SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 26 July 1524 and proved 1 August 1524, of the London Merchant Tailor William Moncaster or Muncaster, uncle of Robert Burbage (d.1575), who sold his manor of Theobalds to Oxford's father-in-law, Lord Burghley, who built his mansion of Theobalds on the site (see TNA C 54/583, Nos. 18-19 and TNA C 54/662, No. 8).

For the will of the testator's nephew, Robert Burbage, see TNA PROB 11/57/448.

For the marriage of Thomas Burbage (d.1560) to the testator's sister, Anne Muncaster, see the pedigree of Greene in Cass, Frederick Charles, *Monken Hadley*, (Westminster: J.B. Nichols and Sons, 1880), p. 128 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=OfTfAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA129&lpg=PA129&dq=%22Burbage%22+%22Hayes%22&source=bl&ots=tHF6tDp6Nb&sig=XC_Y6oRVJjRV3o_6oBE0B6R8ShE&hl=en&sa=X&ei=9XsAVdXhNM3ToATzy4LIDA&ved=0CCEQ6AEwATgK#v=onepage&q=%22Burbage%22%20%22Hayes%22&f=false.

For the testator's uncle, Robert Shorton (d. 17 October 1535), Cardinal Wolsey's Dean of the Chapel, see the *ODNB* article. Shorton is also mentioned in the will of Sir William Browne (d. 3 June 1514), Lord Mayor of London, TNA PROB 11/17/567.

For Stephen Vaughan (d. 25 December 1549), see the *ODNB* article.

For Thomas Cromwell (d.1540), the future minister of Henry VIII mentioned in the will below, see the *ODNB* article. For a letter dated 17 August 1523 from Cromwell to the testator's factor, the Merchant Tailor John Creke, mentioning the testator ('Master Muncaster'), see Merriman, Roger Bigelow, *Life and Letters of Thomas Cromwell*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, reprinted 2000), Vol. I, p. 1 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=mEBKseRWsVYC&pg=PA313&lpg=PA313&dq=Cromwell%22+%22Creke%22&source=bl&ots=_gSvuuqug2&sig=OJyyXbMyKmI11vU2eZHYU_zuPws&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CCEQ6AEwAWoVChMI7f3i5aCLyAIVhzOICh324QlT#v=onepage&q=Cromwell%22%20%22Creke%22&f=false.

See also Merriman, Vol. II, p. 285:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=tOYWzr0YZmoC&pg=PA285&lpg=PA285&dq=%22William+Munkaster%22&source=bl&ots=Zflma7KV87&sig=LijzLbWnYT_ubPdx7R7PHoqrc80&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CDUQ6AEwBmoVChMIg6D6m42LyAIVxTGICh2-bwPi#v=onepage&q=%22William%20Munkaster%22&f=false.

For a lawsuit brought by John Creke against Ralph Dodmer, who married the testator's widow, and the testator's uncle, Robert Shorton, concerning the testator's financial affairs, see TNA C 1/490/11:

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Subject: Transactions in Spain on behalf of William Monkaster of London, merchant, whose factor there complainant was, and whose executors were Elyn, his wife, afterwards the said Rauf's wife, and the said dean.

For a lawsuit brought by John Creke against Cromwell, who had arbitrated the earlier suit, see TNA C 1/484/37:

Subject: Refusal to deliver to complainant the award in his dispute with Robert Shurton, clerk, and Rauf Dodmore, already delivered to the latter.

RM: Test{amentu}m Will{elm}i Monkester

[f. 181r] In the name of God, Amen. The 26th day of the month of July in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred and 24th, I, William Moncaster, citizen and Merchant Tailor of London, being in whole mind and good memory, lauded be God, make, ordain and declare this my present testament and last will in manner and form following, that is to say:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, to his Blessed Mother Saint Mary the Virgin, and to all the holy company of heaven, my body to be buried in the parish church of Saint Augustine besides the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul in London;

Item, I give and bequeath to the high altar of Saint Antholin in Budge Row for my tithes and oblations forgotten 3s 4d;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Burbage and Anne, his wife, my sister, if the said Thomas and Anne be governed and ruled according unto the good discretion of mine uncle, Doctor Shorton, Dean of the Chapel to my Lord Cardinal's grace, £100 sterling, which hundred pounds I will shall remain in the custody and keeping of my said uncle unto such time he shall think time convenient for the deliverance of the same;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Company of Merchant Tailors of London £10;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, Mary, at this present being in Biscay, to her marriage £100, which daughter I will shall be sent for in all goodly haste, and to be delivered into the keeping of Elyn, my well-beloved wife, she to have the guiding of the said Mary, my daughter, until such time she be married;

