

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 5 March 1484 and proved 16 June 1486, of Thomas Darcy, esquire, grandfather of Thomas Darcy (1506 – 28 June 1558), 1st Baron Darcy of Chiche, who married Oxford's aunt, Elizabeth de Vere (d. 26 December 1565). Their son, Oxford's first cousin, John Darcy (d. 5 March 1581), 2nd Baron Darcy of Chiche, was a co-guarantor with Sir William Waldegrave (c.1540 – 25 August 1613) of Oxford's debt to the Court of Wards (see TNA C 2/Eliz/T6/48).

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the Darcy pedigree, see Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, pp. 44-5 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationsofess13metc#page/44/mode/2up>

Testator's paternal grandparents

The testator was the grandson of Sir Robert Darcy (d. 3 September 1448) of Maldon, Essex, a prominent lawyer, and Keeper of the Writs of the Common Pleas, by his second wife, Alice Filongley, daughter of Henry Filongley of Warwickshire, Serjeant of the Royal Scullery, and Knight of the Shire for Warwickshire. For the inquisition post mortem taken after his death, see TNA C 139/136/440. See also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 216 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=8JcbV309c5UC&pg=RA2-PA216>

See also the History of Parliament entry for Henry Filongley at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1386-1421/member/filongley-henry>

Although Richardson calls the testator's grandfather Sir Robert Darcy, other sources do not record his having been knighted. See, for example, the History of Parliament entry, which notes his connection to John de Vere (1408-1462), 12th Earl of Oxford:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1386-1421/member/darcy-robert-1448>

From 1424 Darcy was connected with John de Vere, the young earl of Oxford. When, in 1429, the earl was fined £1,000 for marrying without royal licence, Darcy was one of the ten men who stood surety on his behalf, each in £100; and he was later asked to assist in conveyances of the earl's property. . . .

Darcy died on 3 Sept. 1448 and was buried in a marble tomb in All Saints church, Maldon, where his executors subsequently founded a chantry of two chaplains who were

to pray for Henry VI and Queen Margaret as well as for the souls of Darcy and his wives. He left two sons (Sir) Robert (d.1469) and Thomas (d.1485) and about six daughters.

As there is considerable confusion in secondary sources concerning the Darcys, it is perhaps worth noting that Watson refers to the testator's grandmother as Alice Fitzlangley, and to the second son of her marriage to Robert Darcy (d. 3 September 1448) as John, rather than Thomas :

[The] family was originally from Yorkshire. Henry Darcy was a vintner, in London, and Sheriff in 1327, Lord Mayor in 1337. His grandson, Robert Darcy, brought up to the law, was "escheator" for Essex in 1420, and married Alice Fitz-Langly, a rich widow, of Maldon. His eldest son, Sir Robert Darcy, of Maldon, and Danbury Park, Sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1458, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Tyrrell, of Heron. John, the younger son, settled at Tolleshunt, and gave that place the name of Darcy. He got the place through his marriage with a De Bois, and his family spread through the county, and the head of it, Sir Thomas Darcy, of St. Osyth, was made Lord Darcy, 5th April, 1551. . . .

See Watson, J. Yelloly, *The Tendring Hundred In The Olden Time*, (Colchester: Benham & Harrison, 1877), pp. 133-4:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=utQHAAAQAAJ&pg=PA133>

King identifies the testator's grandmother as Alice Fitz Langley, daughter and heir of Robert Fitz Langley, and widow of John Yngoe. See King, H.W., 'Ancient Wills', *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. IV, (Colchester: Essex and West Suffolk Gazette, 1869), pp. 1-24 at p. 3:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=aDQGAAAQAAJ&pg=PA1>

See also the Ingoe pedigree cited by King in *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. III, Part II, (Colchester: The Essex and West Suffolk Gazette, 1864), p. 100 at:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=msu.31293026869283&view=1up&seq=92>

According to the History of Parliament entry, *supra*, the testator's grandfather, Robert Darcy (d. 3 September 1448), had two sons, Sir Robert Darcy (d.1469) and Thomas Darcy (d.1485) and 'about six daughters'. However quare whether the History of Parliament entry is in error in stating that the Thomas Darcy who died in 1485 was the *son* of Robert Darcy (d. 3 September 1448) and therefore the testator's *uncle*, as the date of death, 1485, appears to be the date of death of the testator himself.

