

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 28 May 1534 and proved 5 September 1534, of Sir William Fitzwilliam, grandfather of Oxford's mother-in-law, Mildred (nee Cooke) Cecil (1526-1589), Lady Burghley, who is twice mentioned in the will:

Item, I give and bequeath unto Mildred Cooke ten pounds sterlings, part of £100 bequeathed unto maidens' marriages.

Item, I bequeath unto Mildred Cooke a covering taken up of Malibrancke for debt, and to be given to her at her marriage.

The testator's first wife was Anne Hawe, the daughter of John Hawe (d.1517), alderman of London. For the will of John Hawe, see TNA PROB 11/18, ff. 240-1. By his first wife the testator had two sons, Sir William, and Richard, and two daughters, Anne, who married Sir Anthony Cooke (1505/6–1576), and Elizabeth, who married Sir Thomas Brudenell. The testator married, secondly, Mildred Sackville, the daughter of Richard Sackville, esquire, of Withyham, Sussex, by Isabel, daughter of John Digges, esquire. By her the testator had three sons, Christopher, Francis and Thomas, and two daughters, Eleanor, who married Sir Nicholas Strange, and Mary, who married Sir John Shelley. The testator married, thirdly, Jane Ormond (d. 1542), the daughter of John Ormond and widow of John Dinham, by whom he had no issue. For her will, see TNA PROB 11/29, ff. 69-70. The testator's executor, Sir John Baker (c.1489-1558), was his brother-in-law, having married a sister of Mildred Sackville. See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2004), p. 333, and the entries for the testator and Sir John Baker in the online edition of *The Dictionary of National Biography*.

The testator appears to have been an uncle of the poet Thomas Watson's grandmother, Elizabeth Onley (d.1556), who, like the testator, refers to Richard Waddington (d.1565?) and Richard Ogle (d.1555) as her 'cousins', and appoints Sir John Baker (c.1489-1558), as her executor. The testator's sister, Mary Fitzwilliam, had married, firstly Thomas Waddington, and, secondly, Richard Ogle. Another of the testator's sisters, Katherine, had married, firstly, Thomas Rolleston, and secondly, Richard Francis. It would appear that Elizabeth Onley was the daughter of Thomas Rolleston and the testator's sister, Katherine Fitzwilliam. For further discussion of the relationship between the testator, his niece, Elizabeth Onley (d.1556), and the poet Thomas Watson (d.1592), see the will of Elizabeth Onley, TNA PROB 11/38, ff. 71-3. See also the pedigree of Ogle of Pinchbeck in Madden, Frederic, ed., *Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica*, Vol. VI, (London: John Bowyer Nichols, 1840), pp. 194-6).

RM: Testamentum domini Willelmi ffitzwilliam militis

In the name of God, Amen. The twenty and eight day of the month of May in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred thirty and four and in the twenty and six year

of the reign of our most dread and redoubted Sovereign Lord King Henry the Eight by the grace of God of England and France King, Defensor of the Faith, and Lord of Ireland, I, Sir William Fitzwilliam th' elder of Milton in the county of Northampton, knight, being whole in body and in good, perfect mind and memory, laud be thereof unto Almighty God, remembering and well considering that there is nothing more certain to me than to die, make, ordain and constitute this my present testament and last will of all and singular my goods, chattels, ready money, plate, jewels, debts and other chattels wheresoever they be or remain within this realm of England, the town of Calais and marches of the same, or elsewhere in any part beyond the sea in the manner and form as hereafter followeth:

First, I wholly and entirely with all my heart, will, power and mind give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, Three Persons and one God in Trinity, and to Our Lady Saint Mary, Mother to the Second Person in Trinity and ever Virgin, and to all th' holy and blessed company in heaven;

And my body to be buried in the new chancel at Marholm in the said county of Northampton which I have of late caused to be made and newly edified there, and I will that mine executors cause a tomb of marble to be made there with a scripture making mention of my name as shall be devised by my executors;

And I will that mine executors convey or cause to be conveyed in convenient manner and wise in such case as appertaineth, without pompous exequies but by the discretion of mine executors, my body and corpus, wheresoever it shall happen me to decease within this realm of England, unto the said chancel in the foresaid parish of Marholm, and will that mine executors or the more part of them shall be present at my burial or at the setting forth of my corps toward my said burial;

