

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 4 November 1542 and proved 3 February 1543, of Roger Wigston (c.1483 - 27 November 1542), esquire, grandfather of Roger Wigston (c.1537 - 1608), at whose home, Wolston Priory, the last two Marprelate tracts, the *Theses Martinianae* and the *Just Censure and Reproof of Martin Junior*, were printed on a secret press in July 1589.

The testator's daughters married into the family of Henry Higford or Hugford, town clerk of Stratford-upon-Avon, who sued John Shakespeare.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator states in the will below that he was born in Leicester. For his family background, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/wigston-roger-148283-1542>

b. 1482/83, yst. s. of John Wigston of Leicester, Leics. by Elizabeth, da. of one Gillot. educ. I. Temple, adm. 1514. m. by 1509, Christian, da. and coh. of Edward Langley, wid. of William Pye, 2s. inc. William 4da.4

See also the Wigston pedigree in Fetherston, John, ed., *The Visitation of the County of Warwick in the Year 1619*, (London: Harleian Society, 1877), Vol. XII, pp. 36-8 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationcount01britgoog#page/n60/mode/2up>

See also Hartopp, Henry, 'Wigston or Wiggston Family of Leicester' in Spencer, John and Thomas Spencer, eds., *Leicestershire and Rutland Notes and Queries and Antiquarian Gleaner*, Vol. III, (London: Elliot Stock, 1895), pp. 296-301 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/leicestershirea00unkngoog#page/n353/mode/2up>

The testator had two elder brothers and a sister:

-William Wigston (d. 8 July 1536), for whom see Spencer, *supra*, pp. 268-72 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/leicestershirea00unkngoog#page/n323/mode/2up>

According to Spencer, the testator's eldest brother, William Wigston, married firstly Isabella Gyllott (died c.1508), the sister of Richard Gyllott, Mayor of Leicester in 1497, and secondly Agnes Pysford, widow of William Ford of Coventry, and daughter of William Pysford (d.1518) of Coventry. According to the pedigree in Fetherston, *supra*, p. 38, however, William Wigston married the daughter of Sir Robert Markham. Both

sources agree that William Wigston died without issue. For the will of William Wigston see TNA PROB 11/25/556. For the will of his second wife, Agnes, see TNA PROB 11/28/592.

-**Thomas Wigston** (d.1537), a cleric, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/26/98.

-**Margaret Wigston**, who married a husband surnamed Harwar. See Spencer, *supra*, pp. 271, 298.

TESTATOR'S WIFE

The testator married Christian Langley, widow of William Pye, and one of the daughters and co-heirs of Edmund Langley (d.1490) of Siddington (near Cirencester), Gloucestershire, by his first wife, Joan Tame. See the will of Edmund Langley, proved 24 May 1490, TNA PROB 11/8/327, and the transcript in Phillimore, W.P.W. and Sidney J. Madge, eds., *Gloucestershire Notes and Queries*, Vol. VIII, Part I, No. 77, New Series, (London: Phillimore & Co., 1901), pp. 17-18 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/gloucestershire810lond#page/16/mode/2up>

For Christian Langley, see also the will of her step-mother, Elizabeth Tracy Langley Baynham (d. 19 October 1526), TNA PROB 11/22/255, who married Edmund Langley (d.1490) as his second wife.

By his first wife, Joan Tame, Edmund Langley (d.1490) had two sons and three daughters:

-**Walter Langley** (d. 29 or 30 October 1502?), eldest son and heir, underage in 1490, who married Anne Hungerford, the daughter of Sir Thomas Hungerford (d.1494) of Down Ampney by Christian Halle (d.1504), the daughter of John Halle (d. 18 October 1479) of Salisbury, but died without issue. Jane Halle, the daughter of John Halle's son, William Halle, married Sir Thomas Wriothesley (d. 24 November 1534), Garter King of Arms, the eldest son and heir of John Writhe (d.1504), Garter King of Arms, while John Writhe's daughter, Barbara Wriothesley, married Anthony Hungerford, the eldest son of Sir Thomas Hungerford (d.1494) and Christian Halle (d.1504). See the will of John Writhe (d.1504), Garter King of Arms, TNA PROB 11/14/125. John Writhe was the great-great-grandfather of Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton, to whom Shakespeare dedicated *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*. See the Hungerford pedigree in Maclean, John and W.C. Heane, eds., *The Visitation of the County of Gloucester Taken in the Year 1623*, (London: Harleian Society, 1885), Vol. XXI, pp. 87-8 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofcoun00inchit#page/88/mode/2up>

