

SUMMARY: The document below is the last will and testament of Oxford's brother-in-law, Edward (1532?-1575), 3rd Lord Windsor, husband of Oxford's half-sister, Katherine de Vere (1538-1600). The date of Lord Windsor's marriage to Katherine de Vere is not recorded. However their eldest son, Frederick, was born, according to his father's inquisition post mortem, on 2 February 1558/9 (see *The Complete Peerage*, p. 798).

Lord Windsor made his will on 20 December 1572, and added a codicil on 18 June 1573 while at the Spa in Germany. Although he is said to have entertained Queen Elizabeth 'in great splendour' at Bradenham in 1566 on her return from visiting the University of Oxford, at the time of the making of his will it would appear that Lord Windsor was contemplating leaving England for good, and that his will was designed to put his financial affairs and the succession to the barony in order. No mention is made of Oxford or his sister Mary in the will, which suggests that the relationship was not a particularly cordial one. Other evidence to that effect is Lord and Lady Windsor's challenge to Oxford and Mary's legitimacy in 1563 (see TNA SP 12/29/8 and Huntingdon Library EL 5870).

The will contains certain provisions for the wardship of Lord Windsor's underage heir, which suggest that Lord Windsor had perhaps gained useful knowledge from the financial disaster of Oxford's wardship. Lord Windsor did not make the error of attempting to put his lands in trust or of contracting a marriage for his underage heir to avoid the perils of the wardship system, as Oxford's father, the 16th Earl had done. Nor did he leave it to the Queen to decide which of his lands to take as her one-third portion. Instead, he explicitly set aside lands to be taken into the Queen's hands during his son's wardship, and made the necessary financial provision for repairs to his properties during the wardship and for funds to be set aside for his heir to sue his livery when he attained the age of majority.

Lord Windsor's will contains mention of two individuals with possible literary connections, his servant Edmund Burbage (who may have been a relation of the actor Richard Burbage), and George Puttenham (1529-1590/91), the reputed author of *The Art of English Poesy*, who at the time of the making of the will below was the husband of Lord Windsor's stepmother, Elizabeth (nee Cowdray) (1520-1588/9).

According to *The Complete Peerage*, Lord Windsor died on 24 January 1574/5, not 'at Spa, as stated on the leaden vase containing his heart in the vault at Bradenham', but rather at Venice, where he was buried in the cemetery for heretics. For a description of his funeral in Venice, see Rigg, J.M., ed., *Calendar of State Papers Relating to English Affairs Preserved Principally at Rome in the Vatican Archives and Library*, Vol. II, 1572-1578, (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1926), p. 194. See also <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=92622>.

Lord Windsor's will was probated on 25 June 1575, with Lady Windsor being joined in the administration during the minority of Lord Windsor's son and heir, Frederick (1559-1585), 4th Lord Windsor. For the wills of Katherine (1538-1600), Lady Windsor, Frederick (1559-1585), 4th Lord Windsor, and Henry (1562-1605), 5th Lord Windsor,

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see TNA PROB 11/95, ff. 186-7, TNA PROB 11/69, ff. 2-3 and TNA PROB 11/105, ff. 223-7.

LM: T{estamentum} D{omi}ni Edwardi Windsor

In the name of God, Amen. In the twentieth day of December in the year of Our Lord God 1572 and in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc., I, Edward Windsor, knight, Lord Windsor, being in good health and perfect memory, thanks be given to Almighty God, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say:

First, I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, trusting to be saved by the merits of Christ's passion, and my body (if I die in England) to be buried within the parish church of Bradenham in the county of Buckingham with such order of funerals as shall appertain to mine estate and degree of honour by the discretion of mine executors hereafter mentioned;

Also I give and bequeath to the parson of Bradenham, for tithes and oblations negligently forgotten, in discharge of my conscience, 20s;

Item, I do likewise bequeath to the vicar of Tardebigge and Bordesley in the county of Worcester, for tithes and oblations there negligently forgotten, in discharge of my conscience, 20s;

Item, I bequeath to the poor people in Bradenham aforesaid and in Great Wycombe and in West Wycombe in the said county of Buckingham five pounds of current money of England to be distributed the day of my burial by the discretion of mine executors, and I do bequeath to the poor people of Tardebigge and Bordesley aforesaid five pounds of current money of England to be distributed the day of my burial or within one month next after the same by the discretion of mine executors;

