

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 29 April 1536 and proved 17 June 1536, of Richard Patten, citizen and cloth-worker of London, and father of William Patten (died c.1598), who was responsible for the private printing and distribution of copies of the *Langham Letter* describing Leicester's entertainment for Queen Elizabeth at Kenilworth in the summer of 1575, while Oxford was travelling on the continent.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the eldest son and heir of Richard Patten of Boslow [=Baslow, near Chatsworth?], Derbyshire, said to have been a brother of William Waynflete *alias* Patten (c.1400-1486), Bishop of Winchester.

According to the Patten pedigree, the testator had a younger brother, and a sister:

-Humphrey Patten, who married Jane Rixton, the daughter and heir of Thomas Rixton, gentleman, of Great Sankey, Lancashire.

-Helen Patten, who married John Robinson.

See the Patten pedigree in Heylin, Peter, *Memorial of Bishop Waynflete, Founder of St Mary Magdalen College, Oxford*, (London: Caxton Society, 1851), pp. 71-5. See also Burke, John, *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry or Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland*, (London: Henry Colburn, 1838), Vol. III, p. 81 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=vhpVAAAACAAJ&pg=PA81>

See also 'Patten' in Burke, John and John Bernard Burke, *Encyclopaedia of Heraldry*, 3rd ed., (London: Henry G. Bohn, 1844) at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=Y11BAAAAYAAJ&pg=PT803>

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

According to the pedigree, the testator married Grace Baskerville, the daughter and heir of John Baskerville by the daughter and heir of one Goddard of Herefordshire.

According to one website, however, Grace Baskerville was the daughter of James Baskerville (1494 – 13 November 1556) of Herefordshire and Grace Goddard, the daughter of John Goddard of Wiltshire. See:

<http://worldconnect.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=dowfam3&id=I482396>

Grace Baskerville predeceased the testator, and was buried at St Mary Magdalen, Milk Street, London. See Heylin, *supra*, p. 73.

By Grace Baskerville the testator had two sons and four daughters:

* **William Patten** (died c.1598), who was responsible for the private printing and distribution of copies of the *Langham Letter*. He married firstly a wife whose name is unknown, who died at Billingsgate in 1549, and secondly Anne Johnson, the daughter of Richard Johnson of Boston, Lincolnshire, by whom he had seven children, the first born in 1560:

(1) Mercury Patten, who is said to have been created Bluemantle Pursuivant on 22 October 1597 through the patronage of Oxford's father-in-law, Lord Burghley, although the patent itself is dated seven years later, on 8 May 1604. He later sold the patent to Henry St George, whose own patent is dated 23 December 1611. Mercury Patten's arms were *Lozengy sable and ermine*. See Rose, Josiah, ed., *Lancashire and Cheshire Historical and Genealogical Notes*, (Leigh, 1883), Vol. III, pp. 24-5.

A manuscript of the coats of arms of the Legh family dated 1575 is thought to have been the work of Mercury Patten. See *The House of Lyme*, (New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1917), p. 43. Mercury Patten's portrait is also said to be among those at Lyme Hall. See Renaud, Frank, 'Contributions Towards a History of the Ancient Parish of Prestbury in Cheshire' in *Remains Historical & Literary Connected with the Palatine Counties of Lancaster and Chester*, (Chetham Society, 1876), Vol. LXVII, p. 151.

Mercury Patten is thought to be referred to as 'Bluemantle Pursuivant' in College of Arms Record MS Dethick's Grants X, f. 29r. See:

<http://www.shakespearedocumented.org/exhibition/document/ralph-brookes-compilation-arms-granted-william-dethick-1600-copy-arms>

(2) Richard Patten.

(3) Thomas Patten.

