

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 28 February 1603 and proved 25 March 1608, of Sir Edward Stanhope, Doctor of the Civil Laws, before whom Oxford acknowledge several indentures (see TNA C 146/7040, TNA C 147/152, and NRO NPL 201). The latter indenture was acknowledged by Oxford before Stanhope at Oxford's house in Broad Street on 22 June 1578.

The testator was the son of the courtier Sir Michael Stanhope (b. before 1508, d.1552) and his wife Anne (c.1515-1588), the daughter of Nicholas Rawson of Aveyley, Essex. For their children, including the testator, see the inscription on the tomb of Anne (nee Rawson) Stanhope in Shelford Church in Brown, Cornelius, *Lives of Nottinghamshire Worthies*, (London: H. Sotheran & Co., 1882), p. 109, available online:

*By Sir Michael she had these children, Sir Thomas Stanhope of Shelford in the County of Nottingham, knight; Eleanor, married to Thomas Cooper of Thurgarton in Com. Nottingham, esquire; Edward Stanhope, esquire, one of her Majesty's Council in the north parts of England; Julian, married to John Hotham of Scarborough in Com. Eborum, esquire; John Stanhope, esquire, one of the Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber to our most dear Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth; Jane, married to Sir Roger Townshend of Eyam in Com. Norfolk; Edward Stanhope, Doctor of the Civil Law, one of her Majesty's High Court of Chancery; Michael Stanhope, esquire, one of the Privy Chamber to Queen Elizabeth; besides Margaret, William and Edward, who died in their infancy.*

The testator's eldest brother, Sir Thomas Stanhope (d.1596) of Shelford, was the father of Oxford's brother-in-law, Sir John Stanhope (d.1611). Sir John Stanhope (d.1611) and his children are left several bequests in the will below. For the will of Oxford's brother-in-law, Sir John Stanhope (d.1611), in which he mentions the lease of Weston left to him by the testator in the will below, see TNA PROB 11/117, f. 356. For the will of Oxford's sister-in-law, Katherine (nee Trentham) Stanhope, see TNA PROB 11/137, ff. 434-6.

The testator and Oxford were also related by marriage through the testator's sister, Jane (nee Stanhope) Townshend Berkeley, whose first husband was Sir Roger Townshend (c.1544-1590), a servant of the Howards to whom Oxford sold his manor of Wivenhoe and with whom he had other financial relations. After Sir Roger Townshend's death, his widow, Jane, in 1598 married Henry, Lord Berkeley (1534-1613), whose first wife had been Oxford's first cousin, Katherine Howard (d.1596), sister of Thomas Howard (1537-1572), 4th Duke of Norfolk, whose life Oxford had tried to save. See G.E.C., *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. II, (London: St Catherine Press, 1912), p. 138.

In the will below the testator leaves a bequest to his nephew, Robert Townshend, the second son of Sir Roger Townshend (c.1544-1590) and the testator's sister, Jane. Sir Robert Townshend was later the patron of Ben Jonson (1572-1637). According to the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*:

*During the early years of the new century Jonson lodged with various friends and patrons. 'Ben. Johnson the poet nowe lives upon one Townesend' observed John Manningham the diarist in February 1603—referring to Sir Robert Townshend, at some stage the patron also of John Fletcher—'and scornes the world' (Diary of John Manningham, 187).*

The connections between Oxford and the testator suggest that Oxford would have known Jonson.

The testator's scandalous relationship with Elizabeth Blackwell, mentioned at length in the will below, was alluded to in Martin Marprelate's *Epistle* in 1588:

*Riddle me a riddle. What is that? His Grace threatened to send Mistress Lawson to Bridewell because she showed the good father Doctor Perne a way how to get his name out of the Book of Martyrs, where the turncoat is canonized for burning Bucer's bones. Dame Lawson answered that she was an honest citizen's wife, a man well known, and therefore bade his Grace, and he would, send his uncle Shory thither. Ha, ha, ha! Now, good your Grace, you shall have small gains in meddling with Margaret Lawson, I can tell you. For if she be cited before Tarquinus Superbus Doctor Stanhope, she will desire him to deal as favourably with her in that cause as he would with Mistress Blackwell. Tsk, tsk, tsk! Will it never be better with you, Mistress Lawson?*

For the will of Elizabeth Blackwell's husband, William Blackwell (d.1610), see TNA PROB 11/115, ff. 280-1.

For a biography of the testator, see Cooper, Charles Henry and Thompson Cooper, *Athenae Cantabrigienses: 1586-1609*, Vol. II, (Cambridge: Deighton, Bell & Co., 1861), pp. 470-3, available online.

The testator died on 10 March 1608.

RM: T{estamentum} D{omi}ni Ed{wa}r{d}i Stanhope Milit{is} Legum D{o}c{t}oris

In the name of God the Father, my Creator, of God the Son, my only Saviour, and of God the Holy Ghost, the true comforter of my faith, of whom I have received all those blessings both of soul and body which I have been and am partaker of, by whom I receive full pardon and remission of all my sins and offences, and through whom my faith is strengthened to the finishing of this great work of my salvation, to that holy and undivided Trinity, three persons, one only true and ever-living God, be all honour, dominion and praise for evermore, I, Edward Stanhope, Doctor of the Civil Laws, the fourth son of Sir Michael Stanhope, knight, and the Lady Anne, his wife, deceased, being in good health and of perfect memory at the writing hereof (his holy name be praised for it), but in soul laden with the grievous burden of my many sins, of the which I do desire to be cured by the all-only physician, Christ Jesus, I being now desirous to depart in peace and to set up my rest with the blessed Apostle *Cupio dissolvi et esse eum Christo*,

to the end that before the sentence of *Cras morieris* be pronounced I may with comfort receive that watchword *Dispone Domui tuae*, I do in this holy fear make this my last will and testament, revoking all former wills by me made whatsoever:

First, to begin with that most principal part which every true Christian ought to respect as that for which he is to be called to a most strict account, I most humbly crave of my heavenly Father that assurance of his holy spirit whereby all my words, works and thoughts may join in one consent from the bottom of my heart to beg of him that he will in mercy wash and cleanse my soul from the corruption of old Adam which hath defiled it, wash it, I say, in the blood and merits of his Son Christ, and not in his justice lay unto my charge my manifold pollutions of my soul by giving way to the inordinate lusts of the flesh by hunting over-greedily after the corrupt enticements of worldly covetousness and by over-yielding to Satan's assaults, but in the greatness of his mercy pardon all those and what else soever my innumerable transgressions, and lay them upon him who for sinful man became sin that he might bring me home unto himself, that so after this race run, at the loosing of my soul from this mass of corruption it may receive, not a reward of any merit of mine, but be made partaker of that free oblation of the unspotted Lamb which is by his heavenly Father given to all those who in steadfastness of faith do in his Son's name call upon him with a true penitent and obedient heart, and do by the governance of his holy spirit give testimony in their life and conversation that their repentance is not in lip-labour alone, nor their faith an idle bubble in the water, but in the true labour in the vineyard in following the word and work of our Master Christ in hearing and practicing the doctrine of his apostles; let my faith, O Father, thus fructify, that at all times and even at that hour when all the enemies and accusers of my soul will be most busy to work their last spite and revenge on it, my faith may then be most strong whilst speech doth last, and after that faileth, with inward voice to cry unto thee: 'O heavenly Father, receive my soul; O Lord, let not that perish which thy Son hath so dearly bought; O Lord, have thou mercy on my soul which thy Son hath purchased with his merit; into thy hands, Father, I commend my soul, who art the only God of all truth and whose promises neither can nor will fail them whose faith thou strengthenest unto the end, and in the end I know my Redeemer liveth, and this corruption shall put on incorruption, and then shall my heart rejoice in thy salvation when this joyful alarum shall sound: Come, ye blessed of my Father, possess the joys which have been prepared for you before the foundation of the world were laid';

For my body, as by nature it is earth, and therefore by corruption must return to earth again, being of itself no other but a mass of most filthy corrupted worms' meat, so do I recommend it to the earth from whence it came, there to receive his alteration in sure and steadfast hope that, being resolved into itself, dust into dust, it shall at the joyful sound of the trumpet at the latter day be quickened again, and I shall with it put on incorruption, and so receiving a most blessed exchange, I shall in it and with it attend with God's elect to glorify his blessed name in his heavenly kingdom whence-from all corruption is banished;

For the place where my body shall be interred, if I die in London or suburbs thereof, and serve the church and commonwealth in those places which I do now attend, my desire is

to be buried in the body of the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul, London, in the north aisle, somewhat towards the stairs going up to the choir;

If I depart this life forth of London and the suburbs thereof, then I will my body to be buried in such place of the chancel of the parish church where I shall exchange my life at the appointment of my executor or executors hereafter to be named unless I do before my death, either by writing or by word before witness, dispose of my body to be buried in some other place by me to be named;