Also I will above all things charge mine executors that they after my decease without fraud or delay do well and truly content and pay or cause to be contented and paid to all and every person and persons to whom it shall happen me to be indebted at the time of my decease all and singular such sums of money, debts and duties by me at that time owing unto them and if the time be come that they should be paid, and also all such sums of money as shall grow and be due for and concerning my funerals immediately;

And further I will that my said executors in and for the discharging of my soul and conscience shall make restitution and amends to all and every person and persons of and for all such injuries and wrongs as they or any of them can duly and truly prove that I any time in my life have done to them or any of them contrary to right and good conscience;

Also I will that where I have purchased an annuity of twenty pounds sterling forever to be had and perceived of the Master, Wardens and whole Commonalty of the Fellowship of the Fraternity of Saint John Baptist of the Merchant Tailors within the city of London quarterly by them and their successors forever to be paid by even portions, I will that the

same be ordered and devised by the last will of Thomas Coole, citizen and Merchant Tailor of London, whom I have put in trust to ordain and devise the same;

Also I give and bequeath to the church of Lincoln in th' honour of Christ and his Blessed Mother, 10s;

Also I give and bequeath to the churchwardens of Saint Peter's Church the Poor within the city of London for the maintenance of the said church and to th' use thereof forty shillings sterling;

Also I give & bequeath to the churchwardens of the parish of Theydon Garnon in the county of Essex to like use and for like intent forty shillings sterlings;

And I will that forty shillings sterlings immediately after my decease to be given within the parish church of Saint Thomas th' Apostle to them that hath most need;

Also I will that if it happen me to decease in London, then I give and bequeath unto the five orders of friars within the city of London, that is to say, the Gray Friars, the Black Friars, Augustine Friars, White Friars and the Crossed Friars, to th' intent that they shall bring forth my corps, if it happen me to decease within the city of London, out of the liberties of the said city, and also to have in each of the said places a trental of Masses, five pounds sterlings, amongst them egally to be divided, that is to say, to every one of them twenty shillings sterlings;

Also I give and bequeath unto the 4 orders of Friars in Stamford, if they be at my burial at Marholm, four pounds sterlings, that is to say, to every order of them twenty shillings sterlings, and to say a trental of Masses in every of their places for my soul and all Christian souls;

Also I give and bequeath unto the marriage of poor maidens a hundred pounds sterlings, to be distributed by the discretion of mine executors as well amongst my tenants within the counties of Northampton and Essex as within the city of London, that is to say, to every poor maid twenty shillings or forty shillings sterlings after their discretions or the more part of them of such sum as shall remain undistributed of the said hundred pounds after my decease;

Also I remit and forgive all such poor creatures as be in my debt and not able to content the same whose names appeareth in my 7th book of debts under whose names I have written these words following, *Amore Dei remitto*, and I will that they in no wise be vexed nor troubled for the same by mine executors, but by this my present testament and last will I clearly forgive them for God's sake, praying them to pray for my soul and all Christian souls;

And where I have given to my right dear and well-beloved wife, Dame Jane Fitzwilliam, for term of her life the manors of Hemnalles, Maydelles, Marshalles, Arnewayes and other lands and tenements within the county of Essex, as by a deed of feoffment thereof

made and executed as also by indentures of the same with obligation bounden with divers other articles in the same comprised more plainly it appeareth, which manors and other lands been of the yearly value of one hundred marks sterlings for and in the name of her jointure, I will that she shall peaceably have and enjoy the same manors, lands and tenements with their appurtenances during her natural life;

Item, I will and bequeath unto the said Dame Jane, my wife, my gilt basin with the ewer thereunto of silver and gilt; item, two gilt cruces, the less with a cover; item, two little gilt salts that were her own, with a cover; item, two gilt spoons; item, two white drinking cruces, one with a cover; item, 6 white spoons; item, a cross of diamonds which I gave to her; item, two square crosses of gold which in like manner I have delivered unto her, with all other her apparel to her body belonging or appertaining;

Also I give and bequeath unto the said Dame Jane, my wife, five hundred marks of good and lawful sterlings money of England, to be paid to her within the space of two years next after my decease, that is to say, one hundred marks within three months next after my decease, and two hundred marks that day twelvemonths, and the other two hundred marks that day two years, upon condition so that the said Dame Jane disturb not nor vex mine executors in th' executing my will and testament in any manner of wise other than for this my bequests to her made in this my present testament and last will, and upon condition that she permit and suffer Robert Dormer, esquire, to occupy and enjoy the manor of Eythorp with th' appurtenances according to a lease to him made by me, the foresaid Sir William Fitzwilliam, and Dame Jane, reserving and paying yearly unto the said Dame Jane, my wife, during her natural life a hundred pounds sterlings a year for the same manor of Eythorp aforesaid;

