

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 20 August 1582 and proved 15 February 1584, of Frances Jerningham [Jernegan] of Costessey in Norfolk. The testatrix was the daughter of Sir George Baynham of Clearwell, Gloucestershire, and his first wife, Bridget Kingston.

*George Baynham accompanied the army on the King's expedition into France in 1544, and was knighted by the King at Boulogne on 20<sup>th</sup> June 1546, after the capture of the town. He was twice married. Cecilia Gage [daughter of Sir John Gage (d.1556) of Firle] was his second wife. He married first, Bridget daughter of Sir William Kingston, of Flaxley, Knt., who was heir of her brother Sir Anthony Kingston, the notorious Provost Marshall. By her Sir George Baynham had an only daughter named Frances, who became the wife of Sir Henry Jerningham. Upon this Frances, Sir Anthony Kingston settled the reversion of his lands in Gloucestershire, and dying on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 1556, the said Frances Jerningham was found to be his kinswoman and next heir, being the daughter of Bridget, sister and next heir of the said Anthony, and to be aged 30 years and more.*

*Sir George Baynham resided at Clearwell, where on the 9<sup>th</sup> June, 1546, he made his last will, wherein he directed that his body should be buried in the parish Church of Newland.*

For information in the foregoing paragraphs, see Maclean, John, ed., *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society for 1881-82*, Vol. VI, (Bristol, C.T. Jefferies), pp. 149-151, available online; the pedigree of the family of Gage in Questier, Michael C., *Catholicism and Community in Early Modern England* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006); the entries for Sir William Kingston (c.1476–1540) and his son, Sir Anthony Kingston (c.1508-1556), in the online edition of *The Dictionary of National Biography*; and the will of Sir George Baynham, TNA PROB 11/32, ff. 140-2.

After the death of his first wife or wives, Sir William Kingston (c.1476-1540) married Mary Scrope (d.1548), the daughter of (Sir?) Richard Scrope and his wife Eleanor Washbourne, and the widow of Edward Jerningham (d.1515) of Somerleyton, Suffolk. Shortly thereafter Sir William Kingston arranged the marriage of his granddaughter, Frances Baynham, to his new wife's son by her first husband. From the online edition of *The Dictionary of National Biography*:

*Sir Henry Jerningham [Jernegan] (1509/10–1572), courtier and administrator, was the son of Edward Jernegan of Somerleyton, Suffolk, and his wife, Mary, the daughter of Richard Scrope. Both his parents served in Katherine of Aragon's household, and his mother's second marriage, to Sir William Kingston, which took place before 1534 ensured Jerningham's career at court. About 1528 he entered the service of Princess Mary as a sewer, while by 1536 Kingston had arranged his stepson's marriage to his own granddaughter Frances, daughter of Sir George Baynham of Clearwell, Gloucestershire.*

In the will below, the testatrix requests that her son and executor, Henry Jerningham (d.1619), ensure that a tomb be made for his paternal grandmother, Mary (nee Scrope) Jerningham Kingston (d.1548):

*Also I will that my executor within the space of two years after my decease (if the same be not done by me in my lifetime) shall cause either some decent tomb to be made or else some convenient stone of marble to be laid on the grave of my Lady Kingston, his grandmother, who lieth buried in the parish church of Leyton in the county of Essex.*

Strype records that there was a brass plate on the south wall of the old chancel of the Church of St Mary at Low Leyton commemorating Lady Mary Kingston:

*If you will the truth have,  
Here lieth in this grave,  
Directly under this stone,  
Good Lady Mary Kingston,  
Who departed this life, the truth to say,  
In the month of August, the twenty-fifth day,  
And as I do well remember,  
Was buried honourably the fourth day of September  
The year of Our Lord reckoned truly  
M<sup>V</sup>c forty and eight verily,  
Whose yearly obit and anniversary  
Is determined to be kept surely  
At the cost of her son, Sir Henry Jerningham, truly,  
Who was at this making  
Of the Queen's Guard chief captain.*

