

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 6 October 1581 and proved 1 July 1583, of Elizabeth Castelyn Knolles Martyn (buried 8 March 1583), stepmother of Humphrey Martyn (d.1587?), the addressee of the *Langham Letter* which describes the Earl of Leicester's entertainment of Queen Elizabeth at Kenilworth in the summer of 1575. See the Langham page on this website.

CONNECTION TO OXFORD

Like Oxford, the testatrix invested in the Frobisher voyages of 1576-1578. See TNA E 164/36, pp. 171-3, in which Oxford and 'Dame Elizabeth Martyn' are listed in an assessment levied on 19 January 1578 for the building of works at Dartford to refine the ore brought back to England from Baffin Island in the Canadian Arctic. See also Huntington Library HM 715, ff. 1-3.

For the involvement of the testatrix' brothers in the Frobisher voyages, see below.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Testatrix' father

The testatrix was the daughter of the London mercer, William Castelyn (buried 19 April 1545), who according to his will, dated 17 April 1545 and proved 7 February 1548, TNA PROB 11/32/39, suffered heavy financial losses prior to his death.

In his will the testatrix' uncle, James Castelyn, mentions Norton in Derbyshire as his birthplace, and the testatrix' father may have been born there as well. For the will of James Castelyn, dated 18 April 1558 and proved 9 February 1559, see TNA PROB 11/42A/330.

For a Chancery suit mentioning the testatrix' father and his brother, James Castelyn, see TNA C 1/824/70-73.

For a suit in the Court of Admiralty concerning James Castelyn's ship, the 'George Duffield', see Marsden, Reginald G., ed., *Select Pleas in the Court of Admiralty*, (London: Bernard Quaritch, 1894), p. 106 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=20Q8AAAAIAAJ&pg=PA106>

This was an important case. . . . The proceedings lasted for two or three years, circa 1538-1541. Money was taken up at Cadiz by the master for the use of the ship upon bills payable upon the arrival of the ship; the ship did not accomplish her voyage to England, and put into St. Michael's in distress, and was there lost. The lenders alleged that she was unseaworthy when she sailed, and that the master purposely cast her away at St.

Michael's; and that consequently the money was payable although the ship did not accomplish her voyage.

It appears from the pleadings that James Castelyn was master of the 'George Duffield' when the ship was deserted at Ponta Delgada on the island of St Michael's in the Azores, and that the testatrix' father had authorized the taking up of money at Cadiz:

. . . that James Castelyn had a special mandate from William Castelyn to take up money for the ship; therefore William is liable and also his goods.

For the will of the testatrix' uncle, James Castelyn, dated 18 April 1558 and proved 9 February 1559, see TNA PROB 11/42A/330.

In 1542 the testatrix' father was appointed governor of the English merchants at Antwerp. See Williamson, James A., *Maritime Enterprise 1485-1558*, (Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 1913), pp. 188-90 at:

<https://archive.org/details/maritimeenterpri00willrich/page/188>

For the burial of the testatrix' father on 19 April 1545 in the church of St Pancras, Soper Lane, see Bannerman, W. Bruce, ed., *The Registers of St. Mary le Bowe, Cheapside, All Hallows, Honey Lane, and of St. Pancras, Soper Lane, London; Part I: Baptisms and Burials*, (London: Harleian Society, 1914), Vol. XLIV, p. 285 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/284>

Testatrix' mother

The testatrix' mother was Angelet Vlacho (buried 19 August 1570), the eldest daughter and heir of Michael Vlacho of Chios, Greece. See *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society*, (London: J.B. Nichols and Sons, 1870), Vol. III, p. 7 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=5joQAAAAAYAAJ&pg=RA2-PA7>

See also Harris, Jonathan and Helleni Porfyriou, 'The Greek Diaspora: Italian Port Cities and London', in Calabi, Donatella and Stephen Turk Christensen, eds., *Cities and Cultural Exchange in Europe, 1400-1700*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007), pp. 65-86 at p. 79:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=ZQJMIQEHJZAC&pg=PA79>

For Angelet Vlacho Castelyn, see also Dasent, John Roche, ed., *Acts of the Privy Council of England*, New Series, Vol. I, A.D. 1542-1547, (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1890), p. 388 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=nOM2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA388>

For the burial of the testatrix' mother at St Pancras, Soper Lane on 19 August 1570, see Bannerman, *supra*, p. 289 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/288>

Testatrix' siblings

The testatrix had three brothers and two sisters, all but one of whom (Anne) are mentioned in the will below:

-Edward Castelyn (born c.1528, buried 19 November 1585), shipowner, cloth exporter, member of the Merchant Adventurers, and charter member of the Mineral and Battery Works. See:

<https://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=bfulgham&id=I30818>

Edward Castelyn was born in Chios, Greece, and naturalized in 1542. See *The Statutes of the Realm*, Vol. III, (London: Dawsons of Pall Mall, 1817, reprinted 1963), p. 865 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=B7o4AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA865>

An Act for the making free and to put in the nature of mere Englishmen certain children begotten and born beyond the sea

Where also William Castelyn of London, Mercer, occupying in the parts of Levant within the city of Chio in Grecia, took to his wife one Angeleta, daughter of Michael Villacho of the same city, & had by her in lawful matrimony a son called Edward yet living, which likewise intendeth by God's grace to be the King's faithful & obedient subject . . . wherefore be it enacted & established . . . that as well . . . Edward Castelyn . . . shall be from henceforth reputed & taken the King's natural subjects as lawful persons born within this realm of England, & as free persons to all intents, constructions & purposes as if they and every of them had been born within this realm of England

For Edward Castelyn's naturalization, see also Ormrod, W. Mark, Bart Lambert and Jonathan Mackman, *Immigrant England 1300-1550*, (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1988), at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=xviFDwAAQBAJ&pg=PT108>

Edward Castelyn was born on the island of Chios in the early sixteenth century, the son of a London mercer, William Castelyn. His mother, Angeleca Villacho, may have been 'Greek'; but Chios, then an Ottoman protectorate, had been another Genoese colony,

and Angeleca may well have been descended from the island's Genoese ruling class. Rather than using the protection afforded to such offspring of English parentage by the statute de natis ultra mare of 1351, Edward followed a new route . . . and, in 1542, had a private act of naturalization passed on his behalf in the Westminster parliament.