(4) Gracian Patten, who married Elizabeth Collis or Colly, by whom he had a son, William Patten; after his death, Elizabeth Colly married John Trussell (1575-1648), gentleman. For the will of Gracian Patten, dated 9 October 1603 and proved 13 October 1603, in which he leaves his seal ring to his elder brother, Mercury, and another ring to his brother, Thomas, see TNA PROB 11/102/360. For John Trussell, see the *ODNB* entry:

Trussell, John (bap. 1575, d. 1648), antiquary and historian, was baptized on 19 January 1575 at St Dunstan-in-the-West, London, the third child and elder son of Henry Trussell (c.1545–1612/13), attorney, and his wife, Sarah (bap. 1550, d. 1613), daughter of John

Kettlewood, citizen and goldsmith of St Mary Woolnoth, London. Trussell's grandfather John (c.1515–1571/2) was the younger son of a gentry family of Billesley, Warwickshire, who entered the service of the Willoughby family of Nottinghamshire as steward of their coalpits at Wollaton. His elder son Henry moved first to London where he married and practised as an attorney. John Trussell was born in London, and his description of William Camden as 'my ever to bee revered and remembred Schoolmaster' ('Touchstone of tradition', fol. 29) suggests that he attended Westminster School. No evidence of either university or legal education survives although Trussell, like his father, later earned his living in the law.

(5) Elizabeth Patten, who married Sir Thomas Cony (1561 – 22 November 1637) of Bassingthorpe, Lincolnshire (for a letter concerning this marriage, see TNA SP 46/24/fo128-129). For Sir Thomas Cony, see his will, TNA PROB 11/176/14, and:

<http://www.coniefamily.co.uk/early-coney-family.php>

(6) Pallas Patten.

(7) Anne Patten.

for the children of William Patten (died c. 1598), see the Patten pedigree and the *ODNB* entry for William Patten.

* **Sylvester Patten**, who died without issue.

* **Joan Patten**, who married firstly William Strete of Islington, Middlesex, and secondly Thomas Percy of Stanwell, Middlesex. For a lawsuit brought by William Patten against William Strete of Islington, gentleman, alleging collusion in a suit by Thomas Serle of London, butcher, see TNA C 1/868/14.

* **Lettice Patten**, who married Richard Staverton, gentleman, of Bray, Berkshire. For Richard Staverton, whose mother, Joanna More (b. 11 March 1475), was a sister of the Lord Chancellor, Sir Thomas More (1478-1535), see the *ODNB* entry for Sir John More (c.1451-1530), and Betham, William, *The Baronetage of England*, (London: E. Lloyd, 1805), Vol. V, p. 529 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=zKNBAAAACAAJ&pg=RA1-PA529>

* **Mary Patten**, who married Christopher Marton, gentleman, of Ashton, Yorkshire.

* **Alice Patten** (d.1557/8), who married firstly Thomas Serle (d.1540?), said to be of Essex, for whose will, in which he describes himself as a citizen and butcher of London, see TNA PROB 11/28/349, and secondly, on 29 May 1541, Armagil Waad (d.1568), Clerk of the Privy Council, by whom she had seventeen children. For Armagil Waad see the *ODNB* article; his will, TNA PROB 11/52/56; and Wade, Charles Stuart, *The Wade Genealogy*, (New York: Stuart C. Wade, 1900), pp. 75-100 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/wadegenealogybei00wade#page/98/mode/2up>

The testator's children are all named in the will below with the exception of Sylvester.

According to the *ODNB*, in 1550 the testator's son, William Patten, was granted the lease of the manor of Stoke Newington, and in 1565 the lease was renewed for another 99 years, commencing at Michaelmas 1576. Patten lived at Stoke Newington for twenty years, before assigning the lease to Sir William Cordell, Master of the Rolls. Oxford lived in Stoke Newington as well after his second marriage in 1591. His son and heir, Henry de Vere, 18th Earl of Oxford, was born there on 24 February 1593. See Robinson, *infra*, p. 190.

