

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 16 August 1551, of Sir John Pakington, brother of Augustine, Robert (1496-1537), and Humphrey Pakington (1502-1556), and great-uncle of Humphrey Martyn, addressee of the Langham Letter describing Leicester's entertainment of Queen Elizabeth at Kenilworth in the summer of 1575. Sir John Pakington had a successful career in London as Chirographer of the Common Pleas, and at time of the making of his will had retired to his manor of Hampton Lovett in Worcester. His wife, Anne, was the daughter of Henry Dacres, Merchant Taylor and alderman of London (for his will see PROB 11/27, f. 224). When Sir John Pakington married Anne Dacre she was the widow of Robert Fairthwaite, Merchant Taylor of London, and had two children by her first marriage, a son, Martin Fairthwaite, and a daughter, Elizabeth, the wife of Nicholas Tichborne of Roydon in Essex. Sir John Pakington and his wife Anne had two daughters, Bridget, who married Sir John Littleton of Frankley, and Ursula, who married William Scudamore. For the wills of his brothers, Robert and Humphrey Pakington, see PROB 11/27 and PROB 11/38, ff. 150-1. For the wills of his nephews Sir Thomas Pakington (d.1571) and Humphrey Pakington (d.1558/9), see PROB 11/53, f. 238 and PROB 11/42B, f. 318. For the will of his sister-in-law, Elizabeth Pakington (d.1563), see PROB 11/46, ff. 278-9.

LM: Iohannis Pakington militis

In the name of God, Amen. I, John Pakington of Hampton Lovett in the county of Worcester, knight, being in perfect memory, God be thanked, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in the 16th day of August in the year of our Lord God a thousand five hundred fifty and one in form following, renouncing by the same all other wills by me heretofore made:

First I humbly desire Almighty God to receive my soul unto his mercy whereby and by the merits of the passion of his only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, I trust to be saved and to be amongst the number of his elect;

My body I will to be buried in the chancel of the parish church of Hampton Lovett in such wise as mine executors shall think meet, at which my burial or shortly after I will to be bestowed in black cloth, meat & drink and other necessary charges of my funerals a hundred pounds, or so much more as my said executors shall think meet and convenient;

I give also and bequeath to ye common box of the poor of every of the parishes hereafter following 6s 8d, that is to say of Hampton Lovett, Chaddesley, Fulham, Saint Dunstons in Fleet Street of London, Saint Clements without the Temple bars, the Inner Temple in London, Eton, Sapey, Glazeley, Hadzor, Rock and Saint Andrews in Wyche;

Item, I will and ordain that mine executors immediately after my decease do give and distribute or cause to be distributed to the poor people within the parishes hereafter ensuing the sums of money hereafter mentioned, that is to say, in the parish of Hampton Lovett, £6; of Chaddesley, £6; amongst all the parishes of Wyche, £6 13s 4d; the parish of Bromsgrove, £6; of Homersley(?), £4; of Hadzor, 40s; of Hill and Wychbold, £4; of Doverdale, 40s; of Elmley Lovett, 40s; of Salwarpe, 40s; of Stanford, 40s, of Eton, 40s; of Sapey, 40s; of Elmbridge, 40s; and of Upton Warren, 40s;

Also I give and bequeath to and for the making of highways and bridges about Hampton Lovett £13 6s 4d;

And to the marriage of poor maidens in Hampton Lovett aforesaid, £6 13s 4d; in Chaddesley, £6 13s 4d; in Wyche, £6 13s 4d, to be distributed to such and so many maidens as mine executors shall think meet after the rate of 10s or 6s 8d apiece;

Furthermore I will and bequeath to my sister Gravenor, £6, to my cousin John Pakington, son of Robert Pakington, £20; to my cousin Nicholas Gravenor's wife, £6; to my cousin Edward Wolriche's wife, £6; to my cousin Sebroght's wife, £6; to my cousin Anne Jones, £6; to my cousin Margaret Rogers, five pounds; to the marriage of Elizabeth, her daughter, £6 13s 4d; to the marriage of every of my cousin Walker's daughters being unmarried, fourteen shillings; to John Nott's daughter to her marriage, 40s;