And also I will that the said Dame Jane, my wife, shall have the possession and occupation of my messuage and place with all th' appurtenances within the parish of Saint Thomas th' Apostle within the city of London wherein I now dwell, to her and to her assigns for the term of her life if she abide and remain so long and by the said term of her life my widow, upon condition that the said Dame Jane, my wife, shall suffer mine executors and every of them by the space of one half year next and immediately after my decease to have free entry, coming and going unto and from the said [-place] messuage or place about their affairs and business as they shall have to do concerning th' order of my last will and testament, and upon condition that she nor no person or persons in her name or to her use and by her commandment, procurement, assent, agreement or assignment in any wise disturb, let or interrupt mine executors in or about the true execution of this my present testament and last will, nor to intermeddle with any goods or chattels other than by me to her before assigned and bequeathed, and upon condition that she shall yearly so long as she shall have th' occupying of the same place content and pay to th' hands of mine executors forty shillings sterlings every half year yearly, and also that she quarterly during all the said term shall content and pay or cause to be contented and paid unto the Abbot of Rowley and to his successors Abbots of the same place 23s 4d sterlings, and also upon condition that the said Dame Jane shall bear and do and sufficiently maintain all manner of reparations to the said place according to a lease thereof made by the said abbots to one Cawood, which four pounds yearly so received and had, I will that mine

executors shall yearly bestow the same for the love of God for the delivery of poor prisoners within the city of London which shall be acquitted and remain for their fees or such as shall be delivered by proclamation, being poor creatures, by th' oversight of the Mayor of London and Recorder of the same for the time being;

Also I will that the residue of all my stuff of household, that is to say, hangings, beddings, napery, brass, pewter and other utensils and hustlements of household whatsoever they be which shall happen to be and remain within my said dwelling-house and houses within the said parish of Saint Thomas th' Apostle in the ward of Vintry in the city of London at the time of my decease, my money, evidences, specialties and other writings and all my plate and jewels, a black chest bound with iron, other two red chests, and a great trussing coffer clearly forprised and excepted, and also forprised and excepted all such thing and things as I have given or by this my present testament do give unto William Fitzwilliam, mine eldest son, and to his brethren, Richard, Christopher, Francis and Thomas, or any of them, I will the same residue be divided by mine executors into two egal parts or portions, whereof thone part or egal portion I give and bequeath to the said Dame Jane, my wife, to have, enjoy and possede to her own proper use & behoof, and thother part and portion I give and bequeath unto the said Richard Fitzwilliam, my second son, to have, possede and enjoy the same to him to his own proper use and behoof;

Also I will that when it shall happen the said Dame Jane, my wife, to take an husband or to decease out of this world, then I will that John Baker, Recorder of London, shall have the mese or place wherein I now dwell unto th' end and term of so many years as I have in the same, the said John Baker yielding and paying yearly for the same to mine executors four pounds sterlings money of England for the rent of the same at the times accustomed within the city of London to be paid, which £4 yearly so long as the said term shall continue I will it shall be spent and bestowed for the delivery of poor prisoners within the city of London which shall be for their fees or that shall be delivered by proclamation and not able to pay for their deliverance, and also that the said John Baker and his assigns shall yearly content and pay or cause to be contented and paid unto the foresaid Abbot of Rowley and to his successors Abbots their seven marks sterlings yearly during his said term of tenantry or of his assigns quarterly by even portions, and over that, the said John Baker and his executors to keep sufficient reparations of the said messuage or place according to the covenants made to the grant of the said Abbey and Convent afore had and made unto Cavewod [=Cawood] and to his assigns appearing under the Convent seal of the foresaid abbey;

Also I will and bequeath unto William Fitzwilliam, mine eldest son, to be paid and delivered to him by mine executors or assigns within 18 months next after my decease three hundred marks sterlings, to be paid to him as thus: one hundred marks sterlings within six months after my decease, and one hundred marks within other 6 months then next following, and also one hundred marks within 6 months then next and immediately following, which maketh in all just three hundred marks sterling to be paid in 18 months next after my decease, the last to be paid;

