

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 9 March 1557 and proved 26 June 1557, of Sir John Port (d. 6 June 1557) of Etwall, Derbyshire, whose daughters, Dorothy Port (d.1607) and Margaret Port (d.1613), married into families related to Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the son of Sir John Port (d. 14 March 1540) by his first wife, Joan Fitzherbert. For the will of the testator's father, see TNA PROB 11/28/58.

The testator's stepmother, mentioned in the will below, was Margery (nee Trafford) Longford Gerard Port (d. 10 May 1540), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/28/111.

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

The testator married firstly, in 1531, Elizabeth Gifford, the only daughter of Sir Thomas Gifford (d. 27 May 1560) of Bryn, Lancashire, by his first wife, Dorothy Montgomery, the daughter and co-heir of Sir John Montgomery (d.1513). For Sir Thomas Gifford (d. 27 May 1560) see his will, TNA PROB 11/43/5, and the will of Henry Vernon (d. 29 September 1569), TNA PROB 11/51/409.

By his first wife, Elizabeth Gifford, the testator had two sons and three daughters:

* **Walter Port**, who died young.

* **Thomas Port**, who died young.

* **Elizabeth Port**, who married Sir Thomas Gerard (d. September 1601) of Bryn, Lancashire, son of Sir Thomas Gerard (d.1553) and Jane Legh, the daughter of Sir Peter Legh (d. 4 December 1541) of Haydock, Lancashire, and Lyme, Cheshire, by his second wife, Margaret Tyldesley, the daughter of Nicholas Tyldesley. By Sir Thomas Gerard (d. September 1601), Elizabeth Port had two sons, Sir Thomas Gerard (1560-1621) and the Jesuit, John Gerard (4 October 1564 – 27 July 1637), and three daughters, Dorothy Gerard, who married Edmund Peckham (b. 11 December 1555, d. 7 July 1586), for whom see BL Add. Charter 16194 on this website; Mary Gerard, who married John Denison; and Martha Gerard, who married John (or Michael) Jenison. See the funeral certificate for Sir Thomas Gerard (d. September 1601) in King, Thomas William, ed., *Lancashire Funeral Certificates, in Remains Historical & Literary Connected with the Palatine Counties of Lancaster and Chester*, (Chetham Society, 1869), Vol. LXXV, pp. 88-96 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/lancashirefunera00collrich#page/88/mode/2up>

See also Morris, John, *The Life of Father John Gerard*, (London: Burns and Oates, 1881), pp. 1-2 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/lifefatherjohng00morrgoog#page/n24/mode/2up>

See also the *ODNB* article for John Gerard, and the History of Parliament entry for Sir Thomas Gerard (d. September 1601) at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/gerard-sir-thomas-1601>

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir Thomas Gerard (1560-1621) at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/gerard-thomas-ii-1560-1621>

See also Betham, William, *The Baronetage of England*, (Ipswich: William Miller, 1801), Vol. I, pp. 60-1 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=5ikwAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA61>

* **Dorothy Port** (d.1607), who married George Hastings (1540 – 30 December 1604), 4th Earl of Huntingdon, younger brother of Henry Hastings (d. 14 December 1595), 3rd Earl of Huntingdon, by whom she was the mother of Francis Hastings (d. 17 December 1595), who, by his wife, Sarah Harington (d. September 1629), the daughter of Sir James Harington (d. January 1592) of Exton, Rutland, and Lucy Sidney (c.1520-c.1591) was the father of Henry Hastings (24 April 1586 – 14 November 1643), 5th Earl of Huntingdon. See the *ODNB* entries for Henry Hastings, 3rd Earl of Huntingdon, and Henry Hastings, 5th Earl of Huntingdon. For Sarah Harington, see Emerson at:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=685

See also TNA SP 14/4/14, ff. 27-9, which reports Oxford's conversation, a few days prior to Queen Elizabeth's death, with Henry Clinton (1539-1616), 2nd Earl of Lincoln, concerning Henry Hastings, 5th Earl of Huntingdon, and the succession to the Crown.

