Summary: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 30 March 1573 and proved 16 April 1573, of Henry Long (d. 15 April 1573) of Shingay, Cambridgeshire, a first cousin of Sir Robert Long (1517-1581), whose second son, Henry Long (d. 4 October 1594), was slain by the Danvers brothers, whose escape to the continent was assisted by Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton.

Family Background

For the Long pedigree, see Burke, John, A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland, Vol. III, (London: Henry Colburn, 1838), p. 213 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=yshsAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA213

The testator was the only son of Sir Richard Long (d. 29 September 1546) of Shingay, Cambridgeshire, and Draycot, Wiltshire, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/31/302. According to Burke, supra, p. 213, the testator’s father:

. . . bore the canopy over Edward VI at his baptism, and received large grants of Abbey lands at the dissolution of monasteries, viz. the hospital of St Nicholas at Salisbury, Reading Place, in London, the manors of East Greenwich, in Kent, Filolshall and Coggeshall, in Essex, and great Saxham, in Suffolk, &c. &c.

The testator’s godfather was Henry VIII. See Burke, supra, p. 213, and Gage, John, The History and Antiquities of Suffolk: Thingoe Hundred, (London: John Deck, 1838), pp. 103-4:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=knVPAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA103

The testator’s mother was Margaret Donnington (1510 - 20 December 1561), who married three times.

Testator’s mother’s first marriage

Margaret Donnington’s first husband was Sir Thomas Kitson (1485-1540) of Hengrave, Suffolk, whom she married as his second wife.

By Sir Thomas Kitson, the testator’s mother, Margaret Donnington, had a son and four daughters, the testator’s half brothers and sisters:

-Sir Thomas Kitson (1540-1603), born posthumously. He married firstly, in 1557, Jane Paget (d.1558), the daughter of William Paget (1505/6–1563), 1st Baron Paget. He married secondly, ‘at Kenninghall Palace in December 1560 under the auspices of the
duchess of Norfolk’, Elizabeth Cornwallis (1546/7–1628), the eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Cornwallis (1518/19–1604) of Brome (whose eldest son and heir purchased Oxford’s lease of the mansion of Fisher’s Folly). See the will of Sir Thomas Cornwallis, TNA PROB 11/105/106.

Sir Thomas Kitson (1540-1603) was responsible for the secret marriage, in 1577, of William Bourchier (1557 – 12 July 1623), 3rd Earl of Bath, to Mary Cornwallis (buried 17 May 1627). From the ODNB:

Kitson's efforts were not always crowned with success. In 1577 he had taken advantage of a visit from his young nephew William, fourth earl of Bath, then an undergraduate at Trinity College, Cambridge, to engineer his marriage to Mary Cornwallis, his wife's youngest sister. The marriage ceremony was performed late at night and the couple duly bedded. All seemed well until the young man returned to Cambridge and declared his delight in his new bride to his tutor. His mother was summoned to Cambridge, shut the bridegroom with her in her chamber, and, after what was evidently a scene worthy of her own mother, Margaret, dispatched him far from Hengrave. Although the marriage was judged to be valid, it appears eventually to have been set aside on grounds of disparagement, arising from Mary Cornwallis's Catholicism. Nevertheless, to her family and especially to Kitson, who acknowledged that the marriage had been of his contriving, she remained the rightful countess of Bath, receiving a handsome bequest of £300 under Sir Thomas Kitson's will and an annuity of £20 from her sister in 1626, which she was able to enjoy until her own death in 1627.

For the will of Mary Cornwallis, see TNA PROB 11/151/729.

Sir Thomas Kitson was the subject of interrogatories put to Charles Arundel by the authorities in early January 1581 in connection with allegations made by Charles Arundel and Lord Henry Howard against Oxford at that time:

What did you at Sir Thomas Kitson's, and whether did you hear any Mass there, and whether did you burn any writings there?

To which Charles Arundel responded:

Other errand had we none at Sir Thomas Kitson’s than to dine, and I some business with Sir Thomas Cornwallis.

See TNA SP 12/151/47, ff. 105-6 and TNA SP/151/48, ff. 107-8.

