

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 25 August 1563, of Elizabeth Pakington, widow of Humphrey Pakington (1502-1556), and grandmother of Humphrey Martyn, the addressee of the *Langham Letter*, to whom she bequeaths '£3 6s 8d in money'. The testatrix added a codicil on 27 September 1563, and died the following day. For the will of her husband see PROB 11/38, ff. 150-1. At the time of the making of her will she had ten living children, three sons (John, Edward and William) and seven daughters, five married (Jane, Katherine, Martha, Anne and Alice) and two unmarried (Margery and Margaret), her daughter Lettice, wife of Sir Roger Martyn, and mother of Humphrey Martyn, addressee of the *Langham Letter*, and her son Humphrey having predeceased her. For the will of her son Humphrey, see PROB 11/42B, f. 318. The daughter-in-law mentioned in Elizabeth Pakington's will, wife of her eldest son John, who is bequeathed '£5 in money' and 'one little cross of gold' is 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.

LM: Testamentum Elisabethe Pakington

In the name of God, Amen. In London the 25th day of August in the year of our Lord God a thousand five hundred threescore and three and in the 5th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., I, Elizabeth Pakington of the city of London, widow, of the parish of St Michael in Bassishaw in London, at this present in health of body and in good and perfect memory, all laud and praise be given unto Almighty God therefore, do make and ordain this my present testament and last will in manner and form following, that is to say:

First, I commit and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my only Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, my Redeemer, who for my sins and for the sins of the whole world suffered death upon the Cross, by whose death and passion I trust only to be saved and by none other ways or means; I acknowledge three persons in Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, to whom be all honour and glory forever and ever, Amen;

My body I commit to the earth to be buried in the parish church of St Michael in Bassishaw in London if I fortune to die within the said city, and if I shall happen to die in any other place forth of the said city, then I will my body to be buried in Christian burial decently as it shall seem good by the discretion of mine executors and overseers;

And as touching such goods as God have lent me the use of here in this world during my natural life, I do hereafter declare my mind, and I will for the disposition thereof, my body being buried, my funerals paid, that then all my debts which I shall owe by writing

or other ways being duly proved, I will shall be paid immediately after my death by mine executors;

Item, I will and bequeath to 24 poor people, 12 women and 12 men, every of them a gown of cloth of the value 6s 8d the yard, the same poor people to be appointed by mine executors, sum of the cloth and making well amount unto £21 7s;

Item, I will and bequeath to my son, Edward Pakington, two hundred and £20 in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my son, John Pakington, one hundred pounds in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my daughter, Margery Pakington, three hundred pounds in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my daughter, Margaret Pakington, three hundred pounds in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my daughter, Anne Style, £20 in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my daughter, Alice Lambert, £20 in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my daughter-in-law, the wife of my son, John Pakington, £5 in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my god-daughter Elizabeth, the daughter of my son, John Pakington, 40s in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my two god-children, Richard and Elizabeth, the children of my son-in-law, Humphrey Baskerville, by my daughter Jane, every of them 40s in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my godson, the son of Richard Lambert, whose name is Richard, by my daughter Alice, 40s in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to Joan Martyn, my god-daughter, the daughter of Roger Martyn, alderman, 40s in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to the relief of the poor in these 3 houses or hospitals following £60 in money, to wit, to the poor in Christ's Church, £30; to St Bartholomew's by Smithfield, £15; to Saint Thomas in Southwark, £15;

Item, I will and bequeath to the poor prisoners within 7 houses within the city of London and Southwark £20 in money to be distributed by the good discretion of my executors, to wit, £10 immediately after my death and £10 within one year following;

Item, I will and bequeath to the relief of the poor people within the ward of Bassishaw in London £10 in money, whereof £3 6s 8d to be distributed immediately after my death and £6 13s 4d within one year next following;

Item, I will and bequeath to Annes Pinder, widow, sometime being my servant, a featherbed and a bolster which she hath already in her keeping; more, I will shall be delivered to the said Agnes Pinder immediately after my death a pair of blankets, a pair of sheets and a coarse covering of imagery;

Item, I will and bequeath to Annes Hollyman, the wife of Hugh Welles of Worcester, which Annes was sometime my maid, 20s in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to Joan, Eyes Ansell's wife, which was sometime my maid, 20s in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my god-daughter, Elizabeth Ansell, 10s in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to Edith [], sometime my maid, 20s in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my god-daughter, Elizabeth Gwillam, the daughter of Edward Gwillam, wax-chandler, 20s in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to my two daughters which at this present be unmarried one chest with linen to be betwixt them equally divided, to wit, thone half to my daughter Margery and the other half to my daughter Margaret Pakington;

Item, I will and bequeath to my two sons, William Pakington and Edward Pakington, all my household stuff being in my house at the time of my death and not before bequeathed, my plate only except, the same household stuff to be betwixt them equally divided;

Item, I will and bequeath to my said two sons, William Pakington and Edward Pakington, the lease of my house wherein I now dwell to be betwixt them equally divided, with all the profit thereof for so many of the years as shall be unexpired at time of my death;

Item, I will and bequeath to my godson [], the son of Sir Thomas Pakington, 40s in money;

Item, I will and bequeath to Sir Thomas Pakington and to my lady his wife, to every of them a ring of gold, value of 40s the piece, to be delivered to them by mine executors in token of love borne towards them;

Item, I will and bequeath to my son, John Pakington, a ring of gold which was my wedding-ring, being a hoop of gold;

Item, I will and bequeath to my son, William Pakington, a ring of gold with a stone and my husband's arms graven in it;

Item, I will and bequeath to my son, Edward Pakington, a ring of gold, being a hoop, and graven within it *Laudes Deo*;