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir James Harington of Exton (d. January 1592) at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/harington-james-i-1517-92>

See also:

'Parishes: Exton', in *A History of the County of Rutland: Volume 2*, ed. William Page (London, 1935), pp. 127-134. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/rutland/vol2/pp127-134> [accessed 4 June 2019]

By George Hastings, the testator's daughter, Dorothy Port (d.1607), was also the mother of Katherine Hastings, who married firstly Edward Unton (d. 27 June 1589) of Wadley, Berkshire, son of Sir Edward Unton (d. 16 September 1582) and the widowed Anne (nee Seymour) Dudley (1538-1587), Countess of Warwick, and secondly, in 1605, Sir Walter Chetwynd (d.1638) of Ingestre, whose sister, Mary Chetwynd, married Ralph Sneyd (d.1620), the uncle of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth (nee Trentham), and one of Oxford's trustees. See the *ODNB* article on Anne Seymour's sister, Lady Jane Seymour (1541–1561); and *Newcastle-under-Lyme in Early Tudor and Stuart Times* (1938), pp. 45-6 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=ExwNAQAIAAJ&pg=PA45>

See also:

'Parishes: Great Faringdon', in *A History of the County of Berkshire: Volume 4*, ed. William Page and P H Ditchfield (London, 1924), pp. 489-499. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/berks/vol4/pp489-499> [accessed 4 June 2019]

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir Edward Unton (d. 16 September 1582) at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/untou-sir-edward-1534-82>

See also the History of Parliament entry for Edward Unton (d. 27 June 1589) at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/untou-edward-1556-89>

See also the History of Parliament entry for George Hastings, 4th Earl of Huntingdon, at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/hastings-sir-george-1540-1604>

* **Margaret Port** (d.1613), who married Sir Thomas Stanhope (d.1596), eldest son and heir of the courtier Sir Michael Stanhope (b. before 1508, d.1552) and his wife Anne Rawson (c.1515-1588), the daughter of Nicholas Rawson (1475-1529?), esquire, of Aveley, Essex, by Beatrix Cooke (d. 14 January 1554), the daughter of Sir Philip Cooke (d. 7 December 1503) and Elizabeth Belknap (died c. 6 March 1504). Beatrix Cooke was the aunt of Lady Burghley's father, Sir Anthony Cooke (1505 – 11 June 1576). See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. IV, p. 144, and the will of Sir Anthony Cooke, TNA PROB 11/59/110.

The History of Parliament entry for Sir Thomas Stanhope notes his relationship to Lady Burghley:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/stanhope-sir-thomas-1540-96>

These extensive estates, and the protection of Sir William Cecil, Lord Burghley, would have allowed Stanhope to have indulged himself in a career at court had he wished. He was related to Burghley's second wife, Mildred, the daughter of Sir Anthony Cooke. Sending Burghley a New Year's gift in December 1579, he acknowledged he had received 'more good and grave counsel and advice from you in my time than from any other man (good Sir Anthony Cooke except), I mean when I was very young. I have had more commodity by your free gift than of all persons now living'.

By Sir Thomas Stanhope, Margaret Port was the mother of Sir John Stanhope (1559-1611), who married firstly, Cordell Alington, and secondly, Oxford's sister-in-law, Katherine Trentham (1566–1621). See the *ODNB* article for Sir Michael Stanhope; the will of Sir John Stanhope (1559-1611), TNA PROB 11/117/473; the will of Katherine (nee Trentham) Stanhope, TNA PROB 11/137/516; and the History of Parliament entry for Sir Thomas Stanhope at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/stanhope-sir-thomas-1540-96>

For the testator's daughters see also Bigsby, Robert, *Historical and Topographical Description of Repton in the County of Derby*, (London: Woodfall and Kinder, 1854), pp. 264–9 at:

<http://www.google.co.uk/books?id=68oHAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA264>

