

SUMMARY: The document below is the last will and testament, dated 8 February 1571 and proved 8 March 1572, of Sir Nicholas Throckmorton (1515/16-1571), father of Oxford's friend, Sir Arthur Throckmorton, and uncle of Job Throckmorton, who assisted with the printing of the Marprelate tracts in 1589.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the fourth son of Sir George Throckmorton (c.1489-1552) and Katherine Vaux (d.1571?). For the will of the testator's father, Sir George Throckmorton (c.1489-1552), see TNA PROB 11/36/298.

In the will below the testator mentions his brother, Kenelm Throckmorton, and his brother, Clement Throckmorton (c.1515-1573), the father of Job Throckmorton (1545-1601), who was involved with the publication of the Marprelate tracts in 1589.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The testator married Anne Carew (d.1587), the daughter of Sir Nicholas Carew (beheaded 3 March 1539) of Beddington. From the *ODNB*:

Carew, Sir Nicholas (b. in or before 1496, d. 1539), diplomat and courtier, was the eldest son of Sir Richard Carew (d. 1520) of Beddington, Surrey, and Maline, daughter of Robert Oxenbridge (d. 1488) of Ford Place in Brede, Sussex. The main line of his ancient family had settled at Antony in Cornwall during the fourteenth century; a younger line acquired the manor of Beddington about 1350 and founded a dynasty that was to continue there until the eighteenth century. . . .

Carew remained in favour with the king until the last days of 1538. . . . [In that year] Cromwell stage-managed another court purge, and Carew was one of its victims. He was arrested on 31 December 1538, allegedly because a letter found at the home of the marchioness of Exeter (married to a kinsman of Cardinal Reginald Pole) implicated him in the treason for which her husband, the marquess, and Pole's brother, Baron Montagu, had been executed earlier in the month. . . . Carew was tried and convicted on 14 February 1539 and beheaded on Tower Hill on 8 [sic?] March. . . . Besides his son, Francis, Sir Nicholas Carew left four daughters, one of whom married Sir Arthur Darcy.

As noted above, one of Anne Carew's sisters, Mary Carew, married Sir Arthur Darcy (d.1561). For his will, see TNA PROB 11/44/187. Another of her sisters, Isabel Carew, married Nicholas Saunders (d.1587) of Ewell, from whose second wife, Margaret (nee Bostock) Blount Fisher, Oxford leased the mansion of Fisher's Folly in the parish of St Botolph's Bishopsgate. See the will of Jasper Fisher (d. 28 February 1579), TNA PROB 11/61/541; Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, pp. 228,

268, and Vol. II, pp. 389-90; and the entries for Nicholas Saunders and Jasper Fisher in *The History of Parliament*:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/saunders-nicholas-1530-87>;

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/fisher-jasper-1528-79>.

After the testator's death, Anne (nee Carew) Throckmorton married Adrian Stokes (1519-1585). For the will of Adrian Stokes, see TNA PROB 11/68/664. See also:

<http://www.susanhigginbotham.com/blog/posts/the-real-adrian-stokes/>

By Anne Carew the testator had six sons and a daughter:

* William Throckmorton, eldest son and heir. According to the *ODNB*, 'In the event William, who was a lunatic, did not inherit the eldest son's share, which went to Arthur.'

* Sir Arthur Throckmorton (1557?-1626), second son, a friend of Oxford's. See Rowse, A.L., *Raleigh and the Throckmortons*, (London: Macmillan, 1962), pp. 78, 99. For the will of the testator's son, Sir Arthur Throckmorton (1557?-1626), see:

<http://reocities.com/Heartland/fields/1759/volthree/vol3.121.htm>.

* Robert Throckmorton, third son, who married Frances Ashby. See the will of Thomas Trentham, TNA PROB 11/72/372, and the Ashby pedigree in Fetherston, John, ed., *The Visitation of the County of Leicester in the Year 1619*, Vol. II, (London: Harleian Society, 1870), p. 14 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=Lr4KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA14&lpg=PA14&dq=%22Ashby%22+%22Loseby%22&source=bl&ots=VM7kopR3pZ&sig=LYaViewGYX4RmrXZxp0jJrvJHtw&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiPrLePu-3UAhVH-2MKHfR4DOEQ6AEIPzAG#v=onepage&q=%22Ashby%22%20%22Loseby%22&f=false>.

* Thomas Throckmorton, fourth son.

* Nicholas Throckmorton, fifth son.

* Henry Throckmorton, sixth son.

* Elizabeth Throckmorton (1565?-1647?), who married Sir Walter Raleigh (1554-1618).

For a copy of the letters patent of 23 July 1560 granting the manors of Alderminster (near Stratford Upon Avon) and Sheriffs Lench to the testator, see:

http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/A2A/records.aspx?cat=188-er3_2&cid=1-1218#1-1218.

