

SUMMARY: The document below is the will, dated 16 April 1528 and proved 9 July 1528, of Nicholas Mynne, first husband of Joan Marston (d. 31 October 1540), the sister of Oxford's step-grandmother, Ursula Marston, the second wife of Oxford's grandfather, John Golding.

For Ursula Marston, see Louis Thorn Golding, *An Elizabethan Puritan*, (New York: Richard R. Smith, 1937), p. 227:

The Marstons were an old and distinguished family. Robertus de Marston was lord of the Manor of Marston in Lincolnshire in the time of Edward I and died in 1307 leaving a son only a year and a half old. This child lived to maturity and left a son John, who in his turn also left a son, John, who was still living, very aged, in 1450. This John had four sons, Sir John, Richard, the great grandfather of Ursula, Thomas, who in youth fought at Agincourt and later settled in Shropshire, and Henry Marston, who became a canon of St Paul's Cathedral. Sir John Marston was a very rich man. He lived at Woodcote Park, adjoining Epsom Downs, now famous for the annual running of the Derby. His estate is now the country club of the Royal Automobile Club. He also had a town house in London, "Leaden Porch," Crooked Lane. E.C. He also held the manors of Horton and Shalford in Surrey. Sir John died in 1461 and his nephew William Marston, Richard's son, was his heir. William died in 1495 and his son, another William, succeeded him. This William Marston married Beatrix, daughter of (blank) Barlow of Havering, Co. Essex, and died in 1511, leaving two daughters, Joan and Ursula, the co-heirs of his large estates. Joan married for her second husband William Saunders, former sheriff of Surrey, and by him became the mother [sic] of Nicholas Saunders, the famous Roman Catholic historian of the English Reformation. Ursula married John Golding of Belchamp St. Paul's and became the mother of Arthur Golding.

For the will of Oxford's maternal grandfather, John Golding, see TNA PROB 11/32/177.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the Mynne family, see 'Horton Manor and the Mynne Family' at:

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/HortonManor.html>

In the will below the testator mentions two brothers and a sister:

-Henry Mynne, parson of Balsham, Cambridgeshire.

-John Mynne (d. 14 December 1542), who married Alice Standish, the daughter of William Standish (d.1553) of London, by whom he had three sons and several daughters. For his will, see TNA PROB 11/29/267. After the death of John Mynne, his widow, Alice, married Francis Southwell (c.1510-1581) of Hertingfordbury, Hertfordshire, and Islington, Norfolk, uncle of the Francis Southwell who was involved in allegations

against Oxford early in 1581. For the will of Francis Southwell (c.1510-1581), see TNA PROB 11/64/81. See also Dashwood, G.H., ed., *The Visitation of Norfolk in the Year 1563*, Vol. I, (Norwich: Miller & Leavins, 1878), p. 125 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=qkpFAAAAYAAJ&pg=RA4-PP13>

-Alice Mynne.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

As noted above, the testator married Joan Marston, the daughter of William Marston, by whom he had five children:

* **John Mynne** (d.1595), eldest son. See Sanders, Ralph, *Generations; A Thousand-Year Family History*, (Xlibris, 2007), pp. 141-2 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=7LIqjJ4Q3nAC&pg=PA141>

John Mynne was about nine years old when his father died in 1528, and his wardship and subsequent marriage rights were acquired by William Saunders of Ewell, John's new stepfather. For this, an annuity of four pounds was paid William from the Manor of Horton in Surrey. See Surrey Archeological Society, vol. 28, pp. 56-57. Exactly how John's siblings, William, Nicholas, Francis, and Elizabeth Mynne, were cared for in subsequent years is unclear. . . .

John Mynne acquired the Manor of Horton in Ebbesham and also the Manor of Brettgrave from his mother's possession and married Dorothy Curzon of Croxall in Derby. See History and Gazetteer of Derby, p 333, which provides a pedigree of the Curzons of Croxall. In 1557, Dorothy's step-sister Joyce Curzon was burned at the stake for her religious conviction. . . .