The testator married secondly Dorothy Fitzherbert, daughter of Sir Anthony Fitzherbert (c.1470 - 26 or 27 May 1538), and widow of Sir Ralph Longford (d.1543), grandson and heir of Sir Ralph Longford (d. 1 February 1513), by whom he had no issue. See the will of Sir Anthony Fitzherbert, TNA PROB 11/27/312, and CRU/245, according to which Ralph Longford was 'cousin [=grandson] and heir of the late Sir Ralph Longford' (d. 1 February 1513). See:

<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/rd/d18df0c6-8e31-42c1-8862-baa58c3cb92e>

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

For the testator's brother-in-law, William Fitzherbert (d.1558), whom the testator appoints as overseer in the will below, see the will of his father, Sir Anthony Fitzherbert, *supra*. The Sir Thomas Fitzherbert appointed as another of the overseers would appear to

have been Sir Anthony Fitzherbert's eldest son, Sir Thomas Fitzherbert (c.1517 – 2 October 1591).

The testator's nephew, Thomas Fynderne (d.1558), mentioned in the will below, was the son of the testator's sister, Elizabeth Port and George Fynderne, for whom see the will of the testator's father, *supra*.

The testator's godson, John Fynderne of Foremark, Derbyshire, mentioned in the will below, would appear to have been the son of the testator's sister, Barbara Port, and John Francis of Ticknall, Derbyshire, for whom see the will of the testator's father, *supra*.

The testator's cousin, Francis Curzon (died c.1591) of Kedleston, Derbyshire, mentioned in the will below, was a younger son of Richard Curzon (d.1548/9) of Kedleston by Eleanor or Helen Pole, eldest daughter of German Pole (1482-1552) of Radbourne, Derbyshire. Francis Curzon married Eleanor Vernon, the daughter of Thomas Vernon of Stokesay, Shropshire, by Anne Ludlow, eldest daughter and coheir of Sir John Ludlow of Hodnet, Shropshire. See the will of Thomas Vernon's father, Sir Henry Vernon (c.1441 – 13 April 1515) of Haddon, Derbyshire, TNA PROB 11/18/121; and the History of Parliament entry for Francis Curzon at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/curzon-francis-1523-9192>

See also the pedigree of Pole in Burke, John and John Bernard, *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*, (London: Henry Colburn, 1847), Vol. II, p. 1050 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=0NEKAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA1050>

See also the pedigree of Curzon in Howard, Joseph Jackson, and Frederick Arthur Crisp, eds., *Visitation of England and Wales, Notes*, Vol. 5, 1903, (Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, 1997 reprint), p. 95 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=8L4JB9GzSokC&pg=PA95>

The testator's cousin, Richard Pole, mentioned in the will below, may have been Richard Pole of Radbourne, brother of Eleanor or Helen Pole (see the pedigree of Pole in Burke, *supra*), who died without issue c.1560. For his will, dated 15 March 1560, see TNA PROB 11/44/361.

For the testator's cousin and executor, Richard Harpur (d.1577) of Swarkstone, Derbyshire, Justice of the Common Pleas, see his will, TNA PROB 11/59/108, and the *ODNB* entry:

Harpur, Richard (d. 1577), judge and law reporter, was the son or grandson of Henry Harpur of Rushall, Staffordshire, son of the MP John Harpur (d. 1464). He came to the

attention of Sir John Port (d. 1540), justice of the king's bench, at whose instance he was admitted to the Inner Temple in 1537 from Barnard's Inn. Not long after Port's death he married Jane, daughter of Sir George Fynderne and Elizabeth Port (the judge's daughter), and thereby acquired estates in Derbyshire, where he settled at Swarkestone. He was closely associated with the younger John Port in various transactions, and referred to him in his will as 'my deare frend'.

For the testator's cousin, John Port of Ilam, Staffordshire, mentioned in the will below, see TNA D231M/E416, TNA C 1/1334/55, and TNA Bag C/2535; and Grazebrook, H. Sydney, ed., *The Heraldic Visitations of Staffordshire*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1885), p. 243, at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=gfwcAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA243>

The testator leaves bequests to his godson, John Collier, and to Francis Collier, who were likely the stepsons of German Pole of Lees, Derbyshire, who married a wife named Anne, the widow of John Collier of Dalbury-Lees (see the pedigree of Pole in Burke, *supra*).