See also the inquisitions post mortem mentioning the testator's wife taken after the death of Walter Langley (d. 29 or 30 October 1502?) at:

Maskelyne and H. C. Maxwell Lyte, 'Inquisitions Post Mortem, Henry VII, Entries 551-600', in *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem: Series 2, Volume 2, Henry VII* (London, 1915), pp. 343-380. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/inquis-post-mortem/series2-vol2/pp343-380> [accessed 5 November 2017]:

Isabel, wife of Henry Ketylby, Christine wife of Roger Wygston and Alice, wife of Thomas Everdon, aged respectively 27, 25 and 22 and more, are his daughters, and sisters and heirs of the said Walter.

-Roger Langley, underage in 1490.

-Isabel Langley (d. 7 March 1541). In 1490 she was the wife of John Lymeryk, likely the son of Thomas Limerick (d.1486) of Stowell, whose sister, Agnes Limerick, married firstly William Tame and secondly Sir Robert Harcourt (d. by 1504). See:

<http://landedfamilies.blogspot.ca/2016/11/240-atkinson-of-stowell.html>

Isabel Langley married secondly Henry Kettleby, who may have been the Henry Kettleby (d.1508) who was a servant of Prince Henry, and whose monument in West Ham was recorded by Weever. See Lysons, Daniel, *The Environs of London*, Vol. IV, (London: T. Cadell, 1796), p. 262 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=LPxBAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA262>

See also the pedigree of Kettleby in Maclean, *supra*, p. 261 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofcoun00inchit#page/260/mode/2up>

Isabel Langley married thirdly Edward Scudamore, for whom see Skydmore, Warren, 'Notes on the Skydmore Era at Burnham, Buckinghamshire: Preface', Occasional Papers No. 27, pp. 9-11, available online.

-Christian Langley, unmarried in 1490. She married firstly William Pye, by whom she had issue, including a son, William Pye, mentioned in the will below. She married secondly the testator, Roger Wigston.

-Alice Langley, unmarried in 1490. She married firstly Thomas Everdon, and secondly John Huntley.

For the Langley family, see the pedigree in Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol. III, 2nd Series, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1890), p. 172 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=sIIIAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA172>

For the Langley family, see also the pedigree of Huntley in Maclean, John and W.C. Heane, eds., *The Visitation of the County of Gloucester Taken in the Year 1623*, Vol. XXI, (London: Harleian Society, 1885), p. 93 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofcoun00inchit#page/92/mode/2up>

See also Waters, Robert Edmond Chester, *Genealogical Memoirs of the Extinct Family of Chester of Chicheley*, Vol. I, (London: Robson and Sons, 1878), p. 204 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=OaxCAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA204>

TESTATOR'S CHILDREN

By Christian Langley, the testator is said to have had two sons and five daughters:

* **Sir William Wigston** (c.1509 – 27 September 1577), eldest son and heir, for whom see the inquisition post mortem taken after his death, TNA C 142/183/95, his will, Lichfield Record Office, Ref 93; and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/wigston-william-1509-77>

b. by 1509, 1st s. of Roger Wigston. educ. prob. I. Temple. m. by 1536, Elizabeth, da. of Sir Robert Peyton of Isleham, Cambs., 4s. 7da. suc. fa. 27 Nov. 1542. Kntd. 19 Oct. 1553.2

See also Hartopp, Henry, 'Wigston or Wiggston Family of Leicester' in Spencer, John and Thomas Spencer, eds., *Leicestershire and Rutland Notes and Queries and Antiquarian Gleaner*, Vol. III, (London: Elliot Stock, 1895), pp. 296-301 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/leicestershirea00unkngoog#page/n353/mode/2up>

Sir William Wigston married firstly Margaret Croft, the daughter of John Croft of Holt, by whom he is said to have had a daughter:

-**Anne Wigston**, about whom nothing further appears to be known.

