

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 23 April 1565 and proved 28 May 1565, of Isabel (nee Hosier) Pyke Gresham.

For another transcript of the testatrix' will, see Leveson Gower, Granville, *Genealogy of the Family of Gresham*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1883), p. 76 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9ZQNAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA76>

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

The testatrix was the daughter and heir of the London mercer and Merchant of the Staple, John Hosier (d.1521?), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/20/138. See 'Relationship of Sir William Browne and Isabel Pyke' at:

<https://soc.genealogy.medieval.narkive.com/axYYZ513/relationship-of-sir-william-browne-and-isabel-pyke>

*The will of John West, citizen and mercer, names wife Elizabeth and children William, John, James and Catherine. He later leaves his "yards of cloth" to "Master Hosyer, my cosyn Pyke and his wyfe, Master Mundy and his wyfe [i.e. Julian Browne, daughter of William], Robert Palmer and his wyfe, Wyllyam, John and James my sonnes and Catherine my daughter, Wyllyam Colshill, Wyllyam Mathewe, and my brother Wytlok (?). He provides for prayers at the parish of Millington, "where I was born" for his soul and those of his deceased parents James West and Alyce West, for John Broun, John West, his wife Elizabeth and his children. He requires a payment to . . . "the next here of S[i]r John Browne, Late Citizen and Alderman of London", and leaves a legacy to Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Palmer, and named John Mondy (sic) and Robert Palmer as overseers. John Hosyer was a witness.*

*The 1497 will of Sir John Broune leaves a legacy to Margarete Hosier, wife of John Hosier, mercer. . . .*

For John West (d.1517), see his will, TNA PROB 11/18/550. Thanks to Karen Sims for the information that John West's widow, Elizabeth, was born Elizabeth Oliver. After the death of John West, Elizabeth (nee Oliver) West married secondly Sir Thomas Exmewe (d.1529), whom she predeceased. For the will of Sir Thomas Exmewe, see TNA PROB 11/23/55.

### ***Testatrix' siblings***

In the will below, the testatrix mentions one sister:

**-Margaret Calton** (d.1571). In her own will, TNA PROB 11/53/446, she refers to the book of gold bequeathed to her by the testatrix in the will below.

Margaret Calton is mentioned in the 1535 will of her father, Robert Roos, cloth-maker of Stoke Nayland, Suffolk:

*Item, I bequeath to the marriage of Mary Calton, the daughter of Thomas Calton, citizen and goldsmith of London, and of my daughter Margaret, his wife, £3 6s 8d.*

She is also mentioned in the 1542 will of her mother, Christian Roos:

*Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, Margaret Calton, the wife of Thomas Calton, citizen and goldsmith of London, one hundred marks in ready money and these parcels of plate and jewels . . . .*

Thanks to Karen Sims for information concerning the wills of Robert Roos and Christian Roos.

The identification of Margaret Calton as the daughter of Robert Roos and his wife, Christian, is difficult to reconcile with the testatrix' statement that Margaret Calton is her sister. See Ellis, Henry ed., *The Visitation of the County of Huntingdon*, (London: Camden Society, 1849), p. 40 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=jfYINJ-f3FsC&pg=PA40>

For Margaret Calton, her husband, Thomas Calton (d.1558?), and their children, see also TNA C 1/1419/3, and Blanch, William Harnett, *Ye Parish of Camerwell*, (London: E.W. Allen, 1875), p. 177 at:

<https://archive.org/details/yparishofcamerwe00blanuoft/page/176/mode/2up>

*The manor of Dulwich and the advowson of the vicarage of Camberwell were granted to Thomas and Margaret Calton 11th Ocotber, 36 Hen. VIII. 1545. The former was sold to Alleyne the player by Sir Francis Calton in 1606.*

See also:

'Parishes: Camberwell', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 4*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1912), pp. 24-36. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol4/pp24-36> [accessed 10 November 2020].

*At the Dissolution the manor of Dulwich was valued at £13 5s. 8d., lands in Camberwell at 13s. 4d., the rectory of Camberwell at £10, and the church at £7 7s. (fn. 150) In 1546 (fn. 151) the reversion of the manor and advowson of the vicarage were granted, after the expiration of a fifty years' lease from the prior to John Solt, to Thomas Calton, whose widow Margaret and son conveyed them in 1570 (fn. 152) to Lord Giles Paulet, son of*

*William Marquess of Winchester, and William Chyvall as trustees for a settlement on Margaret and her son Nicholas. (fn. 153) In 1571 Margaret Calton, the widow, died holding the manor and a mansion-house called Hall Place and the advowson. The lands were settled on Nicholas, a younger son, and his heirs, with remainders to the other sons in succession. In 1575 (fn. 154) Nicholas Calton died, and in 1605 Sir Francis Calton, kt., sold the manor, Hall Place and the advowson to Edward Allen, the founder of Dulwich College. (fn. 155) In 1620 Edward Allen (fn. 156) conveyed the manor to the trustees for Dulwich College.*

See also Collier, John Payne, *The Alleyn Papers*, (London: The Shakespeare Society, 1843), p. 41 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=oiRMAAAAcAAJ&pg=PA41>

## **MARRIAGES AND ISSUE**

### ***Testatrix' first marriage***

The testatrix married firstly the London goldsmith, John Pyke (d.1533), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/25/29. See also a Chancery document, TNA C 146/11074, dated 1518-19, 'admission of Owen Holland, esquire, and Elizabeth his wife, on the surrender of John Pyke, goldsmith of London, and Isabella his wife, into premises in West Sheen alias Richmond manor', and:

<https://walterfitzgilbertdehamilton.wordpress.com/2018/07/23/jones-template/>

*1. John Pyke, m. Joan ... He held land in Richmond manor, by grant of Nov. 24, 1485. (John Cloake, Cottages and Common Fields of Richmond and Kew, p. 403, 2001).*

*1.1. John Pyke, of London, goldsmith, d. 1533, m. Isabel Hosier, after whose death, m. Sir Richard Gresham, mercer, Lord Mayor of London. Surrey: admission of Owen Holland, esquire, and Elizabeth his wife, on the surrender of John Pyke, goldsmith of London, and Isabella his wife, into premises in West Sheen alias Richmond manor. 1518-1519. (C 146/11074).*

By John Pyke, the testatrix had two daughters:

\* **Elizabeth Pyke**, who appears to have died unmarried in 1532 (see below).

