

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 17 August 1557 and proved 4 July 1558, of Francis Savage (c.1524 - 19 August 1557), whose sister, Bridget Savage, was the grandmother of Thomas Combe, to whom William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon left a sword in his will

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Testator's grandparents

The testator was the grandson of Sir Christopher Savage, seventh son of Sir John Savage (c.1423 – 22 November 1495) by Katherine Stanley, daughter of Thomas Stanley, (1406–1459), 1st Baron Stanley. Sir Christopher Savage married Anne Stanley, the daughter and heir apparent of John Stanley (d. 22 November 1508), esquire, of Elford, Staffordshire, by whom he had one son, the testator's father, Christopher Savage (d.1546), esquire, and a daughter, Margaret. Sir Christopher Savage was slain at the Battle of Flodden Field in 1513.

Testator's parents

The testator was the son of Christopher Savage (d.1546), esquire, and Anne Lygon, the daughter of Sir Richard Lygon (c.1491 - 20 March 1556) by Margaret Greville (d.1542), one of the three daughters and co-heiresses of Sir William Greville (d.1512/13), Justice of the Common Pleas.

Anne Lygon's brother, William Lygon (d. 29 September 1567), was the father of Margaret Lygon (d.1617), who married firstly, as his second wife, Sir Thomas Russell (d.1574) of Strensham, by whom she was the mother of Thomas Russell (1570-1634), overseer of the will of William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon, and secondly Sir Henry Berkeley (d. 7 September 1601) of Bruton, Somerset. Margaret Lygon's brother, Richard Lygon, married Mary Russell, the daughter of Sir Thomas Russell of Strensham by his first wife, Frances Cholmley, daughter of Sir Roger Cholmley (c.1485–1565), Lord Chief Justice.

For the foregoing, see the *ODNB* entries for the Savage family and for Thomas Stanley (1406–1459), 1st Baron Stanley.

See also Keen, Alan & Roger Lubbock, *The Annotator*, (London: Putnam, 1954), pp. 118-20 and Chart 3.

See also Hotson, Leslie, *I, William Shakespeare, Do Appoint Thomas Russell, Esquire* (London: Jonathan Cape, 1937), pp. 21, 113, 260.

See also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, pp. 107-8, Vol. III, pp. 22-3, 492-5, and Vol. IV, p. 387.

See also the Lygon pedigree in Phillimore, W.P.W., ed., *The Visitation of the County of Worcester Made in the Year 1569*, (London: Harleian Society, 1888), Vol. XXVII, pp. 90-1 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationcount02mundgoog/page/n105>

See also the wills of William Greville, Justice of the Common Pleas, dated 19 October 1512 and proved 28 April 1513, TNA PROB 11/17/358; William Lygon, dated 22 August 1567 and proved 12 August 1568, TNA PROB 11/50/246; Sir Thomas Russell of Strensham, dated 3 April 1574 and proved 9 February 1575, TNA PROB 11/57/781; and Margaret (nee Lygon) Russell Berkeley, dated 9 February 1617 and proved 28 June 1617, TNA PROB 11/129/781; and the History of Parliament entry for Sir Henry Berkeley at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/berkeley-henry-ii-1547-1601>

Testator's siblings

For the testator's brother, George Savage (c.1530-c.1601), Archdeacon of Gloucester, see his will, dated 24 May 1600 and proved 28 October 1602, TNA PROB 11/100/296, and Mayer, Thomas F. and Courtney B. Walters, *The Correspondence of Reginald Pole*, (Aldershot, Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing, 2008), pp. 475-6 at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=_daeDoWdQ0cC&pg=PA475

The testator's sister, Bridget Savage (d.1608x11), married Anthony Bonner (d.1580), and by him had two sons, Anthony and George, and four daughters, Anne, Mary (d. 5 April 1617), Joan, wife of William Wyatt, and Elizabeth, wife of Sir Stephen Culpepper.