See Strype, John, *A Survey of the Cities of London and Westminster*, Appendix 1, Chapter 13, p. 115, available online at:

[http://www.hrionline.ac.uk/strype/TransformServlet?page=app1\\_115&display=normal](http://www.hrionline.ac.uk/strype/TransformServlet?page=app1_115&display=normal)

The following bequest by the testatrix also pertains to Mary (nee Scrope) Jerningham Kingston (d.1548), the Queen in question being Katherine of Aragon:

*Also I give unto my daughter Waldegrave my ring with a ruby, and twelve trencher plates of silver, one great pair of beads of Broueswoodd [=browse-wood?] trimmed with gold and a cross of the same hanging at it, and they to remain to some of her children for that they were her grandmother's, and given her by a Queen.*

For the will of Mary (nee Scrope) Jerningham Kingston (d.1548), see TNA PROB 11/32, ff. 168-9.

Through his mother, Mary Scrope (d.1548), the testatrix' husband, Sir Henry Jerningham (1509/10–1572), was the nephew of Elizabeth de Vere (d.1537), Countess of Oxford, second wife of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford, since the Countess was born Elizabeth Scrope, the daughter of (Sir?) Richard Scrope and Eleanor Washbourne. See Norcliffe, Charles Best, ed., *The Visitation of Yorkshire in the Years 1563 and 1563*

by William Flower, Vol. 16, (London: Publications of the Harleian Society, 1881), p. 280, available online.

The will of Elizabeth de Vere (d.1537), Countess of Oxford, contains bequests to the testatrix's mother-in-law, Mary Scrope (d.1548), and her second husband, Sir William Kingston (c.1476–1540):

*Item, I give and bequeath to my brother, Sir William Kingston, knight, my Jesus of diamonds set in gold with 3 great pearls hanging at the same, also my 2 flagons of silver having my Lord of Oxenford's arms in them.*

*Item, I give and bequeath to my sister, Dame Mary, his wife, a basin and an ewer of silver chased gilt of the newest making afore the chance of fire, weighing 92 ounces; my goblet of gold graven with crankettes and mullets, weighing 13 ounces 1 quarter; and also my book of gold set with pearl.*

*Item, I give and bequeath to my sister, Dame Mary Kingston, and to my sister, Jane Brewes, all my samplers, evenly to be divided between them, and I will my said sister Kingston to have the choice.*

The testatrix herself was the recipient of this bequest by the Countess:

*Item, I give and bequeath to Frances Baynham, one of my maidens, five pounds in ready money.*

The testatrix is also linked to Elizabeth de Vere (d.1537), Countess of Oxford, through the testatrix's sister-in-law, Anne Jerningham (d.1559), who married as her fourth husband, Sir Robert Drury (b. before 1456, d. 1535), lawyer and speaker of the House of Commons, chief steward and executor to John de Vere (1442-1513), 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford, and owner of the Ellesmere manuscript of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. For the will of Anne Jerningham (d.1559), see TNA PROB 11/42B, ff. 137-9. For the will of Sir Robert Drury (d.1535), see TNA PROB 11/25, ff. 238-9. For the will of Elizabeth de Vere (d.1537), Countess of Oxford, see TNA PROB 11/27, ff. 84-6.

The testatrix and her husband, Sir Henry Jerningham (1509/10–1572), appear to have had five children, including the testatrix's son and executor, Henry Jerningham (d.1619); a son, Philip, who appears to have died young; a son, William, who appears to have survived his father but predeceased the testatrix; a daughter, Mary, who is said to have married Thomas Southwell of Woodrising, and who predeceased the testatrix; and a daughter, Jeromine, who married Sir Charles Waldegrave of Stanninghall, appointed as an overseer of the testatrix' will along with Sir Thomas Cornwallis (1518/19-1604) and John Dereham. Sir Thomas Cornwallis was related by marriage to the testatrix. His wife, Anne Jerningham (d.1581) was the daughter of Sir John Jerningham of Somerleyton in Suffolk by Bridget Drury, the daughter of Sir Robert Drury (d.1535), chief steward to John de Vere (1442-1513), 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford. For the will of Sir Thomas Cornwallis, see TNA PROB 11/105, ff. 206-8.