For the charge and place of a tomb to be made for me, if I be buried in the north aisle of the body of the Cathedral Church of St Paul, London, my desire is to have the like vault to be made in the wall upon the left hand going to the choir as is in the same wall made for Mr Linacre betwixt his tomb and the going to the choir stairs, with such proportion of my body as my executors shall best like to make for me, and some inscription easy to be read so high setting down my parentage, my degree of school, my place in that church, and the time which I spent both in the church and commonwealth since I served in them;

If it please God I be buried elsewhere, I leave it to the love, kindness and discretion of my executor or executors what moderate charge they will be at for my tomb in the parish church where they shall lay my body;

For all other solemnity of funerals to be made for me, I do most freely confess that all pomp therein used doth somewhat savour of over-great a self-love of those earthly carcasses whereby in the pride of our flesh we seek to build tabernacles for that lump of clay which in the looseness of our lives we most wickedly pampered to rebel against the spirit, yet not to condemn all honest and moderate charge in the fear of God used amongst Christians for heralds and blacks commonly used at funerals, I doubt not but my executor or executors will see the first performed as shall be fit for themselves and me, and for the latter, for my brothers and sister, their wives and husbands, I know my executors will respect them and their callings to give them blacks, which is my desire, as also such other of my kindred as shall accompany my corps to the ground;

For other my particular friends, if I depart this life in London, I desire that my good friends and fellows, Doctor Donne, Doctor Gibson and Doctor Ferrand, if they be in London or near it, or in their absence the four ancientest judges of my Lord's Grace of Canterbury's courts, if they be then in London, may be required to accompany my corps to the church, each of them to have given them a mourning gown and one man apiece a mourning cloak;

I further will that such good and godly preacher as shall be most conversant with me at or towards my end (which benefit I especially beg of God that I may not be destitute of godly instruction when the enemy will be most busy to have his conquest of me), he, the said preacher, may accompany my friends to the funerals;

If none such be with me, which God forbid, then some other virtuous and discreet preacher to be by my executors required to instruct those who shall be assembled at my

funerals, wherein I pray him that he will rather seek to edify the congregation then assembled, according as God's spirit shall direct him, than bend himself to use the overcommon adulation of this age, as if sermons used at funerals were devised to lay cushions of flattery under the dead corps how far soever in this life he have rebelled against God, unto which preacher I do give one mourning gown and hood according to his degree, leaving the farther recompensing of his travail and pains taken with me in my sickness to the discretion of my executor or executors;

I do further give to my Lord's Grace of Canterbury his principal Register, and the Lord Bishop of London (if I serve in those places where I do) his principal Register, each of them one mourning gown;

To Mr James Wilford of Lincoln's Inn one mourning gown;

Item, I give to Mr George Paule one mourning gown;

Item, I give to the steward and cook of the Doctors' Commons and to the porter of the same society, each of them one mourning cloak;

Item, I give to forty poor men, whereof eight to be inhabitants in the parish where I shall die, the other to be at the appointment of my executor or executors, each of them one mourning gown;

If I have forgotten any of my friends or good familiars whom my executor or executors shall think fit to have any mourning cloth given them, I leave it to his or their discretion to supply that want of kind remembrance for me;

Item, I give to Henry Wright, dwelling at Egmonton in the county of Nottingham, my true and old servant, one mourning cloak, and to every man-servant ordinarily attending on me who hath my livery at my death, to each of them one mourning cloak;

Item, I do give, not in respect of any merit either in my life or after my death thereby to be discerned which is injurious to my Redeemer Christ, but to the relief of the poor, being fellow members with us, twenty pounds of money, not to be distributed at the day of my funerals upon idle and vagrant persons, but to be delivered by my executors within one week of the day of my funeral unto the minister and churchwardens of the parish where I shall depart this life, some discreet man being joined by my executors to go with the said minister and churchwardens to such poor householders as are not able to get their own living, and to deliver to eight score such householders, either of the parish where I shall depart his life or, if there be not so many such householders, then to the next parish or parishes adjoining to it, to each householder wanting as before, two shillings six pence;

Item, I do give forty pounds in money to be delivered by my executor or executors to the Master, or in his absence, to the senior Bursar of Trinity College in Cambridge whereof I was a member, in manner and form following: ten pounds to be paid within one month after my decease, and so yearly, within one week of the same time, ten pounds, until the

whole sum of forty pounds abovesaid shall be paid, which said sums of ten pounds being thus paid unto the said Master or senior Bursar, they shall, upon the first quarter day either of Saint Michael, the Nativity of Our Saviour Christ, th' Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, or the Feast of Saint John Baptist which shall happen, deliver unto twenty poor subsizars who have their names in the buttery-book and do go to public lectures in the hall, two shillings six pence to every one, and so quarterly to twenty subsizars qualified as above during the rest of the receipt of the whole forty pounds, two shillings six pence apiece every quarter day until the whole forty pounds be so distributed;

Item, I do give eight score pounds to the four prisons of Ludgate, Newgate, the Counter in Wood Street and the Counter in the Poultry, to each prison forty pounds, to be paid by my executor or executors and distributed to those prisons in manner following: forty pounds in money to be delivered by my executors to the Chamberlain of London and the Chancellor of the Diocese of London for the time being within one month before the Nativity of Our Saviour Christ next ensuing after my death, and so yearly, until the sum of eight score pounds be paid, at the same time of the year, forty pounds, of which yearly forty pounds paid by my executors to the Chamberlain of London and the Chancellor of the Diocese of London in manner as above, my will is that the junior Alderman for that time being of the City of London and the Chamberlain of London and the Chancellor of the Diocese for the time being shall, before the New Year's Day commonly called the Circumcision of Our Saviour Christ next ensuing after the receipt of the foresaid forty pounds so to the Chamberlain delivered yearly during the space of four years as aforesaid, cause four score shirts or smocks, four score pair of cloth netherstocks and four score pair of shoes yearly for the four years to be bought, such as is fit for poor prisoners to wear, which the said puisne Alderman and the Chamberlain of London shall present unto the Lord Bishop of London if he be in the City of London, or in his absence unto his Chancellor, upon the twenty-ninth day of December, or in his absence to the Dean of Paul's for the time being, and in his absence to the senior Residentiary of the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul, London, together with a true note under the said Alderman and Chamberlain's hand what all the said stuff cost, and if there be any money of the forty pounds aforesaid left over and above the price of the aforesaid stuff so yearly bought, they shall likewise bring the remainder of that money with them to the Bishop of London, the Dean of Paul's or the senior Residentiary of the said Church, who after they have together with the said Alderman and Chamberlain viewed over the said stuff, the Under-Chamberlain of London for the time being and the principal Register to the Bishop of London for the time, or if he be not in London, his deputy, shall upon the last day of the said month of December deliver twenty of those shirts or smocks, twenty of those pair of netherstocks and twenty of those pair of shoes to twenty several prisoners in Newgate, and other twenty of all the same things to twenty several prisoners in Ludgate, the third score of all the said things to twenty several prisoners in the Counter in Wood Street, and the last score of the four score of all the said things to twenty several prisoners in the Counter in the Poultry, and what money soever of the several sums of forty pounds for those four years shall appear to the Bishop of London or the Dean of Paul's or the senior Residentiary, to the Alderman aforesaid and the Chamberlain of London shall be found yearly to be left over and above the true price of the stuff so bought, the said Reverend Father or his substitutes above-named, the said Alderman and the said Chamberlain of

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London shall see delivered unto the aforesaid Register and Under-Chamberlain to be equally divided to the foresaid four prisons and employed in victual or other necessaries for the good of other prisoners in the said prisons at the appointment and discretion of the aforesaid Bishop of London or his substitutes as above, the Alderman and the Chamberlain of London;

Item, I give to the township of the town commonly called Kingston upon Hull in Yorkshire, being the town wherein I was born, the sum of two hundred pounds current money, to be paid unto them within one year after my death by my executor or executors, which two hundred pounds I will shall be employed upon a stock to set the poor on work, with the benefit of the said work to be to the relief of the poor born and dwelling in the said town, the first direction for employment thereof to be at the direction of my executors together with the direction and appointment of the Chancellor to the Lord Archbishop of York and the two next Justices unto the aforesaid town of Hull, the foresaid Chancellor and two Justices of Peace successively for the time being to have authority together with my executors to reform any abuse which shall be committed in the employment yearly of the said stock as often as any of the poor people of the said town who should be relieved with the profit arising of the work of the said stock shall make any complaint thereof unto them;