For Edward Castelyn's participation in a voyage to Guinea in 1554 see:

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.03.0070%3Anarrative%3D522>

The second voyage to Guinea set out by Sir George Barne, Sir John Yorke, Thomas Lok, Anthonie Hickman and Edward Castelin, in the yere 1554. The Captaine whereof was M. John Lok.

See also McDermott, James, *Martin Frobisher: Elizabethan Privateer*, (Yale University Press, 2001), p. 39 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=YeMcPYIKNYUC&pg=PA39>

Of the previous year's promoters, [Sir John] Yorke and Sir George Barne . . . had swiftly put together a new syndicate of five London merchants to finance a further voyage. Other than themselves, this comprised Edward Castelyn, Anthony Hickman and Thomas Lok – men who had also traded for a number of years as an Anglo-Iberian syndicate (Hickman and Castelyn jointly maintained a factory in the Canaries, from where they imported sugar into England).

For Edward Castelyn as a charter member, together with Oxford's future father-in-law, Sir William Cecil, of the Muscovy Company incorporated 26 February 1555, see *Accounts and Papers of the House of Commons*, Volume 55, 1856, p. 53 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=4KpbAAAAQAAJ&pg=RA1-PA53>

For the Muscovy Company, see also the Wikipedia entry at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muscovy_Company

For Edward Castelyn as a charter member, together with Oxford's first cousin, Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, Oxford's brother-in-law, Thomas Cecil, and others, of the Company of Mineral and Battery Works incorporated 28 May 1568, see Stringer, Moses, *Opera Mineralia Explicata*, (London: Jonas Brown, [1713]), p. 59 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=OHZbAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA59>

For the Company of Mineral and Battery Works, see also the Wikipedia entry at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Company_of_Mineral_and_Battery_Works

For Edward Castelyn's involvement in the Frobisher voyages of 1576-1578 in which Oxford sustained heavy losses, see McDermott, James, ed., *The Third Voyage of Martin Frobisher to Baffin Island 1578*, (London: The Hakluyt Society, 2001), pp. 93, 98-9.

See also the Wikipedia entry for Martin Frobisher at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Frobisher

See also 'The Nunavut Voyages of Martin Frobisher' at:

<https://www.museedelhistoire.ca/cmce/exhibitions/hist/frobisher/frint01e.html>

Edward Castelyn served as deputy to Michael Lok (c.1532-1620x22) while the ultimately worthless 'gold' ore from the 1577 and 1578 Frobisher voyages was being refined at Dartford (see TNA SP 12/131/20, ff. 72-91).

Edward Castelyn's connection to the Lok family spanned more than two decades. See *The Second Voyage to Guinea, supra*, in which his associates were Michael Lok's brothers, John Lok (c.1530 – c.1558) and Thomas Lok (1523-1556), and Anthony Hickman (d.1573), who in 1543 married their sister, Rose Lok (1526-1613). No record of Edward Castelyn's marriage is extant; however it is possible he married into the Lok family. For the Lok family, see the *ODNB* entries for individual Lok family members, and Green, L.E., 'The Lock Family at Merton', *Merton Historical Society, Bulletin* 121, at:

<http://mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk/bulletin-121/>

For Edward Castelyn's property in the parish of St Pancras, Soper Lane, see:

Historical Gazetteer of London Before the Great Fire Cheapside; Parishes of All Hallows Honey Lane, St Martin Pomary, St Mary Le Bow, St Mary Colechurch and St Pancras Soper Lane. Originally published by Centre for Metropolitan History, London, 1987.

In 1548 St. Pancras church had a quit-rent of 13s. 4d. from the tenement at the E. end of the church, given by John Lagage for his obit. This quit-rent was thereafter paid to the Crown, until 1651, when it was sold with other quit-rents and fee-farm rents, to Brian Bromery of Barnard's Inn. It was recovered by the Crown after the Restoration and noted in a rental of 1664. (fn. 7) The owner of the tenement itself at the time of the Reformation is not known, but by 1581 it was owned, and is part occupied, by Edward Castlyn, citizen and mercer. It was described as two tenements, one of which was occupied by Castlyn and the other by Benet Harmston or Hamerton, widow, on a lease of 41 years from 1580 at 4d. rent. In 1581 Edward Castlyn, with John Castlyn, citizen and mercer, granted the two messuages, with all houses, buildings, gardens, void ground, lights, cellars, solars, etc., to Thomas Fanshawe, esquire, Queen's Remembrancer, and George Barne, alderman, to hold to the use of John Castlyn. If Edward Castlyn paid John £332 in or

before 1583, and also procured his release from an obligation to pay Thomas Allen, pewterer, £5 on 10 August every year from 1584, then the use of the premises should revert to him (Edward). If Edward failed to pay the £332 he would confirm and acknowledge the grant within 4 years. Fanshawe and Barne were to repair the property while they held it. (fn. 8)

By his will, dated 1608 and 1615 and proved in 1621, John Castelyn, citizen and mercer, left the fee simple of his dwelling-house and the tenement belonging to it which he had bought from his brother Edward Castelyn, to his wife Martha for ever. He also left her the 99-year lease of the same tenements, which Thomas Tomson of Sandwich had made over to him. In 1624 Martha Castelyn, widow, sold the reversion after her own death of 2 messuages in St. Pancras parish, late occupied by her late husband John Castelyn and by Bennett Hamerton, widow, to Robert Cruse or Crewes, citizen and grocer, for £30 paid and the promise of £150 to her executors for her will. By her will of 1625, proved 1626, Martha Castelin confirmed this grant. The houses at that date were occupied by herself and (blank) Huson. She also disposed of beds, bedsteads, cabinets, and pictures in the great chamber, in the lodging-chamber in which she usually lay, and in the little chamber over the counting-house. In 1638 the 2 tenements comprising 16 were occupied by Mr. Jurion (valued at £30 p.a.) and Mr. Hughson (valued at £6 p.a.). In 1650 John Juryon held or occupied the tenement, once of John Castlin, in St. Pancras parish at the E. end of the cemetery. . . .

