WILL OF SIR WILLIAM SAY, KNT. 1529.

[MS. Bib. Cott. Julius, F. x. f. 7.]

Sir William Say was the son and heir of Sir John Say, of Sawbridgeworth, Knt. by his first wife Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Lawrence Cheney, Esq. and widow of Frederick Tylney, Esq. (Pedigree in Clutterbuck's Hertfordshire, vol. iii. p. 196.) Of his father a memoir has been recently published in the copious and interesting letter-press to Waller's Sepulchral Brasses. Sir William Say was twenty-four years of age at his father's death in 1478, and died himself an old man, on the 4th Dec. 1529. He married first Genevieve, daughter and heiress of John Hill, Esq., and secondly Elizabeth, widow of Sir Thomas Waldegrave, daughter and coheiress of Sir John Fray (see the narrative pedigree in Collectanea Topog. et Geneal. vol. i. p. 409.) By the second lady he had issue two daughters and coheiresses, Elizabeth, wife of William Blount, Lord Mountjoy, and Mary, wife of Henry Bourchier, Earl of Essex. The former had issue Gertrude, married to Henry Courtenay, Earl of Devonshire, and Marquess of Exeter; and the latter had issue Anne, married to Sir William Parr, afterwards created Earl of Essex and Marquess of Northampton, but she had previously been divorced in 34 Hen. VIII.

Sir William Say was Sheriff of Hertfordshire for three years, from 1482 to 1484, during the three reigns of Edward IV. Edward V. and Richard III. See also respecting his landed property in Clutterbuck, vol. ii. p. 280.

In the name of the fader, the sonne, and the holy goost, thre parsonys in Trynyte, the vijth day of November, the yere of oure lord God M^{l}.v^{c}.xxix, the xxj yere of the reynge of kynge Henry the viijth. I Syr Wyllyam Saye knyght, beynge in my good hole and perfyte mynde, lawde and praysyng be unto almyghty God, Consyderynge the woorlde as transytoryous and nothynge more certeyne to every erthely creature then dethe, and more uncerteyne then the howre of the same, not wyllynge, by Goddes grace, to dye yntestate, make ordeyne and declare thys my present testament conteynynge therein my last wylle, revokynge and adnullynge all and synguler other my testamentes, wylles, executors, legacies and bequestes by me made or gyven to every parsone or parsonys before the date here off. But thys my pre-

sent testament and laste wylle onely to take effecte and no other yn maner and forme folowynge:

Fyrste and pryncypaly, I bequethe and recommende my sowle to the hyghe mercy of almyghty God my maker and redemer, and to hys blesyd moder vyrgyn our lady Seaynt Mary, and to all the holy compeny of hevyn, and my wrechyd body to be beryed in the paryshe churche of Broxborne, in the countey of Hertford, wherin the bodyes of my late fader and moder lyethe buryed, whos sowlys Jhesu pardone! in the northe syde of the same churche, in the newe chapell wyche I lately edyfyed and bylded at my proper costes and charges;[a] and yff yt happen me to departe thys present worlde owte of the sayd paryshe of Broxborne, then I wylle myne executours underwrytten convey my wrechyd bodye frome the place wher I do departe unto the foresayd paryshe churche of Broxborne yn as convenyent tyme as yt canne be doone, wythe owte pompe or pryde of the woorlde, by the dyscresyon of my sayd executours. And I gyve and bequeathe to the highe awlter of the seyd parishe churche of Broxbourne for my tythes and oblacyons by me neglygently forgotten or withhelde, if any suche be, in discharge of my soulle, xx*s*. Item, I gyve and bequeithe to be delt to powre people in almes the day of my buryinge and monythes mynde, they prayinge for my sowlle, my father and mother sowlles, Genefeff and Elysabethe late my wyffes, my frendes and those sowlles whose sowlles I am bownde moste specyally to pray for, and all christen sowlles, xx*li*. Item, I gyve and bequeithe also to be delte within the monythe of my decease in the parishe of Broxbourne, to powre people there to pray for my sowlle, xl*s*. Item, I gyve and bequeithe to be delte within the seid monythe to the powre people within the parysshe of Benyngton, xx*s*. Item, to the powre people of Muche Munden, xx*s*. Item, to the powre people of Lyttle Munden, xiij*s*. iiij*d*. Item, to the powre people of Lawrens Ayott, xx*s*. Item, to the powre people of Lyttle Ayott, xiij*s*. iiij*d*. Item, to the powre people of Esyngdon, xx*s*. Item, to