Sir William Wigston married secondly Elizabeth Peyton (d.1579), the daughter of Sir Robert Peyton (d. 18 March 1518) of Isleham, Cambridgeshire, a descendant of Robert de Vere, 3rd Earl of Oxford. See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 354, and the will of Elizabeth Peyton Wigston, Lichfield Record Office, Ref 105.

By Elizabeth Peyton, Sir William Wigston is said to have had four sons and seven daughters:

-Roger Wigston (c.1537 – buried 28 September 1608), esquire, in whose house, Wolston Priory, the last two Marprelate tracts were printed in July 1589 (see above). He married Margaret Davenport (buried 15 September 1606), the daughter of Nicholas Davenport of Cheshire, by whom he had three sons and two daughters:

(1) William Wigston, buried 6 February 1563. See ‘Extracts From the Registers of the Church of Wolston cum Brandon, Warwickshire’, in Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol. IV, 2nd Series, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1892), p. 70 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=FlpIAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA70>

(2) Huntington Wigston, baptized 29 September 1569, buried 22 April 1579. See *Extracts, supra*, p. 70.

(3) Nathaniel Wigston, baptized 3 August 1574, buried 20 August 1574. See *Extracts, supra*, p. 70.

(4) Elizabeth Wigston, who in 1589 married William Davenport. See Herbert, Albert, ‘Church of St. Peter. Belgrave’, p. 51, available as a pdf file online:

We also know that William Wigston and Elisabeth, his wife, had acquired another manor in Belgrave before 1521, and that this manor came from the Wigstons to the Davenports by the marriage of William Davenport with Elizabeth, the daughter and co-heir of Roger Wigston, in 1589

(5) Susan Wigston, who on 14 October 1587 married Nicholas Wentworth (buried 15 April 1613). See *Extracts, supra*, p. 70. See also Rutton, William Loftie, *Three Branches of the Family of Wentworth*, (London: 1891), pp. 263, 301 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=YhY5AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA263>

-Edward Wigston, adopted heir of Robert Pieton [=Peyton?]. He appears to be the Edward Wigston who is mentioned in the will of Henry Hugford (d. 1592). See below.

-Roger Wigston (again).

-William Wigston.

-Francis Wigston, who died without issue.

-Katherine Wigston, who on 21 June 1558 married William Purefoy of Caldecote, Warwickshire, who died 1 September 1615 at 88 years of age. See *Extracts, supra*, p. 70,

and the Purefoy pedigree in Adlard, George, *The Sutton-Dudleys of England the Dudleys of Massachusetts in New England*, (London, 1862), p. 20 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=TWYBAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA20>

-Mary Wigston.

-Bridget Wigston, who on 21 October 1577 married Henry Smith (buried 15 December 1615). See *Extracts, supra*, p. 70.

-Anne Wigston, who married a husband surnamed Crofts.

-Christian Wigston, who married a husband surnamed Wake.

-Elizabeth Wigston, who died without issue.

* **John Wigston**, who predeceased the testator.

* **Anne Wigston**, who married John Hugford as his second wife, but is said to have died without issue. In the will below she is referred to as 'my eldest daughter, Anne, now wife unto John Higford'. The spellings 'Higford' and 'Hugford' appear to have been used alternatively at the time.

By his first wife, John Hugford had a son, John Hugford. Anne Wigston's great-niece, Anne Dabridgecourt (baptized 5 October 1559), married firstly Henry Hugford (d.1592), and secondly John Hugford, the son of Anne Wigston's husband, John Hugford. See Nichols, John Gough, ed., *The Topographer and Genealogist*, Vol. I, (London: John Bowyer Nichols and Son, 1846), pp. 197-207 at pp. 198, 205:

https://archive.org/stream/bub_gb_CBwIAAAAQAAJ#page/n209/mode/2up

Anne Wigston, the sister of his wife Elizabeth, married John Hugford, who was father, by his first wife, of John Hugford, who married Anne Dabridgecourt. A sketch of his monument, with the inscription, is given in Dugdale's Warwickshire.

See also the will of Henry Hugford (d.1592), TNA PROB 11/80/424.

