

SUMMARY: The document below is a single vellum leaf on which Jane Drayton Lucy Wriothesley Beverley (1482-1538?), mother of Thomas Wriothesley (1505-1550), 1st Earl of Southampton, recorded the date of her birth, that of her brother, Peter Drayton (d.1518), and the birthdates of her four children by her first husband, William Wriothesley (d.1513?).

A handwritten note of later date on the dorse states that the leaf was ‘purchased at Puttocks 17 July 1863’.

A clipping from the sale catalogue pasted onto the dorse reads as follows:

103 Drayton – Memoranda by Jamie Drayton of the Births of various Members of his Family, and that of Wreysley, on a leaf on vellum - - - 1449

A curious document. To the notice of the baptism of Edward Wresley, it is stated that there were “Godffaders at the ffonte, Edmund Duke of Bokyngham, and Henry Errle off Northchemberelonde,” the latter being the son and heir of Sir Henry Percy, the renowned Hotspur.

It thus appears that the name of the writer of the notes was given in the sale catalogue as ‘Jamie Drayton’, and that this error was repeated in the *DNB* entry for the 1st Earl of Southampton, in which the Christian name ‘James’ was substituted for the sale catalogue’s ‘Jamie’. The *DNB* entry also introduced a further error in stating that the Christian name of the 1st Earl’s mother was Agnes. See:

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

WRIOTHESLEY, Sir THOMAS, first Baron Wriothesley of Titchfield and Earl of Southampton (1505–1550), lord chancellor of England, was eldest son of William Writh or Wriothesley, York herald, who, like his brother, Sir Thomas Wriothesley (d. 1534) [q. v.], adopted Wriothesley as the spelling of the family name. His mother, who survived until 1538, was Agnes, daughter of James Drayton of London; and Drayton's notes recording his own and his grandchildren's dates of birth are still extant (Brit. Mus. Add. Charters, 16194). Thomas, the eldest son, was born on the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, 21 Dec. 1505; his sisters, Elizabeth and Anne (who married Thomas Knight of Hook in Hampshire) in 1507 and 1508, and his brother Edward in 1509. At Edward's christening the godfathers were Edward Stafford, third duke of Buckingham [q. v.], and Henry ‘Algernon’ Percy, fifth earl of Northumberland [q. v.] Two other sisters, whom Wriothesley names in his will, were born subsequently.

The current *ODNB* entry retains the errors concerning ‘James’ and ‘Agnes’, and introduces additional errors:

Wriothesley, Thomas, first earl of Southampton (1505–1550), administrator, was the grandson of John Writhe, Garter king of arms, nephew of Sir Thomas Wriothesley, his

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successor, and cousin of Charles Wriothesley, who became Windsor herald. His father, William, like his brother Thomas, adopted Wriothesley as the family name. William, York herald, married Agnes, daughter of James Drayton of London, and they had four children.

In fact, as the transcript below indicates, the mother of the 1st Earl of Southampton was Jane Drayton, and she wrote the notes herself.

Greenfield correctly identified the mother of the 1st Earl as Joan Drayton, granddaughter of Peter Peckham (d.1501), in 1890. 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, p. 77:

<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 fourth, fifth and sixth quarterings are brought in by the marriage of William Wriothesley, York Herald, the father of Thomas, first Earl of Southampton, with Joan, daughter and heir of Robert Drayton, of London, and his wife, Joan, daughter and heir of Peter Peckham, by the heiress of Crowton [Her. Coll. Records].

Unfortunately Greenfield did not cite specific sources at the College of Arms for his identification. The author of this website has attempted to identify Greenfield's sources, and has been advised that the College of Arms holds several Wriothesley pedigrees, the most significant for present purposes being Segar's Baronagium, compiled by Simon Segar, great-grandson of Sir William Segar (d.1633), Garter King of Arms. It is dated 1708, and in Part III at p. 1214 states that the Drayton quartering brings in those of Crowton and Peckham, which are there given in abbreviated blazon. The pedigree which accompanies the blazon does not, however, provide the name of William Wriothesley's wife, merely stating that he married the daughter and heir of Drayton, and it is thus clear that Greenfield relied on other sources for his identification.

