

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 13 March 1601 and proved 27 April 1605, of William Hoby the elder (1500-1603), whose half brother, Sir Thomas Hoby (1530-1566), was the first husband of Lady Burghley's sister, Elizabeth Cooke (1528-1609), later Lady Russell, who signed the petition against James Burbage's Blackfriars theatre. See Laoutaris, Chris, *Shakespeare and the Countess: The Battle That Gave Birth to the Globe*, (London: Fig Tree, 2014), pp. 121, 123, 130, 176-7, 277-8.

The testator's daughter-in-law, Katherine Fermor, was the great-niece of Anne Fermor (d.1550), who married Sir William Lucy (d.1551) and was the mother of Sir Thomas Lucy (1532?-1600) of Charlecote, who allegedly prosecuted William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon for stealing deer from his park.

The testator's daughter-in-law, Katherine Fermor, was also the great-niece of Mary Fermor (d.1573), the first wife of Sir Richard Knightley (1533-1615), prosecuted for his part in the publication of the Marprelate tracts.

The testator's daughter-in-law, Mary (nee Tracy) Hoby Vere (18 May 1581 - 25 December 1671), married, as her second husband, Oxford's first cousin, Horatio Vere (1565-1635), Baron Vere of Tilbury.

The testator's sister, Magdalen Hoby (c.1519-1574), was the mother-in-law of Ursula Throckmorton (d. 13 August 1601), sister of Job Throckmorton (1545-1601), indicted for his participation in the printing of the Marprelate tracts.

Given the testator's connection to Sir Richard Knightley and Job Throckmorton, both of whom were prosecuted for their participation in the printing of the Marprelate tracts, *quare* whether John Hodgkins involved in the printing of the Marprelate tracts was related to the testator's wife, Anne (nee Hodgkins) Hoby.

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

The testator is said to have been 103 years of age at his death. It appears he died on or about the same date, 19 March 1603, as his son, William Hoby the younger, since in her will, TNA PROB 11/110/418, his widow, Alice (nee Hodgkins) Hoby, refers to 'William Hoby the younger, my son, deceased, who died together with my said husband, his father'. For the inquisition post mortem taken after the testator's death, see TNA C 142/684/21.

The Hoby pedigree states that William Hoby the elder (1500-1603) was of Welsh descent and the son of William Hoby of Leominster, Herefordshire, who had two wives by whom he had four sons and three daughters:

**-William Hoby the elder** (1500-1603), the testator.

**-Sir Philip Hoby** (1505-1558), for whom see the *ODNB* entry:

*Hoby, Sir Philip (1504/5–1558), diplomat and administrator, was the first son of William Hoby (d. after 1532), landowner, of Leominster, Herefordshire, and his first wife, Katherine Foster. Sir Thomas Hoby (1530–1566), the courtier and translator, was his half-brother. He came from a Welsh family that settled in Leominster during his father's time. Nothing is known of his education but he was proficient in several foreign languages and was clearly well educated, having probably travelled through Europe as a young man. . . .*

Sir Philip Hoby married, by 1540, Elizabeth Stonor (d. 25 August 1560), the daughter of Sir Walter Stonor (1477 – 8 October 1550), Lieutenant of the Tower, widow successively of Sir William Compton (d. 31 May 1528) of Compton Wynyates, and Walter Walshe, esquire (d.1538?), of Elmley Castle, Worcestershire (d.1538), a groom of the privy chamber to Henry VIII. For the will of Sir William Compton, proved 13 August 1528, see TNA PROB 11/23/8. See also TNA C 1/1005/45:

*Plaintiffs: Philip HOBBY, esquire, gentleman usher of [the King's chamber], and Dame Elizabeth COMPTON his wife, executrix and late the wife of Walter Welshe, esquire and also late the wife of William Compton, knight.*

The History of Parliament entry for Sir Philip Hoby confusingly states that Elizabeth Stonor's first husband was Sir William Compton of Hawton, Nottinghamshire, and Fenny Compton, Warwickshire. See:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/hoby-sir-philip-15045-58>

*b. 1504/5, 1st s. of William Hoby of Leominster by 1st w. Catherine Foster. m. by 1540, Elizabeth, da. of Sir Walter Stonor of Stonor, Oxon., wid. of Sir William Compton of Hawton, Notts. and Fenny Compton, Warws. and of Walter Welshe of Abberley and Elmley Castle, Worcs., s.p. suc. fa. aft. 1532. Kntd. 30 Sept. 1544.2*

The last member of the Compton family to hold the manors of Hawton and Fenny Compton was John Compton, who sold them in 1445, and it is clear from primary sources that Elizabeth Compton's first husband was not Sir William Compton of Hawton and Fenny Compton, but rather Sir William Compton (d. 31 May 1528) of Compton Wynyates. See Throsby, John, *Thoroton's History of Nottinghamshire*, Vol. I, (London: B. and I. White, 1797), pp. 355 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=fEYUAVhnJNgC&pg=PA355>

See also:

'Parishes: Fenny Compton', in *A History of the County of Warwick: Volume 5, Kington Hundred*, ed. L F Salzman (London, 1949), pp. 47-50. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/warks/vol5/pp47-50> [accessed 27 August 2019].