\* **Joan Pyke**, who married, as his second wife, Barnard Jenyn (d.1552), by whom she appears to have had no issue. For the will of Barnard Jenyn, see TNA PROB 11/35/195.

### ***Testatrix' second marriage***

The testatrix married secondly, as his third wife, Sir Richard Gresham (c.1485-1549), Lord Mayor of London, by whom she had no issue.

Sir Richard Gresham's first wife was Audrey Lynne (d. 28 December 1522), the daughter of William Lynne (d.1511?) of Southwick, Northamptonshire, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/17/40. By Audrey Lynne, Sir Richard Gresham had two sons and, according to almost all sources, two daughters:

**(1) Sir John Gresham** (c.1516?-1560), eldest son, who married Frances Thwaytes (c.1508-1580), daughter and heir of Sir Henry Thwaytes (d. 5 July 1521?) of Lownd, Yorkshire. Sir Richard Gresham purchased Frances Thwaytes' wardship, and married her to his son. See TNA C 1/582/20a, and her will, TNA PROB 11/62/471. Their only surviving child, Elizabeth Gresham (d. 7 November 1573), married, as his second wife, Sir Henry Neville (d. 13 January 1593), for whom see the *ODNB* entry. For the funeral certificate dated 17 November 1573 of Elizabeth (nee Gresham) Neville (d. 7 November 1573), see Leveson Gower, *supra*, pp. 9-10 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=YNQKAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA9>

**(2) Sir Thomas Gresham** (c. 1518–1579), founder of the Royal Exchange, for whom see the *ODNB* entry. In 1544, he married Anne Ferneley (d.1596), the daughter of William Ferneley, and widow of the London mercer, William Rede (d.1544?), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/30/45. By William Rede, Anne Ferneley had two sons, William Rede and Richard Rede. In 1540, Anne Ferneley's sister, Jane Ferneley (d.1552), married, as his first wife, Sir Nicholas Bacon (1510–1579). After the death of Jane Ferneley, Sir Nicholas Bacon married secondly Anne Cooke (c.1528-1610). Sir Nicholas Bacon was thus the brother-in-law, through his first marriage to Jane Ferneley, of Sir Thomas Gresham, and the brother-in-law, through his second marriage to Anne Cooke, of Lord Burghley.

One of Sir Nicholas Bacon's sons by Jane Ferneley, Sir Nathaniel Bacon (1546?–1622), married firstly, in July 1569, Anne Gresham (d.1594), Sir Thomas Gresham's illegitimate daughter by Anne Dutton, and secondly, on 21 July 1597, Dorothy Hopton (c.1570–1629), widow of William Smith of Burgh Castle, Suffolk, and daughter of Arthur Hopton. See the will, TNA PROB 11/148/110, of Elizabeth (nee Bacon) Doyley Neville Periam (d. 3 May 1621), eldest daughter of Sir Nicholas Bacon (1510-1579) and Jane Ferneley.

**(3) Christian Gresham**, who married Sir John Thynne (d.1580), for whom see the *ODNB* entry.

**(4) Elizabeth Gresham** (d.1552) who died unmarried. For her will, see TNA PROB 11/35/117.

Sir Richard Gresham's second wife was Thomasine Worsop (d.1532?, daughter of John Worsop (d.1538) by his first wife, Elizabeth, and widow of Richard Thurston (d.1522?),

only son and heir of Sir John Thurston (d.1520) by his wife, Alice. By Richard Thurston, Thomasine Warsop had a daughter, Alice Thurston, who married George Townshend (d.1552?) of Dereham Abbey, Norfolk, the son of Sir Roger Townshend (d.1552?) and Amy Brewse. See the will of Sir John Thurston, TNA PROB 11/20/20; the will of Sir John Thurston's widow, Elizabeth (nee Tenacre) Wymond Thurston (d.1521), TNA PROB 11/20/149; the will of John Worsop, TNA PROB 11/27/356; the will of Richard Thurston, TNA PROB 11/21/8; and TNA C 1/516/35, a Chancery suit brought in the period 1518-1529 by 'Richard Gresham of London, mercer, and Thomasyn, his wife, late the wife of Richard Thurston of London, broderer, and John Worshop'. In his will, Richard Thurston mentions 'Audrey Worsop, my wife's sister'.

As noted above, Christian Gresham and Elizabeth Gresham are said to have been Sir Richard Gresham's daughters by his first wife, Audrey Lynne (d.1522). It is almost certain, however, that they were his daughters by his second wife, Thomasine Worsop. See:

<https://soc.genealogy.medieval.narkive.com/eDUY9boB/another-wife-for-sir-richard-gresham-probably-mother-of-christian-gresham-thynne-and-elizabeth>

See also the entry in 'A Who's Who of Tudor Women' at:

[www.tudorwomen.com](http://www.tudorwomen.com)

