

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 30 March 1559 and proved 9 February 1560, of Nicholas Boughton, esquire, uncle of Alice (nee Kempe) Hales Lee, the 'Lady Hales' to whom Robert Greene dedicated *Menaphon*.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the son of Sir Edward Boughton (d.1550) and Anne Scott, the daughter of Sir William Scott (d. 24 August 1524), Comptroller of the Household to King Henry VII, Warden of the Cinque Ports, and Marshal of Calais, and Sibyl Lewknor, the daughter of Sir Thomas Lewknor (d. 20 July 1484) of Trotton, Sussex, and Katherine Pelham (d.1481). See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 21, and Vol. IV, pp. 1-3; the will, dated 1 August 1524 and proved 1 February 1525, of Sir William Scott, TNA PROB 11/21/272; the will, dated 4 August 1528 and proved 14 January 1529, of Sibyl (nee Lewknor) Scott, TNA PROB 11/23/14; and the will, dated 12 August 1549 and proved 8 July 1550, of Sir Edward Boughton (d.1550), TNA PROB 11/33/280.

After the death of the testator's mother, Anne Scott, the testator's father married Anne (nee Bond), the daughter of William Bond, Clerk of the Green Cloth. At the time of her marriage to the testator's father she was the widow of William Thynne (d. 10 August 1546), Master of the Household to Henry VIII and editor of the first published collection of the works of Geoffrey Chaucer; their son, Francis Thynne (c1545-1608), after the death of Raphael Holinshed in 1580, worked with Abraham Fleming and John Stow on the continuation of Holinshed's *Chronicles*.

After the death of Sir Edward Boughton, Anne (nee Bond) married, as her third husband, Hugh Cartwright (c.1526-1572), esquire, of London and West Malling, Kent, a nephew of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer. See the *ODNB* entries for William Thynne and Francis Thynne; the will of William Thynne, dated 16 November 1540 and proved 7 September 1546, TNA PROB 11/31/263; and the entry for Anne Bond at:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=646

See also the History of Parliament entry for Hugh Cartwright at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/cartwright-hugh-1526-72>

The testator's stepmother, Anne (nee Bond) is mentioned in the will below as 'Dame Anne Boughton'.

Testator's siblings

According to his father's will, the testator had five brothers, Henry, George, Edward, William and Bartholomew Boughton, and three sisters, Frances, Susan and Jane Boughton. Only two brothers, Henry and William Boughton, are mentioned in the will below. The testator's sister, Jane Boughton, is mentioned by name and appears to have been unmarried. The testator's sister, Frances Boughton, appears to have married Ralph Moyle, while the testator's sister, Susan Boughton, appears to have married George Trapps.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testator married Mary Kempe, the daughter of Sir William Kempe (1487 – 28 January 1539) of Olantigh and Eleanor (nee Browne) Fogge Kempe, by whom, according to the will below, he had four sons, Edward Boughton (d.1599), esquire, William, Anthony and Thomas, and a daughter, Katherine. See *Magna Carta Ancestry, supra*, Vol. III, pp. 275-6; the will of Sir William Kempe, dated 28 November 1538 and proved 4 July 1539, TNA PROB 11/27/500; the will of Eleanor (nee Browne) Fogge Kempe, dated 24 August 1558 and proved 11 December 1560, TNA PROB 11/43/638; and the will of Sir Edward Boughton, dated 23 March 1599 and proved 26 June 1599, TNA PROB/11/94/104.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

The testator leaves a bequest to his brother-in-law, Ralph Moyle (d.1582), the son of John Moyle and Elizabeth Warham, who would appear to have been the husband of the testator's sister, Frances Boughton. See *Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica*, Vol. III, (London: John Bowyer Nichols and Son, 1836), p. 6 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=PicAAAAAQAQAJ&pg=PA6>

See also:

<http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=carver3007&id=I13637>

The overseers appointed by the testator were Mary Kempe's brother, Thomas Kempe (d. 7 March 1591), and brother-in-law, Sir Robert Oxenbridge, the husband of Mary Kempe's half sister, Alice (nee Fogge) Scott Oxenbridge. See the will of Eleanor (nee Browne) Fogge Kempe, *supra*, and the will of Sir Robert Oxenbridge, proved 2 December 1574, TNA PROB 11/56/578.