For the record of Edward Castelyn's burial at St Pancras, Soper Lane, see Bannerman, *supra*, p. 290 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registersoftmar44stma/page/290>

-Thomas Castelyn (d.1595), citizen and mercer of London. For his will, made at Ipswich, Suffolk, on 7 November 1595 and proved 1 December 1595, see TNA PROB 11/86/392. In the will he describes himself as a Merchant Venturer, and mentions his wife, Mary; his brother-in-law, John Oldham of London, clothworker; and John Oldham the younger, to whom he bequeaths his 'freedom of Muscovia'. For a Chancery suit in which Thomas Castelyn is identified as the uncle of the testatrix' son, Samuel Knolles, see TNA C 2/Eliz/C6/42. For an indenture dated 20 March 1561 in which Thomas Castelyn, Sir Robert Martyn, and Richard Whalley sold the house and lands of Welbeck Abbey to Queen Elizabeth, see TNA E 355/166.

According to Sutton, in 1576 Thomas Castelyn and his step nephews, Humphrey Martyn (d.1587?) and Edmund Martyn (d.1596), were among seventeen mercers involved in a loan from the Queen. See Sutton, Anne F., *The Mercery of London*, (Aldershot, Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing Company, 2005), p. 483.

In May 1576 the queen proposed to hand over to the city £160,000, which was 'to remain in store' for the service of the realm, and to be lent out for at least one year on interest, no one taking more than £500 and no one less than £50. Seventeen mercers offered to take a total of £3,475, of whom one was a customs official and one a courtier.

AC 1560-95, ff. 296-97 list presented to mayor: Thomas Bates £500; Richard Barnes, Thomas Colshill, Humphrey Martin £300 each; Henry Champion (a courtier rather than a mercer), Matthew Field, Anthony Walthall, William Barker and Edmund Martin £200 each; Edmund Smith £150; John Flower £125; Thomas Egerton, Edmund Hogan, Thomas Castelyn, Thomas Cordall, Ellis Hanmer and John Phipps £100 each.

-John Castelyn (baptized 21 August 1539, buried 2 July 1621), mercer, who on 22 November 1568 married the testatrix' stepdaughter, Martha Martyn (see below), by whom it appears he had no issue. See Chester, Joseph Lemuel and George J. Armytage, eds., *The Parish Registers of St. Antholin, Budge Row, London*, (London: Harleian Society, 1883), Vol. VIII, p. 19 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=wzfvAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA19>

For the record of John Castelyn's baptism, see Bannerman, *supra*, p. 126 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/126>

Oxford and John Castelyn are among those who are listed as wishing to invest £25 apiece in the ore which had been brought back to England from the second Frobisher voyage to Baffin Island in the Canadian Arctic in 1577. See TNA SP 12/119/44, f. 92.

For John Castelyn's involvement in the Fenton voyage in 1582, see Frobisher McDermott, James, ed., *The Third Voyage of Martin Frobisher to Baffin Island 1578*, (London: The Hakluyt Society, 2001), p. 98:

John [Castelyn], one of three Muscovy merchants appointed by Burghley to oversee preparations for the projected Moluccas voyage. . . .

See also a letter to the Earl of Leicester dated 22 April 1582 signed by John Castelyn and others in Taylor, E.G.R., *The Troublesome Voyage of Captain Edward Fenton, 1582-1583*, online edition, (New York: Routledge, 2016) at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=3gckDwAAQBAJ&pg=PT28&lpg>

See also *The Edward De Vere Newsletter*, No. 2, April 1989, on this website:

In the fall of 1581, Oxford invested £500 pounds in the ill-fated Fenton voyage to the East Indies, for which he may also have purchased a ship, the Edward Bonaventure (Taylor 14, 19). Along with the Leicester and the Talbot, the Edward Bonaventure set out for the Moluccas under the command of Captain Edward Fenton in May of 1582. Having started out too late in the year to round the Cape, Fenton, upon arriving at Sierra Leone, decided to cross the Atlantic to Brazil and sail through the Straits of Magellan to the Pacific. An attack by three Spanish warships off the coast of Brazil put an end to these plans, and Fenton set sail for home, reaching England in May of 1583 (Routh, 425-6).

For John Castelyn's involvement in Henry Hudson's voyage of 1610, together with Oxford's first cousin, Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, Henry Wriothesley, 3rd Earl of Southampton, and others, see Sainsbury, W. Noel, ed., *Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, East Indies, China and Japan, 1513-1616*, (London: Longman, Green, Longman & Roberts, 1862), pp. 238-9 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=nMhOAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA87>

For the record of his burial 2 July 1621 in the vault at St Pancras, Soper Lane, see Bannerman, *supra*, p. 297 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/296>

His widow, Martha (nee Martyn) Castelyn, was buried in the vault at St Pancras on 5 January 1626. See Bannerman, *supra*, p. 298.

For the will of John Castelyn, dated 12 September 1608 and 16 May 1615 and proved 1 October 1621, see TNA PROB 11/138/191. For the will of Martha (nee Martyn) Castelyn, dated 27 October 1625 and proved 13 January 1626, see TNA PROB 11/148/66.