And if it fortune my said son, William Fitzwilliam, to decease afore the said three hundred marks sterling to be fully paid to him as afore is expressed, then all such rest of the said three hundred marks and every parcel thereof to be paid to his right heir then being of full age of twenty and one years, and if it happen the said heir be within age, then I will that Richard Waddington and Richard Ogle, my cousins, two of mine executors, shall have the custody of the said three hundred marks or as much thereof as then shall remain unpaid unto the said William Fitzwilliam, putting in and finding good surety unto the residue of mine executors that the same three hundred marks or as much as shall remain thereof shall be delivered unto the said heir at his full age of twenty and one years, which I will that then it shall be delivered unto the said heir;

Also I give and bequeath unto William Fitzwilliam, my eldest son, my best carpet, one cushion half covered with cloth of gold, my gilt chalice with paten and pax of silver;

Item, I will all my harness and coats of fence in my gallery chamber be to William Fitzwilliam, my eldest son, and my rich briganders, and always reserved unto Richard Fitzwilliam, my second son, to have three of the best harness or coats;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my said son, William Fitzwilliam, God's blessing and mine with my cross of gold with a ruby in the midst and set about with three diamonds, and upon condition he to keep it in remembrance to pray for my soul, and never to depart from it whilst he liveth; item, my two greatest square salts gilt(?) with a cover; item, my satin gown furred with martens, my damask gown furred with martens, my best black gown furred with pure martens, and one of my doublets of black satin, and my russet velvet jacket;

Also I give and bequeath unto my said son, William Fitzwilliam, all such stuff of household, plate, cattle, grain and other movable goods and chattels which I have remaining in my manor-place of Milton, to be had to his own proper use and behoof;

Also I give and bequeath unto the said William, my eldest son, all such household stuff movable at Gaynes Park;

Also I will that if my said son, William, let, trouble or interrupt mine executors in or about the true execution of this my present testament and last will, or anything wrongfully attempt and justify contrary to the same so that mine executors lawfully may not execute this my present testament and last will, then I will that all such legacies, gifts and bequests made or to be made to him by me be utterly void and of none effect;

Also I give and bequeath unto Richard Fitzwilliam, my second son, my best three goblets with a cover, and two white pots gilt, the two best of the 4 smallest;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my said son, Richard Fitzwilliam, my second great carpet, my camlet gown furred with foins & martens, and my best black gown lined with sarsenet, my doublet of black satin, and my jacket of tawny satin;

Also I give and bequeath unto Christopher Fitzwilliam, my third son, five hundred marks sterlings upon condition hereafter ensuing, that is to say, that the said five hundred marks shall be and remain in the custody of mine executors, and I will that my said executors in as convenient and hasty speed as may be shall purchase lands and tenements with the same money to th' use of my said son, Christopher Fitzwilliam, and that the costs and charges of and for the assurance of the same be borne and paid by my said executors, and after the said lands and tenements be purchased and bought for the said Christopher Fitzwilliam, then I will that the said Christopher Fitzwilliam, when he shall be and accomplish the age of twenty and one years, shall have, hold, possede and enjoy the said lands and tenements for him so purchased to him and to his heirs of his body lawfully begotten if then it be thought and adjudged that time convenient he to have it by my brother, John Baker, and Richard Sackville the younger, and other mine executors the said land, that then it to be delivered into the hands of the said Christopher Fitzwilliam, and the same to be ordered by their discretion to this use following: and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to the said William Fitzwilliam, mine eldest son, to have and to hold to him and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to Richard Fitzwilliam, my second son, and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder thereof unto Francis Fitzwilliam, my fourth son, and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder thereof to Thomas Fitzwilliam and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder over to th' heirs of the body of me, the said Sir William Fitzwilliam, lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue the remainder to the right heirs of me, the said Sir William Fitzwilliam, forever;

Also I give and bequeath unto Christopher Fitzwilliam, my said son, one quart pot of silver and gilt, two white pots of silver, one drinking cruse, a featherbed, a bolster, a coverlet, two blankets and a pair of sheets;

Also I give and bequeath to my said son, Christopher Fitzwilliam, my nightgown furred with white and faced with martens, my doublet of worsted, and my jacket of worsted;

Also I give and bequeath unto Francis Fitzwilliam, my fourth son, two white flagons, a featherbed, a bolster, a coverlet, two blankets and a pair of sheets;

Also I give and bequeath unto Thomas Fitzwilliam, my fifth son, three white bowls pounced with a cover, a featherbed, a bolster, a coverlet, two blankets and a pair of sheets;