Item, I give to the town of Terrington in the county of Norfolk whereof I have the parsonage forty pounds of current money, to be paid by my executor or executors within one year after my death to the hands of the Bishop of Norwich for that time being and the two next Justices of his Majesty's Peace to the use and benefit of a stock for relief of the poor of the said town of Terrington, which forty pounds so to them paid by acquittance under their hands I will shall presently by them be employed to some use for to set the poor of the said town on work to be relieved by gain of the stuff so by the poor wrought, the stock reserved whole to the said township, and I will that the Chancellor to the Bishop of Norwich for the time being and the two Justices of Peace next adjoining to the said town shall have authority from time to time as well to see the employment of the profit thereof to the use of the poor of the said town as to reform and redress any other complaint which shall be made about the same;

Item, I give to the town of Kentish Town in the county of Middlesex whereof I have the prebend twenty pounds of current money, to be paid within one year after my death by my executor or executors to the hands of the Bishop of London for the time being and the two Justices of Peace next inhabiting unto the said town of Kentish Town to the use and benefit of a stock for relief of the poor inhabitants of the manor of Cantlers alias Kentish Town, which said sums of twenty pounds so to them paid by acquittance under their hands I will shall presently by them be employed to some use to set the poor of the said lordship on work to be relieved by the gain of employment of the stuff so by the poor wrought, the stock being reserved whole to the said town, and I will that the Chancellor to the Bishop of London for the time being and the two Justices of Peace next adjoining to the said manor of Cantlers alias Kentish Town shall have authority from time to time as well to see to the employment of the said stock of twenty pounds, the maintenance and continuance thereof, the employment of the profit thereof to the use of the poor of the

said manor, as to reform and redress any other complaint which shall be made about the same;

These charges above set down of heralds of my tomb and for blacks which I have laid upon my executor or executors hereafter named, being a charge partly invented by vanity to set up banners of defiance against true mortification and in part upholden by paganism or a superstitious unwillingness to depart from our friends as if we hoped not in perfect joy to meet in the celestial tabernacle again, I could willingly have desired to have avoided might I have escaped the censure of stoical parsimony, but I leave it to the discretion and judgment of my executors, that if they find the mutability of my estate at my end to have foregone any great portion of that which God at the making hereof hath lent me, then I wholly leave it to his or their direction to dispose of all these three, and to alter them at their pleasure, for I am assured their love is such unto me as they will be more careful than myself in performing these offices of kindness as far as is fit for any to expect of one in my place, but for that small portion by me above set down in token of my duty to help the poor of those places where I received breath, education or maintenance, I confess I have been over-sparing in those necessary actions, and therefore without very great and manifest show of my decayed estate in worldly substance, I cannot but lay the burden upon their consciences whom I commit this trust unto that herein they with increase rather than by defalcation do perform the true part of kind and faithful disposers which I am assuredly satisfied in because I know their love;

For the distribution of all other my goods, lands or whatsoever else God hath left unto me to dispose of, I am desirous, so far as my present memory will serve, as thankfully before my end to continue the kindness of my friends by some small tokens which I desire to leave them in remembrance of my acceptance of their many favours as I joyfully embraced their loves in the time which I spent with them, which I hope they will accept with the same loving mind which I give them;

First, for that I was from my infancy brought up in that worthy College of the Blessed and Undivided Trinity in Cambridge of the foundation of King Henry the Eight, and there lived of the College' charge many years as scholar and fellow there, and therefore next unto God and my good parents whom he hath long since taken to his mercy I do confess to have received of that good College the foundation of all which I have since been enabled unto, I give unto the College of the Blessed and Undivided Trinity in Cambridge the full sum of seven hundred pounds of current English money, to be paid to the said College by my executor or executors hereafter to be named upon the like acquittance as before I have appointed for the former payment under the College seal in such manner and sort to such use and upon such conditions as hereafter do ensue:

That is, if the library in the said College be new-erected and finished before my death and that there shall not be before my death a sufficient stipend allotted for a library keeper and his poor scholar in the said College by any other benefactor, then my will is that my executor or executors shall pay the foresaid sum of seven hundred pounds to the use of the said College within one year after my death, and from the time of my death until that time twelve month at which day they are to pay the said sum, he or they shall pay unto



the Master for the use of the said College the sum of thirty pounds, to be paid quarterly by even portions seven pounds ten shillings, and at the year's end after my death he or they shall pay the whole seven hundred pounds;

But if the library be not finished at my death, then my will is that at th' end of six months next after notice given under the said College seal to the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, or that See being void, to the Lord Bishop of London, and after such notice by either of them given under their episcopal seal to my executor or executors that the said library is finished, and that such books as the College then hath or the most of them be ready to be placed in desks in the said library, my said executor or executors shall pay unto the said College in sort as above the aforesaid sum of seven hundred pounds, which said sum of seven hundred pounds, if it be not within two years after the College shall have received it employed to the purchasing of at the least two and thirty pounds by year lands, being neither parsonage appropriate nor tenements in any town which we commonly call candle-rents, to the only use and property of the College of the Blessed and Undivided Trinity in Cambridge of King Henry the Eight his foundation, and at the two years' end shall not under the College seal be certified unto the Archbishop of Canterbury his Court of Prerogative, that public notice of the truth thereof may be taken of the purchasing thereof, unless there be some apparent let or hindrance made by my executor or executors whereby the said College shall be hindered from purchasing of that land within the time above limited, then my will [+is?] that the foresaid sum of seven hundred pounds shall again be repaid to my said executor or executors to their own proper use, whereof before my executor or executors do pay any part the College shall be tied in manner as hereafter is set down by indenture for the true performance of this covenant as of the others which I have above set down;

This land of two and thirty pounds by year at the least, and so much more as that seven hundred pounds will purchase, my will is shall be by the said College yearly bestowed upon the maintenance and finding of a library keeper and of his man or poor scholar in the said College forever, the library keeper to be chosen by the Master and Seniors of Trinity College in Cambridge as all other elections in that College be made within one fortnight of the receipt of the foresaid seven hundred pounds or within one fortnight after my funerals if the library be finished before my death, and that my executor be tied to the payment of the first year's annuity of thirty pounds;

He shall always be chosen, if there be any qualified as hereafter is set down that will accept of it, *De gremio Collegij*, one that is or hath been scholar of the College, a single and unmarried man, no dispensation either before or after his acceptance of that place to be allowed him, a Bachelor of Arts at the least, not detected of any public offence or crime, but *integre famae*, not having when he is chosen nor accepting so long as he shall continue in that place any fellowship in that or any other College, office, lecture, preferment or preachship, nor serving any cure, no practitioner either in law or physic, but upon the very first acceptance of any of these functions shall presently disable him from continuing the place of library keeper;

He shall not accept any ecclesiastical living whatsoever or of what value soever, either in title by commendation or by sequestration, but shall thereupon ipso facto lose this place;

He shall not be absent from the College at any time so long as he holdeth this place upon any licence whatsoever above forty days in the year in all, and that by leave of the Master or Vice-masters and the more part of the eight Seniors unless very great extremity of dangerous sickness upon oath testified do compel him, leaving for his substitute to be allowed by the Master, or in his absence by the Vice-master, of the College one of the same College *de gremio Collegij* and of the same degree in school which he is of at the time of his liberty to go abroad, in presence of which said Master or Vice-master he shall deliver unto his substitute the keys of the library, and shall write in the College book for those who have leave to go forth of the town the day of his departure and the day of his return, and his substitute shall in the same book write the day of his receiving of the library keys and the day of his delivery of them back;

The library keeper shall be a Bachelor of Arts at the least, and never above the degree of a Master of Arts;

His diet, wages and livery shall wholly be borne by the College and his chamber allowed unto him and his poor scholar or under keeper in manner following;

He shall take his degree of Master of Arts so soon as his time of three years Bachelor is expired;

So long as he is Bachelor of Arts the College shall bear the whole charge of his commons and decrements in the Bachelors' Commons;

When he proceedeth Master of Arts the College shall bear the whole charge of his commons and decrements in the Fellows' Commons, which he shall enter into at the same time when those who be chosen *maiores Socij* do enter into the Fellows' Commons;

The College shall at their charge pay him yearly for his wages six pounds by the year, to be paid quarterly as the Fellow are, allowing him for the first quarter after the rate of the time of his admission if he be chosen within eight weeks of the end of the quarter, but if he be chosen eight weeks before the end of the quarter, then shall the College allow him thirty shillings for his first whole quarter's wages;

The College at their charge shall further pay him yearly for his livery forty shillings by year, to be paid him in money at such time yearly as the College payeth all the Fellows of the house their livery;

He being once chosen may continue his place so long as he attendeth his charge diligently and liveth honestly after he hath been seven years Master of Arts without being minister, neither shall he at any time serve any cure or accept any preacher's place either in the town or elsewhere so long as he continueth library keeper;

