

SUMMARY: The document below is the last will and testament, dated 28 December 1530 and proved 30 January 1531, of Goditha (nee Throckmorton) Peyto, grandmother of Francis Peyto, who wished to meet with Oxford when he passed through Milan in 1576 and was the source of genealogical information used in *A Conference About the Next Succession to the Crown of England* (1594).

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testatrix was the daughter of Sir Thomas Throckmorton (c.1412-1472) and Margaret Olney (d.1493?).

For the testatrix' siblings, see the will of her brother, Sir Robert Throckmorton (c.1451-1518), see TNA PROB 11/20/25, and Erler, Mary C., *Women, Reading, and Piety in Late Medieval England*, (Cambridge University Press, 2002), pp. 112-14 at:

Perhaps most interesting of the abbess' sisters and brothers, however, is Goditha Throckmorton, wife of Edward Peyto, and owner of the religious collection known as the Worcestershire Miscellany (London, BL Additional MS 37787). Written after 1388 in the Cistercian abbey of Bordesley northeast of Worcester, its English material includes a form of confession, the remnant of a verse Stations of Rome (a guidebook), a verse debate between the body and soul, two songs of love-longing, and a number of short religious lyrics. The unexpected death of Goditha's husband at age thirty, in 1488, resulted in various legal claims on behalf of his widow and eldest son John Peyto, then aged nine and in ward to his uncle Sir Robert Throckmorton. Dower claims to the Warwickshire manors of Chesterton and (partially) Wolfhamcote and the avowson of Barton-on-the-Heath preserved Goditha's name, and brasses of her husband and herself in Fladbury church, long the Throckmortons' parish, were engraved by Dugdale. The best known of Goditha's children was her son William Peyto, head of the Greenwich Observant Friars and a conservative in religion. Preaching before Henry VIII at Easter 1532 he warned the king that if he married Anne Boleyn, the dogs would lick his blood as they had done with Ahab.

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=uY7Mp9UtifsC&pg=PA114>

One of the testatrix' executors was her brother, Dr. William Throckmorton, who died 3 January 1535/6, and was buried at Shottesbrooke, where the manor was owned by the Trussells and Earls of Oxford. For his will, see TNA PROB 11/27/63.

The testatrix' other executor was her niece, Elizabeth (nee Throckmorton) Englefield (d.1543), the daughter of the testatrix' brother, Sir Robert Throckmorton (c.1451-1518), and wife of Sir Thomas Englefield (1488-1537). For the will of Elizabeth (nee Throckmorton) Englefield (d.1543), see TNA PROB 11/30/47.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testatrix married Edward Peyto (c.1457 – 14 September 1487) of Chesterton, Warwickshire. See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 349. For the Peyto family, see also the descent of the manor of Chesterton:

'Parishes: Chesterton', *A History of the County of Warwick: Volume 5: Kington hundred* (1949), pp. 42-46. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=57036>

John de Warrewyk, who took the name de Loges, died in 1349 and, as his son John, who was living in 1343, had evidently predeceased him without issue, his heir was his daughter Eleanor, who had married John son of William de Peyto; the manor accordingly passed to her on the death of John de Saunderstede in 1353. In 1350 a grant of free warren at Chesterton had been made to John de Saunderstede and his (second) wife Margaret for life, with remainder to the future holders of the manor. Sir John Peyto outlived his wife and died in 1396, when the manor, then valued at £5, passed to their son William. He settled it in 1406 on himself and his wife Joan, who after his death married Sir Robert Corbet and died in 1418, when their son Sir William Peyto inherited it. Sir William played a prominent part in the war with France and was captain of the bastille before Dieppe, where he was taken prisoner in 1443. In 1449 his wife Katherine had licence to mortgage his manor of Chesterton towards his ransom; and in 1451 he mortgaged it to Drew Barentyn and others for £300. He died in 1464, leaving a son John, who rebuilt the manor-house and adorned it with a quantity of heraldic glass, figured by Dugdale. John Peyto died on 14 August 1487, and his son Edward died just a month later, leaving a son John, aged 9. The manor was then held of the king as 1/20 knight's fee; 42 virgates, worth 20 marks, had been settled on Godith (Throckmorton) wife of Edward Peyto, who survived him, and the remainder consisted of 5 messuages and 6 virgates, also worth 20 marks. This John died in 1542, leaving a son John, who went mad in 1553 and died in 1558, having settled the manor on his son Humphrey at his marriage with Anne daughter of Basil Fielding.

By Edward Peyto, the testatrix had two sons:

* **John Peyto** (c.1478-1542?), eldest son, who married firstly Anne Cooke, the daughter of Richard Cooke of Coventry, Warwickshire, by whom he had two sons and a daughter:

-**John Peyto**, who, as noted above, went mad in 1553 and died in 1558, having settled Chesterton manor on his son, Humphrey Pyeto, at his marriage with Anne Fielding, daughter of Basil Fielding.