Elizabeth Stonor's second husband, Walter Walshe (d.1538?), was the son of John Walshe of Shelsley Walsh, Worcestershire, and Margaret Blount, the daughter of John Blount of Sodington. See Amphlett, John, ed., *A Survey of Worcestershire by Thomas Habington*, Vol. I, (Oxford: James Parker & Co., 1895), p. 360 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=zGg-AQAIAAJ&pg=PA360&lpg=PA360>

By Walter Walshe, Elizabeth Stonor had a son and two daughters:

**-Walter Walshe** (d. 25 February 1561), esquire, of Place Farm, Wyrardisbury [=Wraysbury], who married Dorothy Hill, daughter of Richard Hill (d.1539), serjeant of the cellar to Henry VIII, by Elizabeth Isley, and sister of Mary Hill, wife of Sir John Cheke (1514-1557). See the *ODNB* entry for Sir John Cheke:

*Marital ties strengthened Cheke's association with the circle around Somerset. On 11 May 1547 he married Mary (1532/3–1616), daughter of Richard Hill of Hartley Wintney, Hampshire, and his wife, Elizabeth. Cheke considered this the most significant event for him of the year. Mary Hill was the stepdaughter of one of the leading privy councillors, Sir John Mason (c. 1503–1566), and as early as 1539 her mother had been trying to place her in Princess Elizabeth's household.*

As noted above, after the death of Richard Hill (d.1539), Elizabeth Isley married Sir John Mason, to whom Sir Philip Hoby bequeathed a serpentine cup in his will. See the entry for Elizabeth Isley at:

[http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page\\_id=687](http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=687)

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir John Mason (c.1502-1566) at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/mason-sir-john-15023-66>

*b. 1503, ?illegit. s. of a sis. of Thomas, last abbot of Abingdon. educ. Abingdon g.s.; All Souls, Oxf., fellow, BA 1521, MA 1525; Paris (King's scholar). m. Elizabeth, da. of Thomas Isley of Sundridge, Kent, and wid. of Richard Hill (d.1539) of Hartley Wintney, serjeant of the cellar to Henry VIII, 1s. d.v.p. Kntd. 22 Feb. 1547.3*

By Dorothy Hill, Walter Walshe (d. 25 February 1561) was the father of Sir William Walshe (d.1622?), who died without issue, and Walter Walshe (d.1613). See the pedigree of Stonor, Hoby and Walshe in Lipscomb, *supra*, p. 609 at:

[https://books.google.ca/books?id=\\_t89AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA609](https://books.google.ca/books?id=_t89AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA609)

See also the entry for ‘Walsh of Shelsley’ in Grazebrook, H. Sydney, *The Heraldry of Worcester*, (London: John Russell Smith, 1873), pp. 284, 602-4 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=R2MxzMvHylkC&pg=PA284>

*[T]he same coat was impaled by Walter Walsh . . . in right of Dorothy his wife, daughter and co-heiress of Richard Hill, Serjeant of the Cellar to King Henry VIII.*

**-Margaret Walshe**, who is said to have married William Vavasour of Weston.

**-Frances Walshe**, who is said to have married Thomas Lathom of Hornchurch.

See the will of Walter Walshe, dated 25 October 1537 and proved 2 July 1538, TNA PROB 11/27/281; and the pedigree of Stoner of North Stoke in Turner, William Henry, ed., *The Visitations of the County of Oxford*, (London: Harleian Society, 1871), Vol. V, pp. 143-4 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/publicationshar01socigoog#page/n161/mode/2up>

See also the entry for Elizabeth Stonor at:

[http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page\\_id=707](http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=707)

For Sir Philip Hoby, see also his will, TNA PROB 11/40/348, and the summary at:

<https://www.badseysociety.uk/wills/56040>

See also the inquisition post mortem taken after his death, TNA C 142/115/74.

**-Sir Thomas Hoby** (1530-1566), who on 27 June 1558 married Lady Burghley’s sister, Elizabeth Cooke (1528-1609), later Lady Russell. See the *ODNB* entry:

*Hoby, Sir Thomas (1530–1566), courtier and translator, was born at Leominster, Herefordshire, the second son of William Hoby, of Radnor, and his second wife, Katherine, daughter of John Forden. . . .*

*On the death of his half-brother, Sir Philip Hoby, in May 1558 Hoby inherited Bisham Abbey, Berkshire, and on 27 June married Elizabeth (1528–1609) [see Russell], daughter of Sir Anthony Cooke (1505/6–1576).*

For Sir Thomas Hoby’s wife, Elizabeth (nee Cooke) Hoby Russell, see the *ODNB* entry, and Laoutaris, *supra*.

**-Richard Hoby** (c.1532 - 11 February 1617?) of Badsey, who married firstly, on 13 May 1560, Elizabeth Bustard, the daughter of Anthony Bustard (d.1568?) of Adderbury, and secondly Margaret, the widow of John Newman. See:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52219527@N00/35751654922>

By Elizabeth Bustard, Richard Hoby had a son, Anthony Hoby, who married Elizabeth Rous. Anthony Hoby is erroneously shown in some pedigrees as the son of the testator, whereas he was the testator's nephew of the half blood. See TNA E 355/224 for a grant dated 12 October 1589 by Richard Hoby to Anthony Hoby, gentleman, his son and heir, in consideration of a marriage between Anthony Hoby and Elizabeth Rous, the daughter of Edward Rous of Rous Lench, Worcestershire.

By Elizabeth Bustard, Richard Hoby also had a daughter, Elizabeth Hoby (d. 19 June 1620), who married firstly, in 1587, Thomas Sheldon (1556-1593), son of Ralph Sheldon (d.1586?) of Broadway and Mary Huband of Ipsley; secondly, as his second wife, by settlement dated 16 January 1597, Sir Philip Kighley (1567-1605); and thirdly Charles Ketilby. See the History of Parliament entry for Sir Philip Kighley at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/kighley-sir-philip-1567-1605>

For the marriage of Elizabeth Hoby and Thomas Sheldon, see also the pedigree at:

<http://earlywelshleigh.blogspot.com/2017/03/sheldon-family-history.html>

See also the Sheldon pedigree in Butler, A.T., ed., *The Visitation of Worcestershire 1634*, (London: J. Whitehead and Son, Limited, 1938), Vol. XC, p. 91:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015039595650&view=1up&seq=107>

For Sir Philip Kighley and Thomas Sheldon, see also the will of Ralph Sheldon of Beoley, TNA PROB 11/121/345.