[a] A view of Broxbourne church, shewing Sir William Say's chapel, will be found in the Gentleman's Magazine, for June 1808, p. 497. On its exterior was placed this inscription in raised letters: "PRAY FOR THE WELFAYR OF SYR WYLYAM SAY KNY3T WYCH FŌDYD YIS CHAPEL 3N HONOR A YE TRENETE THE YERE OF OVR LORD GOD 1522." (engraved in Pegge's Sylloge of Inscriptions relative to the erection of Churches, 4to. 1787, pl. xxiv. p. 90.)

the powre people of Sabbisforde, xx*s.* Item, I gyve and bequeithe to the paryshe of Barkhampsted to poore people there, xiij*s.* iiij*d.* Item, I will that myn executors underwritten, assone as may be convenyently to be doone after my decease, shalle provyde a marble stone to lay uppon my body flatt on the grounde withowt any tombe, and to spente abowght the same vj*li.* xiij*s.* iiij*d.* excepte it shall happen me to provyde otherwyse for the same in my lyffe tyme, in the whiche stone I wylle have my picture, my twoo wyfes, my too sonnys, and my too dowghters, with a scripture to the same, to praye for the sowlle of me the sayd Sir William Say Knyght. Item, I wille that myne executours provyde to be said and songe in as convenyent tyme as it may be doone after my decease to pray for my sowlle, the sowlles above rehersed, and all christen sowlles, one thowsand masses to be sayde at the fartheste within the monythe after my decease. And I bequeithe to the poore persons of Hertford to pray for my sowlle, vj*s.* viij*d.* Item, I bequeithe to eyther howsses of fryers at Grenewiche and Richemounte to have a trentall of masses in their churches to pray for my sowlle and the sowlles aboverehercyd, x*s.* Item, I gyve and bequeithe to the iiij orders of fryers within the Cytie of London and the Crowched Fryers, and every of them, to have a trentall of masses in their conventuall churches to pray for my sowlle, x*s.* Item, I gyve and bequeithe to the Fryers of Ware to have a trentall of masses in their churche to pray for my sowlle, x*s.* Item, I gyve and bequeithe to the Laserhows of Hoddesdon to pray for my sowlle, vj*s.* viij*d.* Item, I gyve and bequeithe to every Laserhowse abowte London, or within xx milyes of London, xx*d.* Item, I gyve and bequeithe to Newgate, Ludgate, the too Counters, the Fleet, Marshalsy, and the Kinges Benche, to eyther of the sayd howsses, to pray for my sowlle, vj*s.* viij*d.* in brede to be delte. Item, I bequeithe to the Charterhous of London, the Charterhous of Shene, and the house of Syon, to every of them, to have a trentall of masses in theire conventuall churches, and to pray for my sowlle and the sowlles aboveseyd, x*s.* Item, I gyve and bequeithe in amendynge of fowlle and noyous highe wayes to be spente in Hertfordshyre, where most nede is, by the discrecyons of myn executours, lxvj*li.* xiij*s.* iiij*d.* Item, I gyve and bequeithe to every of servantes beinge with me the tyme of my deceas a blak gowne and hys holle yeres wages. Item, I gyve