According to the source cited above, Dorothy Curzon was the daughter of Thomas Curzon (d. 25 April 1540), esquire, of Croxhall and Elizabeth Lygon, the daughter of Richard Lygon of Worcestershire. See Noble, Thomas, ed., *The History and Gazetteer of the County of Derby*, (Derby Henry Mozley and Sons, 1833), p. 366 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=PwOcagR5StAC&pg=PA366>

According to the same pedigree, Dorothy Curzon's sister, Bridget Curzon, married William Burdet of Bramcote, Warwickshire.

However Bridget Curzon appears to have been of a later generation. According to the Burdet pedigree, Thomas Burdet (d.1540) married Mary Throckmorton, daughter of Sir Robert Throckmorton, by whom he had a son and heir, Robert Burdet (d. 11 January 1549), esquire, of Bramcote, who married Elizabeth Cokayne, daughter of Sir Thomas

Cokayne of Ashburne, Derbyshire, by whom he had a son, Thomas Burdet (d. 15 July 1591), esquire, who married Bridget Curson, daughter of Thomas Curson, esquire, of Croxhall, Derbyshire. See *The Baronetage of England*, Vol. II, (London: W. Taylor, 1720), pp. 26-7 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=At-kVWmf57IC&pg=PA27>

* **William Mynne.**

* **Francis Mynne.** He may be the Francis Mynne who witnessed the will, TNA PROB 11/34/65, of Barnard Jenyn (by 1532-1550?), stepbrother of Queen Katherine Howard; of Oxford's friend, Sir George Howard (b. before 1523, d. 1580); and of Margaret Howard (d.1571), mother of Oxford's one-time friend, and later bitter enemy, Charles Arundel (d.1587), son of Sir Thomas Arundell (c.1502-1552). For the will of Francis Mynne, dated 28 February 1592, see TNA PROB 11/81/220. In his will he names his brother, William Mynne, and his nephews William Mynne, John Mynne and Nicholas Mynne of Horton.

* **Elizabeth Mynne.** She may have married William Saunders of Charlwood, Surrey, by whom she had twelve children, including the Catholic historian Nicholas Sander (c.1530–1581), and two daughters who became nuns, Elizabeth Saunders (d.1607) and Margaret Saunders (d.1576). See the *ODNB* entries:

Sander [Sanders], Nicholas (c. 1530–1581), religious controversialist, was born in Charlwood, Surrey, one of the twelve children of William Saunders and his wife, Elizabeth Mynes. His sister Elizabeth Sander was a Bridgettine nun and writer.

Sander [Sanders, Saunders], Elizabeth (d. 1607), Bridgettine nun and writer, was one of the twelve children of William Saunders (d. 1572) and his wife, Elizabeth, née Mynes, of Charlwood, Surrey. Her brother was the religious controversialist Nicholas Sander, who left England after Elizabeth I's accession and was ordained in Rome as a Roman Catholic priest. A sister, Margaret Sander (d. 1576), also became a Bridgettine but died while the nuns of Syon were based in Mechelen in the Spanish Netherlands. Elizabeth joined the Bridgettines prior to 1578, when she and a small group of her fellow nuns travelled to England, though the dates of profession for Elizabeth and Margaret are unknown.

For the Catholic historian, Nicholas Saunders, see also the History of Parliament entry for Thomas Saunders (by 1513-1565), at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/saunders-thomas-1513-65>

. . . his uncle William [Saunders was the] father of Nicholas Saunders the Catholic controversialist

* **Nicholas Mynne**, who was likely Oxford's servant of that name. See TNA C 2/Eliz/M5/14, a Chancery petition dated 10 November 1590 brought by Christopher Marshall against Thomas Skinner and Nicholas Mynne re the Queen's extents against Oxford's manor of Castle Camps.

After the testator's death, his widow, Joan Marston, married William Saunders (d.1571) of Ewell. For their children, see the will of William Saunders (d.1571), TNA PROB 11/53/491.