Mary Bonner (d. 5 April 1617) married William Yonge (d. December 1583), gentleman, of Caynton (in Edgmond), Shropshire, whose first wife was Anne Sneyd, the daughter of Sir William Sneyd (d. 6 June 1571), maternal grandfather of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham (d.1612/3). For the will of Sir William Sneyd, see TNA PROB 11/54, ff. 234-5. By Anne Sneyd, William Yonge (d. December 1583) had five sons, including a son, Giles Yonge, and six daughters. Giles Yonge, a first cousin of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham (c.1612/3), was involved as a trustee when Elizabeth Trentham purchased King's Place in Hackney in 1597 (see TNA C 66/1476, m. 19). After the death of William Yonge, Mary (nee Bonner) Yonge (d. 5 April 1617) married, secondly, on 10 January 1586, Thomas Combe (d.1608/9), gentleman, of Stratford upon Avon; William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon left their son, Thomas Combe (1589-1657), a sword in his will. Mary (nee Bonner) Yonge Combe died at Stratford upon Avon on 5 April 1617. See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011,

Vol. III, pp. 493-4 and Vol. IV, p. 387; the will of Anthony Bonner, dated 16 November 1579 and proved 2 November 1580, TNA PROB 11/62/452; and the will of Bridget (nee Savage) Bonner (d.1608x11), dated 16 January 1608 and proved 3 June 1611, TNA PROB 11/118/12.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testator married Anne Sheldon (c.1528 - 25 October 1619), the daughter of William Sheldon (1550 - 24 December 1570) of of Beoley by his first wife, Mary Willington, the daughter of William Willington (d.1555?) of Barcheston, Warwickshire. For the will of the testator's father-in-law, William Sheldon, dated 3 January 1570 and proved 10 February 1572, see TNA PROB 11/53/79. William Sheldon's granddaughter, Katherine Sheldon, married Oxford's brother-in-law, Francis Trentham. Another granddaughter, Elizabeth Sheldon, married the brother of Thomas Russell, overseer of the will of William Shakespeare of Stratford.

In the will below the testator leaves bequests to his three sons and two daughters:

* **William Savage** (1555 - 7 August 1616), eldest son and heir, married Anne Knottesford, daughter and co-heiress of John Knottesford, esquire, of Great Malvern, by whom he had four sons and twin daughters. William Savage's eldest son and heir, Sir John Savage, died without issue, and William Savage was eventually succeeded by his son Giles Savage (d. 31 January 1631), who on 22 April 1623 married his first cousin, Katherine Daston (1590-1674), the daughter of Richard Daston, esquire, and his wife, Anne Savage. See the will of William Savage, dated 6 August 1616 and proved 10 February 1617, TNA PROB 11/129/154; and the will of Sir John Savage, proved 27 May 1622, TNA PROB 11/139/491.

* **Anthony Savage** (d.1587) married Anne Croker, the daughter of John Croker (d.1581x3) of Batsford, Gloucestershire, and by her had a son, John Savage, who sold land to William Shakespeare of Stratford's associate in the Globe Theatre, Henry Condell (1576?-1627), and a daughter, Anne Savage, who married Thomas Fettiplace of Fernham, Berkshire. For the will of John Croker, dated 6 June 1581 and proved 26 January 1583, see TNA PROB 11/65/36. For the sale of land to Henry Condell, see Barnard, Etwell Augustine Bracher, *New Links With Shakespeare*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1930), pp. 1-4, 10-11 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=RgE9AAAAIAAJ&pg=PA2>

* **Walter Savage** (1558-1622) of Broadway, married, in 1581, Elizabeth Hall (1561-1648), the daughter and heiress of Richard Hall (d. 22 August 1602) of Idlicote, Warwickshire, and his wife, Joyce Blount, the daughter of Robert Blount (d.1573) of Astley, Worcestershire, and his wife, Anne Fisher. For the will of Robert Blount, dated 3 April 1573 and proved 8 June 1573, see TNA PROB 11/55/263. Walter Savage and Elizabeth Hall had seven sons, Richard (1582-1614), Ralph, Charles, Anthony, Francis,

John, and Walter, and one daughter, Katherine (wife of John Abbington). After the death of Walter Savage, Elizabeth Hall married Simon Underhill (baptized 16 November 1589, d.1664) of Idlicote. Simon Underhill was the son of William Underhill (d.1597), who sold New Place to William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon in 1597, and the brother of Hercules Underhill (1581–1650), who confirmed the sale to Shakespeare in 1602. See Shirley, E.P., ‘The Underhills of Warwickshire’, *The Herald and Genealogist* (London: J.G. Nichols and R.C. Nichols, 1865), pp. 127–32; Morrison, John Harold, *The Underhills of Warwickshire*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1932); and Keen, *supra*, Chart 3.