Also I give and bequeath unto the poor scholars studying art and divinity within the universities of Oxford and Cambridge forty pounds sterlings; I will twenty pounds thereof be to the University of Oxford, and thother twenty pounds to the University of Cambridge, and the same to be distributed for God's sake whereas it shall be thought most expedient and needful by the discretion of mine executors, whereof is five pounds ready paid by a Doctor of Divinity, and all and as much as shall be undisposed and

undelivered by me in my lifetime unto the said Universities of Cambridge and Oxford, mine executors to truly pay and bestow by th' advice of two Doctors of Divinity;

Item, I will that thirty pounds sterlings shall be given and bestowed amongst poor people for Christ's sake by me and by mine executors, what thereof I leave in my lifetime undone, mine executors immediately to perform where they shall see most need, only for God's sake;

Also I will that mine executors within one year next after my decease bestow in the making of the highway between Gaynes park and Chigwell, that is to say, from the way that cometh from Copersale towards Chigwell aforesaid, and from Thornewood comen unto Rye Hill ward, by th' advice of John Graygose of Maddelles for that only, and from Gaynes Park by th' advice of Thomas Rogers, fifty pounds sterlings in such places and whereas shall be most needful and as shall be thought necessary by mine executors, whereof thirty pounds is ready paid;

And also I will that other fifty pounds sterlings to be bestowed by the discretion of my executors and by th' advice of the Reverend Father in God the Abbot of Thorney in making and repairing of highways nigh unto the chapel called Sawtry Chapel, that is to say, about the bridge south from the said chapel and in other places there where most shall be for the passage of the King's liege people;

Also I will that my cousin, Richard Waddington, shall have the custody, rule and governance of the foresaid Thomas, my son, with all his lands and tenements, money, goods and chattels to him bequeathed or given by this my present testament and last will to such time as the said Thomas, my son, ought to have the same according to this my last will, finding sufficient surety to mine other executors for the true payment thereof according to th' intent of this my present testament and last will;

Also I will that my cousin, Richard Ogle the younger, shall have the custody, rule and governance of Francis Fitzwilliam, my son, with all his lands and tenements, money, goods and chattels to him bequeathed and given by this my present testament and last will to such time as the said Francis, my son, ought to have the same according to this my last will, finding sufficient surety to mine other executors for the sure payment thereof according to th' intent of this my present testament and last will;

And if it happen any of the said three persons, John Baker, Richard Waddington or Richard Ogle, to die, and Anthony Cooke living, then I will that the child and all such goods and chattels as is to him bequeathed shall be in the custody of the said Anthony Cooke in like manner and form as was to him so departed in every condition, the said Anthony to find sufficient surety in manner and form abovesaid, and if it fortune two of them to depart, that [sic?] to the survivors of him or them of the said three or two that shall overlive, to such time as the said child should or ought to have the said goods and chattels according to this my present testament and last will, finding good and sufficient surety as is abovesaid;

Also I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Brudenell, my daughter, wife to Thomas Brudenell, esquire, twenty pounds sterling, a basin and a ewer, a standing cup gilt with a cover, one of the best;

Also I bequeath unto Thomas Brudenell, my son-in-law, my best fur of martens which is in my best velvet gown, and to my daughter, his wife, my three second-best bowls gilt pounced with a cover, upon condition that he do not vex or trouble mine executors of or for any goods or chattels that late were John Hawe's, late alderman of London, deceased, and if he do, that then this present legacy to him made be void and of none effect, provided alway that if the said Thomas Brudenell, my son, pay to me, the foresaid Sir William Fitzwilliam, knight, or to mine executors twenty pounds sterlings that the said Thomas Brudenell oweth by obligation, and also acquit and discharge me and mine executors by general acquittance for all manner of claims other than for all these my bequests to him made and to his wife by me bequeathed, that then all my bequests and legacies in this my present testament be to him then truly paid and delivered, and if not, that then all my bequests and legacies in this my present testament be void and of none effect as there had never none been to him bequeathed nor willed;

Also I give and bequeath to Anne Cooke, my daughter, twenty pounds sterlings;

Also I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Mary, twenty pounds sterlings, a basin and an ewer, a standing cup with a cover gilt, the third best, which standing cup is ready delivered to John Shelley, my son-in-law;

Also I give and bequeath unto my singular good Lord, th' Earl of Wiltshire, my rich rovs [=rose?] of diamonds and rubies, beseeching his good Lordship in the honour of God to be singular good Lord in all lawful aiding unto mine executors for the performing of this my present testament and last will;