William Saunders (d.1571) and Joan Marston were the grandparents of:

-Sir Nicholas Saunders (1563 – 9 February 1649) of Ewell, dedicatee of *Greene's Vision* (1592), and patron of John Florio. He married his stepsister, Elizabeth Blount, 'sole heiress' of Richard Blount (d.1575) of Coleman Street, London, (for whose will see TNA PROB 11/57/612), by whom he had five children. He was knighted in 1603, and was a member of Parliament. He suffered financial reverses as a result of a project to deliver a new water supply to London. See *Generations, supra*, pp. 134-5 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=7LIqjJ4Q3nAC&pg=PA134>

R.M.: T{estamentum} Nich{ola}i Mynne

In the name of God, Amen. The 16th day of April in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred twenty and eight, I, Nicholas Mynne of the parish of Saint Bartholomew's Close in West Smithfield of London, being of whole mind & perfect remembrance, thanked be Our Lord, make and ordain this my testament and last will in manner and form following:

First, I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Saviour, Maker and Redeemer, and my body to be buried in Christian burial where it shall happen me to depart out of this transitory world;

Item, I bequeath to the high altar of the parish church aforesaid for tithes forgotten & negligently withholden, 3s 4d;

Item, to every place of four orders of friars in London, 3s 4d;

Item, to the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul in London, 3s 4d;

Item, to the Cathedral Church of Norwich, 3s 4d;

Item, to the Cathedral Church of Winchester, 20d;

Item, to the high altar of the parish church of Epsom for tithes forgotten and negligently withholden, 12d;

Item, to the churchwardens or churchmen of Epsom to the use of the same church, 6s 8d;

Item, to the church of Little Fransham to the use of the church there, 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Alice Mynne, my sister, 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Jane, my wife, all my leases which I have in Epsom and the term of years which be in the said leases yet to come during her life, and if it fortune my said wife to die afore the term in the said leases be expired, I will the residue of years which at her decease shall be to come remain to the use of my children;

Item, I give and bequeath unto the said Jane, my wife, all my cattle [=chattels?], household stuff, plate, jewels, brass and pewter which I have, as well in Epsom as in London;

Item, where certain persons be seised of a tenement called Hunters with th' appurtenances in Horton in the parish of Epsom, and also where Ralph Michell [=Mitchell?] is seised of certain woodland called Colman's wood and Hilder's wood, and of one acre of woodland lying in Westfield in Horton aforesaid, and also of 7 acres of arable ground whereof 3 acres lieth at Swiett nigh Chiffondon park and four acres called Ridon lying nigh the wood called Hilder's wood, and where Walter Bellett [=Bellott?] and other persons stand and be seised of a messuage and certain lands, meadows, pastures and woods with their appurtenances, in which messuage Edward Stevens now dwelleth, in Horton aforesaid to the use of me and of mine heirs, I will that the foresaid Jane, my wife, have all the said lands and tenements and other the premises for term of her life, and after her decease the same to remain to the heirs males of our two bodies lawfully begotten, and for lack of such heirs males, I will the said lands and tenements and other the premises remain to the heir of the foresaid Jane, my wife, according to the will of William Marston, esquire, her father;

Also I will that the said Jane have for term of her life all such lands and tenements as late were Leynd's lands in Horton, Epsom, Ewell and Sutton with the profit of all the woodland of all the said lands and tenements, and after her decease the said lands and tenements to remain to the heirs males of our two bodies lawfully begotten, and for lack of such heirs males, to remain to the heirs of the foresaid Jane, my wife, according to the will of the foresaid William Marston;

Item, I will that Thomas Bough and other my feoffees make estate to William Hardwick or to such persons as he shall name and to their heirs of all those lands called Leynd's lands in Sanderstead in the county of Surrey immediately after the said Thomas Bough(?) and other my feoffees have made estate to the foresaid Jane, my wife, and to her heirs as is aforesaid of the foresaid lands and tenements called Leynd's lands in Horton, Epsom,

Ewell and Sutton according to certain covenants thereof between the foresaid William Hardwick and me made;

Item, I will that all such money as I do owe or have taken up of any person to discharge against the King's Grace be paid in discharge of my conscience;

