

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the nuncupative will, made 9 December 1552 and proved 10 March 1553, of Robert Cheyne (d. 9 December 1552), whose niece, Jane Cheyne (d. 15 September 1574), was the grandmother of Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton, to whom Shakespeare dedicated *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*.

For further details concerning the testator's place in the Cheyne family of Chesham Bois, see the will, TNA PROB 11/47/325, of Sir Edmund Peckham (b. in or before 1495, d. 29 March 1564), whose wife, Anne Cheyne (d. 1570) was the testator's sister.

For the testator's son and heir, John Cheyne (1514-1585), see his will, TNA PROB 11/69/156, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/cheyne-john-i-1514-85>.

For the testator's family see also the pedigree of Cheyne of Chesham Bois in Rylands, W. Harry, ed., *The Visitation of the County of Buckingham Made in 1634*, Vol. LVIII, (London: Harleian Society, 1909), pp. 152-3:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationofcoun58phil#page/152/mode/2up>.

LM: Roberti Cheynye

In Dei nomine Amen. The 9th day of the month of December in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred fifty and two, Robert Cheyne of Chesham Bois in the county of Buckingham, esquire, being of good and perfect mind and memory, but sick in body, made his testament and last will as hereafter followeth:

First he bequeathed his soul to Almighty God, and his body to be buried accordingly;

And he did give and bequeath unto the daughter of Christopher Lydcote, esquire, one hundred marks of lawful money;

Then he being demanded of whether he would give any more from his son, he said he would give no more;

And then he being further demanded who should be his executors, he answered and said his son and heir should be his sole executor;

And his daughter present and hearing the premises, Christopher Lydcote, Mr Thomas Pannell, clerk, William Harper, William Sucker(?), Richard Clyff, and other.

Probatum fuit h{uius}mo{d}i testamentum cora{m} Domino Cant{uariensis} Arch{iepis}copo apud London xmo die Marcij Anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingen{tesim}o Lijdo Iuramento Rob{er}ti good notarij pu{bli}ci procuratoris Iohannis Cheyneye ex{ecutoris} in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento no{m}i{n}ati Ac approbat{um} &c Et com{m}issa fuit administrac{i}o o{mn}i{u}m bonoru{m} d{i}c{t}i defuncti prefato executori De bene &c ad sancta dei Eu{a}ngelia in p{er}sona d{i}c{t}i procuratoris iurat{o}

[=The same testament was proved before the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury at London on the 10th day of March in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 52nd by the oath of Robert Good, notary public, proctor of John Cheyney, executor named in the same testament, and probated etc., and administration was granted of all the goods of the said deceased to the forenamed executor, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc., in the person of the said proctor.]