Several other 16th or early 17th century Wriothesley pedigrees at the College of Arms copied out into manuscript books are similarly uninformative, providing neither the Christian name of William Wriothesley's wife nor the Christian name of her father. Another Wriothesley pedigree, a roll pedigree (MS. Muniment Room 9/60) compiled by William Wriothesley's brother, Thomas Wriothesley (d.1534), Garter King of Arms, is also uninformative, showing none of his siblings. William Wriothesley is also included in a British Library manuscript, Harley Roll P.4, but again without specific identification of his wife.

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As a result, the basis on which Greenfield identified the 1st Earl of Southampton's mother as Joan Drayton, the daughter of Robert Drayton by Joan Peckham, daughter of Peter Peckham, is still unclear.

It nonetheless appears from sources other than the College of Arms pedigrees that Greenfield's identification is correct. In his Latin will, TNA PROB 11/12/315, Peter Peckham (d.1501) names his first wife, Agnes, buried at St Michael Bassishaw in London; his second wife, Elizabeth Eburton; his sons, George Peckham (d.1505) and Sir Edmund Peckham (b. in or before 1495, d. 29 March 1564); his married daughter, Joan Peckham, her husband, Robert Drayton (d.1503 or 1504), and their two children, Jane Drayton and Peter Drayton (d.1518); and his two unmarried daughters, Margaret Peckham and Margery Peckham. It appears that only Joan Peckham and her brother, George Peckham (d.1505), were the children of Peter Peckham's marriage to his first wife, Agnes, the others being his children by his second wife, Elizabeth Eburton, the daughter of Henry Eburton, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/10/197. For Sir Edmund Peckham (b. in or before 1495, d. 29 March 1564), who was an executor of the will of the 1st Earl of Southampton, see the *ODNB* entry and his will, TNA PROB 11/47/325. For the will of George Peckham (d.1505), see TNA PROB 11/14/513. For the will of Robert Drayton (d. 1503 or 1504), see TNA PROB 11/14/4.

For a 1463 indenture mentioning the marriages of Agnes (see above) to John Browne and 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 the marriages of Agnes to John Browne and Peter Peckham 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/lcalendaroflette00londuoft#page/58/mode/2up>.

The author of this website has been advised that the College of Arms has the original grant of arms made to Peter Peckham of London in 1494.

As noted above, Jane Drayton, granddaughter of Peter Peckham (d.1501), married three times. Her first husband was Richard Lucy. Her second was William Wriothesley, York

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Herald. He is said to have died before 26 April 1513, when Thomas Tonge was appointed York Herald. See:

'Henry VIII: April 1513, 26-30', in *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Henry VIII, Volume 1, 1509-1514*, ed. J S Brewer (London, 1920), pp. 833-840. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/letters-papers-hen8/vol1/pp833-840> [accessed 26 March 2017].

29. *Thomas Tonge, whom the King names York Herald-at-Arms. Annuity of 20 marks for life, for the fee of his office. Greenwich, 26 April 5 Hen. VIII. Del. Westm., 30 April. P.S. Pat. 5 Hen. VIII. p. 2, m.16. [3971].*

Two Wriothesley pedigrees at the College of Arms, Vincent 16, f. 14, and Vincent 22, f. 25, state that after the death of William Wriothesley the daughter and heir [=Jane Drayton] married a third husband surnamed Beverley.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE MANUSCRIPT

On the dorse of the manuscript, another individual, presumably surnamed Browne, has written, at a much earlier date than the notes written by Jane Drayton:

The 11 day of December in the 37th year of our King Harry the 6th [=1458] was my daughter, Katherine Broun, born

If the writer of the note on the dorse was indeed someone surnamed Browne, he/she might have had a connection to the family of Stephen Browne, Lord Mayor of London (see above).

The notes state that Edward Stafford (1478–1521), 3rd Duke of Buckingham, and Henry Percy (1478–1527), 5th Earl of Northumberland, were godfathers at the christening of Jane Drayton's son, Edward Wriothesley.

The notes also state that Jane Drayton's sister-in-law, Jane Hall (d. after 1510), the wife of Thomas Wriothesley (d.1534), Garter King of Arms, was godmother at the christening of Edward Wriothesley. From the *ODNB*:

Wriothesley [formerly Writhe], Sir Thomas (d. 1534), herald On 26 January 1505 he was appointed Garter king of armsWriothesley's first wife, whom he married before 1500, was Jane (d. after 1510), daughter of William Hall of Salisbury; he had ten children with Jane, their only surviving son being Charles Wriothesley, Windsor herald, and the chronicler.