For the memorial to Richard Hoby, see 'Badsey Church - The Hoby Memorial' at:

<https://www.badseysociety.uk/church/badsey-church-the-hoby-memorial>

**-Magdalen Hoby** (living 1558), who is said to have died in 1574 at the age of 55. She was thus born c.1519, and was likely the testator's sister of the whole blood. She married Thomas Bigg (d.1581) of Norton, Gloucestershire. According to the will of Sir Philip Hoby, they had a daughter, Julian Bigg:

*Item, I will that the daughter of my said sister, Julian, shall at the day of her marriage have the sum of forty pounds.*

See also the History of Parliament entry for their son, Sir Thomas Bigg (c.1554-1614) of Lenchwick, who married Ursula Throckmorton (d. 13 August 1601), the daughter of Clement Throckmorton (d.1573) of Haseley, and sister of Job Throckmorton (1545-1601), indicted in 1590 for his participation in the printing of the Marprelate tracts, at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/biggs-sir-thomas-1554-1614>

See also:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/amthomson/34916411511/>

See also Pierce, William, *An Historical Introduction to the Marprelate Tracts*, (London: Archibald Constable & Co. Ltd., 108), p. 214 at:

<https://archive.org/details/anhistoricalint01piergoog/page/n243>

**-Elizabeth Hoby** (d.1551), who married a husband surnamed Parker. She was likely the testator's sister of the half blood.

**-Mary Hoby** (living 1558), likely the testator's sister of the whole blood. She married firstly a husband surnamed Seton, who may have been John Seton, groom of the chamber, for whom see TNA C 1/1060/16:

*Plaintiffs: John SETON, groom of the Chamber*

*Defendants: Edmund GREGORY*

*Subject: Tithes of Cuxham conveyed to defendant by Philip Hobby, gentleman usher of the Chamber. Oxfordshire  
1538-1544*

By her first husband, Mary Hoby had a son and a daughter:

**(1) Robert Seton** (living 1566). In his will, Sir Philip Hoby leaves a bequest to 'my nephew Seton'. In the list of bequests to servants at the end of the will he is identified as Robert Seton:

*Item, I will to Seton, my nephew, the sum of £20 in money and one gelding with a furniture convenient. . . .*

*Robert Seton £20, by the will.*

In 1566 Robert Seton was in the service of the testator's brother, Sir Thomas Hoby, and his wife, Elizabeth (nee Cooke) Hoby. See Powell, Edgar, ed., *The Travels and Life of Sir Thomas Hoby, Kt., of Bisham Abbey, Written by Himself, 1547-1564*, (London: Royal Historical Society, 1902), p. xx at:

<https://archive.org/details/travelslifeofsir00hobyrich/page/n27>

*Item, for Seton my servant's charges riding in post into England to certify the death of my husband, and returning against with letters, £20*

See also Laoutaris, *supra*, pp. 67-8 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=-l9ECQAAQBAJ&pg=PA75>

*In the immediate aftermath of this personal catastrophe, neither her trusty servant Robert Seton, nor her brother Edward Cooke, was able to remain by her side. Seton had been dispatched to England to inform Elizabeth I of the terrible calamity, while Cooke hastened to the French King and Queen Mother. . . .*

*Robert Seton's mission to London is listed in Elizabeth's itemization of the costs of travelling to and from Paris, BL, Additional MS 18764.*

At some time after the death of Sir Philip Hoby, Robert Seton brought a Chancery suit against the testator. See TNA C 2/Eliz/S19/15:

*Plaintiff: Robert Seton*

*Defendant: William Hoby*

*Claim by descent as son and heir. Third part of the lordships or manors of Roel and Cutsdean.*

**(2) Mary Seton** (living 1558), to whom Sir Philip Hoby left a bequest in his will:

*Item, I will that the daughters [sic for 'daughter?'] of my sister Carter shall at the day of her marriage have the sum of 100 marks.*

Mary Hoby married secondly Brian Carter, by whom she appears to have had no issue. For the will of Brian Carter, proved 3 June 1559, see TNA PROB 11/42B/247. The will is confusingly dated 18 May 1557 in the first year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, which would be 18 May 1559. In his will, Brian Carter mentions his wife, Mary, her son, Robert Seton, and her daughter, Mary Seton.

Mary Hoby and her second husband, Brian Carter, are mentioned in a quitclaim concerning the manor of Bisham. See:

'Parishes: Bisham', in *A History of the County of Berkshire: Volume 3*, ed. P H Ditchfield and William Page (London, 1923), pp. 139-152. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/berks/vol3/pp139-152> [accessed 25 August 2019].

*74. Ashmole, loc. cit. In 1559 Brian Carter and Mary his wife quitclaimed the manor, but it is not clear what their interest was (Feet of F. Div. Co. East. 1 Eliz.).*

In one source Mary Hoby is erroneously referred to as the daughter of Sir Philip Hoby. See Baddeley, *infra*, p. 132:

[https://archive.org/details/cotteswoldshrine00badd\\_0/page/132](https://archive.org/details/cotteswoldshrine00badd_0/page/132)

*Sir Philip married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Walter Stoner, by whom he left no son, but one daughter married to Brian Carter, who had livery of land in the Manor of Rowell (a. I, Eliz.) 1558.*

Several pedigrees, as well as the *ODNB*, are in error concerning the birth order of the four sons of William Hoby of Leominster and the identity of their respective mothers (said to have been Katherine Foster and Katherine Forden or Fordayne). If the testator was born in 1500, he was the eldest son of William Hoby of Leominster, and Sir Philip Hoby, born in 1505, was his younger brother of the whole blood. Sir Thomas Hoby was born much later, in 1530, and was a half brother of both the testator and Sir Philip Hoby (1505-1558), and a brother of the whole blood of Richard Hoby (c.1532-1617?).

The only pedigrees which correctly show the testator as the elder brother of Sir Philip Hoby (1505-1558) are in Baddeley and Powell.