Also I give and bequeath unto Ellyn Milwarde, my kinswoman, five pounds sterlings, part of a hundred pounds by me bequeathed to maidens' marriages, to pray for my soul;

Also I give and bequeath unto Thomas Clapwell, my servant, if he be with me in service at the time of my decease, three pounds six shillings and eight pence sterlings over and above his wages;

Also I give and bequeath unto Thomas Clapwell, my said servant, twenty-six shillings and eight pence sterlings, to be paid yearly out of my manors of Champneys(?) and Ringstead, and for to be bailie, whosoever is lord thereof;

Also I give and bequeath unto Henry Sterne twenty shillings and a black coat;

Also I give and bequeath unto John Redhedd, my poor child in the kitchen, ten shillings and a coat, upon condition that he shall serve my wife one whole year next after my decease;

Also I will that John Hedge, my servant, have and enjoy his office of gonwayd(?) with all the commodities and advantages to the same belonging or appertaining during his natural life; moreover, if he be put out thereof, then he to have forty shillings sterlings by year going out of the manor of Eton during his life, with power and authority to strain there;

Also I give and bequeath unto John Trenche forty shillings sterlings by year, yearly to be perceived and going out of my manor of Eton in the county of Northampton, to have and perceive to him and to his assigns during his life natural, with full power and authority to distrain for the payment thereof;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Anne Denham [=Dinham?] three pounds six shillings and eight pence sterlings;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Mildred Cooke ten pounds sterlings, part of £100 bequeathed unto maidens' marriages;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Richard Greues' two maidens forty shillings sterlings, that is to say, to either of them twenty shillings, part of the said hundred pounds afore bequeathed;

Item, I give & bequeath unto Joane Malter and to her sister forty shillings sterlings, that is to say, to either of them 20s, part of the said hundred pounds before bequeathed;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Mary Bodenham forty shillings sterlings, part of the said hundred pounds before bequeathed;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Olyf Ocam 40s sterlings, part of a £100 bequeathed to maidens' marriages;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Gee at Wilton [sic?] 20s, part of the said £100 afore bequeathed;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Lounde, my maid, in like manner 20s sterlings, over and beside her wages;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Offeley, Mistress Kirton's sister, twenty shillings, part of the said £100 afore bequeathed to maidens' marriages;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Sir Richard Smith, parish priest of Saint Thomas th' Apostle, ten shillings sterlings, to pray for my soul;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Roger Denham [=Dinham?], my wife's son, ten pounds sterlings to pray for my soul if he allow truly all that I have laid out for him, and else no penny;

Also I give and bequeath unto little Christian, my son William Fitzwilliam's daughter, forty shillings sterlings;

Item, I give and bequeath unto the Prioress and Convent of Clerkenwell in London ten pounds sterlings to pray for my soul and all Christian souls and to have a dirge and Mass for my soul within their monastery, the same money to be paid to them by the discretion of mine executors in as short and convenient time as they conveniently may, the same to be disposed in the same monastery by the discretion of mine executors;

Also I give and bequeath unto the Master and Wardens of the Fellowship of Merchant Tailors in the city of London one of my best standing gilt cups with a cover for a perpetual remembrance there to be kept in their hall, and they to pray for my soul, desiring them that if it chance me to die in London to bring forth my corps af [sic] far as the liberties of London doth extend, and them to have so doing forty shillings to be paid to them by mine executors for a potation to drink at their hall;

Also I will that mine executors and every of them shall jointly, entirely and wholly together without any sufferance, refusal, cesser or refutation or other denier by the assent among themselves by agreement for money or otherwise shall occupy my goods or chattels, pay my debts, receive my debts, pay my legacies and bequests given and bequeathed in this my present testament and last will, and all other things do jointly in all their names or so many of their names and by th' assents and agreements of so many of mine executors as be then living at the time of any act to be done by them or any of them concerning this my present testament and last will, and otherwise not to be done except all die, one except, and then he to occupy as by the law he ought to do, and if any of mine executors by himself or any of them otherwise than is aforesaid without the whole number of them then living release, acquit or discharge my [sic?] debt due to them or do any other act or acts concerning my said will or testament without the full assent, consent and full agreement of all his fellows then living, I will that the gift and bequest to him by me made in this my present testament and last will be to him utterly void, and he to be taken as a perjured man, with other penalties such as thother mine executors with discreet counsel shall devise;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Jane Denham [=Dinham?] forty shillings sterlings;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my nephew, John Fitzwilliam, the son of Thomas Fitzwilliam, my brother, ten marks sterlings, to be paid to him by the discretion of mine executors;

