the day of her marriage or when she cometh to the age of eighteen years;

And if the said Henry, Lord Wriothesley, or the said Lady Mary happen to depart this present life before they come to that age, then I will that all their said portions of plate to remain to the survivor of them, and if they both happen to depart this present life before they come to that age, then I will that all their said portions thereof shall remain to my daughter, the Lady Katherine, and to my daughter, the Lady Mabel, and to their children then living;

Item, I give and bequeath to my son, the Earl of Southampton, all the rest of my plate, which doth amount to the sum of seven hundred marks or thereabout;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said son, the Earl of Southampton, all my household stuff that shall remain and be at my house at Holborn called Southampton Place at my departing this present life being not otherwise disposed or bequeathed by me by this my last will and testament;

Item, more I give & bequeath to my said son, the Earl of Southampton, my best cross of gold set with diamonds on one side and enamelled with green and red on the other side with a fair pearl hanging at it;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my said [f. 342r] son, the Earl of Southampton, a square tablet of gold wherein is the picture of my Lord his father's face in it weighing about two ounces and a half;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said son, the Earl of Southampton, a pair of flagon-bracelets of fine gold with two Iessinges(?) weighing about six ounces and a half;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my said son Southampton my great flagon-chain of gold that I was wont to wear about me for a girdle weighing about twelve ounces;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Lady Southampton, my son's wife, a brooch of gold set with an agate and seven little rubies; there is a picture of a face upon the agate;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my said Lady of Southampton, my son's wife, a girdle of gold with roses black enamelled and wheat sheaves of gold white enamelled weighing about five ounces and a half;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, the Lady Katherine, my best book of gold set with four diamonds on one side and a ruby in the middle and four rubies on the other side and a diamond in the middle weighing about nine ounces and a half, and the Queen's Majesty's handwriting in the same book;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my said daughter, the Lady Katherine, my wreathed long girdle of gold with some black enamelled weighing about fourteen ounces and a quarter;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my said daughter, the Lady Katherine, a short girdle of pearl with little pearls of gold enamelled with black in the same girdle;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my said daughter, the Lady Katherine, a brooch of gold with a sapphire in it and a story;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said daughter, the Lady Katherine, a chain of fine gold weighing about seven ounces and half a quarter;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, the Lady Mabel, my best brooch which is set with ten diamonds and hath one ruby at the foot of the story;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my said daughter, the Lady Mabel, a book of gold enamelled with a black knot with two scallop shells weighing about four ounces and a half;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said daughter, the Lady Mabel, a chain of gold enamelled black and white weighing about ten ounces;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said daughter, the Lady Mabel, a long girdle of gold with pillars enamelled red, white and black and the links plain and wreathed weighing about twelve ounces three quarters;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said daughter, the Lady Mabel, a [-g] cross of gold with a crucifix set with three diamonds and a pearl pendent weighing about one ounce and a half;

And I will that my daughter, the Lady Katherine, shall have the choice of the two long girdles that I have severally given to my daughter, the Lady Mabel, and her;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Lady Mary Wriothesley, my son's daughter, my best flower of gold set with two rubies and one emerald and three pearls pendent;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Lady Mary Wriothesley, my son's daughter, a tabled [=tablet?] of gold with an old story in it weighing about three ounces lacking two pence(?) weight;

Item, more I give and bequeath to the said Lady Mary Wriothesley, my son's daughter, a pair of beads of gold without Amell(?) of gold and a tabled [=tablet?] hanging at them enamelled weighing about five ounces;

Item, more I give and bequeath to the said Lady Mary Wriothesley, my son's daughter, a brooch of gold set with two little rubies and three little diamonds and a fair emerald and a story in it, all which jewels I will shall be delivered to her at the day of her marriage or when she cometh to the age of eighteen years, and if she die before marriage or before she cometh to that age, then I will the same jewels shall remain to the Lord Harry Wriothesley, her brother, if he be then living, and if he die, then I will the same shall remain to my daughter, the Lady Katherine, and to my daughter, the Lady Mabel, and to their children then living;

Item, I give and bequeath to Robert Cornwallis, my daughter Katherine's son, forty pounds of lawful money of England;

Item I give and bequeath to Michael Lister, my daughter Mary Lister's son, a gilt bowl with a cover weighing about thirty-two ounces;

Item, I give and bequeath all my pearls both great and small to my daughter, the Lady Katherine Cornwallis, and to my daughter, the Lady Mabel Wriothesley, to be equally divided between them;