According to the Darcy pedigree in *The Visitation of Essex*, the testator had one uncle, and six aunts. See Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, pp. 44-5 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationsofess13metc#page/44/mode/2up>

It should be noted that the Darcy pedigree erroneously states that the testator's grandfather, Robert Darcy (d. 3 September 1448), was buried at Maldon in 1402.

-John Darcy, ancestor of the Darcys of Tolleshunt Darcy, referred to by the testator in an entail in the will below as 'my uncle, John Darcy'. He married Anne Tyrrell, the daughter of Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d. 28 March 1477) of Heron in East Horndon, Essex (see below), by whom he was the father of Anthony Darcy (d. 18 October 1540), who married Elizabeth Wilkinson, daughter of Christopher Wilkinson, and the grandfather of Sir Thomas Darcy (d.1557), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/39/485. See the Darcy pedigree in Metcalfe, *supra*, pp. 44-5 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationsofess13metc#page/44/mode/2up>

See also Barrett, C.R.B., *Essex: Highways, Byways And Waterways*, (London: Lawrence & Bullen, 1893), p. 150 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/highwaysessex00barrich#page/149/mode/2up>

-Eleanor Darcy, who married Sir William Tyrrell of Heron in East Horndon, Essex. In some sources he is said to have been the Sir William Tyrrell who was slain at the Battle of Barnet on 14 April 1471.

-Margaret Darcy, who married Sir William Tyrrell (executed 23 February 1463) of Gipping, Suffolk. See the will of his brother, Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d. 28 March 1477) of Heron in East Horndon, Essex, TNA PROB 11/6/417. Sir William Tyrrell was allegedly involved in a conspiracy with John de Vere (1408-1462), 12th Earl of Oxford, and was beheaded on Tower Hill 23 February 1462:

And the 12 day of February th' Earl of Oxenford and ther [sic] Lord Aubrey Vere, his son, Sir Thomas Tuddenham, William Tyrrell and other were brought into the Tower of London. And upon the 20 day of the said month the said Lord Aubrey was drawn from Westminster to the Tower Hill and there beheaded. And the 23 day of the said month of February Sir Thomas Tuddenham, William Tyrrell and John Montgomery were beheaded at said Tower Hill. And upon the Friday next following, which was the 26 day of February, th' Earl of Oxenford was led upon foot from Westminster unto the Tower Hill, and there beheaded, and after the corpse was had unto the Friar Augustines', and there buried in the choir.

See Ross, James, *John de Vere, Thirteenth Earl of Oxford (1442-1513)*, (Woodbridge, Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2011), p. 39, 42.

-Anne Darcy, who married John Montgomery of Great Tey, beheaded on 23 February 1462 with Sir William Tyrrell, *supra*. See Ross, *supra*, pp. 39, 42.

-Elizabeth Darcy (d.1471?) who married Sir Henry Bruyn (d. 30 November 1461), the son of Sir Maurice Bruyn (d. 8 November 1466) by his third wife, Elizabeth Retford. For the will of Elizabeth (nee Retford) Bruyn, see TNA PROB 11/6/32.

By Sir Henry Bruyn, Elizabeth Darcy (d.1471?) had two daughters, Alice and Elizabeth. Alice Bruyn (d. 15 February 1473) married firstly John Berners (born c.1435), esquire, secondly Sir Robert Harleston, slain at the Battle of Barnet on 14 April 1471, and thirdly Sir John Heveningham (d. 20 March 1499). Elizabeth Bruyn (d. March 1494) married firstly Thomas Tyrrell (d. 13 October 1473?), esquire, son of Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d. 28 March 1477), *supra*, secondly Sir William Brandon (d.1485), and thirdly William Mallory, esquire.

-Alice Darcy, who married John Clopton (c.1422-1497), esquire. See Ross, *supra*, pp. 42, 260, and the will of John Clopton, TNA 11/11/266.