* **Mary Savage** married John Washbourne (1548-1633/4), esquire, the son of Anthony Washbourne (1527-1570), esquire, of Wichanford, Worcestershire. In 1617 their grandson, William Washbourne (c.1600-1622), and Shakespeare’s fellow Globe Theatre shareholder, Henry Condell, purchased property in Brockhampton, Gloucestershire, from the testator’s grandson, John Savage of Broadway, son of Anthony Savage (d.1587). William Washbourne’s parents were John Washbourne (1567-1615) and Alice Robinson. He married Lettice Littleton, daughter of Sir Edward Littleton (d.1629) of Pillaton Hall, Staffordshire, and Mary Fisher. Henry Langston of Sedgeberrow, Worcester, to whom the testator leaves a bequest in the will below, was the father of Anthony Langston, later Town Clerk of Stratford upon Avon, and a witness to the sale of Brockhampton to William Washbourne and Henry Condell. See the will of Henry Langston, dated 18 July 1591 and proved 11 February 1592, TNA PROB 11/79/130; the nuncupative will of William Washbourne dated 12 April 1622 and proved 11 June 1622, TNA PROB 11/140/8; the will of Sir Edward Littleton, dated 1 June 1629 and proved 9 April 1630, TNA PROB 11/157/357; and Barnard, Etwell Augustine Bracher, *New Links With Shakespeare*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1930), pp. 1-4, 10-11 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=RgE9AAAAIAAJ&pg=PA2>

See also Peach, R.E.M., ed., *The Washbourne Family*, (Gloucester: John Bellows, 1896), pp. 6, 15, 17-18, 22, 37-8, 55, 89, 92 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/washbournfamily00peac#page/n123/mode/2up>

See also the History of Parliament entry for Anthony Langston at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/langston-anthony-1559-1633>.

After Mary Savage’s death, John Washbourne married, on 31 August 1606, Eleanor Lygon, the daughter of Richard Lygon (d.1584) of Madresfield by his first wife, Mary Russell, the daughter of Sir Thomas Russell (d.1574) of Strensham. For the will of Richard Lygon, dated 5 September 1584 and proved 4 December 1584, see TNA PROB 11/67/499. For the will of Sir Thomas Russell, dated 3 April 1574 and proved 9 February 1575, see TNA PROB 11/57/83.

* **Anne Savage**, who in 1572 married Richard Daston, Justice of Great Sessions for West Wales from 1604-1619. Their daughter, Katherine Daston (1590-1674), married her first cousin, Giles Savage (d. 31 January 1631), son of the testator's heir, William Savage (1555 - 7 August 1616) above. For the will, dated 2 October 1626 and proved 4 May 1627, of Richard Daston, see TNA PROB 11/151/622. It appears likely that he is the Richard Daston who was appointed an executor of the will of Alice (nee Hodgkins) Hoby (d.1607?), whose daughter-in-law, Mary (nee Tracy) Hoby Vere (18 May 1581 - 25 December 1671), married, as her second husband, Oxford's first cousin, Horatio Vere (1565-1635), Baron Vere of Tilbury, and whose half brother, Sir Thomas Hoby, married Lady Burghley's sister, Elizabeth Cooke. For the will of Alice Hodgkins Hoby, see TNA PROB 11/110/418.

After the testator's death, his widow, Anne (nee Sheldon) Savage, married Anthony Daston (c.1510 - 19 July 1572) of Wormington, Gloucestershire, who had obtained the lease of a large part of Broadway manor from the Abbot of Pershore in 1535. They resided at Broadway great farm, and in 1574, two years after Anthony Daston's death, Anne bought the house and 2960-acre farm. She died in 1619, aged about 90, having outlived all her sons apart from Walter Savage (1558-1622), who took over the Broadway property. By her second marriage she had a daughter, Anne Daston, who on 23 April 1584 married Ralph Huband (d.1605) of Stratford upon Avon, from whom in 1605 William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon purchased for £440 a half share in the Stratford tithes, the other half being owned by Thomas Combe (d. 1608x9), who married (see below) Mary Bonner, (d. 5 April 1617), the daughter of the testator's sister, Bridget Savage (d.1608x11), Ralph Huband (d.1605) was a cousin of Thomas Nash, whose sons Anthony and John were legatees in Shakespeare's will. For the will of Thomas Combe, dated 22 December 1608 and proved 10 February 1609, see TNA PROB 11/113/130.