and bequeithe to the forseyd parisshe churche of Broxbourne, to thentente that the vikar or hys deputie theire doo every Sonday in the yere in hys Beaderolle by name do pray for my sowlle, and my parenttes sowlles, and all the sowlles abovereherced, one sute of vestementes of the valure of one hundrede and xx*li.* poundes or above, after the discrecyons of myn executors as they shalle thynke moste beste, theire to be occupied at highe feastes to the honor of Godd, our lady, and all seyntes, and at my yeres mynde. Item, I gyve and bequeythe to my chapell within the parishe church of Broxbourne, a chalyce of sylver and gylte and a payre of cruettes of silver parcell gylte, with other ornamentes and vestementes that shalbe necessary, theire to be hadd and longe to the chapelle aforseyd to the honour of Godd and our blyssyd lady, after the discrecyon of myne executors. Item, I bequeithe to every parishe churche hereunder written, that is to say, Benyngton, Muche Munden, Lyttle Munden, Lawrence Ayott, Lytle Ayott, Easyngdon, Sabbisforde, and Barkhamsted, to every of the seyd parishe churches one vestement to the valewe of xx*s.* Item, I bequeithe to my servant William Bruer a fetherbedd, a bolster, with all maner of thynges apperteynynge and belongynge to a bedd, and xx*li.* in money, to be delyvered immedyatly after my deceas unto the same William to pray for my sowlle. Item, I gyve and bequeithe to my servante John Tryvy a fetherbedd and a bolster, with all maner of thynge apperteynynge to a bedd, and vj*li.* xiij*s.* iiij*d.* in money to be delyvered unto hym immedyatly after my deceas, to pray for my sowlle. Item, I gyve and bequeithe to my cosyn Bassyngbourne[b] to pray for my sowlle, xx*li.* Item, I gyve to his sister, wife of Henry Perpoynte, vj*li.* xiij*s.* iiij*d.* to pray for my sowlle. Item, I gyve and bequeithe to John Pretty to pray for my sowlle, xx*s.* Item, I bequeithe to my cosyn John Bassyngbourne's dowghter, whiche is unmaryed, so that she be wealle bestowed, xx*li.* to be delyvered to her at the tyme of her maryage. Item, I bequeithe to the wife of John Prety to pray for my sowlle, vj*s.* viij*d.* and to hys mother to pray for my sowlle, vj*s.* viij*d.*; and to my godson William Prety, iij*s.* iiij*d.* Item, I wylle that all my howsse-

[b] Thomas Bassingbourne, Esq. of Hatfield Woodhall, married Katharine, daughter of Sir John Say, Knt. See a pedigree in Clutterbuck, ii. 345.

holde stuffe in my places at Bedwell, Basse,[c] and London shalbe devyded in three generall partes. And I wille and bequeithe to my syngler good lorde Henrye Marques of Exceter[d] the firste parte and choice of alle the seyd three parts. Item, I wille and bequeithe to my syngler good lorde Henrye Erle of Essex[e] the next and seconde parte of the same stuffe. And I wille and bequeithe the thurde parte of the same my housholde stuffe to my singler good lorde Mountjoy,[f] exceptynge alwey and reservynge three fetherbeddes, three bolsters with thappurtenances necessary and complete for iij beddes for my seyd three servauntes, that is to say, William Bruer, John Tryvy, and Sir Thomas Coo my chapelyn. Item, I bequeithe unto the forseyd parysshe churche of Broxbourne, x*li.* towardes the newe castynge of the great bell of the parysshe churche aforeseyd, to thentente that my sowlle may be the more in remembraunce of the parissheners of the same paryshe to be prayd for. Item, I bequeithe to my syngler good lorde Henrye Erle of Essex and to my lady hys wyfe one hundred markes sterlynges to pray for my sowlle. Item, I bequeithe to my syngler good lorde Mountjoy one hundred markes sterlinges to pray for my sowlle. Item, I wille that a good honeste and vertuous prieste of good name and conversacyon, doo synge, say, and pray daylly, when he is disposed, in the chapell wherin my seyd body shalbe entred or buryed within the paryshe churche of Broxbourne aforeseyd, to pray for my sowlle, my parenttes sowlles, and the sowlles aboverehersyd, and all christen sowlles, whiche prieste shall say Wennesday and Fryday wekely *placebo* and *dirige* with commendacyons: and also the seyd priest shalle have hys playne songe substancyally, and hys posytife of gramer suffycyently, and to be helpynge, aydynge, and assystynge of the quyre of the seyd parishe churche of Broxbourne every holy day in the yere durynge hys lyfe; and so from tyme to tyme as more playnly I shalle declare the same in my laste wille hereunderwritten, excepte it fortune me otherwise to provyde for the same in my lyfe tyme; whiche prieste I wylle shall synge for my soulle and

[c] The manor of Baas was Sir William Say's principal estate in the parish of Broxbourne. Bedwell was in the parish of Essenden.