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To the end that he may be more diligent in his place and the more circumspect in his life and conversation he shall at his admission by the Master and Seniors subject himself by oath to these ordinances and to the statutes of the College, and shall receive *Trinam Admonitionem* and expulsion from his place for such offences as the Fellows of the College are subject unto;

His charge shall be to keep the keys of the library, to see the books and maps in the library and other ornaments of the library cleanly kept by his poor scholar or under keeper, to attend any of the Fellows of the College when they do either go into the library to study or bring in any stranger with them, and to continue in the library so long as any doth stay in it;

He shall not suffer any book, map or other ornament belonging to the library to be carried forth of the library after it is once placed or entered into the same unless he have the handwriting of the Master of the College, or in his absence of the Vice-master of the College, for his warrant for delivery of such particular book, map or other ornament by name, and that not to be forth of the said library above fourteen days at the most but he shall call to the Master or Vice-master for it again;

His charge shall further be, after the first ledger-book made and written at the charge of the College of all the particular names of every book, map or other ornament given to the College together with his name who gave it, to continue the writing in fair Roman or secretary hand, at his own charge if he write not fair himself, of all such books, maps or ornaments as shall come into or be in the library after his taking of the charge of the Library keeping upon him, and by whom they shall so be given, and for writing of all other things for the good preservation of all the books, maps and ornaments of the said library;

He shall, after he is admitted to be library keeper, be subject to all such decrees for the good of the College as the Master and Seniors shall from time to time at their meetings appoint unto him;

For tying of him to keep such exercises both in the College and public schools as others who be either *minores* or *Maiiores Socij* are tied unto, I leave it to the Master and Seniors of the College to appoint him according as they shall see his continual attendance on his charge shall give him respect of study, which I desire he may so apply as that when he shall leave that service he may prove a fit member for the commonwealth in some profession of learning;

His chamber for himself and his man shall by the said College be assigned him near to the library where he may be ready for all attendance;

Whensoever the said library keeper shall lose his place for any of the causes above set down, or shall be expelled the College for any public offence or cause which by the statutes of the College any *Maior Socius* is to be expelled for, if the said Master and eight Seniors of the College do not within fourteen days after knowledge of his loss of his place

make choice of another in all sorts qualified as above, and admit him within seven days after such election made, then shall it be lawful for the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, or that See being void, for the Lord Bishop of London for the time being, to nominate a library keeper of his own election *De gremio Collegij* who hath been scholar of the College, qualified both for degree and otherwise as is above set down, who upon certificate of such nomination under his archiepiscopal or episcopal seal made to the College shall stand for chosen, and shall be without other election admitted and sworn by the Master and Seniors within three days of his exhibiting of the said nomination as aforesaid;

At every change of the library keeper the officers of the said College hereafter named shall see him who is chosen to receive all his charge in the said library, comparing the books and other ornaments with their ledger-book which they are written into;

For the library keeper his poor scholar or under library keeper, he shall be chosen and appointed by the Master of the College alone under his own handwriting;

He shall be such a one as hath been admitted pensioner, sizar or subsizar in the College six months at the least before his election to that place, and after his acceptance of that place he shall not any more be pensioner or sizar in the College so long as he holdeth that place;

He shall lodge in the library keeper's chamber;

He shall twice in the week at the least sweep and make clean the library and the common stairs to it, keep off the dust from the books, the seats and desks, the maps, glazed windows and other ornaments of the library;

Whensoever he taketh degree of Bachelor of Arts he shall lose his place upon the latter act-day following, and the Master of the College shall under his hand place one other in his place within six days following;

He shall never be chosen under fifteen years of age, nor continue in the place after he is twenty-five years of age;

The College shall pay unto him at their own charge four pounds by the year for his wages, to be paid quarterly as is appointed for his master, the library keeper;

And further it shall be at the election of the Master and Seniors of the College whether they will allow him his diet amongst the sizars and at their board, or the College to pay him ten shillings every quarter of the year for his commons and diet over and above his wages of four pounds;

He shall be at the command and government of the library keeper and lodge always in his chamber, who if he find him stubborn, disobedient or negligent of his duty, he shall be complained of unto the Senior Dean of the College, who upon his just desert shall give him open correction;

If he amend not, he shall, upon the second complaint made by his master the library keeper, receive correction public in the hall in dinner-time;

If he be not *Adultus* by the rod, if he be [+not?] *Adultus* by other public open shame, [+he shall?] upon the third complaint be called up to the table and admonished by the Master, Vice-master and the Senior Dean to amend upon pain of loss of his place;

And upon the fourth and last complaint he shall by the Master and Seniors be removed from his place forever, and another chosen in manner as above;

And for the good and safe preserving of all the books and other ornaments of the said library, my request unto the Master and Seniors of the said College is that the Master of the said College of the Blessed and Undivided Trinity in Cambridge, or in his absence the Vice-master there, together with the two Deans, the Head Lecturer and the two Bursars of the same, or if any of them be forth of the town his or their substitute, do once every year betwixt the end of their audit and Saint Thomas Day thence next following spend one whole day in the library, or at the least two hours of it in the forenoon and three hours of it in the afternoon, in which time they shall peruse over the catalogue of all their books, maps and other ornaments of the said library and carefully see that all books or other ornaments whatsoever brought into the library or given to the said College the year before be entered and fair written by the library keeper appointed as above, or at his charge, into a ledger parchment book for that purpose appointed, and that all the books, maps, globes and the other ornaments laid in their library and committed to the aforesaid keeper's charge be fast and well kept without tearing out of any leaves, blotting or noting any of them after they shall be laid up in the library, wherein if they shall find the library keeper faulty that any of these things committed to his charge shall by his offence or negligence have been marred or defaced, and that he did not presently upon such hurt done complain unto the Master or Vice-master of it, whereby the offence might have been reformed and the offender receive punishment, then it shall be lawful for the Master or Vice-master and the two Deans, the Head Lecturer and the two Bursars or the more part of them to punish the said fault in the library keeper by the purse at the discretion and according to the grievousness of the fault, so it exceed not above one quarter of a year's wages, unless by his over-great dissoluteness the College do in the things committed to his charge receive very great damage, in which case he is by the Master and Seniors to be removed, and proceeded against as any officer of the College ought to be who doth *Devastare bona Collegij*, and the foresaid mulct imposed as above upon the said library keeper shall be presently employed towards the repair of the book, map, globe or other ornament spoiled or wasted as above;

For the pains of the Master or Vice-master and the other officers above-named that day taken the College shall, out of the thirty pounds by year by me given as above, make allowance of ten shillings by year to be bestowed, the night on which the Master or Vice-master with the other officers shall meet on as above, upon a supper for them over and above their ordinary commons, to be made in the chamber of the Master or Vic-master or some one of the officers above-named;

To the end the College of the Blessed and Undivided Trinity in Cambridge of King Henry the Eighth's foundation may be perpetually tied to perform all the conditions above by me set down, and for that yearly revenue of thirty pounds by the year at the least which they are to purchase with the seven hundred pounds by me given unto them by this my will in sort as is above set down, they are to pay all those charges about the safe keeping of the library by me above set down;

My will further is that before they shall receive the foresaid seven hundred pounds there shall indentures be agreed upon betwixt my executor or executors on the one part and the foresaid College on the other part which shall indifferently be drawn by the counsel learned or each part, which if they cannot agree upon, then the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury for the time being, or if there be none, the Lord Bishop of London for the time, shall nominate and require some one of the Judges of the King's Bench or Common Pleas indifferently to determine those variances which on each side shall be stood upon, the matter shortly to be provided for to be that the College shall be bound within two years after receipt of the foresaid seven hundred pounds as above to purchase thirty pounds by year at the least and so much more, being neither candle-rent nor impropriation, as for seven hundred pounds may be purchased in fee simple, and that after receipt of the said money within the time above limited they shall at the charge and rate above set down maintain the library keeper and his boy or servant and continue the other charge afore set down, and if at any time after the placing of such library keeper or his servant within the time above appointed the College shall discontinue for one whole year together the having and maintaining both of the library keeper or his boy or either of them in sort above set down, the said College shall in default of the one or the other, that is either in not buying the lands or in not maintaining the said library keeper and his servant in sort as above, unless it befall that the one or the other cannot be performed by reason of some notorious public calamity (which God keep the state and that good College from), repay unto my said executor or executors, their executors or assigns, successively whensoever and whatsoever, the foresaid seven hundred pounds within six months after those two years expired wherein they have omitted either the purchase of the lands or the maintenance of the said library keeper and his boy or servant in sort as above, these indentures to be enrolled in Chancery after they are signed and sealed by the College at my charge;