For the foregoing see also Armstrong, George Francis, *The Ancient and Noble Family of The Savages of the Ards*, (London: Marcus Ward & Co., 1888), pp. 76-9, 85-6, 88-9 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=MU5RKM6ekl4C&pg=PA85>

LM: T{estamentum} ffrancisci Savage

[f. 252v] In the name of God, Amen. I, Frances Savage of Elmley in the county of Worcester, esquire, being sick in my body but of perfect memory, thanks be therefore to Almighty God, this present 17th day of August 1557 and in the 4th and 5th years of the reigns of our Sovereign Lord and Lady Philip and Mary, the King and the Queen's Majesties, do ordain and make this my present testament and last will in writing in manner and form following:

First and principally I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Maker, Redeemer and Saviour, and my body to be buried in such convenient place as by mine executors

hereafter in this my last will and testament nominated shall be thought meet and convenient;

Also I will and bequeath unto my brother, George Savage, for and in full recompense and discharge of the annuity or yearly rent of 5 marks by year which my father did give or bequeath unto him for term of his life the sum of threescore pounds to be paid and delivered to him by mine executors within three years next after my death, that is to say, by £20 a year;

And where of late I did take a lease by indenture for term of years of Sir Richard Lister, knight, deceased, of the site and demesne lands of the manor of Hardewicke in the said county of Worcester and of the reversion thereof, I will and bequeath that Anne Savage, widow, my mother, shall have th' usage and occupation of the said site and demesne lands for term of her life, doing and paying yearly therefore the rents and sums reserved by the same indenture;

And after the death of my said mother, I will and bequeath that for and in full recompense and discharge of one other annuity or yearly rent of 5 marks which my said father did give or bequeath unto my brother, Thomas Savage, for term of his life, that my said brother, Thomas Savage, and his wife after the death of my said mother shall have th' usage and occupation of the said site and demesne lands during their lives and the lenger liver of them, doing and paying therefore yearly the rents and services reserved by the same indenture;

And after the deaths of my said mother, brother Thomas and his wife, I will and bequeath th' usage & occupation of the same farm, site and demesne lands to such children of my said brother, Thomas, as shall be then living, one after another as they shall be in age, and their sons to be first served;

And if my said brother, Thomas, at the death of the overliver of him and his said wife, shall have no child living, then I will and bequeath that the same farm, site and [-and] demesne lands shall remain to my said executors towards the performance of this my last will and testament;

Also I will and bequeath that my brother, William Savage, for and in full recompense and discharge of one other annuity or yearly rent of 5 marks which my said father did will, give or bequeath unto him for term of his life shall have, hold and enjoy all such yearly rent, debt and money which I should or hereafter ought to have of one Kempstone for a ward which he bought of me, and that my said brother, William, shall have, hold and enjoy for term of his life only my water-mill with all the appurtenances in Campden in the county of Gloucester;

Also I will and bequeath unto my brother, Edmund Savage, for term of his life for and in full recompense and discharge of one other annuity or yearly rent of 5 marks which my said father did will, give or bequeath unto him for term of his life one yearly rent of five marks to be had, perceived and taken yearly out of my park in Elmley aforesaid, to be

paid at the feasts of Saint Michael th' Archangel and th' Annunciation of Our Lady by even portions;

And where my brother, John Savage, is bound prentice by my means with one John Eliott of London, during which his prenticeship I have delivered unto the said Eliott the sum of £20 to occupy, and after the said prenticeship determined, the same £20 to come and be repaid to me, I will and bequeath that my said brother, John, for and in full recompense and discharge of one other annuity or yearly rent of 5 marks which my said father did will, give or bequeath unto him [f. 253r] for term of his life shall have the said twenty pounds delivered to the said Eliott as is aforesaid if the said John Savage be in plain life at th' end of his said prenticeship;

And if the said John Savage be then dead, then I will the same £20 remain to mine executors towards the performance of this my last will and testament;