Item, I do will that mine executors within one year next after my decease or at such other time as the same shall be due and payable, shall pay and perform all my debts and legacies and also all such my father's and grandfather's debts and legacies as to them shall sufficiently appear due and unpaid or unperformed;

Item, I will and bequeath to my right entirely beloved the Lady Katherine, my wife, all and all manner her apparel for her body, together with two borders and two biliments, and one sort of gold and pearl and the other sort gold enamelled, one girdle of gold enamelled with a pendant of the same having nine little chains hanging thereat with little knops of gold at th' ends, and one little chain of gold of the value of four marks or thereabouts with a little cross of gold hanging thereat with eleven diamonds, and two of my best field-beds at Hewell, the one being of green velvet and thother of black velvet, and the bed wherein I

now most commonly lie, with all the furniture of the said beds and every of them belonging, together with all other the bedding & furniture of household belonging to the chamber wherein I commonly lie, and to my nursery or either of them (plate and all other jewels before not specially given only excepted);

Also I bequeath to the said Lady Katherine, my wife, these parcels of plate following, that is to say, one basin and an ewer of silver of the French fashion, one nest of silver bowls, one pair of standing pots of silver of the bigger sort, two silver cans with covers fastened to them, a chafing-dish of silver, a dozen of silver plates, and one pair of salts next in goodness to my salt of gold and crystal and next also to two other salts by me hereafter bequeathed unto my son Frederick, together with the sum of one hundred pounds of ready money and the third part of all my linen at Hewell, one double gelding for herself with her saddle and other furniture for the same, two of my best nags with saddles and furniture for her waiting gentlewomen, and her coach with the two horses that usually draw the same, and all the furniture thereunto belonging or appertaining;

Also my will is that the same Lady Katherine, my wife, shall have the use, occupancy and custody of all and all manner my implements, household stuff and furniture for household, with all my silver plate and jewels whatsoever, together also with the use, occupancy and custody of all my stock as well of horses, beasts, sheep, as of all other manner of cattle and things whatsoever as at the day of my decease shall be in or about my house and grounds of Hewell and Bordesley for and during such time and so long as the said Lady Katherine shall continue, remain and be sole and unmarried, upon condition that the said Lady Katherine, my wife, with two sufficient sureties with her, within three months next after my decease shall become bound to my executors hereinafter named in the sum of two thousand marks of current money of England for the just and due answering thereof to my son Frederick in the day of her marriage or within one month next after the time of her decease, whichsoever of those days or times shall first happen;

All which things, whereof she shall have the only use, occupancy and custody in form aforesaid, I will that mine executors shall deliver or cause to be delivered unto her by a good, true and sufficient inventory indented within one month next after the said band by her made as is aforesaid, for that my will is immediately after the death or marriage of the said Lady Katherine, my wife, or immediately after either of them which shall first happen, my son Frederick shall have to his own proper use and behoof all and every the said implements, household stuff, furniture of household, plate, horses, stock of cattle and all other things whatsoever before limited to the only use, occupancy and custody of the said Lady Katherine, my wife, anything herein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my said son Frederick all the furniture of household and household stuff and other things which I shall have at the time of my death at Bradenham aforesaid, plate and all other implements, furniture and other things as by this my present last will and testament I have or shall otherwise give or dispose only excepted;

And I give to my said son Frederick all mine armour whatsoever within the realm of England which I shall have at the time of my decease;

Also I bequeath to my said son Frederick my chain of gold set with rubies which I had of the gift of the late Queen Mary when I came from St Quentin's;

And also I give unto my said son Frederick a chain of gold wire with a clock hanging thereat set with diamonds and emeralds;

And I do further bequeath unto my said son Frederick all these parcels of plate following, that is to say, my gilt cup called the Helmet, two standing pots all gilt, two nests of bowls all gilt, two basins and ewers all gilt, ten standing cups after the new making, and of the almon marterio(?) of my best plate, four beer cups all gilt, a salt of gold and crystal which my lord my father by his office as Lord Panterer of England had at the coronation of Queen Mary, with the best pair of my gilt salts, & with the best case of carving-knives and a spoon of gold and crystal with a fork at th' end, a chafing-dish all gilt, my great and deep basin of silver which was my grandfather's, and all the residue of my plate and jewels by this my last will and testament not bequeathed to others;