And of this my present testament and last will I make and ordain John Baker, Recorder of London, Anthony Cooke the younger, esquire, Richard Waddington and Richard Ogle the younger my true and faithful executors to order and dispose all my goods and chattels, pay my debts, legacies and bequests according to my true meaning and intent of this my present testament and last will, and they truly and faithfully to fulfil and perform the same according to the confidence and trust that I have put in them as they will answer before God;

Item, I will, ordain and make mine overseer Sir William Fitzwilliam, knight, Treasurer of the King's most honourable Household, and for his painstaking to have my three best gilt bowls with a cover;

Also I will that the said John Baker shall have for his pain and labour in and about the same two great gilt pots;

Also I will that Anthony Cooke shall have fifty marks sterlings, and to the foresaid Richard Waddington fifty marks sterling, and to the foresaid Richard Ogle fifty marks sterlings;

Item, whereas I have of great trust and confidence committed Francis Fitzwilliam, my son, into th' hands of Richard Ogle, my cousin, with all such lands and goods as by me, the said Sir William Fitzwilliam, knight, to the said Francis before in my testament bequeathed as plainly doth appear, over that I will that the said Richard Ogle for his labour, pain and business of and about the same shall yearly perceive and take part of the revenues of the same lands to the said Francis bequeathed, five marks sterling to his own use and behoof during all the time within the said testament expressed to have the rule of the said Francis to this intent only, that the said Richard Ogle of his goodness shall faithfully and truly see the direct order of the said Francis Fitzwilliam and of all his lands and goods as much as in him is, and all the residue and profits remaining of the said lands and goods above the reasonable finding of the said Francis Fitzwilliam safely to keep to the use of the same Francis Fitzwilliam according to this my present testament before expressed;

Item, I will where I have of great trust and confidence committed Thomas Fitzwilliam, my son, into the hands of Richard Waddington, my cousin, with all such lands and goods as by me, the said Sir William Fitzwilliam, knight, to the said Thomas Fitzwilliam before in my testament bequeathed as plainly doth appear, over that I will that the said Richard Waddington shall for his labour, pain and business of and upon the same shall yearly perceive and take of the revenues of the same lands to the said Thomas Fitzwilliam bequeathed five marks sterling to his own use and behoof during all the time within the said testament expressed to have the rule of the said Thomas Fitzwilliam to this intent only, that the said Richard Waddington of his goodness shall faithfully and truly see the direct order of the said Thomas Fitzwilliam and of all his lands and goods as much as in him is, and all the residue and profits of the same lands and goods above the reasonable finding of the same Thomas Fitzwilliam safely to keep to th' use and behoof of the same Thomas Fitzwilliam according to this my present testament before expressed;

The residue of all and singular my goods and chattels, plate, jewels, ready money, stuff, apparel, ornaments and [sic?] household, corn, cattle and other my goods and chattels movable and unmovable, whatsoever they be, not given nor bequeathed before over other legacies hereafter to be bequeathed plainly expressed within this my said will and testament particularly by this my present testament and last will, and after the same my testament and last will as well afore expressed as hereafter in the same may be expressed

in and by all things truly performed and fulfilled, and after my debts paid, my funerals deducted, and other charges and demands which mine executors may reasonably pay, order and portion within two years next after my decease concerning and [sic?] fulfilling of my said will and testament, I will that then within one whole year then next and immediately following the said two years complete after my decease that the said goods, chattels, plate, jewels, ready money and all other my goods and chattels that do remain shall be egally divided into two parts, whereof I will that one part thereof immediately after the said two years passed shall be disposed in this manner following, that is to say, thone half thereof amongst my children indifferently, and the other part to my poor kinsfolks and to the poor and needy for Christ's sake to th' honour of God and for the health and profit of my soul, and if any of my said children be departed afore the said time immediately following the said two years afore expressed having any children or child, then every child or children so living to have their part of the same portion aforesaid as their fathers and mothers should have had if they had been alive;