From the *ODNB*:

In 1550 Patten had leased the manor of Stoke Newington from Thomas Penrey [sic for 'Penny'], a lease renewed in 1565 for ninety-nine years commencing in 1576. In 1563 Patten completed extensive repairs on the manor house, and also on the church of St Mary, Stoke Newington, adding a vestry, aisle, private chapel, and schoolhouse. He became a JP for Middlesex, and in 1558 was appointed receiver-general of Yorkshire revenues. On 23 June 1562, at the height of his career, he was appointed a teller of the exchequer for life. Disaster struck in Michaelmas term of the year 1567/8, however, when the auditor of the receipt discovered that £7928 was missing from Patten's account. Patten was suspended on 13 January 1568, and, the barons of the exchequer having adjudged that he had forfeited his position, he was replaced on 13 July. The lease of Stoke Newington was given up, and he lost all his public offices. On 16 November 1572 he presented the queen with his 'Supplicatio Patteni' (BL, Lansdowne MS 739), an extended petition in pedestrian Latin verse copied out by his ten-year-old son Thomas, in which he eulogized Elizabeth and recounted his misfortunes—he had had to sell all his lands and belongings to the value of £500 per annum. Blaming one of his servants (characterized as a venomous snake) for the treasury's loss, he begged that the matter be investigated, but there is no evidence of a response.

For Thomas Penny (d.1530-1589), who married Margaret Lucas (d. 13 November 1587), the daughter of the 16th Earl of Oxford's trusted friend and counsellor, John Lucas (d.1556), see the *ODNB* entry for Thomas Penny and the will of John Lucas, TNA PROB 11/38/199.

For William Patten's lease, see also:

A P Baggs, Diane K Bolton and Patricia E C Croot, 'Stoke Newington: Manor', in *A History of the County of Middlesex: Volume 8, Islington and Stoke Newington Parishes*, ed. T F T Baker and C R Elrington (London, 1985), pp. 177-178. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/middx/vol8/pp177-178> [accessed 19 August 2016].

*The lordship, with all its profits, was leased to Thomas Gibbes, mercer, in the 1460s. (fn. 29) John Young, prebendary 1512-16, leased the demesne, the rents of freeholders, and the right to sell wood to Richard Lee. (fn. 30) In 1541 the prebend, without perquisites of court or woods, was leased to George Bysmore, a Londoner, to whom in 1545 a further lease was made, including the perquisites. (fn. 31) Bysmore was still lessee in 1549 (fn. 32) but c. 1552 a lease was made to William Patten, teller of the Exchequer and humanist scholar. Writing in 1572 Patten referred to Newington where he had lived for almost 20 years. (fn. 33) He received a new lease in 1560 (fn. 34) and another in 1565, for 99 years from 1576, of the manor, profits of courts, and woods. (fn. 35) Patten assigned the lease to Sir William Cordell, Master of the Rolls, from whom it had passed by 1569 to John Dudley, a rich brewer (d. 1580). (fn. 36) It passed to trustees for Dudley's young widow Elizabeth (d. 1602), who c. 1582 married the very wealthy Thomas Sutton (d. 1611), original of Ben Jonson's *Volpone*, and Dudley's daughter Anne. (fn. 37)*

John Dudley (November 1569 - 29 December 1580) was the second son of Thomas Dudley of Yanwath, Westmorland, by Grace Threlkeld, daughter and coheir of Lancelot Threlkeld, esquire, of Yanwith. John Dudley's father, Thomas Dudley, was the seventh son of Sir Edmund Sutton *alias* Dudley by his second wife, Maud Clifford, the daughter of Thomas Clifford (1414-1455), 8th Baron Clifford. John Dudley is said to have grown rich in Leicester's service, and married Elizabeth Gardiner (d.1602), the daughter of John Gardiner of Grove Place, Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire. After John Dudley's death, his widow, Elizabeth Gardiner, married, on 17 September 1582, Thomas Sutton (1532-1611), who had also been in Leicester's service, and who in 1607 purchased Oxford's former manor of Castle Camps for £10,800. See the *ODNB* entry for Thomas Sutton; Shipley, N.R., 'The History of a Manor: Castle Campes, 1580-1629', *Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research*, Vol. XLVII, 1974, pp. 162-81 at p. 176; and Robinson, William, *The History and Antiquities of the Parish of Stoke Newington*, (London: John Nichols and Son, 1820), pp. 29-30, 189, 221, 246 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=T6oHAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA227>