For the will of the testatrix' husband, Sir Henry Jerningham (1509/10–1572), see TNA PROB 11/55, ff. 134-6. For the will of the testatrix' son and executor, Henry Jerningham (d.1619), see Norfolk Record Office JER/246, 55 x 1.

LM: Testamentum Domine ffrancisce Jernegan vidue

In Dei nomine Amen. The twentieth day of August in the four & twentieth 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., et Anno Domini one thousand five hundred eighty-two, I, Frances Jerningham of Cossey in the county of Norfolk, widow, being at this present in reasonable health of body and of good and perfect remembrance (praised be Our Lord), do ordain and make this my testament and last will in form following:

First, I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God, trusting assuredly to be saved by and through the merits of Jesus Christ, my only Saviour and Redeemer, and my body to be buried and laid where the body of my late husband, Henry Jerningham, knight, (whose soul God pardon) is buried or shall hereafter be transposed;

Also, my special desire is that within five days or less after my departure out of this transitory life that my body may be buried decently and in comely order without great show of pomp and unnecessary charges saving such as shall be bestowed toward the relief of the poorest people, upon whom on the day of my burial I will that there shall be distributed in alms the sum of six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence, and four and twenty gowns of frieze to be given unto twelve poor men and twelve poor women the same day which shall be present at my burial;

Also I will that the sum of twenty marks shall be bestowed in shirts and gowns toward the clothing of the poorest sort of householders within the lordship and soken of Cossey in the same winter in the which it shall please God to take me to his mercy, or if my death happen to be in the summer-time, then in the next winter following;

Also I will that within the space of twelve months next after my decease that my executor or assigns shall give and bestow in alms as of my gifts the sum of twenty marks among the poorest inhabitants of the city of Norwich and other towns within the soken of Cossey, and if there be any poor that hath many children and may keep a cow and wanteth money to buy one, my mind is that some part of this money be employed to the buying of kine for the poorest inhabitants, and the residue of the money not so employed, my will is to have it delivered into the hands of the poorest people themselves;

Also I will that my executor within one quarter of a year next after my decease shall give and distribute in alms among the poor prisoners in London and other poor people there or elsewhere the sum of forty pounds, for the better distribution whereof I will that my

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executor shall give and bestow the same with the advice and consent of my son, Charles Waldegrave, esquire, and John Dereham, my surveyor;

Also, for the relief of the poor prisoners in London and other places, and to such godly uses as I have delivered my mind to my overseers of this my last will and testament, I do give the sum of three hundred pounds which my son, Henry Jerningham, doth owe unto me, by him to be delivered to the overseers of this my last will, every quarter of a year ten pounds after one twelvemonth after my decease is expired until the whole sum of three hundred pounds be paid;

Also I do give unto the church of Cossey, for and in consideration of my tithes forgot and unpaid, the sum of forty shillings, to be paid within twelve months;

Also I will that my executor within the space of two years after my decease (if the same be not done by me in my lifetime) shall cause either some decent tomb to be made or else some convenient stone of marble to be laid on the grave of my Lady Kingston, his grandmother, who lieth buried in the parish church of Leyton in the county of Essex;