-Bennet Castelyn (buried 29 January 1585), for whose marriage to William Hammerton by licence dated 16 March 1548 see Chester, Joseph Lemuel and George J. Amytage, eds., *Allegations for Marriage Licences*, (London: Harleian Society, 1886), Vol. XXIV, p. 12 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/allegationsforma00cant#page/12/mode/2up>

For Bennet Castelyn Hammerton's burial, see Bannerman, *supra*, p. 290 at:

<https://archive.org/details/registerstofstmar44stma/page/290>

-Anne Castelyn. She is mentioned in the will, dated 18 April 1558 and proved 9 February 1559, of her uncle, James Castelyn, TNA PROB 11/42A/330, and in the will of her brother, John Castelyn, who refers to her as his sister, Anne Gotobed. At that time she appears to have been the wife of Henry Gotobed, who witnessed John Castelyn's will:

To my sister, Anne Gotobedd, if she be living at the time of my decease, five pounds.

Henry Gotobed may have been Anne Castelyn's second husband. An Anne Castelyn married John Hutton on 11 February 1567. See Chester, *supra*, p. 18 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=wzfvAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA18>

It is possible that Anne Castelyn's first husband was the son of John Hutton (d.1537?), Governor of the Merchant Adventurers at Antwerp in 1537. See Nicoll, Allardyce, ed., *Shakespeare In His Own Age*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1964), p. 227 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=syA4AAAAIAAJ&pg=PA227>

See also an assessment for 'discharging the burial and funeral charges of Mr John Hutton, late Governor' in *The Records of the Merchant Adventurers of Newcastle-upon-Tyne*, Vol. II, (London: Bernard Quaritch, 1899), p. 28 at:

<https://archive.org/details/extractsadventur02surtuoft/page/28>

Anne Castelyn's husband may have been related to the Hutton family of Dry Drayton, Cambridgeshire. See the will, proved 16 November 1596, of John Hutton (d.1596) of Dry Drayton, TNA PROB 11/88/317, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/hutton-john-1596>

See also Foster, Joseph, *The Register of Admissions to Gray's Inn, 1521-1889*, (London: Hansard Publishing Union, Limited, 1889), p. 77 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=Z2avAzMEDDcC&pg=PA77>

3 February 1591 Roger Hutton, cousin and heir apparent of John Hutton of Dry Drayton

MARRIAGES AND CHILDREN

Testatrix' first marriage

The testatrix married firstly the London mercer, Thomas Knolles (d.1551), said to have been a descendant of Sir Thomas Knolles (d.1435), Lord Mayor of London in 1399 and 1411, by whom she had two sons:

* **Thomas Knolles.** William, son of Thomas Knolles, was baptized 29 January 1576. See Chester, *Parish Registers of St. Antholin, supra*, p. 24 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=wzfvAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA24>

William Knolles is not mentioned in the will below, and may have died young.

* **Samuel Knolles**, who on 29 January 1573 married Elizabeth Hind. See Chester, *Parish Registers of St. Antholin, supra*, p. 22 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=wzfvAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA22>

According to the will below, the testatrix had several Knolles grandchildren:

Item, I give to Elizabeth Knolles, my god-daughter, thirty pounds, and to Samuel Knolles, Mary Knolles and Castelyn Knolles, and to the child that my daughter (blank) Knolles, wife of my son, Thomas Knolles, goeth with, to every one of them twenty pounds, to be paid at their lawful ages of one and twenty years or days of marriage. . . .

In the will of the testatrix' stepdaughter, Martha (nee Martyn) Castelyn, TNA PROB 11/148/66, three members of the Knolles family are mentioned:

Item, I give and bequeath to Francis Knolles three pounds, and to his two sisters, Sara and Katherine, twenty shillings apiece. . . .

For the will of the testatrix' first husband, see TNA PROB 11/34/212. For his epitaph, see Seymour, Robert, *A Survey of the Cities of London and Westminster*, Vol. I, (London: T. Read, 1733), p. 515 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=nGVZAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA515>

*And Thomas Knowles is placed here,
Whose bones from Bow were hither borne.
His godly life did well appear
In helping those that were forlorn,
And virtue did him so adorn
That he beloved was of all.
Mercer he was when Death did call
In prime of years his life away,
Who dying like a worthy wight
Did hope in Christ to live for aye.
His wife him wails in woeful plight,
And for mere love him here she pight
With her second spouse to sleep in peace,
And she with them when life shall cease.*

For the will of Hercules Meautys, in which he bequeaths gold rings to the testatrix' sons, Thomas Knolles and Samuel Knolles, see TNA PROB 11/73/110.

Testatrix' second marriage

The testatrix married secondly, as his second wife, Sir Roger Martyn (buried 12 January 1573), Lord Mayor of London, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/56/48. For his burial, see Chester, *Parish Registers of St. Antholin, supra*, p. 23.

By his first wife, Lettice Pakington (d. 23 December 1552), Sir Roger Martyn had two sons and two daughters:

-Humphrey Martyn (d.1587?), the addressee of the *Langham Letter* (see above), who on 11 November 1572 married Alice Pullison, the daughter of Sir Thomas Pullison, Lord Mayor of London in 1584. See Chester, *Parish Registers of St. Antholin, supra*, p. 22 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=wzfvAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA22>

-Edmund Martyn (d.1596), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/87/460.

-Martha Martyn, who on 22 November 1568 married the testatrix' brother, John Castelyn (1539-1621). See above.