See Baddeley, Welbore St. Clair, *A Cotteswold Shrine*, (Gloucester: John Bellows, 1908), pp. 131-2, 139, 140, 143, 150 and 160 at:

[https://archive.org/details/cotteswoldshrine00badd\\_0/page/130](https://archive.org/details/cotteswoldshrine00badd_0/page/130)

See also Powell, *supra*, pp. viii-ix, and pedigree, p. xvi at:

<https://archive.org/details/travelslifeofsir00hobyrich/page/n11>

The pedigrees in Howard, Phillimore and Burke erroneously show the testator as a younger son. See Howard, Joseph Jackson, *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol. I, (London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co., 1868), p. 143 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=76xBAAAAcAAJ&pg=PA143>

See also Phillimore, W.P.W., ed., *The Visitation of the County of Worcester Made in the Year 1569*, (London: Harleian Society, 1888), Vol. XXVII, p. 80 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ECoeEAAAIAAJ&pg=PA80>

See also Burke, John and John Bernard Burke, *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies of England, Ireland and Scotland*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., (London: Scott, Webster, and Geary, 1841), p. 265 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=HKpfAAAAcAAJ&pg=PA265>

For the Hoby window, which identifies several members of the Hoby family, see:

<https://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=bfulgham&id=I34045>

For the Hoby window see also:

[http://www.berkshirehistory.com/churches/bisham\\_monuments.html](http://www.berkshirehistory.com/churches/bisham_monuments.html)

### ***MARRIAGES AND ISSUE***

The testator married firstly Anne Horswell (d.1559), widow of the versifier of the psalms, Thomas Sternhold (d.1549), by whom it appears he had no issue. For Anne Horswell's epitaph, see Yonge, Charlotte M., *John Keble's Parishes: A History of Hursley and Otterbourne*, (London: Macmillan and Co., Limited, 1898), pp. 32-3 at:

<https://archive.org/details/a615816700yonguoft/page/32>

See also the History of Parliament entry for Thomas Sternhold at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/sternhold-%28sternell%29-thomas-1517-49>

The testator married secondly Alice Hodgkins (d.1607?), the daughter of Henry Hodgkins (by 1522-1570?), esquire, and his wife, Anne. For the will of Alice Hodgkins, see TNA PROB 11/110/418. For Henry Hodgkins, see his will, dated 8 March 1566 and proved 4 February 1570, TNA PROB 11/52/53, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/hodgkins-%28hodgskyns%29-henry-1522-6970>

According to the will below, the testator had two sons and three daughters:

\* **Giles Hoby** (1565 – 23 March 1626), esquire, eldest son, who married firstly Elizabeth Paulet (living 1586), daughter of Lord Thomas Paulet (d.1586) of Cossington, Somerset, second son of William Paulet (d.1572), 1<sup>st</sup> Marquis of Winchester. For the will, dated 26 February 1586 and proved 25 March 1586, of Lord Thomas Paulet, see TNA PROB 11/69/160. For the marriage of Giles Hoby and Elizabeth Paulet, see also:

'Parishes: Bisham', in *A History of the County of Berkshire: Volume 3*, ed. P H Ditchfield and William Page (London, 1923), pp. 139-152. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/berks/vol3/pp139-152> [accessed 9 June 2019].

For complaints by George Puttenham (1529-1590), author of *The Arte of English Poesie*, concerning 'outrages' committed against him by Lord Thomas Paulet and his followers, see:

<http://www.celm-ms.org.uk/authors/puttenhamgeorge.html>

Giles Hoby married secondly Anne Clerke (d.1630), the daughter of Sir Thomas Clerke of Avington, Hampshire. For the will of Sir Thomas Clerke, dated 12 March 1615 and proved 22 January 1618, see TNA PROB 11/131/53.

\* **William Hoby** the younger (d. 19 March 1603). For the date of his death, see the inquisition post mortem taken after the death of his son, Sir William Hoby (d. 20 November 1623), in Phillimore, W.P.W. and George S. Fry, eds., *Abstracts of Gloucestershire Inquisitiones Post Mortem*, (London: British Record Society Limited, 1893), pp. 67-9 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=a51UAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA67>

William Hoby the younger (d. 19 March 1603) married firstly Katherine Fermor, the daughter of Sir George Fermor (d. 1 December 1612) of Easton Neston, by whom he had a daughter:

-**Alice Hoby** (born c.1600), who married John Sydenham, esquire, of Brimpton, Somerset, the son of Sir John Sydenham (d.1625).

Katherine Fermor's father, Sir George Fermor was the son of Sir John Fermor (by 1516-1571) and Maud Vaux (d. 14 April 1569), the daughter of Sir Nicholas Vaux (d. 14 May 1523), 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Vaux of Harrowden. See the will of Sir Nicholas Vaux, TNA PROB 11/21/178; Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2011, Vol. II, pp. 657-8; and the History of Parliament entry for Sir John Fermor at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/fermor-sir-john-1516-71>

For the 1564 and 1618 pedigrees of the Fermor family of Easton Neston, see Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Northamptonshire Made in 1564 and 1618-19*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1887), pp. 19, 87 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationsnort00vincgoog/page/n32>

and:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationsnort00vincgoog/page/n100>

Metcalfe's comment concerning the relationship between the 1564 and 1618 Fermor pedigrees erroneously reads: 'Tabulated as in the Visitation of 1564, and continues the decent from George, eldest son of Sir *Thomas*'. It should read: 'Tabulated as in the Visitation of 1564, and continues the decent from George, eldest son of Sir *John*'.

For the Fermor pedigree, see also Blomfield, James Charles, *History of the Deanery of Bicester*, (Oxford: Parker and Co., 1882), p. 122 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=LRTnAAAAMAAJ&pg=RA4-PA122>

For the will of Sir George Fermor, dated 9 August 1611 and proved 6 May 1613, see TNA PROB 11/121/453.