For John Dudley, see also Jackson, William, *Papers and Pedigrees Mainly Relating to Cumberland and Westmorland*, (London: Bemrose & Sons Limited, 1892), Vol. II, pp. 132, 137, 138, 139, 145 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/publications06cumb#page/132/mode/2up>

For John Dudley's background, see also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. IV, p. 155 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=8JcbV309c5UC&pg=RA3-PA156>

For William Patten's lease, see also Robinson, *supra*, p. 227:

William Patten, the aforesaid lessee, ssigned and set over the aforesaid lease unto (blank) Cordall, and the said Cordall assigned and set over the said lease to John

Dudley, who assigned the same to Ann his daughter. And the said Ann Dudley married Sir Francis Popham. . . .

See also Robison, *supra*, p. 239:

Memorandum. Thomas Penny, clerk, Prebend of St Paul's, London, did grant by lease bearing date the 16th day of April, Anno Domini 1565, and in the 7th year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, unto William Patten etc.

See also 'Stoke Newington' at the National Archives:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/tudorhackney/localhistory/lochsna.asp>

According to the *ODNB*, no historical records mention William Patten after 1580. A William Patten, gentleman, is named in a 1597 subsidy roll for the parish of St. Bartholomew the Great (see TNA E179/146/369), although this may have been a relative.

For a lawsuit by William Patten against Anne Johnson, widow, see TNA C 2/Eliz/P16/43.

For William Patten, see also the Wikipedia entry edited by the author of this website:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Patten_\(historian\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Patten_(historian))

RM: T{estamentum} Ric{ard}i Patten

In the name of God Amen. I, Richard Patten, citizen and cloth-worker of London, whole of mind and good memory, laud be unto Almighty God, make and ordain this my present testament and last will in manner and form following:

First, I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, Our Lady Saint Mary, and all the holy company of heaven, my body to be buried in the parish church of Mary Magdalen in Milk Street, as nigh to my wife as may be;

Item, I bequeath to Mary, my daughter, 26s 8d sterling yearly after my decease, to be taken out of all my lands, leases and tenements in London and elsewhere within the realm of England by the space of twenty years if she so long live;

Item, I bequeath to my Hall towards a dinner at my burial day, 20s;

And as for my children Joan, Lettice and Alice, with my sister Robinson and my nephew, John Strete, to stand to the good order & discreet disposition of mine executors;

Also the making free of Simon, my servant, I remit unto the discretion of mine executors aforesaid;

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<http://www.oxford-shakespeare.com/>

The rest of all my goods not bequeathed, my debts paid and my funeral expenses, I will that my executors, which I will to be William Patten, my son, and William Strete, my son-in-law, shall order and dispose after their discretion and conscience for the most wealth of my soul, and this I will, that all my children be contented withal on my blessing;

In witness whereof I have put my seal the 29th day of April in the year of Our Lord God the 1536th hijs testib{us} Galfrido Page ib{ide}m Rectore & Iohanne Butler.

Item, I will that where it is agreed betwixt Thomas Serle, which married my daughter Alice, and me that an estate of certain lands and tenements should have been made before the Nativity of Our Lord last past according to the tenor of a pair of indentures between us made, that now it shall be made before the feast of Pentecost next coming, anything in the said indenture to the contrary notwithstanding.