And my will is that the premises by me bequeathed to my said son Frederick shall be delivered unto him to his own use when he shall accomplish the age of 21 years and not before;

And if it shall happen my said son Frederick to die before he shall accomplish th' age of 21 years, then my will is that all legacies by this my last will and testament limited or appointed to the same Frederick shall be frustrate, void and of none effect, and then all the premises before by these presents bequeathed unto my said son Frederick shall be delivered unto such as shall be the next heir male of my body or of my lord my father's body to whom my barony and inheritance shall descend when and as soon as he shall come to his full age of 21 years and not before;

And my will and plain meaning is that the armour and plate before bequeathed unto my said son Frederick in form aforesaid shall go from heir male to heir male of my body and of my lord my father's body one after another forever;

Item, I give and bequeath to each of my sons which I shall have at the time of my decease the sum of one hundred pounds to be delivered to every of my said sons as they shall severally accomplish th' age of 21 years and not before, and if all or any of my said sons shall happen to decease before he or they shall accomplish their several ages of 21 years, that then the legacy and legacies of him, them and every of them so deceasing before the said age of 21 years shall be utterly void and of none effect;

item, I give unto each of my daughters which I shall have at the time of my decease the sum of one thousand pounds to be delivered to each and every of them at the day of their several marriage[s], so that they be then severally of the age of fourteen years;

And also I bequeath unto my said daughters all such jewels as are before limited to be in the occupation and custody of the said Lady Katherine, my wife, to be delivered and equally divided between them by mine executors immediately after the death or marriage of the said Lady Katherine, or immediately after which of them shall first happen, so that my said daughters and each of them severally shall then be of th' age of fourteen years at the least, and so that the same jewels nor any part or parcel of them be not otherwise disposed or bequeathed by this my last will and testament;

Item, I will and bequeath unto my trusty and well-beloved servants Edmund Burbage and Thomas Lusher, gentlemen, to each of them severally the sum of five pounds of current English money to be paid unto them yearly for and during their several natural lives, and unto my trusty and well-beloved servants John Kingston, yeoman, the sum of five marks of current English money to be yearly paid unto him for and during his natural life, and unto my trusty and well-beloved servant Robert More, yeoman, the sum of four marks of current English money to be yearly paid unto him for and during his natural life, all which shall be issuing and going forth of my manors, lands and tenements within the county of Sussex, and with liberty of distress for every of the said parties to distrain in the same for the non-payment thereof, and yet nevertheless upon condition that if the said Edmund Burbage, Thomas Lusher, John Kingston and Robert More or any of them shall not serve the Lady Katherine, my wife, nor my said son Frederick, being lawfully required to serve by the said Lady Katherine, my wife, or by the said Frederick, my son, or by either of them, but shall refuse so to do, that then and from thenceforth after such refusal made by the said Edmund, Thomas, John and Robert or by any or either of them, the legacy and legacies in form aforesaid limited or appointed to him or them so refusing to serve shall be utterly frustrate and of none effect, anything herein contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding;

Item, I give and bequeath to every gentleman that shall be my servant at the time of my death in money four marks apiece, and to every gentlewoman that shall be my servant and wait on the Lady Katherine, my wife, at the time of my death in money four marks apiece, and I do bequeath to every manservant not being a gentleman that shall serve me at the time of my decease in money forty shillings apiece, and to every woman servant not being a gentlewoman that shall be in my service at the time of my death forty shillings apiece, and my will is that my said legacies to my said servants bequeathed shall be paid within one half year next after my decease,