Also I will that within one month after my decease that my executor shall pay and deliver or cause to be paid and delivered unto the overseers of this my last will and testament the sum of two hundred pounds to be employed to such uses as I shall hereafter declare in this my last will and testament, viz., for the discharge and satisfaction of all due debts, wrongs and injuries as shall be thought meet and convenient to be answered & satisfied by the discretion and judgment of the overseers of this my last will and testament, and for that my full mind and intent is to have all wrongs and injuries offered or done by me or my late husband in our lifetime duly satisfied and without all delay recompensed to the uttermost according to right, equity & good conscience, I do most earnestly desire and require my executor and overseers to cause notice and knowledge of this my mind and intent to be given and published at all the general courts of my manors within the counties of Suffolk and Norfolk or elsewhere within the realm of England which shall be holden next after my decease, to the intent that if any of my tenants or any other person or persons whatsoever shall be able to make due proof before the said overseers within the space of two years next after my decease of any manner of wrong and injury done by me or my late husband whereby the[y] have been unjustly damnified, hurt or hindered either in their goods and lands by our means directly or indirectly so that by all good order of right and conscience recompense thereof is to be made, that then the parties aforesaid, upon due proof of any such wrong or injury, shall take presently order for the reformation and just recompense thereof, giving unto him or them out of the foresaid sum of two hundred pounds such portion & portions as by the discretion & judgment of the parties aforesaid shall be thought a full satisfaction of the said wrongs and injuries before them brought and proved;

And if it shall happen that any part or parcel of the foresaid sum of two hundred pounds shall be and remain in the hands of the parties aforesaid (two years being fully expired from and after my decease) not bestowed or employed to the use before mentioned by reason that within the time before limited no such wrong or wrongs, injury or injuries

shall be duly proved whereof the parties aforesaid shall think and judge in their conscience any just matter to be of recompense or satisfaction, then I will that all the foresaid sum of two hundred pounds or such part thereof as shall then remain not employed as aforesaid shall be wholly bestowed and employed within one whole year next following the end and term of the said two years to the relief of poor prisoners, poor people, and such other good uses as in my lifetime I have more at large to some of my friends, being overseers, declared my mind and intent thereof;

Also I give unto the next heir of William Sterer, sometime possessor of the site of my manor of Veales in Fressingfield, the sum of twenty pounds, to be delivered within one month after my decease;

Also I will one hundred marks to be delivered unto Mr Dereham within one month after my decease for the answering of the debts of Sir Anthony Kingston where he thinketh most convenient and meet;

Also I give and bequeath to my daughter Waldegrave my pomander of gold enamelled with roses and pomegranates, to have the use during her life, and after I will and give the same pomander of gold unto Frances Waldegrave, her daughter;

Also I give unto my said daughter Waldegrave one new saddlecloth of black velvet all striped with fair broad bone-lace of black silk, with the harness suitable to the same, and the reins;

Also I give unto her one pillion cloth of black velvet laid with bone-lace of gold, and fringed with black silk and gold;

Also I give unto her one of my long carpets of crewel for a table wrought with needle, the choice to be in my son, Henry, which of them my daughter shall have, and my will is that the said carpet shall remain to the issue of my daughter's body;

Also I give unto my daughter Waldegrave my ring with a ruby, and twelve trencher plates of silver, one great pair of beads of Broueswoodd [=browse-wood?] trimmed with gold and a cross of the same hanging at it, and they to remain to some of her children for that they were her grandmother's, and given her by a Queen;

Also I give unto her my grey nag, and to her husband one of my young stone-horses, either the grey or the bay, which my son Jerningham shall think best;

Also I give unto him one of my young bay geldings;

Also I give unto Edward Waldegrave, his son, one long slender standing cup with a cover all gilt, hunting the wild boar;

I do give unto Charles Waldegrave, his second son, one great bowl all gilt without a cover;

I give to Frances Waldegrave, his daughter, one cross of gold with the Five Wounds on it and a rock-ruby in it;

To Magdalene and Dorothy Waldegrave, my long chain with a wrought link and a smooth, to be equally divided in the midst between them, and the longest liver to have the whole if God take any of them before marriage;

Also I give to Dorothy Waldegrave one pair of beads of garnets, laced with beads & gaudies of gold between them;

To Christian Waldegrave, one pair of jet beads, laced with beads of gold between them;

Also I give unto Henry Jerningham, my grandchild, one basin and ewer of silver, the verge of the basin embossed and fair gilt, and one pair of great livery pots parcel gilt, the which I will shall remain to his next heir;

To Thomas Jerningham, his brother, one tankard-cup of silver with a cover all gilt;