-Frances Kitson (buried 4 April 1586), who married John Bourchier (1529 – 28 February 1557), Lord Fitzwarin, son of John Bourchier (c.1499 - 10 February 1561), 2nd Earl of Bath, by his second wife, Eleanor Manners (buried 16 September 1547), by whom she had a son William Bourchier (1557 – 12 July 1623), 3rd Earl of Bath, who succeeded his grandfather, the 2nd Earl of Bath, and married firstly, in a secret marriage at night, Mary Cornwallis (buried 17 May 1627), the youngest daughter of Sir Thomas Cornwallis
(d.1604) of Brome (see above). William Bourchier, 3rd Earl of Bath, married secondly, on 7 August 1583, Elizabeth Russell (d. 24 March 1605), second daughter of Francis Russell (1526/7-1585), 2nd Earl of Bedford.


https://books.google.ca/books?id=dWjWDAAQBAJ&pg=PT130

For the will of Frances Kitson, dated 1 March 1586 and proved 16 April 1586, see TNA PROB 11/69/188.

-Katherine Kitson (d. by 10 December 1561) who married Sir John Spencer (d.1586), by whom she had four sons and eight daughters, including Alice Spencer (1559–1637), Countess of Derby, for whom see the ODNB entry. See also Collins, Arthur, The Peerage of England, Vol. II, Part I, (London: R. Gosling and T. Wotton, 1735), p. 229 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=ITwAAAAcAAJ&pg=PA229

Three of the daughters of Sir John Spencer and Katherine Kitson were praised by the poet Edmund Spenser as ‘Phyllis, Charillis, and sweet Amaryllis’ in Colin Clout’s Come Home Again (1595).

-Dorothy Kitson (1531 – 2 May 1577) who married firstly Sir Thomas Pakington (d. 2 June 1571), the son of Robert Pakington (1489-1536), great-uncle of Humphrey Martyn, the addressee of the Langham Letter describing Leicester’s entertainment of Queen Elizabeth at Kenilworth in the summer of 1575. See the will of Robert Pakington, TNA PROB 11/27/46.

Dorothy Kitson married secondly Sir Thomas Tasburgh (c.1554-1602), for whom see the History of Parliament entry at:

http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/tasburgh-thomas-1554-1602

-Anne Kitson, who married Sir William Spring (d. 3 February 1600?) of Pakenham, Suffolk, son and heir of Sir John Spring (d. 12 August 1547) by Dorothy Waldegrave (buried 10 April 1564?), and grandson of the wealthy clothier, Thomas Spring (d.1523) of Lavenham, Suffolk (for whose will see TNA PROB 11/21/179). For the will of Sir John Spring, see TNA PROB11/32/430. For the will of Dorothy (nee Waldegrave)

By Sir William Spring, Anne Kitson had a daughter, Anne Spring (d. 7 May 1600), who married Thomas Hinson (c.1551-1614), both of whom are mentioned in the will of Frances Kitson, TNA PROB 11/69/188. See Collins, Arthur, The English Baronetage, Vol. II, (London: Thomas Wotton, 1741), p. 242 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=l2QUAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA242

See also the History of Parliament entry for Thomas Hinson at:

https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/hinson-thomas-1551-1614

b. c.1551, 1 2nd s. of Thomas Hinson (d.1570), yeoman, of Fordham, Cambs.2 educ. Christ’s, Camb. 1567, BA 1571, MA (Corpus, Camb.) 1574; incorp. Oxf. 1577.3 m. by 1579,4 Anne (d. 7 May 1600), da. of Sir William Spring of Pakenham, Suff., 5s. (3 d.v.p.) 9da. (4 d.v.p). d. 18 Apr. 1614.5

On 19 February 1583, Sir William Spring purchased Oxford’s manor of Earls Hall (see TNA C 54/1171, Part 25).

For Sir William Spring, see also the Wikipedia article edited by the author of this website at:


For the will of Sir Thomas Kitson, see TNA PROB 11/29/2.

Testator’s mother’s second marriage

By his parents’ marriage the testator had three sisters of the whole blood, all of whom are mentioned as unmarried and under the age of 18 years in the will of Margaret Donnington dated 10 December 1561, TNA PROB 11/45/55:

-Jane Long.


-Mary Long, who is mentioned in the will below.

Testator’s mother’s third marriage

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After the death of the testator’s father, the testator’s mother, Margaret Donnington, married thirdly, in December 1548, as his third wife, John Bourchier (c.1499 - 10 February 1561), 2nd Earl of Bath, by whom she had two daughters, the testator’s half sisters:

-Susan Bourchier.

-Bridget Bourchier.

By his second wife, Eleanor Manners (buried 16 September 1547), the 2nd Earl of Bath, had a son, John Bourchier (1529 – 28 February 1557), Lord Fitzwarin, who married, at the same time in December 1548 as the 2nd Earl married Margaret Donnington, the testator’s half sister, Frances Kitson (buried 4 April 1586). Lord Fitzwarin and Frances Kitson had a son, William Bourchier (1557 – 12 July 1623), 3rd Earl of Bath, who married Elizabeth Russell (see below).