*ISABEL GRESHAM (d. April 1, 1565) (maiden name unknown) Isabel is called Isabella Worpfall in the Oxford DNB entry for her second husband, Sir Richard Gresham (c.1485-February 21, 1549), a mercer and stapler who was Lord Mayor of London in 1537/8, but this appears to confuse her with Gresham's first [sic] wife, Thomasyn Worsopp. The DNB further records that in October 1532, when Isabella's [sic] daughter Elizabeth died of an unspecified illness, she and her son by Gresham were also extremely ill. At that time, however, Isabel was still married to her first husband, John Pyke (d.1533), a goldsmith. Their daughter, Joan Pyke, married Barnard Jenyn, a skinner, as his second wife. Family wills in that line identify Isabel as the mother of Joan and the wife of Sir Richard Gresham. Isabel is sometimes said to have been the wealthy widow of a knight named Taverson, by whom she had at least two daughters. This is possible, but the timing would be tight. She was married to Gresham, who was much disliked as a moneylender and land grabber, by November 16, 1537. On January 21, 1543, the Gresham house in Milk Street was targeted by the earl of Surrey and his minions during a five-hour rampage through London. They broke windows in the house by firing stonebows at them. At the time of his death, he owned Inwood Hall, Norfolk, Ringshall, Suffolk, Orembery, Yorkshire, the house in Milk Street in London, and one in Bethnal Green, valued together at £800 per annum. He died at the house in Bethnal Green. He was buried in St. Laurence Jewry, London. His will, made February 20, 1549, left one third of his estate to his widow, providing her with an annual income of £282. According to Anne F. Sutton, The Mercery of London, Isabel purchased a mansion in Lad Lane from the Mercers on May 10, 1550, together with five other tenements. Its value as a rental was £13 10s/year. In 1551, she began to make gifts to the Mercers' Company and*

*continued to do so until her death. These included her mansion and the tenements that went with it, a bequest made in spite of opposition from her stepson, Sir Thomas Gresham.*

It seems likely that Sir Richard Gresham and Thomasine (nee Worsop) Thurston were married about 1523, shortly after the deaths of their respective spouses in 1522.

Thomasine (nee Worsop) Thurston Gresham may have died in 1532, together with her eldest daughter, and one of Sir Richard Gresham's sons. See:

'Henry VIII: October 1532, 11-20', in *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Henry VIII, Volume 5, 1531-1532*, ed. James Gairdner (London, 1880), pp. 599-615. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/letters-papers-hen8/vol5/pp599-615> [accessed 15 November 2020].

*Mr. Richard Gresham riding to Walsingham ward, at Barkway hath buried his wife's eldest daughter, and at his house in London one of his sons, and his wife very sick at Barkway.*

See also Leveson Gower, *supra*, p. 162 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9ZQNAAAQAAJ&pg=PA162>

If Sir Richard Gresham's second wife died in 1532, the testatrix and Sir Richard Gresham were likely married shortly after the death of the testatrix' first husband, John Pyke, in 1533.

For Sir Richard Gresham's three wives, see also the WikiTree profile at:

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Gresham-353>

### ***OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL***

The testatrix leaves bequests to 'every of the legitimate children of Richard Hosier, Roger Hosier and of Phyllis Goodman, late deceased, that shall be living at the time of my decease', as well as to William Thomas, John Thomas and Robert Goodman. It seems likely that depositions in the Court of Exchequer in *Hosier v Thomas* relate to the testatrix' bequests. See TNA E 133/69/68. In her own will, the testatrix' sister, Margaret Calton, leaves bequests to 'William Thomas, merchant, and John Thomas, draper, being kinsmen to the old Lady Gresham, deceased'. The identity of 'the old Lady Gresham' is unclear; she may have been Sir Richard Gresham's first wife, Audrey Lynne (d.1522), or his second wife, Thomasine Worsop, or perhaps Mary Ipswell, the first wife of Sir John Gresham (d.1556).

It seems likely that John Holland or Howland, salter, mentioned in the will below was related to Owen Holland, esquire, mentioned in TNA C 146/11074, *supra*.

‘My Lady Gresham in Bassishaw’ likely refers to Katherine Sampson (d.1578), widow of Edward Dormer (d.1539), brother of Sir Michael Dormer, Lord Mayor of London in 1541. In 1553 Katherine Sampson married, as his second wife, the testatrix’ brother-in-law, Sir John Gresham (c.1495 – 23 October 1556). See the will of Sir John Gresham, TNA PROB 11/38/241, and the Wikipedia entry edited by the author of this website at:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Gresham](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Gresham)

For Sir William Petre, see the *ODNB* entry. For his wife, Anne (nee Browne) Tyrrell Petre (d.1582), whom the testatrix calls ‘cousin’, see her will, TNA PROB 11/64/153.

‘My cousin John Browne’ was likely John Browne (d.1570), esquire, brother of Anne (nee Browne) Tyrrell Petre (d.1582). See his will, TNA PROB 11/52/404, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/browne-john-ii-1513-70>

‘Sir Thomas Leigh, knight, and my Lady his wife’ appear to be Sir Thomas Leigh (d.1571), Lord Mayor of London in 1558, and Alice Barker, the niece of Sir Rowland Hill (d.1561). See the Wikipedia entry at:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas\\_Leigh\\_\(Lord\\_Mayor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Leigh_(Lord_Mayor))

Little appears to be known of Robert Christopher apart from the fact that he was secondary of the Counter in the Poultry. See Jewitt, Llewellyn, *The Corporation Plate and Insignia of Office of the Cities and Towns of England and Wales*, (London: Bemrose & Sons, Ltd., 1895), Vol. II, p. 127 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=yyAPAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA127>

‘Alderman Roe and his wife’ appear to be Sir Thomas Roe (d.1570), Lord Mayor of London in 1568, and his wife, Mary Gresham, the daughter of the testatrix’ brother-in-law, Sir John Gresham (d.1556). ‘My cousin Thomas Rowe and his wife’ are also mentioned in the will of the testatrix’ second husband, Sir Richard Gresham. See Leveson Gower, *supra*, p. 75 at

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9ZQNAAAQAQAJ&pg=PA75>

See also the *ODNB* entry of Sir Thomas Roe (1581-1644), and the WikiTree profile for Sir John Gresham at:

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Gresham-92>

‘My cousin Ceoll and his wife’ can likely be identified with Germain Cyoll (d.1598?) and his wife, Cecily Gresham (d.1609?), the daughter of the testatrix’ brother-in-law, Sir John Gresham (d.1556). See:

<https://www.geni.com/people/Cecily-Cyoll/6000000034797329732>

See also:

<http://fortunatusfamilia.com.au/getperson.php?personID=I08141&tree=tree1>

For the theatre owner Francis Langley’s dealings with Cecily Cyoll, see Ingram, William, *A London Life in the Brazen Age*, (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1978), pp. 39-40, 46. See also Shakespeare Birthplace Trust Records Office ER 27/4.