* **Alice Wigston**, who married William Cokeseay or Cooksey, but is said to have died without issue. See Grazebrook, H. Sydney, *The Heraldry of Worcestershire*, Vol. II, (London: John Russell Smith, 1873), p. 624 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/heraldryworcest01grazgoog#page/n266/mode/2up>

For the will, dated 1497 and proved 26 March 1498, of Sir Thomas Cokeseay alias Greville, in which he mentions his son, William Cokeseay, and his daughter, Elizabeth Cokeseay, see TNA PROB 11/11/353.

For the marriage of Alice Cokeseey, sister of William Cokeseey, to ‘a younger son of Sir Roger Acton of Sutton’, by whom she was the mother of John Acton, who acquired the estate of Wolfrinton, or Wolverton, in Worcestershire, as heir to his uncle, the last of the Cokeseys’, see Burke, J. Bernard, *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland for 1852*, (London: Colburn and Co., 1852), p. 3 at:

https://archive.org/stream/b24877876_0001#page/n17/mode/2up

See also ‘Cooksey Pedigree and History’ at:

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~uktranscriptions/cooksey_family_history.htm

* **Elizabeth Wigston**, who married, as his second wife, John Dabridgecourt (d. 16 July 1544) of Solihull, Warwickshire, son of Thomas Dabridgecourt (d. 10 October 1495) of Stratfield Saye by Alice Delamare, the daughter of Sir Thomas Delamare of Aldermaston, Berkshire. By Thomas Dabridgecourt, Alice Delamare was also the mother of Thomas Dabridgecourt (d. 20 January 1540), who married Dorothy Puttenham, the daughter of George Puttenham of Sherfield, Hampshire. After the death of Thomas Dabridgecourt, Alice Delamare married Sir Richard Elyot, Justice of the Common Pleas (see below).

By John Dabridgecourt, the testator’s daughter, Elizabeth Wigston, was the mother of Thomas Dabridgecourt (buried 12 May 1602) and the grandmother of Anne Dabridgecourt (baptized 1 October 1559), who married firstly, on 30 September 1588, Henry Hugford (d.1592) of Solihull, and secondly, on 28 October 1593, John Hugford of Henwood, Warwickshire (see above). See the will of Thomas Dabridgecourt (buried 12 May 1602), TNA PROB 11/100/333; the will of Henry Hugford (d.1592), TNA PROB 11/80/424; the ‘Pedigree of Dabridgecourt of Stratfield Say, Co. Hants’, in Nichols, *supra*, pp. 198, 205; and Fry, E.A., *The Register of Solihull, Co. Warwick, 1538-1668* Vol. I, (Parish Register Society, 1904), *supra*, p. 138 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/138/mode/2up>

Anne Dabridgecourt’s first husband, Henry Hugford (d.1592) was Town Clerk of Stratford upon Avon, and sued John Shakespeare in 1573. See Fripp, Edgar I., *Minutes and Accounts of the Corporation of Stratford-Upon-Avon*, Vol. IV, (London: Dugdale Society, 1929), pp. xxxii, xxxiii, xxxvii:

The Earl of Warwick was hardly in his grave before Whitgift, smarting under the satire of ‘Martin Marprelate’, turned on Cartwright and his Warwickshire followers . . . In February 1591 Cartwright had been eighteen months in prison when he wrote to Burghley that he might return to Warwick or have lodging near London. Job Throgmorton visited him in the Fleet. Throgmorton had been let off with astonishing lenity at the Warwick assizes. Lack of evidence to date, friendship with the prosecutor

(his neighbour at Warwick, Serjeant Puckering), timely and humble submission to Lord Chancellor Hatton, his recognized services in the past to the Privy Council in the hunting of Jesuits, and, it must be confessed, clever barefaced falsehood, saved him from a much heavier sentence. In London he witnessed at the Star Chamber the infliction of vindictive fines on his associates – Sir Richard Knightley £2000, John Hales 1,000 marks, Roger Wigston and his wife (a formidable lady) 500 and 100 marks. . . .

Master Higsforde of Solihull is our old friend Henry Higford, late Town Clerk of Stratford (successor of Richard Symonds and predecessor of Henry Rogers).

See also Fripp, Edgar I., *Minutes and Accounts of the Corporation of Stratford-Upon-Avon*, Vol. II, (London: Dugdale Society, 1924), pp. ix, xiii, xvii, 1-2, 70:

Henry Higford, gentleman, of Solihull, sues John Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon whittawer, John Musshen of Walton D'Eivile, yeoman, and John Wheeler of Stratford upon Avon, yeoman, in plea of debts, and obtains warrants for their arrest.