Also I will and bequeath unto either of my daughters, Mary and Anne, the sum of 200 marks to be delivered and paid unto her at her full age of 18 years, or before if she do marry, and in the meantime the same to be in the custody of my executors or of their assigns to occupy, and she of th' increase and profit of the occupying to be maintained and found during that time;

Also I will and bequeath to each of my sons, Anthony and Walter, for term of his life one yearly rent of £5 to be had, perceived and taken yearly out of my said park and out of my other lands, tenements and hereditaments in Elmley aforesaid now being in mine own hands or occupation, to be paid at the said two feasts by even portions;

And moreover I will and bequeath unto either of my said sons, Anthony and Walter, the sum of 100 marks to be delivered and paid unto him at his full age of 21 years or before if he do marry;

And if any of my said children shall fortune to die before his said legacy of money shall be and ought to be paid unto him or her as I have above in this my last will appointed and declared, then my will and true intent and meaning is that thone moiety or half of the same legacy of him and her so dying shall become and remain to William Savage, mine eldest son, and thother moiety or half to be egally divided amongst my other children that after such decease shall be then living, anything before in this my last will or testament declared to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding;

Also I will and bequeath unto my servant, Thomas Savage, all those my messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments in Aston under Edge in the said county of Gloucester now being in the tenure, lease or occupation of one Walker or of his assign, and the reversion and reversions thereof, to have and to hold the same unto my said servant, Thomas, from the day of the death of the said Walker, or as soon as th' interest of the said Walker therein shall end or determine, for and during the life of my said servant, Thomas Savage, he, the same Thomas, doing and paying therefore yearly unto the owners

or owner of the manor of Aston under Edge for the time being such accustomed rents and services as heretofore have been used to be done and paid for the same;

And where my said mother ought to have had for term of her life after and by the death of my said father lands, tenements, rents and other hereditaments to and of the clear yearly value of £8 13s 4d over and besides the said manor of Aston, the reversion whereof after her decease did belong to me and my heirs, which lands were sold for the payment of part of my father's debts of and for the purchasing of the manor or lordship of Elmley aforesaid, I do will and bequeath unto my said mother for term of her life as well for and in full recompense, satisfaction and discharge of the said lands, tenements, rents and other hereditaments to and of the said clear yearly value of £8 13s 4d as of all bands had or made by me, the said Francis, for the payment of the said £8 13s 4d, one annuity or yearly rent of £8 13s 4d to be had, perceived and taken yearly out of my said park and out of all [-my] other my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Elmley aforesaid now being in mine own hands or occupation and out of all other my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Elmley aforesaid which hereafter in this my last will and testament I have willed or bequeathed unto Anne, my well-beloved wife, for term of her life to be paid yearly at the said two feasts in the year by even portions;

Also I will and bequeath unto my said well-beloved wife for term of her life for and in full recompense and satisfaction of such interest and title of jointure or dower as she hath in and to any of my manors, lands, tenements or hereditaments all that my capital and mansion house in Elmley aforesaid with all houses, barns, stables, edificions [sic?], buildings, orchards and gardens thereunto belonging, and also the said park and all the land, soil and ground being within the compass, pale or circuit of the same park, or known, reputed or taken as parcel of the same park, and also all that my water-mill with th' appurtenances in Elmley aforesaid, and also all those my lands, tenements, closes, meadows, pastures and hereditaments with their appurtenances in Elmley aforesaid called or known by the name or names of the [f. 253v] Lord's Close, the Sheep House in the Hoole with the closes thereunto belonging, and also all those my lands, tenements, meadows, leasows, pastures and hereditaments with their appurtenances in Elmley aforesaid now or late being in mine own hands, possession or occupation, and also all those my messuages, lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services, meadows, leasows, pastures and hereditaments with their appurtenances in Elmley aforesaid now or late being in the several tenures, leases or occupations of Katherine Rawlins, widow, Thomas Baily, William Wotton, Walter Smith, Mawde Gravens, widow, John Hunt, Thomas Smith, Richard George, Richard Gorley, Richard Lunley, and also all other my lands, tenements, rents, reversions and hereditaments in Elmley aforesaid and Kersoe in the said county of Worcester not hereafter mentioned in this my last will to descend to my heir, and also the reversion and reversions thereof, and also two parts in three parts to be divided of the said manor of Aston and of all other my lands, tenements, rents, reversions and hereditaments in Aston aforesaid, my said wife paying yearly the said rents by me willed unto my said mother, brother and sons according to this my last will and testament;