I do besides give unto the said College of the Blessed and Undivided Trinity in Cambridge, to be kept in their public library to the use of the said College, to be affixed and chained in their new library if it be finished and desked within six months after the receipt of them, or else within six months after it is finished and desked fit to receive books, my great Hebrew Bible in a large folio bound up in pasteboard in seven volumes with my crest and ES on the outside of the covers commonly called *Biblia Sacra Hebraice Caldaice Grece et Latine*, otherwise called *King Philip's Bible*;

I do further give unto the said College all my books of divinity, civil or common laws, common or statute laws, history or other humanity books, either in Greek or Latin which I shall be possessed of or have at the time of my death and shall by my last will and

testament or other codicil under my hand and seal not have particularly and by name given away and which the College of the Blessed and Undivided Trinity abovesaid hath not already belonging to their public library of the College' own at the time of my death;

And to th' end indifferency may herein be used, and neither the College defrauded of any books which I desire they should have, nor the said College to have any of my books which already they have and so need them not, my will is that so soon after my death as my will shall be published the judge of the court wherein my will shall be proved shall presently give notice under his seal of office to the Master and Seniors of Trinity College in Cambridge above-named that within twenty-eight days after receipt of that letter they do send up under the College seal a particular inventory of all and every particular book which belongeth to the library of the said College by two of the Fellows of the College, being *maiores Socij* and Masters of Art or above, within which twenty-eight days the said judge of the court wherein this my will shall be proved shall require two of the Doctors of the Arches, if I die in London and have my books in London or near it, to assist my executor or executors hereafter to be named to make a perfect inventory of all my books whatsoever so as it may be delivered to the judge of the said court upon the oath of my executor or executors by the time that the two Fellows of the said College shall be come(?) up, and so my executor or executors hereafter to be named shall require the judge of the court abovesaid to appoint two indifferent men to join with the foresaid two Fellows of the College, who, perusing both the inventories, shall lay out to the use of the said College all such books of mine as above as be not in that inventory which the College sendeth up and those four shall think fit to be affixed in the library to the perpetual use of the said College, which books being by them four chosen out shall be triple inventoried in parchment, one part under the hand of my executor or executors and the hands of the judge of the court where this my will shall be proved and their four hands who do examine both the inventories shall be sent down to the College to remain with the College, one other part shall remain in the court where my will shall be proved, testified by all those hands above-named, and the third part shall be send down to the said College to have their public seal with an instrument testifying the receipt of all the books and discharging my executor or executors of them affixed unto it, which my executors shall receive when he or they shall deliver the said books to such as the College shall give authority unto for to receive them;

And if there be any of my books above set down which Trinity College in Cambridge already hath, if they desire to exchange any of their books with mine, as being of a later impression or more fitly bound for them, my will is that the said College may exchange all such books with any of mine which I shall die possessed of and shall not otherwise by my last will, by word of mouth before witnesses or codicil otherwise have given away particularly, the books so exchanged otherwise to be inventoried in manner as above to remain to such uses as I shall in my last will hereafter set down, or otherwise to be sold or disposed of as the rest of my goods unbequeathed shall be;

I do further give unto the said College of the Blessed and Undivided Trinity in Cambridge the sum of twenty pounds of current English money, to be paid unto them by my executor or executors within six months after my decease, wherewith my will is the

College shall provide one very great book of large vellum in several leaves whereof shall first be fair written and limned the names, titles, arms and dignities of all the founders of the said College set out in their proper colours; after them the arms of the College; after that the names of all the benefactors who have given any yearly perpetuity of maintenance to that College since the first creation thereof, together with the particular endowments which they have so yearly given to that College; after shall be written the name and estate of every benefactor who since the erection of that College [+hath given?] any remembrance of their love and kindness to the same, wherein shall be expressed the particular gift so by any of them given, be it more or less; after that shall be the names of all the Masters who have governed that College since the first erection thereof, together with a particular of those places whereto any of them have been called in the government of the church or commonwealth before their death. This book must further be kept for the public register book of all the particular books, maps, globes or other ornaments whatsoever belonging or hereafter to belong to the said College library. The love which I am assured the Master and Seniors of that College doth bear to the kind remembrance of all the good benefactors to that blessed society I know to be such as I am assured they will see this small portion of twenty pounds to be employed to the full for keeping of a perpetual register and memorial garnished in that book to the best and kindest encouragement of all future friends who shall hereafter be encouraged to do good to that College. This book thus written, garnished and finished, with leaves sufficient to add what shall hereafter by good men be supplied, I desire may with such good speed be prepared as that it may be one of the first books which should be perfected, bound up, chained and affixed to their library;

So do I recommend the prosperous future state(?) of this famous College of the Blessed and Undivided Trinity in Cambridge of King Henry the Eight his foundation to the guide and government of the most holy and blessed Trinity;

I being by duty of nature bound not to forget the house and family which I descend of, their estate being such as (God be blessed) it is, my desire is they will be contented with these small remembrances of their loving kinsman:

I do give to my nephew, John Stanhope, son and heir to my late loving brother, Sir Thomas Stanhope, deceased, to remain to the heirs of his house after his decease, and so from heir to heir of that house, one basin and ewer of silver and gilt of the weight of six score ounces with the Stanhope arms in the bottom of the basin and the Stanhope crest upon some part of the ewer with the difference of the fourth brother, with this inscription about the arms: *Memoria Edwardi Stanhope Legum Doctoris*;

Item, I do give to my nephew, Edward Stanhope, the Lady Anne Holles, and my nephew, Thomas Stanhope, being the sons and daughter of Sir Thomas Stanhope, knight, deceased, to each of them one signet ring of gold of the weight of three angels apiece, the crest belonging to our own arms being engraven on them, and on the inside of each of them to be engraven these words: *Edwardus Stanhope Legum Doctor*;



Item, I do give to my nephew, William Cooper, the heir of my late sister, Eleanor Cooper of Thurgarton in the county of Nottingham, deceased, to remain to himself during his life and to the heirs of his house after his decease, and so from heir to heir of that house, one basin and ewer of silver and gilt of the same weight, fashion, engraved arms and crest, with words as is set down to my nephew, John Stanhope, for his basin and ewer before;

Item, I do give to my nephew, Thomas Coote, son to my niece Anne Coote, who I desire should be continued in his learning as I have hitherto brought him up in Westminster, so long as he shall continue a scholar there or a student in either of the universities of Cambridge or Oxford, towards his relief and bringing up in learning, eight pounds yearly to be paid to him or to his tutor, so long as he shall continue under the government of any, by my executor or executors quarterly by even portions, but if he shall depart from his study in any of those places and not continue his study in the one of those universities until he shall have taken the degree of Master of Arts, then upon his such departure, that payment of eight pounds by year to cease and be determined, and if the said Thomas Coote shall continue scholar, fellow or a continual student in any college within either of the foresaid universities, then shall my executor or executors pay unto him in manner aforesaid the said yearly payment of eight pounds until he shall have been full seven years Master of Arts, at the end of which seven, after his ordinary degree of Master of Arts by him taken, my executor or executors shall pay unto him the full sum of one hundred pounds of current English money;

Item, I give unto my loving brother, Sir Edward Stanhope, knight, one of her Majesty's Council at York, to remain to him during his life and to the heirs of his house after his decease, and so from heir to heir of that house, one basin and ewer of silver and gilt of the same weight, fashion, engraved arms and crest with the words as it is set down to my nephew, John Stanhope, before for his basin and ewer;

Item, I do give to my loving sister, Susan Stanhope, wife to my said brother, Edward Stanhope, one piece of plate of silver and gilt of thirty ounces' weight, to remain after her decease to her youngest daughter which shall be living at the time of her death;

Item, I do give to every one of the sons and daughters of my brother, Edward Stanhope, and my sister, Susan, his wife, which shall be living at the time of my death one gold signet ring of three angels' weight apiece with the same crest and inscription as is set down for the sons and daughter of my brother, Sir Thomas Stanhope, knight, deceased;

Item, I do give to my nephew, Michael Stanhope, son to my brother, Edward Stanhope, to be paid unto him within one year after he shall be called to the bar at Gray's Inn, being as we commonly term it a barrister there, having continued his full study without any whole year's discontinuance before that in the laws of the realm, unless it be by extremity of his sickness, and he having performed in his own person all moots and other exercises of learning by the orders of Gray's Inn to be performed before he be called to the bar, the sum of one hundred pounds of lawful English money, to be paid unto him by my executor or executors at the time above set down, which if he do not attain unto, then the legacy to determine;

Item, I do give unto my nephew, George Stanhope, son to my said brother, Edward Stanhope, to be paid unto him after he shall have continued a student in either of the universities of Cambridge or Oxford, and shall have performed all his exercises by the statutes of the university required for Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts, the sum of one hundred pounds of lawful English money to be paid unto him within one year after he shall so have commenced Master of Arts by my executor or executors, which if he shall not attain unto, then that legacy to determine;