The testator's cousins, Hugh Brotherton and Henry Brotherton, mentioned in the will below, have not been identified.

RM: Test{amentu}m Ioh{ann}is Porte milit{is}

[f. 150r] To the glory and honour of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, one God eternal, Amen. The 9 of March in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred fifty and six and the third and fourth years of our most dread Sovereign Lord and Lady, Philip and Mary, by the grace of God King and Queen of England etc., I, John Port of Etwall in the county of Derby, knight, of whole mind and perfect remembrance, considering how certain I am to die and the much uncertainty of the time thereof, and preparing myself so to depart from this world that by the merits of Christ's passion I may ever live, do make my testament and last will in manner and form following:

First I bequeath and most heartily commend my soul to th' hands of Almighty God, the Father celestial, yielding and rendering unto him that thing that he only hath created and made and by the death of his only Son hath also redeemed, faithfully trusting that through the merits of my most merciful Redeemer and Saviour Christ and by the intercession of his holy and blessed mother, Mary, and of all the holy saints in heaven to have the fellowship of his holy angels & the fruition of his godly majesty;

[f. 150v] Also I will, wheresoever it shall please God to accept me and take me to his most blessed mercy, that my body and heart be conveyed from the place where I so shall depart to the parish church of Etwall, there to be buried as near as conveniently may be on the right hand the tomb that my father, whom God pardon, made betwixt the chancel

and my chapel above the body of the parish church in Etwall foresaid in the county of Derby, there to rest until the general resurrection, trusting then that he that raised up from death his only Son thus by his godly and infallible power shall also raise up my mortal body configured and made like unto the bright body of my Lord and Saviour Christ Jesu, his Son, so to be united and knit again to my soul, to rest with her eternal and indeterminably alive(?), in and over which place of my grave I will that a comely and handsome tomb of pure marble after the best plain sort be made and erected up by my executors within six months next after my decease, in and upon which tomb I will be set and fixed, graven in brass after the best fashion, all such arms as I and my wife [sic for 'wives'?] are entitled to give, with a remembrance of my and their names and of the time of my departure from this transitory life, with other such scriptures as by mine executors shall be thought most decent and convenient;

Also I will that my father's last will, who God pardon, in every article, sentence, letter, title and clause by me not done and performed shall be observed & fulfilled, and that not only but also all other his wills heretofore made as far as either conscience or reason will require, and that mine executors peruse all my father's said wills as well as the last, and so to fulfil them as is afore rehearsed as they will answer afore God, and in the premises discharge their conscience and mine;

Also I will that thirteen of the poorest & impotent persons, as well men as women, in Danbury and Lees, Hilton and Repton shall have by th' hands of mine executors or their assigns every Friday at the church of Etwall after the High Mass is said during three years to pray for my father and mother, me, my wife & children, and all Christian souls as mo [=more] plainly shall appear in a schedule, every of the said poor folks a penny apiece;

And also I will that six of the poorest of Etwall parish shall have weekly forever twenty pence apiece over and besides such lodging as I or my executors shall provide for them in an almshouse which God willing shall be builded in or near to the churchyard of Etwall;

And also I will that the same sums of money so to be paid to the poor aforesaid shall be had and received forth of the lands and tenements hereafter limited for the performance of this my present will;

Also I will that if any honest householder within the said towns by any sudden casualty or loss fall to decay and poverty within the space of four years next after my decease, that then mine executors shall give to each person so impoverished, to comfort and relieve them withal, 26s 8d;

Also I will that my executors do distribute weekly during three years next after my decease to the poor prisoners lying in the common gaol for Nottingham and Derby shires 12d to comfort and relieve them withal and to pray as afore is said, (blank);

Also I will and devise by this my last will & testament, if I have no issue male, to mine executors and their heirs twenty shillings by year to be perceived and taken forth of my lands in Repton, and for default of payment thereof forth of my house in Milton now in

the tenure and occupation of Robert Wasse, to have, perceive and take the rent aforesaid towards the maintaining, repairing and upholding of Swarkestone bridge in the county of Derby forever;