Moreover I give & bequeath to Adam Lutley, my clerk, ten pounds; to Henry Jones, £6; to Richard Gower, my servant, £6 13s 4d; to Roger Walker, my servant, £6; to Thomas Goodfellow, my servant, five pounds; to Lewis, my butler, five pounds; to John Cooke, my servant, £6; to William Griffith, my servant, £4; to Humphrey Frost, ten pounds; to Sir William, my chaplain, £6; to Sir Humphrey, 40s; to every other of my servants dwelling with me in my house at the time of my decease, as well men as women, 40s; and to every one of my bailiffs of my manors, lands and tenements, 40s; to John Brewer, my old servant, three pounds; to Johnson, my carpenter, £4; to either of my two minstrels, 40s; to Hugh Dalley, 20s; to John Greene, 20s; to Richard Sharpe, 40s; to mother Bynnart, 20s; and to Thomas Hill, my servant, 20s;

Item, I give and bequeath all my apparel of my body (chains, rings and other jewels excepted) to such gentlemen and yeomen, my servants, as shall be with me in my house at the time of my decease;

Furthermore I give, will and bequeath to Anne, my loving wife, the occupation of the lease and term of years which I have of the demise and grant of the late Dean and Chapter of Warwick of the parsonage of Chaddesley Corbet, to have and to hold the same to her during her life upon condition that she shall permit & suffer my cousin John Pakington, son of my brother Humphrey, and his assigns to have, occupy and enjoy the farm of Harbington with th' appurtenances with certain pastures called Oakball hey and three meadows in Oakball now in th' occupation of the said John Pakington during the life of my said wife, paying unto her yearly such rent for the same as heretofore hath been used

and accustomed to be paid, the residue of the said term to come after the decease of my said wife or after the condition aforesaid broken, I will and bequeath to the same John Pakington, his executors and assigns;

Item, I give, will and bequeath to my said wife thone half of all my corn, malt and grains, as well being in my barns and garners as growing in the fields, and thother half thereof I will and bequeath to my cousin Thomas Pakington, son of my brother Robert, deceased, and to the said John Pakington, son of my said brother Humphrey;

I give also and bequeath to my said wife thone half of all my household stuff, and thother half thereof I will, give and bequeath to my said cousins Thomas Pakington, son of Robert, and John Pakington, son of Humphrey;

And moreover I give and bequeath to my said wife thone half of all my horses, geldings, mares and cattles, and thother half thereof I give and bequeath to my son-in-law John Littleton and Bridget, his wife, my daughter, and to my son-in-law William Scudamore and Ursula, his wife, my other daughter;

I give also and bequeath to my said wife in money two hundred pounds and thone half of all my plate, and thother half of all my said plate I give and bequeath to my said son John Littleton and Bridget, his wife, and to my said son William Scudamore and Ursula, his wife;

Item, I give and bequeath to my said wife my great chain of gold; to my said son John Littleton and Bridget, his wife, my second best chain of gold; to my said son William Scudamore and Ursula, his wife, in money forty pounds to buy a chain; to the said Thomas Pakington other forty pounds to buy a chain, and to the said John Pakington, son of Humphrey, forty pounds to buy a chain;

I give further and bequeath to my said daughter Bridget Littleton & her children in money a hundred pounds, and to my said daughter Ursula Scudamore & her children in money a hundred pounds;

To my wife's daughter, Elizabeth Tichborne, and her children, twenty pounds;

To Martin Fairthwaite, my wife's son, in full recompense and discharge of such money as remaineth in my hands of the hundred pounds that I received for his house in London that was sold, a hundred marks;

And £20 to be bestowed in highways by the discretion of mine executors in recompense of such money as remaineth in my hands unbestowed that was of my cousin Bulfinch, deceased;