Item, I do give unto my nephew, John Stanhope, my godson, the third son of my brother, Edward Stanhope, all those my lands commonly known by the name of Mellwood Park, lying in the Isle of Axholme, with all the lands thereunto belonging lying within the said Isle or elsewhere within the county of Lincoln which I lately bought of the right honourable the Lord Edmond Sheffield of the most noble Order of the Garter, knight, and since repurchased of the Queen's Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, by what name or names soever they be called, as if particular mention had been made of the particular parishes wherein the said lands do lie, together with all deeds, writings, escripts, fines, leases, indentures, statutes or whatsoever to the said lands belonging, to have and to hold the said lands called by the name of Mellwood Park and other the premises unto my foresaid nephew and godson, John Stanhope, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten forever, and for default of heirs males of his body lawfully to be begotten, then to the heirs males of the body of my nephew, Edward Stanhope, the eldest son of my brother, Edward Stanhope, lawfully to be begotten, and for default of such heirs male of his body, then to descend to my nephew, Michael Stanhope, the next son of my brother, Edward Stanhope, of his body lawfully to be begotten, and for default of heirs male of his body lawfully to be begotten, then to the heirs male lawfully to be begotten of the body of my nephew, George Stanhope, one other of the sons of my brother, Edward Stanhope, and for default of such heirs male, then to descend to the heirs male lawfully to be begotten of the body of my nephew, Thomas Stanhope, one other of the sons of my brother, Edward Stanhope, and for default of such heirs male, then to descend to the daughter or daughters of my nephew and godson, John Stanhope, aforesaid lawfully to be begotten, and for default of such issue, then to descend to the heirs of my brother, Edward Stanhope, forever;

Item, I do give unto my godson, Percival Harte, the son of my nephew, Percival Harte, and of my niece, Jane Stanhope, his wife, if he be living at the time of my death, one piece of plate of silver and gilt of the weight of one hundred ounces, praying Almighty God to increase his blessings upon him;

Item, I do give to my very loving brother, Sir John Stanhope, knight, Treasurer of her Majesty's Chamber, one basin and ewer of silver and gilt of the same fashion, weight, graving of arms and inscription as is above set down for my nephew, John Stanhope, son and heir to Sir Thomas Stanhope, knight, deceased, to be and remain to my said loving brother during his life, and after his decease to be and remain to the heir of his house, and so to be and continue from heir to heir of that house;

Item, I give to my nephew, Charles Stanhope, son to my loving brother, Sir John Stanhope, knight, all those my lands commonly called or known by the name of the manor and farm of Calcott alias Caldecott with th' appurtenances in the county of Warwick, together with all the lands to the same belonging, set, lying and being within the lordships, parishes, towns, hamlets, villages and fields of Calcott alias Caldecott, Granborough alias Grenborowe and Napton in the said county of Warwick or any of them which I lately purchased and bought of Thomas Stapleton the eldest of Upton in the county of Chester, gentleman, or by what other name soever they be called as if true mention had here been made of them, to have and to hold all the said lands with th' appurtenances in Caldecott alias Calcott aforesaid to my said nephew, Charles Stanhope, and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten forever, and for default of such issue, to be and remain to any the son or sons hereafter lawfully to be begotten of the body of my said brother, Sir John Stanhope, knight, successively, and to any the heirs male of his body lawfully to be begotten, and for default of such issue male, then to the heirs male of the body of my brother, Michael Stanhope, lawfully to be begotten, and for default of such issue male, then to the heirs male of the body of my nephew and godson, John Stanhope, third son of my brother, Sir Edward Stanhope, knight, begotten or to be begotten, and for default of such issue male, then to the heirs male of my nephew, John Stanhope, son and heir to my dear eldest brother, Sir Thomas Stanhope, knight, deceased, provided always that if the said lands in Caldecott by me bequeathed as above to Charles Stanhope, son and heir to my honourable brother, Sir John Stanhope, knight, Vice-chamberlain to her Majesty, or after Charles Stanhope's death without issue male of his body, then to any other the sons of the said Sir John Stanhope, knight, so as it doth go from the said Sir John Stanhope's sons to any other of the substitutes above set down, then my will is that before he to whom my said lands in Caldecott shall so come shall first enter into one statute of two thousand pounds to my executor or executors to pay to my loving nieces, Elizabeth Stanhope and Katherine Stanhope, daughters to my said honourable brother, Sir John Stanhope, five hundred pounds of lawful English money to each of them within one year after he or they shall have entered upon the said lands, and if either of the two sisters, Elizabeth or Katherine, be dead before that day, not having any child lawfully begotten of her body, then the surviving sister to have the whole of one thousand pounds so given betwixt them, but if either of them shall have any child or children living at that time, then that part of five hundred pounds to be divided amongst the said child or children;

Item, I do give unto my said niece, Elizabeth Stanhope, daughter unto my honourable brother, Sir John Stanhope, forty pounds to be bestowed by my executor or executors at the day of her marriage upon some good jewel of that value or else forty pounds in money at my executors' choice;

Item, I do give unto my niece, Katherine Stanhope, daughter to my honourable brother, Sir John Stanhope, knight, £40 to be bestowed by my executor or executors at the day of her marriage upon some good jewel of that value or else £40 in money at my executors' choice.

Item, I give unto my honourable sister, the Lady Margaret Stanhope, wife to Sir John Stanhope, knight, one piece of plate silver and gilt of thirty ounces. to remain after her death to her youngest daughter;

Item, I do give to every of the sons and daughters of my honourable brother, Sir John Stanhope, knight, to each of them one gold ring of three angels with such crest and inscription as is set down for the sons and daughters of my eldest brother, Sir Thomas Stanhope, knight, deceased;

Item, I give to the wife of my nephew, John Stanhope, son to Sir Edward Stanhope, and my godson, one piece of plate silver and gilt of twenty ounces;

Item, I give unto my niece, Eleanor Coote, daughter unto my niece, Anne Coote, if she be unmarried at the time of my death or if it shall not appear that at her marriage or otherwise before my death I shall have bestowed so much upon her, the sum of one hundred pounds of lawful English money;

Item, I do give to my niece, Mary Stanhope, daughter to my brother, Sir Edward Stanhope, knight, forty pounds to be given and paid her by my executor or executors at the day of her marriage;

Item, I do give to my niece, Frances Stanhope, daughter to my brother, Sir Edward Stanhope, knight, forty pounds to be paid her by my executor or executors at the day of her marriage;

Item, I do give unto my nephew, Thomas Stanhope, son to my brother, Sir Edward Stanhope, knight, to be paid by mine executor or executors after he shall have accomplished the age of ten years, yearly to be paid unto him for and towards his education, eight pounds by the year until he shall accomplish the age of twenty-two years, and at his full age of twenty-two years, if he shall [+so] long live, then my executor or executors to pay unto him the full sum of one hundred pounds of lawful English money;

Item, I give unto my nephew, John Stanhope, son and heir to my late loving brother, Sir Thomas Stanhope, knight, deceased, my lease of Weston and Aston in the county of Derby which I bought of my said brother, Sir Thomas Stanhope, for six hundred pounds unto him paid, and which I afterward took from the Queen's Majesty for three lives, namely my own life, Thomas Wright's life, and William Mansfield's life, their two estates being by them passed and assigned over unto me together with all the profits and commodities to the said lands in Weston and Aston aforesaid by what name soever they be called belonging or in any sort appertaining, with condition that at his entering upon it and before the lease be delivered him, he shall enter into a statute to my executors in the sum of eight hundred pounds to pay unto his two youngest daughters of his body lawfully begotten which shall be living at the time of my death one hundred pounds apiece at the day of their several marriages or at the age of nineteen years, and to allow each of them from the time of my death until the said age of nineteen years or day of

marriage, wheresoever they shall live forth of his house in service or otherwise by his good liking from him, six pounds by the year to either of them for their maintenance, one other covenant upon the defeasance of the said statute to be that he shall pay unto his two youngest sons of his body lawfully begotten which shall be living at the time of my death from their several age of ten years, so long as they shall continue forth of his house at school at one of the universities of Cambridge or Oxford as students there, at the Inns of Court, or in travel beyond the seas for increase of learning, to each of them eight pounds by the year so long as they or either of them shall continue their studies in sort as above, and after they or either of them shall accomplish their full age of twenty-two years, then to pay unto each of them as they shall come to that age of twenty-two years the sum of one hundred pounds, and if shall happen my said nephew, John Stanhope, to be dead before me, then I do give by these presents my foresaid lease of Weston and Aston with all the profits thereof unto his son and heir, Philip Stanhope, or unto his heir male who shall happen to be at my death, with all the said limitations of entering into statute by himself, or by sufficient sureties if he be under-age, for performance unto the two youngest sons and the two youngest daughters of my said nephew, John Stanhope, the particular legacies as they are above set down to be paid them by my said nephew, their father;