To William Jerningham, one pair of silver flagons with a goat graven on them;

To George Jerningham, three pounced bowls of silver with a cover;

To Edward Jerningham, one pounced goblet all gilt, with a cover and a rose graven on the top;

To Anne Jerningham, their sister, one chain of gold with a smooth link;

Also I do give unto my Lady Paulet one pair of coral beads with beads of gold between them, and gaudies of gold to them;

Also I do give unto Mrs Anne Bogas my largest laver of crystal trimmed with silver and gilt;

Also I do give unto my sister Sturley and to my sister, Anne, to either of them a ring of the value of thirty shillings;

Also I do give to Mr Justice Wyndham, to Sir Henry Bedingfield, to my cousin, Mr Edmund Audley, to my cousins, Mr Edward Sulyard and Mr Thomas Sulyard, to either of them a ring of gold of the value of thirty shillings;

Also I do give to my Lady Lovell, to my Lady Peter [=Petre], to Mrs. Bruiddiman(?), to my cousin Andrews, to either of them and to Mrs Hobart of Hales Hall a gold ring of the value of thirty shillings;

Also I do will, grant, give and bequeath unto my servant, John Dereham, gentleman, one annuity or yearly rent of twenty pounds of current English money to be issuing and going

out of all those my manors of Cossey and Harcefelde [=Haresfield?] in the county of Norfolk and Gloucester, and out of all and singular the lands, tenements and hereditaments to the said manors or lordships or any of them in any wise belonging or appertaining, to have, hold, perceive and take the said annuity or yearly rent of twenty pounds and every part and parcel thereof unto the said John Dereham and his assigns from and immediately after the day of my decease for and during all the natural life of the said John Dereham, the said annuity to be yearly payable at the feast of the Annunciation and St Michael th' Archangel be [=by] even portions, and that it shall be lawful for the said John Dereham at all times to enter into the said manors and to distrain for want of payment of any part or parcel of the annuity aforesaid;

Also I do give unto the said John Dereham a tester for a bed of arras work of the story of St Eustace having the picture of the crucifix in it betwixt the harts' horns, and six curtains of changeable sarsenet green and red belonging to it, one very good featherbed and bolster to it, and one of the coverings of fine arras lined with fine canvas, one beer-cup of the value of five pounds, one salt of the value of three pounds, one pair of fine sheets, one of my best ambling geldings;

Also I do give unto Anne Rokewood, my gentlewoman, over and beside the annuity of four pounds by year given unto her by the last will and testament of my late husband, one annuity or yearly rent of four marks by year, to be paid out of the lands purchased in Baber and now in the tenure and occupation of John Cooke, to have and to hold the said annuity or yearly rent of four marks to the said Anne Rokewood and her assigns for and during all the natural life of the said Anne Rokewood;

Also I do give unto her one featherbed and bolster meet for her to lie on, and one covering and two pair of sheets meet for her, and five pounds of money;

Also I do give unto my servants, John Powle, William Adamson and Simon Harris and Matthew Harryett, to either and every one of them one annuity or yearly rent of forty shillings by year out of my manors of Moreton [=Moreton Valence?], Whaddon and Harcefelde [=Haresfield?] in the county of Gloucester for and during the natural lives of them and every of them upon this condition, that the said John Powle, William Adamson, Simon Harris and Matthew Harryett shall continue their service and duty unto my son, Henry Jerningham, if it shall like him to accept them into his service and give unto them ordinary wages with meat, drink and livery, as he doth to the rest of his servants;

Also I do give unto John Powle for term of his life my close called Thickebroome Close in Waybread, now in the occupation of the said John Powle, paying unto my son, Henry, such rent as he doth pay for the same at these presents;

Also I do give unto the said John Powle, my servant, one featherbed and bolster, and five pounds in money;

Also I do give unto John Freeman, my servant, six pounds thirteen shillings four pence;