-Katherine Darcy, who married, in 1465, as his first wife, Robert Crane (d. 24 October 1500), esquire, of Chilton, but died without issue. Robert Crane married secondly Anne Ogard (d.1521). See Metcalfe, *supra*, p. 45; and Appleton, William S., *Memorials of the Cranes of Chilton*, (Cambridge: John Wilson and Son, 1868), p. 59 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=p_8HAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA59

Testator's parents

The testator was the son of Sir Robert Darcy (c.1420 - 2 November 1469) of Maldon and Danbury, Essex, and Elizabeth Tyrrell, the daughter of Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d. 28 March 1477) of Heron in East Horndon by Anne Marney, the daughter of Sir William Marney (d. 21 or 24 August 1414) and his wife, Elizabeth Sergeaux, a descendant of Robert de Vere (d. before 1221), 3rd Earl of Oxford, and his wife, Isabel Bolebec (d.1245). See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 14, and Vol. III, pp. 216-17.

Testator's siblings

The testator had a brother and two sisters of the whole blood:

-Robert Darcy. He is referred to in the will below as 'my brother, Robert Darcy'.

-Elizabeth Darcy, who married William Berkeley [sic?]. See *Magna Carta Ancestry*, *supra*, Vol. III, pp. 216-17.

-**Anne Darcy** (d. before 24 December 1501), who married firstly John Moyle (d. 21 November 1495), and secondly Sir William Hody (d.1524), Chief Baron of the Exchequer. See Richardson, *supra*, Vol. III, pp. 216-17.

After the death of the testator's father, his mother married secondly, about 1469 or 1470, Richard Haute (d. 8 April 1487), esquire, Lieutenant of the Tower of London, son of William Haute, esquire. See the Haute pedigree in Hovenden, Robert, ed., *The Visitation of Kent, Taken in the Years 1619-1621*, (London: Harleian Society, 1898), Vol. XLII, p. 213 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofkent00camd#page/212/mode/2up>

For the inquisition post mortem taken after the death of Richard Haute, see TNA C 142/3/126 and TNA E 150/458/1, and the summary at:

Maskelyne and H. C. Maxwell Lyte, 'Inquisitions Post Mortem, Henry VII, Entries 351-400', in *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem: Series 2, Volume 1, Henry VII* (London, 1898), pp. 146-171. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/inquis-post-mortem/series2-vol1/pp146-171> [accessed 12 September 2019].

The *ODNB* notes the difficulty in distinguishing between the testator's stepfather, Richard Haute (d. 8 April 1487), esquire, and his contemporary of the same name, Sir Richard Haute (d.1492):

The existence of two contemporary Richard Hautes with parallel careers complicates the family's later fifteenth-century history. The list of offices held by one or other of these two Richards is long: sheriff of Kent in 1477–8; JP from 1479 to 1481 for Kent, and for Essex, Gloucestershire, Hereford, Shropshire, and Worcestershire in the 1470s; MP for Canterbury in 1478, and on numerous Kentish commissions under Edward IV; carver to Queen Elizabeth Woodville from 1466 to 1469, and nominated by the queen as a justice in her forest eyre in 1477; among those who accompanied Margaret of Anjou to France in 1475; steward of Gower and constable of Swansea Castle from 1481 to 1483. But it can at least be said that the elder Richard Haute (d. 1487) was the son of William [i] and Joan, and that in 1469 or 1470 he married Elizabeth (d. after 1487), the daughter of Sir Thomas Tyrell and widow of Sir Robert Darcy of Danbury in Essex (which manor she brought to Richard). This Richard was probably lieutenant of the Tower from 1471 to 1473. He too rose in 1483, for which he was attainted and suffered forfeiture. This was reversed by Henry VII, under whom he served as a Kentish JP and justice of gaol delivery.

The mother of the younger Richard, Sir Richard Haute (d. 1492), was named Margery, and he may have been the son or grandson of Nicholas Haute (b. c.1395), William [i]'s younger brother.