The notes also mention Sir Thomas Dowcra in connection with the christening of Edward Wriothesley. From the *ODNB*:

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Docwra, Sir Thomas (d. 1527), prior of the hospital of St John of Jerusalem in England and diplomat, was descended from the Westmorland family of Docwra of Docwra Hall, Kendal, belonging to a cadet branch which had settled in Hertfordshire. His father, Richard Docwra, had married Alice, daughter of Thomas Green of Gressingham, Lancashire.

At about the time of the christening of Edward Wriothesley, Sir Thomas Dowcra and Thomas Wriothesley (d.1534), Garter King of Arms, were members of the party which greeted Baldassare Castiglione when he arrived at Dover on 20 October 1506 to be installed with the Order of the Garter as proxy for the Duke of Urbino. See Pitman, Joanna, *The Dragon's Trail: The Biography of Raphael's Masterpiece*, (New York: Touchstone, 2006) at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=LittuZ10ejEC&pg=PT47&lpg=PT47&dq=%22Wriothesley%22+%22Docwra%22&source=bl&ots=Oe9uaIvHS8&sig=6kog8bWeQKQ7I0XDGg2Cw_TeKi4&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiq-JPEq6rTAhUH12MKHTu9BrQQ6AEIjAA#v=onepage&q=%22Wriothesley%22%20%22Docwra%22&f=false

See also:

<http://www.internetculturale.it/opencms/directories/ViaggiNelTesto/castiglione/eng/a8.html>.

THE PECKHAMS AND JAMES BURBAGE'S THEATRE IN SHOREDITCH

As noted above, the 1st Earl of Southampton's mother, Jane Drayton, was the granddaughter of Peter Peckham (d.1501) by his first marriage to a wife named Agnes. It is therefore interesting to note that the descendants of Peter Peckham by his second wife, Elizabeth Eburton, held the land on which James Burbage built the Theatre in Shoreditch in 1576.

Peter Peckham's younger son, Sir Edmund Peckham (b. in or before 1495, d. 29 March 1564), married Anne Cheyne (d.1570), the daughter of John Cheyne of Chesham Bois and Drayton Beauchamp, by whom he is said to have had five sons and two daughters, for whom see his will, TNA PROB 11/47/325.

The Peckham connection with the land on which James Burbage built the Theatre in Shoreditch came about through the marriage of one of Sir Edmund Peckham's younger sons, Sir George Peckham (d.1608). In 1554, Sir George Peckham (d.1608) married, as his first wife, Susan Webb (d. 11 December 1555), the sole heir of Henry Webb, Gentleman Usher to Queen Katherine Parr, and through her had title to the lands of the former Holywell Priory on which James Burbage built the Theatre in 1576. For Katherine Parr's letter dated 23 July 1544 concerning the grant to Henry Webb, see

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Mueller, Janet, ed., *Katherine Parr, Complete Works and Correspondence*, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011), p. 57 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=cBzuka1QBkC&pg=PA57&lpg=PA57&dq=%22henry+webb%22+%22Katherine+Parr%22&source=bl&ots=eZII77DAih&sig=sW_icTF-8-IVeaWzCdiR21KWR7U&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjzrM-_yPPTAhUXwGMKHYfKCSQ6AEINzAE#v=onepage&q=%22henry%20webb%22%20%22Katherine%20Parr%22&f=false.

For the marriage of George Peckham and Susan Webb through which the Peckhams came to own lands of the former Holywell Priory, see also ‘The Desecrated Churches of Buckinghamshire’, p. 83, and Dugdale, William, *Monasticon Anglicanum*, Vol. IV, (London: James Bohn, 1846), p. 392 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=ynAzAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA392&lpg=PA392&dq=%22Monasticon+Anglicanum%22+%22George+Peckham%22&source=bl&ots=61pKw6HTKl&sig=KOop0qIKN-IGmSbyfnlh_ZRutgk&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwj4roDoh_PTAhULxmMKHW-aAW4Q6AEIjAA#v=onepage&q=%22Monasticon%20Anglicanum%22%20%22George%20Peckham%22&f=false.

