

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 25 January 1620 and proved 22 May 1620, of James Morgan, gentleman, of Blakemere, Herefordshire, nephew of Anne Morgan (d. 19 January 1607), the wife of Henry Carey (1526-1596), 1st Baron Hunsdon, patron of the Lord Chamberlain's Men.

The testator's family background is uncertain. He states in the will below that his father is still living, and mentions three sisters, Elizabeth Morgan, Mary Morgan, and Jane Morgan.

In her will, TNA PROB 11/109/47, Lady Hunsdon (see above) bequeathed certain items of plate to her nephew, James Morgan:

Item, I give and bequeath unto Mr James Morgan, my nephew, one great silver spout pot which is always remaining in my chamber, and also one great white bowl of silver which was commonly used in the buttery and did remain always in the butler's charge weighing together forty ounces.

Lady Hunsdon is said to have been the daughter of Thomas Morgan of Arkstone, Herefordshire, who in his will, TNA PROB 11/45/236, mentions only one living son, his natural son, Thomas Morgan. Since the testator was Lady Hunsdon's nephew, it would appear that he was the son of Lady Hunsdon's only living brother, Thomas Morgan, natural son of Lady Hunsdon's father, Thomas Morgan of Arkstone.

The testator married a wife named Elizabeth, and according to the will below had three sons, Charles, Thomas and James, and four daughters, Magdalen, Sara, Elizabeth and Marie, all underage at the time the testator made his will.

The testator's eldest son and heir may be the Charles Morgan, gentleman, of Blakemere who, together with Bridget, his wife, on 11 June 1653 conveyed land to William Landon, gentleman, of Monnington Straddle. See AW28/39/14 at:

<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/rd/76d341fb-3db8-4156-a082-5d96519ef07f>.

For the inquisition post mortem taken after the testator's death, see TNA C 142/382/20. See also TNA WARD 7/60/205.

For the testator's manor of Hanley Court in Kingstone, Herefordshire, see:

<http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/en-155092-hanley-court-kingstone-#.VZ6gQEW6mUc>.

The Rowland Vaughan of New Court mentioned in the will below may have been the son of Sir Roger Vaughan (d. 16 June 1571) of Porthaml by Catherine Herbert, the daughter of (Sir) George Herbert of Swansea, who married Elizabeth Parry, the daughter and

coheir of Miles Parry of New Court, Herefordshire. For Rowland Vaughan see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/vaughan-rowland-1566>.

See also the pedigree of Vaughan of Porthaml in Jones, Theophilus, *A History of the County of Brecknock*, (Brecknock: George North, 1809) Vol. II, Part I, p. 340 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=QZDnAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA340&lpg=PA340&dq=%22Rowland+Vaughan%22&source=bl&ots=02GaQA_oTz&sig=fTn6nmZKanhzsPmiP_LmSqsPKI&hl=en&sa=X&ei=bqOeVeCJLcuy-AG1-YLoBQ&ved=0CDoQ6AEwBzgK#v=onepage&q=%22Rowland%20Vaughan%22&f=false.

For Rowland Vaughan and Elizabeth Parry, see also ‘The History of Ewyas Lacy’ at:

http://www.ewyaslacy.org.uk/Golden-Valley/An-Account-of-Rowand-Vaughan/1559-1629/gc_gdv_3007.

See also the pedigree of Parry in Weaver, Frederick William, ed., *The Visitation of Herefordshire*, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1886), pp. 4-6 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=MF9BAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA4&lpg=PA4&dq=pedigree+of+Delahey&source=bl&ots=vXJ1GrX14D&sig=CbDuOLhC-hvTLAQDs8Hm_xKsfbE&hl=en&sa=X&ei=rbmaVezvI4byoATuiIGICg&ved=0CDYQ6AEwBA#v=onepage&q=pedigree%20of%20Delahey&f=false.

LM: T {estamentum} Iacobi Morgan

In the name of God, Amen. The five and twentieth day of January in the year of Our Lord God one thousand six hundred nineteen and in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith etc., that is to say, of England, France and Ireland the seventeenth and of Scotland the three and fiftieth, I, James Morgan of Blackmore [=Blakemere] in the county of Hereford, gentleman, being sick in body but of perfect memory, thanks be given to Almighty God, do make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Maker, Redeemer and Sanctifier, and my body to be buried in Christian burial;

Item, I give, devise and bequeath unto my four daughters, Magdalen, Sara, Elizabeth and Marie, and to my two sons, Thomas and James, to every of them respectively the sum of

four score pounds apiece of lawful money of England, viz., to every of them four score pounds to be had, raised and paid out of the lands, tenements and hereditaments hereafter in this my will mentioned and in such sort, manner and form as hereafter is declared, that is to say:

That where I have by my deed of feoffment bearing date the two and twentieth of January in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James the King's Majesty that now is of England, France and Ireland the seventeenth and of Scotland the three and fiftieth given, granted, enfeoffed and confirmed unto Peter Garnons, Peter Dancer, John Greene and William Morgan, gentlemen, all that my manor and farm called Hanley Court alias Hanleyes Court with the appurtenances situate, lying and being in Kingstone in the said county of Hereford, and all houses, edifices barns, buildings, gardens, orchards, lands, tenements, meadows, leasows, pastures, woods, underwoods, wastes, commons, rents, reversions, remainders, services and all other my hereditaments with all and singular their appurtenances to the said manor and farm or either of them belonging or appertaining or therewith now or at any time heretofore let, set, used, occupied or enjoyed or reputed, accepted or taken to be as part, parcel or member thereof or of any part thereof situate, lying and being in Kingstone aforesaid, and all other my messuages, lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services and hereditaments whatsoever with their appurtenances situate, lying and being in the several parishes, towns, hamlets and fields of Kingstone aforesaid, Thruyton, Malfield(?) and Allensmore and in every or any of them which sometime were the lands, tenements and hereditaments of Rowland Vaughan, late of New Court, esquire, and of John Vaughan, gentleman, his son, or of either of them, to have and to hold the same to the said Peter Garnons, Peter Dauncer, John Greene and William Morgan and their heirs forever to such uses, behoofs, intents, purposes and limitations as I should by my last will and testament in writing express, limit, appoint and declare, as by the said deed more plainly it appeareth;

Now I hereby publish and declare that my will is that the said Peter Garnons, Peter Dancer, John Greene and William Morgan and their heirs and the survivor of them and his heirs shall stand and be seised and have and take the full yearly issues and profits of all the said lands, tenements and hereditaments and convert and employ the same to, for and towards the raising of the several legacies before by me bequeathed to my said children and until they, the said Peter Garnons, Peter Dauncer, John Greene and William Morgan and their heirs or the survivor of them and his heirs, shall and may raise and make out of the yearly profits of the same the said several legacies before bequeathed and every part thereof;

And my will is that the first four score pounds that may be raised out of the issues and profits thereof shall be by them employed and converted to the use and benefit of my said eldest daughter, Magdalen, and so as four score pounds may be thereby raised that they shall employ and convert the same to the benefit of every of them in order one after the other as they shall be eldest in years;

And that they, the said Peter Garnons, Peter Dauncer, John Greene and William Morgan and their heirs and the survivor of them and his heirs, shall employ and convert the said

several legacies as soon as the same shall be raised to the best benefit, profit and commodity of my said children until they shall severally and respectively accomplish the full age of one and twenty years or the several marriages of my said daughters, which shall first happen;

And if any of them happen to die before his, her or their portion shall be to them delivered, that then his, her or their portion so dying shall be equally divided and distributed amongst the rest of them that shall survive, and to be employed in sort aforesaid;

And that when all the said portions shall be fully raised, then my will is that all the said lands, tenements and hereditaments shall be and remain to the use of my eldest son, Charles Morgan, and of his heirs forever;

Item, I give, devise and bequeath all my lands in the lordship of Monnington Straddle in the said county and parcel of the demesne lands of the said manors (which I myself purchased) to Elizabeth [illegible interlineation], my wife, for term of her natural life for the increase of her jointure;

And after her decease to my said son, Charles, and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten;

And for lack of such issue to my right heirs forever;

Item, my will is that my executrix shall pay to my father three score pounds which I owe him without specialty, and sixteen pounds to my sister, Mary Morgan, which I likewise owe her without specialty;

And whereas I have taken a bond of John Brewton of Stretton, esquire, and others for the payment of forty and odd pounds, I do hereby declare that the same money is my said father's, and that I was only trusted therewith, and my will is that my said executrix shall employ the whole benefit thereof to the use of my said father;

And my will is that she shall pay all other my just debts;

Item, I give, devise and bequeath unto Elizabeth, my said wife, all my goods, cattles and chattels whatsoever, hoping that she will see my children well maintained and bred up according to their degree as my trust is in her, whom I do hereby constitute, ordain and appoint the sole executrix of this my last will;

In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal the day and year above-written in the presence of the persons subscribed. James Morgan. Charles Parry, William Morgan, John Hide, Thomas Greene.

Item, my will further is, which I do desire to be hereunto annexed by way of codicil, that where by an award made between my father and I, I promised to give my three sisters,

Elizabeth Morgan, Marie Morgan and Jane Morgan, twenty pounds apiece at the time of their marriages, now my will is that my said feoffees shall raise the said several sums of twenty pounds apiece out of my lands and tenements contained in this will at such times as the same shall be severally due, and make payment thereof accordingly;

Item, my will is further that my said wife shall have all my goods and chattels as before in this my will is expressed, save only such plate as the Lady Hunsdon bestowed upon me, which is a basin and ewer, a salt and two bowls, which plate my will is my heir shall have to remain and continue in my house, my wife having the use thereof only during her life. Witnesses present: Peter Garnons, Thomas Greene, John Greene, William Morgan.

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum vnacum Codicillo annex{o} apud London coram Venerabili viro D{omi}no Iohanne Benet milite Legum doctore Curie Prerogative Cant{uariensis} mag{ist}ro Custode sive Comissario l{egi}time constituto vicesimo secundo die Mens{is} Maij Anno d{omi}ni millesimo sexcentesimo vicesimo Iuramento Elizabeth Morgan relicte dicti defuncti et executric{is} in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento nominat{e} Cui Comissa fuit Administrac{i}o bonorum iuriu{m} et creditorum eiusdem def{uncti} de bene et fidel{ite}r administrand{o} eadem Ad sancta dei Evangelia al{ia}s vigore Comissionis in ea p{ar}te emanat{e} Iurat{e}

[=The above-written testament was proved, together with the codicil annexed, at London before the worshipful Sir John Bennet, knight, Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the twenty-second day of the month of May in the year of the Lord the thousand six hundred twentieth by the oath of Elizabeth Morgan, relict of the said deceased and executrix 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 the same by force of a grant issued elsewhere in that respect.]