For the will of George Fermor's uncle, Thomas Fermor (d. 8 August 1580) of Somerton, see TNA PROB 11/62/337. See also the History of Parliament entry for Thomas Fermor at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/fermor-thomas-1523-80>

George Fermor's aunt, Anne Fermor (d.1550), married William Lucy (d.1551), by whom she was the mother of Sir Thomas Lucy (1532?-1600), of Charlecote, Warwickshire. See the *ODNB*:

*Lucy, Sir Thomas (b. in or before 1532, d. 1600), gentleman, of Charlecote, in Warwickshire, was the eldest son of William Lucy (d. 1551) and his wife, Ann (d. 1550), daughter of Richard Fermor of Easton Neston in Northamptonshire.*

Another of George Fermor's aunts, Mary Fermor (d.1573), was the first wife of Sir Richard Knightley (1533-1615), prosecuted for his part in the publication of the Marprelate tracts. See the *ODNB* entry:

*Knightley, Sir Richard (1533–1615), politician and patron of puritans, was the eldest son of Sir Valentine Knightley of Fawsley, Northamptonshire, and his wife, Anne, the daughter of Edward Ferrers of Warwickshire. . . .*

*Knightley married first, in 1556, Mary (d. 1573), the daughter of Sir Richard Fermor; they had three sons and three daughters. His second wife was Elizabeth (d. 1603), daughter of Edward Seymour, duke of Somerset; they had seven sons and two daughters.*

The testator's son, William Hoby (d. 19 March 1603), married secondly Mary Tracy (1581-1671), the youngest daughter of Sir John Tracy (d.1591) of Toddington, Gloucestershire, and Anne Throckmorton (d. 21 May 1581). For Mary Tracy, see her will, TNA PROB 11/338/214, and the Tracy pedigree in Maclean, John and W.C. Heane, eds., *The Visitation of the County of Gloucester, Taken in the Year 1623*, (London: Harleian Society, 1885), Vol. XXI, p. 167 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationofcoun00inchit/page/166>

By Mary Tracy, William Hoby the younger (d. 19 March 1603) had two sons:

-**Sir William Hoby** (d. 20 November 1623), who died without issue. For his brief will, dated 10 September 1623 and proved 20 November 1623, see TNA PROB 11/142/556. In the will he leaves his lands and leases (apart from Roel and Cutsdean, which he leaves to 'my sister, Alice'), to his mother, Lady Vere, whom he appoints as sole executor. The inquisition post mortem taken after his death states that his next heir was his half sister, Alice (nee Hoby) Sydenham, wife of John Sydenham, esquire, of Brimpton, Somerset. See Phillimore, *Abstracts, supra*, pp. 67-9 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=a51UAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA67>

For Roel and Cutsdean, see:

<http://www.hill-bagging.co.uk/fullmap.php?qu=S&rf=17266>

-**Philip Hoby** (d.1617), who is mentioned in the will of his grandmother, Alice (nee Hodgkins) Hoby (d.1607?), TNA PROB 11/110/418.

According to the will of the testator's wife, William Hoby the younger (d. 19 March 1603) left a will naming his wife, Mary Tracy (1581-1671), as his executrix. It appears the will is no longer extant.

In November 1607, the widowed Mary (nee Tracy) Hoby (1581-1671) married secondly Oxford's first cousin, Horatio Vere (1565-1635), Baron Vere of Tilbury, the youngest of the four sons of Geoffrey Vere (d. 1572) of Crepping Hall, Wakes Colne, Essex, and his wife, Elizabeth Hardekyn (d.1615), daughter of Richard Hardekyn of Colchester. For the nuncupative will of Geoffrey Vere, see ERO C/ABW 38/187. For the will of Mary (nee Tracy) Hoby Vere, see TNA PROB 11/338/214.

\* **Katherine Hoby** (d. 21 June 1593), who on 9 September 1591 married, as his second wife, William Rogers (c.1534 – 1 September 1593) of Dowdeswell, Gloucestershire, by whom she was the mother of the testator's grandson and ward, William Rogers (28 May 1593? – 10 November 1640), whose wardship is mentioned in the will below. For the Rogers pedigree, see Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol. I, (London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co., 1868), p. 260 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=76xBAAAACAAJ&pg=PA260>

See also the Rogers pedigree in Maclean, John and W.C. Heane, eds., *The Visitation of the County of Gloucester, Taken in the Year 1623*, (London: Harleian Society, 1885), Vol. XXI, p. 140 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationofcoun00inchit/page/140>

\* **Barbara Hoby** (buried 20 January 1602), who married, in April 1583, Nicholas Wodhull (1564 – c. 8 November 1631) of Thenford, Northamptonshire, son of Fulke Wodhull (1529-1613), esquire, son of Nicholas Wodehull (d. 6 May 1531) and Elizabeth

Parr, daughter and co-heiress of William Parr (c.1480–1547), Baron Parr of Horton. See the *ODNB* entry for William Parr, and Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2011, Vol. I, pp. 522-3.

See also:

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Wodhull-30>

See also Lipscomb, George, *The History and Antiquities of the County of Buckingham*, Vol, IV, (London: J. & W. Robins, 1847), p. 312 at:

[https://books.google.ca/books?id=\\_t89AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA312](https://books.google.ca/books?id=_t89AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA312)

\* **Elizabeth Hoby** (d.1623), who married George Stratford (d.1623) of Farmcote, Gloucestershire. For the deaths of Elizabeth Hoby and George Stratford in 1623, see the Stratford pedigree in Maclean, *supra*, p. 157 at:

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

For Farmcote, see:

<https://www.genuki.org.uk/big/Colin/Misc/Stratfords/Stratfords06.html>

## ***OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL***

### ***Testator's overseer, Sir John Tracy***

As noted above, Sir John Tracy (d.1591) was the father of the testator's daughter-in-law, Mary Tracy (1581-1671).

### ***Testator's overseer, Walter Savage***

The testator's overseer, Walter Savage (1558-1622) of Broadway, was the son of Francis Savage (c.1524 - 19 August 1557) and Anne Sheldon (c.1528 - 25 October 1619), the daughter of William Sheldon (c.1550-c.1570) of Beoley by his first wife, Mary Willington, the daughter of William Willington (d.1555?) of Barcheston, Warwickshire. For the will of William Sheldon, dated 3 January 1570 and proved 10 February 1572, see TNA PROB 11/53/79. For the will of Francis Savage, see TNA PROB 11/40/349.