Also I will that mine executors shall lend to be made of my goods and chattels unto my said brother, John, at his coming out of his prenticeship for term of three or 4 years then next following an £100, so that he and sufficient sureties with him be bound to my said executors or to one of them or to his executor by or in sufficient bond or writing for the repayment thereof to them at th' end of the said three or 4 years;

And further my true intent and meaning is for that neither the King or Queen's Majesties or my heir should be deceived of the third part of my manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments, but that the same third part according to the laws and statute in that case provided and made should descend to my heir, I will and bequeath that all my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Elmley and Kersoe aforesaid now being in the several tenures or occupations of William Harrison, John Parsons, John Mountford, Edward Wotton, Nicholas Hamond, William Knolles, Edward Roberts, John Lockyer, Charles Thobie, John Thatcher, Edmund Ringeford, John Bamsell, John Baily th' elder, John Petre, Richard Sidiatt, Thomas Barbell, John Baily the younger, William Roberts, Nicolas Bowett, (blank) Nicolas, John Rawlins, John Hethe, Henry Tolly, Christopher Jenkes, Thomas Payne, Simon Moundeford, Richard Foster, Anne Baker and Christopher Flesshall(?), Margaret Shippes, Nicolas Roberts, Richard Rutter, John Etheridge and William Tookes, which be of the clear yearly value of £22 12s 6d, shall descend to my heir;

And further I declare and affirm by this my last will that the said mill and all my lands that I have in Campden aforesaid be but of the clear yearly value of £5, and that my manor of Elmley and all my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Elmley and Kersoe aforesaid be of the clear yearly value of fifty-five pounds, and after the same rate and yearly value my father did purchase them;

Also I will and bequeath unto my executors the sum of £300 to th' intent that they therewith shall purchase and buy to th' use of my heir after he come to his full age of 21 years the late chantry of and in Elmley aforesaid and other lands and tenements belonging to the said chantry if they can, or else some other lands, tenements or hereditaments of like value or better, and in the meantime my executors to have the same towards the performance of this my last will and testament;

And the residue of all my goods and chattels, my debts, legacies and funerals [sic] expenses borne and paid, I will and bequeath unto my said wife;

And of this my last will and testament I ordain and make my said wife and my well-beloved father-in-law, William Sheldon, esquire, mine executors;

In witness whereof to this my last will and testament in writing I have set my seal the day and year above-written;

Also I will and bequeath unto Harry Langston one tenement or messuage with th' appurtenances in Elmley aforesaid, late John Alcetor's and now in the tenure or occupation of George Langston, for term of his life without any rent paying for the same;

Also I will and bequeath unto Christopher Walker, my servant, all that my message [f. 254r] with th' appurtenances in Elmley aforesaid called Colman's now in the tenure of Walter Smyth for term of his life and the reversion and reversions thereof, paying th' accustomed rents and services due for the same;

Also I will and bequeath unto my servant, John Walker, all that my message or tenement with th' appurtenance in Bricklehampton now in the tenure of the said John Walker for the term of his life, paying th' accustomed rents and services due for the same;

Witness at the making and declaring of this my testament, William Walker, Thomas Savage and Henry Langston with divers other.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum coram domino apud London quarto die mensis Iulij Anno Domini Millesimo quingentesimo quinquagesimo octavo Iuramento francisci Haward notarij publici proctoris Anne Relicte et executricis in huiusmodi testamento nominate Ac approbatum et insinuatum &c Comissaque fuit administracio omnium et singulorum bonorum iurium et creditorum dictorum [sic?] defunctum [sic?] &c pefato executori De bene &c Ac de pleno et fidei Inventario &c Necnon de plano et vero compoto &c iurata Reseruate Willmo Sheldon armigero executori &c cum venierit &c

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at London on the fourth day of the month of July in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fifty-eighth by the oath of Francis Howard, notary public, proctor of Anne, relict and executrix named in the same testament, and probated and entered etc., and administration was granted of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased etc. to the forenamed executor, [+sworn] to well etc., and to [+prepare] a full and plain inventory etc., and also a plain and true account, with power reserved to William Sheldon, esquire, executor etc., when he shall have come etc.]