A 1589 lawsuit clarifies the identities of various members of the Peckham family, all named either Edmund or George, involved in the controversy concerning the lands of the former Holywell Priory on which James Burbage built the Theatre in Shoreditch in 1576. For a partial transcript of the documents, see Stopes, Charlotte Carmichael, *Burbage and Shakespeare's Stage*, (New York: Haskell House, 1913), p. 166 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=KEYSyZU25XAC&pg=PA166&lpg=PA166&dq=%22Burbage%22+%22Peckham%22&source=bl&ots=YZHRVqXJPI&sig=kOPw_okPhOThizDrZp26m7hjr-U&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjZxo6vzfPTAhVI3WMKHQiqB9IQ6AEIjAA#v=onepage&q=%22Burbage%22%20%22Peckham%22&f=false.

Hil. 30 Eliz. B. 29. Court of Wards and Liveries, 1589. Peckham v. Alleyn.

9th June 1589. An Information was laid before the Court by Richard Kingsmill, Esq., the Queen's Attorney-General for Wards and Liveries on behalf of George Peckham, son and heir of Edmund Peckham, Esq. and her Majesty's Ward. (All much contracted.)

That whereas Henry Webbe sometime of Hallowell Co. Middlesex was seised in fee of the dissolved priory of Hallowell with its lands tenements and hereditaments by the grant of King Henry VIII, and he had only one daughter Susan his heir And after Henry Webbe died, and the lands descended to her, she took to husband George Peckham, now called Sir George Peckham one of the sons of Sir Edmund Peckham, which marriage was solemnised about All Hallowtide 1554, and she had issue Edmund Peckham late

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deceased, father of your Highness' Ward, and the said Susan died in December 1555, leaving her son Edmund her heir, he being not above one day old.

And the said Sir George Peckham in the lifetime of Susan did bargain and sell the site of the said Priory to one Christopher Bumpstead and his heirs, which Bumpstead did continue the possession thereof until the same Edmund Peckham came to his full age, and then, understanding of the sale of the lands and of his title in the same which descended to him, did, within 5 years after coming to his full age, that is in 22 Eliz. [=1579/80] enter into the said Priory which was lawful to do, and did commence this action against Giles Allen, then tenant and occupier of the same, and by verdict recovered the same, and died, leaving his said son George of tender years, after whose death the right came to the said George, your Majesty's Ward. . . .

Sir Edmund Peckham (b. in or before 1495, d. 29 March 1564) made his will on 12 May 1563. By then, as indicated in the will, Sir George Peckham (d.1608) had remarried, and in addition to his eldest son by Susan Webb, Edmund Peckham (b. 11 December 1555, d. 7 July 1586), he now had another son, George Peckham, by his second wife.

Sir George Peckham's son by Susan Webb, Edmund Peckham (b. 11 December 1555, d. 7 July 1586), came of age in 1576, and according to the foregoing lawsuit 'within 5 years after coming to his full age, that is in 22 Elizabeth [=1579/80], entered into the said Priory'. In 1578, Sir George Peckham (d.1608) settled lands on Edmund Peckham (b. 11 December 1555, d. 7 July 1586) on his marriage with Dorothy Gerard, the daughter of Sir Thomas Gerard (d. September 1601). According to Morris, Dorothy Gerard was the sister of the Jesuit, John Gerard (4 October 1564 – 27 July 1637), and the daughter of Sir Thomas Gerard of Bryn, Lancashire, by Elizabeth Port, one of the daughters of Sir John Port (d. 6 June 1557) of Etwall, Derbyshire. See Morris, John, *The Life of Father John Gerard*, (London: Burns and Oates, 1881), pp. 1-2 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/lifefatherjohng00morrgoog#page/n24/mode/2up>.

See also the will of Sir John Port (d. 6 June 1557) of Etwall, see TNA PROB 11/39/245.

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir Thomas Gerard (d. September 1601) at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/gerard-sir-thomas-1601>.

By Dorothy Gerard, Edmund Peckham (b. 11 December 1555, d. 7 July 1586) had a son, George Peckham (b.1579?), who was seven years of age at his father's death in 1586, and became a ward of the Queen. He was still the Queen's ward when the foregoing lawsuit was commenced on his behalf on 9 June 1589 by the Queen's Attorney-General.