Item, I will that all my lands and tenements which I have in Fransham Magna or elsewhere in the county of Norfolk be sold, and that the said Jane, my wife, have of the money coming of the price or sale of the same one hundred marks sterlings, if it may be borne, my debts paid;

All which bequests before bequeathed unto the foresaid Jane, my wife, that is to say, my leases in Epsom, my cattle [=chattels?], household stuff, plate, jewels, brass, pewter, my lands in Horton, Epsom, Ewell and Sutton, and also the foresaid hundred marks in ready money, if it may be borne, I give and bequeath them unto my said wife under this condition, that she shall maintain and keep her and her children and to bring them up;

And further I will that she in her widowhood shall be bound and seal an obligation unto Henry Mynne, clerk, and John Mynne and other in the sum of two hundred marks to leave the manor of Horton with th' appurtenances and all other lands which [+were] late [+of] William Marston, her father, to the heirs of the said Jane according to the will of the same William Marston, and not to alien the same contrary to the will of the said William Marston;

And if the said Jane refuse in her widowhood to be bound as is aforesaid, I will that mine executors sell all my said leases, lands, chattels, household stuff, plate, jewels, brass and pewter, and also retain in their hands the foresaid hundred marks in money towards the payment of my debts and performance of this my last will;

Also I will the rest of the money coming of the sale of my foresaid lands and tenements in Fransham or elsewhere in the county of Norfolk, my debts paid and this my will performed, go and be divided to the use of my children John, William, Francis, Elizabeth and Nicholas equally by the advice of my brethren Henry Mynne, clerk, and John Mynne, whom I make and ordain mine executors and will and authorize them to make sale of my said lands and tenements;

And my uncle Skinner of Reigate in the county of Surrey to be overseer of this my present testament;

In witness whereof I to this my last will & testament have subscribed my name and set to my seal the day and year abovesaid in the presence of Thomas Yanesse(?), clerk, Henry Mynne, Richard More and John Wyskard.

Probatum fuit testamentu{m} suprascripti defuncti Coram prefatis Com{m}issarijs in eccle{es}ia Cath{edrali} diui Pauli London ix die mensis Iulij Anno D{omi}ni

Mill{es}imo quingen{tesi}mo xxviiijo Iurament{o} Ioannis Mynne executoris in h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}o no{m}i{n}at{e} Ac approbatum & insinuatum Et com{m}issa fuit admi{ni}stracio auc{torita}te prefatoru{m} R{euerendissi}mor{um} patru{m} o{mn}i{u}m & singulorum bonoru{m} Iuriu{m} & creditoru{m} d{i}c{t}i defuncti pifat{e} executori De b{e}n{e} & fidel{ite}r admi{ni}strand{o} Ac de pleno & fideli In{uenta}rio secundo die post festum Com{m}emorac{ionis} A{ni}m{ar}um prox{imum} futur{um} exhi{ben}d{o} Necnon de plano & vero compoto reddend{o} Ad sancta dei Eu{a}ngelia Iurat{e} Reseruat{a} p{otes}tate alteri executori in h{uius}mod{i} test{ament}o nom{i}n{at}o cum venerit &c Quarto die mensis Nouembris Anno D{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingen{tesi}mo xxviiijo Com{m}issa fuit consimilis admi{ni}stracio Henrico Mynne executori eciam in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento no{m}i{n}at{o} Iurat{o}

[=The testament of the above-written deceased was proved before the forenamed Commissioners in the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul, London, on the 9th day of the month of July in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 28th by the oath of Joan Mynne, executrix named in the same testament, and probated & entered, and administration was granted by the authority of the forenamed Most Reverend Fathers of all & singular the goods, rights & credits of the said deceased to the forenamed executrix, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well & faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full & faithful inventory on the second day after the feast of the Commemoration of All Souls next to come, and also to render a plain & true account, with power reserved to the other executor named in the same testament when he shall have come etc. On the fourth day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 28th a similar grant of administration issued to Henry Mynne, executor also named in the same testament, sworn.]