-Susan Martyn (living 5 January 1583), who on 22 November 1568 married Robert Bye (d.1582), second son of Gilbert Bye (d.1546) of Basingstoke, Hampshire, a first cousin of Robert Bye of Chios, who married the testatrix' aunt (see below). Susan Martyn's husband, Robert Bye was a London mercer, and member of the Company of Merchant Taylors. For the marriage, see Chester, *Parish Registers of St. Antholin, supra*, p. 19. See also Bye, Arthur Edwin, *History of the Bye Family and Some Allied Families*, (Easton, Pennsylvania: Correll Printing Co. Inc., 1956), pp. 201-3 at:

<https://archive.org/details/historyofbyefami00byea/page/200>

By Robert Bye, Susan Martyn had two sons and three daughters:

(1) **Roger Bye** (baptized 1 October 1571, d.1649).

(2) **Humphrey Bye**, for whom see the will of his aunt, Martha (nee Martyn) Castelyn, *supra*.

(3) **Elizabeth Bye** (baptized 2 January 1569, buried 30 August 1569).

(4) **Martha Bye** (baptized 21 December 1574).

(5) **Margaret Bye** (baptized 1582), who married Richard Green in St Dunstan's London.

For the coat of arms granted to Robert Bye's elder brother, John Bye of Basingstoke, in 1573, see Bye, *supra*, p. 19, at:

<https://archive.org/details/historyofbyefami00byea/page/18>

For Robert Bye's death of the plague and burial on 24 November 1582 at St Margaret's, Westminster, see Bye, *supra*, p. 203, and Burke, Arthur Meredyth, ed., *Memorials of St. Margaret's Church, Westminster*, (London: Ayre & Spottiswoode, Ltd., 1914), p. 442 at:

<https://archive.org/details/memorialsfstmar00westrich/page/442>

Susan Martyn's father-in-law, Gilbert Bye, is said to have been a first cousin of Robert Bye, who went to Chios in 1540, was a factor there from 1544-1552, and married a daughter of Michael Vlachos. See the Bye pedigree, in Bye, *supra*, p. 185. See also pp. 194-5 at:

<https://archive.org/details/historyofbyefami00byea/page/194>:

. . . Robert Bye, after having gone to London, where he had both family and business connections, went, about the year 1540, on a trading voyage to Greece. There, in the island of Chios, or Scio, he evidently fell in love and married a Grecian lady, which circumstances induced him to remain there. Years went by, during which his family seems to have given him up for lost. His sister, Margaret Chapman, to whom he had given powers of attorney, died, and her executor, John Sacheffield, had settled the property on Robert's nephew, Roger Webb, who had transferred it to his cousins, Robert and Richard Bye, sons of Thomas, of London. Finally in 1601, Richard Bye, "The Grecian," turns up in London, stating he was the son of the merchant adventurer, born in Greece, and by right the heir of Robert Bye. We do not know what became of him.

Who the wife of Robert Bye was we can readily surmise, by the following reasoning. A cousin of Robert, another Robert, son of Gilbert Bye of Basingstoke, married Susan, the daughter of Sir Roger Martin of London, by his first wife. Sir Roger married, secondly, Elizabeth Castelin, daughter of William Castelin by Angelott, daughter of Michael Vlachos of Chios, Greece. Thus the stepmother of Susan Martin Bye, the cousin of Robert Bye of Chios, was, to quote the words of Stowe, the historian of London who refers thus to the Castelin's, "of Graecias soile." Also John Castelin, the son of William and Angelotte Vlachos, married Martha, daughter of Sir Roger Martin, sister of Susan Bye. When it is understood that both the Robert Byes and the Castelins were engaged in the same business, it is not unlikely that Robert Bye, on going to Chios was recommended to the house of Vlachos on that island, and that he, like William Castlin, married a daughter of Michael Vlachos.

For Robert Bye of Chios, see also Knight, Henry J.C., *The Diocese of Gibraltar*, (London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1917), p. 1 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/diocesefgibralt00knig#page/n35/mode/2up/>

For mention of Robert Bye as the factor in Chios of Sir William Bowyer, Alderman of London, see Hakluyt, Richard, *The Principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffiques & Discoveries of the English Nation*, Vol. V, (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1904), p. 69 at:

<https://archive.org/details/principalnavigat000900mbp/page/n97>

Martha Martyn, who on 22 November 1568 married the testatrix' brother, the London mercer, John Castelyn (1539-1621) (see above).

For the Martyn pedigree, see Howard, John Jackson and George John Armytage, eds., *The Visitation of London in the Year 1568*, (London: Harleian Society, 1869), Vol. I, p. 2 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationoflond00cook#page/2/mode/2up>

By Sir Roger Martyn the testatrix had three daughters:

* **Mary Martyn** (baptized 20 November 1557, d.1574), who on 8 June 1573 married Alexander Denton (d.1578?), esquire, of Hillesden, Buckinghamshire, whose first wife was Anne Willison (d. 29 October 1566), the daughter of Richard Willison of Sugwas, Herefordshire, and his wife, Anne, by whom he had no surviving issue. For the monument to Anne (nee Willison) Denton (d. 29 October 1566) in Hereford Cathedral, see Jones, Joseph, *Hereford, Cathedral and City*, (Hereford: Joseph Jones & Son, 1858), p. 72 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=dQFBAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA72>

For the dates of Mary Martyn's baptism and marriage, see Chester, Joseph Lemuel and George J. Armytage, eds., *The Parish Registers of St. Antholin, Budge Row, London*, (London: Harleian Society, 1883), Vol. VIII, pp. 12, 23 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=wzfvAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA12>

Mary Martyn's husband, Alexander Denton, was the son of Thomas Denton (d. 30 October 1558), esquire, and Margaret Mordaunt, widow of Edmund Fettiplace, and third daughter of John Mordaunt (d. 18 August 1562), 1st Baron Mordaunt, by Elizabeth Vere, eldest of the four daughters and coheirs of Henry Vere (d.1493) of Great Addington, Northamptonshire. For William Mordaunt, a younger son of John Mordaunt (d. 18 August 1562), 1st Baron Mordaunt, and thus the brother of Margaret Mordaunt, see the will, TNA PROB 11/50/19, of Joan Farrington Booth Beconsall Browne, widow of Sir Anthony Browne (d. 16 May 1567), Justice of the Common Pleas, who circa 1554 was a member of the council of John de Vere (1512-1562), 16th Earl of Oxford. See also the *ODNB* entry for John Mordaunt, 1st Baron Mordaunt, his will, proved 1 September 1562, TNA PROB 11/45/213, and Cokayne, George Edward, *The Complete Peerage*, (London: The St Catherine Press, 1936), Vol. IX, pp. 193-5.