Walter Savage married, in 1581, Elizabeth Hall (1561-1648), the daughter and heiress of Richard Hall (d. 22 August 1602) of Idlicote, Warwickshire, and his wife, Joyce Blount, the daughter of Robert Blount (d.1573) of Astley, Worcestershire, and his wife, Anne Fisher. For the will of Robert Blount, dated 3 April 1573 and proved 8 June 1573, see TNA PROB 11/55/263.

Walter Savage and Elizabeth Hall are said to have had seven sons, Richard (1582-1614), Ralph, Charles, Anthony, Francis, John, and Walter, and one daughter, Katherine (wife of John Abbington). However it appears they had another daughter, Philippa Savage (buried 27 November 1644), who married the testator's grandson, William Rogers (28 May 1593? – 10 November 1640).

After the death of Walter Savage, Elizabeth Hall married Simon Underhill (baptized 16 November 1589, d.1664) of Idlicote. Simon Underhill was the son of William Underhill (d.1597), who sold New Place to William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon in 1597, and the brother of Hercules Underhill (1581–1650), who confirmed the sale to Shakespeare in 1602. See Shirley, E.P., 'The Underhills of Warwickshire', *The Herald and Genealogist*, (London: J.G. Nichols and R.C. Nichols, 1865), pp. 127–32; Morrison, John Harold, *The Underhills of Warwickshire*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1932); and Keen, Alan and Roger Lubbock, *The Annotator*, (London: Putnam, 1954), pp. 118-20 and Chart 3.

### ***Testator's overseer, Richard Daston***

The testator's overseer, Walter Savage, had a sister, Anne Savage (living 1626), who in 1572 married Richard Daston, Justice of Great Sessions for West Wales from 1604-1619. For his will, dated 2 October 1626 and proved 4 May 1627, see PROB 11/151/622. It appears likely that he is the Richard Daston whom the testator appointed as one of his overseers.

### ***Richard Wenman***

Richard Wenman (1573-1640) married Agnes Fermor (d.1617), daughter of Sir George Fermor (d. 1 December 1612) of Easton Neston, and sister of the testator's daughter-in-law, Katherine Fermor. See the History of Parliament entry at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/wenman-sir-richard-1573-1640>

LM: T{estamentum} Will{el}mi Hobie

In the name of God, Amen. I, William Hoby the elder of Hailes in the county of Gloucester, esquire, being in reasonable health of body and of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be given to Almighty God, being now well stricken in age and calling to remembrance the mortality of every living wight, do this thirteenth day of March in the three and fortieth year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth

make and [f. 187r] [-and] ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following, thereby revoking and annulling all other my former wills whatsoever;

First I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my Creator, trusting only through and for the merits and passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, my Redeemer, to receive at his hands pardon and absolution of all my sins;

And my earthly body I commit to the earth to be buried in the chapel of Hailes in such decent & comely manner as to my executor and overseers shall seem expedient, hoping at the general day of judgment to rise both in body and soul and to enjoy those eternal and celestial joys which Almighty God hath in his mercy provided for his elect and chosen;

Item, I give and devise the sum of ten pounds of lawful money of England to remain forever in stock for and towards the relief of the poor inhabitants in the town of Winchcombe in the county of Gloucester, the which stock of money I will shall be employed and used to raise the best benefit thereof that may be made in such manner as to mine executor shall seem convenient, out of the profits to be raised of which stock of money I will shall be paid yearly to such of the poor of the said town of Winchcombe as to mine executrix during her life shall seem expedient, and after her decease to such of the poor as the bailiff of the said town shall yearly nominate, the sum of twenty shillings of lawful money of England for and towards their relief and maintenance;

And whereas before this time by indenture made between myself on the one party, and Thomas Clerke of Avington in the county of Southampton, esquire, on the other party, I have covenanted to leave in and upon my manor or farm of Rowell [=Roel] and Cutsdean in the county of Gloucester after the decease of Alice, my wife, one thousand sheep of my stock and store of cattle there kept and maintained to and for Giles Hoby, my eldest son, or else the sum of three hundred pounds of lawful money of England, as in and by the said indenture may appear, my will and desire is that my said executrix in this my will named shall well and truly in all points observe and perform the said covenant in all and in every part thereof according to the true intent and meaning of the said indenture;

And whereas also in and by one other indenture made between myself & Alice, my wife, on the one party, and Sir George Fermor and Sir Richard Wenman, knights, on the other party, I have covenanted and agreed that if in case my son, William, or any issue of his body on the body of Katherine, late his wife, deceased, shall be living at the time of the decease of the said Alice, my wife, that then the said William Hoby, my son, and such issue of the body of the said William, my son, if my said son, William, shall be then dead, which shall be heir to the said William, my son, at the common law, shall and may have and take all and singular the wains, carts, ploughs, tools and implements of husbandry which then shall be at Hailes aforesaid, and also the one moiety of all and singular the goods, chattels, cattle and household stuff of me, the said William Hoby, which shall be at Hailes and Pinnock in the said county of Gloucester at the time of my decease, plate only excepted, to their own proper use and behoof, as in and by the said last mentioned indenture may appear, I do by this my last will and testament declare that my meaning and intent at the time of the making of the said indenture was that the said

William, my son, should have the said carts, wains, tools and implements of husbandry together with the said moiety of all and singular my said goods, chattels, cattle and household stuff at Hailes and Pinnock aforesaid, plate only excepted, immediately after the decease of the said Alice, my wife, and not before;

Nevertheless my will now is that in case the said Alice, my wife, shall happen after my decease to marry again, that then the said William, my son, or such issue of his body which shall be heir to my said son, William, at the common law, if he shall then be dead, shall have the said wains, carts, ploughs, tools and implements of husbandry together with the said moiety of all my goods, chattels and cattles aforesaid, plate being excepted, in manner and form following, that is to say, the said carts, wains, ploughs, tools and implements of husbandry after the decease of Alice, my wife, and the said moiety of my said goods, chattels, cattle and household stuff, plate being excepted, immediately after such marriage of the said Alice, my wife;