And my will is that my house and servants shall be kept by mine executors at my charge in that order that I shall leave it by the space of two months next after my decease;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Edward Windsor, my godson, eldest son of my brother Walter Windsor, the sum of one hundred pounds of current money of England, and every of the residue of the children of the said Walter fifty pounds apiece, all which legacies given to the children of my said brother Walter I will shall be severally delivered unto them as they shall severally accomplish the age of sixteen years, and if they or any of them shall happen to decease before they shall accomplish the age of sixteen years, that the parts and portions of all such and so many of the children of the said Walter as shall

happen to decease before the said age of sixteen years shall be utterly void and of none effect;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my nieces Eleanor Ferrers and Katherine Ferrers, Elizabeth Pauncefoot and Eleanor Pauncefoot, and to the two eldest daughters of my sister Scott at the day of their several marriages the sum of fifty pounds apiece;

And th' executors of this my present last will and testament I do ordain and make my trusty and well-beloved Sir John Throckmorton, knight, and the said Frederick Windsor, my son and heir apparent, and John Talbot, esquire, and Peter Vavasour, esquire, and for the pains of the said Sir John Throckmorton, John Talbot and Peter Vavasour to be taken about the just and due execution of this my present last will and testament, I give and bequeath unto the said Sir John Throckmorton, John Talbot and Peter Vavasour the sum of fifty pounds apiece of good and lawful money of England;

And overseers of the same my last will and testament I do ordain and appoint the right honourable Thomas, Earl of Sussex, Lord Chamberlain of England, and the right honourable my very good lord and nephew the Lord William Sandys, with Sir James Dyer, knight, Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Highness' Court of Common Pleas at Westminster, beseeching them to extend their aid and furtherance towards the performance of this my last will and testament according to my very true intent and meaning, and for a token of my goodwill borne towards them I will and bequeath unto the said earl my best horse, and to my very good lord and nephew my second horse with two field-pieces of brass and their carriages and furnitures, and to the said Sir James Dyer my best ambling gelding or two pounds in gold to be taken at his choice and election;

And thus I make an end touching my last will and testament of all my goods and chattels whatsoever;

And as touching the order and disposition of all my manors, messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever, first mine intent and meaning is that all those my manors of Southcote and Pynsonnes in the county of Berkshire, and all those my lands, tenements and hereditaments called Stockes and Wetineres in the county of Wiltshire, and all those my manors of Bentworth Hall, Burkham, Astleye, Mill Court and Thrustons, and all my lands and tenements called Crowches in the county of Southampton, with all my lands, tenements and hereditaments in the said county of Southampton, my manors of Cranford St John, Cranford le Mote and Hounslow in the county of Middlesex, with all my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Cranford and Hounslow aforesaid, and all my house, lands and tenements within the city of London, and my manor of Eton next Windsor in the county of Buckingham otherwise called the manor of Cole Norton in Eaton, and my manor of Wycombe in Great Wycombe in the said county of Buckingham, and all my lands and tenements in Wycombe aforesaid, my manor of Bradenham and Hichenden in the county of Buckingham, and also all that my manor of Hungry Bentley in the county of Derby, which manors lands, tenements and hereditaments hereinbefore particularly expressed in all do amount to a full third part of all my manors, lands and tenements above all charges, shall descend and come to my next heir to th' intent that the

Queen's Majesty may have the wardship, livery and primer seisin thereof according to the laws and statutes of this realm;

And I will and bequeath the manor of Madeley alias Madeley Holme in the said county of Stafford, and all my lands and tenements in Madeley alias Madeley Holme in the said county of Stafford, unto my said executors before-named until my son Henry shall accomplish his full age of 21 years, to th' intent that my said executors shall with part of th' issues and profits thereof find and provide unto and for my said son Henry sufficient and convenient meat, drink, cloth and education until he, the said Henry, shall accomplish his full age of twenty years, and that my executors shall employ the rest of all the profits, manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments in Madeley alias Madeley Holme aforesaid to be perceived whilst my said son Henry shall remain and be under th' age of twenty upon the necessary reparations of the premises in such things as the tenants ought not to be charged with, [+and] for and towards the performance of this my last will and testament and of the gifts and legacies herein expressed;