-**William Peyto**.

-**Joan Peyto**, a nun at Denny.

John Peyto (c.1478-1542?) married secondly Margaret Baynham, the daughter of Sir Alexander Baynham (d.1524), by whom he had three sons and four daughters:

-Alexander Peyto.

-Edmund Peyto.

-Francis Peyto, who wrote to Lord Burghley on 31 March 1576 mentioning that he had hoped to show Oxford the genealogical chart he was preparing for the Queen when Oxford passed through Milan on his way back to England. For the letter, see TNA SP 70/137, ff. 319-21.

Francis Peyto's genealogical research is mentioned on p. 10 of the second part of *A Conference About the Next Succession to the Crown of England* (1594):

Divers other papers, notes and memories I have seen also, said he, as well touching the succession of those whom I have named as of others, for that Sir Richard Shelley, who died some years ago in Venice, by the name of Lord Prior of St John's of England, had gathered divers points touching these affairs, & many more than he had Master Francis Peyto that died in Milan and was a very curious and well-readen man in genealogies, as may appear by sundry papers that I have seen of his. There want not also divers in England who have travailed much in this business, and I have had the perusing of some of their labours, though I dare not discover their names lest thereby I should hurt them, which were not convenient.

See <http://books.google.com/books?id=kOQbU56suzcC>

Francis Peyto is mentioned in the will, dated 15 October 1582, of Humphrey Peyto, TNA PROB 11/68/272.

-Audrey Peyto, who married John Cupper (buried 11 February 1585), esquire, of Glympton and Westcott Barton, Oxfordshire, younger son of Thomas Cupper of Steventon, Shropshire, by Isabel Cooke of Bainton, Shropshire. See Richardson, Vol. III, *supra*, p. 350.

-Anne Peyto, who married a husband surnamed Napper.

-Elizabeth Peyto, who married Robert Shakerley (by 1510 – c.1569). See the will of his niece, Elizabeth (nee Shakerley) Elkyn Marler Nicholas (d.1583), TNA PROB 11/65/520. For Robert Shakerley, see also the History of Parliament entry at:

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<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/shakerley-robert-1510-69-or-later>

-Mary Peyto, who married a husband surnamed Withwike.

For the will of John Peyto (c.1478-1542?), see TNA PROB 11/29/209. For the will of his second wife, Margaret (nee Baynham) Peyto, see TNA PROB 11/37/80. For the Baynham family, see also the pedigree in Maclean, John, ed., 'The History of the Manors of Dene Magna and Abenhall' in *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society for 1881-82*, Vol. VI, (Bristol, C.T. Jefferies), pp. 123-209 at pp. 184-5:

<http://archive.org/stream/transactionsbris06bris#page/184/mode/2up>

See also the wills of Sir Alexander Baynham (d.1524), TNA PROB 11/21/469 and TNA PROB 11/22/256.

* **William Peyto** (c.1485-1558), also known as 'Friar Peto', for whom see the *ODNB* entry, and Erler, *supra*, p. 114:

The best-known of Goditha's children was her son William Peyto, head of the Greenwich Observant Friars and a conservative in religion. Preaching before Henry VIII at Easter 1532 he warned the king that if he married Anne Boleyn, the dogs would lick his blood as they had done with Ahab.

William Peyto is named in the will below, and was a witness to the signing of the will.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

In the will below the testatrix bequeaths two coffers to 'my cousin, Margery Carew'. It would appear that 'Margery Carew' was Margaret (nee Englefield) Carew, the daughter of the testatrix' niece, Elizabeth (nee Throckmorton) Englefield (d.1543). At the time the testatrix made her will, Margaret (nee Englefield) Carew was the wife of George Carew (d.1538).

Erler, *supra*, pp. 113 and 128 notes the testatrix' literary interests, stating that she was the owner of the religious collection known as the Worcestershire Miscellany (London, BL Additional MS 37787), and that she gave a copy of Caxton's *Royal Book*, now in the British Library, to her niece and executrix, Elizabeth Throckmorton Englefield (d.1543). In her will below the testatrix bequeaths a copy of the *Legenda Aurea* to her chaplain, Edmund Whelar, and a psalter to her niece, Mary Burdett.