For Margaret Donnington, see her will, dated 10 December 1561 and proved 18 February 1562, TNA PROB 11/45/55; the ODNB entry for the Kitson family; and the entry at:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=669

As noted above, the testator was a first cousin of Sir Robert Long (1517-1581), whose second son, Henry Long (d. 4 October 1594), was slain by the Danvers brothers, whose escape to the continent was assisted by Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton. See the pedigree in Burke, supra, p. 215; the will of Sir Robert Long, TNA PROB 11/63/502; and Akrigg, G.P.V., Shakespeare and the Earl of Southampton, (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1968), p. 42.

**MARRIAGE AND ISSUE**

The testator married Dorothy Clerke (d.1618), the daughter of Nicholas Clerke (d. July 1551), esquire, of North Weston, Oxfordshire, and Elizabeth Ramsey. See Gage, supra, p. 104:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=knVPAAAYAAJ&pg=PA104

*Henry Long had livery of his father’s lands on the 28th May, in the seventh year of Queen Elizabeth. By Dorothy, daughter of Nicholas Clerke of Weston, in Oxfordshire, and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter and sole heir of Thomas Ramsey of Hitcham, in the county of Buckingham, he had issue an only child, Elizabeth, wife of William Lord Russell, of Thornhaugh, father of Francis, fourth Earl of Bedford, and dying in 1573, lies buried in the church of St. Andrew by the Wardrobe, Blackfriars. His widow became wife of Sir Charles Morrison of Cashiobury, in the parish of Watford in Herts, and was interred on the 11th May 1618, in the Morrison Chapel in Watford Church, near her daughter Lady Russell, whom she survived.*

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See also the pedigree of Clerke of North Weston in Lee, Frederick George, *The History, Description and Antiquities of the Prebендal Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Thame*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1883), p. 310 at:

https://archive.org/details/PrebendalChurchOfTheBVM/page/n183


http://books.google.ca/books?id=c8lOAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA284

The testator’s wife was the stepdaughter of Lord Burghley’s long-time servant, Roger Alford (c.1530-1580). See the will of Roger Alford, TNA PROB 11/62/442, and the will of the testator’s mother-in-law, Elizabeth Ramsey Clerke Alford, TNA PROB 11/92/437. For Roger Alford’s long career in Lord Burghley’s service, see Barnett, Richard C., *Place, Profit and Power; A Study of the Servants of William Cecil, Elizabethan Statesman*, (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1969), pp. 24-8. See also the History of Parliament entry for Roger Alford at:

http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/alford-roger-1530-80

By Dorothy Clerke the testator had one daughter:


http://books.google.ca/books?id=KXFbAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA302

**Testator’s widow’s second marriage**

After the testator’s death Dorothy Clerke married secondly Sir Charles Morison (1549 - 31 March 1599), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/94/168.

Charles Morison was the son of Bridget (nee Hussey) Morison Manners Russell (1526-1601), Countess of Bedford, who had the care of Oxford's daughters, Bridget Vere (1584-1631) and Susan Vere (1587-1629), after the death of their grandfather, Lord Burghley, in 1598, and whose nephew, Francis Norris (1579-1622), 2nd Baron Norris of Rycote,
married Oxford's daughter, Bridget Vere. For the Countess’ will, see TNA PROB 11/97/10.

By Sir Charles Morison, Dorothy Clerke had a son and a daughter:

-Sir Charles Morison (1587-1628), who married Mary Hicks, the daughter of Baptist Hicks (1551?-1629), younger brother of Lord Burghley’s secretary, Sir Michael Hickes (1543-1612). For a letter from Dorothy Clerke dated 3 February 1602 to Sir Robert Cecil concerning a proposed marriage between her son, Sir Charles Morison (1587-1628), and Oxford’s youngest daughter, Susan Vere (1587-1629), see CP 85/8. For a letter from Susan Vere to her uncle, Sir Robert Cecil, assuring him that she would never marry without his consent, see CP 183/123. In 1604 Susan Vere married, as his first wife, Philip Herbert (1584-1650), 1st Earl of Montgomery and 4th Earl of Pembroke, one of the ‘two noble brethren’ of the First Folio. After the death of Susan Vere, Philip Herbert married Lady Anne Clifford (1590–1676) (see below).