And my will is that after my said son Henry shall accomplish the full age of twenty years that then my said son Henry shall accomplish, have, hold and enjoy all and singular the same manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments last mentioned to him and to his heirs in fee simple forever, upon condition that if my said son Henry and all the issues male of his body lawfully begotten whose surname in blood shall be Windsor shall decease without issue male of any of their bodies coming, that then this devise and gift to him made in fee simple shall cease, determine and be utterly void, and that then it shall be lawful for my heirs into the same to enter, and to possess and enjoy the same forever, provided also that if the same Henry shall fortune to die before his full age of twenty years, that then the said gift and remainder of the said manor, lands and tenements to him before given and limited shall be void, and then my heirs shall and may re-enter and rehave the said manor, lands, tenements and other the premises as in their former estate;

And I, the said Edward, Lord Windsor, do by this my last will and testament devise and bequeath my manor of Greatworth in the county of Northampton and all my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Greatworth in the said county of Northampton, unto my executors until my son Edward shall accomplish the full age of twenty years, to th' intent that my executors shall with part of th' issues, revenues and profits thereof find and provide unto and for my said son Edward sufficient and convenient meat, drink, cloth and education until my said son Edward shall accomplish the full age of twenty years, and that mine executors shall employ the rest of the profits of the said manor of Greatworth and of all other the said lands, tenements and hereditaments in Greatworth in the said county of Northampton to be perceived whilst my said son Edward shall remain and be under th' age of twenty upon the necessary reparations of the said manor of Greatworth and of all other the premises in Greatworth aforesaid in such things as the tenants thereof ought not to be charged with the reparations, and towards the performance of this my last will and testament;

And my will is that after my said son Edward shall accomplish the full age of twenty years, that then my said son Edward shall have, hold and enjoy the said manor of

Greatworth and all other the premises in Greatworth to him and to his heirs in fee simple forever, upon condition that if my said son Edward and all the issues male of his body lawfully begotten whose surname in blood shall be Windsor shall decease without issue male of any of their bodies, or if the said Edward shall die before his full age of twenty years, that then this devise and gift to him made in fee simple shall cease, determine and be utterly void, and that then it shall be lawful to and for mine heirs to the same to re-enter and to possess and enjoy the same;

And I, the said Edward, Lord Windsor, do by this my last will and testament devise and bequeath my manors, capital messuages and farms of Beelings in Penn and Cookes in Amersham alias Agmondisham in the said county of Buckingham and in the county of Hertford, and all my lands, tenements and hereditaments in Beelings, Penn and Amersham in the said counties of Buckingham & Hertford, unto mine executors until my son Andrew shall accomplish the full age of twenty years, to th' intent that mine executors shall with part of th' issues, revenues and profits thereof find and provide unto and for my said son Andrew sufficient meat, drink, cloth and education until my said son Andrew shall accomplish the full age of 20 years, and that my executors shall employ the rest of the profits of the said lands, tenements & hereditaments in Beelings, Penn and Amersham aforesaid to be perceived whilst my said son Andrew shall remain and be under the said age of twenty years upon the necessary reparations of the said lands, tenements and hereditaments last before especified in such things as the tenants thereof ought not to be charged with the reparations, and towards the performance of this my last will and testament and of the gifts and legacies before especified;

And my will is that after my said son Andrew shall accomplish the full age of twenty years, that then my said son Andrew shall have and enjoy the said lands, tenements and other the premises in Beelings, Penn and Amersham aforesaid to him and to his heirs in fee simple forever, upon condition that if my said son Andrew and all the issue male of his body lawfully begotten whose surname in blood shall be Windsor shall decease without issue male, or if the said Andrew shall die before his full age of twenty years, that then this devise and gift to him made in fee simple shall cease, determine and be utterly void, and that then it shall be lawful for my heirs into the same to enter and possess and enjoy the same forever;

And for the speedy payment of such debts as I shall owe to any person or persons at the time of my decease, and the better accomplishment of this my last will and testament and of all the legacies hereinbefore especified according to my very true intent and meaning, I do by this my last will and testament will and bequeath unto mine executors my manors of Michelhampton alias Minchinhampton, Avening and Cosmers in the county of Gloucester, my manors of Gatecourt Gate, Glossams, Dixter and Vydmere in the county of Sussex, and all my manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments in Michelhampton, Gatecourt Gate, Glossams, Dixter and Vydmere in the said counties of Gloucester and Sussex not herein otherwise given or disposed, for the term of twenty years next and immediately after my decease towards the payment of my debts and legacies & performance of this my last will and testament;