Item, I will and bequeath to my daughter, Jane Baskerville, a ring with a table diamond set in gold;

Item, I will & bequeath to my daughter, Katherine Lambert, a ring of gold, and there is graven within it *Such is fortune*;

Item, I will and bequeath to Martha Hollyman a ring of gold, and there is graven within it *Memento mori*;

Item, I will and bequeath to every of the children of my son, John Pakington, being alive at the time of my death £3 6s 8d, and every of them to be other's heir thereof;

Item, I will and bequeath to the children of my son-in-law, Humphrey Baskerville, alderman, by my daughter Jane, to every of them being alive at the time of my death £3 6s 8d in money, and every of them to be other's heir;

Item, I will and bequeath to the children of Roger Martyn, alderman, by my daughter Lettice, being alive at the time of my death £3 6s 8d in money, and every of them to be other's heir;

Item, I will and bequeath to the children of my son-in-law, John Lambert, by my daughter Katherine, being alive at the time of my death, to every of them £3 6s 8d, and every of them to be other's heir;

Item, I will and bequeath to the children of my son-in-law, Richard Lambert, being alive at the time of my death, to every of them £3 6s 8d, and every of them to be other's heir;

Item, I will and bequeath to my four children, to wit, William Pakington, Edward Pakington, Margery Pakington and Margaret Pakington, all my plate which at the time of my death shall be found in my custody and not in my will bequeathed, the same plate to be betwixt them equally divided, every one portion and portion like;

Item, I will and bequeath to the ten children born of my body and at this present alive, to every of them fifty pounds, and every of them to be other[s] heir, equally divided;

Item, I will and bequeath to the children of my son-in-law, Richard Hollyman, by my daughter Martha, to every of them being alive at the time of my death £3 6s 8d, and every of them to be other's heir;

Item, I will and bequeath to my two sons, William Pakington and Edward Pakington, as well all such money as shall be due to me by an obligation of Mr Humphrey Baskerville, as also all such money as shall be due unto me for one lease of my house wherein John Sutton now dwelleth in Bassishaw by the said Mr Humphrey Baskerville, the same money and so much as shall be unpaid at the time of my death both of the lease and obligation to be equally betwixt my said two sons divided, the one half to William Pakington and the other half to Edward Pakington;

And further I ordain, constitute and make to be mine executors of this my last will and testament my son Edward Pakington, my daughter Anne Style, and my daughter Alice Lambert, now the wife of Richard Lambert, grocer, and for their pains therein to be by every of them to be taken I have as before in this my last will and testament given to every of them £20 in money;

I, Richard Lambert, do witness this to be the last will and testament of Elizabeth Pakington, widow, late the wife of Humphrey Pakington, deceased.

Memorandum. That the aforesaid Elizabeth, the 27th day of September anno Domini predicto, being then in perfect mind and memory, did add to her former will and declare the same in some part thereof, giving, willing and bequeathing as hereafter followeth, viz.:

I give and bequeath to my daughter-in-law, the wife of my son, John Pakington, one little cross of gold, to be delivered unto her immediately after my death by mine executors;

Item, I will and bequeath to my daughter, Martha Hollyman, three little silver pots, to be delivered unto her immediately after my death;

Item, I will and bequeath to my daughter, Alice Lambert, the wife of Richard Lambert, one little standing cup of silver and gilt, to be delivered unto her immediately after my death by mine executors;

Item, I will and bequeath to my son, John Pakington, three deep goblets of silver, to be delivered to him immediately after my death by mine executors;

Item, I will and bequeath to my daughter, Margaret Pakington, one chain of gold, to be delivered unto her by mine executors immediately after my death;

Item I will and bequeath to my daughter, Katherine, the wife of John Lambert, two silver pots white which heretofore I did lend unto her, and my will and mind is that she shall enjoy them as her own after my death;

Also I will and bequeath unto my said daughter, Katherine, a little flower of gold wherein is stone and pearl, to be delivered unto her immediately after my death by mine executors;

Item, I will and bequeath to my daughter, Margery Pakington, one tablet of gold, to be delivered unto her immediately after my death by mine executors;

Item, my mind and will is that of the debts which I do owe for the rest of my husband's requests in deeds of charity, £6 13s 4d thereof to be given to the mending and finishing of the highway by Essam, betwixt Essam and Worcester;

Also I will that of the same debts there shall be given to the preferment of John Johnson, born in Barlowe in Brabant, so much as shall be needful:

Memorandum. That the above-named Elizabeth Pakington, the next day before her death, viz., the 27th day of September anno predicto, in the afternoon of the same day, being then in perfect mind and memory, did confess and acknowledge this to be her last will and testament above-written in all points and clauses, these being witnesses: Richard Lambert, Edmund Style, Isabel Mere, Margaret Lawse(?) and divers other moe.

Probatum fuit huiusmodi Testamentum coram Magistro waltero haddon legum doctore Curie Prerogative cantuariensis Comissario apud london xxvjto Die mensis Novembris anno 1563 Iuramento Edwardi Pakington personaliter presentis Anne Stile et Alice Lambert liberorum in persona magistri Georgij Harison Notarij publici procuratoris Executorum in huiusmodi Testamento nominatorum Quibus Comissa fuit Administracio omnium bonorum de bene etc Ac de pleno Inventario &c Exhibendo necnon De plano et vero Computo reddendo

[=The same testament was proved before Master Walter Haddon, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the 26th day of the month of November in the year 1563 by the oath of Edward Pakington, personally present, Anne Style and Alice Lambert, children, in the person of Master George Harrison, notary public, proctor of the executors named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of all the goods, to well etc., and to exhibit a full inventory etc., and also to render a plain and true account.]