[d] His grand-daughter's husband; see p. 412.

[e] His son in law: p. 412. [f] Ibid.

the soulles of my freendes perpetually, whose salary I wille that Sir Thomas Coo my chapelyn shalle have durynge hys lyfe, and he to have for his stipende yerely x*li.* sterlynge. And if it happen the same Sir Thomas to deceas or obteyne his benefyce, that some other lyke disposed prieste as is aforeseyd shall synge and say for me as is aforeseyd, and that he to have for hys salary yerely but vij*li.* sterlyng, to be borne and payd yerely owt of my lordshippe of Benyndon with th'appurtenaunces, whiche lordshipe is twentie markes by yere. And also I wille that myne obyte shalbe kepte yerely in the seyd parishe churche of Broxbourne solemply by note the day of my deceas, and to be spente there abowtte the seyd obyte to preestes, clerkes, for tapers, torches, ryngynge of belles, and to poore people theire, iij*li.* v*js.* viij*d.* that is to say, to the vikar or to his deputie there xij*d.*, to every priestes of the sayd churche viij*d.*, to the clerke viij*d.* and for ryngynge of the knylle xx*d.* and for brede and ale to be spente theire, xx*s.*; and the churche wardens of the sayd churche for the tyme beinge and their successors every of them xij*d.* they to see the seyd obyte truly and justely to be kepte, and the resydue of the seyd money to be delte and gyven to the poore people of the seyd parishe of Broxbourne where moste nede is after theire discrecyons, and the resydewe of the seyd xx markes, after the seyd x*li.* and v merkes paid, I will shalbe also distrybuted and delte to the poore people of the parishe aforeseyd by the good discrecyon of myne executors as is aforeseyd. Item, I gyve and bequeithe to Richerde Porter, xx*s.* to pray for my soulle. Item, I bequeithe to Thomas Carmarden for suche paynes and labours as he hathe taken at my requeste iij*li.* v*js.* viij*d.* Moreover I will that all such graunttes as I have grauntted to my singler good lordes Henrye Erle of Essex, my lorde Henry Marquys of Exetour, and my lorde Mountjoy, as more playnly dothe appere by indentures theirof made betweene me the seyd Sir William Say knyght, and the seyd lordes, shalle stonde and take effecte by this my present Testament and laste wylle.[g] And I wolle that all suche feoffees as nowe stonde and be seassed to my use of and in alle my

[g] The settlement made of his estates by Sir William Say in 22 Edw. IV. will be found recited by Sir William Chauncy under the manor of Benington; and also by Clutterbuck, vol. ii. p. 280.

fee-symple landes that I have, where soever they bee within this realme of Englonde, shalle stonde and be theirof seassed to the performans of this my presente testament and laste wylle and no otherwise: and I will also that alle the resydue of all my fee-symple landes, excepte my manor of Benyndon, whiche I have willed and declared for a pryeste to synge perpetually as beforeseyed more playnly is expressed, shalbe solde by myne executours hereunder named, and the money thereof comynge and growynge shalbe spente and distributed to poore people, amendynge of fowlle and noyous highe wayes, poore madens maryagies, and in suche deaddes of charytie, pety, and mercye as shalbe thought by the good discrecions of myn executors moste expedyent for the wealle of my soulle, the sowlles aboverehersed, and all Christen soulles. Provyded alway that if theire be any ambiguittie or dowght in eny parte or parcell of this my presente testament and laste wylle concernynge my fee symple landes by me willed and not sufficiently declared accordynge to the forme of the lawe, that then I will myn seide executors, by the advyse of lerned Cownselle, shall redresse and devise the same accordyngely unto the tenor and true effecte of this my presente testament and last wylle. Item, I will that if it happen my lorde Henrye Erle of Essex and my lady hys wife to deceas withowt issue of their twoo bodyes lawfully begotten, whiche Godd forbedd, that then all suche landes as sholde dissende to the same Erle of Essex and to my lady hys wife shall remayne unto my seid lord Henry Marques of Exetor and unto my lady his wyfe, and to the heires of their too bodyes lawfully begotten; and if it happen the seyd Henrye [Marquess] of Exetor and my lady his wife to deceas withowt heires of theire too bodyes lawfully begotten, whiche Godd forbidd, then to remayne to the ryght heires of me the seyd Sir William Say knyght, for ever. Item, I wille that where I have gyven unto Mistres Blaunche Twyforde an annuytie of xx*li.* yerely for terme of her lyfe to be taken and payd yerely of my farme of Lytle Ayot, that after her deceas the same xx*li.* shalbe bestowed in dedes of charyte to poore people, where moste nede shalbe thowght by the discrecyon of myne executors hereunder written. Item, I wille that my servaunt William Asteley, otherwise called William Bruar, as is aforeseyd, have to hyme durynge