Item, I do give to my very honourable lady and sister, the Lady Jane Berkeley, late wife to Sir Roger Townshend, knight, deceased, one basin and ewer of silver and gilt of the weight of six score ounces, to be marked with the arms, crests and inscription as those above set down to my other brothers, she to have the use of it during her life, and after her decease the same to remain to my good nephew, Sir John Townshend, knight, her son and heir, and to the heirs of that house as a memorial of my love to them;

Item, I give to my nephew, Sir John Townshend, knight, and to my nephew, Robert Townshend, his brother, each of them one gold ring of three angels apiece, with their crest engraven on it and inscription as to my other brothers' children;

If my sister Berkeley do die before me, then my will is that my nephew, Sir John Townshend, shall have a basin and ewer of silver and gilt of the same weight and fashion which my Lady Berkeley's should have been;

Item, I give to my kind and loving nephew, Sir John Holles, one piece of plate of silver and gilt of thirty ounces;

Item, I give to my good nephew, Sir Percival Harte, one piece of plate of silver and gilt of thirty ounces;

Item, I give to my very loving brother, Michael Stanhope, esquire, one basin and ewer of silver and gilt of the weight of six score ounces, to be marked with the arms, crest and inscription as those above set down to my other brothers and sisters are, he to have the use of it during his life, and after his decease to remain to the heir of his house as a memorial of my love to them;

Item, I give unto my loving sister, Mrs Anne Stanhope, his wife, one piece of plate of silver and gilt of thirty ounces;

Item, if my said brother, Michael Stanhope, shall hereafter have any son of his body lawfully begotten unto whom I shall not have given two hundred pounds' lands after my decease my will is that there shall be reserved unto my said brother Michael four thousand pounds out of my estate wherewith shall be purchased two hundred pounds by the year to be assured to the eldest son of my said brother and to his heirs males forever, and for default of such heirs male, then to go to the second son of my said brother and to his heirs males;

If my said brother Michael shall have any son of his body lawfully begotten who shall not have any heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, if the said two hundred pounds' lands by year shall have been purchased by my said brother Michael when he shall have a son born, then I will that, for default of the said land to descend on the heirs males of my said brother Michael's body, it shall descend unto my nephew, Michael Stanhope, second son to my brother, Sir Edward Stanhope, knight, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully to be begotten;

And for default of such issue male of the body of my said nephew, Michael Stanhope, to be begotten, then to remain to my nephew, Philip Stanhope, eldest son of my nephew, John Stanhope, son and heir to Sir Thomas Stanhope, knight, deceased, and to the heirs males of his body;

And for default of such issue male, then to the heirs male of any of the sons of my last-recited nephew, John Stanhope, provided always that if my brother, Michael Stanhope, have no son at all, or that after the land is bought and so may descend upon any of the sons of my brother, Sir Edward Stanhope, as above is named, or upon any the heirs males of my nephew, John Stanhope, son and heir to Sir Thomas Stanhope, knight, my eldest brother, in manner as above, than if my brother, Michael, have no son whereby any such land should be purchased, then I give to my niece, Jane Stanhope, daughter to my brother, Michael Stanhope, one thousand pounds to be paid her at the day of her marriage, or if after such land bought and that it happen to descend in manner as above upon any of my other brothers' children for want of issue male of my brother, Michael Stanhope, or any his sons, then I will that before they enter upon it they shall enter into a statute of two thousand pounds to my brother, Michael Stanhope, his executors or heirs, to pay unto my brother Michael's daughter, Jane, if she be then living, or to such her child or children of her body lawfully to be begotten as shall be then living, the sum of one thousand pounds equally to be divided amongst them;

Item, I do give to my niece, Jane Stanhope, daughter to my brother, Michael Stanhope, one jewel of forty pounds' price or forty pounds in money to give her at the day of her marriage;

Item, I give unto my cousin, Samuel Bevercotes, one piece of plate of silver and gilt of forty ounces;

Item, I give to the Company and Society of the Doctors' Commons of the Arches ten pounds of lawful money to be received by the Treasurer of the said Society within one year after my death of my executors, and thereof the said Treasurer to bestow within six weeks after his receipt of it five pounds for napery to be bought for the use of the tables for the other [sic?] Society, and the other five pounds to be delivered over by the Treasurer of the Commons to the succeeding Treasurer or Treasurers to the use and benefit of the said Society, to be employed in napery within two years after the first five pounds is bestowed for the said Society and Company of the Doctors' Commons;

Item, I give unto Mr James Wilford of Lincoln's Inn, gentleman, steward of my court to my prebend and manor of Cantlers alias Kentish Town in Middlesex, twenty pounds of current English money and one gold ring of three angels with his arms and inscription as to my other friends is above set down;

Item, I do give unto Mr William Blackwell, now principal Register to my Lord Bishop of London, besides a mourning gown to him by me before bequeathed, one gold ring of the weight of four angels to be made in a seal with his notary's knot graven in it, and in the inside of it graven these words: *Edwardus Stanhope Legum doctor*;

Item, unto his virtuous and good wife, Mrs Elizabeth Blackwell, daughter to Mr Thomas Wilford, Chamberlain of London, not in regard of any dissolute life which at any time hath been betwixt us, wherein whatsoever my sins and offences have been otherwise, yet for the clearing of her from those imputations which by my familiarity with her hath been undeservedly brought upon her, I do in discharge of my own conscience, who now prepare myself to stand at the chief seat of justice where all flesh is to give account, protest and profess before him who knoweth all secrets, how sinful or offensive soever myself have been in seeking over-much familiarity with her, which God for his mercy's sake forgive me, yet is not she, neither of God nor in the true censure of man, to be condemned at any time to have yielded her body to filthy whoredom with me, but in the deepest familiarity that ever was betwixt us she hath been so religiously careful of her duty towards God and of her own good name as that she hath preferred them many degrees before any consent of yielding to filthiness of life, and hath rather always desired to lose her life than to yield her body to any filthy fleshy lust, and this I protest before God, that knowing so much as I have long known and understood of the carriage of her life these many years, I should condemn myself for the filthiest wretch in the world if I should seek that filthiness at her hands which she hath ever since my first acquaintance with her so religiously, honestly and virtuously abhorred and detested;

I do give unto the said Mistress Elizabeth Blackwell my gold flagon-chain which I have used to wear, being of the weight of about thirty-seven ounces, all my plate, both silver or silver and gilt whatsoever which I shall be possessed of at my death, and all my rings and other jewels which I shall then likewise be possessed of, to her own proper use to dispose of during life to her benefit and use, and so much or so many of them as shall remain with her at the time of her death to be equally divided for the value & property of them to the three children of her sister, Mistress Anne Clerke, and of her late brother, Mr

Geoffrey Clerke, and to such other children as her sister, Mistress Anne Clerke, now widow, shall have of her body born at the time of [+the death of?] her sister Blackwell, and amongst such children as Mrs Blackwell's brethren, Mr James Wilford and Mr William Wilford, shall have of their bodies lawfully begotten by either of them at the time of Mrs Blackwell's death, but if the said Mrs Elizabeth Blackwell have any children of her own body born at the time of her death, then is she freely to dispose of the said chain, plate and jewels to her own child or children as she shall best like of;

Item, I do give to Mistress Anne Clerke, widow, sister to Mistress Elizabeth Blackwell, two several pieces of plate silver and gilt, each of the several weight of twenty ounces, to be by her kept to her own use during her life, and after her death to be left, the one to her daughter, Elizabeth Clerke, and the other to her daughter, Marie Clerke, and if either of her daughters do die before her mother, then that piece which should be left to her to remain to her son, Geoffrey Clerke, my godson;

If Mrs Anne Clerke do die before me, then do I give to each of her daughters, Elizabeth Clerke and Marie Clerke, one piece of plate of silver and gilt of twenty ounces each piece;

Item, I give to Geoffrey Clerke, my godson, son to Mrs Anne Clerke and Mr Geoffrey Clerke, her late husband, deceased, twenty pounds in money to be paid by my executors at his age of fifteen years, to be employed towards his education in learning;

Item, I do give to Mr Thomas Wilford, now Chamberlain of London, Mrs Elizabeth Wilford, his now wife, and Mr William Wilford, their son, each of them one gold ring of three angels with their arms or crest to be engraven on the outside, and on the inside of it the like words as is appointed to Mr William Blackwell;

Item, I give to Mr Lawrence Wright of Snelston in the county of Derby, gentleman, one gold ring of three angels, as to the others of my friends above set down;