And if I have issue male, then I give and bequeath towards the maintaining of the said bridge ten pounds in money or else ten shillings' rent yearly to be perceived out of my lands and tenements in Milton aforesaid;

Also in like manner I will, give and devise to Sir Thomas Gifford, knight, my nephew, Richard Harpur, esquire, Thomas Brewster, vicar of Etwall, John Harker and Simon Starkey and to their heirs all my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Mosseley, Abram and Brockehurst within the county of Lancashire(?) upon condition that they shall find or cause to be found a priest, well learned & graduate and of honest and virtue [sic for 'virtuous?'] conversation, freely to keep a grammar school in Etwall or Repton from time to time forever, and also to sing Mass or minister divine service at the altar in my chapel there or in Repton church at such altar as mine executors shall appoint thrice every week, and I will there be also an usher associate to and with the said master to keep the school, and for their travail in such behalf I will that the said schoolmaster have yearly twenty pounds and the usher ten pounds;

And I will that the scholars of the said school every morning at their coming to the said school and also at afternoon at and upon their departing from the school to pray for my parents' souls, my soul, the soul of Elizabeth Port, my late wife, the souls of Walter Port and Thomas Port, my children, and the souls of my brethren and sisters, and the souls of them that I stand most bounden to pray for, as more plainly shall appear in a schedule, and for all Christian souls, which schoolmaster at the first time I will Sir William Pirryn, Bachelor of Divinity, late my chaplain, to be if he be living and so will take upon him, or else such other and well learned virtuous man as mine executors shall appoint;

Also I will that my executors shall have to them & their assigns for term of 7 years next after my decease all my farm, lands and tenements usually called Musden grange with the stock there remaining, and that they, mine executors, with the profits thereof shall find one honest and well disposed and virtuous priest to say Mass with other divine service [f. 151r] [-services] and prayers during the said 7 years for my parents' souls and mine and all the souls above rehearsed in my said chapel at Etwall;

And also with the residue of the profits of the said stock and farm that my said executors build a substantial schoolhouse of stone and brick, together with convenient chambers and lodgings for the schoolmaster and usher, in the place and precinct of the north side of the churchyard of Etwall or Repton, and this done, I will without delay mine executors to establish by the King and Queen's Highness' licence and by lawful assurance the said school forever;

And by like circumstance to amortise to th' use thereof the said lands and tenements in Moseley, Abram and Brockehurst aforesaid, the rule, ryaltie and waccred(?) whereof, and the putting in of the said schoolmaster from time to time and usher, I will my issue male

and his heirs to have forever, and if I have no issue male then mine executors for their time, and after their deceases my heirs or such other as I have appointed by my deed indented and subscribed with my hand;

And at th' end of the said 7 years, I will that the said stock remaining at the said grange at Mosden with my other goods, chattels and debts shall be and remain to and for the further performance and true and through fulfilling of this my last will and testament, and then and not afore th' inheritance of the said grange to remain to my right heirs forever;

Also I will that mine executors with my goods and chattels shall sufficiently and within two years make and finish the churchyard wall at Etwall with stone or brick or both, with substantial yeath [=earth?], and so to be kept from swine and other cattle, and make the churchyard even, fair and level, and so to be kept, and also to repair and sufficiently to amend the bridges and highways round about the town of Etwall and most in especial betwixt the said town and Radbourne and the bridges toward Iylton [=Hilton?];

And I will further that mine executors shall make a substantial causey of stone and pebble, & well gravel the same for carts, wains and horses, from Etwall town's end until Portall hill leading toward Mickleover;

And for the better accomplishment of the premises, the yearly repairing and amending the said highways, churchyards and bridges, I will and do give and devise to my executors and their heirs twenty shillings of annual rent forth of my lands in Burnaston;

Also I give and will to every of my tenants in Etwall and Burnaston and to each of them a black coat to pray for me;