See also the will of Margaret (nee Mordaunt) Fettiplace Denton, TNA PROB 11/87/357; and Rylands, W. Harry, ed., *The Four Visitations of Berkshire*, Vol. I, (London: Harleian Society, 1907), Vol. LVI, p. 28 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/fourvisitationso5657ryla#page/n51/mode/2up>

By Alexander Denton, Mary Martyn had an only son, Sir Thomas Denton (c.1574-1633), as attested in the testatrix' will below:

Item, I give and bequeath to my godson, Thomas Denton, the son of my daughter, Mary, one hundred marks of lawful money of England to buy him a chain of gold at his lawful age of one and twenty years.

It should be noted that the History of Parliament entry for Sir Thomas Denton (c.1574-1633) correctly states that he was born in 1574, but erroneously states that his mother was 'a daughter of Richard Willison of Sugwas, Herefordshire. See:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/denton-sir-thomas-1574-1633>

See also Willis, Browne, *The History and Antiquities of the Town, Hundred and Deanry of Buckingham*, (London, 1755), p. 194 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=kRAAtAAAYAAJ&pg=PA194>

For the will, dated 2 January 1577 and proved 27 June 1578, of Alexander Denton in which he appoints Sir William Cordell (d.1581) and the testatrix as overseers, see TNA PROB 11/60/379. For the will of Sir William Cordell, see TNA PROB 11/63/590.

For a portrait of Mary (nee Martyn) Denton at age fifteen in the York City Art Gallery, see:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/60861613@N00/3787879041/>

* **Joan Martyn** (baptized 24 June 1561, d.1621). For her baptism, see Chester, *supra*, p. 14. In 1593 Joan Martyn married Anthony Smith (c.1563-1611) of Campden, Gloucestershire, the son of Thomas Smith (d. 31 October 1593) by his second wife, Katherine Throckmorton (d. 25 July 1574), the daughter of Sir George Throckmorton (d.1552) and widow of Robert Winter (d.1549). See the will of Sir George Throckmorton, TNA PROB 11/36/298, and Gwilt, Charles Perkins, *Notices Relating to Thomas Smith of Campden and to Henry Smith, Sometime Alderman of London*, (London: George Woodfall, 1836), p. 11, and the Smith and Throckmorton pedigrees, pp. 56, 78 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=eScAAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA56>

Thomas Smith's first wife was Elizabeth Fitzherbert (d. 1 December 1559). See the will of John Fitzherbert (d.1502), Remembrancer of the Exchequer, TNA PROB 11/13/461:

Eustace Fitzherbert, grandson of John Fitzherbert (d.1502), Remembrancer of the Exchequer, had two daughters and coheirs, Joan and Elizabeth. Elizabeth Fitzherbert (d. 1 December 1559) married firstly Edward Smyth, a younger son of Sir John Smith of Cressing Temple, Essex, Baron of the Exchequer, and secondly, about 1539, Thomas Smyth (d. 31 October 1593). After the death of Elizabeth Fitzherbert, Thomas Smyth married Katherine Throckmorton, the daughter of Sir George Throckmorton (d.1552) and widow of Robert Winter (d.1549), by whom he had seven sons and seven daughters,

including Anthony Smith (d.1611) of Campden, Gloucestershire, who married Joan Martyn (d.1621), daughter of Sir Roger Martyn (d.1573), Lord Mayor of London.

For the monument to Thomas Smith and his two wives, see Taylor, C.S., ed., *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society for 1901*, Vol. XXIV, p. 54 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/transactionsofbr24bris#page/54/mode/2up>

See also Bartleet, S.E., 'The Manor and Borough of Chipping Campden', in Maclean, John, ed., *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society for 1884-85*, (Bristol, C.T. Jefferies and Sons), Vol. IX, pp. 134-95 at pp. 161-70:

<https://archive.org/stream/transactionsofbr09bris#page/162/mode/2up>

According to the inquisition post mortem taken after Anthony Smith's death, on 20 March 1602 Thomas Russell (who was later overseer of the will of William Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon), conveyed to Smith lands in Broad Campden. See Gwilt, *supra*, p. 12. For Thomas Russell, see McManaway, James G., *The Authorship of Shakespeare*, (Folger Shakespeare Library, 1962), p. 25 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=c52SjdRjFPIC&pg=PA25>

According to Gwilt, Joan Martyn's husband, Anthony Smith, was likely a first cousin of Henry Smith, salter and alderman of London, and his sister, Joan Smith, who married Henry Jackson. The London alderman, Henry Smith, died at his home in Silver Street on 3 January 1628, aged 79, and was buried 7 February 1628 in the chancel of the church at Wandsworth. See Gwilt, *supra*, p. 48, and the pedigree, p. 56, at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=eScAAAAAQAQAJ&pg=PA56>

For the will of Joan (nee Martyn) Smith, dated 5 April 1621 and proved 20 June 1621, see TNA PROB 11/137/584.