By his mother's second marriage, the testator had a brother and two sisters of the half blood:

- **Edward Haute**, for whom see the *ODNB*:

Edward Haute (1476–1530), the son and heir of Richard Haute and Elizabeth Tyrell, established himself as a London mercer (he also imported wine and woad), in which trade he was associated with his cousins Alan and Henry, the sons of James and Katherine. Edward did not have a head for business. In 1514 his property in Wrotham, Ightham, and Dover was confiscated to pay his debts. To satisfy his creditors he also sold his manor of Bearsted in Wrotham in 1518, and the Newark-on-Trent property of his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Frognal, in 1528. In July 1518 he mortgaged Ightham Mote for £360; in December he sold his remaining share, and the house passed out of the family: in 1521 it was bought by Sir Richard Clement. After a spell in Ludgate prison for debt Edward died in Ireland in 1530, whither he had presumably fled from his many creditors. His wife was still alive in 1544.

See also Pickford, Cedric Edward, *The Changing Face of Arthurian Romance*, (Cambridge: D.S. Brewer, 1986), pp. 108-9, at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=LvhzTjt96I4C&pg=PA108>

-**Anne Haute** (1473-1508), who married, as his second wife, Sir John Gainsford (1467 – 28 October 1540) of Crowhurst and Guildford, Surrey. See:

<http://www.tudorwomen.com/>

Mary Gainsford (1498-February 12, 1572) was the daughter of Sir John Gainsford of Crowhurst and Guildford, Surrey (1467-October 28, 1540) and his second of six wives, Anne Hawte or Haute (1473-1508).

- **Isabel or Elizabeth Haute**, who married Ralph St Leger (d. 9 August 1518), esquire, of Ulcombe, Kent. See the will of Sir Anthony St Leger (c.1496 – 16 March 1559), TNA PROB 11/42B/276, and Robertson, Herbert, *Stemmata Robertson et Durdin*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1893-95), pp. 70-1 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/stemmatarobertso00robe#page/70/mode/2up>

There is disagreement as to the number and identity of the testator's siblings by his mother's two marriages. See her will, TNA PROB 11/15/363.

The testator is said to have been an esquire of the body to Henry VI and Edward IV. See Copinger, W.A., *The Manors of Suffolk, Notes on Their History and Devolution; The Hundreds of Babergh and Blackbourn*, (London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1905), pp. 263-4 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/manorsofsuffolkn01copiuoft#page/262/mode/2up>

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testator married Margaret Harleston (d.1489). She and her sister, Alice Harleston, wife of Sir Richard FitzLewis, were the heirs of John Harleston and his wife, Margaret Bardwell, only daughter of Sir William Bardwell by Elizabeth Hethe. See the will of Margaret Harleston Darcy, proved January 1489/90, TNA PROB 11/8/289; Copinger, *supra*; and:

<http://www.bardwellvillage.info/content/view/194/94/>

See also Rokewode, John Gage, *The History and Antiquities of Suffolk, Thingoe Hundred*, (London: Samuel Bentley, 1838), pp. 129-30 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=knVPAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA129>

According to the will, TNA PROB 11/8/289), of his widow, Margaret Harleston Darcy, the testator had two sons and two daughters:

* **Roger Darcy** (d. 30 September 1508), esquire, eldest son and heir. He was under 20 years of age when his mother made her will in 1489. He married Elizabeth Wentworth (living 1542), the daughter of Sir Henry Wentworth (c.1448 - August 1499) of Nettlestead, Suffolk, by Anne Say (d.1478), and sister of Margery Wentworth (d.1550), who married Sir John Seymour (1473/4-1536) of Wolf Hall and was the mother of Queen Jane Seymour, third wife of King Henry VIII, and of Edward Seymour (c.1500-1552), Duke of Somerset. See the will of Sir Henry Wentworth, dated 17 August 1499 and proved 25 February 1501, TNA PROB 11/12/265; Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, pp. 237-8; and the Wentworth pedigree in Rutton, William Loftie, *Three Branches of the Family of Wentworth*, (London: 1891), pp. 138-9 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=YhY5AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA138>

After the death of Roger Darcy, Elizabeth Wentworth (living 1542) married secondly Sir Thomas Wyndham (d.1522) of Felbrigg, Norfolk, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/21/53, and thirdly John Bouchier (d.1539), Earl of Bath. See Rutton, *supra*, p. 139.