Also I will and give to all and every person and persons that at the time of my death be in my service(?), every of them a black coat;

And to every of my household servants other than be hereafter mentioned forty shillings and a black coat;

And to my serving-women and hinds servants, every of them 6s 8d, so that they do their endeavour in furthering mine executors in th' execution of this my last will and testament;

Also I will to Robert Wasse, James Coke, Robert Gill, John Pole, every of them 20s;

And to Robert Lynnes and to Francis Collier, either of them forty shillings;

And to John Collier, my godson, five marks;

And to every other tenant that I have within this realm 12d;

And I forgive every of them all the mercements due to me, either in my father's time, whom God pardon, or in mine;

And also I will German Cullverbell shall be one of the six beadsmen before appointed to pray for me and to have the foresaid stipend of twenty pence a week(?) to pray for me during his natural life, and to him 40s in money to be paid forthwith after my decease;

And to Carleton and (blank), his sister, every of them (blank);

Also I will that John Harker have one of my wearing cloth gowns, and all the farm of Oolande(?) now in his tenure and occupation during forty years if the same John, his wife, or any of his sons so long live, the term [+to?] begin the day of my decease, paying during his life to my heirs or assigns a red rose and a penny at the feast of Saint John Baptist if it be asked, and after his decease the old accustomed rent to be paid, being true to mine executors and heirs, and (blank) in money, and over that I do remit and release to him all debts from the beginning of the world unto the day of the date of this my last will;

Also I will that Simon Sterkey shall have (blank) in money and one of my wearing cloth gowns or the value thereof, being true to mine executors as is aforesaid for the due and true execution of my will, and his house during forty years, paying no rent during his life, and after the whole old rent to be paid;

Also I bequeath to the parson of Danbury, Sir Robert Otuwey, clerk, five marks to pray for me and for the rest above-named;

Also I will that mine executors shall have and occupy without interruption or other let of my wife or any my children or their husbands or any of them in [sic for 'my'?] house at Etwall with all pastures there at Asshep Danbury, and all other things thereunto now belonging or appertaining by the space of one whole year next after my decease without rent paying therefore, and in the mean season my said executors to keep house there and to dispose and bestow my goods and chattels there and at Cubley remaining according to this my last will as they think most convenient with all speed and without delay;

Also I will and bequeath, give and devise to mine executors and their heirs forever one yearly rent of 23s 4d to be perceived and taken forth of my lands and tenements in Burnaston, [f. 151v] and therewith to find perpetually a lamp with oil and light ever burning before the most Holy & Blessed Sacrament in the parish church of Etwall, and to cause some other to see the same so truly done;

Also I bequeath to Sir (blank) Brewster, vicar of Etwall, £3 6s 8d over and besides my father's legacy, which I will he shall have paid every penny, and that is twenty pounds;

And also I bequeath to John Coke alias Heyth and to (blank), his son, the tenement that he now dwelleth in for forty years if he or his said son live so long, rent free, paying to me yearly a red rose and a penny at the feast of midsummer if it be asked, and four marks in money;

Also I bequeath to Brasenose in Oxford, to be prayed for with all my parents as afore is remembered, and in recompense of all things betwixt my father and them and me and in full discharge thereof, and to make two chambers at Brasenose according to my father's old wishing and desire, two hundred pounds of lawful current money of England, to be paid within six months next after my decease;

Also I will that my tenants of Etwall and Burnaston, Repton, Danbury and Hilton or elsewhere be discharged of all benes [sic for 'dues'?] except such as of their gentleness they will do and as have of right been accustomed;

Also I bequeath to threescore poor maidens in the counties of Derby and Chester where I have any land, every of them an angel noble or ten shillings in other money towards their preferment in marriage;

Also I bequeath to the church of Etwall a cope and one vestment of cloth of gold of baudekin, and my arms and both my wives' to be set thereof;

And also two of the like cloit [sic for 'cloth'?], whereof I will there be made a decent covering for the sepulchre in the church of Etwall and to that use to be employed forever;