-Bridget Morison (1575-1623), who married Robert Radcliffe (1573-1629), 5th Earl of Sussex, to whom, respectively, Robert Greene dedicated Euphues’ Shadow and Lady Fitzwater’s Nightingale. From the ODNB:

In or before 1592 [Robert Radcliffe (1573-1629), 5th Earl of Sussex] married Bridget (bap. 1575, d. 1623), the eldest daughter of Sir Charles Morison of Cassiobury, Hertfordshire. The couple gained a reputation as literary patrons in the 1590s. In 1592 Robert Greene dedicated to Lord Fitzwalter Thomas Lodge's Euphues Shadow and to his wife Philomela, which he subtitled The Lady Fitzwater's Nightingale.

Sir Charles Morison had two sisters whose marriages further demonstrate the connections between Oxford’s family and the Long, Morison, Russell and Norris families:

-Jane Sibilla Morison (1552-1615), whose first husband was Edward Russell (d.1572), eldest son and heir of Francis Russell (1527-1585), 2nd Earl of Bedford.

-Elizabeth Morison (d. 4 July 1611?), whose first husband was William Norris (c.1545 - 25 December 1579), by whom she was the mother of Francis Norris (1579-1622), 2nd Baron Norris of Rycote, to whom the Queen stood godmother, and who later married Oxford’s daughter, Bridget Vere (see above). For William Norris, see the History of Parliament entry at:

http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/norris-william-1545-79

After the death of William Norris, Elizabeth Morison married secondly, after 20 October 1586, Henry Clinton (1539-1616), 2nd Earl of Lincoln, by whom she had two sons, Henry Clinton and Robert Clinton, named in the will of their grandmother, Bridget (nee Hussey) Morison Manners Russell (1526-1601), Countess of Bedford (see above). For an incident
in 1603 involving Oxford and Henry Clinton, 2nd Earl of Lincoln, see TNA SP 14/3/77, ff. 134-5 and TNA SP 14/4/14, ff. 27-9. See also the History of Parliament entry at:


By the marriage of his mother, Bridget (nee Hussey) Morison Manners Russell (1526-1601), to Francis Russell (1526/7–1585), 2nd Earl of Bedford, Charles Morison had four stepbrothers and three stepsisters:

**-Edward Russell** (d.1572), who about 1571 married Charles Morison’s sister, Jane Sibilla Morison (see above).

**-John Russell** (d. 24 July 1584), who on 23 December 1574 married Lady Burghley’s sister, Elizabeth Cooke (1528-1609), for whom see the ODNB article and the biography by Chris Laoutaris, *Shakespeare and the Countess: The Battle That Gave Birth to the Globe*, (London: Fig Tree, 2014).

**-Francis Russell** (d. 27 July 1585), who on 15 July 1571 married Juliana Foster or Forster, by whom he was the father of Edward Russell (1572-1627), 3rd Earl of Bedford, who in 1591 was suggested as a husband for Oxford’s eldest daughter, Elizabeth Vere (1575-1627). See TNA SP 12/238/69, f. 100.

**-William Russell** (c.1553-1613), 1st Baron Russell of Thornhaugh, who on 13 February 1585 married the testator’s daughter, Elizabeth Long (see above). William Russell of Thornhaugh was the William Russell who was in Paris with Oxford in late March 1576 (see TNA SP 70/137, ff. 322-3).

**-Anne Russell** (1549–1604), Countess of Warwick, who was appointed as a Maid of Honour to Queen Elizabeth in 1559, and who married, at the age of sixteen in the Queen's chapel at Whitehall Palace on 11 November 1565, Leicester’s brother, Ambrose Dudley (c.1530-1590), Earl of Warwick (c.1530–1590). See the ODNB entry.

**-Elizabeth Russell** (1558-1605), who married William Bourchier (1557 – 12 July 1623), 3rd Earl of Bath, son of the testator’s half sister, Frances Kitson (buried 4 April 1586), and John Bourchier (1529 – 28 February 1557), Lord Fitzwarin, stepson of the testator’s mother, Margaret Donnington, Countess of Bath (see above).

**-Margaret Russell** (1560–1616), who married George Clifford (1558-1605), 3rd Earl of Cumberland, by whom she was the mother of Lady Anne Clifford (1590–1676) (see above).

OTHER PERSONS NAMED IN THE WILL

The testator’s friend, William Walter the younger, appears to have been William Walter of Wimbledon, Surrey, for whose will, dated 30 April 1603, see TNA PROB 11/107/447. He appears to have been the William Walter of Wimbledon who was appointed overseer of the will of the testator’s mother-in-law, Elizabeth Ramsey Clerke Alford.