LM: Test{amentu}m Nicholai Boughton

[f. 103v] In the name of God, Amen. The 30th day of March in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred fifty and nine and in the first year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., I Nicholas Boughton of Plumstead in the county of Kent, esquire, perfect of memory, thanks be to God, and sick in body, do make and ordain my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, the Father, and to his only son, Jesus Christ, and to all the holy company of heaven, my body to be buried in the parish church of Woolwich in the said county of Kent in the tomb and chapel with my grandfather, Nicholas Boughton, esquire, deceased, which my grandfather, Nicholas Boughton, esquire, deceased, builded [-builded] and lieth buried;

Item, I will that my executors immediately after my decease shall have all those my wood-grounds, woods and underwoods with their appurtenances lying and being in Plumstead aforesaid called Shooter's Hill and Plumstead Park, and take thereof the whole issues and profits towards and for the performance and true payment of all such legacies as well bequeathed by the last will and testament of Edward Boughton, late of Woolwich aforesaid, knight, deceased, my father, as remain yet unpaid, as also all such legacies as shall be bequeathed by me, the said Nicholas, in this my last will and testament, to have and to hold unto my said executors, their executors and assigns, until such time as the said legacies shall be wholly and fully satisfied and paid;

Item, I will that Edward Boughton, my eldest son, shall have the rectory and parsonage of Plumstead with th' appurtenances in Plumstead, Wickham and Wollinge [=Welling?] after my decease towards the finding and bringing up of him during the life natural of Dame Anne Boughton, late wife of my said father, Edward Boughton, and now the wife of Hugh Cartwright, esquire;

And after the decease of the said Dame Anne, I will that mine executors shall enter into the said rectory and parsonage of Plumstead aforesaid with th' appurtenances, and take and receive the issues and profits of the same towards the said performance and true payments as well of the said legacies of my said father as of mine own legacies in manner and form as is abovesaid;

Item, I will that after the decease of the said Dame Anne, that my said son, Edward, shall have so much of the manor of Plumstead as is now in the jointure of the same Dame Anne of the said manor, to have & to hold unto the said Edward according unto the entail of the said last will of my said father, Edward Boughton;

Item, I will that Mary, my wife, shall have towards the finding and bringing up of the residue of my children all those my lands called Chinkefelde, my wood-ground, woods and underwoods and heath called Browning's wood, together with all my marshland in the new-inned marsh with their appurtenances lying and being in Plumstead aforesaid, to have and to hold unto the same Mary, her executors and assigns, until such time as my

said children and every of them of their said legacies by me unto them bequeathed shall be by mine executors fully satisfied, contented and paid;

Provided always and my very will and mind is that all such legacies as are yet unpaid expressed in the said last will of my said father shall be by mine executors first paid and satisfied, and after the said legacies of my said father paid, I will that my [f. 104r] said executors shall receive at [sic] take the profits as well of the said parsonage of Plumstead as of the said wood-grounds, woods and underwoods with their appurtenances called Shooter's Hill and Plumstead Park until such time as they shall have levied so much money of the said profits thereof as shall amount to make up with the said lands, woods, heath and marsh before bequeathed unto my said wife unto every of my said youngest children £4 by the year towards their finding & bringing up from and after my decease unto the full payment of their legacies, which I will shall be paid unto the said Mary, my wife, her executors or assigns;

Item, I will that if hereafter at any time during the life of the said Dame Anne any assess shall happen to be for the amendment and repairing of marsh walls, that all such sums of money as shall be disbursed and laid out by my executors of and for so much marshland of the jointure of the said Dame Anne being now in my possession at the time of my decease more than can be levied of the profits of my lease of her said jointure shall be by them levied, deducted and received and [sic?] of the said issues and profits of the said parsonage of Plumstead & woods called Shooter's Hill and Plumstead Park;

And after all the said legacies as well of my said father as mine own legacies and all other charges as is abovesaid in form aforesaid paid and satisfied, I will the said rectory and parsonage of Plumstead and wood-grounds called Shooter's Hill and Plumstead Park with their appurtenances shall remain to my said son, Edward Boughton, according unto the said entail of the last will of my said father, and that the said lands called Chinckefeld, the wood-ground and heath called Browning's wood, and also all the said marshland in the new-inned marsh with their appurtenances shall remain unto the said Mary, my wife, towards the maintenance of her living during her natural life, and after her decease I will that the same shall remain unto the said Edward, my son, in manner and form as is abovesaid;

Item, I will that the said Mary, my wife, shall have all my lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, woods, underwoods, heath and marsh with th' appurtenances which I have now in possession, reversion or remainder set, lying and being in Woolwich aforesaid, to have and to hold unto the same Mary during her natural life, paying therefore yearly 26s 8d unto the said Dame Anne, my mother-in-law, for one parcel of land called Hawkins field, and one close adjoining unto the same during the life of the said Dame Anne, and after the decease of the said Mary, my wife, I will the said premises with th' appurtenances in Woolwich aforesaid shall remain unto my said son, Edward, according unto the said entail of the last will of my said father, Edward Boughton;