And also I bequeath and give to every of the parish churches of Repton, Hilton, Danbury, Sutton, every of them a vestment of silk with my arms and my wives' thereupon embroidered, to pray for me and my parents as afore is remembered;

Also I will and devise to (blank) and to his heirs males of his body lawfully begotten all my lands and tenements in (blank) amounting to the clear yearly value of (blank);

Also I give and bequeath to my godson, John Francis, forty marks, and do forgive him all the money that I have lent him and that he doth owe me at my decease;

Also to my nephew, Thomas Fynderne (blank);

Also I will that a scripture of brass be graven with the day and year that my father and mother-in-law [=step-mother], whom God pardon, died, and other good matter as shall be thought by mine executors, and to be set about my father's tomb;

Also I bequeath to Sir Thomas Gifford, knight, my father-in-law, so that he be faithful and friendly to my children, his nieces [=granddaughters], and also a helper & furtherer of this my last will, ten pounds in money;

Also I give and bequeath to my cousin, Richard Harpur, and John Harpur, my godson, and to their heirs, if I have no issue male, all my lands and tenements and hereditaments in Cristelton, Church Cristelton, Renton and Cotton, and if I have issue male which doth live and inherit or that the said Richard and John cannot have the said lands and other the premises according to this my bequest, then I bequeath and give to them to see and truly

to perform and finish this my last will and to be true and friendly to my children, and to be toward them as they hath been toward me, if they will so accept them, two hundred marks in money;

And over and besides I give to my niece, Jane Harpur, one hundred marks in money, plate or money[‘s] worth;

Also I give and bequeath to my cousin, Sir Richard Port, priest, a black gown to pray for me;

Also I give & bequeath to my cousin, Francis Curzon of Kedleston, esquire, to be a helper, a furtherer and caller upon execution of this my last will. and to my godson, his son, twenty pounds;

And to my cousin, Richard Pole, to be a caller of this my last will, a cup of silver to the value of five marks or five marks in money;

Also I will and bequeath, give and grant to my entirely beloved wife, Dame Dorothy Port, for and in recompense of all her reasonable part and portion and of all that which else may belong or by any law or custom may be due to her of my goods or chattels an hundred pounds, so that she claim or ask no more of my goods or chattels;

Also if I have no issue male, I bequeath to my cousin, John Port of Ilam and to his heirs my lands in Donisthorpe being of the old rent five marks by year, and if I have issue male, ten pounds in money;

Also I bequeath my great chest standing in the great parlour at Leyke [=Leek?] to the church of Etwall forever, and I will that a true copy of my last will and testament exemplified under the ordinary seal remain in the said chest forever, and that the clauses concerning the payment of my heir[‘s] debts and mine and other dues therein contained touching our souls’ healths shall be read openly in the said parish church of Etwall four times in the year by the space of twelve years;

Also I will that if any person or persons will truly say and prove that I have wronged them at any time or times by any ways or means, that the said person and persons so doing be without delay fully satisfied and recompensed therefore;

And in like manner I will that if any person or persons truly claim any debt or debts which I should owe them and so prove the same, that the same person and persons be thereof fully satisfied and paid without delay;

Also I give and bequeath to my cousins, Hugh Brotherton and Sir Henry Brotherton, clerk, each of them a black gown, and also will that they shall have all that they or every of them by right can claim, and I do devise and will to each of them, the said Hugh and Sir Henry, 20s [f. 152r] apiece in money;

Also I give to each one of my daughters Elizabeth, Dorothy and Margaret, one hundred pounds so that they ne any of them by themselves or otherwise by any of their procurement interrupt or hinder the due performance or true execution of this my last will;