And my further will is that if the issue of the body of my son, William, which he hath by the said Katherine, his wife, shall happen to decease before the said Alice, my wife, which God forbid, that yet nevertheless if my son, William, shall have any issue by Mary, his now wife, or by any other wife or wives whatsoever, and my said son, William, or any issue or heir of his body shall be living at the time of the decease of the [f. 187v] [-the] said Alice, my wife, that my son, William, or such person or persons which shall be the heir of the body of my son, William, at the common law, if my said son, William, shall then be dead, shall have all & singular the said carts, wains, tools and implements of husbandry and the one moiety of all & singular my said goods, chattels, cattle and household stuff, plate only excepted, if the said Alice, my wife, shall after my death marry again in manner and form last before mentioned, and if not, then immediately after the decease of the said Alice, my wife, anything before or in the said recited indenture mentioned to the contrary notwithstanding;

Item, I do nevertheless will and devise that all and singular my bedsteads, tables, forms, joined stools, the brass and ironwork and other furniture of my kitchen, all and singular my cowperye [=copper?] ware and other furniture in my brewhouse, cellars and buttery, the cisterns and furnaces about my house and the furniture of my mill in Hailes aforesaid and my malting house there shall be and remain wholly to Alice, my wife, during her life, and after her decease that the same shall remain forever as heirlooms in my house of Hailes aforesaid;

And I do further will and devise that the glass, wainscot, locks, keys and doors in my house of Hailes shall be and remain after the decease of Alice, my wife, to William, my son, undefaced and undiminished;

Item, whereas in and by one indenture made between myself, on the one party, and William, my son, on the other party, I have granted, bargained and sold to William, my son, all and singular the house and site of my manor of Hailes and all and singular my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Hailes, Didbrook & Pinnock in the county of Gloucester for and during the term of fifty years in the said indentures mentioned if he,

the said William Hoby, my son, or any issue of his body so long should happen to live, I do further will and devise that my said son, William, his executors, administrators and assigns, shall have and enjoy the said premises to him and his assigns for and during the said term of fifty years if the said William, my son, or any heir of the body of my said son, William, so long shall happen to live;

Item, I do give & bequeath unto Giles Hoby, my eldest son, the sum of two hundred pounds to be delivered unto him at such time after the decease of Alice, my wife, or before as to the said Alice, my wife, shall seem expedient in full recompense and satisfaction of all such plate as before this time I intended to give and bequeath unto him;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth, my daughter, the sum of one thousand pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto her at such time and in such manner as to my said executrix in this my will named shall seem meet and expedient;

And I do further will that my said daughter shall be ruled and ordered in her marriage by my said executrix, and in the meantime before her marriage that she shall be kept and maintained in all things necessary according to her estate and calling by my said executrix;

And concerning the wardship and custody of the body and lands of William Rogers, my nephew [=grandson], my will is that Alice, my wife, shall have the wardship and custody of the body and lands of the said William Rogers for and during the minority of the said William Rogers if the said Alice, my wife, shall so long happen to live;

And if the said Alice, my wife, shall happen to die before the said William Rogers shall accomplish the full age of twenty and one years, then my will is that William Hoby, my son, shall have the wardship of the body and lands of the said William Rogers;

And my will is further that neither the said Alice, my wife, nor the said William, my son, shall have or take more of the said William Rogers for the value of his marriage than the sum of five hundred pounds of lawful money of England;

Item, I do further will and devise that if in case my son, William Hoby, shall happen to die and depart this life during the life of Alice, my wife, that the said Alice, my wife, shall yearly content and pay to Mary Hoby, the wife of my son, William, the sum of one hundred pounds of lawful money of England during the natural life of the said Alice, my wife, to be paid at four feasts or terms in the year most usual, that is to say, at the feasts of th' Annunciation of Our Lady Saint Mary the Virgin, the Nativity of Saint John Baptist, St Michael the Archangel and the Birth of our Lord God commonly called Christmas by equal and even portions, the first payment thereof to begin at such of the said feasts which shall first happen next after the decease of my son, William;

And also I do further will that the said Alice, my wife, shall immediately after my decease give and allow to the said Mary, the wife of my said son, William, and to and for her children by the said William, my son, begotten, and after the decease of my said son,

William, to and for two menservants and two maidservants of the said Mary sufficient and competent meat, drink, [f. 188r] lodging & other necessaries in my house at Hailes during the life of Alice, my wife, if the said Mary after the decease of my said son, William, shall so long keep herself sole and unmarried;

And for and concerning my plate, I will and devise to William, my son, during his natural life the use & occupation of these parcels following, that is to say, my best basin & ewer of silver and gilt, my two gilt livery pots, my two plain gilt salts with their box, two of my broad gilt bowls, two of my narrow gilt bowls, one dozen of gilt Germany spoons, one dozen of other gilt spoons, my tortoise salt with his cover, two of my silver jugs parcel gilt, four silver candlesticks, two other of my silver salts which my wife shall appoint, all which parcels of plate I will shall be delivered unto my said son, William, at the time of the decease of Alice, my wife;

And after the decease of the said William, my son, I will and devise the said parcels of plate before limited to the use of my said son, William, to such of the children or children's children of my said son, William, which at the time of the decease of my said son, William, shall be heir to my said son, William, at the common law;

Item, I give and bequeath to my nephew [=grandson], William Rogers, my round basin and ewer of silver to be delivered unto him at his age of one and twenty years, if he shall then be living, and if he die before the said age, the said legacy to be void;

Item, I give and bequeath to Mary Hoby, my daughter-in-law, the use and occupation of a standing gilt cup with his cover during her life, and after her decease I will that the child she now goeth withal shall have the same cup with the cover;