For Henry Hugford's suit against John Shakespeare, see also Lewis, B. Roland, *The Shakespeare Documents*, Vol. I, (Stanford University Press, 1940), pp. 64-5.

See also the *ODNB* entry for Sir Richard Elyot (d.1522) mentioned above:

Elyot married twice. His first wife was Alice, daughter of Sir Thomas Delamere. The widow of Thomas Daubridgecourt of Strathfieldsaye, Hampshire, she was the cousin, and ultimately the heir, of Sir William Findern of Carlton, Cambridgeshire. They had two children: the famous humanist and educational theorist Sir Thomas Elyot, and Marjory, wife of Robert Puttenham, son of Sir George Puttenham of Sherfield, near Basingstoke, Hampshire.

See also the *ODNB* entry for George Puttenham, author of *The Arte of English Poesie* (1588) in which Oxford is described as deserving 'the highest prize. . . . for comedy and interlude':

Puttenham, George (1529–1590/91), writer and literary critic, was the second son of Robert Puttenham of Sherfield upon Lodon, Hampshire, and his wife, Margery, daughter of Sir Richard Elyot and sister of Sir Thomas Elyot.

The testator's daughter, Elizabeth Wigston, is said to have married secondly John Holbeche of Fillongley, Warwickshire. See the Dabridgecourt pedigree in Fetherston, *supra*, p. 47 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationcount01britgoog#page/n70/mode/2up>

* **Katherine Wigston**, who married firstly Thomas Warren, secondly Giles Forster (d.1549), and thirdly Sir Edward Aglionby (1520-1591?) of Temple Balsall,

Warwickshire. In the will below she is referred to as 'my daughter Foster'. See the History of Parliament entry for Sir Edward Aglionby at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/aglionby-edward-i-1520-91>

* **Mary Wigston**, who married Nicholas Thorne of Bristol. She is not mentioned in the will below.

See also Wigston marriages and burials in 'Extracts From the Registers of the Church of Wolston cum Brandon, Warwickshire', in Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol. IV, 2nd Series, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1892), p. 70 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=FlpIAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA70>

LM: Test{amentu}m Rogeri Wigston

In Dei nomine Amen. I, Roger Wigston of Wolston in the county of Warwick, esquire, the fourth day of November in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred forty and two and in the 34th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Henry the Eight, King of England, of France and of Ireland, Defender of the Faith and in earth under God Supreme Head of the Church of England and Ireland, of whole mind and in good and perfect remembrance, laud and praise be to Almighty God, make and ordain this my present testament and last will in manner and form following:

First and principally I commend my soul unto Almighty God, Jesus Christ, my Maker and Redeemer, humbly beseeching him of his infinite mercy and goodness to accept the same into his eternal joy and glory through the intercession of his Blessed Mother, Our Lady, Saint Mary, and all the holy company of saints in heaven;

And my body to be buried in the parish church of Wolston there where it shall be thought most convenient by the discretion of my executors;

Also I bequeath to the Cathedral church of Lichfield 20d;

Item, I bequeath to the bead-house in Greyfriar Lane in Coventry 6s 8d, and to Sir John Wigston, priest there, 6s 8d, and unto Master Bonde's bead-house in Coventry 3s 4d, desiring all the beadsmen in both the same houses to pray for my soul;

Item, I bequeath to Saint Martin's church in Leicester where I was christened 20s;

And to my brother William's bead-house in Saint Martin's churchyard 40s;

Item, I bequeath to Saint Margaret's church of Wolston five pounds, and the same to remain in the custody of my wife and of my son, William Wigston, to be employed in ornaments, building and reparations of the same church by the will and discretion of the same William, my son, and the vicar of the same church for the time being;

Also I give and bequeath to every cottier [=cottager] in Wolston, Brandon and Bretford 12d;

Item, I bequeath to Thomas Olney, my servant, one cow, five sheep and pair of hose or a hose-cloth, and also I give and remit to him all the debt he oweth me;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thurstan Coke, my servant, £6 13s 4d to begin the world with, to be bestowed upon something for his profit and advantage [f. 120r] by the discretion of mine executors as they shall see towardness of thrift and good conditions in him;