* **Anne Martyn** (baptized 4 April 1563), who on 8 June 1579 married Sir Anthony Culpeper (1560-1618) of Bedgebury, Kent, son of Sir Alexander Culpeper (d. 19 January 1599) by Mary Dacre, daughter of William Dacre (29 April 1500 – 18 November 1563), 4th Baron Dacre of the North and 3rd Baron Dacre of Gilsland, and grandson of Thomas Culpeper (d. 13 May 1558), esquire, by his first wife, Elizabeth Haute, the daughter of Sir William Haute (d.1539) and Mary Guildford. For the will of Thomas Culpeper, see TNA PROB 11/41/336. For the dates of Anne Martyn's baptism and marriage, see Chester, *Parish Registers of St. Antholin, supra*, pp. 15, 27. For Mary Dacre, see CP 129/54; and

<http://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/2649879>

For Sir William Haute, see his will, TNA PROB 11/26/240, and:

<http://gen.culpepper.com/ss/p8595.htm>

For the settlement by indenture of 5 June 1579 between Sir Alexander Culpeper and the testatrix for the marriage of Anne Martyn and Sir Anthony Culpeper see Harleian Charter, 77 A 53 in *Papers Read Before the Juridical Society 1855-1858* (London: V. & R. Stevens, 1858), pp. 57-63, available online at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=7RobAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA57>

See also the Culpeper tomb in St Mary's church in Goudhurst, Kent:

<http://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/2649879>

See also:

Edward Hasted, 'The hundred of West or Little Barnefield: The parish of Goudhurst (part)', in *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent: Volume 7* (Canterbury, 1798), pp. 73-88. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-kent/vol7/pp73-88> [accessed 26 March 2018]

The testatrix is mentioned in the will of Sir Ambrose Nicholas (d.1578), Lord Mayor of London, TNA PROB 11/60/296.

The testatrix was buried 8 March 1583 (see Chester, *Parish Registers of St. Antholin, supra*, p. 29). For her epitaph, see Seymour, *supra*, p. 515 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=nGVZAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA515>

*Here lies the Lady Martyn eke
Of Grecia soil and Castelyn's race.
Both constant, virtuous, wise and meek
That showed herself in any place.
And God endued her so with grace
That she both lived and died with praise.
Two husbands had she in her days
Whose corps are both enclosed here
Together with the aforesaid Dame;
Her love to them was aye so dear,
Her cost and charge sustained the same.
These three, their deeds will show their fame,
Who as she lived in amity,
So here she sleeps in unity.*

RM: T{estamentum} domine Elizabethhe Martyn viduae

[f. 288r] In the name of God, Amen. The sixth day of October in the year of Our Lord God one thousand five hundred fourscore and one, and in the three and twentieth 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., I, Dame Elizabeth Martyn of London, widow, remembering with myself that all flesh is mortal and must die, but the hour and time thereof is uncertain, and being desirous that in the time of my sickness or weakness of body that my mind may not be troubled with the cares of this world to bestow those transitory goods which it hath pleased God of his mercy and goodness to bestow upon me, but that then, I say, in the time of my sickness even to my death, whensoever and howsoever it shall please God to send it, I may the more quietly call upon God for the forgiveness of my sins by the only mediation and redemption of Jesus Christ, my only Saviour, I do make and ordain this my present testament containing herein my last will in this manner and form following, that is to say:

First and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and my body to be buried in the parish of Saint Antholin's in London where I am now a parishioner;

And as touching the disposition of all my goods and chattels wherewith it pleased God of his bountiful goodness to lend and bestow upon me (my debts which I owe in law or in conscience being paid and my funerals discharged), I wholly give and bestow in this manner and form following, that is to say:

First, I will to the Wardens of the Company of Mercers of London one hundred pounds, to remain with them and their successors forever as a stock to be delivered to two young men free of that Company in occupying for five years, and so from th' end of those five years the same money to be delivered to other two young men of the same Company for other five years, and so from five years to five years forever, and that the same two young men that so shall have the same money in occupying shall yearly give and pay to the said Wardens in respect of the occupying of the same money six pounds thirteen shillings four pence, which sum of six pounds thirteen shillings four pence I will shall be bestowed forever by the said Wardens in this manner following, that is to say:

To the churchwardens of the parish of Saint Antholin[^s], to the intent that they shall every Sunday give and distribute to twelve poor householders of the said parish at the discretion of the same churchwardens, to every one of the said poor householders one penny loaf and one penny in current money, and that those twelve persons do come every Sunday into the chancel of the said parish church immediately after the pistle and Gospel read, and there kneeling down do give God thanks for all his benefits, and after to receive the same benevolence or alms;

And to the clerk or sexton of the said parish, to the intent he shall make clean my tomb every month, six shillings yearly forever;

And to the preachers that do and shall read every morning in the said parish as is used, ten shillings forever;

And the thirteen shillings four pence residue I will that the said Wardens of the Mercers shall retain to their own use in respect of their pains to see this my will and mind in this behalf performed, as my trust is they will;

Item, I will that my executors hereafter named within six months next after [f. 288v] my decease shall pay and deliver to the said Wardens of the Company of Mercers five hundred marks [=£333 6s 8d] of lawful money of England, to the intent that they shall have the use and occupying thereof, and that during the life of Sir Alexander Culpeper, knight, the said Wardens shall yearly pay unto Anne Culpeper, my daughter, twenty pounds half yearly by equal portions, and after the decease of the said Sir Alexander, I will that the said Wardens shall pay the said five hundred marks within six months next after the decease of the said Sir Alexander in this manner following, viz.:

To the said Anne Culpeper, my daughter (if she be then living) four hundred marks, and the other hundred marks residue shall be paid to Thomas Knolles and Samuel Knolles, my sons, and the said Anne being deceased at the decease of the said Sir Alexander, then I will that the said whole five hundred marks shall be paid to my said two sons, Thomas Knolles and Samuel Knolles, equally between them to be divided;

Item, I give to Alexander Culpeper, the son of my said daughter, Anne Culpeper, one hundred marks of lawful money of England to buy him a chain of gold, to be paid to him at his lawful age of one and twenty years;

Item, I give to my loving daughter, Joan Martyn, five hundred pounds of lawful money of England in respect that yet I have not been at any charges in the advancement of her as I have been with my daughter, Anne Culpeper;