Item, I give and bequeath to Barbara, my daughter, two broad silver bowls parcel gilt, one silver college-pot and a gilt bell salt with his cover, the said plate to be delivered to my said daughter, Barbara, immediately after the decease of Alice, my wife, or before if the said Alice, my wife, shall think it expedient;

Item, I do further will and devise that if my son, William, shall and will well and truly pay to the executors of Alice, my wife, or to such other person or persons as she shall nominate the sum of fifty pounds of lawful money of England within one year after the decease of Alice, my wife, that then my said son, William, shall upon the payment of the said sum of money have to his use and behoof my basin and ewer of silver parcel gilt, my two flagon pots of silver parcel gilt, my two silver and gilt bowls, two silver jugs with covers parcel gilt marked with the letters W H, one dozen of Germany spoons parcel gilt;

And I do further will that my executrix shall acquit and discharge my servant, George Townshend, of and from all troubles which may arise unto him for or in respect of one obligation of the sum of four hundred pounds for the payment of the sum of two hundred pounds wherein the said George Townshend was bound unto my son-in-law, William Rogers, deceased, which obligation I think in my conscience is in equity discharged against the administrators of the goods of my said son-in-law, William Rogers;

Item, I give to Elizabeth, my daughter, two broad silver bowls, one silver college-pot, and one silver salt with his cover, the said plate to be delivered unto my said daughter, Elizabeth, immediately after the decease of the said Alice, my wife, or before if the said Alice shall think it meet and expedient;

Item, I give & bequeath unto all the servants which have dwelt with me five years or above one half year's wages more than shall be due to them at the time of my decease;

And to every of my other servants six shillings eight pence over and above their wages;

Item, I give to John King, my servant, twenty shillings;

Item, I give to my servant, George Townshend, one of my best kine such as my executrix shall set out;

Item, I give and bequeath to Katherine Rawlins forty shillings;

Item, I give to William Crumpe, clerk, vicar of Didbrook, twenty shillings;

The said legacies to my servants and to Katherine Rawlins & William Crumpe to be paid and delivered immediately after my decease;

All the residue of my goods and chattels movable and unmovable before in this my last will not given nor bequeathed, my debts and legacies being discharged, I give and bequeath unto Alice, my well-beloved wife, whom I do make and appoint to be the sole executrix of this my last will and testament;

And I do make and appoint my loving and well-beloved friends, Sir John Tracy, knight, Richard Daston and Walter Savage, esquires, to be overseers of this my last will and testament, praying them to do their uttermost endeavour to be aiding and [f. 188v] assisting to my said executrix with their labour and advice in the performance of this my last will;

And if any controversy shall happen to arise concerning any clause or sentence in this my last will, then my will is that my said overseers shall do their best endeavours to determine and decide the said controversies;

And I do further will that in case my said son, William, or any issue or heirs of his body or the said Sir George Fermor or Sir Richard Wenman or any of them, their or any of their executors or administrators shall attempt to have or obtain from my said executrix any of my goods and chattels contrary to the true intent and meaning of this my last will herein before expressed, or to that end shall commence any action or suit against her, then I will that if, after notice given to my said son, William, of such suits & attempts, my said son, William, shall not or will not do and make to the said Alice, my wife, all such reasonable acts and things for the ceasing, extinguishing and ending of the said suits and

actions as the said Alice, my wife, at her costs and charges shall devise and require, that then the said William, my son, shall from thenceforth lose the benefit and advantage of this my last will and testament;

Item, I do further will and declare that the said sum of one thousand pounds and the said plate before devised to my daughter, Elizabeth, shall be and go in full recompense and satisfaction of all other legacies and gifts given unto her by myself and Anne Hodgkins, deceased, the mother of Alice, my wife;

And in case that the said Elizabeth or any other for her or by or under her right shall attempt or go about to have or obtain of my executor any sum of money given or promised or meant to be given to her, the said Elizabeth, by the said Anne Hodgkins, that then so much money as the same shall amount unto shall be defalked and abated out of the said sum of one thousand pounds devised to the said Elizabeth by this my last will;

And I do further will that the said Elizabeth, her executors and assigns, upon the payment and delivery of the said sum of one thousand pounds shall by deed in writing acquit and discharge my executor of the said sum of one thousand pounds given to her by this my last will and of all gifts, grants, promises and legacies given or promised to her, the said Elizabeth, by the said Anne Hodgkins;

And in witness that this is my last will & testament I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of those whose names are underwritten. William Hoby.

Memorandum: That this will was read to the above-named William Hoby the elder and by him signed and sealed and published to be his last will in the presence of J. Tracy, Richard Daston, Giles Hoby, William Hoby, George Townshend, Charles Townshend, Edmund White, Henry Gaye, William White.

Probatum fuit huiusmodi Testamentum apud London coram D{omi}no Iohanne Benet mi{li}te Legum Doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cantuariensis magistro Custode siue Com{m}issario l{egi}time constituto Vicesimo Septimo die mensis Aprilis Anno Domini millesimo Sexcentesimo Quinto Iuramento Alicie Hobie Relicte d{i}c{t}i defuncti et Executricis in Testamento pred{icto} nominat{e} Cui com{m}issa fuit Administratio bonoru{m} Iuriu{m} et creditoru{m} eiusdem defuncti De bene et fideliter administrand{o} &c Ad sancta Dei Evangelia al{ias} coram magistro Iob Beck vicar de Stanwaye in Com{itatu} Gloucester Com{m}issar{io} in ea parte l{egi}time Deputat{o} Iurat{e}

[=The same will was proved at London before Sir John Bennett, knight, Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of April in the year of the Lord the thousand six hundred fifth by the oath of Alice Hoby, widow of the said deceased and executrix named in the testament aforesaid, to whom administration was granted of the

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goods, rights and credits of the same deceased, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer etc., otherwise before Master Job(?) Beck, vicar of Stanway in the county of Gloucester, lawfully deputed Commissary in that behalf.]