William Walter the elder of Wimbledon is mentioned in the will of Elizabeth Ramsey Clerke Alford’s second husband, Roger Alford, TNA PROB 11/62/442. He appears to have been William Walter of Wimbledon for whose will, dated 16 February 1586, see TNA PROB 11/71/161. In the will he mentions his wife, Katherine, and sons William and Robert, and leaves gold rings to ‘my old masters Sir Thomas Lucy, Sir John Goodwin, Doctor Gabriel Goodman and George Burden of Westminster, gentleman.

Oxford had a servant named William Walter, to whom, by indenture dated 12 April 1580, he granted a 40-year lease in reversion of Colne Park (see TNA C 54/1080). On 14 June 1580 William Walter was one of three trustees in the indenture by which Oxford purchased the Great Garden property at Aldgate from Benedict Spinola (see TNA C 54/1080).

It is not known when William Walter left Oxford’s service. He described himself as being 50 years of age and ‘of Skenfrith in the county of Monmouth’ on 8 May 1599 when he gave testimony in a lawsuit involving Oxford (see TNA C 24/269, Part 1, No. 68). In another deposition in this lawsuit he is referred to as having been Oxford’s ‘purse-bearer’ circa 1580. Ursula de Vere (d.1558), sister and co-heir of John de Vere (1499-1526), 14th Earl of Oxford, mentions a servant named William Walter in her will, and there may have been a family connection between Ursula de Vere’s servant and Oxford’s servant, William Walter. For the will of Ursula de Vere, see TNA PROB 11/42A/10).

TESTATOR’S LANDS

For the testator’s manor of Shingay, see:


The Hospitallers retained the manor (fn. 23) until 1540 when the preceptory or lordship, which had been assured to Sir Henry Long, was granted to Sir Richard Long (fn. 24) (d. 1517).
1546). In 1541 Sir Richard settled it for life on his wife Margaret, widow of Sir Thomas Kitson, who later married John Bourchier, earl of Bath, and died in 1561 when her son Henry Long was still a minor. (fn. 25) Henry died in 1573 leaving a daughter, Elizabeth, (fn. 26) who in 1585 married Sir William Russell, created Lord Russell of Thornhaugh in 1603. (fn. 27)

Shingay had been settled for life on Henry's widow, Dorothy, who took as her second husband Sir Charles Morrison, and they held the manor at Morrison's death in 1599. (fn. 28) On Elizabeth Russell's death in 1611 it passed to her son Francis, from 1627 earl of Bedford (d. 1641). (fn. 29)

RM: Testamentum Henrici Longe

In the name of God, Amen. I, Henry Long of Shingay in the county of Cambridge, esquire, being of perfect memory, do the 30th day of March in the fifteenth 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., make this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First, forasmuch as by the laws of this realm it is provided that whosoever holdeth lands of the prince in capite should suffer the third part thereof to descend unto th' heirs at the common law, I will & bequeath that all my entail lands wheresoever in England shall descend unto my daughter and heir, Elizabeth Long, and shall be to the prince for a full third part of all my lands and tenements;

Item, I give and bequeath all my fee simple lands wheresoever in England unto my wife, Dorothy Long, during the minority of my said daughter for and towards the maintenance of my said daughter;

And after my said daughter shall either accomplish her full age or else be married, then I will and bequeath the same lands unto my said daughter and her heirs forever, the mean profits thereof over and above her maintenance during her minority to be delivered unto my said daughter at her full age;

And if my said daughter do decease before her full age or before she be married, then I will and bequeath the profits thereof unto my said wife without account render [sic?];

Item, I give and bequeath unto my friend, William Walter the younger, my grey colt that came from Woodstock;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my well beloved sister, Mary Long, one hundred marks;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my well beloved cousin, William Long, and his assigns the manors of Fillahall [=Fillol’s Hall?] and Coggeshall in Essex for the term of 9 years,

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reserving to mine heirs th’ accustomed rents yearly during the said term, the said term to begin immediately after th’ expiration of Grymes his lease which endeth at Michaelmas in Anno Domini 1580, provided that he nor his assigns shall meddle with the wood thereon growing;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife, Dorothy Long, all the rest of my goods and chattels not bequeathed, trusting that she will be good unto my servants;

Which said Dorothy, my wife, I do make my sole executrix of this my last will and testament.

Witnessses: William Walter the younger, Edmund Hilles, John Bowman, Katherine Irishe and others.

[=The above-written testament was proved before Master William Drury, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, at London on the sixteenth day of April in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred seventy-third by the oath of Justinian Kydd, notary public, proctor of Dorothy, 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.]