By Elizabeth Wentworth (living 1542), Roger Darcy had an only son and heir, Thomas Darcy (1506 – 28 June 1558), 1st Baron Darcy of Chiche, who married firstly Audrey Rainsford (died c.1527), and secondly Elizabeth de Vere (d. 26 December 1565), sister of John de Vere 16th Earl of Oxford. See the will of Sir John Rainsford, TNA PROB 11/20/79; the will of Thomas Darcy, 1st Baron Darcy of Chiche, TNA PROB 11/44/115; Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, pp. 237-8, and Vol. IV, p. 389; and Cokayne, G.E., *The Complete Peerage*, (London: St. Catherine Press, 1916), Vol. IV, p. 78. See also:

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~clopton/>

Alice Clopton + John Harleston
 John Harleston + Margaret Berdewell
 Margaret Harleston + Thomas Darcy
 Roger Darcy + Elizabeth Wentworth
 Thomas Darcy + Elizabeth de Vere

For Roger Darcy (d. 30 September 1508), see the inscription in the church of All Saints, Maldon, recorded by Weever:

Hic jacet Rogerus Darcy Ar. filius et heres Tho. Darcy Ar. pro corpore illustrissimi Principis Henrici septimi Regis Anglie, et Elizabetha uxor ejus, filia Henrici Wentworth, militis, qui obiit ultimo die Septemb. 1508.

[=Here lies Roger Darcy, esquire, son and heir of Thomas Darcy, esquire of the body to the most illustrious Prince, Henry the Seventh, King of England, and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Henry Wentworth, knight, who died the last day of September 1508.]

See King, H.W., 'Ancient Wills', *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. IV, (Colchester: Essex and West Suffolk Gazette, 1869), pp. 1-24 at pp. 2-11:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=aDQGAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA1&lpg=PA1>

* **Thomas Darcy**, under 20 years of age when his mother made her will in 1489.

* **Elizabeth Darcy**.

* **Anne Darcy**, under 14 years of age when her mother made her will in 1489.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

In the will below the testator mentions a number of relatives, including his mother, his stepfather, Richard Haute, his brother, Robert Darcy, his married sisters, his uncles, John Darcy and John Clopton, and his aunt Anne Montgomery.

For the testator's uncle, John Clopton (c.1422-1497), esquire, of Melford, Suffolk, see his will, dated 4 November 1494 and proved 16 November 1497, TNA PROB 11/11/266.

The Sir James Tyrrell named by the executor as one of his supervisors would appear to be the Sir James Tyrrell (executed 6 May 1502), alleged to have murdered the two young sons of Edward IV in the Tower of London. The Bishop of London named as a supervisor was Thomas Kempe (d. 28 March 1489), while another supervisor was John Dynham (d. 28 January 1501), 1st Baron Dynham.

TESTATOR'S LANDS

For the testator's manor of Pudsey, see Benton, Philip, *The History of Rochford Hundred*, (Rochford: A. Harrington, 1867), pp. 92, 99 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/historyrochford00bentgoog#page/n94/mode/2up>.

For an earlier transcript of the testator's will, see King, *supra*, pp. 2-5.

LM: Testamentum Thome Darcy militis

In the name of God, Amen. The 5th day of the month of March in the year of Our Lord God 1483, I, Thomas Darcy, squire, son and heir of Sir Robert Darcy, knight, being in my good and whole mind, thanked by Almighty God, make, ordain, declare and dispose this my present testament of my goods and chattels movables in manner and form hereafter following, that is to wit:

First I bequeath and recommend my soul unto Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, to Our Blessed Lady Saint Mary, and all saints, and my body to be buried, if it may be conveniently, in the aisle where the bodies of my grandfather and my said father lie buried in the parish church of All-Hallows of Maldon in the diocese of London;

And that mine interment and month's mind be kept honestly according to my degree, laying apart the making of any great dinner or common dole at the same for the pomp or pride of the world, but I will that mine executors underwritten spend of my goods in rewarding of priests, clerks and children helping to do divine service at the said interment and month[s] mind, to poor people praying for my soul at the same, and in wax, ringing of bells and other costs accustomed to such interment and month's mind 10 pounds sterlings;

And I will that my said executors within a month next ensuing after my decease cause 1000 Masses and 1000 times placebo and dirge to be sung or said for my soul;

And also pay and content all debts that I owe of right to any person or persons as soon as they conveniently may after my decease, of the which debts together with the names of my creditors to whom they be due I have written a bill with my proper hand;