RM: T{estamentum} D{omi}ne Godithe Paytow

In dei no{m}i{n}e amen. This is the last will of me, Dame Godith Peyto, widow, made the 28th day of December the 22nd year of the reign of King Henry the 8th;

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my body to be buried after the discretion of my executors;

Item, I bequeath to the place where I shall be buried, to the reparation of the same, 6s 8d;

Item, I bequeath to the parson of the same church, in recompense of my mortuary, 20s;

Item, I will that the priests, that is to say the parson, the chantry-priest and Sir Robert, the parish priest of Michils(?), shall say every month during one year dirge and Mass, and shall have 8d apiece during the said year, and every month 20d to be given to poor folks, and 4d to children and clerks;

Item, I bequeath to Sir Edmund the bed that he lieth in, that is to say, a coucher, a bolster, a pair of blankets, 2 coverlets and a great pillow & a little, a heling of green say;

Item, to my cousins 4 little gentlewomen, every one of them a rail for their necks, and to 3 maids, each of them a rail;

Item, I bequeath to my cousin, Mary Burdett, a little featherbed, a pair of blankets, a heling of image work, my psalter book, my gown furred with marten, and a bolster;

Item, to Sir Edmund my chalice with the vestment, two altar-cloths, a corporas with the case, and my cloth of the crucifix with Mary and John;

Item, I bequeath to my cousin, Anne Barker, a pillow, and a pewter pot for her chamber;

Item, to Sir Edmund a coffer and a cushion of carpet-work;

Item, to my cousin, Margery Carue [=Carew], a coffer at my bed's feet, and the great coffer that standeth at the utter chamber door;

Item, two little coffers, one to Anne, and the other to Sybil;

Item, to the farmer's wife my best gown furred with black, and one of my best smocks;

Item, to Sir Edmund my *Legenda Aurea*, and a great coffer with the elm(?) lid, and a pair of sheets;

Item, to William Englefield a canvas and a sheet;

Item, to Johan Mayon a canvas;

Item, I will that 12 of the poorest folks of this town at the day of my burying, each of them 4d;

Item, to Mistress Margery one of my best neck sheets, and one of my best kerchiefs;

Item, to Anne Barker a pair of fustians;

Item, I will that the featherbed, the bolster, a sparver and the hanging of the chamber shall remain in the chamber for Francis Englefield, and a pair of sheets of 2 breadths;

Item, to Thomas Blithe's wife my worst gown save one;

item, to Margaret Cleyton, my maid, 20 pieces of pewter vessel, my best kirtle, my new little mattress, the blankets, the sheets, & the coverlet of her bed, my best tablecloth, a pewter basin called the posset basin;

Item, I will that she have 20s of money;

Item, I will that Sir Edmund shall have five marks for a whole year, and meat and drink at my son's;

And of this my present testament and last will I make my brother, Doctor William Throckmorton, and my niece, Elizabeth Englefield, my executors to execute and fulfil this my present will;

Item, I will that Margaret Clayton have her wages that is behind, and for her heirs 30s, also a frying-pan, a posnet, a trivet, a shilet [=skillet?], the old green say, a candlestick with 2 noses;

Item, to the poor men of Chesterton and towns next about, 40s;

Item, I will that twenty nobles be disposed according as I have showed my son William my mind, and there to be paid as he shall show to my executors;

Item, to Sir Edmund his quarter wages, 16s 8d, and my spoon that is occupied daily;

Item, to Burnham Abbey 40s as I have showed to my son William how it shall be ordered;

Witness Thomas Englefield, justice; William Peyto, friar; Sir Edmund Whelar, Margaret Clayton, with other.

Probatum fuit sup^{ra}scriptum Test^{amentu}m cora^m d^{omi}no apud Lamethith peⁿultimo die mens^{is} Ianuarij Anno d^{omi}ni Mill^{es}imo quingen^{tesim}o xxxmo ac approbat^{um} et insinuat^{um} etc Et com^missa fuit Admiⁿⁱstracⁱo omⁿi^{um} et singulor^{um} bonor^{um} et creditor^{um} dict^e defunct^e M^{agist}ro Will^{el}mo Throgmerton cler^{ico} execut^{ori} in h^{uius}mo^di test^{ament}o no^miⁿat^o De bene &c Ac de pleno et fideli Inuen^{ta}rio

conficiend{o} Necno{n} de plano et vero Compoto reddend{o} Ad s{an}c{t}a dei
Eu{a}ngelia in debita iur{is} forma Iurat{i} Res{erua}ta p{otes}tate si{mi}lem
com{m}ission{em} faciend{o} Elizabeth{e} Englefeld ex{ecutori} etia{m}
no{m}i{n}at{e} &c cum ven{er}it &c

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the penultimate day of the month of January in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 30th, and probated and entered etc., and administration was granted of all and singular the goods and credits of the said deceased to Master William Throckmorton, clerk, executor named in the same testament, sworn on the Holy Gospels in due form of law to well etc., and to prepare a full and faithful inventory, and also to render a plain and true account, with power reserved for a similar commission to be made to Elizabeth Englefield, executor also named etc., when she shall have come etc.]