hys lyfe my farme of Pansanger, with alle the profittes of the same, to pray for my soulle and alle my frendes soulles, so that he suffycyently repayre or cause to be repayred alle the howssynge belongynge to the same farme, and doo no maner of strippe nor waste in and uppon the same by alle hys seyd lyfe, nor by his procurement, and after his deceas to be disposed by the good discrecyon of myne executors hereunder named. Item, I wille that my servaunt Richard Gyfford shall have an annuytie of vj*li.* xiij*s.* iiij*d.* by yere owt of my fee-symple landes called Mawdeleybery,[h] for terme of his lyfe to hym, to be payd at too termes in the yere usuell, and he to have a clause of distresse for non-payment of the same. Also I will that my servaunt John Tryvy shall have owt of the same fee-symple landes called Maudeleybery, anuetie of xx*li.* by yere durynge his lyfe, and to be payd unto hym as is aforeseyd to the seyd Richard: Provyded alwey, that if the seyd manor, called Maudeleybery, happen to be solde before the dethe of the seyd Richard and John, then I will that the seyd anuyties by me to them before grauntted, shall stonde and take effecte, and to be made unto them assure as the lawe will before the seyd lande so shalbe solde. Also, I will that my Chapelyn Sir John Coo priest, whiche shall synge for me at Broxbourne churche as is aforeseyd, shall have suffycyent woode for his chamber owt of my seyd manor of Benyndon as longe as he doo contynewe there, and if it shall happen at eny tyme to come the plage of sykenesse to reigne abowgt the seyd parisshe of Broxbourne, as Godd forbidd, then I wille that he shall have lycens to goo and synge where yt shall please hym durynge the seyd plage. Moreover I will that all suche londes as I have hadd by the right of Jenovefe, late my wyfe,[i] whiche landes I purchased and recoveryd to my use of our late sovereigne lorde kinge Henry the vijth in the weste countrey, shall goo unto the right heires of the seyd Jenovefe, and they to enjoye them after my deceas, so that they suffer all suche person or persons as I have grauntted any thinge for terme of lyfe to stonde and take effecte by this my presente testament and laste wille and no otherwyse. Item, where as I the seyd Sir William Say knyght have accustumed to gyve in

[h] Maudleybury or Mardleybury, (so named from the family of Mardley,) a manor in the parishes of Welwyn and Datchworth; see Clutterbuck, ii. 493.