Item, I give unto Agnes Collet, late my servant, a cow;

Item, I bequeath to Thomas Radford, my servant, a cow and ten sheep, and desiring my wife and William, my son, to be good unto him;

Item, I give and bequeath to my eldest daughter, Anne, now wife unto John Higford, an hundred pounds to be allowed unto her husband upon the debt he oweth me;

Item, I bequeath to the reparation of Bretford bridge and Fynforde bridge, either of them 20s;

Item, I bequeath to my daughter Cokesey clearly an hundred marks, and all debts and reckonings betwixt her husband and me clearly discharged;

And I bequeath to my said daughter, his wife, a cup of silver such as my wife shall think best;

And I give and bequeath to my said son-in-law, William Cokesey, my best gown of camlet furred with foins and my jacket of tawny velvet;

Item, I bequeath to my daughter Dabridgecourt forty pounds in money, a cup of silver and gilt;

And to every of her children now being ten pounds in money towards their marriage and exhibition;

Also I give and bequeath to my daughter Foster twenty pounds in money and my standing cup that I had of Hugh Merven;

Item, I bequeath to young William Foster ten pounds;

Item, I will that [-in] every town adjoining to Wolston within the compass of three miles shall have 6s 8d apiece or more as shall be thought best by the discretion of my executors or such two or three honest men with the curate of every such town, to be distributed amongst the poor people there where most need shall be thought after their discretion, so that every curate in the foresaid towns to have of the said money before limited and appointed 8d;

And if there be any mo [=more] priests dwelling and continually abiding in any of the said towns beside the curate, then every such priest to have 6d apiece, to be deducted out of the money that shall come to any of the said towns where any such priest shall happen to be;

And the foresaid curates and priests to say placebo and dirge and Mass for my soul and all Christian souls;

And the residue of the said money to be dealt and distributed amongst the poor people in the said towns as before is mentioned and declared;

Item, I give and bequeath to James Walshe that was my servant fifty pounds because I know him in poverty and that he claimeth of me a debt which I am in doubt of, yet willing rather to be a loser than he should be, and for the clearing and discharging of my conscience in this behalf I will that he shall have the said fifty pounds, he making to my executors a clear acquittance for the same, and this to be done out of hand;

Furthermore I will that Christian, my wife, shall have the manurance, use and occupation of all my goods movable and unmovable of all my leases and farms, as well of the parsonage of Wolston as all other that I have here or elsewhere, she to have and receive all the whole profits of them during her life, and she to order and distribute any part of the same goods to any of her own children or their children or for the weal of her soul and mine, so that all my debts, legacies and funerals be paid and discharged, at her will and pleasure by th' advice and counsel and help of my son, William;

And after her decease I will that the residue of my goods that shall be and remain not before given and bequeathed and all my said leases shall remain unto my son, William Wigston, to order, sell and dispose at his pleasure;

Furthermore I will that mine executors do find an honest priest to sing for me twenty years after my decease in Wolston church or elsewhere at the will and pleasure of my wife and my son, William;

Moreover I will that all the residue of my goods and chattels, jewels, plate & household stuff, my debts and legacies paid and my funerals discharged as is aforesaid, to remain and be to Christian, my wife, during her life;

And after her decease to be and to remain to my son, William, my funerals done and discharged, my debts and legacies paid;

And also I do make and ordain Christian, my wife, and William, my son, my executors with Sir William Clark, vicar of Wolston, they to see this my last will and testament observed, fulfilled, kept and performed, and all my debts first to be paid contained and declared in a book thereof made;

Also I bequeath unto the said vicar of Wolston, my curate and ghostly father, four pounds in money and his costs and expenses to be borne beside of my goods in and for the execution of this my last will and testament and to pray for my soul;

Item, I will that if my son, William, fortune to die before his said mother, then all the said goods, chattels, jewels and plate with the household stuff to remain unto my said wife, she to order and dispose the same at her own will and pleasure, my funerals discharged, my legacies and debts paid, amongst my daughters and my son and daughters' children and to poor people as she shall think most expedient and necessary by her discretion;

Item, where my son [=stepson] Pye oweth to me forty pounds and more money, in and upon certain considerations me moving all the same debt I do remit and forgive him by this my present last will and testament;