‘My cousin Leveson and his wife’ can likely be identified with Thomas Leveson (1532-1576), esquire, and his wife, Ursula Gresham (21 October 1534-1574?), the daughter of the testatrix’ brother-in-law, Sir John Gresham. See the will of Thomas Leveson, TNA PROB 11/58/397. Thomas Leveson was the father of William Leveson (d.1621), who acted as trustee to the Lord Chamberlain’s Men, including William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon, in the allocation of shares in the ground lease of the Globe Theatre in 1599.

For John Marshe (by 1516-1579) and his wife, Alice Gresham, the daughter of William Gresham of Holt, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/marshe-john-1516-79>

For ‘my Lady White, late called my Lady Warren’, see the Wikipedia entry for Sir Thomas White (d.1567 at:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas\\_White\\_\(merchant\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_White_(merchant))

*The lady Joan White, one of the daughters and heirs of John Lake, of London, gent, died October 8th, buried in this parish church, November 4th, 1573. She deceased at the house of Sir Henry Williams, alias Cromwell, knt. her son-in-law. called Hinchinbroke, in the county of Huntingdon. The lady Joan was first married to Sir Ralph Warren, knight, alderman, and twice lord mayor of London. By whom he had issue Richard Warren, esq. son and heir, and Joan, lady Cromwell, her daughter. She was afterwards married to sir Thomas White, knight, alderman, and sometime lord mayor of London, founder of the college of St. John Baptist, Oxon; by whom she had no issue.*

‘Mrs Wayte, widow’ can be identified with Lettice (nee Ireland?), widow firstly of John Worsop (d.1538), and secondly of Anthony Wayte (d.1559) of Clapham, Surrey. For the will of John Worsop (d.1538), see TNA PROB 11/27/356. For the will of Anthony

Wayte (d.1559), see TNA PROB 11/42B/217. For the will of Lettice (nee Ireland?) Worsop Wayte (d.1584), see TNA PROB 11/67/318. ‘My cousin Wayte of Clapham and his wife’ are also mentioned in the will of the testatrix’ second husband, Sir Richard Gresham, See Leveson Gower, *supra*, p. 75 at

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9ZQNAAAQAAJ&pg=PA75>

For the Wayte family, see also Hotson, Leslie, *Shakespeare Versus Shallow*, (London: The Nonesuch Press, 1931).

‘My cousin, Richard Billingford’ appears to have been related to the testatrix through Sir Thomas Gresham’s marriage to Anne Ferneley, whose first husband, William Rede (d.1544?), was the brother-in-law of the Norwich alderman, Austen Steward. See the will of William Rede, *supra*, and TNA C 4/36/16, a Chancery suit between Anne Billingford and Austen Steward. In his 1549 will, the testatrix’ husband, Sir Richard Gresham, mentions ‘my cousin Edward Billingford and his wife’. See Leveson Gower, *supra*, p. 75 at

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9ZQNAAAQAAJ&pg=PA75>

### ***TESTATRIX’ LANDS***

The testatrix appears to have inherited her property at Bethnal Green from her father. In his will, John Hosier mentions ‘my place at Bethnal Green’.

LM: T{estamentum} D{omi}ne Issabelle Gressham

In the name of God, Amen. The 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April in the year of Our Lord God 1565 and in the 7<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc., I, Isabel, Lady Gresham, of London, widow, being sick in body and of good and perfect mind and memory, God be highly praised therefore, do make and ordain this my present testament containing in the same my very true and last will by party [=bipartite?] indented in manner and form following, that is to say:

First I give and bequeath my wretched and sinful soul unto Almighty God, my Creator, and to his dear son, Jesus Christ, my only Redeemer and Saviour, by the merits of whose cruel, painful and bloody passion and death, resurrection and ascension I trust only to be saved and to obtain full pardon and forgiveness of all my sins and wretchedness, and by no other way nor means;

And my body to the earth to be buried in honest and seemly manner and condition as nigh to the place where the corpse of Sir Richard Gresham, knight, my late husband, late

deceased, is buried within the parish church of Saint Lawrence in the Old Jewry, and whereof I am now a parishioner, as shall be thought requisite and expedient by the discretion of my under-named executors, the time considered in that behalf;

Item, I will that my said executors hereafter named shall give and distribute threescore gowns, thone half thereof to poor men and thother half of the same to poor women, and to every of the said poor men also caps, and to every of the same poor women one ell of linen cloth for a rail, taking my said tenants in Lad Lane and Bethnal Green for part of the said poor men and women and as many other of that number of the said parish of St Lawrence, Saint Stephen in Coleman Street, and Aldermanbury as shall within 8 persons accomplish unto the full number, if there be found so many in the said parishes, at the discretion of my said executors, so alway that the poor of the parish of Saint Lawrence be throughly first served concerning the poor thereof in this behalf, which said poor men and women, clothed in gowns, caps and rails as is before mentioned, my will and desire is that they may go and stand about my corpse and hearse of the same in such seemly manner as to my said executors, the time and place considered, shall be thought most requisite concerning the same;

And further also my will is that my said executors or one of them shall forthwith upon my burial or while my body is a-burying pay or distribute or cause to be paid and distributed to every of the said poor men and women for their dinner or refection as the time shall give occasion 8d in money;

Item, I give and bequeath to the churchwardens of the said parish of St Lawrence for the time being forty shillings in money to be by them and by th' appointment of the best disposed parishioners of the same parish bestowed about the needful necessaries of and concerning the same church;