Item, I bequeath to the high altar of the said parish church in recompense for my tithes and offerings forgotten or negligently withholden 20s;

Item, I will that my executors, of my best chain of fine gold weighing about 30 ounces of troy weight, and of my cup of gold that sometime was my said father's, do to be made

another cup of gold with a covering also of gold with the arms of me, my wife, and my ancestors that my livelihood moved(?) most by graven in the bottom and covering of the same cup, and that cup with the covering so made to be delivered unto mine heir male of my body lawfully begotten as soon as he shall come to his age of 21 years, and afterwards to remain and be delivered in manner and form following, that is to say, to his heirs male of his body lawfully begotten when he cometh to th' age of 21 years, and for default of such issue unto the heirs males of my body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue to Robert Darcy, my brother, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue unto mine uncle, John Darcy, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the said cup with covering so of new to be made to be sold by my said executors to the most profit of me, and the money coming of the same sale to be distributed and disposed by them by the good advice of the supervisors under-named for the health of my soul and of the souls of mine ancestors in Masses to be sung, finding of poor scholars to school to the universities of Oxenford and Cambridge, in marriages of poor honest people dwelling in the county of Essex, amending of foul and noyous ways and bridges in the same county, and in other works of pity and charity;

Also whereas I, the said Thomas Darcy, have borrowed certain sums of money of my said creditors for the marriages of my sisters, whereof I have not yet made unto them repayment, but for their more surety of payment to be made unto them of the said sums I have delivered unto them my plate in pledge, I will that my said executors levy, gather, perceive and have all th' issues, revenues and profits coming of my manors, lands, tenements, rents, reversions and services in manner and form as by God's grace I purpose to declare more plainly in my last will that I intend to make touching the disposition of my said manors, lands and tenements, and I will that of the same issues and profits they quit out all the said plate, and take it unto their own keeping, there to remain till my said [+heir?] male come to his said age, and then to deliver it with all my beddings and hangings unto him;

And if my said heir male die without issue male of his body lawfully begotten before he come to his said age, then I will that all my said bedding and hanging and also all the said plate except the foresaid cup of gold with covering be sold by my said executor[s] at the dearest(?) price they can, and that the money coming of the same sale be distributed by them by th' advice aforesaid in manner and form above rehearsed;

Also I will that of the said issues and profits and of my goods, chattels and debts due unto me all my said other debts that I owe and all my legates and bequests be well and truly contented and paid, and that done, all the surplusage then remaining undisposed of the said issues and profits of my said manors, lands and tenements to be divided, paid, delivered and disposed by my said executors in manner and form as by God's grace I purpose to declare in my said last will;

Also I will that my said executors yearly between the feasts of Saint Matthew and All-Hallows after my decease make and [f. 184r] yield a true account to my said supervisors or to two of them of all th' issues and profits of the said manors, lands and tenements by

them received in the year then past, and of their payments, costs and charges had, borne and paid in the same year to this intent, that the remnant of the said issues and profits remaining over and beside the same payments, costs and charges may be known to my said supervisors and afterwards disposed according to my said last will;

And I will that the same accounts so made alway remain in the keeping of some indifferent person to be named by my said supervisors, and that he or they of my said executors that will take the charge and occupation to gather the said issues and profits and make the said payments and accounts(?) yearly upon the said account be rewarded for his or their labour in that behalf after the discretions of my said supervisors;

The residue of all my goods, chattels, jewels and debts in this my testament not bequeathed I give and bequeath to be disposed by my said executors by th' advice of the said supervisors for the souls above rehearsed in works of pity and charity abovesaid;

And of this my testament I make, ordain and name mine executors Sir Nicholas Saxton, Sir John Sholdewell, Sir Robert Broke, clerks, and Henry Tey, squire, to execute all the premises in manner and form afore declared and specified;

Also I make, ordain and name my right especial good Lords Thomas, by the grace of God Bishop of London, and John Lord Denham, Sir James Tyrrell, knight, my father [=stepfather] Richard Haute, and mine uncle, John Clopton, esquires, supervisors of this my present testament, desiring them at the reverence of God to take the pain and labour to oversee that my said executors duly execute the premises according to my said will and intent, and to be good lords and friends unto my wife and children, and I bequeath to every of the said supervisors for his labour and attendance in that behalf 5 mark, and to every of my said executors for his labour in this party to be had, so that he take upon him the charge of th' execution of this my testament, 5 mark;

In witness whereof to this my present testament subscribed with my proper hand I have set my seal, given the day and year abovesaid.