Also I will that every of my waiting servants, as many as will not tarry in service with my wife after my decease, shall have his whole year's wages with him at his departure, and such as do tarry in service shall have an honest reward by the discretion of my wife and William, my son;

Item, I give and clearly remit to my son, William, all debts and duties due by him to me, and clearly discharge him thereof by this my last will;

Also I give and remit to George Gyllot £26 of debt that he oweth me, all save 40s which I will he shall give to little William Wigston;

And furthermore I will that the same George shall have, occupy and enjoy the lease of Pinley during the term thereof, paying yearly out of it to my executors three pounds 6s 8d toward the wages of the priest that shall sing at Wolston and to pray for my soul and the soul of my son, John Wigston, my friends' souls, and all Christian souls, and the other five marks, the rest of £6 13s 4d, I clearly give to the said George;

Item, I bequeath to young Roger Harwar, my godson, £6 13s 4d;

Also I bequeath to William Wade, an old servant of mine, two kine to be set out to hire or to hales(?) to his use by the discretion of my wife and William, my son;

Also I will that Richard Walker shall have out of my lands a yearly annuity of 20s during his life;

Item, I bequeath unto Margery Wigston, late of Pinley, 26s 8d;

Furthermore I will that where my cousin, John Harwar, oweth me forty pounds and more, as appeareth by a reckoning betwixt him and me, I do [-give] by this my present will give & remit to him twenty pounds of the said sum with the odd money, and of that £20 and odd money so to him remitted he shall pay and give thereof unto Roger Harwar, my godson, six pounds 13s 4s, and the residue reserved to pay unto my executors with his ease as he may pay it;

Item, I give and bequeath to my son, William Wigston, six bowls of silver gilt with a cover which were my brother parson's, and also I bequeath to him my chain of gold with the cross, and my standing pot, a basin and ewer which I had of my brother, William;

Item, I bequeath to Bartholomew, my servant, a gelding, and a cow to his wife;

Also I do remit to Medley half the debt he oweth me, and I bequeath to his wife a cow;

Item, I bequeath to Thomas Shepey, my servant, ten sheep;

Item, I give and clearly remit to my son Higford [f. 120v] all the whole debt and sums of money that he oweth to me, and of the same by this my present will do acquit & discharge forever;

Item, where I have of John Porters £6 13s 4d delivered me by his father-in-law, and of Mergettes Shawes as much, I will that the said 20 marks be made twenty pounds in money;

In witness of this my last will and testament I, the said Roger Wigston, have subscribed my name the day and year abovesaid in the presence of my son, William Wigston, Sir William Clark, my curate, Sir Thomas Saunderson and Sir John Todde, priests, witnesses called and required to the publishing of the same my last will and testament.

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascripti defuncti h{ab}entis &c Tercio Die mensis februarij Anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo Quingen{tesimo} xlijo Coram d{omi}no apud London auc{toritate} d{omi}ni n{ost}ri Regis &c Iurament{o} executorum in h{uius}mo{d}i testament{o} no{m}i{n}at{orum} In p{er}sona Ioh{ann}is Higforth generos{i} procuratoris sui in hac p{ar}te Ac approbatum & insinuatum Com{m}issa que fuit admi{n}istracio omn{i}um & singulorum bonorum Iurium & creditorum d{ic}ti defuncti prefatis executoribus in p{er}sona d{ic}ti procuratoris De bene & fidelite{r} admi{n}istrand{o} Ac de pleno & fideli Inuentario secundo die post festum sancti Cedde proximum futurum exhibend{o} Necnon de plano & vero compot{o} reddend{o} Ad sancta dei eu{ang}elia in debit{a} iuris forma Iurati

[=The testament of the above-written deceased having etc. was proved on the third day of the month of February in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 42nd before the Lord at London by the authority of Our Lord the King etc. by the oath of the executors named in the same testament in the person of John Higford, gentleman, their proctor in that behalf, and probated & entered, and administration was granted of all & singular the goods, rights & credits of the said deceased to the forenamed executors in the person of the said proctor, sworn on the Holy Gospels in due form of law to well & faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full & faithful inventory on the second day after the feast of Saint Cedd next to come, and also to render a plain & true account.]