Item, I will and bequeath unto my daughter, Katherine Boughton, one hundred pounds to be paid unto her when she shall accomplish th' age of 20 years or rather upon her

preferment of marriage as shall be thought most meet by the discretion of Mary, my wife, or other of her friends if it may be so soon levied;

Item, I bequeath to every of my younger sons, William, Anthony and Thomas, one hundred pounds to be paid to either of them when they shall accomplish their several ages of 20 years if it may conveniently be so soon levied by mine executors of the said issue and profits of my said lands and woods;

Provided always that if my daughter, Katherine, or any of my sons do die before the time appointed for their payment, that the part of her or him so dying shall be divided in this wise, the one half amongst my daughter and younger sons, and the rest to be void;

Provided always and my very mind and will also is that mine executors shall within three years next after my decease sell and cut down so much woods and underwoods now growing in such places of my said woods called Shooter's Hill as shall be most readiest and meet to be felled as shall as well satisfy my brother, Henry Boughton, of so much money of my said father's legacies unto him yet due to be paid as also the sum of forty marks more which I will and bequeath unto the same Henry for and in consideration that he shall tarry and forbear the payment of the same with mine executors during three years from and after my decease;

Item, I will that the said Mary, my wife, shall have all such sums of money as is now in her custody and keeping, and also all my jewels except one flower of gold set with three diamonds, 2 rubies and three pearls, which said flower I will that she shall have the use and wearing of the same during her life, & after [f. 104v] her decease I will that my said eldest son, Edward Boughton, shall have the same, or any of my other sons which shall be eldest and inheritable unto mine inheritance if it shall fortune the said Edward to die;

Item, I give and bequeath more unto the said Mary, my wife, so much plate, goods, chattels, household stuff, ready money and corn as shall be reasonably praised and valued unto the sum of one hundred and twenty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my said brother, Henry Boughton, my gown of damask;

Item, I bequeath and give unto my cousin, Robert Mayhew, my grey jennet colt;

Item, I forgive the said Robert all such sums of money as he standeth bound to me at any time hereafter to be paid by reason of any specialty or bill of his hand;

Item, I give and bequeath to my sister, Jane Boughton, ten pounds to be paid her after the other legacies of my said father be paid, upon condition that she do not molest or trouble my executors for her part before it may be levied;

Item, I give to my brother [=brother-in-law], Ralph Moyle, my young filly colt;

Item, I give to my brother, William Boughton, 40s for his pains;

Item, I give and bequeath unto the poor and needy people of the said parish of Plumstead 40s, to be distributed unto them immediately after my decease;

Item, I give and bequeath unto the poor and needy people of Woolwich aforesaid 20s, to be distributed unto them immediately after my decease;

Item, I give and bequeath to my brother [=brother-in-law], George Trapps, £20, whereof is paid 20s; the rest I will shall be paid to the said George Trapps, his heirs, executors or assigns, after all the said legacies of my said father and my legacies to my children given be paid;

The residue of all my goods and chattels I give to my wife, my funerals discharged and my debts paid, praying her to pay my brother [=brother-in-law], Ralph Moyle, £10 yearly until the sum of forty pounds be paid unless she may agree otherwise with him;

And of this my present testament I do make and ordain my most loving wife, Mary Boughton, and my loving brother, William Boughton, my executors, and overseers of the same my last will and testament the worshipful Sir Robert Oxenbridge, knight, & Sir Thomas Kempe, knight, giving them 40s apiece for their pains. By me, Nicholas Boughton. These being witnesses: George Trapps, Harry Boughton, William Clarke, Thomas Bloyde and other.

Probatum fuit h{uius}mo{d}i testamentum coram Mag{ist}ro Waltero Haddon legum Doctor{e} curie Prerogatiue Cant{uariensis} Custode siue Comissario ib{ide}m iam vacant{e} apud London nono die mensis ffebruarij Anno Domini mill{es}imo quingentesimo quinquagesimo nono Iuramento executorum in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento nominat{orum} Quibus commissa fuit administrac{i}o de bene &c Ac de pleno Inventario Necnon de vero et plano computo Reddend{o} Ad sancta dei evangelia Iurat{orum}

[=The same testament was proved before Master Walter Haddon, Doctor of the Laws, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, there now vacant, on the ninth day of the month of February in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fifty-ninth by the oath of the executors named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc., and [+to exhibit] a full inventory, and also to render a true and plain account.]