This is the last will of me, Thomas Darcy, squire, son and heir of Sir Robert Darcy, knight, being in my good and whole memory, thanked be Almighty God, to the disposition of all my manors, lands, tenements, rents, reversions and services with their appurtenances in the county of Essex and elsewhere in the realm of England in which I and other persons stand enfeoffed to mine use made and by me declared the 6th day of the month of March in the year of Our Lord God 1483, that is to wit:

First I will that my said co-feoffees and feoffees suffer Margaret, my wife, to have and occupy my manor, lands and tenements with their appurtenances in Maldon in the said county, my lands and tenements called Selyhous(?) lying beside Maldon aforesaid, and my manors of Pudsey and Northpitt with th' appurtenances in the same county, and th' issues and profits coming of all the said manors, lands and tenements to receive and have during the natural life of the same Margaret, so that she in that meantime find unto all my

daughters meat, drink, clothing and all other necessaries according to their degrees till they be married, and keep reparations of the houses and buildings of the said manors, lands and tenements;

Also I will that if it happen my said wife to decease before that my daughters of my body lawfully begotten be married, that then they have sufficient finding in all things according to their degrees of th' issues and profits coming of the same manors, lands and tenements by me afore devised to my said wife till they be married;

Also I will that my said feoffees suffer mine executors named in my testament of my goods movables to levy, perceive and have all th' issues, revenues and profits coming of all my other manors, lands and tenements, rents, reversions and services with their appurtenances from the day of my decease till my son and heir be of the age of 21 years, and that my said executors of the same issues and profits repair the housings and buildings of the same manors, lands and tenements, and well and truly content and pay all the debts that I of right owe to any person or persons, and find unto every of my sons of my body lawfully begotten meat, drink, clothing, learning and all other necessaries according to his degree till he come to the age of 21 years, and also pay all my bequests contained in my said testament;

Also that the same mine executors of the said issues and profits so be [=by] them to be perceived pay unto every of my said daughters to her marriage three hundred marks sterlings if she be married by the good advices of my mother, my wife, my aunt Anne Montgomery, my sisters, my supervisors of my said testament and of my said executors or of the more part of them, and also if any issue male of my body lawfully begotten be then on live, and if any of my said daughters refuse to be married by the said advice or else die before that she or they be so married, that I will that all the said money to her or them by me afore devised be distributed and disposed by my said executors by th' advice of my said supervisors for my soul and for the souls of my ancestors in Masses to be sung, finding to poor scholars to school at the universities of Oxenford and Cambridge, in marriages of poor honest people dwelling in the said county, amending of foul and noyous ways and bridges in the same county, and in other works of pity and charity;

And if all my said daughters decease before that they be married by the said advice, or if my heir male die without issue male of his body lawfully begotten before that my said daughters be so married, then I will that all they [=the] money by me to them afore devised be distributed and disposed by my said executors by th' advice of the said supervisors for the souls abovesaid in works of pity and charity above rehearsed;

Also I will that all the residue, if any be, of the said issues, revenues and profits remaining over and beside the said payments for my sons' finding, contentation of my said debts and bequests and of the marriage money afore rehearsed, be divided by my said executors by the oversight of the said supervisors into three egall parties, whereof I will that two parts be delivered to my said heir male when he cometh to his said age, and the third part thereof shall equally [f. 184v] be divided amongst his brethren by even portions, every of them to have his part thereof when he cometh to the age of 21 years;

Also I will that if the said Margaret, my wife, decease before that my said heir male come to his said age, that then all the issues and profits coming of all the said manor, lands and tenements called Selyhous and manors of Pudsey ant [sic?] Northpitte over the reparations of the same and the foresaid finding of my said daughters be taken up and received by my said executors and remain in their hands till my said heir male be at his said age, and then I will that the same issues and profits be divided, departed and delivered in like manner and form as before I have devised the said residue of the foresaid issues and revenues of my said other manors, lands, tenements, rents, reversions and services to be divided, departed and delivered;