And after th' end, expiration or determination of the said term of 20 years, my will is that all and singular the premises in the said counties of Gloucester and Sussex by this my last will and testament devised for the term of twenty years in manner and form aforesaid shall remain and be unto my said son Frederick and to th' heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs to th' heirs males of my body lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs to th' heirs males of the body of the right honourable William, late Lord Windsor, my father, lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs to the heirs males of the body of the right honourable Andrew, late Lord Windsor, my grandfather, lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs to the heirs male of the body of Thomas Windsor, esquire, deceased, late father unto the said Andrew, late Lord Windsor, lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs to the right heirs of my said son Henry forever;

And for the further surety and sure payment and performance of all my said debts and legacies before-mentioned, I bequeath to my said executors the manors of Towersey & Weston Mollens and Weston Butlers in the said county of Buckingham, and the manor of South Mimms in the county of Middlesex, and all my manors, lands, tenements, rents and hereditaments whatsoever in Towersey [+and] Weston Turville in the county of Buckingham and in South Mimms in the said county of Middlesex unto my said executors until one that shall be heir male of my body shall accomplish the full age of 21 years, towards the performance of this my last will and testament, and my will is that all and singular the premises in the said county [sic] of Buckingham and Middlesex last before especified immediately after any person that shall be heir male of my body begotten shall accomplish the full age of 21 years, shall remain and be unto the same person, being mine heir male of my body begotten, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs to the heirs males of the body of the said William, late Lord Windsor, my father, lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs to th' heirs males of the body of the said Andrew, late Lord Windsor, my grandfather lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs to th' heirs males of the body of the said Thomas Windsor, esquire, deceased, late father unto the said Andrew, late Lord Windsor, lawfully begotten, and for default of such heirs to the right heirs of my said son Henry forever;

LM: my body lawfully begotten, & for default of such heirs to the heirs males of

And my will is that my executors shall of th' issues and profits of the premises to them bequeathed as is aforesaid, and with my goods and chattels unbequeathed, discharge my funerals, pay my debts, & truly in all things perform this my last will and testament, and if any surplusage be, my said debts and legacies being paid and performed, as I hope and am assured there will, then I bequeath the same to such heir male of my body as shall first accomplish th' age of 21 years towards the charge of his livery or primer siesin and setting up of household;

And my will is that with th' issues and profits of the premises bequeathed to my executors as is aforesaid, the out-rents, charges and reparations of so much of the premises as I should bear or pay (if I should live) shall be borne and paid by mine executors, except it be for the repairing of house, tenements and hereditaments and

payment of chief rents payable out of such houses, tenements and hereditaments as be assured or conveyed for the jointure of the said Lady Katherine, my wife, the reparations and chief rents whereof my will is that the said Lady Katherine shall bear and pay after my decease during her life at her own proper costs and charges as by the laws of the realm she ought to do, anything in this last will and testament contained in any wise notwithstanding;

And where there must be two hundred and forty pounds by the year paid unto my lady my mother-in-law during her life, and £20 a year must be paid back again yearly during the time that my said mother-in-law and Mr Puttenham, her husband, shall live together, my will is that mine executors shall yearly during so many of these twenty years after my decease as my said mother-in-law shall live, pay or cause to be paid unto the said Mr Puttenham and my said mother-in-law and their or either of their lawful assign or assigns the said sum of two hundred and forty pounds at such days, times and places as I should or ought to pay the same if I should still live, and my will is that my said executors shall yearly, during so many of the said number of twenty years next after my decease to them limited as the said Mr Puttenham and my said mother-in-law shall live together, receive of the said Mr Puttenham the said sum of twenty pounds at such days, times and places as I should receive the same if I should live;

Also I will and bequeath to such heir male of my body as shall first accomplish th' age of 21 years all my leases which I have of any manors, lands, tenements, tithes or hereditaments within the counties of Oxford and Buckingham or either of them which then shall be to come, unexpired or undetermined towards the better provision of Bradenham house, and that my said executors shall [sic] immediately in the meantime shall & may take th' issues and profits arising and coming of the said lease[s] hereinbefore limited or appointed to my said heir male as [sic?] for and towards the execution of this my present last will and testament;

