

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 25 December 1558, of Humphrey Pakington, son of Humphrey and Elizabeth Pakington (1502-1556), and brother of Lettice (nee Pakington) Martyn, mother of Humphrey Martyn, the addressee of the *Langham Letter* describing Leicester's entertainment of Queen Elizabeth at Kenilworth in the summer of 1575. Humphrey Pakington's brother, John Pakington (1530-1578), mentioned in the will was the husband of Elizabeth (nee Newport), the sister of Sir Richard Newport (d.1570), owner of a copy of Hall's *Chronicle* in the British Library containing annotations thought to have been made by Shakespeare. For the will of Sir Richard Newport, see PROB 11/53, f. 290.

LM: Testamentum Humfridi Pakington

In the name of God, Amen. The 25th day of December in the year of our Lord 1558 and in the first year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc., I, Humphrey Pakington of Clements Inn, being of good and perfect memory, thanks be to God, do make and ordain this my present testament and last will in manner and form following, and thereof do constitute, ordain and make my well beloved mother, Elizabeth Pakington, widow, my full and sole executrix;

And first I will that immediately after my death all my lands, tenements and hereditaments within the county of Hereford or elsewhere shall be sold by my said executrix, and that the money thereof coming shall be for the performance of this my testament and last will, and if my brother, John Pakington, will have the same for two hundred pounds to be paid within one half year after my death, that then he shall have it before any other person or persons, otherwise I will that it shall be sold for the best price that my said executrix can sell it for;

Item, I will and bequeath unto my brother, William Pakington, one hundred pounds;

LM: Item, I give and bequeath to my brother, Edward Pakington, £20;

Item, I give and bequeath to my master, John Payne, to buy him a ring, £4;

Item, I bequeath unto my mistress, his wife, for the like use £4;

Item, I give and bequeath to Gartond(?) Payne, my said mistress' daughter, £40;

Item, I give and bequeath to Richard Austene, cutler, 40s, and to his wife 40s, summa £4;

Item, I give and bequeath to Humphrey Barby, my godson, 40s, the same to be delivered to his father and mother or one of them to occupy for his profit until he come to full age;

Item, I give and bequeath to the parish church of Saint Clement's without Temple bar 10s;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor people dwelling within the parish of St Clements over the backside, between the house that Mr Guyes(?) doth dwell in and Temple bar £20;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Collier's daughter of Chiswick, which is my god-daughter, to her marriage 20s;

Item, I give and bequeath to Christopher Fenton all the household stuff that I have in my chamber at Clements' Inn, my featherbed, blankets, coverlets and sheets excepted, which I give unto Francis Clerk;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Michael Molsley all my apparel except my best doublet and best jerkin, which I give unto Francis Payne, my said master's son;

And of this my will I make the said Michael Molsley my overseer, praying him to be helping to my said mother in all her suits and troubles that shall happen to her, and for his pains therein I bequeath to him £20;

And I forgive all receivings and accounts between my said brother John and me;

In witness whereof I, the said Humphrey Pakington, to this my present testament and last will have set my hand the day and year above-written. Per me, Humphrey Pakington.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum Coram Magistro Waltero Haddon legum Doctore Curie Prerogative Cantuariensis Custode siue Commissario Sede Archiepiscopali iam Vacante quarto die mensis Septembris anno Domini Millesimo quingentesimo quinquagesimo nono Iuramento Christophori Robbinson Notarij publici procuratoris Elisabethe Pakyngeton executricis in huiusmodi Testamento nominato [sic?] Cui commissa fuit administracio etc Ac de pleno et fidei Inuentario etc Necnon de plano et vero computo etc ad sancta Dei Evangelia Iurate

[=The above-written testament was proved before Master Walter Haddon, Doctor of the Laws, Keeper or Commissary of the Archiepiscopal See now vacant, on the fourth day of the month of September in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fifty-ninth by the oath of Christopher Robbinson, notary public, proctor of Elizabeth Pakington, executrix appointed in the same testament, to whom administration was granted etc., and a full and true inventory etc. and also a plain and true account etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels.]