And also I will that if any ambiguity, doubt or question arise or grow hereafter in or upon any article, clause, gift or legacy contained in this my last [+will] or testament, then I will the same ambiguity, doubt or question shall be expounded and declared by the more part of mine executors and the lengest liver of them, and specially by them who knoweth my secret mind and intent how and after what manner everything should be ordered to the most honour and laud of Almighty God and for the profit and health of my soul, and I will that the said execution and declaration so by them made and such act as they shall thereupon do shall be accepted, reputed and taken as my true will, and the same I do ratify and confirm in all things as though it were by me expressed and declared in this my said testament, so that it be done ever for Christ's sake and for the health and comfort of my soul;

In witness whereof to this my present testament and last will I have written my name at th' end of every leaf of the same, and also at the latter end thereof subscribed my name and also set to my seal in the presence of William Bromwell, Robert Bayneham, Robert Dawbeney, John Merchaunte, Thomas White, Sir Richard Smythe, and William, Devereux. Given the day and year above-rehearsed.

LM: Codicillus eiusdem Domini Willelmi

Furthermore the last day of the month of July and in the year abovesaid, and after the said testament published, the foresaid testator called to his remembrance that he had made a testament containing in the same his last will [+and?] in manner and by the way of codicil declared and added more unto the said will as hereafter followeth, that is to say:

I give and bequeath unto Christopher Fitzwilliam, my son, one white pot of silver parcel gilt, match unto that is to him afore bequeathed;

Also I bequeath unto Thomas Fitzwilliam, my son, a little salt with a cover silver and gilt which was given him by his godmother;

Item, whereas I had given and bequeathed unto my said son, William Fitzwilliam, God's blessing and mine with a cross of gold with a ruby in the midst and set about with three diamonds, and upon condition he to keep it in remembrance to pray for my soul and never to depart from it whiles he lives, now I will for divers considerations that Dame Jane, my wife, shall have the said cross to her own proper use upon condition that the said Dame Jane shall yearly pay or cause to be paid during the term of ten years next after my decease, if she so long live, forty shillings sterlings in this manner and form following, that is to say, twenty shillings thereof yearly unto my said son, William Fitzwilliam, and the other twenty shillings to William Fitzwilliam, eldest son to my said son, William Fitzwilliam, towards the finding of him to his learning;

Item, I will that my piece of fine linen cloth to be divided between Dame Jane, my wife, my four daughters, and Anne Waddington;

Item, I bequeath unto the said Dame Jane, my wife, my best gown of black velvet which the fur is taken out, and she to wear it for my sake;

Item, I bequeath unto my said son, William Fitzwilliam, my new single gown of satin never worn;

Item, I bequeath unto my cousin, Richard Waddington, my ring with a turquoise for a remembrance to pray for my soul;

Item, I bequeath unto William Wilford, my godson, a casting pot with chains;

Item, I bequeath unto Mildred Cooke a covering taken up of Malibrancke for debt, and to be given to her at her marriage;

Item, I bequeath unto every of my servants 20s and a black coat over and above their wages which be not rehearsed in my said testament which shall be in my house at the time of my decease;

Item, I bequeath unto Richard Grene, my tenant at Gaynes Park, one of my best kie;

Item, I will that three of the next best of my kine at Gaynes Park shall be delivered to the churchwardens of Theydon Garnon for the maintenance of an obit for Narington forever, giving unto mine executors a general acquittance. Witness hereof these persons following: William Robyns, Robert Baynam and Sir Richard Smythe, clerk.

RM: Vltima voluntas dicti Domini Wylllemi ffytzwyllyams militis defuncti regratur(?) in xxxiiitio queno(?) huius Libri

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum coram Domino apud Lamethith quinto die mensis Septembris Anno Domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxiiijo vna cum Codicillo eiusdem Iuramento magistri Iohannis Talkarn notarij publici procuratoris Iohannis Baker Anthonij Cooke Richardi Waddington et Richardi Ogle executorum in huiusmodi testamento nominatorum Ac approbatum et insinuatum Et commissa administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum iurium et creditorum dicti defuncti prefatis executoribus De bene &c Ac de pleno et fideli Inuentario conficiendo Necnon de plano et vero compoto reddendo Ad sancta dei Euangelia Iurati

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord [+Archbishop] at Lambeth on the fifth day of the month of September in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 34th, together with the codicil to the same, by the oath of Master John Talkarne, notary public, proctor of John Baker, Anthony Cooke, Richard Waddington and Richard Ogle, executors named in the same testament, and probated and entered, and administration [+was granted] of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased to the forenamed executors, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc., and to prepared a full and faithful inventory, and also to render a plain and true account.]