

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 19 November 1509 and proved 29 November 1509, of Roger North, whose granddaughter, Jane Wilkinson (d.1571), was the wife of Michael Lok (c.1532–1620x22), who persuaded Oxford to invest heavily in Martin Frobisher's second expedition in search of a route to Cathay.

For the connections of the testator's family to Oxford, to the Blackfriars, and to the anonymous play, *Arden of Faversham*, see the will of the testator's son, Edward North, 1st Baron North, TNA PROB 11/48/64.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testator's family background, see Burke, John and John Bernard Burke, *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Peerages of England, Ireland & Scotland, Extinct, Dormant, & in Abeyance*, 3rd ed., (London: Henry Colburn, 1846), p. 399 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=0alfAAAACAAJ&pg=PA399>

See also the *ODNB* entry for the testator's son, Edward North, 1st Baron North, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/north-edward-1504-64>

Although Edward North's father Roger, a younger son, was settled in London at the time of his death, he had been born in Nottinghamshire where the less enterprising members of his family remained. Roger North made no mention of his three young children in the will which he made on 19 Nov. 1509

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The testator married Christian Warcup, the daughter of Richard Warcup of Sinnington, Yorkshire, by whom he is said to have had three children:

* **Edward North, 1st Baron North**, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/48/64.

* **Alice North**, who is said to have married Thomas Burnet, esquire, Auditor of the Exchequer. See Burke, *supra*, and *The Peerage of England, Scotland and Ireland*, Vol. I, (London: W. Owen, 1790), p. 287 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=NFwBAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA287>

* **Joan North** (d.1556), who was in the household of Anne Boleyn as a silkwoman from 1533-1535. She became an exile in the reign of Queen Mary, and died at Frankfurt in 1556 at the house of her cousin, Cuthbert Warcup, a London mercer.

From her will, TNA PROB 11/42B/326:

Also I do remit and clearly forgive the Lord North, my brother, so much as remaineth yet unpaid of that bill of two hundred pounds remaining in th' hands and custody of my cousin, William Holland.

She married the London mercer, William Wilkinson (1481-1543), by whom she had three daughters, Christian Wilkinson and Frances Wilkinson, both of whom married, but predeceased her, and Jane Wilkinson (d.1571). Jane Wilkinson married, as his first wife, Michael Lok (c.1532–1620x22), who persuaded Oxford to invest heavily in Martin Frobisher's second expedition in search of a route to Cathay. See the *ODNB* entry for Michael Lok; TNA SP 12/126/34, ff. 65-6; and TNA SP 12/130/19, f. 138.

Joan North and her husband were bequeathed rings in the will, TNA PROB 11/27/46, of the London mercer, Thomas Pakington (d.1536):

Item, I bequeath to every one of these hereafter following a ring, price 40s, that is to say, to . . . Mrs Wilkinson, Mrs Hall, Mr Wilkinson. . . .

See the *ODNB* entry for Joan North, and Sutton, Anne F., *The Mercery of London: Trade, Goods and People, 1130-1578*, (Aldershot, Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2005), pp. 392-4.

See also the entry for Joan North at:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=697

RM: Test{amentum} Rogeri North

In dei nomine amen. Decimonono die Nouembr{is} Anno dominj Mill{es}imo quinge{n}tesimo nono, I, Roger North, whole of mind and of good memory, make my testament in this manner and form:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God;

And my body to be buried where God pleaseth by th' advice of my wife, my sole executrice;

Item, I bequeath to the high altar of the parish church of Saint Michael in Quern [=St Michael le Querne] 3s 4d for tithes forgotten;

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Item, to the Fraternity of Our Lady in the said church 6s 8d;

And for the performance of this my will and testament I make and ordain Christian, my wife, my sole and only executrice.

Witness Mr Doctor Smythe, Sir Thomas Burton, parish priest of Saint Michael in Quern, Sir Symond Appulby, parish priest of Saint Fastor [=Saint Vedast], and Robert Wyllyson, merchant haberdasher.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum coram domino apud Lamethith penultimo die Nouembris Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo nono Iuramento Magistri Willielmi Falke procuratoris in hac parte Ac approbatum & insinuatum Et comissa fuit administratio omnium bonorum & debitorum dicti defuncti Cristiane Relicte & executrici in huiusmodi testamento nominate in persona dicti procuratoris De bene & fideliter administratio Ac de pleno & fidei Inuentario citra festum Nativitate domini proximum futurum exhibendo Necnon de plano & vero compoto reddendo ad sancta dei evangelia in debita iuris forma iurati

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the penultimate day of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred ninth by the oath of Master William Falke, proctor in that behalf, and probated & entered, and administration was granted of all the goods & credits of the said deceased to Christian, relict & executrix named in the same testament, in the person of the said proctor, sworn on the Holy Gospels in due form of law to well & faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full & faithful inventory before the feast of the Birth of the Lord next to come, and also to render a plain & true account.]