Item, I give and bequeath to the prisons or gaols hereafter mentioned, that is to say, Newgate, Ludgate, the 2 Counters, the Queen's Bench and the Marshalsea £24 in money to be distributed and given to and amongst the poorest and neediest prisoners being within every of the said gaols & prisons by th' appointment and oversight of my said executors or of one of them within four or six days after my decease by even portions, that is to say, to every of [f. 122r] them four pounds if need shall then so require, otherwise the same to be distributed at the discretion of my said executors where it shall appear unto them most needful, any word, clause or sentence before mentioned to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding;

Item, I give and bequeath £20 of good and lawful money of England to be bestowed and distributed by the oversight and appointment of my said executors or one of them for the redeeming and delivery out of the said 4 prisons or gaols within the said city of London before particularly mentioned of the poorest and the neediest person prisoners within the same said 4 prisons or gaols as far as the said £20 will serve concerning the same;

Item, I give and bequeath to the three hospitals, that is to say Christ's Hospital, Saint Bartholomew's and Saint Thomas Hospital in Southwark for the better maintenance of

the same and relieving of the poor and miserable afflicted persons of and within the said three hospitals £90 of good and lawful money of England by even portions, that is to say, to every of the said three hospitals £30, which sums of money I will and my mind is that my said executors shall with all speed after my decease disburse and pay to the masters and governors of the same said three hospitals;

Item, I give and bequeath to every of the legitimate children of Richard Hosier, Roger Hosier and of Phyllis Goodman, late deceased, that shall be living at the time of my decease £5 of good and lawful money of England, the same to be paid unto every of the said legitimate children if they be then of th' age of 21 years;

And if it shall happen that they or any of them not then to be of th' age of 21 years, that then my said executors shall deliver and pay every of the said legacies to their parents and to the parents of every of him and them that so shall be within age for his and their behoof and use, and this my said present testament and last will shall be a good and sufficient discharge in that behalf to and for my said executors and to and for either of them against every of the said legitimate children of the above-named Richard Hosier, Roger Hosier and Phyllis Goodman and of every of them;

Item, I give and bequeath £100 of good and lawful money of England to be bestowed & distributed by my said executors within one year next after my decease in coals to and amongst the poorest and neediest persons inhabiting within the 25 wards within and without the city of London according to the number of the poor being in and within every of the said 25 wards;

Item, I give and bequeath £100 of current money of England to be distributed and given by th' appointment of my said executors to and amongst the best disposed and virtuous poor scholars of the two universities, Cambridge and Oxford, by even portions, that is to say, fifty pounds to and amongst the poor scholars of either of the said two universities;

Item, I not only give and bequeath to the worshipful Company of the Mercers £10 in money to be spent for a dinner to be had amongst them, but also a standing cup with a cover having a pelican upon the said cover all gilt weighing in the whole by estimation 41 ounces, requiring them for my sake and at the request of my said executors or one of them to grant unto Robert Somer, my servant, one of the small tenements in Lad Lane which they late had of my gift when the same shall next become void after my decease for term of 21 years for th' accustomed rent heretofore paid for the same;

Item, I give and bequeath to the Company of the Goldsmiths for a dinner to be had amongst the same Company £10 in money;

Item, I give and bequeath to the several persons hereafter particularly named the several and particular legacies and bequests in manner and form hereunder particularly named and expressed, that is to say:

To Richard Candeler £5 in money and a black gown;

To my Lady Gresham in Bassishaw a ring of gold with an emerald fixed in it, and a black gown;

To Sir John Thynne, knight, a ring of gold with a ruby fixed in it;

And to my daughter [=stepdaughter], his wife, [f. 122v] a tablet of gold with the Salutation and a chain of gold hanging to it, all weighing five ounces and a half;

And to my daughter [=step-daughter-in-law], Frances Gresham, widow, a plain chain of gold weighing three ounces and three quarters of an ounce, and to every of them a black gown;

And to my cousin, her daughter, and to her husband, Sir Henry Neville, knight, to Sir William Petre, knight, my cousin, his wife, and my cousin, John Browne, to every of them a black gown;

And to my sister, Margaret Calton, a book of gold enamelled with black weighing two ounces and half a quarter, and a black gown;

To Sir Thomas Leigh, knight, and my Lady, his wife, Robert Christopher and his wife, to either of them a ring of gold of the bigger sort and to every of them a black gown'

To Mr Alderman Roe and his wife, my cousin William Gresham and his wife, and my cousin John Gresham and his wife, my cousin Ceoll and his wife, my cousin Leveson and his wife, my cousin Edmund Gresham and his wife, my cousin James Eliott and his wife, my cousin John Marshe and his wife, to every of them a black gown;

To my Lady White, late called my Lady Warren, John Baker, mercer and his wife, Mrs Wayte, widow, her daughter, my god-daughter, and to Elizabeth Sherrington, to every of them a ring of gold of the bigger sort of rings;

To John Holland £20 in money, to William Proctor £5 in money, and to John Sotherton £5 in money, and to every of them and their wives black gowns and rings of gold of the smallest sort;

To Mistress Thorton a black gown and a ring of gold of the smallest sort;

To Sir Thomas Dickins, priest, a black gown;

To Thomas Calton and his wife a black gown and a ring of gold of the smaller sort upon condition that they be friendly and good to John Thomas, his late apprentice, as appertaineth, and otherwise not;

To Elizabeth Cooke for her preferment of marriage £40 of good and lawful money of England;

To Mary Sotherton £13 6s 8d of like money;

To Elizabeth Broughton £13 6s 8d of like money;

To Robert Somer £13 6s 8d in like money;

And further also not only to every of my men and maiden-servants above-named and to every other manservant and maiden-servant that shall be with me in service at the time of my decease a featherbed, a bolster, a mattress, a pair of blankets and two pairs of sheets such as shall be occupied in their chambers, a coverlet and a pillow, but also that all such napery as is or shall be written in a paper consigned with my proper handwriting and goeth commonly about the house and are in the maids' keeping at the time of my decease, my will and mind is that the same shall be equally divided and portioned to and amongst my said maiden-servants at the discretion of my said executors, and not only furthermore all the pewter vessel that commonly goeth about the kitchen or is commonly used and occupied in the same and shall be in the keeping of my said maiden-servants, the particular parcels whereof are written also in a paper book whereunto my hand is written, but also to every of my said maiden and women servants a brass pot and a brass pan by the appointment and delivery of my said executors, and to every of my men and maiden or women servants a black gown;