Item, I give all my jewels to my two daughters, Joan, and Anne Culpeper, equally between them to be divided by my executors hereafter named, whom I do desire to divide the same jewels between my said two daughters, Anne Culpeper, and Joan, as indifferently as they can;

Item, I give and bequeath to my godson, Thomas Denton, the son of my daughter, Mary, one hundred marks of lawful money of England to buy him a chain of gold at his lawful age of one and twenty years;

Item, I give to Elizabeth Knolles, my god-daughter, thirty pounds, and to Samuel Knolles, Mary Knolles and Castelyn Knolles, and to the child that my daughter (blank) Knolles, wife of my son, Thomas Knolles, goeth with, to every one of them twenty pounds, to be paid at their lawful ages of one and twenty years or days of marriage, which shall first happen, and if any of them die before their said ages of one and twenty years or days of marriage, then the survivor of them to have the part and portion of him, her or them so deceasing equally amongst them surviving to be divided;

Item, I give to my sister Hammerton forty pounds of lawful money of England, and to my brother, Edward Castelyn, ten pounds;

Item, I give to Christ's Hospital in London ten pounds of the lawful money of England to be bestowed toward the relief of the poor children there;

Item, I give to the four prisons in London, that is to say, the two Counters, Newgate & Ludgate, also to the poor prisoners in the Fleet, and to the prisons in Southwark, that is to say, the Marshalsea, the King's Bench and the White Lion, to every one of the same prisons forty shillings apiece, to be bestowed amongst the poor there;

Item, I will shall be distributed to threescore poor persons of Hoxton in the county of Middlesex, to every one of them four pence apiece, and to threescore poor persons in East Ham in the county of Essex, to every one of them four pence the day of my burial;

Item, I give to have ten sermons to be made by discreet and learned persons within the parish of Saint Antholin[us] aforesaid five marks of lawful money of England, which sermons I will shall be made monthly next after my decease;

Item, I will that my executors do make five and twenty small gems or rings of gold of the value of five shillings apiece, and bestow them to every one of my good sisters, the Aldermen's wives of London, in token of a remembrance of my goodwill;

I will and give to my cousin Yonge, Mistress Fanshawe, Mistress Osborne, wife of Peter Osborne of th' Exchequer, Mistress Abram [=Abraham?], my two daughters-in-law, the wives of Thomas Knolles and Samuel Knolles, my sister Hammerton, my two daughters, Anne Culpeper, and Joan, and to the wife of William Onslowe, to every one of them a gem of gold of the value of five shillings for a remembrance;

Item, I give to the wife of William Rawlyns a ring of gold which her husband did give me;

Item, I give to the wives of my brethren, Thomas Castelyn and John Castelyn, to every of them a gem of gold to the value of five shillings;

Item, I give to every one of my household servants being with me at the time of my decease one year's wages;

Item, I give unto William Hammerton ten pounds, and unto Goodwife Smith twenty shillings;

And as touching the disposing of all my lands and tenements whereof I am seised, I do devise them [f. 289r] in this manner, videlicet:

Item, I give to my son, Thomas Knolles, and his heirs forever all that my house in London wherein the said Thomas Knolles now dwelleth, and also all my messuages, lands & tenements situate and being in the parish of East Ham in the county of Essex, saving and except one messuage with a garden at Northend in the said parish of East Ham now in the occupation of the said Samuel Knolles and Thomas Knolles, which house and garden I do give and bequeath to the said Samuel Knolles and his heirs forever, and also I do give and devise unto the said Samuel Knolles and his heirs forever all that messuage or tenement in London wherein the said Samuel Knolles now dwelleth;

Item, I do leave the ordering of my funerals and the bestowing of blacks to the discretion of my two sons, Thomas Knolles and Samuel Knolles, whom I make and ordain my sole and only executors of this my last will;

And I do give and bequeath equally to be divided between them all my goods and chattels not before bequeathed, and I do charge them, as ever they will be thought to bear any loving affection towards me, that they do live lovingly together and like brethren, without any contention for anything to be moved between them, doing as much as in them shall be to see my mind and meaning contained in this my last will truly performed as I have reposed my trust in them, as they will answer to God to the contrary;

In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hands and seal the day and year first above-written. Elizabeth Martyn.

Memorandum: The sixth day of October one thousand five hundred eighty-one in the afternoon of the same day, the said Dame Elizabeth Martyn did pronounce these seven sheets of paper sealed with her seal to contain her last will and testament in the presence of me, William Onslowe, notary public, and Samuel Doddessole(?), Robert Diconson, Humphrey Corbet, Thomas Halton.

These words were spoken by the above-named Dame Elizabeth Martyn about the first or second day of February 1582:

Also my will and mind is that my two sons, Thomas and Samuel Knolles, shall have those two rings with diamonds parted betwixt them which I had of Mr Topliff [=Topcliffe?], and for the other rings which be in the said box where they, the said rings are at the time of my decease, my mind is that my said two sons shall bestow them at their discretions amongst my friends. Witnesses to this: Benet Hammerton, sister to my Lady, and Elizabeth Knolles and Samuel Knolles.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum apud London coram venerabili viro magistro Will{el}imo Drury legum Doctore curie prerogative cantuarien{sis} commissario etc primo die mensis Iulij Anno Domini mill{es}imo quingentesimo octogesimo tertio

Iuramento Thome Knoll{es} et Samuelis Knoll{es} filiorum et executorum etc. Quibus commissa fuit administracio bonorum etc De bene etc Iurat{is}

[The above-written testament was proved at London before the worshipful Master William Drury, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary etc. of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the first day of the month of July in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred eighty-third by the oath of Thomas Knolles and Samuel Knolles, sons and executors etc., to whom administration was granted of the goods etc., sworn to well etc.]