As noted in the foregoing lawsuit, on 16 August 1555, while his first wife, Susan Webb, was still living, (Sir) George Peckham (d.1608) sold the lands of the former Holywell Priory to Christopher Bumpsted, and on 1 November 1555 Bumpsted mortgaged them to

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Christopher Allen (d.1586) and his son, Giles Allen (d. 27 March 1608). Lawsuits then ensued between Bumpsted and Giles Allen (TNA C 3/9/82.) In 1582 Edmund Peckham (b. 11 December 1555, d. 7 July 1586) sued to recover the property from Giles Allen, who by then was James Burbage's landlord. According to Berry:

Peckham sent people to harass the Theatre, and Burbage had to hire people to protect it. Burbage kept his playhouse, but 'the players for sooke the said Theater to his great losse'.

For Christopher Allen (d.1586) and Giles Alleyn (d. 27 March 1608), see the will of Sir John Aleyn or Allen (c.1470-1544), Lord Mayor of London in 1525 and 1535 and a counsellor to Henry VIII, TNA PROB 11/31/16. Sir John Aleyn was the uncle of Giles Alleyn (d. 27 March 1608), who leased the former priory of Holywell to James Burbage, who in 1576 built the first London theatre on the premises.

For a list of the documents in the complex proceedings involving the lands of the former Holywell Priory, the Peckhams, the Allens and the Burbages, see Berry, Herbert, *Shakespeare's Playhouses*, (New York: AMS Press, Inc., 1987), pp. 10, 27-29.

In connection with Christopher Bumpsted (see above), it is worth noting that he has been identified as the 'Master Bomsted' referred to in the Langham Letter describing Queen Elizabeth's entertainment at Kenilworth in the summer of 1575. See Kuin, R.J.P., *Robert Langham: A Letter*, (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1983), pp. 13, 36.

[MODERN SPELLING TRANSCRIPT OF JANE DRAYTON'S NOTES]

[Recto of leaf]

Memorandum, that I, Jane Drayton was born in the year of Our Lord 1480 & 2 on Saint Margaret's day

Memorandum, that Peter Drayton was born in the year of Our Lord 1480, lacking one & half

Memorandum, that Thomas Wriothesley was born in the year of Our Lord 1500 & 5 on Saint Thomas' day [=21 December 1505] before Christmas

Memorandum, that Elizabeth Wriothesley was born in the year of Our Lord 1500 & 7 the Saturday before 12th day

Memorandum, that Anne Wriothesley was born in the year of Our Lord 1500 & 8 the Thursday in Cleansing Week

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Memorandum, that Edward Wriothesley was born in the year of Our Lord God 1500 & 9, godfathers at the font Edmund, Duke of Buckingham, Harry, Earl of Northumberland, godmother Jane Wriothesley, wife unto my brother [=brother-in-law], Thomas Wriothesley, otherwise called Garter, & at bishop(?) Thomas (blank) Lord of Saint Johns [=Thomas Dowcra, Grand Prior of the Knights Hospitallers]

LM: the Friday before Saint Thomas' day at Midsummer(?)

[Dorse of leaf]

Jesus

The 11 day of December in the 37th year of our King Harry the 6th [=1458] was my daughter, Katherine Broun born

[ORIGINAL SPELLING TRANSCRIPT OF JANE DRAYTON'S NOTES]

[Recto of leaf]

Md that I Ianne Drayton was bronde in the iere of yor lord Ml iiijC [*interlined* iiijxx] & ij on Sent margetys Day

Md that Peter Drayton was bronde in the iere off yor lord Ml iiijC [*in lighter ink*: iiijxx lacyng on & hawffe]

Md that Thomas Wreysley was bronde in the iere off yor lord Ml vC(?) & v on Sent Thomas Day be ffore Crestemas

Md that elsabethe Wreysley was bronde in the iere off yor lord Ml vC & vij the Saterdag be ffore xijth Day

Md that anne Wreysley was brond in the iere off yor lord Ml(?) vC & viij the thorys Day in kenys yng weke

Md that Edward Wreysley was brond in the iere off yor lord god Ml vC & ix godffaders at the ffonte Edmund Dvke off bokyngham herry erlle off northehembore lande & god moder iane Wreysley wyff vnto my broder Thomas Wreyesley oderwesse called Garter & at bosshepe(?) Thomas (blank) lord off Sent Ihonys

LM: ye ffreye Day be ffore Sent Thomas Day at messem er(?)

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[dorse of leaf]

Ihe

The xj daye off descembr{is} in the xxxvijo yere of oure Kyng Herr the vio was my
dourter Kateryn Broun Borne