And if my said heir male have no brother on live when he cometh to his said age, then I will that the same mine heir male have to his proper use all the said revenues and profits that before I have willed to be divided;

And if mine heir male die without issue male of his body lawfully begotten before that he come to his said age, then I will that all the same issues and profits be distributed and disposed by my said executors by th' advice of my said supervisors in works of pity and charity in manner and form above rehearsed;

Also I will that if the child with which my said wife is now great be a son, that then my said feoffees, as soon as the same child cometh to his age of 21 years, shall make unto the same child a lawful estate by deed indented of an[d] in such lands and tenements of the fee simple lands that my father, whose soul God assoil, left to me as my said supervisors and executors shall assign by their discretions to the yearly value of £20 above all charges, to have unto him and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to the issue male of my body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to my brother, Robert Darcy, and to his heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, [INTERLINED: [] and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to my uncle, John Darcy, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten], and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to the heirs of my body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to the heirs of the body of my said father lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to my right heirs in fee;

Also I will that as soon as my said heir male cometh to his said age of 21 years my said feoffees make unto him by deed indented an estate tail of an[d] in all mine other manors, lands and tenements according to the very true intent of my father's last will thereof made except the residue of the said fee simple lands over and beside the said £20 worth land by year, which residue of my said fee simple lands I will be given by my said feoffees unto my said heir male when he cometh to his said age if my said executors have then in their hands money sufficient wherewith to content and pay my said debts and bequests and the foresaid marriage money, to have unto him and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten with other remainders further in manner and form as before I have devised to be made of the said £20 worth land by year;

And if it happen that my said executors have not then money sufficient in their hands wherewith to pay my said debts, bequests and the foresaid marriage money, then I will that the making of the same estate of and in the said residue of my said fee simple lands be deferred till sufficient money therefore be levied of the issues and profits of the same lands;

In witness whereof to this my present writing of my last will I, the said Thomas Darcy, have set to my seal, given under my signet manual the day and year abovesaid.

Probatum fuit sup^{ra}sc^{ri}ptum test^{amentu}m ap^ud London manu p^{ro}p^{ri}a defunctⁱ subsc^{ri}pt^{um} coram Mag^{ist}ro Daudid Will^{ia}m decretor^{um} doctor^e Custod^e p^{re}rogatiue eccl^{es}ie xpi Cant^{uariensis} ac Prioris &(?) capit^uli eiusd^{em} Ad quos &c diuesert^{ur}(?) p^{ro}amer(?) Com^miss^a in hac p^{ar}te gen^{er}ali xvjto die mens^{is} Iunij Anno d^{omi}ni Mccccclxxxvjto ac approbat^{um} &c Et com^missa fuit Admiⁿⁱstra^{ci}o bonor^{um} &c Henr^{ico} Tey execut^{ori} in dⁱc^to test^{ament}o no^miⁿa^{to} de bene &c ac de pleno Inuentar^{io} bonor^{um} &c cit^{ra} festu^m s^{an}c^ti Petri q^{uo}d dicit^{ur} ad vinc^ula p^{ro}x^{im}um &c ad [sic?] de plano &c Res^{er}uat^a p^{otes}tate &c d^{omi}nis Nich^{ola}o Saxton Ioh^{ann}i Shodewell & Rob^{er}to Brok cap^{ella}nis executor^{ibus} &c cum ea^m &c

[=The above-written testament, written in the deceased's own hand, was proved before David William, Doctor of the Decretals [=Doctor of the Canon Law?], Keeper of the Prerogative [+Court?] of the Church of Christ of Canterbury and Prior and Chapter(?) of the same, to whom etc. [] was granted in that respect(?) [] on the 16th day of the month of June in the 1486th year of the Lord, and probated etc., and administration was granted of the goods etc. to Henry Tey, executor named in the said testament, [+sworn] to well etc., and a full inventory of the goods etc. before the feast of Saint Peter ad Vincula, as it is called, next etc., and(?) a plain etc., with power reserved etc. to Sirs Nicholas Saxton, John Shodewell & Robert Broke, chaplains, executors etc. when [+they shall have come to be admitted] the same.]