RM: T{estamentum} Nich{ola}i Throckmorton Mil{it}is

[f. 64r] In the name of God, Amen. The eight day of February in the thirteenth 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., and in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred and seventy, I, Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, knight, being sick in body and of good and perfect memory, do make, pronounce and declare this my last will and testament as well of all my lands, tenements and hereditaments as of all my goods and chattels real and personal in manner and form following:

First, where by my deed sufficient in law bearing date the 22nd day of October in the second and third years [=1555] of the reigns of the late King Philip and Queen Mary I did grant, assure and convey all those my manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments of and in Cosgrove, Paulerspury, Silverstone, Tiffield, Luffield and elsewhere within the counties of Northampton, Buck[ingham] and Oxford immediately from and after my decease unto Anne, my well-beloved wife, for term of her natural life, with divers remainders over, as in and by the same deed it doth and may more plainly appear, I do now will and devise so far-forth as I may lawfully that the said Anne shall have, hold and enjoy the said manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments according to the tenor, form and effect of the [f. 64v] same deed and conveyance which I do affirm, ratify and confirm by this my last will and testament as my very act executed and fully perfected with plain intent and true meaning in every point and condition;

Also I give, dispose, will and devise unto Arthur Throckmorton, my second son, all th' issues and profits of my manors of Alderm{er}ston [=Alderminster] and Shrewlynche [=Sheriffs Lench] within the county of Worcester, and of all other my lands, tenements and hereditaments within the said county, to be perceived, taken and employed during the minority of the same Arthur by mine executors and supervisors to the only use of the same Arthur, and after that he, the same Arthur, shall accomplish the age of 21 years, my mind and will is and by this my testament I do give, dispose, will and devise unto the said Arthur all the said manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments of and in Alderm{er}ston and Shrewlynche aforesaid and elsewhere within the said county of Worcester with all and singular their appurtenances, to have and to hold to him, the said Arthur, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue of his body the remainder thereof to Robert Throckmorton, my third son, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue of the body of the said Robert the remainder thereof to Thomas Throckmorton, my fourth son, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of issue of the body of the said Thomas the remainder thereof to Nicholas Throckmorton, my fifth son, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue of the body of the same Nicholas

the remainder thereof to Henry Throckmorton, my sixth son, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such issue of the body of the same Henry the remainder thereof to my right heirs forever;

Also I give, dispose, will and devise unto the said Thomas Throckmorton, my fourth son, all that my mansion or dwelling-house situate and being in the parish of Saint Katherine Christchurch in London, and all other my lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever in London aforesaid with all and singular th' appurtenances, to have, hold and enjoy the said mansion and other the premises from and after the decease of the said Anne, my wife, to the said Thomas, his heirs and assigns, forever to th' only proper use of the same Thomas, his heirs and assigns, forever;

Also I do further give and bequeath unto the said Thomas, my son, the sum of five hundred pounds, and my mind is that during the minority of the same Thomas the same sum shall be used and employed at and by the discretions of mine executors and supervisors to the only proper use, commodity and profit of the same Thomas;

Also I do will and bequeath unto the said Nicholas and Henry, my sons, and to Elizabeth Throckmorton, my daughter, the sum of fifteen hundred pounds, that is to say, to every of them five hundred pounds, and my will and mind is that every of their said portions of money shall be used and employed only during his or her minority to whom the same is willed and bequeathed at and by the discretion of mine executors and supervisors to th' only proper use, commodity and profit of that party to whom the same portion of money is willed and bequeathed, provided always and my full intent, meaning and will is that if any of my said children to whom any sum or sums of money are above by this my last will and testament given, willed and bequeathed shall happen to depart from this mortal and transitory life during his or her minority, that then the portion of money before given, willed and bequeathed unto the same child so departing, with the whole increase of the same, shall from and immediately after the decease of any such child equally remain and be to the residue of my said children then living only to whom any sum or sums of money are above given, willed and bequeathed in such manner and form and to such effect to all purposes, constructions and intents as they shall or ought to have the said several sums of money which been to the same children above given, willed and bequeathed, and that the same shall be equally divided amongst the same children so overliving at and by the discretions of my said executors and supervisors;

Also I do will and bequeath unto my cousin, Margaret Butler, threescore pounds to be taken out of the hundred pounds which my brother, Kellam [=Kenelm] Throckmorton, doth owe me;

Also I give and bequeath to my said wife all my goods and chattels real and personal except such only as above are and hereafter in this my will shall be particularly disposed, given and bequeathed;

Also I give and bequeath all my interest of a licence or privilege of making of salt to my two youngest sons, Nicholas & Henry;

Also I give and bequeath unto my niece, Katherine Throckmorton, all such money as is due unto me by specialty by my brother, Clement Throckmorton;

Also I give and bequeath to Arthur Agard the sum of ten pounds and a gelding, and the same ten pounds to be paid out of the said hundred pounds which my said brother, Kellam Throckmorton, doth owe me;