And considering I have not advanced my servants with annuities in such sort as I was purposed, I will and bequeath to them over and beside the legacies above mentioned, the

sum of a hundred pounds to be divided amongst them in form following, that is to say, to Henry Jones, £6 13s 4d; to Adam Lutley £15; to Richard Gower, £3 6s 8d; to Thomas Goodfellow, £3 6s 8d; to Lewis, my butler, £3 6s 8d; to John Griffith, £3 6s 8d; to Sir William, my chaplain, £6; to Humphrey Frost, £10; to Robert Mucklowe, five pounds; to Roger Walker, three pounds; to William Griffith, 50s, to Sir Humphrey 20s; to all the residue of my household servants, men and women, to be equally divided amongst them by mine executors, £25; to my bailiffs that gather my rents to be in like wise equally divided amongst them, £12; and to Richard Johnson, my carpenter, fifty shillings;

And furthermore for certain considerations me moving I give & bequeath to my said son-in-law, John Littleton, in money a hundred pounds over and besides his legacies aforesaid;

And I give and bequeath to Richard Cupper, keeper of mine office of fines, £45 6s 2d due upon his account for Easter term last past, and to Lawrence Hammond, a clerk in the same office, five pounds;

And I give and bequeath to my said cousin John Pakington, son of Humphrey, the sum of a hundred marks wherein he is indebted unto me for corn, cattles and other stuff bought of me at Harbington;

Item, I give and bequeath to my sister-in-law Alice Cheseman, widow, £6 13s 4d, and to Janet Rolle, her maiden, £3 6s 8d; to John Adams, son of my said cousin Margaret Rogers, five pounds; to my cousin Elizabeth Jenkes and her children, £6 13s 4d; to John Newport of Wyche, gentleman, ten pounds; to Anne Cholmeley, my wife's maid, 53s 4d; to Adam Lutley, my clerk, twenty pounds wherein he is indebted unto me by a bill of his hand;

Item, to Sir William, my chaplain, the bed that he doth accustom to lie upon with th' appurtenances; to Squerry, my servant, to make up his legacy to be five marks, £6 8d;

And further I give and bequeath to my cousin Edmund Style of London & his wife, £6 13s 4d; to my cousin Humphrey Baskerville of London and his wife £6 13s 4d; to my cousin Roger Martyn of London and his wife £6 13s 4d; to my cousin John Lambert of London and his wife £6 13s 4d; to every of my brother Humphrey Pakington's daughters being unmarried, named Alice Pakington, Margery Pakington, Martha Pakington and Margaret Pakington, twenty pounds apiece in the day of their several marriages if they live so long; to William Bobyns, sometime my servant, 40s; to John Osborne, late my servant, and his wife, 40s;

And of this my last will and testament I do ordain and make my said loving wife and my said loving brother, Humphrey Pakington, mine executors, and Sir John Baker, knight, overseer of the same, and I do give and bequeath to my said brother for his pains therein to be taken twenty pounds, and to the said Sir John Baker other twenty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to Sir William Tinker, parson of Shellesley, late my chaplain, 66s 8d;

And the residue of all my goods unbequeathed, my debts paid, funerals and legacies discharged, I will and bequeath to be given and distributed in deeds of charity by the discretion of my said executors;

In witness whereof to this my present last will and testament I have put my seal the day and year above-written in the presence of John Littleton, Humphrey Pakington, Thomas Pakington, Richard Cupper, Henry Jones, Adam Lutley, Richard Caldwell, Martin Fairthwaite, Robert Mucklowe, William Chest, Richard Squerry, Humphrey Frost.

Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum coram domino Cantuariensis Archiepiscopo apud london xxxo die Mensis Octobris Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo quinquagesimo primo Iuramento Iohannis Talkares notarij publici Procuratoris Executorum in huiusmodi testamento nominatorum Ac approbatum et insinuatum Et commissa fuit administracio omnium bonorum &c Dicti defuncti prefatis executoribus De bene &c Ac de pleno Inventario &c exhibendo Ad sancti dei Euangelia in debita iuris forma Iuratis

[=The same testament was proved before the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury at London on the 30th day of the month of October in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fifty-first by the oath of John Talkares, notary public, proctor of the executors named in the same testament, and probated and registered, and administration was granted of all the goods etc. of the said deceased to the forenamed executors, sworn on the Holy Gospels in due form of law to well etc., and to exhibit a full inventory etc.]