And to Richard Lichfield and his wife and to either of them a black gown;

To Richard Hosier, Roger Hosier and to their wives, to William Thomas and John Thomas and to every of them a black gown, and to every of the said William Thomas, John Thomas, Richard and to one William Hosier £5 apiece in money;

And farther my will and mind is that every of my men and maiden-servants shall have meat and drink and lodging within my said house at my charge by the hands and appointment of my said executors during the space of 6 weeks next after my decease if need so require, or else to be recompensed for the same of my goods at the election and choice of my said executors upon his and their behaviour and demeanour;

Item, I give and bequeath to Sir Thomas Gresham, knight, my well beloved son-in-law [=stepson], a ring of gold with a diamond fixed in it;

And to my Lady Anne, his [f. 123r] wife, a chain of gold for a girdle weighing 7 ounces 3 quarters, and to every of them a black gown;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin, Richard Billingford, and his wife, Anthony Stringer and Master Buskins, vicar of the parish of St Lawrence aforesaid, and to every of them a black gown;

Item, I will and give to either of the sons of the above-named John Howland, salter, that is to say, to Robert and John, 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath to Awdrian Proctor, my god-daughter, £30 in money upon condition that William Proctor, goldsmith, her father, do at all time and times hereafter upon request made unto him either by myself in my lifetime, either by my said executors or by one of them after my decease, convey [+and?] assure from him and his heirs unto such person and persons as I, the said Lady Gresham, or my said executors or one of them after my said decease shall notify, name and appoint unto him all such customary lands as he now holdeth of the lord thereof at Bethnal Green in the parish of Stepney in the county of Middlesex or elsewhere within the said county by copy of court roll according not only to the trust and confidence in that behalf heretofore by me committed and put in him and others late deceased, but also to the due performance and accomplishment of this my said last will concerning the declaration & disposition thereof, or else the said legacy unto the said Adrian, and also a black gown which I give unto her by this my said present testament, and also all other the legacies unto her said father and mother by me given and bequeathed and mentioned in this my said last will and testament shall be utterly void, frustrate and of none effect, any gift, bequest, clause or sentence contained in the same in that behalf to the contrary notwithstanding;

Item, my will and mind is and by this presents I do plainly not only declare and for truth publish and notify unto all men that this present writing indented is my very true and last will and testament, but also that I have and by the same do utterly revoke, renounce and make frustrate and void to all intents, constructions and purposes all and every other my former will and wills, testament and testaments, by me at any time before the date hereof made, declared, pronounced or by any other ways or means by me heretofore notified, published, set forth or expressed either in writing or by word as to me appertaineth, and all such household stuff as at the time of my decease shall be within my house at Bethnal Green, and all and every such part and parcels of household stuff which are written and specified in a paper consigned with my own hand and shall be within my dwelling-house in Milk Street in London at the time of my said decease, and all such sum & sums of money that shall be had for and of the sale to be made by my said executors of all my messuages, lands and tenements as well free as customary with their appurtenances at Bethnal Green aforesaid in the county of Middlesex with the said messuages, lands and rents with their appurtenances, I will [+and?] by this my present testament and last will do give full power and authority unto my said executors to sell with all speed after my said decease if I in my lifetime sell or give not away the same together with the household stuff there being before mentioned myself, I by this presents do give, will and bequeath unto William Thomas, John Thomas and Robert Goodman, the same to be divided by even parts and portions to and amongst them by th' appointment of my said executors;

And all such part and portion of the said household stuff and money had of the sale of the lands and tenements as is aforesaid belonging unto the said Robert Goodman by virtue of my gift and bequest unto him in form aforesaid made, I will and my mind is that the said William Thomas and John Thomas shall have in occupying till the said Robert Goodman come to the age of 21 years, during which time they shall honestly find him all necessaries and bring him up or cause him to be brought up in learning or in occupation

virtuously according to his wit and capacity, and also to be bound with good sureties either to my said executors or overseers or to the Chamberlain of London for the time being in such sum or sums of money as to them or any of them shall be thought expedient for the same sure and good repayment thereof to be made by the said William [f. 123v] Thomas and John Thomas or by one of them unto the said Robert Goodman at th' age of 21 years according to my will and mind in that behalf unless it fortune he, the said Robert, to die before he come to that age of twenty and one years, as God forbid, then I will that the said William Thomas and John Thomas or he that surviveth of them shall retain and enjoy the said part and portions as his and their proper and own goods against my said executors forever;

And executors of this my said present last will and testament I do make the above-named Margaret Calton and Robert Christopher, and I give to either of them in consideration of part of their pains, labour and travail to be taken in and about th' execution of this my said last will and testament £20;

And I, the said Isabel, Lady Gresham, do by this my said testament and last will not only constitute and appoint the above-named Sir Thomas Leigh, knight, overseer of the same, and for his pains to be taken at his pleasure in and about th' execution of this my present testament and last will I give unto him of good and lawful money of England fifty pounds, but also I appoint and make the aforementioned Sir Thomas Gresham, knight, one other of my overseers of this my present testament and last will upon condition hereafter expressed, and for his pains on his part and behalf at his pleasure to be taken in and about the same I give and bequeath unto him in good and lawful money of England one hundred £, and also all and every the parcel and parcels of goods, the particulars whereof hereafter ensueth, that is to say:

A Turkey carpet for the parlour containing five yards and a quarter in length and two yards and quarter in breadth; a Turkey carpet containing 2 yards and a half in largeness and one yard and a half and half quarter in breadth; a Turkey carpet containing 4 yards quarter in length and a yard in breadth; a Turkey carpet containing 2 yards and a half and half a quarter in length and a yard quarter in breadth; a counterpoint of fine imagery with grasshops containing 44 ells; a coverlet of imagery most part yellow containing 30 ells; a coverlet with a fountain with beasts and fowls about it containing 30 ells; a carpet for the hall with grasshoppers containing 8 yards in length; a carpet for the hall with a pelican containing 7 yards in length; a carpet for the parlour with grasshoppers containing 6 yards and a quarter and a half in length; a bed of counterfeit cloth of gold and blue velvet paned, with fine curtains of blue and yellow taffeta to the same bed; a bed of taffeta with belkes(?) of red, yellow and purple, with fine curtains paned with red, yellow and purple; four long cushions for windows of crimson velvet, three of them embroidered and thother unbroidered; six short cushions of crimson velvet embroidered with the letter 'R' and two of them unstuffed; 6 other cushions of crimson velvet plain; 2 featherbeds of down, a bigger and a lesser, in the upper chamber with two bolsters, one of them of down, thother of feathers; 4 pillows of down and two fine mattresses stuffed with wool, all which said parcels are comprised in a paper consigned with my own handwriting and summed(?) as doth and may appear by the same upon this condition, that the said Sir Thomas Gresham

shall forthwith after my decease upon request to be made unto him by my said executors or by one of them seal or deliver unto them or to such of them as shall take upon him the business, charge and execution of this my said last will and testament for his deed a general acquittance by them or one of them devised of all actions, suits and demands which he might have against them as executors of this my last will and testament for any matter or cause had or moved at my time from the day of the decease of Sir Richard Gresham, knight, father whiles he lived unto the said Sir Thomas Gresham, knight, unto the day of my decease by any way or means whatsoever by or against me, the said Isabel, Lady Gresham;

And also that he, the said Sir Thomas Gresham, his executors and assigns and every of them shall quietly permit and suffer my said executors and either of them during the space of eight weeks next after my decease peaceably to have, occupy and enjoy the house wherein [f. 124r] I now dwell concerning the good ordering and safekeeping of my said late goods and of every part thereof in, to and about the faithful and speedy performance and execution of this my said present testament and last will and for the retaining and keeping there at bed and board of my maiden and menservants according to the trust hereby unto either of them by me in that behalf committed;

And if the said Sir Thomas Gresham, knight, do refuse to seal or deliver for his deed unto my said executors a general acquittance in form above-mentioned by them or either of them to be devised, or that he, his executors or assigns or any of them do at any time within the space of 8 weeks next after my said decease molest, disturb or grieve my said executors or either of them of, for and touching the house aforesaid contrary to my will and mind in that behalf before notified and expressed, that then and from thenceforth I do discharge the said Sir Thomas Gresham, knight of the said overseership and of th' execution thereof, and my full mind, intent and meaning is that he shall not be accounted, reputed, accepted or taken for one of my overseers, and I do revoke this my present testament and last will touching the said Sir Thomas Gresham, knight, and all such power, force and authority as in that behalf by me in this presents heretofore is to him willed, ordained or given;

And further also I will that all and every the said several legacies unto him and to my Lady, his wife in this my said last will and testament afore by me given, willed and bequeathed shall forthwith utterly cease, be void, frustrate and of none effect to all intents, constructions and purposes as though I had never named, appointed or made him, the said Sir Thomas Gresham, knight, one of my overseers and in like manner, form and condition as though I had never given, willed nor bequeathed any of the said legacies unto him or to my Lady, his said wife, in form abovesaid, any gift or bequest, article, clause, word or sentence in this my last will and testament before by me contained, expressed or specified to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding;

And the residue and rest of all my goods, household stuff, plate, jewels, debts and ready money that remaineth herein unbequeathed and by me ungiven, after my debts, legacies and funeral charges with th' expenses thereto appertaining and to and about the probaton and execution of this my said present last will and testament first paid, performed,

deducted and allowed as to good reason and equity appertaineth, I give and bequeath in form following, that is to say 100 marks, parcel thereof, I give hereby to poor maidens' marriages after the rate of 13s 4d the piece or otherwise as the necessity of the person requireth at the discretion of my said executors or of one of them;

And forty pounds, another part of that said residue etc., I by this presents give £30 thereof unto the several hospitals aforementioned by even portions;

And ten pounds, parcel of the said £40, I give to Bridewell there to be bestowed by the governor thereof;

And forty pounds, another part of the same said residue of my goods and other the premises before mentioned, I hereby give unto the poor and virtuous scholars in the several universities before mentioned or to such other poor scholars as shall be thought most requisite by my said executors, the necessity of the persons, the time and place respected, so that always the said three several legacies next and last by me before herein given and bequeathed may be well borne, made and had of the said residue of my said goods and other the premises in manner and form before mentioned, and otherwise I will and my intent and mind is that the said legacies last and next before specified and every part thereof shall be utterly void, frustrate and of none effect, any gift, bequest, article, clause, word or sentence herein before to the contrary by me made, willed, specified or contained in any wise notwithstanding;

And in consideration of the travail & pains as well heretofore taken by my said executors for me and hereafter to be by them [f. 124v] sustained about the good and speedy execution of this my said present testament and last will according to the trust by me whiles I lived in them in that behalf reposed, and also for other sundry good causes me thereto specially moving, the overplus and rest of all my goods, household stuff, plate, jewels, debts and ready money, if any such shall happen or fortune to be, as it is not like, or if it be, it cannot ne will not be much, all the legacies and other the premises by me before given and willed or bequeathed fully performed, fulfilled and discharged, if suit or molestation by law or otherwise hereafter moved let not the same, I freely give and bequeath to my said executors to have, hold and enjoy the same unto them and to either of them as his and their own proper goods forever;

