

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 8 April 1533 and proved 17 October 1539, of James Tyrrell (1475?-1538) of Gipping, Suffolk, the son of Sir James Tyrrell (c.1455-1502), alleged murderer of the two young sons of King Edward IV held in the Tower, and his wife Anne, the daughter of John Arundel (d.1473) of Lanherne, Cornwall, and grandson of William Tyrrell (d.1462) of Gipping and his wife, Margaret, daughter of Robert Darcy of Maldon, Essex. William Tyrrell of Gipping was beheaded at Tower Hill on 26 February 1462 with John de Vere (1408-1462), 12<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford, and the Earl's eldest son and heir, Aubrey de Vere.

The testator's wife is not named in the will. According to various sources she was Anne Hotoft, and brought her husband the manor of Columbine Hall alias Thorney Columbers at Stowupland, Suffolk (see <http://www.columbinehall.co.uk/history.htm>). On the testator's death on 7 September 1538, the manor passed to his son and heir, John Tyrrell, who mortgaged it, and appears to have sold it shortly thereafter (see Copinger, W.A., *The Manors of Suffolk; Notes on Their History and Devolution: The Hundreds of Samford, Stow, and Thedwestry*, vol. 6 (Manchester: Taylor, 1910), pp. 231-2).

At the time he made his will in 1533, the testator had three sons, John, Thomas and Philip, and three daughters, Margaret, Margery and Anne, and perhaps a fourth son, James, although James is not specifically named in the will as the testator's son. It would appear that between the making of his will in 1533 and his death in 1538 the testator had a fourth or fifth son, Charles (d.1570), who later married Oxford's mother, Margery Golding (d.1568) as her second husband.

The testator's elder brother was Sir Thomas Tyrrell (1472?-1551) of Gipping. For his will, see TNA PROB 11/34, ff. 172-4.

In the name of God, amen. I, James Tyrrell, make my last will and testament in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred 33 under this manner and form following:

First, I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my body to be buried where it shall please him;

Item, I give to the high altar in Stow [=Stowmarket] for my tithes negligently forgotten 3s 4d;

Also I will that all such covenants as I stand bounden unto Master Ley and Master Philip Barnard be performed according as is specified in a pair of indentures made between us;

Also, I will my son, John Tyrrell, have the gilt cup and 2 featherbeds with that belong to them, and if he die, I will Thomas, his brother, have it;

Item, I give my wife all my stuff of household and plate except the cup aforesaid;

Item, I will my wife have my house in Needham during her life, and after her decease, I will Margaret Tyrrell, my daughter, have it if she be then alive; if she die, then I will Margery, my daughter, have it; and if they both die, I will it be sold by my wife's executors and mine, and the money thereof to go to the performance of my will;

Item, I give to Anne Tyrrell, my daughter, twenty pounds and 6 pounds of lawful money of England;

Item, I give to Thomas Tyrrell, 6 pounds 13s 4d if his brother, John, be then alive;

Item, I will all my cattle be sold by mine executors, and the money thereof to go to the performance of my will;

Also, I will Philip, my son, have £6 13s 4d if it will be borne;

The residue of my goods not bequeathed, I put to the discretion of mine executrix, whom I name my wife;

Written the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April in the 26<sup>th</sup> [sic?] year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Henry the 8<sup>th</sup> with the hand of me, James Tyrrell;

Item, I will James Tyrrell have £7 13s 4d if it will be borne.

Witness, my brother, Sir Thomas Tyrrell, knight, and John Waulker [=Walker], clerk.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum Testamentum coram prefato Magistro Willelmo Peter legum doctore Commissario antedicto Apud London xvij die mensis Octobris Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo Tricesimo Nono Iuramento Iohannis Thorp literati procuratoris Relicte et executricis in huiusmodi testamento nominate Ac approbatum et insinuatum Comissaque fuit administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum iurium et creditorum dicti defuncti Relicte et executrici in huismodi testamento nominate De bene etc Ac de pleno et fideli Inventario omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum huiusmodi conficiendo Necnon de plano et vero compoto reddendo Ad sancta dei Euan geelia In persona dicti procuratoris Iurati

[=The above-written will was proved before the forenamed Master William Peter, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary aforesaid, at London on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of the month of October in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred thirty-ninth by the oath of the learned John Thorp, proctor of the relict and executrix 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 relict and executrix named in the same testament, sworn on the Holy Gospels, in the person of the said proctor, to well etc., and to prepare a full

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and faithful inventory of all and singular the goods and debts of the same, and also to render a plain and true account.]