Also I give and remit unto my said brother, Kellam Throckmorton, thirty pounds, the residue of the said hundred pounds which he oweth unto me;

Also I give and bequeath unto Bawyar, my servant, twenty nobles and a gelding;

Also I give and bequeath unto John Prestwicke, my servant, twenty nobles;

Also I give and bequeath unto every other of my servants, except Robert Blower and William Hickes, half a year's wages;

Also I give and bequeath unto the said Robert Blower a gelding and twenty nobles;

Also I give unto Sir Walter Mildmay, knight, whom I do ordain and make one of my supervisors to th' execution of this my last will and testament, my best standing gilt cup;

Also I do give and bequeath unto Master Leaver [=Lever] five marks;

Also I do give & bequeath unto my Lord of Leicester, whom I do ordain and make another of the supervisors for and to th' execution of my said last will and testament, two bowls with rosemary branches;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my Lord Marquess of Northampton my gown of wrought velvet furred with sables with parchment lace of gold;

Also I give and bequeath unto the Master of the Rolls, whom I do make one other supervisor for and to th' execution of this my last will and testament, a standing cup with a cover gilt;

Also I give and bequeath to Mr Francis Goldsmith a standing bowl with a cover;

Also I give and bequeath to my brother, Sir John Throckmorton, knight, whom I do ordain and make one other of the supervisors for and to th' execution of this my last will and testament, a pair of blue [f. 65r] flagons garnished with silver and gilt, and a standing cup with a cover gilt;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Mr Sampson five marks of money and that either he or Mr Leaver preach at my burial;

Also I give unto my brother, Clement, a russet satin gown furred with black fox, and a standing cup of silver gilt;

Also I give unto my brother, Anthony Throckmorton, one suit of mine apparel, my silver sword, dagger, girdle and purse belonging to the same;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my cousin, Henry Middlemore, my best gown of black damask, a dozen of gold buttons, twenty pounds of money, and a gelding;

Also I give and bequeath to the French Church five marks of money, to be distributed by the ministers, and to the Dutch Church forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my brother [=brother-in-law], Francis Carew, my gilt harness for my body, and my next best sword, girdle and dagger remaining;

Item, I give and bequeath to Mr William Killigrew my best coat and cloak that he will choose of mine apparel;

Also I do ordain and make my said brother [=brother-in-law] Carew one other of my supervisors for and to th' execution of this my last will and testament;

Also I give and bequeath to William Hughes of th' Inner Temple twenty pounds of money and a standing cup with a cover of silver gilt, whom I do also make one other of the supervisors for and to th' execution of this my last will and testament;

Also I give and bequeath unto Mr Secretary Cecil the two bowls of tortoise-shell garnished with silver and gilt;

I give and bequeath to William Hicke, my servant, five marks of money;

Item, I give and bequeath to my nephew, Job Throckmorton, a coat, a cloak and a sword;

Also my mind and will is that after my debts being paid, my legacies performed and my funeral expenses discharged, that the said Anne, my wife, shall have all the residue of my goods and chattels as I have above declared;

And for th' execution of this my last will and testament I do ordain, constitute and make the said Anne, my wife, my sole executrix, and my said Lord of Leicester, Sir Walter Mildmay, knight, the Master of the Rolls, Sir John Throckmorton, knight, Mr Francis Carew, esquire, and the said William Hughes and every of them supervisors for and to th' execution of this my said last will and testament;

And I do utterly revoke and renounce all former wills and testaments, gifts, bequeaths and legacies contained in any former will and testament whatsoever;

In witness whereof I have subscribed my name the day and year first above-written to this my testament contained in this and six other sheets of paper of several handwritings;

Also I give my ring with divers diamonds in it which cost me 20 marks to my Lady of Warwick;

Also I give a piece of plate or jewel of the like value to my Lady Stafford, to be chosen out by mine executor. Nicholas Throckmorton. Signed in the presence of us, Robert Huicke, Thomas Lever, Clement Throckmorton, Anthony Throckmorton and Arthur Agard, the writer of three of these last sheets of this present testament.

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum coram Mag{ist}ro Curie prerogatiue Cantuarien{sis} com{m}issario apud London octauo die Marcij anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingen{tesi}mo septuagesimo primo Iuramento m{agist}ri Georgij Harryson procurator{is} D{omi}ne Anne Throkm{or}ton Rel{ic}t{e} et executric{is} in testamento h{uius}mo{d}i no{m}i{n}at{e} Cui com{m}iss{a} fuit admi{n}istrac{i}o om{niu}m et sing{u}lor{um} bonor{um} &c De bene &c Ad sancta die Evangelia Iurat{i}

[=The above-written testament was proved before Master (name omitted), Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, at London on the eighth day of the month of March in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred seventy-first by the oath of Master George Harrison, proctor of Lady Anne Throckmorton, relict and executrix named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc.]