Also I do give unto Joan Fool four pounds in money or twenty shillings a year as long as she liveth, which shall be thought best for her at the discretion of my executor, over and besides the four pounds yearly which was given her by my late husband, and I give unto her one featherbed, bolster and covering, and all these premises not otherwise except my son shall refuse to keep and maintain her during her life in his house, the which I do rather wish for him to keep her for that she hath been a long servant than to put her away out of his house;

Also from the time that John Harvey shall not be kept and maintained in my son's house, I do give to the poor fool an yearly rent toward his maintenance of four marks by year;

Also I do give unto Thomas Freeman forty shillings by year until my son may and shall place him in a beadsmanship at Saint Olaves, which I do request him to do;

Also I do request my son, Henry, to permit and suffer William Adamson to use, occupy and enjoy the bailiwick of Dages in Ramingham with the fee thereunto belonging, and to make him a patent thereof for term of his life, or else to grant unto him the reversion for the rent now paid of the marsh which George Harcocke now enjoyeth;

Also I do give unto all my other servants before not specially named or provided for by this my last will and testament which have served me more than one year before my decease their whole year's wages over and beside that part of their wages which shall be due unto them at the day of my death, the which whole year's wages I will shall be paid unto them within three months after my decease;

Also I will that my house shall be kept at Cossey for the space of two months after my decease, and that all my household servants shall there continue during the same time, with ordinary alms to be given at my gate all the same time for the relief of the poor people;

Also my will and request is that every Sunday throughout the year from time to time the poorest people of Cossey town shall have the milk of all the kine which shall be left at Cossey at the time of my departure, and that number of kine as shall be then there, my request is to continue and remain for the purpose and intent aforesaid;

The rest of all my goods and chattels not bequeathed, my funeral and debts discharged, I do give and bequeath unto my son, Henry Jerningham, whom I do make my whole and only executor of this my will;

Overseers of this my last will and testament I do make and ordain Sir Thomas Cornwallis, knight, Charles Waldegrave, esquire, and John Dereham, gentleman, to whom for their pains to be taken in this behalf I give to every of them four pounds in money;

And for testimony that this is my last will I have set to every part and leaf of these presents my hand the day and year above-written;

Also I give to Mr Dereham of my stuff at London so many pieces of good varders [=verdures?] or arras hangings as shall hang a chamber, and I give unto him a man's gown of black satin guarded with black velvet and lined with black cotton, and I give him more one gown of silk camlet cut out for a man and not made, and the lining for it which lies withal;

I give unto one Mr Russell, son unto Mrs Jane Russell that was one of the gentlewomen of Queen Mary's Privy Chamber, ten pounds of money which I borrowed of his mother;

Also I give unto Nicholas Phillippes, my servant, four pounds in money, or a horse or gelding which he shall think of that value;

I give unto my cousin, Anne Bogas, one gown of mine of changeable silk gromgram guarded with velvet, and one forepart of a kirtle of wrought velvet, the works with friars' knots, and one of my best short cloaks of syett;

I give unto my daughter Waldegrave my best pair of sables;

I give unto Mr Marshall fifty-three shillings four pence;

If John Harvey and Thomas Freeman have nothing given them afore, or if my son doth not keep them in his house or otherways provide for them, I will that they shall yearly have forty shillings apiece, to be paid them half yearly out of my lands where I may give it;

Also I give unto Thomas Harman, the boy which waiteth on me, twenty shillings a year during his life. Frances Jerningham.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum apud London Coram venerabili viro magistro Willelmo Drury Legum Doctore curie prerogative Cantuariensis commissario etc Decimo quinto die mensis ffebruarij Anno Domini iuxta cursum et computacionem ecclesie anglicane millesimo quingentesimo octogesimo tertio Iuramento Henrici Jernegan filij executoris etc Cui commissa fuit administracio bonorum etc De bene etc Iurati

[=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 fifteenth day of the month of February in the year of the Lord according to the course and reckoning of the English Church the thousand five hundred eighty-third by the oath of Henry Jerningham, son, executor etc., to whom administration was granted of the goods etc., sworn to well etc.]