Item, more I give and bequeath to my daughter, the Lady Cornwallis, a pair of tennes(?) of red coral dressed with lily-pots and also lily-pots between enamelled white and black with words graven in them with a fair pillar at the upper end enamelled blue and a tassel of silk-woman's work garnished with garnets and pearls;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, the Lady Mabel, a pair of tennes(?) of agates set with gold at every end of goldsmith's work, and between every two agates two white pearls and one pearl of gold of goldsmith's work, with a fair tassel at the end dressed with pearls and garnets;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said daughter, the Lady Mabel, a ring of gold with a ruby;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, the Lady Katherine Cornwallis, a ring of gold with a diamond with many cuts;

And all the rest of my rings with turquoises, rubies, sapphires and diamonds I do give and bequeath to my son, the Earl of Southampton;

Item, I give and bequeath to John Serell [=Serle?] th' elder, my surveyor, ten pounds of lawful money;

Item, I give and bequeath to Jane Serell [=Serle?] th' elder, my god-daughter, three pounds six shillings eight pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to Andrew Mundy [=Munday], my servant, ten pounds of lawful money of England;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor people of Titchfield with the members there, and also to the poor people of North Stoneham, Micheldever, Byckton and Worthye [=Abbots Worthy?] in the county of Southampton, and also to the poor people of Broadhembury and Woulleston [f. 342v] in the county of Devon, and also to the poor people of Saint Andrews in Holborn near London the sum of threescore six pounds thirteen shillings four pence, to be bestowed and distributed amongst them by the discretion of my executor;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, the Lady Katherine, as much of my apparel as shall amount to the sum and value of four score pounds of lawful money of England;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, the Lady Mabel, as much of my apparel as shall amount to the sum and value of four score pounds of lawful money of England;

And I pray my said son Southampton to be good to my two daughters, his sisters;

Item, I give and bequeath to every one of my servants taking wages of me at my departing this present life their whole year's wages, and I pray my son Southampton to be good to all my servants and also to all my farmers and tenants, and that all those and every of them to whom I have made any grants or leases, grant or lease of any lands or tenements by indenture or by copy of court roll shall quietly enjoy the same, paying the rents, duties and services according to the intent and meaning of my said grants or leases, and if any of them shall be expelled or disturbed contrary to the intent and meaning of this my will, then I will and devise that every such so expelled or disturbed shall be paid and satisfied by mine executor, his heirs, executors or administrators, as much money as shall be rated or set by my overseers or the survivor of them in equity and their conscience, but I trust my son will have more regard in conscience to have my grants and leases and my will duly kept and performed in such as he will look to have his own grants, leases and will kept and performed hereafter;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, the Lady Mabel, five hundred pounds of lawful money of England which I will shall be paid to her at the day of her marriage, so that she do marry within four year next after my death, or else I will she shall have but three hundred pounds, and then the other two hundred pounds to remain to the Lady Mary Wriothesley, my son's daughter;

All the rest of my goods and chattels not given nor bequeathed, my debts paid and my will performed, I do give and bequeath to my son, Henry, the Earl of Southampton, whom I do make my whole executor, praying him to see my will truly performed in all points;

And I do ordain and make Mr Justice Manwood and Mr Edward Baber of Lincoln's Inn to be my overseers, and I do give to every one of them for their pains ten pounds apiece;

In witness whereof I have set hereunto my hand and seal, dated the day and year first above-written. Jane Southampton.

Memorandum: That this was pronounced and declared by the said Lady Jane, Countess of Southampton, to be her last will and testament the first day of July in Anno Domini 1574 Et in Anno Sexto Decimo Regni Domine Elizabethe nunc Regine Anglie in p{re}sencia mei Edwardi Baber

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum In Curia Prerogatiue Cantuarien{sis} Apud London Decimo Nono die mensis Novembris Anno Domini Millesimo Quingentesimo Septuagesimo Quarto Iuramento Mag{ist}ri Chr{ist}oferi Robinson Notarij publici Procu{ra}toris Honorandi viri Henrici Comitis Southampton Executoris in eodem testamento nominat{i} &c Cui Commissa fuit Administratio omniu{m} et sing{u}lorum Bonorum Iuriu{m} et Creditorum Dict{e} Defunct{e} &c De bene &c Iurat{o} &c

[=The above-written testament was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury at London on the nineteenth day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred seventy-fourth by the oath of Master Christopher Robinson, notary public, proctor of the Honourable Henry, Earl of Southampton, executor named in the same testament etc., to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased etc., sworn to well etc.]