Provided always that if my said executors or either of them shall at any time after my said decease by reason or occasion of any suit or molestation in the law or by any other way or means be constrained or rather(?) be compelled or driven for the avoiding of suit, contention and expenses in the law or otherwise to disburse, lay out, content or pay or to be caused or to be driven to disburse, lay out, content or pay any sum or sums of money concerning either the execution of this my said last will and testament or touching either th' administration or meddling with any of my goods etc. or other things herein mentioned according to the trust unto them and either of them in that behalf by me heretofore and hereby also committed and willed, or that any of the persons before named unto whom I have willed or given black gowns as is before at large mentioned shall not be in the city at the day of my burial to wear the same according to my will and mind in

that behalf, or that any of the persons aforesaid unto whom I have hereby before given, willed or bequeathed any other legacy or legacies shall fortune to depart out of this mortal life before the day of my said decease, as God forbid, or that any doubt or question at any time after my said decease shall grow, arise or come for or concerning any legacy or legacies, bequest or bequests or to or for any other matter or cause by me in this my said present last will and testament before contained, mentioned or expressed, as my trust is there will nor shall be none, that then my very last will and mind is and by this present I do not only ordain and declare that I will that all and every the said sum and sums of money that shall happen at any time after my decease to be disbursed, laid out, contented or to be paid or to be caused to be disbursed, laid out, contented or paid by my said executors or by either of them in and about any suit or molestation in the law or otherwise as is before mentioned shall be from time to time defalked, rebated, deducted and borne of all and every the several legacies and bequests (other than of the poor men's and women's gowns and other black gowns and of the first sum and sums of money hereinbefore by me given to the several hospitals and prisons and redeeming of prisoners there in such manner as is before mentioned only except) which are and be in this presents by me before given, willed or bequeathed, rate and portion like after the goodness, quantity and value of every of the same said several legacies and bequests;

And in the meantime my will and mind is that my said executors and either of them shall forbear to pay or deliver any of the said several legacies and bequests before by me in these presents given or bequeathed, except before excepted, until the said suit or molestation in the law or otherwise, if any such hereafter happen to be moved, attempted or had, be fully ended and finally pacified & determined;

And this my said present last will and testament shall be to my said executors and to either of them a good, able and sufficient warrant and discharge in that behalf, any matter, cause, article, gift, bequest, word or sentence herein by me to the contrary before mentioned, appointed, willed or expressed in any wise notwithstanding;

And moreover that as well all and every person and persons that shall not be in London at the day of my burial to wear his, hers and their black gown and gowns by me therefore given, as is before mentioned, shall forever thereby forego and lose the same as belongeth;

And also that every other person and persons to whom any other legacy or legacies, bequest or bequests is by me in these presents before given, willed or bequeathed as is before mentioned that shall happen to be dead before or at the day of my said decease, if any such fortune to be, so that he, she or they cannot receive or demand the said legacy or legacies of my said executors, shall lose the said legacies whatsoever the same be so to them given or bequeathed, and upon that my said executors or either of them shall [f. 125r] not be chargeable nor by any way or means to be charged hereby, therewith nor with or for any part thereof, but also that every such doubt or question that shall rise, grow or come in manner and form as is briefly before touched and mentioned shall be at all time and times after my said decease, if any such happen hereafter to be, without any long delay descosed(?), appeased and finally ended by my said executors by th' advice

had of one of my overseers at their election thereto to be called, and otherwise not, for that my said executors right well knoweth and thoroughly understandeth my very will, intent and mind touching this my said last will and testament and all and every matter and matters, thing and things therein contained and expressed, as is afore mentioned;

And that if he, she or they that be named in this my said last will and testament do or shall at any time after my said decease refuse for his, hers or their part or parts, or mislike or will not stand to and abide such final end and ends, discosinge(?) or full resolution of such doubt or question as shall concern any of the said several legacies or bequests before mentioned or any other matter or cause thereto or to any part thereof in any wise appertaining or belonging or shall touch or concern the distribution, apportioning or disposing of my said goods and other the premises or any part or parcel thereof as my said executors with th' advice of one of my said overseers therein to be had in form aforesaid shall make, appoint or order, that then his, hers and their said legacy or legacies, bequest or bequests or any other matter or cause, whatsoever the same be, before in this present unto any of them willed, given, appointed, declared, contained or specified so refusing or misliking th' end, discisinge(?) or resolution of any such doubt or question or any other matter or cause as is at large and certely(?) before mentioned and comprised shall be frustrate and utterly void to all intents, constructions and purposes as though the same and every of them had never been unto him, her or them or to any of them beforetime given, willed, appointed, assigned or bequeathed, any gift, will or bequest, article, clause, word or sentence touching any matter, cause or thing or any matters, causes or things in this proviso contained within this my said present last will and testament and last before expressed by me in the same my said present last will and testament before given, made, comprised or specified to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding;

In witness whereof I, the aforementioned Isabel, Lady Gresham, to this my said present last will and testament bipartite indented, as is aforesaid, consigned with my own proper handwriting in the presence of the several persons hereafter named have set to my seal the day and years first above-written. By me, Isabel Gresham. Per me Egidium Buskell testem. Per me Ralph Wedcoke(?). Per me John Foxe. Per me Iohannem Wethers.

Probatum fuit suprascriptu{m} testamentu{m} coram Mag{ist}ro Waltero Haddon Legum Doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cant{uariensis} Com{m}issario apud London vicesimo Octauo Die mens{is} Maij Anno d{omi}ni mill{es}imo quingentesimo sexagesimo quinto Iuramento Justitia{n}i kydd p{ro}curatoris Margarete Calton et Roberti Chr{ist}ofer executor{um} in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento nominat{orum} Quibus comissa fuit Administrac{i}o omn{i}um bonor{um} &c de bene &c Ad sancta Dei Evangelia Iurat{is}

[The above-written testament was proved before Master Walter Haddon, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, at London on the twenty-eighth day of the month of May in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred sixty-

---

fifth by the oath of Justinian Kydd, proctor of Margaret Calton and Robert Christopher, executors named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of all the goods etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc.]