Also for th' accomplishment, performing and true fulfilling of this my said last will and testament and of they [sic?] things therein mentioned, I ordain, constitute and make my trusty and well-beloved father-in-law, Sir Thomas Gifford, knight, my cousin, Richard Harpur, esquire, Sir William Brewster, clerk, vicar of Etwall, and my faithful and trusty servants, John Harker & Simon Sterkye, mine executors faithfully and truly to see the same executed and fulfilled accordingly, so that my said executors within one month next after my decease stand and be bounden in one obligation of three thousand pounds to Sir Thomas Fitzherbert, knight, Francis Curzon of Kedelston, esquire, and to my loving brother-in-law, William Fitzherbert, well, faithfully and truly and to the uttermost of their powers to perform and fulfil this my last will & testament and the true meaning thereof without dilatory tract, covin or other fraud or delay, which Sir Thomas Fitzherbert, Francis Curzon and William Fitzherbert I do ordain and by these presents make overseers of my said testament and last will;

And if the said mine executors refuse to be bounden as afore is mentioned, then I ordain, constitute and by this my present last will and testament [+make?] such of them mine executors as will so be bounden together with my said brother-in-law, William Fitzherbert, and my godson, John Francis of Foremark, gentleman, executors of this my last will and testament, and will that the said Sir Thomas Fitzherbert, Francis Curzon, esquire, [+be?] overseers of this my said last will, and for their pains to be taken in such behalf I do give & bequeath to each of the same Sir Thomas Fitzherbert, Francis Curzon, William Fitzherbert and John Francis ten marks in money;

Also I will that Henry Woodward, after the decease of his mother, shall have the farm in the town of Culley [sic for 'Cubley'?] late in the tenure of John Woodward, his father, for 21 years if he live so long, paying therefore the old rent and doing all other services, duties and customs as any other in the town doth or shall do.

Be it remembered that I am fully determind and resolved, God favouring my purpose, that all the foresaid premises shall be, stand and remain as my testament declaring my full and last mind and will, and do not intend in any point, article or sentence to alter or transpose the same;

And also I will that nothing hereafter to be showed varying from any th' effect of any the premises shall be deemed, adjudged or taken any part of my will or testament, nor yet any clause other than heretofore in this book be rehearsed and written and subscribed with mine own hand;

In witness whereof to these presents I have put to my seal the day and year first above-written. Per me sup{ra}d{i}c{tu}m Ioh{ann}em Porte Hec sunt et fuere in p{re}sencia

mei p[re]fat[i] Rich[ar]d[i] Harpur per testiu[m] mei Ioh[ann]is Harker Per testiu[m] mei
 Simonis Stafkey Per testiu[m] mei Laurenc[ie] wright

Probatum fuit Testamentu[m] Coram Mag[ist]ro Will[el]mo Cooke Legum doctore
 Curie prerogatiue Reuerendissimi in xpo patris et d[omi]ni n[ost]ri d[omi]ni Reginaldi
 Cantuar[iensis] Archie[pis]copi Custode siue Comissario vicesimo sexto die Mens[is]
 Iunij Anno d[omi]ni Mill[es]imo quingentesimo lvi[o] Iuramento Rich[ar]d[i] harpour et
 Simonis Starky personal[ite]r present[ium] Ac Thome Gifford milit[is] et Iohannis
 Harker in p[er]sona Edmundi Brudenell procuratoris &c executoru[m] in
 h[uius]mo[d]i testamento no[m]i[n]atoru[m] Quibus comissa fuit admi[n]istracio
 o[mn]i[u]m bonoru[m] &c De bene &c Ac de pleno Inuentario &c Ad sancta dei
 Eu[an]gelia Iurat[is] Res[er]uata p[otes]tate &c reliquis ex[ecutoribus] &c cum
 venerint &c

[=The testament was proved before Master William Cooke, Doctor of the Laws, Keeper
 or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of the most Reverend Father in Christ and our
 Lord, Lord Reginald, Archbishop of Canterbury, on the twenty-sixth day of the month of
 June in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 57th by the oath of Richard Harper
 and Simon Starkey, personally present, and Thomas Gifford, knight, and John Harker in
 the person of Edmund Brudenell, proctor etc., executors named in the same testament, to
 whom administration was granted of all the goods etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels to
 well etc., and [+to exhibit] a full inventory etc., with power reserved etc. to the remainder
 of the executors etc. when they shall have come etc.]