[i] Daughter of John Hill, Esq.; see p. 412.

my lyfe-tyme unto certen poore men and women within the paryshe of Broxbourne aforeseyd every monythe in the yere viij*s.*, which viij*s.* I will to be paid unto them monythly after my deceas by myn executors undernamed. And I will also that there shalbe delte and gyven unto the poore people of Broxbourne, Benyngton, Muche Munden, Lytle Munden, and Easyngdon, in the tyme of Lente, as I was wonte to doo in my lyfe-tyme, yerely, x quarters of wheate or more, x barelles of herynges, and in money to the same townes, to the Fryers of Ware, and to the poore persons of Hertford, vj*li.* sterlynge, to be delyvered unto them after the olde custumes theire wonte to be delte, whiche money, wheate, and herynges shalbe delyvered to the seyd townes, and paid of the reveynues commynge and growynge of my fee-symple landes by me before wylled to be solde, and of the money commynge of my dettes, as longe as it wille contynewe and indure, by the good discrecyons of myn executors, they havinge in so doinge theire reasonable costes. The resydewe of all and singler my goodes, catalles and dettes whatsoever they bee, my dettes payd, my funerall exspences and ordynary charges doon, and this my presente testament and laste wylle fulfilled, I holy gyve and bequeythe them unto myn executors hereunder named, they to dispoce them for the wealle of my soulle, the soulles of my parentes, my benefactors sowlles, and all thos soulles whos sowlles I am bounde specyally to pray for, and all christen soulles, in deades of mercy, pety, and charytie, as to poore people, poore maydens marriagies, mendynge of fowlle and noyous weyes where moste nede is, and specyally abowt suche lordshippes of myn as shalbe nedefull, and in almous dedes to poore people within my seyd lordshippes within the shire of Hertford, and in other good dedes of charyte as my seyd executors shall thynke most beste and expedyent for the wealle of my soulle, the soulles aboverehersyd, and all Christen soulles, as they shall answere before Godd at the dreddfull day of Judgement, and to doo for me as I wolde doo for theym in lyke case; and of this my presente testament and laste wylle I doo make, ordeyne, and constitute my specyall and singler good lorde Henrye Marques of Exeter, my trustie servaunt Richard Gyfforde, John Deane, Sir Robert Kynge clerke, Sir Thomas Coo my chapelyn, myne executors. And I bequeithe to my seyd lorde Marques for hys payment in this behalfe c*li.* Item, to

my seyd trusty servaunt Richard Gifforde for hys dylygent labor in executynge of thys my presente testament and laste wylle one hundred merkes. Item, to the seyd John Deane and Sir Robert Kynge to eyther of them for theire lyke labors xx*li.*; and to Sir Thomas Coo my chapelyn, for his dylygence in the same behalfe, xx merkes. In witnesse wherof I the aboveseyd Sir WILLIAM SAY Knyght have subscribed this my present testament, conteynynge my last wylle, with myn owen hande, and thereunto sett my sealle the day and yere aboveseyd.

Witnesses in the same, that is to say, Jaspar Horsey, Thomas Lutman, William Trafforde, Water Percy, John Nixon, Sir Robert Madoke priest, and Thomas Carmarden.

Et sic laus et honor Deo.

G. J. A.

PEDIGREE OF THE "YATES OF CHESHIRE," AND THEREIN OF DR. THOMAS YATE, PRINCIPAL OF BRASENOSE COLLEGE, OXFORD.

OF the family of the Yates of Cheshire, of which Dr. Thomas Yate, Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford, was a member, no connected pedigree has, I believe, been hitherto published. Having searched both through the County Histories and Heraldic Visitations, from which I was enabled to gather only the names of individual members of the family, I took some trouble in consulting the parish registers, and wills proved in the diocese of Chester; and from these, and other sources[a] to which I have had reference, I have at length been enabled, correctly, I think, to deduce their descent, as in the following pedigree:

[a] I am indebted to Mr. Ormerod, the Historian of Cheshire, for a sketch of the early descent of the family which he kindly furnished to me. In a note to his History, vol. iii. p. 140, he says, "The family of Yate, or Yates, were settled at Middlewich for many generations, and allied themselves to various considerable county families. In Harleian MSS. 2161, is a pedigree of the family brought down to Thomas Yate, apparently the same person with the husband of Mary Leftwich (vide pedigree), and commencing with the great-grandfather of Thomas Yate, Principal of Brasenose." The reference here given proves to be unfortunately incorrect. I have searched through the whole of the number of the Harleian MSS. alluded to, but find no mention of the Yate family. There can be little doubt, however, I think, from the circumstances stated, that the pedigree is to be met with somewhere in the Harleian MSS.