And whereas I, the said Edward, Lord Windsor, for the sum of five hundred pounds of current English money by me paid beforehand unto the right honourable William, Lord Sandys, have taken to farm of the same Lord Sandys the manors of Steane and Hinton in the county of Northampton with all and singular their appurtenances, to have and to hold the said manors with all and singular their appurtenances from and immediately after the decease of Raynold Braye, esquire, and [ ] his wife, unto me, the said Edward, Lord Windsor, and to Edward Windsor and Andrew Windsor, my sons, for and during the full term of thirty and one years from thenceforth next and immediately following, my will and plain meaning is that immediately after my decease the said Edward Windsor and Andrew Windsor, my sons, shall have, hold, occupy and enjoy the said manors with th' appurtenances according to the full intent, purport and true meaning of one good and sufficient lease made of the premises in form aforesaid, as by the same lease indented immediately bearing date the [ ] day of [ ] in the [ ] year of the Queen's Majesty's reign that now is remaining in my hands more fully doth and may appear;

And further my will is that there shall be after my decease an alms-house made and builded at Bradenham aforesaid, with rooms and chambers meet and convenient for a

master and six poor men, and that the parson of Bradenham aforesaid and his successors shall be master of the same alms-house forever, and that mine executors or the survivor of them or th' executors of the survivor of them shall obtain & procure of the Queen's Majesty, her heirs or successors (which I trust it will please my sovereign the rather for charity to grant) letters patents whereby the parson of Bradenham aforesaid and his successors and 6 poor men may be incorporated by name of Master and Brethren of the Hospital of Bradenham aforesaid, and my will is that there be good ordinances made and devised by mine executors for the better government, rule and continuance of the same corporation;

And my will is that my executors with th' issues, revenues and profits of my manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments to them by this my last will and testament devised, shall as soon as they conveniently may build the same alms-house, procure the said letters patents for corporation, and purchase or cause to be purchased lands and tenements to the yearly value of forty pounds which they shall assure or cause to be assured to the said master and brethren by virtue of a sufficient licence by them in that behalf to be obtained, any statute or statutes touching mortmain notwithstanding;

And my will is that of the said forty pounds a year the parson of Bradenham and his successors, masters of the said hospital for the time being, shall have towards the augmentation of his living twenty marks a year, and that the forty marks remainant of the said £40 a year shall be to the six poor men equally amongst them towards their finding and living, to pray for me and my ancestors and for the prosperous estate of my posterity;

And also my will is that if it shall happen me at any time hereafter to call to my remembrance anything to be added hereunto that is not yet contained in this my present last will and testament, that then the same being put in writing and sealed and subscribed with my proper hand and seal shall be credited, stand and be as parcel of this my last will and testament as effectually to all intents & purposes as though the same were herein mentioned and expressed;

And thus revoking all former wills and testaments by me at any time heretofore made or declared, I do ordain and make this to be my present last will and testament, as well touching my said goods and chattels as also all and singular my manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments within the realm of England whatsoever;

And in full testimony or witness thereof, I have hereunto set my seal and subscribed the same with my own proper hand the day and year first above-written. Edward Windsor.

[Codicil]

Be it known to all men by these presents that whereas I, Edward Windsor, knight, Lord Windsor, in the latter end of my last will and testament made the 20th day of December the year of our Lord God 1572 and in the 15th year of the reign of the Queen's Majesty

that now is, amongst other things did will that if it should happen me at any time after the making of that my last will and testament call to my remembrance anything to be added thereunto that is not therein contained, that then the same being put in writing and sealed and subscribed with my own proper hand and seal should be credited, stand and be as parcel of the same my last will and testament as effectual to all intents and purposes as though the same were therein mentioned and expressed, wherefore I, the said Edward, Lord Windsor, do further hereby give and bequeath etc., in witness whereof I have sealed and subscribed this my present writing with my proper hand and seal the [ ] day of [ ] in the [ ] year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc.