Item, I give to the Most Reverend Father in God, John Whitgift, Archbishop of Canterbury, under whose government I lived almost for the space of thirty years before I served him as his Chancellor, and whom I always revered for his true piety and virtues, and since I served him have ever honoured for his fatherly and faithful love unto me, the sum of two hundred pounds of lawful English money, which I humbly desire he will bestow in purchase of so much land as that little sum will reach unto to the perpetual use and only propriety of his Hospital of the Blessed and Holy Trinity in Croydon, in which foundation he shall live to all ages and posterity as a most glorious member of God's church, and I do wholly leave it to his Grace's only best disposition what memorial he will make of me therein for that I cannot express the love which I assuredly persuade myself he beareth unto me;

Item I do give unto the Reverend Father in God, Richard Bancroft, now Lord Bishop of London, if I serve as Chancellor under him at my death, one basin and ewer of silver and gilt of five score ounces with my arms in the bottom of the basin in their proper colours, and my crest in his proper colours on the side of the ewer with this inscription: *Memoria*



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*Edwardi Stanhope Legum Doctoris*, desiring that he will esteem me as one who sought faithfully to discharge my duty towards him;

Item, I give to Henry Wright of Egmonton in the county of Nottingham, my old servant, ten pounds of lawful English money;

Item, I give to Edmund Littleworth, my now clerk, if he be with me at my death and serve me, twenty pounds of lawful English money;

Item, I give to Richard Higges, my now servant, if he do continue to serve me at my death, ten pounds of lawful English money;

Item, I do give to Paul Still, my horse-keeper, if he do serve me at my death, eight pounds of lawful English money;

Item, whereas Anthony, my old servant, left behind him at his death three children, I do give unto each of them which shall be living at my death forty shillings apiece;

Item, I give unto my barber who now retaineth to me a mourning cloak, livery and twenty shillings in money, if he serve me at my death;

Item, I give to my laundress who serveth me, if she continue laundress to me at my death, one mourning gown and twenty shillings in money, besides her wages then due unto her;

Item, to every of my other servants who shall serve me at my death for wages, I give one whole year's wages besides their quarter's wages due at my death;

Item, I do give all my books in Hebrew, Greek, French, Latin and Italian which be not by me already given to Trinity College library in Cambridge in manner as is above in this will set down to my two nephews, George Stanhope and Thomas Coote, now scholars of Trinity College in Cambridge, to be apportioned indifferently betwixt them, my nephew, George Stanhope, making the first choice of his book, and my nephew, Thomas Coote, making the second choice, and so each of them successively until they shall have divided all the said books betwixt them, and if either of them shall have forsaken or left the university before my death, then I will that whether of them shall [+have] any brother a continuer and student in either of the universities of Cambridge or Oxford, that brother so continuing as a student there shall have the books by me given to his brother departed from the said university in his foresaid brother's place;

Item, I do make executors to this my last will and testament my most dear and loving brothers, Sir Edward Stanhope, knight, one of her Majesty's Council established for the North, my honourable brother, Sir John Stanhope, knight, Vice-chamberlain to the Queen's most excellent Majesty, and my brother, Michael Stanhope, esquire, one of the Grooms of her Majesty's Privy Chamber, and so many of them as shall be living at my death, praying them that as our loves have never been severed whilst we lived, and as I cannot divide the same from them until our heavenly Father do change this our earthly

habitation, so they would be pleased after my departure to continue the band of brotherly love unto me in performing this my last will and testament according to my trust committed unto them so far as they shall find and in their consciences know that I do leave sufficient estate to perform it;

All the rest of my goods, lands copyhold or free, leases, chattels, household stuff, moneys or whatsoever not by this my last will and testament given, disposed and bequeathed, my debts being paid, which I hope will not be great for that I have always had care to avoid them, I do wholly give them equally to be divided amongst my said executors, amongst whom there be some of them who do owe me good sums of money for lands purchased in my name and their own, and some other lands mortgaged unto me alone for which I have scarce anything to show for that I only paid the moneys and they wholly dealt with buying, selling and disposing of those lands; other do owe me moneys upon specialties of statute which in this distempered age God knows into whose hands those specialties may come; I therefore desire them, as they will answer it unto God, that they will disclose one to another, as they are brethren and so should be but one, what several debts is owing by any of them unto me, I mean only money disbursed out of my purse and paid in *pecunijs numeratis* for them without any further allowance, and then casting that up unto the rest of my whole estate, I freely and absolutely give the whole remainder as is above set down to be equally divided betwixt my said three brothers who shall take upon them the execution of this my last will and testament;

Overseers I need not make others than the three consciences of my foresaid three executors, my brothers, whom I ascite before the tribunal-seat of God, that as my love hath always been unto each of them one brotherly love, so they will justly and truly perform that which I have herein trusted them with, and will with good consciences discharge my conscience in disposing of that which I have received as temporal blessings to unburden myself of, yet lest there should be any overslip in not performing those legacies in *pios vsus*, which I wish had been greater but that my love to my kindred is far dispersed, I do humbly desire the Most Reverend Father, the Archbishop of Canterbury, whosoever he be after my death, that as he is father to the fatherless and tutor and guardian of the goods of the poor, so if he see any slackness in performance of any legacy by me given to any good use, that he would deal charitably with my executors and to lay from me the burden which I burdened their consciences with so to cause them to perform that which I have laid no other penalty for not performing other than breach of brotherly love, which I hold to be the greatest penalty that may be next unto the answering of me hereafter when the secrets of all hearts are disclosed;

In te Domine speravi, et sperabo ne confundar in aeternum Deus misericors esto mihi peccatorj Venj Domine Iesu venj cito; Spiritum tuum sanctum ne auferas a me, sed cor mundum crea in me Deus: et spiritum rectum Innova in me propter electos tuos o Deus abbrevia dies iniquitatis. In manus tuas D{omi}ne Commendo spiritum meum: patri Creatorj: filio Redemptorj: Spiritu sancto Consolatorj, sacrae Trinitat{is} in eadem Vna Deitate coniunctj omnis sit laus Honor et Gloria: Amen. Edward Stanhope Vltimo Februarij 1602 iuxta Cursum et Computationem Ecclesiae Anglicanae Anno sereniss{is}imae Reginae Elizabethae Quadragesimo quinto. Edward Stanhope.

In these twenty-three sheets of paper written all with mine own hand, and every interlineation written likewise with mine own hand, the legacy of one hundred pounds towards the building of the library in Trinity College in Cambridge, being in the sixth leaf, is put forth by me because it is already in my lifetime given, and my name set to every one of the twenty-three leaves is my whole will contained, which I do acknowledge for my last will and testament. I have affixed my seal upon the top of the first leaf upon the two places where it is fastened together with a small white thread whip, and upon a label of parchment fastened through all the three and twenty leaves I have affixed my seal in testimony that this is my true last will and testament. Vltimo Februarij 1602. Computo Angliae. Edward Stanhope.

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram venerabili viro Domino Iohanne Bennet milite legum doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cantuarien{sis} Magistro Custode siue Com{m}issario legitime constituto vicesimo quinto die mens{is} Martij Anno Domini millesimo sexcentesimo octavo Iuramento Domini Iohannis Stanhope militis nunc Iohannis Domini Stanhope Baronis de Harrington vnus a privatis consilijs Domini n{ost}ri Regis et D{omi}ni Michaelis Stanhope militis fratrum n{atu}ralium et legitimor{um} eiusdem Defuncti executoru{m} in eodem testamento nominat{orum} Quibus commissa fuit Administrac{i}o bonorum Iur{ium} et creditorum eiusdem defuncti De bene et fideliter Administrand{o} &c ad sancta Dei Evangelia Iurat{orum} vi{delicet} D{i}c{t}o D{omi}no Iohanni Stanhope militi vicesimo quinto die mensis Martij supradict{i} et prefato D{omi}no Michaeli Stanhope militi vicesimo quarto die mens{is} Martij Anno Domini iuxta &c millesimo sexcentesimo septimo Iurat{o} ex{aminatur}

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before the worshipful Sir John Bennett, knight, Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the twenty-fifth day of the month of March in the year of the Lord the thousand six hundred eighth by the oath of Sir John Stanhope, knight, now John, Lord Stanhope, Baron of Harrington, one of the Privy Councillors of our Lord the King, and Sir Michael Stanhope, knight, natural and legitimate brothers of the same deceased, executors named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of the goods, rights and credits of the same deceased, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer etc., namely, to the said Sir John Stanhope, knight, sworn on the twenty-fifth day of the month of March abovesaid, and to the forenamed Sir Michael Stanhope, knight, sworn on the twenty-fourth day of March in the year of the Lord etc. the thousand six hundred seventh. Examined.]