Probatum fuit infrascriptum tes{tamen}t{u}m xvij die mensis Iunij Anno D{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingen{tes}imo xxxvjo apud London coram D{omi}no auc{toritat}te D{omi}ni n{ost}ri Regis Henrici octavi Anglie et ffrancie Regis &c Ric{ard}i Patten defuncti h{ab}entis &c Iurament{o} executorum in h{uius}mo{d}i tes{tamen}to no{m}i{n}at{orum} ac per eundem auc{torita}te d{i}c{t}i D{omi}ni n{ost}ri Regis approbatum & insinuat{um} Com{m}issa q{ue} fuit admi{n}istracio o{mn}i{u}m & singulorum bonorum Iuriu{m} et creditorum d{i}c{t}i defuncti prefatis Executoribus De b{e}n{e} et fidel{ite}r admi{n}strand{o} Ac de pleno et fideli In{venta}rio secundo die post festum s{anc}ti Barth{olome}i prox{imum} futur{um} exhibend{o} Necnon de plano et vero compoto reddend{o} Ad sancta Dei Eu{a}n gelia Iurat{o}

[=The within-written testament of Richard Patten, deceased, having etc., was proved on the 17th day of the month of June in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 36th at London before the Lord [+Archbishop] by the authority of Our Lord King Henry the Eighth, King of England and France etc., by the oath of the executors named in the same testament, and by authority for the same of our said Lord the King probated and registered, and administration was granted of all & singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased to the forenamed executors, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full and true inventory on the second day after the feast of St. Bartholomew next to come, and also to render a full and true account.]

LM: Codicill{us} eiusd{em} Ric{ard}i

Memorandum. The 29th day of April the 28th year of the reign of King Henry the 8th, Richard Patten, late of London, cloth-worker, made his last will nuncupative concerning

Thomas Serle, butcher, and Alice, his wife, one of the daughters of the said Richard Patten in manner and form following:

Inprimis, he willed that Thomas Serle and Alice, his said wife, should have to them and to their heirs of their two bodies lawfully begotten all such lands and tenements of the said Richard as been specified in a pair of indentures made between the said Richard of the one party and the said Thomas of the other party concerning the marriage of the said Alice unto the said Thomas;

Item, he willed to the same Thomas fifty pounds sterling specified in the same indentures;

Item, he willed that whereas the same Thomas afore the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord then last past should have delivered a certain estate of certain lands and tenements to the said Thomas specified in the said indentures, that the same estate of the same lands and tenements should be delivered and made afore the feast of the Pentecost then next following, anything in the said indentures to the contrary notwithstanding.

Vicesimo sexto die mensis Iunij Anno D^{omi}ni Mill^{es}imo quingen^{tes}imo xxxvj^o Thomas Serle gener^{osus} predictⁱ Ricardi Paten defuncti exhibuit Codicillum predict^{um} et allegavit predⁱc^tus Ric^{ard}us Paten legavit et disposuit prout continetur in eodem Et D^{omin}us Comiss^{arius} assignavit sibi secundum diem Iuridicum post festum s^{an}c^ti Thome ad proband^{um} h^{uius}mo^di Codicillu^m per testes in p^{rese}ntia Will^{el}mi Paten executoris dⁱc^ti Ric^{ard}i defuncti Vicesimo quarto die mens^{is} Iulij Anno supradict^o D^{omin}us post exa^miⁿat^{ionem} quor^{un}d^am testiu^m decrevit dict^{um} Codicillum annect^{um} fore testament^o dⁱc^ti Ric^{ard}i tanq^{ua}m verum partem eiusdem vt liquet in actis illius Diei

[=On the twenty-sixth day of the month of June in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 36th Thomas Serle, gentleman, exhibited the foresaid codicil of the said Richard Patten, deceased, and alleged the foresaid Richard bequeathed and disposed as is contained in the same, and the Lord Commissary appointed to him the second lawful day for business after the feast of St Thomas to prove the same codicil by witnesses in the presence of William Patten, executor of the said Richard, deceased. On the twenty-fourth day of the month of July in the year abovesaid, the Lord [+Commissary], after examination of certain witnesses, decreed the said codicil to be annexed to the will of the said Richard as a true part of the same, as appears in the acts of that day.]