And whereas there is a clause in the latter end of my will that if anything be added thereunto and subscribed with my hand and seal that then etc., be it therefore known to all Christian people that this 18th of June, being in perfect and good mind, do add unto my said will these things following:

First, I do bequeath my soul into th' hands of Almighty God, my Maker and Saviour, hoping to be saved with the merits of his precious blood, my body to be buried in the cathedral church of the noble city of Liege and to have a convenient tomb to be made in token of some remembrance etc., my heart to be enclosed in lead and sent into England to be buried in the chapel of Bradenham under the tomb of my lord and father in token of a true Englishman;

Item, I do bequeath unto my sovereign lady and mistress, Queen Elizabeth, my cross of diamonds, in demonstration that in my lifetime I lived to die with demonstration to fight under the same banner, next to offer my body to be employed in any her Majesty's service, most humbly to desire her Majesty to be good to my poor wife and children;

Item I give unto my nephew Thomas Sandys my best gelding, with £20 in his purse towards his journey into Italy;

Item, I give unto my wife all my jewels in my jewel-coffer unbequeathed, with the chain of gold which I usually wear;

Item, I give to every man of mine that attends of me at the Spa £5 apiece;

And thus I make an end, dated at the Spa this 18th of June anno Domini 1573. Edward Windsor.

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum vna cum codicillo eiusdem defuncti vicesimo quinto die mensis Iunij Anno Domini Mill<sup>es</sup>imo quingen<sup>tesimo</sup> Septuagesimo quinto Iuramento nobilis Iuvenis D<sup>omi</sup>ni ffriderici d<sup>omi</sup>ni De Windesor alterius executorum in h<sup>uius</sup>mo<sup>d</sup>i testamento nominat<sup>i</sup> Cui comissa fuit administrac<sup>i</sup>o de veritate eiusd<sup>em</sup> test<sup>ament</sup>i et codicilli an<sup>te</sup>d<sup>i</sup>c<sup>t</sup>i in forma iuris solita iurat<sup>a</sup> Res<sup>er</sup>uata p<sup>otes</sup>tate &c Iohanni Throgmorton Militi et Iohanni Talbott armigero ex<sup>ecutori</sup>b<sup>us</sup> etiam in h<sup>uius</sup>mo<sup>d</sup>i testamento nominatis cum venerint &c Petro

vavasour ex{ecuto}re similiter in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento nominato demortuo(?) Et eod{em} die ad petic{i}onem dicti d{omi}ni ffriderici et ex causis in act{u} eod{em} die habit{is} express{is} Adiuncta fuit D{omi}na Catherina de Windsor relict{a} dict{i} Def{uncti} ac mater naturalis et l{egi}time eiusd{em} D{omi}ni ffriderici in executione testamenti d{i}c{t}i def{uncti} et administrac{i}one bonor{um} eiusd{em} comissaq{ue} fuit administrac{i}o omn{i}um et sing{u}lor{um} bonor{um} iurium et creditor{um} dicti defunct{i} vna cum dicto Domino ffriderico D{omi}no de windsor executore an{te}d{i}c{t}o duran{te} eius minori etate eadem D{omi}ne Catherine primitus De bene etc in p{er}sona m{agist}ri Petri Iohnsone no{ta}rij pu{bli}ci procur{ator}is sui &c rite iurat{o} &c

[=The above-written will together with a codicil of the same deceased was proved on the twenty-fifth day of the month of June in the year of the Lord one thousand five hundred seventy-five by the oath of the noble youth Lord Frederick, Lord of Windsor, one of the executors named in the same will, to whom administration was granted in respect of the truth of the same will and the aforesaid codicil, being sworn in the usual form of law, with power reserved etc. to John Throckmorton, knight, and John Talbot, esquire, executors, also named in the same will whenever they shall have come etc., Peter Vavasour, executor similarly named in the same will, demurring(?). And on the same day at the petition of the said Lord Frederick and for causes having been expressed(?) in an act(?) on the same day was joined the Lady Katherine of Windsor, widow of the said deceased, and natural and lawful mother of the same Lord Frederick, in the execution of the will of the said deceased and the administration of the goods of the same, and administration of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased was granted together to the said Lord Frederick, Lord of Windsor, executor aforesaid, and first, during his minority, to the same Lady Catherine, to well etc. in the person of Master Peter Johnson, notary public, her proctor etc. duly sworn etc.]