And if it happen the said Mary to die before marriage, that then the said hundred pounds before bequeathed to my said daughter to be employed and given to a priest to sing for my soul in the foresaid parish church of Saint Augustine as far-forth as the said hundred pounds shall amount and extend, the said priest to have for his salary yearly £6 13s 4d;

Item, I give and bequeath to Alice Burwell £5;

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Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Hanson's wife 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath Annys Geffrey 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath to John Rede of London, leather-seller, 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Turnor's wife 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my cousin Manton's wife 40s, and to every of her children 20s apiece;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Thomas Hygon, mine apprentice, £6 13s 4d;

Item, I give and bequeath unto William Ryppe, my prentice, 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Shepard, my servant, 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath to Richard Kawthorn, my servant, 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath to Margaret Ellys for her pains taken with me £5;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin Ralph Burwell's children, to every of them 20s;

Item, I give and bequeath to Master Doctor Shorton's servants, that is to say, to every of them 20s;

Item, I give and bequeath to Stephen Vaughan £10;

Item, I give and bequeath to Guy Rawlenson's children, that is to say to every of them 20s apiece;

Item, I will that a priest of good and honest conversation shall sing for my soul, my father and mother's souls, in the parish church of Saint Augustine foresaid by the space of 10 years, he to have for his salary £6 13s 4d;

Item, I give and bequeath to Robert Hardying, parish priest of Saint Antholin foresaid, 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Cromwell, gentleman, for his pains taken with me in my sickness and for to be good unto my wife in her causes £6 13s 4d;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin, Jane Rowley, for her pains taken with me 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath to every of mine executors under-named £10 to th' intent to see this my last will and testament performed;

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Item, I give and bequeath to poor maidens' marriages £20, that is to say, 6s 8d apiece, as far-forth as the said £20 shall extend;

Item, I give and bequeath to be disposed for my soul in alms-deeds to poor people £20 whereas by the discretion of mine executors and overseers shall be thought most needful to be given;

[f. 181v] Also I ordain and make of this my said last will and testament Elyn, my wife, and my uncle, Doctor Shorton, Dean of the Chapel to my Lord Cardinal's grace, mine executors, charging my said wife and the said Doctor Robert Shorton to see this my present testament and last will performed;

Item, I give and bequeath to John Nychell, citizen and merchant tailor of London, and also to Guy Rawlynson, also merchant tailor of the said city, to every one of them £6, which John Nychell and Guy Rawlynson I make and ordain overseers of this my present testament and last will;

The residue of all my goods, chattels and debts not bequeathed, my funeral obsequies done, I give and bequeath to Elyn, my wife, she to dispose for my soul as she shall think best expedient;

Desiring and heartily praying my said executors and overseers to see, and if it shall please God that I shall depart this present life, me to be honestly buried;

In witness whereof to this my present testament and last will I have subscribed my hand and set to my seal the day and year abovesaid.

Probatum fuit testamentum supradicti defuncti Coram prefatis Com{m}issarijs in eccl{es}ia Cath{edrali} diui Pauli London Primo die mensis Augusti Anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingentesimo xxiiijo Iur{amento} Executorum in h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}o no{m}i{n}at{orum} Ac approbatum et insinuatum Et com{m}issa fuit admi{ni}stracio auc{torita}te p{re}fat{orum} R{euerendissi}mor{um} patrium o{mn}iu{m} et singulorum bonorum Iuriu{m} & creditorum d{i}c{t}i defuncti prefati{is} executorib{us} De bene & fidel{ite}r admi{ni}strand{o} Ac de pleno et fideli In{uenta}rio citra festum s{an}c{t}i Barth{olome}i prox{imum} futur{um} exhi{ben}d{o} Necnon de plano et vero compoto reddend{o} Ad sancta dei Eu{a}ngelia in debita iuris forma Iurat{is}

[=The testament of the abovesaid deceased was proved before the forenamed Commissioners in the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul, London, on the first day of August in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 24th by the oath of the executors named in the same testament, and probated and entered, and administration was granted by the authority of the forenamed Most Reverend Fathers of all and singular the goods, rights &

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credits of the said deceased to the forenamed executors, sworn on the Holy Gospels in due form of law to well & faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full and faithful inventory before the feast of Saint Bartholomew next to come, and also to render a plain and true account.]

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